

From digital to manual

BRTA's lone automated set-up to check vehicle fitness out of order for 3 months; manipulation risk goes up

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Fitness checks of all buses and trucks registered with BRTA Mirpur office are being done manually, as the only automated vehicle inspection system that had been working broke down three months ago.

Manual inspection of vehicles could compromise safety as it leaves room for manipulation and irregularities.

Many city service buses obtain their fitness certificates from the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority's (BRTA) Mirpur office.

An automated system can get exact performance data of a vehicle's key safety features like headlights, brakes and speed capabilities. Manually, it is almost impossible, experts said.

Vehicle Inspector Ruhul Amin said, "Yes, it is not possible to check everything properly with manual inspections. So, safety is compromised a little bit."

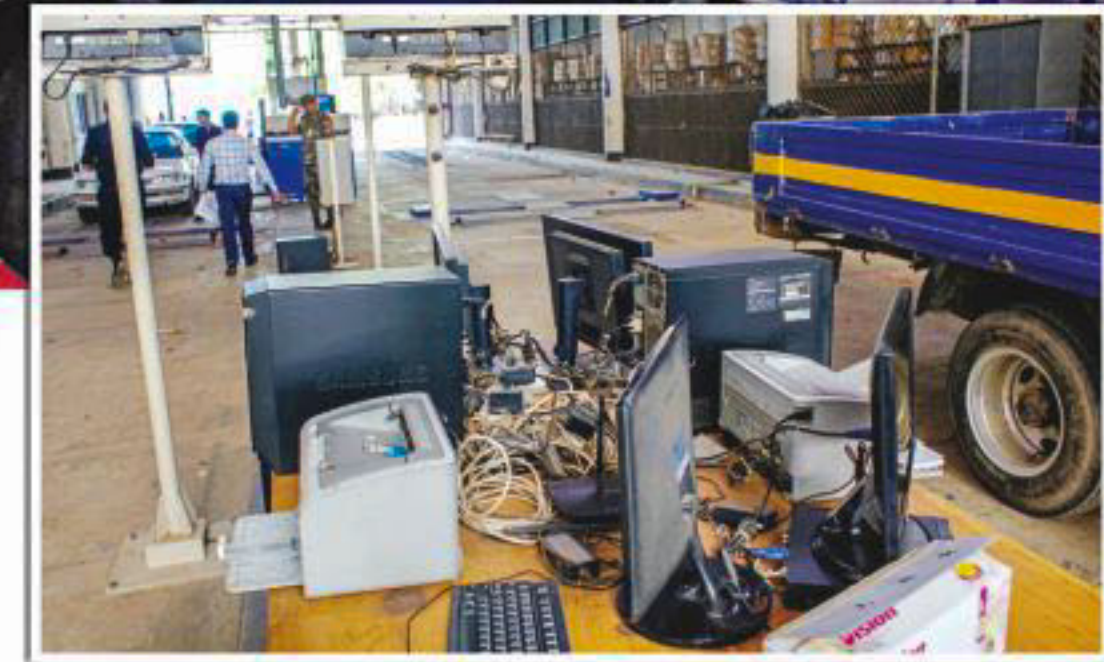
A team from the Anti-Corruption Commission, after carrying out a drive at the BRTA Mirpur office last month, said the manual inspection system created scope for irregularities.

On March 27, this correspondent spent an hour at the inspection centre during which three buses, one minibus, and two pick-up trucks had their

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An official checks the instrument panel and controls of a bus at the BRTA's Mirpur office as the government's only automatic vehicle inspection centre, *inset*, has been out of order for nearly three months. Such manual inspections leave room for corruption and compromise safety. The pictures were taken on Monday. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



Don't raise prices of essentials in Ramadan

PM tells businesspeople

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the businessmen



not to raise the prices of essentials, including sugar and edible oil, during the upcoming Ramadan.

She made the call at a function marking the inauguration and laying of foundation stones of 65 development projects in different districts. The PM addressed the businessmen from the Gono Bhaban through videoconferencing.

"I would like to request you to make sure that there is no crisis of sugar and

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Air pollution killed 1.23 lakh in 2017

Latest global survey says about Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indoor and outdoor air pollution led to 1.23 lakh deaths in Bangladesh in 2017, according to a new study on global air pollution.

It says the life of a South Asian child will be shortened on average by 30 months as they grow up in current high levels of air pollution.

The State of Global Air 2019, which used data from the

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Locals face graver food insecurity

Says an int'l report on food crises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Locals in Cox's Bazar are facing increased food insecurity as an impact of the influx of Rohingya refugees, according to a global report released yesterday.

The "2019 Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC)" was released by the Global

Network against Food Crises, whose members include the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Programme, and the European Union.

"In Cox's Bazar the influx of refugees has aggravated the already-fragile situation of one of the poorest and most vulnerable

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RANGAMATI 7-MURDER Suspect killed in 'shootout'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

A suspect in the Rangamati seven-murder was killed in a "gunfight" with members of joint forces in Naikhongchhari upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Ghano Shankor Chakma, of Rangamati Sadar upazila, was a regional political

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