

500 kids drive CNG-run three-wheelers in Bogra

Only 100 out of 5,000 have genuine license

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, Bogra

A staggering five thousand people including a good number of teenagers are engaged in driving compressed natural gas (CNG) and battery run three-wheelers in the district without any valid driving license for long, said officials of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) in Bogra.

"According to field level reports, only 100 people hold genuine licenses to drive CNG run three-wheelers in the district," said Md Gias Uddin, as-

stant director of BRTA, Bogra office.

Many teenagers are driving battery and CNG run three-wheelers in Bogra town and a few highways in the district in violation of traffic rules, he said.

The number of such teenage drivers in the district would be over 500, BRTA sources said.

Besides, at least 1500 CNG run three-wheelers out of a total 4000 ply different areas of Bogra district without any registration and valid documents, the BRTA official said.

Md Asadur Rahman Dulu, president of Bogra district unit of CNG run auto-rickshaw and tempo owners association, admitted that most of the CNG run three-wheeler drivers are doing the job without any driving license and valid documents.

"Not a single battery run three-wheeler has received any registration during the last two years. Around 900 battery run three-wheelers are moving in the district without any valid document," said Md Lutful Bari Babu, convener of battery run auto-rickshaw owners

association in Bogra district.

"During a drive at Lichotla in Shahjahanpur upazila of Bogra on September 4, a mobile court found that only four out of 18 vehicles had driving license. The court also found a fake bus driving license on the spot," said a BRTA inspector.

Bogra traffic police office sources said more than 200 technically unfit 'auto tempos' (three-wheelers carrying eight to ten passengers each) have been moving in the district without valid documents and competent drivers for long. Some teenagers and unskilled people are also doing the job of mini truck drivers in the district for years.

"I have been driving a battery-run three-wheeler during last one and a half months. Earlier I worked as a goldsmith in Bogra town. I have no idea about driving rules and signals. Normally I carry four to five passengers per trip in Bogra town and nearby highways," said 10-year-old Md Shakib, son of Ruhul Amin of Fulbari area in Bogra town.

Md Shahin Alam, 35, driver of a CNG run three-wheeler registered from Sirajganj, said he has no driving license but nobody asked him about it during last three years.



Running of three-wheelers by under-aged boys is a common scene in Bogra town and adjoining highways, thanks to the authorities' utter callousness about child labour as well as safety of passengers.

PHOTO: STAR



Filled up four months ago, this pond at Millgate in Dhakkamara union under Panchagarh Sadar upazila again turned into a small water body as huge earth subsided under the impact of the strong earthquake that hit the country on Sunday evening. Dozens of buildings developed cracks and quite a few walls collapsed in Panchagarh and Thakurgaon districts as the areas, being relatively nearer to the tremor epicentre in Sikkim, felt the jolt harder than other places of Bangladesh.

KMC reopens early under pressure from students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna Medical College (KMC), which was declared closed for an indefinite period on Sunday amid tension between two groups of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad (Swachip) at the medical college hospital, reopened yesterday.

Following a meeting held at the office of Khulna City Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque on Sunday night, the KMC academic council sat in a meeting at 1:30pm yesterday with acting Principal Dr Kazi Hamid Asgar in the chair and decided to reopen the col-

lege today (Tuesday). But the students compelled the KMC authorities to resume classes at 2:30pm.

At Sunday night's meeting, Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque asked Swachip leaders not to meddle in KMC academic issues and keep the college free from politics. The deputy commissioner of Khulna, KMC acting Principal Dr Kazi Hamid Asgar, and Dr Sheikh Baharul Alam, Khulna unit chief Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad (Swachip), were present.

The mayor also asked the acting principal to withdraw the closure notice and reopen the college.

The closure was a sequel

to last week's unrest over inviting Swachip leader Dr Sheikh Baharul Alam as chief guest at a function at KMCH on Wednesday. A faction of doctors of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad (Swachip) proposed the name of Baharul Alam at a meeting on Wednesday while the other faction opposed it.

The rival doctors also scuffled over selection of the chief guest at the meeting. Police intervened and brought the situation under control.

On Thursday, doctors loyal to Sheikh Baharul Alam assaulted acting Principal Dr Kazi Hamid Asgar. They also

asked him not to interfere in any policy matter of the college.

On Saturday, a group of KMC students backed by Baharul faction locked the office room of Hamid Asgar demanding his removal. On the same day, employees of KMCH brought out a procession on the hospital premises demanding punishment of the doctors who assaulted Dr Hamid Asgar on Thursday.

Amid tension between the two groups of doctors of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad (Swachip), the KMC academic council, after a meeting on Sunday, declared the college closed for an indefinite period.

60,000 marooned as flash flood hits Lalmonirhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Over 60 thousand people in five upazilas of the district have been marooned by flash flood caused by heavy downpour and swelling of Teesta and Dharla rivers.

