

PM leads by example

She is utilising every inch of unused Gono Bhaban land to grow fruits, veggies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It seems that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's call upon citizens to cultivate each inch of land to fight the global food crisis is not just a hollow call, as she herself has utilised every inch of unused land of her official residence Gono Bhaban.

Creating a rare example, the PM almost turned the entire Gono Bhaban into a farmhouse.

Being the daughter of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Hasina, whose legacy is deeply rooted in rural Bangladesh, has been cultivating different varieties of paddy, vegetables, and fruits in the open yards of her official residence.

Besides, she has been raising birds like pigeons; farming different types of fishes such as rohu, katla, tilapia and chital; raising honey bees in the mustard field, and has also set up dairy and poultry farms of local breeds.

In her farmhouse, 46 maunds of onions were harvested yesterday, according to Gono Bhaban sources.

These onions were harvested from half of the total land the bulbs were cultivated on. The rest is expected to fetch about 50 maunds more onions.



At present, the market price of the harvested onions, which go for Tk 35 to 40 per kilo, will fetch about Tk 65,000 to 73,000.

Since an emerging crisis in food and other essentials at the onset of the pandemic and Russia-Ukraine war, Hasina, in different government and party functions, called upon the citizens to turn each inch of the country's land arable.

Her press secretary Ihsanul Karim told the media that the PM has turned every part of unused land inside Gono Bhaban arable, setting a rare example as she made her own call a reality.

He also said the PM's call to grow crops on all available land is inspired by Bangabandhu's 1974 call for the "green revolution".

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inspecting bean stalks grown on Gono Bhaban premises.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Kalshi Balur Math to be turned into a playground
Says PM

BSS, Dhaka

The Kalshi Balur Math in the capital will be turned into a playground for children, complete with walkways for easy movement of people, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said yesterday.

The PM also said her government would build Dhaka as a "Smart City" as she opened the Kalshi flyover and a six-lane road from ECB square to Kalshi at Mirpur. Afterwards, Hasina addressed a public rally at Kalshi Balur Math.

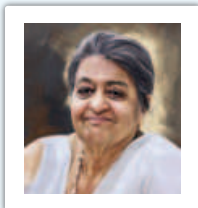
The prime minister said her government has taken the plan keeping people's welfare in mind.

At the rally, she also said Kalshi flyover would be named after Harun Mollah due to his glorious contribution to the Liberation War and all the democratic and progressive movements of the country.

The main problem in Dhaka city is that it does not have good connectivity between its

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WORDS OF WISDOM FOR YOUTH



HAMEEDA HOSSAIN
I think our society was very different back then in comparison to now. I think the young people are doing very well for themselves.

I think we have a very common objective whether we are over 80 or under 16. We are trying to build a society where we believe in justice and we pursue the objective of justice whether it is for men or women of different communities in Bangladesh.

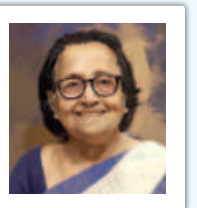


DR KAMAL HOSSAIN
My message to the younger generation is that they have been doing very well in terms of all things they take part in. The young generation is making very valuable contribution to the society. Keep it up.



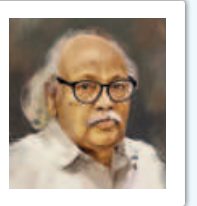
MUSTAFA MONOWAR
I don't have any idea whether there is anything called younger generation. We are young too. So, for all generations, freedom of thought is a must. Without freedom of thought, human beings are not humans.

generation is making very valuable contribution to the society. Keep it up.



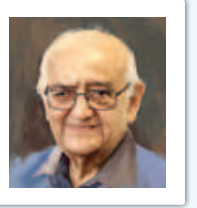
NOORJAHAN BOSE
I think the young generation should fight for their freedom of speech, freedom of writing. I want the young generation to

stand up and fight for your freedom, for your country. Even if you have to give your life, you have to do that. I am 85 years old and I still do that.



RAFIQUN NABI
Do not do anything that harms the country, harms the people or society. You must have the determination to keep yourselves

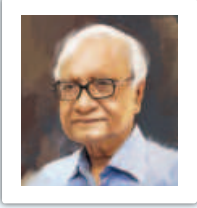
above everyone. Don't keep any good thought within oneself. You should express it. Stay well, think and make all the efforts to stay well.



