

# A treacherous 27km

Section of highway becomes a death trap in Rajshahi; one killed yesterday

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

No one actually knows why this road is dangerous. Why accidents keep happening over and over. Yesterday was just another day when a bystander became a victim.

Ruma Khatun, 22, a day labourer, was killed when hit by an SUV. She was standing beside the Rajshahi-Chapainawabganj highway in Kadipur area of Godagari upazila.

Police seized the vehicle a Pajero of Pally Bidyut Samity, but the driver and the passenger "fled".

According to police, the 27km stretch of the highway going through Rajshahi has become treacherous although it was repaired in May.

On July 23, six accidents occurred within a span of 14 hours in Godagari, killing eight people including three members of a family. Only two weeks earlier, on July 5, at least 10 people were injured in six other accidents in two and half hours, said police.

"The highway has become accident-prone - at least one happening each day," said Zahangir Alam, officer-in-charge of Godagari Police Station. "One cause is the slippery road. Often brakes do not work here," he said.

"It happened in yesterday's accident too - the Pajero's brakes did not work on the faulty road. It skidded before hitting the woman,"

he claimed.

He said the Pajero tried to avoid hitting a pedestrian who was crossing the road at the time, but it ended up knocking down Ruma, a bystander.

The transport workers also blame "faulty" construction of the highway.

Badsha Hossain, a microbus driver, said this highway is different. "I can't trust myself while driving on this road. When I hit the brake, my vehicle hardly stops at the place where I want to stop. I don't know why this happens."

He said brick kiln owners use the highway for carrying mud, and many parts of the road becomes slippery for that too.

The highway witnesses accidents mostly at the curves -- Mohishalbari, Kamarpur, Sultanganj, Railgate Bazar, Sarangpur, Chhoyghati, and Rajbari.

The engineers of Roads and Highways Department (RHD), however, argue that reckless driving and indifference to follow road signs are to blame.

Suniti Chakma, executive engineer of RHD, Rajshahi division, said the drivers become reckless when they see a "well-built and widened" road. "Those drivers do not care for road signs and meet with accidents."

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# Developing rail

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He alleged that road-based communication system has crippled the entire transport system.

The main discussant at the programme, Shahidul Alam, convenor of Poba's team for Safe Roads Movement, said training should be imparted to those who work in roads and highways as well as the drivers.

Urging to amend the acts regarding road safety, he said, "We are still following the act passed in 1983 in this sector, where provision of compensation is Tk 20,000 only."

Proper urban planning, traffic management, ensuring vehicles' fitness and road fitness are necessary, said Shahidul Alam. He also stressed on the need for creating separate lanes and establishing bus bays.

The government can also use public service broadcast system to create awareness, while traffic rules, regulations and discipline should be included in education syllabus, he added.

Dr Ahmad Kamruzzaman Majumder, professor and chairman of Department of Environmental Science at Stamford University, said Bangladesh's weather is also responsible for road accidents.

Referring to his research data, the professor said most of the accidents occur between May and July, the months of pre-monsoon and monsoon season.

From 2013 to 2017, at least 1,299 road accidents occurred in May killing 1,885 people -- the highest for any month in those years, he said. He also suggested avoiding dependency on traffic police in rough weather and to build up digital camera controlled monitoring system to manage traffic.

Poba Secretary Shamim Khan Tito also spoke.

# A brute display of power

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Around 11:00am, a large group of protesting students assembled at Wasa Intersection. Like in the past few days, they assumed the role of traffic police, checking driving licences and fitness certificates.

Suddenly, BCL men started gathering in the area, and told them to go back home, said the students.

This correspondent saw Jahed Hossain Tito, vice-president of Omar Gani MES College unit of BCL, telling the students to leave as their demands were met by the government. The college is near the place where students gathered.

Around noon, more BCL men arrived and brought out a procession. They marched towards Wasa Intersection.

When this correspondent was filming the procession, a BCL man stopped him and tried to pull him to a corner even after seeing his press ID. At one point, some BCL leaders signalled the activist to stop.

Meanwhile, a group of BCL men drove away some students, standing on a divider under the footbridge in the area.

This newspaper also saw a BCL man forcing a student to go home. At one point, he slapped the young protester.

