

Traffic jams posing threat to vehicular movement in Pabna town

PABNA, Aug 7: Traffic jam caused by the buses, trucks and other vehicles and by the rickshaws within the Pabna pourashabha area have posed a severe threat to the dwellers of the tiny town of Pabna. The problem has been aggravating everyday on the concerned of the authorities with the rise in the number of vehicles on the one hand and the increasing number of the population everyday.

The number of roads, their breadth, the footpaths are so

very narrow that on most of the roads within the town area, not more than two rickshaws, can move on them side by side, and, in cases of large size vehicles like buses or trucks, only one such vehicle can ply at a time. There is hardly any scope for three rickshaws to ply simultaneously or for two buses or trucks to move side by side at a time in most of the roads of the town.

With a view to ease the heavily growing pressure of traffic in the town and on the

face of strong public opinion in favour of solution of the problem, a new bus terminal was constructed about two miles to the east of the town and the bus-owners were asked to remove all the buses, coaches, trucks etc. to the said terminal and a by-pass road was also constructed during the eighties.

But the bus-owners took years to go there and that also quite half-heartedly. However, since the public pressure was quite high, they shifted many of the vehicles there but after reaching an understanding that Dhaka-bound coach services would use the old bus stand situated just in the middle of the town as there was no safety of the passengers in the newly-constructed terminal. The bus owners, however, assured that all other buses etc. would be running from and through the new terminal.

According to said understanding, a town bus service was also introduced and except the coaches, all other vehicles were shifted there.

But with the passage of time, it was found that the town bus service was finally

withdrawn. When asked, the secretary of the bus owners association told The Daily Star over telephone that the town service was found through experience to be not viable as the passengers preferred rickshaws and scooters to buses.

Not only that, local buses plying between Pabna, Atharia, Chatmohar, Bhangora and Faridpur thanas and also those plying between Pabna and Ishwardi gradually re-entered the town and have unofficially introduced their service regularly from roadside stoppages without using the bus stand.

Many trucks, defying the understanding, are also found plying through the main roads of the town even during the day. The Barobazar area is almost always — both during the days and nights — causing a severe congestion.

Traffic police posts have been set up at few places but due to lack of adequately wide roads and lack of diversion facilities on the hand and due to corrupt practices on the other, it is alleged among many of them.

proper traffic control or traffic guidance were virtually absent. Besides, the number of traffic posts should also be increased, according to a police officer in charge of the town.

The said officer further stated that the powerful bus owners of Pabna had quite a good influence over the local administrator for which effective measures against the violators of the traffic rules could not generally be taken. He cited that despite the bus owners' open and flagrant violation of the agreement that except Dhaka bound coaches, all other vehicles would ply through the new terminal, no measure against them was being taken by the authorities who were quite aware of such violation and also that many local buses were plying through the busiest road of the town daily.

The source further said that the number of licensed and unlicensed rickshaws has also risen abnormally but the pourashabha authorities were not keen to solve the problem.

When contacted the Chairman of the Pourashaba admi-

tted that thousands of unlicensed rickshaws were plying but despite best efforts from their sides the rickshaw-pullers or rickshawowners were not coming forward to get licenses issued in their favour. When asked why they were not coming forth for such licenses, the chairman said that firstly, most of them were too poor and were unable to bear the charges for photos and fees for licenses; secondly,

they found that if they could satisfy police, all the problem were solved and they needed not to spend for getting a license issued and thirdly because they knew that the pourashabha would not issue as many licenses as applied for since the pourashabha would not allow unlimited number of rickshaws to ply without considering the question of traffic load, traffic jam and traffic dislocation etc.

Abdul Ali, an aged rickshawpuller however blamed both the pourashabha and traffic police both as, the poor rickshawpullers had to satisfy both and hence, such dislocation.



PABNA: The city dwellers of Pabna town are facing difficulties due to frequent traffic jams as no visible authorities are present to keep traffic under control. — Star photo

Hats, bazars in Gopalganj in deplorable condition

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Aug 7: Most of the hats and bazars of the Gopalganj district are laying in deplorable condition causing much sufferings to the buyers and sellers.

