



Defying a ban, such locally made three-wheelers continue movement on highways, posing the risk of accidents. The photo was taken from Kushtia-Rajbari highway.

PHOTO: AMANURAMAN

10 DISTRICTS OF KHULNA DIVISION

Banned three-wheelers continue plying highways

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

Five years into a High Court directive to withdraw poorly engineered three-wheelers from highways in 10 districts under Khulna division, there is no noticeable progress in this regard.

The unsafe motorised three-wheelers, locally known as Alam Sadhu, Nasimon, Karimon, Algamon, Mohendra, Bhatbhoti, 'easy-bike' and 'mini truck', cause nuisance for authorised vehicles on highways and sometimes become the cause of fatal accidents, said commuters.

The HC, following a petition, on February 10 in 2014 ordered withdrawal of these vehicles from highways of Khulna division comprising Kushtia, Meherpur, Jashore, Jhenidah, Magura, Khulna, Satkhira, Bagerhat, Narail and Chuadanga districts.

The court also directed the government authorities to take legal action against the use of such slow-moving and risk-causing vehicles on the highways.

But there has been very little impact of the ban, said several drivers of buses and trucks.

"We have to face odds as these unauthorised three-wheelers come to the highway from feeder roads, take turn or stop without any signal, which pose the risk of accidents," said a driver who runs a passenger bus on Kushtia-

Dhaka highway.

"It takes around four hours to reach Khulna from Kushtia as I have to stop frequently for safety when these unauthorised vehicles appear," said Basir Uddin, driver of a passenger bus plying 130 km Kushtia-Khulna road daily.

The drivers of these vehicles often fail to follow traffic rules, which leads to road accidents that claim a number of lives every year, said locals.

As this correspondent approached Harunur Rashid, who runs three-wheeler Mohendra between Magura and Kushtia, he said, "I know about the ban but run this vehicle to earn a living. However, I always try to obey highway rules."

The law enforcers should be strict to comply with the High Court directive on the unauthorised vehicles, said Prof Mahbubul Arfin, chairman of tourism and hospitality management department at Kushtia Islamic University.

Admitting the necessity of such vehicles in some rural areas, he urged steps to minimise the manufacturing of such vehicles and limiting their use.

Contacted over phone, Kh Mahid Uddin, deputy inspector general of police (Khulna Range), said they have achieved some success in limiting the movement of unauthorised

vehicles on highways in Khulna division.

"However, police have to work with limited logistics while there are a number of feeder roads connected to the highways. As many factors are involved with the issue, it will take time to see an optimum improvement," he said.

"In a meeting with the superintendents of police of 10 districts under Khulna division on January 15, I directed them to be strict so that unauthorised vehicles from the feeder roads cannot get on the highway," he added.

Bhadalia area of Kushtia Sadar upazila is considered as a manufacturing hub where 20 to 30 unauthorised motorised three-wheelers are made daily.

The district's police officials said they have arranged announcement through loudspeakers, asking the people concerned not to run any type of unauthorised vehicles on highways.

"We also called owners of some unauthorised vehicle making factories and ordered them to stop manufacturing those," said SM Tanvir Arafath, superintendent of police in Kushtia.

"However, the police have to consider some factors while taking action. Such vehicles are often used as convenient modes of transport for farmers who bring vegetables and other crops from fields to markets," he said.



Lawyers in Tangail formed a human chain at Judge Court premises on Monday, protesting the attack on Joint Secretary of Tangail Bar Association Md Ruhul Amin.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
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Youth killed in clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A youth was killed and 10 others were injured in a clash between two rival groups over a piece of disputed land at Ghagtia village in Tahirpur upazila of Sunamganj yesterday. The deceased was identified as Noor Mia, 17, son of Nasir Uddin of the village.

Of the injured, six were admitted to the upazila health complex while the rest given first aid. Police said there was a longstanding conflict between Nasir Uddin and his nephew Golam Kadir of the same village over the land.

Yesterday morning, when Nasir Uddin and his men went to the land, Golam Kadir and his men tried to resist them, triggering a clash.

At least 11 people from both sides were injured during the incident.

Of the injured, Noor Mia later died at the upazila health complex.

On information, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control, said Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Tahirpur Police Station Atikur Rahman Islam.

Additional police have been deployed in the area to avert any further trouble, said the OC.

Man to die for killing niece

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his niece after abduction in 2013.

Patuakhali Additional District and Sessions Judge AKM Enamul Karim delivered the verdict in presence of convict Atiql, 35, of Gazaria village in Galachipa upazila.

According to the case statement, Atiql abducted three-year-old Tumpa, daughter of Humayun Kabir of the village, from her house on June 22 in 2013.

He then called Humayun, also his cousin, and demanded Tk 5 lakh ransom for his daughter's release.

After three days of the abduction, police recovered Tumpa's body from a banana orchard in nearby Nimhaola area on June 25.

On June 27, Humayun filed a murder case with Galachipa Police Station accusing Atiql.

After investigation, police submitted the charge-sheet to the court on November 27 the same year.

Bridal party robbed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Robbers swooped on the vehicles carrying members of a bridal party and looted cash, gold ornaments and mobile sets worth Tk 15 lakh near Suhari Bridge in Galachipa upazila early yesterday.

Police arrested bus driver Abul Kalam and microbus helper Mamun Matabbar in connection with the incident, said Akhtar Morshed, OC of Galachipa Police Station.

The bridegroom is Bappi Das of Galachipa municipality area. One of the members of the bridal party, Samir Das, said a gang of 8/10 robbers intercepted their bus and microbus by felling logs on Galachipa-Patuakhali road around 1:30am and took away valuables from them. However, none was injured during the incident.

They were returning home after wedding ceremony of Bappi Das held in Jhalakathi, he said.

Bridegroom Bappi was not present during the incident, said Samir, adding that Bappi returned home by another car in the morning.

ইস্টার্ন রিফাইনারী লিমিটেড
(বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম কর্পোরেশন এর একটি সাবসিডিয়ারী)
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স্থানীয় দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
সংশ্লিষ্ট দরপত্র তফসিলে প্রদত্ত বিবরণ ও শর্তানুযায়ী নিম্নে বর্ণিত পণ্যাদি স্থানীয় ভিত্তিতে সরবরাহের জন্য এতদ্বারা প্রকৃত প্রকৃতকারক/সরবরাহকারী/মজুতদারদের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরযুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ ট্রেড এন্ড ট্যারিফ কমিশন
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