

**Few policemen foiling DSCC road, footpath reclamation drive**

*Alleges Mayor Sayeed Khokon; inaugurates anti-mosquito campaign*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sayeed Khokon yesterday said they conducted several drives to clear roads and footpaths at Gulistan area of hawkers but failed due to a few members of police.

Addressing the inauguration programme of the fortnightly anti-mosquito campaign at Jatiya Press Club, Khokon said just after a drive at Gulistan, the hawkers returned shortly with the help of a few cops.

"I have already requested the high officials of police to take action against those cops," said Khokon.

Maruf Hossain Sorder, deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, assured, "If there's any complaint against any of our members, we will take action upon investigation... We give the city corporations full support and we will help them if they seek a permanent solution."

Urging city dwellers to keep their city clean, Khokon said 5,000 trash cans will be placed at different parts of DSCC area by the next six months.

Editor of Bangla daily Samakal, Golam Sarowar, said adulterated insecticide is a major problem for anti-mosquito drive and emphasised the importance of prioritising plans for Dhaka city.

President of Jatiya Press Club, Shafiqur Rahman, requested Khokon to repair all dilapidated roads adjoining the club and received a positive response from the mayor.



**Protesters surround and keep Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique from leaving his office for some minutes yesterday noon, demanding a fair probe into the February 2 death of a marketing fresher, Hafijur Mollah.**

PHOTO: STAR

**WRONGFUL DEATH OF DU'S HAFIJ Justice seekers besiege VC**

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique was surrounded and kept from leaving his office for some minutes yesterday by some 50-60 protesters demanding a fair probe into the recent death of a student.

A bit of shoving and pushing ensued and the VC managed to get back inside and exit through the adjacent registrar building, said some DU employees.

Talking to The Daily Star, the protesters, of Progressive Students' Alliance and Anti-Imperialist Students Union, two alliances of 13 students' organisations, alleged that the VC walked over demonstrators sitting on his path.

Deputy Registrar Munshi Shams Uddin Ahammad, who was with the VC during the incident, refuted the claim saying some of the protesters had held onto the VC's legs to prevent him from leaving. Munshi said the VC had gone to Rjshahi. The VC's phone was found switched off when attempts were made seeking comment.

President of a Bangladesh Chhatra Federation faction, MM Parvez Lelin, announced holding a demonstration at public universities on March 3 at 11:00am over the demands and for holding elections to all student unions.

Marketing fresher Hafijur Mollah died on February 2 from typhoid and pneumonia, contracted after being compelled to take up residence in a Salimullah Muslim Hall corridor, say friends and family.

Seven days before passing away, he was forced to keep

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**Action plan for treating road accident victims finalised**

*21,000 die annually in Bangladesh, says WHO*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An action plan to provide better treatment to those suffering from road crash injuries was finalised yesterday after a two-day intense discussion among government officials, WHO, doctors and representatives from various development organisations.

The brainstorming session brought out a picture of poor handling in a post-crash phase and care of surviving victims, as there was a dearth of medicine, logistics and persons trained in providing first-aid all over the country.

Pre-hospital care, access to the emergency medical care, training of human resources, rehabilitating the injured and post-crash management have been spelled out in the plan styled "Health Sector Action

Plan on Road Safety".

"Preventing traffic accidents should be the main goal to pursue, but the reality is that crashes continue to occur. The government and society therefore have to be prepared to mitigate the consequences of crashes and improve victims' conditions," said Prof AKM Fazlur Rahman, executive director of the Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh.

He said the aim of post-crash care is to avoid preventable death and disability, limit severity of injury and sufferings caused by it, and ensure best possible recovery and reintegration of survivors into the society.

"Emergency medical service (EMS) can make important contribution to reducing these avoidable deaths and disabilities.

Unfortunately, EMS for post-crash care is not adequate in the country," he added.

The workshop ended with a target to get the government's approval of the action plan by June this year.

Bangladesh is among those countries where road crashes and casualties continue to climb, posing a serious risk to public health.

According to WHO, every year road crashes claim lives of about 21,000, leaving countless more injured in Bangladesh.

Regional Adviser of WHO's Regional Office for South-East Asia Dr Patanjali Dev Nayer, Director General of Health Services Dr Abul Kalam Azad, Prof M Mostafa Zaman of WHO Bangladesh and Ilias Kanchan of Nirapod Sarak Chai also spoke at the programme.

**Road crashes kill six, injure 38**

CITY DESK

Six people were killed and 38 others injured in road accidents in five districts yesterday.

In Tangail, four people were killed and nine others injured in a head-on collision between a pickup-van and a bus on Bangabandhu Bridge Highway in Jokarchar area of Kalihati upazila.

Three of the deceased were Razu Ahmed, 38, of Basail, Abdur Rahman, 50, and Khadem Miah, 35, of Sirajganj.

In Manikganj, seven army men were injured when their vehicle skidded off the Dhaka-Aricha highway as the driver lost control over the vehicle at Nayadingi in Satura upazila.

In Chittagong, a staff of Power

Development Board was killed and three others were injured when a covered-van collided head-on with a pickup-van carrying them on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Quottabazar area of Sitakunda upazila.

The deceased was Ali Akbar, 45, of Boubazar area in the city. He was a helper of PDB.

Executive Engineer of PDB, Barabkunda, Prosenjit said the incident occurred when the four went to inspect an electricity line in the morning.

In Naogaon, Boshir Mollah, 65, of Doas village was killed and four people were injured when a truck hit a battery-run auto-rickshaw in Matindor Bridge area of Porsha upazila.

In Barisal city, fifteen passengers were injured when two buses collided head-on on Barisal-Dhaka highway



**Visiting Indian Air Force Chief Arup Raha calls on President Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban in the capital yesterday.**

PHOTO: PID

**'BCL attack' leaves 10 Titumir students hurt**

*Victims were protesting 'excessive fees' for honours final exams*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 10 students of the capital's Government Titumir College were injured yesterday in an alleged attack by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists on a human chain formed on the campus protesting charging of "excessive fees" for the registration of the honours final year exam.

Two of the injured, Rahmat Hossain, 21, and Riazul Islam, 22, were treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The protest organisers claimed that 10 to 12 fellows had been detained by police.

Preferring anonymity, one of the injured, a final year management student, told The Daily Star that he paid Tk 3,900 for the registration and Tk 2,700 as the session charge.

In Dhaka College, the fees are Tk 3,175 and Tk 2,200 respectively, he claimed, quoting his friends studying management there as saying, adding that National University held the exam. He also accused police of "aiding the attack".

**DPDC severs DSCC power connections for dues**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC) disconnected power connections to an office, three community centres and a number of street lights of Dhaka South City Corporation yesterday for outstanding dues of Tk 2 crores.

The electricity connections to DSCC zonal office in Azimpur, Lalbagh community centre, two community centres in Azimpur, and street lightings from Kantaban to Nilkhet, Nilkhet to Palashi and Palashi to Azimpur graveyard were severed. DSCC owes the dues for the period of 2012 to 2015, says a press release.

Mohammad Munir Chowdhury, the DPDC secretary leading the taskforce, said public and private entities alike would be made equally accountable to paying for electricity.



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