REHMAN SOBHAN
Freedom of thought and freedom of expression is nobody's gift to you. It will only come if you assert your rights to

exercise that freedom. This means if you do so in sufficient numbers, you will capture freedom, and no one will be able to take it away from you. Keep in mind, you have to always

speak up and assert yourself. That is how freedom is earned.



SERAJUL ISLAM CHOUDHURY
Three things are required. First is pursuit of knowledge, without which people will not be able to flourish.

Second is socialisation. Because knowledge cannot be pursued alone; this knowledge has to be acquired from others and disseminated to others. The third thing that the young generation specially should have is courage. I wish that you will have these three things combined in yourself.



SHARIFA KHATUN
It is not just the individual, the entire society is involved in the process of flourishing people's thoughts. Education is very important. There should be libraries so that every child can read books. We have to develop a curriculum so that every student can flourish themselves. Educational institutions have a big role to play here.

CHAMPIONS OF FREE THOUGHT SHARED THIS AT STAR'S ANNIVERSARY EVENT.

Vitamin A plus campaign begins

UNB, Dhaka

The government will start Vitamin A plus campaign across the country from today with a target to provide Vitamin A plus capsule to 2.20 crore children, said Health Minister Zahid Maleque yesterday.

Under the programme, 25 lakh children aged between 6 and 11 months will be fed blue colour. A plus capsule while 1.95 crore children aged between 12 and 59 months will be fed red colour capsule, he said while speaking at a programme at the ministry.

The government started the Vitamin A plus campaign in 2010 and children are fed the capsule twice a year, he said, adding "Now only 0.04% children are affected with the night blindness disease due to Vitamin A deficiency."

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DSCC to rename two roads

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) has decided to rename two city roads after the name of a Language Movement hero Shaheed Shafiur Rahman and former khatib of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque.

The road stretching from Doyel Chattar to Shikhya Bhaban has been renamed "Bhasha Shaheed Shafiur Rahman Sarak".

The road stretching from Baitul Mukarram Uttar Gate to DIT Extension Road will be renamed after former khatib Prof Maulana Muhammad Salahuddin.

The decision was made at the 18th board meeting of DSCC on February 14. SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Dhaka roads that will be closed on Feb 20-21

STAR REPORT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police have imposed some restrictions on traffic and general movement inside the Dhaka University campus and its surrounding areas ahead of the historic Language Martyrs' Day on February 21.

DMP yesterday issued necessary instructions, including traffic advisory, and other directives, for visiting the Central Shaheed Minar. The restrictions will be effective from 5:00pm today till 7:00pm Tuesday.

Dhaka University's Central Coordination Committee also finalised the route map yesterday, reports UNB.

According to the route map, visitors can enter the Central Shaheed Minar through DU-Buet-DMC triangle in front of Salimullah Muslim Hall, Jagannath Hall, and can exit through the main gate of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital, Doyel Chattar of DU.

All other roads in the campus area will be closed.

People can enter the university area using the Azimpur graveyard road and the old High Court road, Doyel Crossing, Bangla Academy, TSC crossing, the road beside the VC's residence, New Market crossing, and the north gate of Azimpur graveyard.

The road on the east side of Jagannath Hall from TSC and the road to Chankharpool from Doyel



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Crossing will remain closed.

DMP has also assigned parking areas. DU Gymnasium ground would be allotted to VIPs, DU Mokarram Bhaban ground to law enforcement. Public would be able to park their vehicles at Nilkhet and Palashi.

Meanwhile, DMP Commissioner Khandker Golam Faruq yesterday said there is no

specific threat of militant attacks centring International Mother Language Day on February 21.

"We have arrested 12 people in connection with snatching two militants from the court. However, the two militants are still absconding. There is no threat of militant attacks on February 21," he said this while briefing reporters on the premises of Central Shaheed

Minar in the afternoon.

"Surveillance will be ensured through CCTV cameras surrounding the area, which will be monitored from the police control room."

He added that policemen will be deployed in the area in three phases, starting from 6:00pm today. All the roads will be closed except the entrance and exit.

A. Rouf Chowdhury
(1937-2023)

Departure of A Legend

Our deepest condolences to the passing of the great business leader A. Rouf Chowdhury, founding Director and former Chairman of Reliance Insurance Limited.

He leaves behind an enduring legacy of entrepreneurship in the commerce, industry and finance sectors of the nation.

During this difficult and tragic moment, our thoughts and prayers are always with the bereaved family.

In reverence & remembrance -
The Management and all Members of

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