

# Road accidents kill 12, injure 82

## STAR REPORT

At least 12 people were killed and 82 others injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Faridpur, Comilla, Tangail, Sirajganj, Netrokona, Jhenidah, Rajshahi and Naogaon yesterday and on Wednesday.

Staff correspondent reports: Driver of a private car was killed when a passenger bus hit his car in the city's Motijheel area yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Majid, 48. The accident took place near the Motijheel Police Station at around 11:30am, leaving the driver dead on the spot.

His body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Majid's family sources said the accident occurred when he was returning to his employers' house at Mirpur from Motijheel.

Police seized the bus and the private car and arrested bus driver Majnu Miah.

UNB from Faridpur adds: Three people, including a woman, were killed and 13 others injured in two road accidents in the district yesterday.

Police said the accident occurred when a Sathkira-bound microbus from Dhaka collided with a truck at Madhukhali at about 1:00pm, leaving microbus passengers Abdul Hashem, 60, and Mosharraf Hossain, 62, dead on the spot and 11 others injured.

Three of the injured were admitted to Faridpur Medical College Hospital while eight others to Madhukhali Upazila Health Complex.

In another accident, Dilruba Begum, 36, wife of senior official of PWD Khairul Islam, died on the spot when a private car skidded off the road and fell into a ditch near the Faridpur town at noon as the driver lost his control over the steering.

Two others -- Meghmala, 9, and

Bipasha Bari, 32, were rushed to Faridpur Medical College Hospital with injuries.

Another report from Comilla says: An unidentified man was killed and 10 others were injured as a bus fell into a roadside ditch at Shaheednagar in Daudkandi upazila on Dhaka-Chittagong highway yesterday.

Police said a Dhaka-bound bus from Homna plunged into a ditch as its driver lost control over the steering at about 10:00am, killing a passenger on the spot.

The injured were rushed to different hospitals.

Our Correspondent from Tangail reports: Two minor boys were killed and 10 others injured in two separate road accidents at Sadar and Delduar upazilas in the district yesterday morning and Wednesday night.

Police said an accident took place at around 10:00am yesterday when a Dhaka-bound passenger bus from Rangpur lost his control over the steering. The bus turned upside down on Dhaka-Tangail highway at Nagar Jalpa area in Tangail Sadar upazila and fell into a ditch, leaving 12 people on the spot and injured six passengers.

Identities of the dead could not be known immediately.

Police sent the bodies to Sirajganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Our correspondent from Netrokona says: At least 20 people were injured in a road accident on Netrokona-Kalmakanda road at Goturabazar under Kalmakanda Upazila in the district yesterday.

The microbus managed to escape.

Meanwhile, one person was killed and 22 others were injured in a road accident in Manda upazila of Naogaon district on Wednesday.

Local and police said the accident occurred when a Bhutibuli, human hauler, fell into a roadside ditch at Manda Bazar.

The victim was identified as Bithi, daughter of Fazey of Mohandpur upazila.

The seriously injured were rushed to Rajshahi Medical College (RMCH).

They are Moyna, 25, Monthu, 40, Dulal, 30, Sumaira, 6, Surma, 25 and Ambia, 5.

Others were sent to different hospitals and clinics in Manda upazila.

The DCC informed the meeting that at present there are five government graveyards in the city.

This was decided at an inter-ministerial meeting presided over by LGRD Adviser Anwarul Iqbal at the auditorium of the ministry yesterday.

The new forms include simple step-by-step instructions, directing applicants to the next question, explaining how to complete each section and avoiding technical jargons, said a British High Commission press release yesterday.

The forms to be completed in English, also come with comprehensive guidance notes explaining how to answer the questions, and what documents the applicants will need to submit with their application.

With effect from October 29, all visa applicants applying for a visa/entry clearance to the United Kingdom will need to use the new application forms.

These forms will be available from the local VFS offices in Dhaka, Sylhet and Chittagong and from the UK visa's website: www.ukvisas.gov.uk

Visa application centres will continue to accept the old forms up until November 9 after which applicants must use the new application forms.

In a parallel move, the British High Commission has also unveiled online UK visa applications for the first time in Bangladesh.

From October 29, applicants will be able to submit applications electronically via the VFS website: www.vfs-ukbd.com

British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury said, "This is a good news for applicants. More straightforward application procedures mean that our visa section is less likely to need to ask genuine applicants for more information or call them in for interviews. This will mean applications can be dealt with even more quickly."

The High Commissioner said, "We warmly welcome genuine applicants to the UK and we continue to look for ways to provide a world-class service for them. The convenience and efficiency of online applications is a sign of our commitment to modernise and make things easier for people."

The chief executive officer of

the DCC informed the meeting that at present there are five government graveyards in the city.

These are located at Azimpur, Zirai, Mirpur, Banani and Uttara with a total land of 97.8 acre of land which is not sufficient for growing number of city dwellers, he added.

The new graveyard will be free and open to all.

Considering the growing number of city dwellers, the meeting also decided not to allow anybody to buy grave for preservation.

However the meeting proposed to make a guideline for those who want to preserve the graves of their relatives for a certain period and not forever.

The meeting also decided to direct the housing companies to keep a portion of land in their housing areas as graveyard for the plot owners.

A few months ago, the Rajdhani Unnayan Katripakkha (Rajuk) recovered around 10 bighas of land from the illegal occupation of a housing company and the housing and public works ministry was asked to handover the land to Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) at a token price.

Rajuk sold out the land for proposed graveyard in 1992 as plots but they did not get the ownership as it was grabbed illegally.

The adviser directed the Rajuk authorities to hand over them plots in other places.

The meeting asked the DCC authorities, the body responsible to look after the government-owned graveyards in the city, to make a code of conduct to operate the graveyards and submit it to local government and rural development (LGRD) ministry for approval.

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