



Two rival groups of Gaibandha's Sadullapur upazila unit Awami League in a scuffle over being the first to place wreaths to pay respect at the altar of a "Liberation War Memorial" marking Independence Day in the early hours yesterday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Blame game lets illegal parking thrive in Dhaka

UNB, Dhaka

While illegal parking continues causing traffic chaos in the capital, the two city corporations and Dhaka Metropolitan Police are exchanging blames instead of working out a durable solution.

A huge portion of the street is occupied by cars, minibuses and at some places by buses and trucks, but there has been hardly any initiative to address the problem.

On one hand, officials of Dhaka south and north city corporations say DMP's Traffic Department is supposed to enforce the relevant laws, and on the other, the Traffic Department says it was the responsibility of DCCs to allot parking spaces.

Illegal parking seriously hampers normal traffic flow and vexes pedestrians.

Experts pointed out that a lack of monitoring, inadequate parking facilities, and sloppy traffic management

were responsible for illegal parking.

In the absence of adequate car parks, vehicles are seen standing randomly in the streets adjacent to shopping malls, schools, financial institutions, business establishments and government and private offices.

Chief Estate Officer of DNCC Md Aminul Islam said parking on roads was illegal, and the Traffic Department should clamp down on the violators.

"If they enforce the law strictly, illegal parking will come down gradually," added Mohammad Sirajul Islam, chief town planner at DSCC.

About setting up of parking signs on the streets, he said, "We don't put up parking signs due to a lack of space on the roads."

He said that if Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) properly monitored whether multi-storey buildings were being constructed with proper parking facilities, there would be a significant decrease in illegal parking.

Speaking about their efforts,

Additional Commissioner (Traffic) of DMP Mily Biswas said traffic police were trying to enforce existing laws against illegal car parking.

But she stressed that only use of laws would not solve the problem.

As there is no adequate parking spaces and bus bays on the streets, it creates a chaos, said the official. "We've already requested the DCCs to designate spaces for on-street parking."

Visiting different parts of the capital, this correspondent found that traffic police were noticeably reluctant despite seeing a large number of vehicles parked on both sides of the roads.

Asked about illegal on-street parking near the multi-storey car park "City Centre" at Motijheel, Mily Biswas said drivers were averse because it took plenty of time to park cars inside the facility and bring them out.

Cars and minibuses were also seen parked from the Science Lab intersection to Nilkhet, where big shopping malls

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JATRABARI DOUBLE MURDER

Domestic worker's son killed employer, own sister

Detectives reveal at press briefing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The domestic worker's son killed his mother's employer for money and then killed his own sister who witnessed the first murder, said detectives yesterday referring to the gruesome double murder in Jatrabari on Tuesday.

The story behind the double murder unfolded when Detective Branch of police arrested the housemaid's son Sayeed Hawlader in Shahjahanpur Wednesday night.

"Sayeed and his friend Riaz first stabbed to death Raushan Ara on that afternoon. As twelve-year-old Kalpana Akter witnessed the murder, he killed

his own sister," claimed Monirul Islam, joint commissioner of Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, at a press briefing at DMP media centre.

Monirul claimed that the duo entered Raushan's residence around 3:00pm on Tuesday and left after having lunch. Sayeed's mother Laki Akter was in the

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