

Bikers upset New Market shoppers

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Unauthorised entry of motorcycles and bicycles inside the New Market shopping centre's premises is becoming a nuisance for the shoppers.

Vehicles are prohibited inside the market but some visitors often park their bikes there in the absence of proper facilities outside. This is threatening the spacious ambience of the popular shopping place.

"New market is my favourite place to shop. I have been regularly coming here for the last twenty years. Sometimes I just visit it with family and friends for snacks. Unfortunately, my feeling of safety was shattered in August this year when a reckless motorcycle rider hit me when I was walking in one of the lanes," said Rehana Akter, a housewife from Azimpur.

"I have not had an accident so far. But the way motorcycles move around these days, an accident can happen at any moment. It also takes away the enjoyment of shopping here," said Rebeka Sultana, a resident student of Dhaka University's Bangladesh-Kuwait Friendship (Moitre)

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Hall.

Kabir Ahmed, who had parked his motorcycle inside, said people like him had little option.

"I am forced to violate the rules as the parking facilities for bikes here is very poor. There is only a small and dirty place to keep motorcycles"

There is a concrete shade for parking bikes and cycles near gate number 1 adjacent to a public toilet. But that area is mostly occupied by beggars and drug-addicts.

"We forbid bikers from entering the New Market but they ignore our request. Sometimes we are threatened

and quarrels often break out," said Masud, a security guard of the market.

"The New Market is a property of the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC). We have requested the DCC several times to build a new parking area. Desperate, we constructed a parking spot on our own in 1999 but the authorities demolished it in 2001," said Shirajuddin Ahmed Chistey, president of the Dhaka New Market Bonik Samity (businessmen's association).

"Nevertheless we have assigned 30 security guards to maintain security and discipline during the month of Ramadan," Chistey added.



Although vehicles are prohibited inside the New Market premises, rickshaws, motor-cycles and even motor cars are seen plying inside.

DOWNTURN OF SUPPLIES, UPTURN OF CUSTOMERS



The 'Eid Handloom Fair 2004' presently on in Karwan Bazar which will continue till the last day of Ramadan draws large crowds and is experiencing a sharp increase in the flow of customers this year. However, complains the owner of one large textile shop, many customers have to go away empty handed because of the downturn of supplies this year. Yet all vendors are making every effort to satisfy as many customers during this festive season.

BSMMU hospital plagued by erratic water supply

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

Patients and staff at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) hospital are suffering from irregular supply of water.

"Every day our patients complain of the water crisis and we too cannot do our normal work due to inadequate supply of water," said Monwara Begum, nurse in charge of Urology, Cardiac and Neurology department of the hospital.

Monwara submitted an application to the superintendent of BSMMU on Octo-

ber 24 notifying the authorities of the acute water crisis in her wards.

She said almost all the departments in BSMMU hospital are facing water crisis for a long time hampering normal activities at the hospital.

"We cannot maintain cleanliness and hygienic atmosphere at the hospital because of irregular supply of water," said a duty doctor. "It becomes difficult for us to work at the Intensive Care Unit and operating theatres."

"We often do not get water for hand wash after a surgery. And sometimes we have to stop operation due to lack of

water," said another doctor.

Hospital staff said water crisis took a serious turn since the former post-graduate medical research institute was converted into a university as the activities of the BSMMU have increased a lot with the conversion.

Demand for water increased with the opening of the extension building of B-block, many new services and departments during the past 3-4 years.

"The demand for water and other utility services have increased but we have to depend on the irregular supply of water without any alternative sources," said Dr Abdul Quddus,

assistant superintendent of BSMMU hospital.

Hospital staff said the public works department has recently installed an additional supply pipe that has improved the situation a bit but it is not still enough to meet the increased demand. The authorities however claimed the situation has improved a lot.

"After setting up of new supply line the problem has come to a tolerable level but still we need more. We have already applied to the PWD for another supply line or a pump exclusively for the hospital to solve the problem permanently," said an official.

Recycled paper in vogue

SYED TASHFİN CHOWDHURY

With an increasing demand for recycled paper in the West, non-government organizations have been manufacturing and exporting hand-made paper for over a decade.

Such paper, previously not found on the market, is also becoming popular among the city dwellers.

Made from waste products, the recycled paper is however

quite expensive, each piece selling at Tk 9 to Tk 50.

"Because of high production cost, entrepreneurs are usually shy from recycled paper projects," said Abdul Wahad, manager of Creations, which has come up with a range of hand-made paper. "But we have been in this business for the last eight years and enjoying a rather steady business ever since."

Jute, cotton, tea-dust, water

hyacinth, rice husk, grass and a lot of other materials are used as ingredients in recycled paper. They come in attractive designs, textures and various thickness, a lot more demanding. Bamboo leaves, straws and other items from the nature are embedded in the paper to make interesting patterns.

Such papers are in great demand to the Dhaka University students.

"Many fine arts and architecture students are our frequent customers," said Wahad. Different organisations also use them for greeting cards and wrapping paper.

"We are also making our own line of products such as note-books, greeting cards, spiral pads, pen holders, photo frames and so on," said Wahad.