Many hats and bazars of the district were set up by local initiative about 50 years ago. Shops and sheds were built in haphazard manner. Roads of the markets are narrow. Besides the roads become muddy and slippery due to non-existence of drains and in some places the old drains are silted up due to lack of proper maintenance during the rainy season. People in the rural hats and bazars have to face untold sufferings and in some markets movements of vehicles become risky due to dilapidated condition of roads. Garbage and rotten things are dumped in the markets polluting the environment and sweetmeat shops in an unhygienic way. Besides the prepared foods and sweets are kept in open places without any cover.

The large and important village markets, like Satpar, Ulpur, Baitail, Bherarhat, Kathi, Kazulia, Gobra, Pajkandi, Gopinathpur, Kekania under Gopalganj sadar thana, Jalirpar, Moharajpur, Banogram, Bhaskarnari and Ujani under Mukshudpur thana.

Chapta, Sojail, Paranjpur, Nizamkandi, Orakandi, Gopalpur, Ramdia and Bhatipara under Kasiani thana.

Dumuria, Pathgati, Bashb-aria, Kushli, Ghonapara, Shinghipara, Borani, and Charbayra

under Tungipara thana. Gha-gor, Radhagonj, Mazabari, Tharail, Ashutia, Bhangharhat and Dharabashail under Kotlipara thana of the district are beset with manifold problems. These important markets earn huge revenue but no steps are being taken for proper development of these markets during the last few years, it is alleged.

Bus passengers looted in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Aug 7: A dacoity was committed in Jhenidah bound bus of Rupa Paribahan near Tetutala on Jhenidah-Jessore highway (Monday) night it was reported.

According to reports, a gang of armed dacoits numbering 4 to 5 who were travelling in the guise of passengers attacked the driver near Bishoykhali bazar at about 8.30 pm and took control of the vehicles on gun point.

Saidul Islam, 40, a passenger was chopped by the armed dacoits. He was rushed to the Jhenidah sadar hospital in critical condition. The miscreants also looted cash and other belongings worth Taka about 70,000 from the passengers, it was reported.

A case was lodged with Jhenidah thana in this connection. But police could not arrest anybody in this connection.



CHANDPUR: Carpenters are busy in making country boats using palm trees used as means of communication in the rural areas during the rainy season. — Star photo

Pabna pourashava lacks a children's park

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Aug 7: Although Pabna pourashava was upgraded to a first class pourashabha in 1989, there is no children's park as yet in this town. The sufferings of the children and the physical and mental development of these future citizens are being hampered severely.

During the 24 years of Pakistan, however, foundation-stone laying ceremonies for the construction of a number of children's parks were found to be held on a number of occasions and that two in so many places of the then municipality. But, in every such case, the matter ended there. After laying of foundation stone, no further work was undertaken and as such, no children's park was ever established in this town during the long 24 years of the existence of Pakistan.

Following liberation of Bangladesh, however, the situation changed only slightly but not basically. One children park was established near the central shahed minar over the former S.D.O court maidan although the area in those days was almost free from children as the area was very thinly populated. Hence, the selec-

tion of site for the establishment of children's park was not proper and many people opposed the establishing the park at the said site but the pourashabha authorities of those days paid no heed to that opposition.

Due to such improper site selection, it was found that the park could not attract considerable number of children for whom the park was actually set up. Besides being thinly populated, the area was disadvantageous for a few more reasons two. These are:

1) The area became full of litigant public, lawyers, their clerks, police, court officials and employees from morning everyday till the evening. Hence, no mother could bring her child there.

2) When those people left the area, it took almost a deserted look and hence also women dared not come their with their children.

3) On the east of the park, the north Bengal highways passed through and children were not safe to play over there due to apprehension of accidents.

As a result, the park failed to attract even the poor number of children that lived in

the area and hence, within few years, the children's park turned into a grazing field of the cattle and all the playing instruments set up there, were either stolen away or were damaged. Now it can hardly be identified as a park.

Now, inspite of the above disadvantages, the place can be again turned into a children's park since the population in the surrounding areas has enormously increased and quite naturally, the number of children has also risen much. But the Parashabha authorities are reluctant to undertake any such project.

When asked, Advocate Shikh Shahidullah Bachus, Chairman, Pabna pourashava told The Daily Star that as yet they have not prepared any scheme for setting up any such children's park in Pabna town due to their fund constraints.

The chairman, however, admitted that at least five children's parks in the five wards of the pourashabha needed to be set up with all modern facilities, they had no fund, no land and no sponsor to meet this need.

