



A good number of private ambulances remain regularly parked, occupying a portion of the road beside the main gate of Mymensingh Medical College Hospital, much to the disturbance to movement of vehicles, especially those carrying patients and their attendants.

Parking narrows road beside MMCH gate

Commuters, patients suffer as private ambulances do the illegal practice

Md AMINUL ISLAM,
Mymensingh

Private ambulances parked on both sides of the main entrance of Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) often occupy a good portion of the four-lane highway at Charpara of the town, adding to traffic jam in the busy area.

The illegal practice, continuing for years, results in sufferings for thousands of commuters, patients, and their attendants, but the authorities concerned have failed to take any effective step, it is alleged.

During a visit to MMCH on Sunday, this correspon-

dent found some 50 ambulances kept on the two sides of MMCH's main gate, creating obstruction to easy access, especially for patients.

Besides, the ambulance drivers and their brokers often move around in the emergency department area of the hospital to get trips, creating disturbance to the normal activities there, said hospital sources.

Talking to this correspondent, many outdoor and indoor patients said they face difficulties due to illegal parking of private ambulances.

There are allegations that ambulance drivers enjoy the

illegal parking facility with blessings from a section of hospital staff and on-duty policemen.

Earlier, private ambulance drivers used to keep the vehicles on the MMCH premises but recently the authorities took action, preventing the vehicles' unauthorised stay inside.

But the unscrupulous ambulance drivers have continued parking beside the hospital gate, occupying a good portion of the road.

Contacted, MMCH Director Brig Gen Nasir Uddin Ahmed, who joined there recently, said, "I have already stopped parking of private ambulances at the important place will be stopped soon.

MMCH campus. I have also initiated a step to clean up the hospital premises and its adjacent areas so that service to the patients is not disturbed."

Dr Motiur Rahman Bhuiyan, vice-principal of Mymensingh Medical College, said they urged the authorities concerned on several occasions to take steps to prevent private ambulances' illegal parking beside the hospital gate but to no effect yet.

Md Kamrul Islam, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station, said illegal parking of private ambulances at the important place will be stopped soon.



Devotees have a holy dip in the sea water in Kuakata under Kalapara upazila of Patuakhali district yesterday, the concluding day of the three-day Raas Mela that attracted a large number of visitors in the area.



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SERIAL BLASTS

2 JMB men get life, another 10 yrs jail in Lalmonirhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Lalmonirhat

A court here yesterday sentenced three members of banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) to different jail terms in connection with August 17 series bomb blasts case.

Of the convicts, Mostafizur Rahman Mosta alias Sumon, son of Shamsur Ali of Bairati village under Kaliganj upazila in the district, and Moniruzzaman Iqbal alias Selim, son of Abdul Islam of Kashoya village in Thakurgaon, were awarded life term while Sadequl Islam alias Sadique, son of Daud Uddin of Devinagar village in Naogaon district, was jailed for 10 years.

Judge Miah Muhammad Ali Akbar Azizi of the District and Sessions Judge's Court also fined them Tk 5,000 each. In default, they are to suffer another six months in jail.

Of the three, Sadique was tried in absentia, said police.

On August 17, 2005, the trio simultaneously blasted bombs in different parts of the district town, including the court and DC office areas.

20 held while going to India illegally

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Benapole, Jessore

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) detained 20 Bangladeshi nationals while they were going to India illegally through Putkhali border in Benapole on Wednesday night.

The border guards, acting on a tip-off, raided the area at around 10:00pm and arrested 14 men, five women and a child as they were going to India without legal documents, said Jalal Uddin, Putkhali BGB camp commander.

Land disputes leave one dead, 100 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Moulvibazar

A man was killed and at least 100 others were injured over land disputes in Nabiganj and Sadar upazilas of Habiganj district yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Iqbal Miah, 25, son of Angur Miah of Naharpur village in Nabiganj upazila. He was former organising secretary Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Nabiganj municipality.

Police said there was a dispute between Iqbal and his cousin Delwar Hossain over the ownership of a land. Both locked in an altercation over the issue at around 2:00pm. At one stage, Delwar hit Iqbal on the head with an iron rod, leaving him dead on the spot. Delwar went into hiding soon after the incident.

Contacted, officer-in-charge Mulla Monir Hossain of Nabiganj Police Station said law enforcers have

ACID ATTACK ON HOUSEWIFE

Four accused held after 2 months

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

already launched a drive to arrest Delwar.

In Sadar upazila, at least 100 people were injured in a clash between two groups of people over a disputed land at Katakhali village the same day.

Locals and police said

there had been a longstanding dispute between Mokhlesur Rahman, 45, Yasin Ullah, 52, of the village over the ownership of a land.

The clash ensued at

around 11:00am when the supporters of the two went to the land to capture it. They attacked each other with lethal weapons, leaving at least 100 people from both sides injured.

Being informed, police

went to the spot and fired 13 rounds of rubber bullets to disperse the clashing groups.

Of the injured, 64 were

admitted to Habiganj

Sadar Hospital and private

clinics while the rest given

first aid.

complying with the order.

According to the case statement, a gang of 6/7 criminals threw acid on Nazma at Tulpai village when she went out of their room to respond to the call of nature around 10:00pm on October 2.

The following day, Nazma's husband Ismail Hossain filed a case with Kachua Police Station accusing seven people, including Russel, under the Acid Control Act-2002.

But due to unknown reason, police failed to arrest any of the accused, who are reportedly very influential.

Sub-inspector Mosharraf Hossain of Chandpur Court Police said the arrestees were produced before the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court yesterday noon.

Judge Md Kaisar Mossaraf Yousuf cancelled their bail prayer and sent them to jail.

FORMER ENCLAVES

105 more go to India

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Thakurgaon

emerged at the college ground when the vehicles carrying the people started for India.

Kousola Rani, 24, wife of Nilu Chandra Roy of Brodreswary village in Boda upazila, broke into tears and rolled at the ground as her parents and brothers of Doikhata former enclave left for India.

"I have become orphan from today although my parents are alive. As I got married in Bangladesh, I have to live here", she said.

After completion of all formalities, Additional Deputy Magistrate (ADM) Golam Azam formally handed over the 105 people to First Secretary of Indian High Commission of

Bangladesh Rama Kanta Gupta at checking and loading point at the college ground around 9:00am. UNO Shafiqul Islam was present there.

After completing immigration at the check post, they entered India around 1:00pm. The India-bound people were bidden goodbye with sweets, flowers and gifts before crossing the border.

Block Development Officer of Haldibari in Cooch Behar district, West Bengal, Taposh Kumar Roy officially received the people at the entry point of the border in the afternoon while Forest Minister of West Bengal Binoy Kumar welcomed them.



A woman breaks into tears while saying goodbye to her dear one as the bus carrying her along with others to their new home in India readies to start from near Debiganj Degree College in Panchagarh district yesterday. One hundred and five people of two erstwhile Indian enclaves Doikhata in Sadar upazila and Dahala Khagrabori in Debiganj upazila under Panchagarh district went to India on the day, according to their option under the Bangladesh-India enclave exchange deal.

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