



Everyone who lives in a big city complains about traffic indiscipline, but who is the culprit? The answer might be -- everyone. A youth sitting on a van's window ledge with his torso outside the vehicle; a woman talking on the phone while crossing a busy road; a motorbiker without helmet checking his phone while riding with a pillion, also sans helmet; a bus stopping on a flyover to pick up passengers; and two gas cylinders being rolled across heavy traffic -- paint a vivid picture of people's blatant disregard for traffic etiquette. The photos were taken from Dewanhat intersection of Chattogram yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



No ID, no ticket

Railway initiates pilot project for 'Sonar Bangla Express' to check scalping

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR, Ctg

The authorities of Bangladesh Railway (east zone) have made it mandatory for passengers to provide national identity (NID) cards while purchasing train tickets as part of a pilot project to check scalping.

The project is being implemented for "Sonar Bangla Express", a direct inter-city train service on Dhaka-Chattogram route, according to railway officials. It came into effect from January 1 for purchasing tickets online and from January 15 at railway stations, they added.

If the initiative turns out to be productive, it will be put into practice for buying all other inter-city train tickets.

Nazim Uddin, buying master at Chattogram Railway Station, said while buying tickets at the counters a person will have to submit a copy of his or her NID card. For online, one has to enter the NID number, he added.

Though there had been apprehension that people might become less interested in following the procedure, fearing hassle, the initiative is working effectively, he said.

"All the tickets for Sonar Bangla Express till January 24 have been sold out," he said. A person can buy four tickets at a time using one NID number, which can only be used once a day.

While visiting the railway station yesterday morning, this correspondent saw people submitting copies of their NID cards at the counters to buy tickets.

"I was informed by a friend that NID card is required. My friend said he had to go back home to bring the card a few days ago. So, I came prepared," said Sazzad Hossain, system developer at Global Compliance Initiative, at the ticket counter.

Sazzad finished purchasing his ticket. "It will take some time to get used to the new procedure but it might prove useful during holidays when scalpers become active," he opined.

Some of the passengers, however, were a bit sceptical.

Ashik Rahman Topaz, an MBA student at Dhaka University, who often travels between Dhaka and Chattogram, said, "As scalpers work in a syndicate, it would not be difficult for them to purchase tickets, especially online, by using different NID numbers."

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Railways to be more pro-people

New railways minister tells journos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujon yesterday vowed to make the sector more service-oriented and pro-people.

"My mission and vision is to take railways further ahead... take it closer to people," Sujon said while speaking at a 'Meet the Press' at Railway Bhavan in the capital, his first formal interaction with journalists after taking office.

"My main purpose is to make the railways more service-oriented... We want to make it a trusted organisation," he said, adding, "My policy will be: more work, less talk."

About ticket scalping, the minister said such complaints should not be dismissed. "I have already talked about the issue [with my officials] and some steps have already been taken. This practice must be stopped," he said, adding that they are planning to make National ID mandatory while buying ticket.

The minister said he would take forward the mega projects as those are part of the vision the prime minister has already set. "We want to help her [achieve that vision]," he added.

About the railways incurring loss on a regular basis, the minister said he wants to make the sector profitable, and sought suggestions in this regard from all.

Besides expanding internal railway tracks, rail connectivity with neighbouring countries will be improved, he said, adding that he would take steps to increase manpower of railway.

On the topic of Dhaka-Chattogram bullet train, he said a feasibility study of the hi-speed train service is going on.

The minister further said, "My door is open to all journalists. As a people's representative, I am bound to be accountable."

Secretary to the ministry Mofazzel Hossain and additional director general (rolling stock) of Bangladesh Railway Md Shamsuzzaman also spoke at the programme.

ATTACK ON AC-LAND

Over 50 sued, prime accused goes into hiding

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Nawshad Ali, an alleged culprit behind illegal sand-mining in Rajshahi, went into hiding yesterday after local administration sued him and over 50 of his men for assaulting the assistant commissioner (AC-land) in Rajshahi's Bagha upazila.

Shamsul Islam, a staffer of the AC-land's office, filed the case with Bagha Police Station accusing more than 50 people including 42 accused by name, said Mohsin Ali, officer-in-charge of Bagha Police Station. Nawshad was made the prime accused in the case.

Police arrested eight of the FIR-named persons until yesterday, but could not find Nawshad, said the OC.

"We raided his house and some other places, but could not trace him," the police official said.

Nawshad Ali is the brother-in-law of the former Bagha municipality mayor and Awami League leader Akkas Ali.

