

MIZANUR KHAN

"We rescued some who were seriously injured but could not take them to hospital. Our ambulance could not move because it

The densely populated old quarter of the city is a maze of narrow streets permitting only rickshaws to ply. Residents walk a long distance from the main road to reach home.

"We start from home at least an hour before to reach school in time. We sometimes change rickshaws several times on the way to make sure we do not miss the

Locals said narrow roads with potholes, unplanned structures and worn-out sewers have made life miserable for some 20 lakh residents. "Some have already moved to the new part of the city," said Anup Sur, a 35-year-old shop owner at Shankhari Bazar.

"Narrow streets in Old Dhaka are no new, but the increased flow of traffic and illegal expansion of buildings by landowners slowed the movement more than snail's pace," he added.

Professor Muntasir Mamun of the history department at Dhaka University (DU) said Old Dhaka streets have been narrow since the

Mayor Sadeque

The DCC zone-2 is

"The people living here are poor and cannot think of widening streets. Rajuk or DCC should come forward to save us by other means," he said.



A resident, right, walks home along an alley in Old Dhaka and rows of rickshaws, left, clog a narrow street.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) and Tripura Road Transport Corporation

On the future of the bus service BRTC Chairman Advocate Taimur Alam Khondaker said both opera-

The Dhaka-Agartala bus service launched on September 21 is the second Indo-Bangla direct road link, the first being the Dhaka-Kolkata link in 1999.



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

SABRINA KARIM MURSHED

"Joy was asking for water. I could not give him any. I could not move," said Modhumala, disconsolate with grief.

Modhumala is now living with the other survivors of her family in another building opposite the collapsed one. Sunlight hardly enters the building with small rooms and a narrow staircase. The entrance is too narrow for two people to walk in together. Residents of the house said that the building has also been marked as vulnerable to collapse.



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

Akku Chowdhury, head of operations of Pizza Hut, other team members of the restaurant and media personal were present at the inauguration.

