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## Rajuk plans to extend its jurisdiction

### State minister tells JS; govt mulls rehabilitation of Urdu-speaking community

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha has planned to extend its jurisdiction to the Meghna River in the East of Dhaka and Padma Bridge in the West.

State Minister for Housing and Public Works Sharif Ahmed said this in parliament yesterday while responding to a tabled question from Awami League MP Enamul Haque from Rajshahi.

About the extension of Rajuk's jurisdiction, Sharif Ahmed said Dhaka, Narayanganj, Savar, Keraniganj and Gazipur areas are located in 1,528 square kilometres of 8 regions under the jurisdiction of Rajuk.

The entire area of Savar upazila is under Rajuk, he further said.

The state minister said as the area in Gazipur City Corporation under the jurisdiction of Rajuk is currently considered as an area under the jurisdiction of Gazipur Development Authority, there is a plan to redefine the jurisdiction of Rajuk excluding that area.

He also said necessary plan will be taken by Rajuk following instruction of the government.

Meanwhile, the government has plans to build 5,600 residential flats in Dhaka's Keraniganj to rehabilitate Urdu-speaking community living at Mohammadpur, the state minister added.



Thousands of Hindu devotees yesterday celebrated the Ratha Yatra (chariot festival) across the country with processions carrying the deities of Lord Jagannath. In the capital, with colourful banners and festoons, male and female devotees in traditional attires assembled at Swamibagh. The photo was taken in Dayaganj area.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

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## AEDS LARVAE DSCC fines 5 building owners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mobile courts of Dhaka South City Corporation yesterday fined building owners in Dhanmondi and Jatrabari a total of Tk 1.15 lakh for finding Aedes mosquito larvae there.

A mobile court, led by the executive magistrate of DSCC, fined Concord Real Estate Limited site engineer Zillur Rahman Tk 50,000 for finding Aedes mosquito larvae at its under-construction building in Dhanmondi.

The magistrate also fined two other building owners on Satmasjid Road for the same reason.

Another court, led by DSCC executive magistrate Md Safi Ullah, fined two building owners in Jatrabari.

Meanwhile, at least 334 dengue patients were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

The total number of

## 'A sign of neglect and disregard'

### Says Oikya Parishad on budget allocation for religious minorities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad yesterday said the allocation for religious minorities in the proposed national budget is a sign of disregard, neglect, and discrimination towards the communities.

During a press conference at Jatiya Press Club, the organisation said it strongly condemned and protested the fact that there has been no change in the religious discrimination in the budget.

### DEMANDS

- Annual funding from national budget
- Enact minority protection law
- Accurate representation in census
- Pay scale for Sanskrit, Pali edu board teachers
- Tk 5,000cr for dev, welfare of minorities

In a written statement, Rana Dasgupta, general secretary of the organisation, said the Ministry of Religious Affairs' expenditure and development budget had received an allocation of Tk 2,176.15 crore.

The funding for the welfare of religious minority communities amounted to only 6.4 percent of this allocation, which is far less than the ratio of the population made up by religious minorities.

He further mentioned that while the Islamic

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### GABTALI CATTLE MARKET

## High price irks buyers

### Traders point at inflation, rising cost of animal feed; authorities assure of sufficient supply

HELEMUL ALAM

With nine days left for Eid-ul-Azha, Dhaka dwellers have started to visit Gabtali, the city's permanent cattle market.

Meanwhile, despite government statistics and assurances from traders that there is an ample supply of local cattle to meet the demand, buyers have expressed their dissatisfaction with the higher prices this time around.

Parveen, a resident of Bongaon, said, "Like other years, I have purchased a bull from the Gabtali cattle market much earlier at Tk 74,000, which is around Tk 15,000 higher compared to last year."

Rafiqul Bari, a resident of Mohammadpur, also expressed his disappointment with the inflated prices.

"I purchased two bulls for Tk 2 lakh, which is at least Tk 30,000 more compared to last year," he said.

Bari, who usually buys his sacrificial animal just before Eid, explained that his departure for performing Hajj on June 22 compelled him to make the purchase earlier this year.

