

KARWAN BAZAR KITCHEN MARKET

Traders still reluctant to move

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Traders of Karwan Bazar are reluctant to shift to Jatrabari and Gabtali as they believe the areas are unsuitable for running their business.

They made the comments at a discussion yesterday held at TCB auditorium, demanding that authorities concerned ensure better facilities at the Karwan Bazar instead of shifting them to the new locations.

However, Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Md Atiqul Islam, who chaired the discussion, said the kitchen market must be shifted to the new locations, which will soon turn into a safe, modern market.

"It cannot be run in the middle of the capital, it should remain at the city's periphery," he said.

"No one will be jobless, rather their security will improve if they go there where there is sufficient space," he said.

The mayor formed an 11-member committee, incorporating three councillors, traders, and city corporation officials, to present the status quo regarding the issue within the next 15 days.

He said it's his obligation to shift the market as it's the prime minister's directive and the project was approved by Ecneec.

"Karwan Bazar market is risky, it may collapse anytime, and you will have to take responsibility," he added.

Atiqul said his office received a letter from the Dhaka divisional commissioner's office to remove eight risky markets immediately and following this they put up signboards there. But those were removed.

"Who will take responsibility if any accident occurs?" he asked.

"It is important to give security of life and goods to both sellers and customers and we will have to work together for this," the mayor said.

"You may say its design is faulty but sit with me and give me your suggestions. We will address it. However, the buildings have already been constructed," he said.

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PHOTO: COLLECTED

An aerial view of the Karwan Bazar market. Even though the city corporation is planning to relocate the kitchen market to Jatrabari and Gabtali, traders there are unwilling to move. They believe the relocation will seriously hinder their business.

Facebook now a market for fake notes

Say police; dealers take to social media platform to advertise, sell counterfeit currency

RAFIUL ISLAM

"We have original, glazing print and a perfect product with security thread and watermarks that are almost undetectable in bare eyes," reads a part of an advertisement recently posted on Facebook to sell fake notes.

A Facebook user named "Jal Takar Dealer", in the same post also mentioned they deliver counterfeit notes across the country.

However, this user is not a lone "dealer".

Law enforcers said they have identified at least 50 Facebook users, pages or groups, where such advertisements are frequent, namely Jal Taka, Jal Taka Bikrir Dealer, Jal Taka Asol Dealer, A great (Jal Taka), Jal Taka Bikri Kori, Jal Takar Babossa.

On June 4, a potential buyer of fake notes, Mohammad Rokibul Ahmed Rakib (according to his Facebook ID) commented on the said post and asked for a contact number, to which, the dealer replied with a number.

This correspondent called the number on Sunday night when the seller brazenly said he would supply fake notes anywhere in Dhaka or other districts without any hassle.

"You can pay cash on delivery. However, you don't need to pay in advance. Just the delivery charge would do -- Tk 180 inside Dhaka and Tk 300 for elsewhere," he said.

Other advertisers often take 50 percent of the payment in advance. They ask the potential buyers to contact them on Facebook Messenger or the WhatsApp number shared with their posts.

Some of these accounts have several thousand friends. The pages have over 2,000 followers, while there are over 3,000 members in a Facebook group used for selling fake notes.

The sellers share photos and videos of the fake notes in their posts. They also share screenshots, featuring satisfied customers, thanking them for delivering the package without any hassle.

When this correspondent went undercover to contact these dealers on messenger apps, one of them claimed that he used the notes himself and confirmed that it cannot be detected without machines.

The seller also shared a screenshot of his communication with other customers. He demanded 50 percent of the payment in advance before sending the fake notes via courier service.



PHOTO: FACEBOOK GRAB

There are countless profiles on Facebook like this one that claim to sell fake notes.

The sellers advertise selling 1,00,000 fake notes of Tk 1,000 -- ranging from Tk 12,000 to Tk 20,000 -- based on the quality. The same amount of Tk 500 notes was being sold at a range from Tk 14,000 to Tk 20,000. Several were seen advertising fake notes of Tk 20, saying this note is easy to inject into the market as people usually do not bother to check it.

Law enforcers said that most of the online fake note sellers are frauds, as after getting the delivery charge or partial payment, they stop all communication with potential buyers on multiple occasions.

Police arrested at least five people involved with the online sale of fake notes.

"If the offline fake note sellers join hands with the online sellers, the situation may turn alarming," said a mid-ranked official of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, seeking anonymity.

Mashiur Rahman, deputy commissioner (DB) of Lalbagh Division, led several drives against

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Integrate Qawmi education into the mainstream

Speakers tell discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Dipu Moni yesterday said integrating Qawmi education into the mainstream education system through updating their curriculum and making it time-fitting is necessary to help its students succeed in contemporary society.

