

## No playground at most primary schools in Pabna

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Raihan, a third grader at Alia Madrasa Government Primary School in Pabna municipality, often ventures outside the school compound during recess, defying his teachers' instructions.

The school, housed in a three-storey building on a mere five decimals of land, offers no play area for its students. While most pupils spend their breaks wandering the corridors, a few, like Raihan, sneak outside for some fresh air.

**The 34 government primary schools in Pabna town serve 8,000 to 10,000 students, yet all are built on less than 20 decimals of land.**

"We lack space for a playground. Since our school is near the road, with traffic constantly moving, we do not allow students outside during breaks for safety," said Fahmida Khatun, the headteacher.

Students at Adarsha Primary School in Radhanagar are slightly more fortunate, as the school has a one decimal area for play. However, this is barely sufficient for the 208 students enrolled in the three-storey school.

"Most of us spend our break times in the classrooms or corridors," said Isha Khatun, a third grader.

Fourth-grader Mostakin added, "There's hardly enough space to run or play properly."

"It's not ideal, but the students have adapted as there's no other option," said Hosne Ara, the headteacher.

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## Two killed in road crash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A truck driver and his helper were killed and one was injured in a head-on collision between a truck and a lorry on the Bangabandhu Bridge East Link Road in Tangail early yesterday.

One of the deceased was identified as Anowarul Islam, a truck driver from Moheshpur in Thakurgaon district, while the identity of the other deceased, the helper, and the injured lorry driver remains unknown.

According to Aatur Rahman, in charge of the Elega Fire Service and Civil Defence, the accident occurred around 5:00am in the Salla area of Kalihati upazila. All three victims were trapped in the wreckage of their vehicles.

Firefighters later recovered the bodies and rescued the injured van driver, who was rushed to Tangail General Hospital for treatment.

Shahadat Hossain, officer-in-charge of Bangabandhu Bridge East Police Station, said the accident caused a severe traffic jam, with hundreds of vehicles stranded on the highway. The congestion began to ease after police cleared the wreckage from the road.

## Fisherman killed by lightning

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A fisherman was killed and two others injured in lightning strike in Netrakona's Khaliajuri upazila early yesterday.

The victim was identified as Tanvir Mia, 19, of Gochhikhai village in Khaliajuri.

Quoting locals, Md Mukbul Hossain, officer-in-charge of Khaliajuri Police Station, said Tanvir along with two other fishermen sustained critical wounds as lightning struck them while they were fishing at Yarabaz haor.

Other fishermen rescued and took them to Khaliajuri Upazila Health Complex where Tanvir died.

Pias, one of the two injured, was referred to Mymensingh Medical college Hospital as his condition deteriorated.

## 2 die in Netrokona boat capsized

STAR REPORT

A woman and her seven-year-old nephew died as their boat capsized in floodwaters in Kalmakanda upazila of Netrokona yesterday morning.

The deceased were identified as Writu Talukder, 20, a first-year student of Kalmakanda Govt College, and her nephew Amit Talukder, a third grader at Horindhara Govt Primary School.

Both were from Horindhara village, police said.

Md Firoz Hossain, officer-in-charge of Kalmakanda Police Station, said Writu, Amit, and four other children were on their way to a nearby puja mandap to offer Anjali when their boat capsized. Locals rescued the passengers, but Writu and Amit were pronounced dead after being taken to Kalmakanda Upazila Health Complex in critical condition.

Police recovered the bodies and handed them over to their families. An unnatural death case has been filed in this regard, said the OC.

## 'Investigate theft of the crown'

India urges govt regarding Modi's gift to Satkhira temple

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Indian high commission in Dhaka has urged the Bangladesh government to investigate the theft of the crown gifted by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Jeshoreshwari Kali Temple in Satkhira in 2021 during his visit to Bangladesh.

In a statement yesterday, the high commission said it has seen reports of the theft of the crown and urged the government of Bangladesh to investigate and recover the crown and take action against the perpetrators.

It has also expressed concerns over the incident.

# Rajbari roads need repair

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Most of the roads across Rajbari Municipality have long been in a sorry state due to lack of repair works for years, causing sufferings to residents.

taxes regularly, they are being deprived of different civic amenities, including proper road network.

Some of the roads are no longer fit for vehicular movement, but are still being used

They alleged that the municipality authorities neither took accountability for the situation, nor took any steps to ease public sufferings.

Visiting different areas of the town recently, this correspondent observed that the roads have become dilapidated in absence of repairs for a long time, with numerous potholes having formed here and there, while the bitumen surface has worn off in most places.

The condition of some roads is so poor that even a slight rain leaves them filled with puddles and mud, making it difficult for people to walk.

"The roads in the town are in a sorry state. Plying vehicles on these roads has become very risky," said Md Arif Hossain, 29, a battery-run auto-rickshaw driver from Ramkantapur village.

Echoing him, Md Mintu Mondal, 42, another easy-bike driver, said, "Transporting critical patients to hospital has become very difficult due to the dilapidated state of the roads."

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Established in 1913, the municipality with 11.66 sq km area now has a population of 65,410.

Talking to this correspondent, many residents said despite paying all kinds of

by people and vehicles for commute amid risk of accidents, they said. The situation turns worse in monsoon, they added.

## A city stuck in gridlock

Barishal's traffic woes deepen as illegal vehicles overrun roads

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

The rising number of illegal vehicles has become a growing menace in Barishal city, with no enforcement drives conducted against them in the past two months.

As such, all roads and lanes across the city's 58 square km area have been witnessing severe gridlocks.

City dwellers have called upon authorities for immediate steps to increase traffic vigilance and drive against such vehicles.

According to the Transport Division of Barishal City

Corporation, around 5,000 battery-run three-wheelers were issued licenses, alongside 12,000 paddle-run rickshaws and 2,500 easy-bikes already plying the city roads.

**Sources at Traffic Division of Barishal Metropolitan Police informed 1,594 illegal vehicles were seized and 2,379 cases were lodged in June and July alone.**

However, the number of these battery-run three-wheelers is far more than those issued licenses, said Kazi Mizanur Rahman, a city dweller.

gridlocks daily due to huge number of three-wheelers," said Manabendra Batabayel, another resident.

Ibrahim, a rickshaw puller, said

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## Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Meteorological Department has forecast rain or thundershowers in all divisions including Dhaka of the country in 24 hours commencing 9:00am yesterday.

"Light to moderate rain or thunder showers is likely to occur at a few places over Sylhet division."

"And also at one or two places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Dhaka, Khulna, Barishal and Chattogram with moderately heavy falls at places over the country."



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**e-Tender Notice (OTM) No: 05/2024-25**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following scheme below.

Sl No	Tender ID No.	Package No	Name of the work	Tender Document Last Selling Date & Time	Closing and Opening Date & Time
1	1023325	IUGIP/MIRK/U-TDR/02/2023	Construction of Roads 2065.00m in 6 locations, RCC Drains 1615.00m in 5 locations, Palisading Works 260.00m & Installation of Street light 69 numbers at Mirkadim Pourashava, Munshiganj District.	17-Nov-2024 Time: 16:00	18.11.2024 Time: 13:00

This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-tender, registration to the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

(Mohammad Quayum Chowdhury)  
 Executive Engineer  
 Mirkadim Paurashava

GD-683