

# Eleven risky turnings of Saidpur town bypass

EAM ASADUZZAMAN,  
Nilphamari

Eleven turnings of Saidpur town bypass on busy Dhaka-Dinajpur highway put the passengers and transport workers at high risk of accidents.

The 10-kilometre bypass saw over 200 serious accidents that killed 125 people and injured hundreds of others during the last two decades, said sources of police and transport associations.

Department (RHD) in 1993 constructed the bypass, starting from Saidpur bus terminal point of Dinajpur-Dhaka highway at the east and joining the same highway at Rabeya Flour Mill point in the west, to ease traffic congestion in densely populated Saidpur railway town under the district.

Everyday thousands of vehicles from Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagarh, Nilphamari and Dhaka ply this road.

Drivers tend to increase speed of vehicles on the

smooth bypass but many of them, especially the newcomers, find it difficult to adjust with the formation of the road as the turnings cause problem to see vehicles coming from the opposite direction.

The most risky turnings on this bypass at Bokpara, Dhalagachh, Asmatiya Madrasa point, Golahat, Wapda point and Sarkarpara often see big or small accidents, said drivers and locals.

The last serious accident on this road occurred on

November 10 last year in which four people were killed and 50 others injured as a speeding BRTC bus bound for Thakurgaon fell into a roadside ditch at Asmotia Madrasa turning.

"Saidpur bypass on Dinajpur-Dhaka highway has become a matter of concern for bus owners and transport workers as the 11 turnings see frequent accidents. We urged the RHD several times to construct a straight road removing the risky turnings but to no effect," said Shahjahan Choudhury, president of bus-minibus owners association in Nilphamari.

District traffic inspector Shamsul Alam said, "The traffic department does not have sufficient manpower to deploy at the risky points of the bypass. Besides, there is lack of adequate signals to make the drivers aware of the condition of the road. We have brought the matter to the notice of RHD to set up signals immediately."

Admitting the vulnerability of vehicles due to several risky turnings on Saidpur bypass, RHD executive engineer of Mahbubul Alam Khan said, "The department is planning to take a project centrally to remove risky turnings from important roads throughout the country, including those on Saidpur bypass. The project will be implemented soon."



PHOTO: STAR

Saidpur town bypass poses serious risk of accidents due to 11 risky turnings including this one at Wapda point as drivers, often hurrying away on the smooth road, find it difficult to sense coming of vehicles from the opposite direction.

## SAU STALEMATE CONTINUES

# Meeting with guardians of 36 accused students today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,  
Sylhet

The indefinite strike, enforced by BCL at Sylhet Agriculture University (SAU) on January 20, continued for the 14th day yesterday.

The ruling party-backed student body enforced the strike after the university authorities sued 36 students and expelled three of them on January 19 on charges of vandalising the administrative building, laboratory and proctor's office on the day.

The students went on the rampage after 47 students, mostly BCL men,

failed to come out successful in the examinations of Veterinary and Animal Science Faculty. The results were published on January 19.

The unruly students also misbehaved with the teachers and officials of the university as they tried to pacify them.

Demanding review of the exams results and withdrawal of the case and expulsion order, the university unit of BCL called an indefinite strike on the campus on January 20.

Sylhet Judicial Magistrate's Court on January 24 granted bail to the 36 accused students

and the university authorities banned all political activities on the campus on January 25.

Contacted, Registrar Faizul Haque said the university authorities are trying their best to resume classes as soon as possible. The vice-chancellor has invited the guardians of the 36 students to a meeting, scheduled for today, to discuss the situation with them, the registrar added.

The BCL university unit formed a human chain at the Central Shaheed Minar in Sylhet city on February 2 and then held a rally there. At the rally, the student body announced its

five-point demand, including withdrawal of cases filed against 36 students and review of the results of 47 students who could not pass the examinations of Veterinary and Animal Science Faculty. BCL university unit president Afradul Islam and general secretary Abdulla Al Mamun addressed the rally.

Meanwhile, a number of students alleged that though the BCL university unit president and general secretary led the violence on the campus on January 20, the university authorities did not take any action against them.



PHOTO: STAR

Potato plants on three acres of land at Baralia Chawk in Tongibari upazila under Munsiganj district got destroyed after the farmer sprayed a certain type of insecticide allegedly following suggestion by a block supervisor of the agriculture department a few days ago.

## KIDS AT STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS



PHOTO: STAR

Elections to the student councils, a concept aimed at practicing democratic norm from childhood, were held at all government primary schools across the country yesterday. Photos show 1)

Student of Terokhadia Government Primary School in Rajshahi city queue up on the school premises to cast their votes, 2) a student of Chapainawabganj Government Primary school inserts ballot into a ballot box, 3) voting is going on at Roypasha Government Primary School in Barisal Sadar upazila.



## Abducted bank official rescued, 2 arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Netrakona

Police rescued an abducted female bank official from Nagra area in the district town on Friday night and arrested two alleged kidnapers.

The victim is a junior officer at Janata Bank Shyamoli branch in the capital.

The arrestees are Nuruddin Khan Pathan Ronu and his elder brother Rezaul Karim Khan Pathan Rana, sons of Rafiqul Islam Khan Pathan of the area.

Police and witnesses said the banker along with her mother, former chairman of Chirang UP in Kendua upazila, went to Netrakona inter district bus terminal at about 3:00pm.

At one stage, the two came on a motorbike to the counter and abducted the girl while her mother was collecting ticket for a Dhaka-bound bus.

The former UP chairman then filed a case with Netrakona Sadar police station accusing the two alleged abductors.

On secret information, a team of police raided the area and rescued the victim from the house of Rafiqul Islam at about 8:00pm and arrested the duo, said Abdul Karim, officer in-charge of the police station.

## Schoolgirl takes life to get rid of stalking

A CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur.

Having failed to endure stalking by a youth, a schoolgirl took her life at Taluk Parul village in Pargachha upazila of Rangpur district on Friday.

The girl, Shirina Begum, 14, was a class VII student of Deuty Rafiqul Islam Secondary School in Parul Union of the upazila.

Locals and victim's family said Sujon Mian, 24, son of Saiful Islam of the village, had long been stalking Shirina on her way to and from school.

Following a case filed by Shirina's father Abu Bakkar with Pargachha Police Station on December 18 last year, police arrested Sujon the same day and produced him in a court that sent him to jail.

Sujon was granted bail by a magistrate's court here on December 30 the same year. Abu Bakkar told this correspondent yesterday that Sujon started stalking his girl again and also threatened to kidnap her.

Unable to bear with the torment, Shirina committed suicide by hanging

herself from the selling of her room at noon, he added.

On information, police went to the house, recovered the body and sent it to Rangpur Medical College and Hospital (RMCH) for autopsy. Sujon has gone into hiding, police said.

Contacted, Zahidul Islam Chowdhury, officer in-charge of Pargacha Police Station, said they are investigating the incident and looking for Sujon. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with the police station, the OC added.

**INDIAN GEM & JEWELLERY CREATION**

Showroom with largest range in Kolkata  
Diamond, Kundan-Jadau, Gold & Gem Stones

**9B Wood Street, Kolkata 700 016 (India),**  
Ph : +91 33 2290 5000/5001/3388/3399 Fax : +91 33 2281 6596,  
Email: igjc@igjcreation.com, Website: www.igjcreation.com  
For further enquiries please call +91 8981390009 fb.com/igjcreations