Having been unable to sacrifice animals last year, Nazrul Islam, a resident of Bhutergoli in Dhaka, decided to buy early this year.



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

"The cow which I purchased for Tk 70,000 was around Tk 55,000 in 2021," he said yesterday, speaking to this correspondent.

### TRADERS' TAKE

When asked about the high price, Abul Bepari, a trader hailing from Manikganj, said the market price of meat is high this year, so traders are trying to cash in this opportunity to earn a bit extra.

"The price of a bull meat is Tk 30,000 per maund," he explained. He purchased five bulls ahead of Eid and sold one already.

The price of buffaloes is also high.

"Buffaloes this year is at least Tk 20,000 higher than last year," said Md Mosharraf, a trader of Rajshahi who brought 14 buffaloes on Monday.

Md Rahman, another trader of the Gabtali, blamed the high cost of animal feed for the higher price of cows this year.

Traders said though the number of sacrificial animals at the Gabtali cattle market is still low, it will increase from Friday.

"The number of local cows is sufficient this year and there will be no shortage of bulls this year,"

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### EVALY CEO, CHAIRMAN

## No bar to run criminal cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for the lower courts concerned to continue trial proceedings of all criminal cases against Evaly founder and CEO Mohammad Rassel and his wife Shamima Nasrin, chairman of the e-commerce platform.

The HC bench of Justice Khazir Ahmed Chowdhury rejected a petition filed by Rassel and Shamima seeking stay on the trial of the cases.

Barrister Syed Mahshib Hossain, a lawyer for subscriber Farhad Hossain who moved a petition before the court seeking to wind up Evaly, told The Daily Star that there was no legal bar for the lower courts concerned to continue trial of criminal cases against the couple.

Hundreds of cases were filed with the courts across the country against the couple on charges of giving fake checks and commitments to subscribers. Shamima is now on bail while Rassel is in jail.

### RIVER ENCROACHMENT

## HC summons Savar UNO

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the UNO of Savar to appear before it on July 18, for not complying with its directive to submit a report after evicting encroachers from the Bangshi river at Banshpatti.

The Savar UNO was asked to place his explanation before the HC bench on that day about non-compliance with its directive.

The HC bench of Justices JBM Hassan and Razik-Al-Jalil passed the order while hearing a petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Md Bakir Hossain Mridha in 2019.

## Set Tk 25,000 as minimum wage, demand RMG workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid rising living costs, readymade garment (RMG) workers yesterday demanded Tk 25,000 as their minimum wage and payment of their salaries and dues before upcoming Eid-ul-Azha.

They made the demand from a rally held in front of Jatiya Press Club.

Taslima Akther,

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Demanding result publication within three months of exams being held, Students from seven Dhaka University-affiliated colleges block the Mirpur Road in Dhaka's Nilkhet area for around four hours yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## Students of DU-affiliated colleges block Mirpur Road

STAR REPORT

Students from seven Dhaka University-affiliated colleges blocked the Mirpur Road in Dhaka's Nilkhet area for around four hours yesterday to place their seven-point demand, which includes result publication within three months of exams being held.

Huge gridlock was created due to the blockade, which started around 10:30am and was finally lifted around 2:45pm.

The students held a meeting with Supriya Bhattacharjee, principal of Eden College and coordinator of the seven colleges, in Dhaka University at 4:00pm.

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## Body formed to demolish Gulshan-2 kitchen market

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation yesterday formed an 11-member committee to promptly remove the abandoned "Gulshan Kitchen Market (North)" in Gulshan-2.

The decision was announced through an official notice posted on the DNCC website.

According to the office order issued by DNCC Secretary Mohammad Mamun ul Hasan, the committee has been formed to promptly address the issue of the derelict Gulshan Kitchen Market.

Councillor Mofizur Rahman of Ward 19 has been summoned to the 11-member committee to oversee the necessary measures for the removal or demolition of the market. Additionally, the regional executive officer of Zone 3 of DNCC has been appointed as the member secretary of the committee.

The committee comprises several key members, including DNCC additional chief engineer, chief property officer, chief revenue officer and executive engineer.



JUNE 21

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-52 8-17

JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION