

HOSTELS OF JAGANNATH UNIVERSITY

Illegal occupation continues

CITY CORRESPONDENT

No effective measures have been taken by the authorities of Jagannath University to free its 12 hostels from illegal occupation that commenced over 20 years back.

"It cannot be called illegal occupancy, as most of the dormitories are under the control of home ministry and with police personnel residing," said Nasrin Begum, registrar and principal member of the university's fact-finding committee, formulated to look into the actual picture of occupation allegations.

"It will be easy for us to rescue the hostels from

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occupiers because the police department will help us and the hostels occupied by locals will be saved soon," she said.

"As we do not have sufficient manpower, we are afraid to risk the freeing of hostels from illegal occupancy," she added.

Prof. Dr. Sirajul Islam Khan, the vice-chancellor (VC) said that they would need sometime to work things out.

"We have just started classes and are now we are emphasising on starting administrative functions, giving priority to development work of

the university," the VC said. "Once these areas are taken care of we will act on freeing the hostels from its present occupants," he added.

But most students of the university were unaware that outsiders are occupying the 12 dormitories.

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When this correspondent spoke to Sahnur Haider, a 4th year Management student about the dormitories, he said: "I have no idea about the hostels. I am hearing this for the first time from you."

Students also alleged that they are suffering much because of the crisis of accommodation at the university.

"We live in a mess. It is uncomfortable and expensive. We hope the authorities will take initiatives to have the dormitories restored for us," said Shimul, an accounting student.

"More than 65 percent students of our department are from out of Dhaka. They are facing acute accommodation problems. Immediate action against the illegal occupiers would help these students with accommodation," said Shakib Raihan, another accounting student.

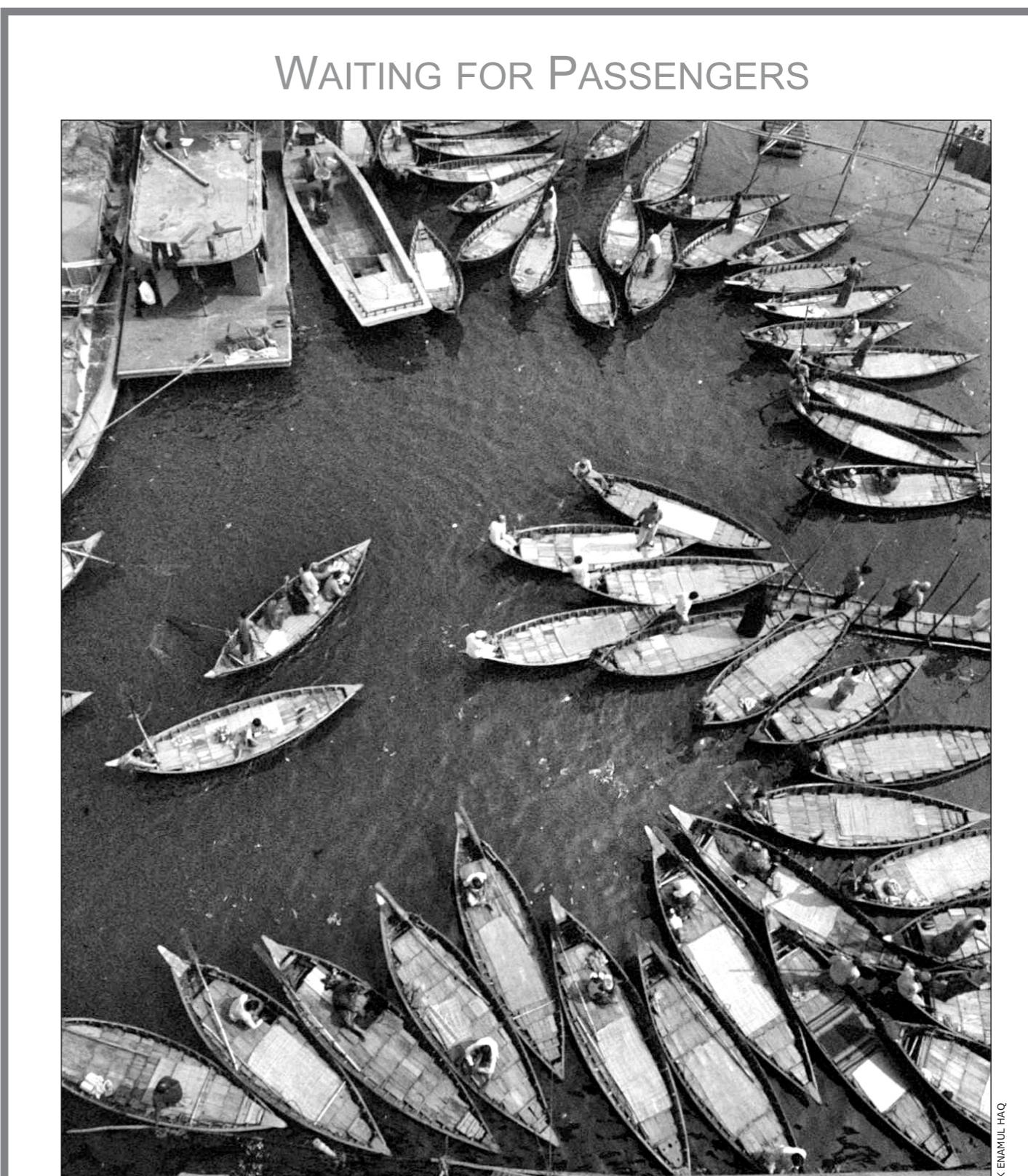
According to some of the university teachers, students gave up residing in the hostels after a clash with local residents in 1984. Authorities had given police personnel and their families, permission to reside in the hostels for security reasons.

The on-duty police officer of Kotwali police station said that there is no accommodation in the police station dormitory, so police personnel were asked to live in some of the dormitories and the practice has been going on for years.

A senior teacher of the university said that the local people were disturbed by mugging and anti-social activities by the hostels residents at that time. So the people themselves drove the students out for the sake of peace and security of the locality.



One of the hostels called Kumartuli at Jagannath University remains occupied.



SK ENAMUL HAQ

Boatmen on the Buriganga river sitting idle as number of passengers have decreased in recent times with other modes of river crossing becoming more popular among the passengers.

Slow legal process

FROM PAGE 21 appointed to conduct the cases in criminal courts as the state is the complainant of such cases but no positive or significant developments have been seen in this regard.

Additional Attorney General Abdur Razzaque Khan said 35 out of 72 judges in the High Court handle criminal cases. Only seven of them are in the Appellate Division. Shortage of work-force leads to the backlog of pending cases in the higher court, he added.

The lawyers laid emphasis on increasing manpower of the High Court, appointment of skilled and non-partisan persons as attorneys and public prosecutors and building up a computerised database of the pending cases.

They also stressed the need for coordination between the higher and the lower courts and between the attorneys and the law ministry for accelerating the legal procedure.

However, according to the statistics recorded by the Acid Survivors Foundation since 2003, the number of acid throwing incidents is decreasing. The number of acid victims fell by 15.4

percent in 2003, 21.11 percent in 2004 and 17.54 percent in 2005.

The number of incidents also decreased by 8.46 percent in 2003, 20.59 percent in 2004 and 20.30 percent in 2005, though acid throwing remains as one of the most brutal forms of violence against women and children in the country.

NGO activists working with acid throwing victims say stringent law, quick legal procedure and proper punishment of the culprits would greatly reduce the crime.

Whatever is the reason for the delay in the delivery of justice, it is obvious that this delay causes sufferings to the victims and their families. Lengthy legal procedure also causes economic loss to them, participants in the dialogue said.

Moreover, the victims and their families often face threats from the perpetrators and the delay in trial process encourages the criminals. If the culprits get unpunished, the victims had to bear serious psychological consequences, the participants said.

Faulty launch

FROM PAGE 21 took place on July 8, 2003 killing more than 400 people.

The speakers at the meeting demanded that the government should take effective measures to ensure safe design and valid licence of the launches as well as carry out regular inspection to lessen the risk of accidents.

They said the law regarding payment of compensation for the victims of launch accidents is ambiguous and the owners take advantage of its vagueness. The law says the victims or their family should be given compensation of Tk 1 lakh. However, the law does mention if this money should be given to each victim or two or more of a same family.

The speakers also alleged the passengers have become hostage to the owners of launches regarding fare as the government has no control on them.

"From 2001, the price of diesel has increased by 190 percent while the fare of launch has been increased by 333 percent. The poor are the worst victims of the unjust raise in launch fare," said Rasul.

The speakers demanded of the government to set up Nou Adalat or river court, to make sure that the launch fare is reasonable. The shipping inspectors should be given executive power to punish the launches collecting unjust and high fare, the observed.

healthouting,taxicab&taintiming

HEALTH

Hospitals	Salimullah Medical College Hospital 7319002-6	The Eye Clinic 9333238
Anjuman-e-Mofidul Islam	9336611, 7411660	
BARDEM	8616641-50	
Cholera Hospital (ICDDR,B)	8811751-60	
CMH (Dhaka)	9870011	
Dhaka Medical Collage Hospital	8628612-6	
Holy Family Red Crescent	8311721-5	
Islamia Eye Hospital	9119315, 8112156	
Lion Eye Hospital	9129127	
Medinova Medical Services	8620353-4	
Mirpur General Hospital (Pvt) Ltd	9007873, 8015444	
Mitford Hospital	7319002-6	
National Heart Foundation Hospital	8014914, 8010491, 8021399	
Orthopedic Hospital	9112150	

MARKET CLOSED

TAXI CAB

LIBRARY & INFO

Passenger's Complaint	8624741 Orion Taxi Cab Ltd. 934727, 9347277, 01711-155144	348474 Ulka Express Ltd. 9359885, 01711-313554
	Reliance Cab Ltd. 9339563-4	Cab Bangla Ltd. 9563077 Ext.-3054, 3178, 01711-622644
	RMS Cab Ltd. 8118536	Cab i Ltd. 9563054, 9563077, 01711-629585
	Shatarupa Taxi Cab Ltd. 731083, 01711-458740	Cab lim Ltd. 8321162
	Nitol Cab Co. Ltd. 9662009, 01711-645257	Capital Cab Co. Ltd. 9352847-9
	JBS Cab Ltd. 0191-364575	Classic Cab Ltd. 200825, 01711-233851, 01711-821425
	Coal Cab Ltd. 8130485, 01711-826731	Comport Cab Ltd. 8817610-4
	Limujin Cab Ltd. 9318351, 9337204	Cab Express Ltd. 9341369, 9339337, 9348401 Ext.-111
	Multi-Cab Ltd. 9666502, 9570740	
	Nihon Taxi Cab Ltd. 8624742, 3178	
	United Cab Ltd. 7510166, 01711-	
TRAIN TIMING		
Subarna Express	Leaves Dhaka at 4:30 pm	Reaches Chittagong at 10:35 pm
Mahanagar Prabhati	Leaves Dhaka at 7:30 am	Reaches Chittagong at 1:55 pm
Mahanagar Godhuli	Leaves Dhaka at 3:15 pm	Reaches Chittagong at 10:55 pm
Turna	Leaves Dhaka at 11:00 pm	Reaches Chittagong at 6:40 am
Parabat Express	Leaves Dhaka at 6:40 am	Reaches Sylhet at 2:30 pm
Joytanika Express	Leaves Dhaka at 12:45 pm	Reaches Sylhet at 9:20 pm
Upabani Express	Leaves Dhaka at 9:45 pm	Reaches Sylhet at 6:40 am
Tista Express	Leaves Dhaka at 7:00 am	Reaches Bahadurabad at 1:05 pm
Ekata Express	Leaves Dhaka at 5:00 pm	Reaches Bahadurabad at 11:15
Upakul Express	Leaves Dhaka at 8:00 pm	Reaches Noakhali at 5:00 am
Agnibeeba Express	Leaves Dhaka at 9:20 pm	Reaches Jagannath at 2:30 pm

Libraries, Cultural and Information Centers

Central Public Library- 8626001-4, Shishu Academy- 9564128
Shilpkala Academy- 8614673
Bangla Academy- 8619550
Islamic Foundation- 9550280, Nazrul Institute- 9114602
Ford Foundation- 8116133
Alliance Francaise- 8611557
Information Resource Center, The American Center- 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- 8850141-2
The Russian Cultural Centre- 9116314, 9118531, 9118314
Drik Photo Gallery- 9120125, 8112954, 8123412
Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) 9330081-4