She said Qawmi madrasas do not adhere to the national curriculum, which poses a challenge in terms of reflecting national aspects. So, it is crucial to integrate them into mainstream education.

Addressing a programme, titled "Madrasa education needs to be modernised", Dipu Moni said, it is important for Qawmi madrasa to incorporate elements of our culture, tradition, and language, which are integral parts of mainstream education.

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DIPU MONI
Education Minister

Qawmi graduates are yet to be the perfect human resources, as we cannot utilise them in job sectors. They should be taken under the mainstream education.

MUHAMMED ZAFAR IQBAL
Author and educationist

Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee organised the discussion at Engineers Institution in the capital.

Addressing the programme as chief guest, Dipu Moni said, "Our historical facts are being distorted under the guise of religious education in many institutions, which is unacceptable."

"However, enforcing the national curriculum on Qawmi madrasas is not the solution. We need to discuss the issues with the Qawmi madrasa authorities and make proper changes to the curriculum, if they demand," she added.

The minister also said it is the responsibility of the state to support and ensure that the madrasas are not left behind.

Author and educationist Prof Muhammed Zafar Iqbal said all educational streams must be brought under the watch of the government. "Qawmi graduates are yet to be the perfect human resources, as we cannot utilise them in job sectors. They should be taken under the mainstream education," he added.

Speaking at the programme, educationist Shyamoli Nasrin Chowdhury said, "We need to prepare a proper education system to include madrasa students to a skilled population."

While presenting an article, writer and activist Maulana Hasan Rafiq said the government should take immediate measures to modernise the

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11.84pc pass DU 'Ga' unit entry test

DU CORRESPONDENT

The admission test results of "Ga" unit held under the business faculty of Dhaka University for 2022-2023 session were published yesterday with pass rate of 11.84 percent.

The results showed 4,526 students passed the examination, while 38,235 admission seekers vied for 1,050 seats.

The results can be viewed on www.admission.eis.du.ac.bd or via SMS.

PRAYER TIMING				
JUNE 9				
Fazr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:05	12:30	5:00	6:45	8:15
JAMAAT 4:40	1:15	5:15	6:50	8:45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION				



An excavator demolishing an illegal structure on the bank of DIT pond at Gendaria in the capital yesterday. Rajuk, in a drive, knocked down around 100 such structures to free the waterbody.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

100 structures along DIT pond knocked down

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajdhani Unnayan Katripaksha (Rajuk) yesterday demolished around 100 structures from the bank of the DIT pond in the capital's Gandaria area.

Rajuk removed the illegal structures during a day-long drive, following Dhaka South City Corporation Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh's declaration to remove the structures.

Heavy police deployment was seen in the area to avert untoward situations during the drive.

An officer, who was on the spot, told The Daily Star that they removed around 100 structures, except a two-storey building.

"As the building owner

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‘Invest in our oil, gas sectors’ President urges UK entrepreneurs; new envoy presents credentials

BSS, Dhaka

President Mohammed Shahabuddin yesterday urged the UK investors to invest in various sectors, including oil and gas, in Bangladesh.

He came up with the call after receiving the credentials from the new British High Commissioner-Designate to Bangladesh Sarah Cooke at an event after she was ceremonially welcomed at Bangabhaban.

Welcoming the new envoy, the president said, "The UK is playing an important role in the economic and technical development of Bangladesh."

The high commissioner lauded the socio-economic development of Bangladesh. She said her country would always stand by Bangladesh in its continued development and progress.

Cooke sought the cooperation of the president in fulfilling her duties.

The president assured the envoy of his full support in fulfilling her responsibilities in Dhaka to further strengthen Bangladesh's relationship with the UK.

Earlier, on her arrival at Bangabhaban, a smartly turned-out contingent of the horse-mounted President Guard Regiment gave the envoy a guard of honour as part of the ceremony.



PHOTO: BSS

Mango special train service starts

STAR REPORT

The "Mango Special Train", loaded with the seasonal delicacies, started its service yesterday.

Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan inaugurated the service around 11:00am with the train leaving for Dhaka from Chapainawabganj.

One train will be operated every day from Rohanpur Railway Station at 4:00pm and will leave Chapainawabganj Railway Station at 6:00pm.

The train will reach Dhaka through Rajshahi and other stations, sources said.

In 2020 amid the Covid-19 pandemic, the government started the initiative to help mango growers transport their fruits.

On May 16, Deputy Commissioner of Chapainawabganj AKM Galiv Khan said BR will launch Mango Special Train from May 20.

Asked about the delay, a top BR official, requesting anonymity, said a number of important issues including inauguration of Chilahati Express by PM on June 4, activities related to the handover ceremony of 20 Indian locomotives on May 23, left little time for launching the service this year.