The Teesta is flowing 3 centimetres above its danger mark at Dowani point of Hatibandha upazila, Enayet Ullah, executive engineer of Lalmonirhat Water Development Board said yesterday.

Dharla was also flowing just around its danger level at Kulaghat point in Sadar upazila yesterday morning, he said.

Floodwater has inundated the low-lying areas beside the two rivers. People of these areas are

leaving their homestead for safer shelter, Enayet Ullah added.

The affected unions are Angorpotra-Dahagram of Patgram upazila, Saniyazan, Goddimari, Sindurna and Dawabari of Hatibandha upazila, Votmari and Kakina of Kaliganj upazila, Mohishkhocha and Durgapur of Aditmari upazila and Kulaghat, Khuniyagachh, Rajpur, Mogholhat unions in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

Flood affected Mohir Uddin, 48, of Kalmati village under Sadar upazila said, torrential rain in the last four days and onrush of water from upstream have flooded their aman paddy field which might be damaged if the water

does not recede within a short time.

Rahad Ali, 50, another flood victim at Sindurna village of Hatibandha upazila, said that they are facing serious shortage of food and pure drinking water.

Taher Uddin of Goddimari village under Hatibandha upazila feared that his domestic animals may not be saved as fodder crisis is acute in his flood-hit village.

Mosaddek Hossain Chowdhury, chairman of Mohishkhocha union Parishad under Aditmari upazila, said more than 8,000 people belonging to 1700 families in eight villages of his union have been marooned by the flash flood.

Hatibandha Upazila

Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Ashrafuzzaman yesterday said they have already sent a letter to the authorities seeking relief materials for the flood hit people of the upazila.

Lalmonirhat Deputy Commissioner (DC) Mokhlesur Rahman Sarker told this correspondent that he along with five UNOs visited different flood affected areas yesterday.

"We have already sanctioned some relief materials from general relief (GR) fund," he said.

My office has sent an emergency message to the relief ministry yesterday seeking allocation of relief materials for the 60,000 flood hit people immediately, the DC added.

4 abducted PCJSS men freed after 10 hours

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Four supporters of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) were freed on Sunday night after 10 hours of abduction allegedly by the cadres of rival United People's Democratic Front (UPDF).

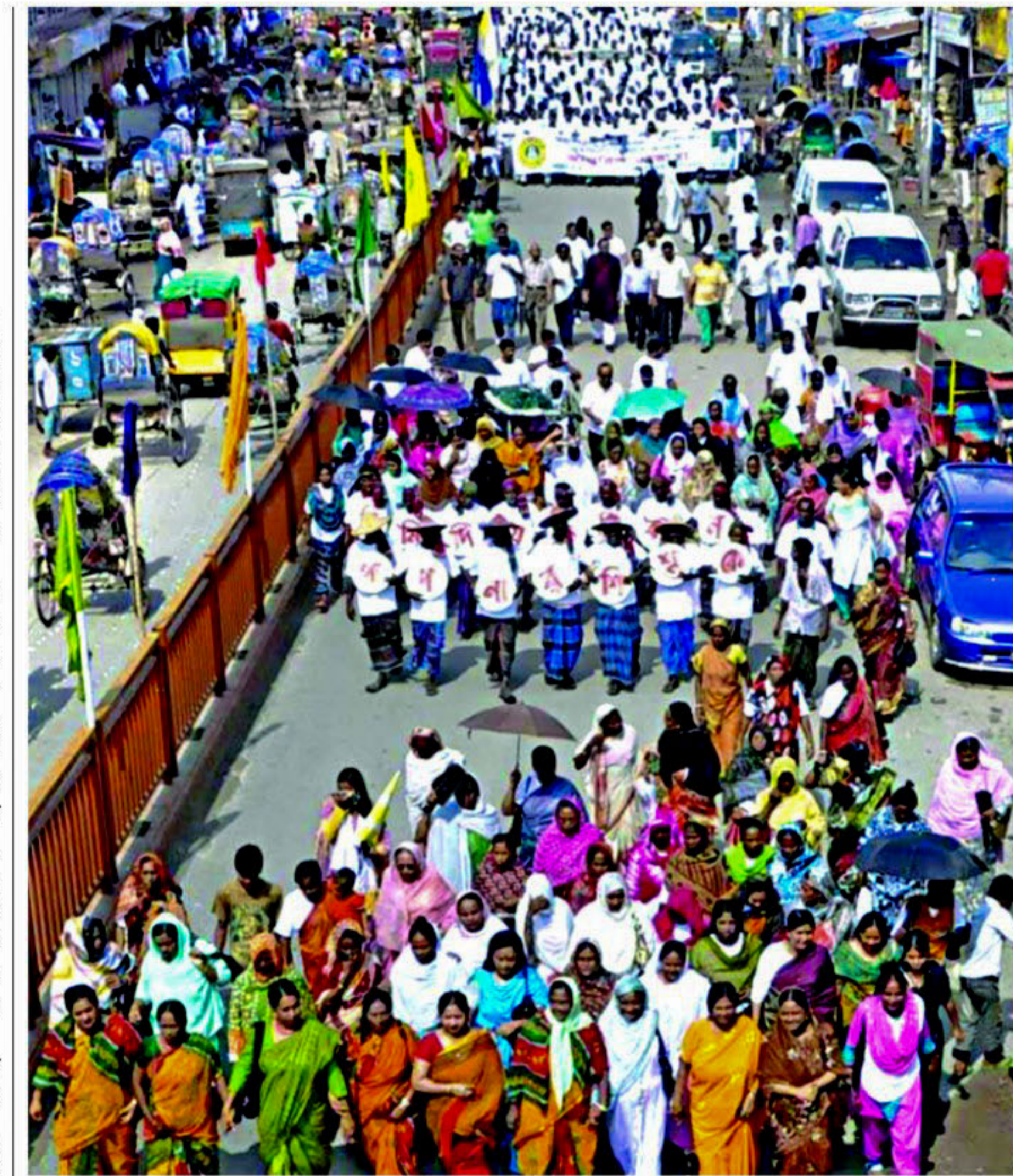
The four abducted from remote Shuknachhari area under Lakkhichhari upazila around 11:00 am were identified as Kanak Baron Chakma, 30, his younger brother Arun Bikash Chakma, 25, both sons of late Nalini Kumar Chakma, Kalimohon Chakma alias Karbary, 50, son of Mizzi Chakma and Bidhu Kumar Chakma, 40, son of Jagot Chandra Chakma of the village.