Creations aims to export these items in the future.

healthouting, taxicab & train timing

HEALTH

- Hospitals**
Heart
 National Institute of Cardio Vascular Diseases (NICVD), - 9130800, 9122560-59
Burn
 Dhaka Medical College Hospital
 Burn Unit-8626812-6
Cancer
 National Cancer Institute-8014914, 8826561-65
 Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University-8612550-4, 861455-9
Diabetes
 Diabetic Research Hospital (BIRDEM)- 9661551-5, 8616641-50
Mother & Child Care
 Shishu Hospital- 9119119, 8116061-62
 Azimpur Mother & Child Health

- Training Institute- 8624827, 8624980
Eye
 Islamia Eye Hospital-9110794, 9119315
 National Eye Hospital- 8117202, 8114807
Dental
 Dental College -9002035
Orthopaedics
 National Orthopaedics (Pangu) Hospital- 9114075, 9112150
General
 Dhaka Medical College Hospital- 8626812-6
 Rushmono General Hospital- 8317819
 Holy Family Hospital- 8311731-25
 Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital- 8612550-4, 8614545-9
 Bangladesh Medical College & Hospital- 8115443, 9118202

- Shamarita Hospital- 9131901
 Suhrawardy Hospital - 9130800, 9122560-69
 Salmullah Medical Collage Hospital - 7310061-4, 7319002-6
 Cholera Research Hospital (ICDDR) - 8811751-60
 Monowra Hospital 8319802, 8318135
Blood Bank
 Red Crescent Centre- 9116563
 Sandhani (DMCH)- 8624040
 Sandhani (SMCH)- 7310061, 7310061, 7319022
 Dhaka Medical Collage Hospital- 8626812-9
Eye Bank
 Sandhani International Eye Bank- 8614040
Ambulances For Dead Body
 Anzuman Madfulul Islam (Kakrail) 9336611, Gandaria 7319808, 7318166,
 Al-Markajul Islam 9127867,

MARKET CLOSED

- Gulshan 1, 2 markets-Friday
 Elephant Road-Friday
 Bishal Center-Friday
 Baitual Mukarram Market-Friday
 Polwell Market-Friday
 BCS Computer City-Friday
 Isha Khan Shopping Complex-Friday.
 Rajlaxmi Complex-Friday
 Stadium Market-Friday
 Bangabazar Market-Friday
 National Museum-Thursday
 Ahsan Manzil-Thursday.
 New Market-Tuesday
 Gausia Market-Tuesday
 Mouchak Market-Sunday
 Dhanmondi Hawkers Market-Tuesday
 Eastern Plaza-Sunday
 Farmview Super Market-Sunday
 Muktiyudha Jadugarh-Sunday
 Dhaka Zoo-Sunday
 Shishu Jadugarh-Sunday

TAXI CAB

- Yellow Cab**
 Navana 9558065
 Salida 9344477, 0171620881
 Cosmo 9112959 and 8127191
 Cab One 7113282-3
 Nihon 8624741-2
 Orion 9347277
 Anudip 8125285 and 8127611
 Capital 9352847
Black Cab
 Cab Ex 9358401
 Cabline 8321162
 JBS Cab 019364575
 Sajon 018126036
 Anudip - 8125285 and 8127611
TRAIN TIMING
 Subarna Express
 Mahanagar Prabhat
 Mahanagar Godhull
 Turna
 Parabat Express
 Joyantika Express
 Upaban Express
 Tista Express
 Ekata Express
 Upakul Express
 Agnibeena Express
 Leaves Dhaka at 4:30 pm
 Leaves Dhaka at 7:30 am
 Leaves Dhaka at 3-15 pm
 Leaves Dhaka at 11-00 pm
 Leaves Dhaka at 6-40 am
 Leaves Dhaka at 12-45 pm
 Leaves Dhaka at 9-45 pm
 Leaves Dhaka at 5-00 pm
 Leaves Dhaka at 8-00 pm
 Leaves Dhaka at 9-20 pm
 Union 8130485
 Kool 0171826731
 Cab One 7113282-3
 Palki 0171052500
 Cab I 7113282
 Jatrl 0171540074
 Nipun 9572277
 R-Cab 8914782
 Star Cab 9571919
 Shihab 018202477 & 018228675
 KGN 8620011
 Reaches Chittagong at 10:35 pm
 Reaches Chittagong at 1-55 pm
 Reaches Chittagong at 10-55 pm
 Reaches Chittagong at 6-40 am
 Reaches Sylhet at 2-30 pm
 Reaches Sylhet at 9-20 pm
 Reaches Sylhet at 6-40 am
 Reaches Bahadurabad at 11-05 pm
 Reaches Bahadurabad at 11-15
 Reaches Noakhali at 6-00 am
 Reaches Jagannath at 2-30 pm

LIBRARY & INFO

- Libraries, Cultural and Information Centers**
 Central Public Library- 8626001-4,
 Shishu Academy- 9564128
 Shilpakala Academy- 8614673
 Bangla Academy- 8619550
 Islamic Foundation- 9550280, 9556407
 Nazrul Institute- 9114602
 Ford Foundation- 8116133
 Alliance Francaise- 8611557
 Information Resource Center, The American Centre- 8813440-4, 9886395-9
 British Council- 8618867-8, 8618905-7
 Community Development Library- 8113769, 8113604
 Goethe Institute Int'l- Dhaka- 9126525-6
 Indian Information Centre & Cultural Library- 8615096
 The Russian Cultural Centre- 9116314, 9118531, 9118314
 Drik Photo Gallery- 9120125, 8112954, 8123412
 Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) 9330081-4