Local people claimed that Nawshad and his group were seen

playing active roles in the election campaign for the Awami League candidate in the recent parliamentary elections. However, local AL denied the claim.

Nawshad and his followers assaulted AC-land PM Imrul Kayes and three others of his staff on Saturday, when the team went on a drive against illegal sand-lifting in Harirampur area of the river Padma in the upazila.

Qayes, who was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, received severe injuries on his head, face and other parts of the body in the attack. His driver Polin was also hurt in the attack as he attempted to save the official.

Meanwhile, several hundred people formed a human chain at the upazila headquarters yesterday, condemning the attack on the government official.

Development workers, politicians, businessmen, journalists and government officials took part in the human chain. They demanded exemplary punishment of the attackers.

Arrest warrant against Khaleda in 2014 case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued an arrest warrant against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, in a case filed over making derogatory remark on the ruling Awami League in 2014.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Jasim passed the order, based on the probe report submitted by Shahbagh Police Station on June 30 last year, and directed Gulshan Police Station to execute the warrant and submit a report before it by February 18.

The case was filed on October 2014 by AB Siddique, president of pro-Awami League organisation Bangladesh Jananetri Parishad. He claimed that on October 14, 2014, Khaleda in a programme said "the ruling party's [AL] professed secularism was nothing but a sham," adding that her remarks hurt religious sentiments of Muslims.

After taking the charges into cognizance, a Dhaka court directed Shahbagh Police Station to investigate and submit a report.

Meanwhile, the BNP chief yesterday filed a petition with the High Court seeking bail in a 2015 murder case on charges of killing eight persons and injuring others by torching a bus in Cumilla's Choudagram.

Citing the bail petition, Barrister Kayser Kamal said Khaleda was not involved in the incident. All other accused of the case except her have been granted bail in the case, he said, adding that a Cumilla court has adjourned the bail petition of Khaleda Zia in this case four times since November last year.

SNAPS & snippets

Ruja forms new executive committee

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University Journalists' Association (Ruja) formed its executive committee for 2019-20 on Saturday night.

Suzon Ali of the New Age was made president and Saifullah Saif of NTV Online general secretary.

Moin Uddin and Shisir Mahmud became vice presidents, GM Milton organising secretary, Redwanul Haque Bijoy joint secretary, Shahin Alam treasurer, Raj Kiron Das office secretary and Nuruzzaman Khan public relation and publicity affairs secretary, among others.



Participants with Prof Md Shahjahan Khan, principal of Dhaka City College, after the prize giving ceremony of 1st intra-departmental competition on new business idea arranged by the marketing department on Thursday. The vice-principal and other faculty members were also present.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

5 DU students get Ataus Samad scholarship

DU CORRESPONDENT

Five students of Dhaka University's (DU) Mass Communication & Journalism department were handed the Ataus Samad Memorial Scholarship for their academic excellence in 2018 BSS (honours) exams in a programme yesterday.

Renowned journalist and columnist Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury was conferred 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at the programme.

Late journalist ABM Musa was a patron of the trust fund.

DU VC Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman distributed cheques among the recipients. Department chairperson Prof Kaberi Gayen presided over the event, where Prof Golam Rahman delivered a lecture on "Columns in Newspapers: Significance and Styles."

The recipients of the scholarship are Md Nazmul Hussain, Mostofa Md Tahan, Tarek Al Hasan, Ishratul Jahan Shova and Istiaque Ahmed.

Rajshahi Collegiate School's 190th anniv plans in question

Organisers blamed for lack of transparency

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi Collegiate School's 190th anniversary celebration - scheduled to begin on January 25 - is already marred by allegations of lack of transparency against the organising committee.

The alumni said that the steering committee called a general meeting on January 18 night on the school premises to address the allegations, but instead they harassed the complainants by calling the police inside the school.

As the complainants raised their questions and cornered the committee bearers, the school headmaster called the police, who used batons on the alumni, they alleged.

"Usually the alumni association is in charge of organising such functions, but the association was not allowed to carry out their duty this year for reasons unknown," Nurul Haque, vice president of the association told The

DailyStar.

The association held the 150th and 180th anniversaries in 1986 and 2008. For holding the 190th anniversary, an 18-member committee was formed in February 2018, headed by the headmaster.

In March 2018, the committee invited the alumni for registration at different rates - varying from Tk 190 to Tk 1190. It also floated a tender for event management and selected a bidder for the job.

In October, the committee found a bank balance of Tk 5 lakh against the registration of 4,000 alumni, said Haque, also the joint convener of the committee.