Officer in-charge of Lakkhichhari police station Kamrul Islam said, the criminals freed the men around 8:30pm on Sunday but the victims are yet to file any complaint with police.

Contacted, press secretary of central PCJSS Sajib Chakma said that the victims are supporters of PCJSS and blamed UPDF for the abduction.

The UPDF men asked the four people recently to quit PCJSS and demanded Tk 2 lakh from each if they wanted to stay in the area. As they refused to leave PCJSS and pay the toll, the cadres of UPDF picked them up, Sajib added.

On other hand, press secretary of UPDF Niron Chakma, refuting the allegation blamed the PCJSS cadres for the abduction. The abducted people are innocent villagers, he said.



Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) brings out a colourful procession in the city yesterday marking the third anniversary of the present council of RCC.



Women waded through knee-deep water at Etapota village in Mogholhat union under Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila yesterday as overflowing Teesta and Dharla rivers worsened flood situation in the district amid downpour for the last four days and onrush of water from the upstream.

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে,

- ১। বিদেশ হইতে সিডিউলভুক্ত অথবা সিডিউল বহির্ভূত MBBS/BDS অথবা সমমানের ডিগ্রিপ্ৰাপ্তগণ কাউন্সিলে রেজিস্ট্রেশনের জন্য কাউন্সিলের নির্ধারিত নিয়মে আবেদন করিলে তাহাদের আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হইবে। প্রতি বৎসর এপ্রিলের শেষ সপ্তাহে এবং নভেম্বরের শেষ সপ্তাহে কাউন্সিলের নির্ধারিত পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণ করিয়া উত্তীর্ণ হইলে ইন্টারশিপ সম্পন্ন করার জন্য তাহারা প্রাথমিকভাবে নিবন্ধিত হইবেন।
- ২। বাংলাদেশী কোন ছাত্র-ছাত্রী বিদেশে চিকিৎসা/দস্ত চিকিৎসা বিষয়ে স্নাতক ডিগ্রি অর্জনের জন্য অধ্যয়ন করিতে চাহিলে বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল হইতে তাহাকে আবশ্যিকভাবে Eligibility Certificate গ্রহণ করিতে হইবে এবং ডিগ্রি অর্জনের পর রেজিস্ট্রেশনের জন্য কাউন্সিলের আবেদন করার সময় উক্ত Eligibility Certificate জমা দিতে হইবে। অন্যথায় রেজিস্ট্রেশনের জন্য তাহাদের আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হইবে না। শিক্ষাবর্ষে ২০১১-২০১২ হইতে ইহা কার্যকর হইবে। উল্লেখ্য যে, বাংলাদেশের মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কলেজসমূহে ভর্তির জন্য প্রতিবৎসর স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর হইতে ভর্তির যে নীতিমালা নির্ধারণ করা হয়, অত্র কাউন্সিল হইতে Eligibility Certificate গ্রহণের জন্য উক্ত নীতিমালা প্রযোজ্য হইবে।

রেজিস্ট্রার
বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল
২০৩, শহীদ সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম সরণী
পুরাতন ৬৬, বিজয়নগর, ঢাকা-১০০০

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