Only through government grants, if available the idea could be materialised he said.



GAIBANDHA: An abandoned homestead at village Syedpur under Fulchhari thana facing extinction by flood of river Brahmaputra. The inhabitants have shifted to a safer place. — Star photo

Two houses robbed on same night

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Aug 7: Two dacoities were committed in single night at village Madandanga in Saikupa thana of the district in the night of July 26 last, it was reported.

According to reports, a gang of armedmen numbering eight to ten attacked the house of Mostafa Manwar Mantu Mia at about 12 pm. The miscreants first tied the night guard and the houseowner at gun point and looted cash taka and other belongings worth about Tk 20,000.

The armedmen then attacked the house of Dabiruddin, an employee of Livestock Department and looted valuables worth Taka about 2,000 at gun point, it was learnt.

It may be noted here that the armedmen identified themselves as the members of an outlawed party before entering the house, it was alleged.

When contacted the Officer-in-Charge, Saikupa thana admitted the fact and told that no case was registered so far.

Outlawed party activist killed

SATKHIRA, Aug 7: An outlawed party activist was killed and secretly buried by the rival activists of another outlawed party at Atrui village in Tala thana of the district on Friday, reports UNB.

Police said some terrorists of Biplobi Communist Party waylaid Lutfar Rahman, 30, a member of Purba Bangla Communist Party, while he was returning home from Jatpur Bazar on Friday night and shot him dead from point blank.

Later, the terrorists dump Lutfar's body under the ground and left the place, police added.

On information by local people, police recovered the body on Saturday morning and sent it to the hospital for autopsy.

Last ritual

The last ritual (Sradhah) of Mohim Chandra Nath will be held on Friday (Aug 9) at Natun Bari of Binodpur under sadar thana of Noakhali district. He died on July 30 in Dhaka.

He is the father of Shankar Bihari Nath, Sub-Editor of The Morning Sun.

BARISAL: Picture shows Dr S M Anisur Rahman Director Health Barisal Division in a press conference organised by Divisional Health Department recently on the occasion of Breast Feeding Week '96. — Star photo

R&H Tender Invitation Notice

- Tender Notice No : 15/EE/WD Dhaka/1995-96.
 - Name of work : Supply of spare parts for repair of Daihatsu Rocky Jeep Dhaka-Metro-BHA-8063 of R&H, Administration & Establishment, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka under R&H, Workshop Division, Dhaka.
 - Estimated cost : Tk 1,23,590/-.
 - Earnest money : 2% (two per cent) of estimated cost Tk 2,472/- should be deposited through BD/TC/Sanchayapatra/CD from any scheduled bank in favour of Executive Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division, Dhaka. 10% security money should be submitted prior to work order.
 - Time for completion of work : 15 (fifteen) days from the date of issuing work order.
 - Eligibility of contractor : As per qualification & rules — R&H Directorate enlisted "A" to "E" class contractors.
 - Offices the tender & schedule to be had at : Can be purchased from Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division, Mymensingh at Tk 510/- per set including Bangladesh Form No 2911 (non-refundable) during office hours up to the day before the date of receiving tender.
 - Officers & offices to receive the tender & schedule : Superintending Engineer, R&H, Workshop Circle, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, R&H, Workshop Division, Mymensingh.
 - Last date & time of receiving sealed tender : 18-8-96 up to 12-00 Noon.
 - Last date of opening sealed tender : 21-8-96 at 12-30 PM.
 - Head of expenditure : T & R.
- Md Humayun Rashid Khalifa**
Executive Engineer, R&H (Mechanical)
Workshop Division
Tejgaon, Dhaka.
- DFP-17077-4/8
G-927

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
Cox's Bazar Public Works Division
Cox's Bazar
Memo No. 1065 Dated: 25-7-96

