

City pedestrians face most hazards

SHAHNAZ PARVEEN

The exact number however is much higher, predict BRTA officials. They said the figure only includes incidents that have been reported to Dhaka Metropolitan Police. There are hundreds of other accidents that go unreported every year.

Public unawareness is linked with economic hardship. Underprivileged people migrating from different parts of the country know very little about road safety. Use of sidewalks or footpaths is a new idea to them. "Pedestrians do not use the footpaths most of the times and

The underpasses now available to the pedestrians are in a terrible state with insufficient lighting and air circulation inside, sewage spilling in while vendors and panhandlers loitering around. Mismanagement and carelessness about pedestrian security has made these under-

Better and safer traffic engineering is important, experts say.

Road traffic injuries are the second leading cause of death of people aged between 5 and 25.

SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

A uni-pole advertisement hoarding dangerously tilts towards a building at the Bangla Motor intersection after being lashed by a nor'wester on Thursday. Dhaka City Corporation has rented out hundreds of similar poles around the city exposing public to danger.

Rajuk to publicise approved housing projects

Publication of the list would help stop fraudulent practices in the private housing sector

TAWFIQUE ALI

According to records at Rajuk, Pallabi Abashik (30.44 acres) and Arambagh Cooperative Housing (7.59 acres) projects of Eastern Housing Ltd got approval in 1984. Kalyanpur Land Project (4.79 acres) of the same developer got approval in 1986. Cap Hasan (Niketan) Housing Project (68.53 acres) of Eastern Housing got approval in 1987.

A housing developer, among other preconditions, has to obtain plan approval for any construction complying with wetland and environment conservation acts, Building Construction Act of 1952, Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC) and Building Construction Rules of 2006.

Thieves on the prowl for rickshaws

RAIHAN SABUKTAGIN

"The day was hot and the two gentlemen were also drinking the juice. I didn't suspect anything and I thought it would be alright," said Babul.

The owner of the stolen rickshaw usually pays between Tk 4,000 and Tk 6,000 to the thieves depending on the condi-

Lokman, a seller of new rickshaws, said, "Rickshaw theft flourished during the past governments since the law enforcers at that time also got a piece of the pie. Back then, a law enforcement personnel could make Tk 1 lakh by 'handling' 10

"If you dig deep inside the unauthorised rickshaw business, you will learn a lot about the rickshaw thieves," said Nolini, a rickshaw trader.



Rickshaw pullers are drugged or even killed by gangs of rickshaw thieves in the city.