"The number should be higher than Tk 20 lakh," he said, "When challenged, we learnt that a major portion of the money is being deposited to a personal account instead of

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BED SET ON FIRE IN BHOLA

Last survivor succumbs to burns at DMCH

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhalakathi

The last survivor succumbed to her burns at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday two days after unidentified criminals set her bed on fire, while she was asleep, in Lalmohan upazila of Bhola.

Angura Aktar, 35, wife of Shafiqol, died at burn unit of the hospital.

Earlier, Angura was taken to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in Barishal from where she was transferred to DMCH on Saturday as her condition deteriorated.

In the incident that happened on Friday night, two of her family members -- Surma Begum, 28, and Khadiza Aktar, 8 -- who were also asleep beside her during the time of fire, died of burn injuries.

After the fire, Angura had alleged Surma's

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CID arrests Kaiser Hamid on charges of fraudulence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police yesterday arrested celebrated former footballer Kaiser Hamid, and currently standing committee member of Zaker Party, on charges of "fraudulence of money".

Sharmin Jahan, CID's additional superintendent, said Kaiser was arrested in Elephant Road area in the evening.

She said the former captain of Bangladesh football team had formed a multi-level-marketing company named New Way Multi-Purpose Cooperative, and took money from a number of people for the organisation.

The organisation was closed down several years back, and people who had invested money in it sued Kaiser, she added.

Kaiser is facing several cases filed with different police stations over the "fraud business", CID sources said.

Kaiser was one of the country's all-time best defenders on the football pitch, and played for Mohammadan Sporting Club at club level.

His mother Rani Hamid is one of the most prominent chess players of Bangladesh. His father, former army officer Abdul Hamid, was also a sports organiser.

After retiring from football in the early 1990s, Kaiser made headlines by joining the Zaker Party.

Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Civil Surgeon, Cox's Bazar

E-mail: coxsbazar@cs.dghs.gov.bd

Memo No. CS/COX/EEPI/Signboard/Tender/Unicef/2018-19/

Dated: 15/01/2019

Tender Notice

Undersigned is inviting sealed tender from the Manufacturer/Authorised dealer of Manufacture/Bonafied Suppliers for supply of Signboard for EPI Outreach Center of Rohingya Refugee Camp at Ukhiya Upazila of Cox's Bazar District under the Jurisdiction of Civil Surgeon, Cox's Bazar in the financial year 2018-2019.

1	Ministry/division	:	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
2	Agency	:	Civil Surgeon Office, Cox's Bazar.
3	Name of office inviting tender	:	Dr. Mohammed Abdul Matin.
4	Procuring entity district	:	Cox's Bazar.
5	Budget & source of fund	:	Unicef Bangladesh.
6	Description of supply	:	SI No. Group Description of Goods Price of tender documents through Treasury Challan with CTR Code No. 1-2711-0000-2366 (non-refundable) at Sonali Bank Ltd., Cox's Bazar Branch.
		:	1 A EPI Signboard Tk. 1000/- (one thousand) only.
		:	SI No. Group Description of Goods Tender Security amount (Earnest money in BD Taka).
		:	1 A EPI Signboard Tk. 80,000/- (eighty thousand) only.
7	Selling tender document	:	Cold Chain Technician Section, Civil Surgeon Office, Cox's Bazar, Room No: 17, 1st Floor.
8	Receiving tender documents	:	a) Civil Surgeon Office, Cox's Bazar & Police Super Office, Cox's Bazar.
9	Tender opening place	:	a) Civil Surgeon Office, Cox's Bazar.
10	Tender publication date	:	21-01-2019
11	Tender schedule selling last date & time	:	11-02-2019, 09:00am to 05:00pm.
12	Tender dropping, closing date & time	:	12-02-2019 (12:00 noon), Civil Surgeon Office, Cox's Bazar & Police Super Office, Cox's Bazar.
13	Tender opening date & time	:	12-02-2019, 1:00pm, Civil Surgeon Office, Cox's Bazar.
14	Description of goods	:	Detail description given in tender schedule/booklets.
15	Designation of official inviting tender	:	Civil Surgeon, Cox's Bazar.
16	Address of official inviting tender	:	Civil Surgeon Office, Kalatoli Road, Cox's Bazar.
17	Contact details of official inviting tender	:	Phone: 0341-63768
18	Terms and conditions of the tender and other information will be available with the schedule/booklets.	:	

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. PPA-2006 & PPR-2008 Rules & Regulations are followed. Details description given with tender schedule including terms & conditions.

Dr. Mohammed Abdul Matin
Civil Surgeon
Cox's Bazar

GD-122