Arshedul Alam Bachchu, general secretary of Omar Gani MES College unit of

Chhatra Sanshad and a Juba League activist, was present at that time. When this correspondent asked him about the incident, he said, "The two are brothers. The BCL man was slapping his younger brother to discipline him."

The young student was not seen afterwards.

Rasel (not his real name), a college student, said they did not want to leave, but BCL men "threatened to shoot them otherwise".

"They slapped and kicked my friends but police did not do anything," he alleged.

Meanwhile, harassment of students at the hand of BCL men continued in different parts of the city.

In Kazir Dewry area, they [BCL men] forced a school student to hold his ears and threatened him not to join the movement again.

Another student Amin (not his real name) was assaulted when he was standing in front of a university in Dampara area with his friends. "BCL men pushed me, hurled abusive words and said that they would kill me if they see me again," he said.

When asked, Mohammad Mohsin, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station, said, "I did not hear about any such incident. I think someone made these up."

## Three killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Three people were killed and five others injured in road accidents in two districts yesterday, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Thakurgaon, Jabbar Ali, 40, a madrasa teacher, was killed as a battery-run auto-rickshaw hit him in Dhumpur village of Ranishankoil upazila, said police.

In another accident, Latif Hossain, 22, a driver of an auto-rickshaw, was killed and three passengers were injured as the vehicle collided head-on with a tractor in Nayankar Dalua area of Atway upazila.

The injured are Uttam Kumar, 30, Khalek, 30, and Shahin Hossain, 25. Of them, Uttam and Khalek were sent to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital.

In Rajshahi, Ruma Khatun, 22, a worker of Pran Juice Company Ltd, was killed and two others were injured as an SUV of Pally Bidyut Samity hit them on Rajshahi-Chapainawabganj highway in Kadipur area under Godagari upazila, said police.

The injured were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.



Students of Kewa Government Primary School form a human chain on the school ground in Sreepur area of Gazipur yesterday. They demand closure of a battery factory of Gelli Industrial Company Ltd which is located just 100 yards off the institution. Locals say the factory contributes to environmental pollution and health hazard. Earlier on Tuesday, the factory was fined Tk 50,000 by a mobile court for not having clearance from the Department of Environment. The factory authorities declined to comment on the issue.

PHOTO: STAR

## Student protest on, transport

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driving licences and fitness certificates.

Meanwhile, bus services on Dhaka-Narayanganj route remained suspended, causing immense sufferings to the commuters.

**RAJSHAHI**  
Several thousand students formed a human chain at Shaheed Bazar Zero Point in Rajshahi around 10:00am.

Demanding safe roads and removal of the shipping minister, they chanted slogans in unison, reports our staff correspondent. They also staged a sit-in there and sang the national anthem.

SM Abdul Kader, deputy commissioner of police in Rajshahi, and other officials spoke to the students and distributed chocolates among them. They assured the students of security and urged them to remain non-violent.

**BARISAL**

Hundreds of students in Barisal took to the streets in Battala, Choumatha and C&B road areas in the morning. They also checked licences and fitness certificates of vehicles, reports our correspondent.

Moazzem Hossain Bhuiyan, deputy commissioner of Barisal Metropolitan Police, requested them to remain calm while demonstrating on roads. The protesters cleared the roads around 1:00pm.

Meanwhile, bus services from Barisal to 21 districts including Dhaka remained suspended for the second consecutive day yesterday, causing untold sufferings to thousands of people.

Passengers had to either return home or remain

stranded at bus terminals as transport operators refused to run buses.

Transport owners took the decision fearing vandalism amid protest over the deaths of two students, said Aftab Hossain, president of Barisal District Bus Owners' Association. "We also demand safe road," he added.

**CHITTAGONG**

Transport owners and workers associations in Chittagong stopped buses on Dhaka-Chittagong highway, citing the unrest in Dhaka -- causing suffering to hundreds of Dhaka-bound passengers.

From yesterday morning, people were seen gathering in front of the bus counters in Goribullah Shah Majar area, but all bus counters were found closed, reports our staff correspondent.

Rafique Ahmed, a businessman, told The Daily

Star that no buses were available since morning and he could not attend a meeting in Dhaka due to the absence of long-route buses.

Ruhul Amin, president of Bangladesh Inter-district Road Transport Workers Union, told the reporters that they stopped operating vehicles fearing "attack from protesting students".

"We cannot risk losing our vehicles to vandalism. This is our livelihood," he said.

He, however, said Feni and Noakhali-bound buses are leaving Chittagong. Besides, bus communication with the hill tracts was normal.

## Chittagong Port Authority Marine Engineering Department

### Invitation for Tender

1 Ministry/division	Ministry of Shipping.		
2 Agency	Chittagong Port Authority.		
3 Procuring entity name	Chairman, CPA.		
4 Procuring entity district	Chittagong.		
5 Invitation for	<p>(i) Supply of Accessories for the CPA Deck Loading Barges No. 6, 8, 10 &amp; Rest House of Barge Crews Tender Ref No: 18.04.0000.8110.07.54.18</p> <p>(ii) Procurement of Fire Pump &amp; Accessories for the CPA Vessel M V Fowara Tender Ref No: 18.04.0000.8110.07.56.18</p> <p>(iii) Procurement of Mooring Materials for the CPA Pontoon Bare No-18 Tender Ref No: 18.04.0000.8110.07.41.18</p> <p>(iv) Procurement with Installation of Main Engine Spares, Generator Engine Spares &amp; other accessories for the CPA Vessel Bay Cleaner-1. Tender Ref No: 18.04.0000.8110.07.105.18</p>		
6 Date	02/08/2018.		
7 Procurement method	Open Tender method (OTM).		
8 Budget and source of funds	CPA's own fund.		
10 Deadline of tender selling	26/8/2018 (up to office hours).		
11 Deadline of tender receiving	27/8/2018 (up to 12.00 hours).		
12 Tender opening date and time	27/8/2018 at 12.30 hrs. (Tenderers or their representatives are allowed to attend the opening).		
13 Name & address of the office(s)	Address:		
14 Name & address of the office(s):	Office of the Executive Engineer (Craft), Marine Engineering Department, Chittagong Port Authority.		
Receiving & opening tender document:	Office of the Executive Engineer (Craft), Marine Engineering Department, Chittagong Port Authority.		
Receiving & opening tender document:	Office of the Deputy Chief Engineer (Marine), Marine Engineering Department, Chittagong Port Authority.		
15 Price of each tender document (Tk.): Item No. (i) & (ii)	Tk. 1,000.00 (one thousand only) (non-refundable).		
Price of tender document (Tk.): Item No. (iii)	Tk.: 5,000.00 (five thousand only) (non-refundable).		
Price of tender document (Tk.): Item No. (iv)	Tk.: 2,000.00 (two thousand only) (non-refundable).		
16 Eligibility of tenderer	Details in the tender document.		
Tender security amount (Tk.) in favour of CF & AO/CPA:			
For Item No.: (i)	For Item No.: (ii)	For Item No.: (iii)	For Item No.: (iv)
24,000.00 (twenty four thousand only)	35,000.00 (thirty five thousand only)	2,50,000.00 (two lakh fifty thousand only)	70,000.00 (seventy thousand only)
17 Completion time:			
For Item No.: (i)	For Item No.: (ii)	For Item No.: (iii)	For Item No.: (iv)
45 (forty-five) days	45 (forty-five) days	90 (ninety) days	60 (sixty) days
18 Name of official inviting tender	Asif Mahmud.		
19 Designation of official inviting tender	Executive Engineer (Craft).		
20 Address of official inviting tender	Marine Engineering Department, Chittagong Port Authority.		
21 Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone No-031-2510729		
22 Special instruction	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without showing any reason.		
N.B.	<p>(i) The tender schedule shall be sold &amp; received separately.</p> <p>(ii) If the last date of selling, closing and opening of tenders is disturbed by any holiday or any unavoidable circumstances, the next working day shall be applicable for the same.</p>		

Executive Engineer (Craft)  
Chittagong Port Authority

GD-1885



বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনসিটিউট (বিএলআরআই)

সাভার, ঢাকা

তারিখ: ০২/০৮/২০১৮খ্রি:

### নিলাম দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১. নিলাম দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ও তারিখ	১৩.০৮.২৬৭২-২০৮.০৯(০৭).১৫-১৬৮
২. নিলাম দরপত্র প্রক্রিয়া কর্তৃপক্ষ	১৩.০৮.২৬৭২-২০৮.০৯(০৭).১৫-১৬৮
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