Tender Notice No 12/96-97

- Tenders in BD Form No 2911 under sealed envelope are hereby invited from Public Works Directorate enlisted special first class, first class electrical/mechanical contractors having ABC & supervisory licence and skilled manpower for the undermentioned work. The tender will be received by Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, 3/4, Chittagong; Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Bandarban & the undersigned up to 12-00 Noon of 19-8-96 and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 12-15 hours in presence of the interested tenderers (if any). Tender should be submitted superscribing the name of work on the envelope. Attested copy of VAT registration certificate of VAT Department should be attached with the tender.
- Name of work : Construction of 10 KW Radio station at Zhillongia Mouza of Cox's Bazar district (Sub head: supply of parts for 250 KVA electric sub-station of the Radio station). Year 1996-97.
- Estimated cost : Tk 19,75,112/-.
- Earnest money : Tk 39,505/-.
- Time limit for completion of work: 210 (two hundred ten) days from the date of issuing work order.
- (A) BD Form No. 2911, tender, additional terms & conditions etc can be seen & purchased at usual price from the office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, 3/4, Chittagong, Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Bandarban & the undersigned during office hours up to 17-08-96. Contractor himself can purchase the tender on production of original copy of necessary licence & papers.
- (B) Contractors should be obliged to pay VAT at the actual rate to be decided by Ministry of Finance/National Board of Revenue for VAT collection against classified work. Final payment/settlement of the bill cannot be made until VAT registration & VAT payment at the prescribed rate is made by the contractor.
- (A) Prior to purchasing tender, the contractor/contractor firm should submit certificate from the Executive Engineer concerned to the effect that the firm has on regular employment and with adequate practical experience in the related work — 1 (one) degree holder engineer (electrical), 1 (one) diploma engineer (electrical) electrical supervisor, skilled electrical mechanic, equipment used in electrical work, and adequate expertise in execution of work.
- (B) In case more than one person or firm individually quoting rate appear to be the lowest tenderers, then a lottery will be held by the undersigned or his authorised representative in the office chamber of the undersigned on 21-08-96 at 12-00 Noon before the contractors (if any) present.

Md Badrul Akter Chowdhury
Executive Engineer
Cox's Bazar Public Works Division
Cox's Bazar
Phone : 3547

DFP-17132-4/8
G-928

Bangladesh Bank
Engineering Department
Head Office
Dhaka

Tender Notice
No. 02/1996-97

- Name of work : Supply, fitting & fixing of Aluminium sliding gate for Main entrance of 2nd high rise Annexe Building of Bangladesh Bank Head office premises, Motijheel, C/A, Dhaka.
- Earnest money (in the form of Bank Draft/ Pay Order/ SDR/only from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh drawn in favour of the General Manager, Admin & Expenditure, Dept. of Bangladesh Bank, Head office, Dhaka to be submitted along with the tender) : Tk. 2% (two per cent) of quoted price.
- Time allowed for completion of the work : 15 (fifteen) days from the date of issue of work order.
- Eligibility for participation in the tender : Bonafide and reputed contractor/firm having adequate experience in supplying, fitting & fixing aluminium door/window/gate or similar nature of work in a single work order under any Govt./Semi Govt. or Autonomous organization whose estimated cost put to tender/tendered value executed value is not less than Tk. 5,00,000/- (Taka five lakh) only.
- Performance Certificate form (proof of eligibility) : Intending tenderers must procure performance certificate attested photo copy from the concerned officer of the organization not below the rank of Executive Engineer & submit the same with the tender document & also submit the attested photo copy of (a) Renewed trade licence (b) Up to date Income tax clearance certificate (c) Bank solvency certificate from any scheduled bank (d) VAT registration certificate and other relevant papers. Without which the tender will not be accepted.
- Cost of tender schedule & other terms and conditions : Tk. 750 (Taka seven hundred fifty) only (Non-refundable).
- Office of selling of the tender schedule & other terms and conditions etc & time : Administration & Expenditure Deptt. (BPD), Main building, 5th floor, Bangladesh Bank, Head office, Dhaka Thursday—during office hours up to 10-00 A.M. Otherday—during office hours up to 2-00 P.M. within the stipulated dates.
- Last date of selling of the tender schedule & other terms and conditions etc. & time : 11-8-1996 Up to 12-00 Noon.
- Office of receiving the tender : Sealed cover envelope to be received in the box kept in the office of the General Manager, Administration & Expenditure Department, Main Building, 5th floor, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka. 13-8-96 up to 12-00 Noon.
- Date & time of receiving the tender : 13-8-1996 up to 12-15 P.M.
- Date & time of opening the tender : 13-8-1996 at 12-15 P.M.
- Incomplete and conditional tenders and tenders without earnest money will not be considered. Bangladesh Bank authority reserves the right not to accept the lowest tender and also have the right to accept in full or in part or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Murtaza Mamunur Rashid
General Manager (Engg.)