



After a long wait, a man manages to purchase daily essentials from a TCB truck in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday. As market prices remain high, hundreds of individuals flock to these trucks daily, hoping to buy essentials at subsidised prices.

7 injured as  
workers attack  
JnU bus in  
Mohakhali

JNU CORRESPONDENT

At least seven people, including the driver of a Jagannath University (JnU) bus, were injured yesterday afternoon when a group of drivers and helpers allegedly attacked the bus carrying students near the Mohakhali Bus Terminal area.

Eyewitnesses said the altercation began when the Ulka-4 bus, transporting JnU students, reached the Mohakhali U-turn area and found its path blocked by an Akota Transport bus.

Despite repeated honking, the Akota bus refused to move, leading to a heated exchange between the two drivers.

Shortly afterwards, around 50 drivers and helpers from the Mohakhali Bus Terminal attacked the Ulka-4 bus using bricks, sticks, and stones.

"We were stuck for a long time because the Akota bus wouldn't move," said Mizanur Rahman Sohag, a student of Mass Communication and Journalism at JnU.

"When our driver requested them to clear the way, they attacked him with a stick. As we tried to intervene, the attackers turned on us, throwing stones even at female students," he said.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

SURGE IN ROAD CRASHES

Patient overflow pushes  
NITOR beyond capacity

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and  
NILIMA JAHAN

The National Institute of Traumatology & Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR) is struggling to manage an overwhelming number of patients, far exceeding its 1,000-bed capacity, leaving many to receive treatment on the floor or in overcrowded corridors.

As of Saturday, the hospital reported over 1,100 patients, an increase from 1,069 on Friday.

Most cases involve road accident victims, alongside others injured in falls or various accidents.

During a visit yesterday, 70-year-old Ahsan Ullah, a grocery shop owner from Narayanganj, was found lying on the floor near the emergency operation theatre.

He was hit by a motorcycle last Monday while crossing the road, resulting in a fractured left leg and injuries to his right arm.

Despite arriving at the hospital the same night, he remains on the floor awaiting surgery. "We came here immediately, but there's no space," said his daughter, Khadija Begum.



Yasmin Begum, 35, from Sunamganj, suffered a severe injury to her right leg after being run over by a bus near Jamuna Future Park yesterday while attempting to board. She was seen waiting on a stretcher near the emergency room, awaiting surgery.

On Saturday, 55-year-old Babul Hossain, a vegetable vendor from Lakshmipur, was found lying on the floor.

He suffered a broken leg after being hit by a motorcycle on December 18 and came to NITOR on December 26. Despite requiring surgery, he remains on

the floor after receiving primary treatment due to the severe bed shortage.

"I've begged the staff for help, but they told me there's none. How long can we wait like this?" said his wife, Sajeda Begum.

Similarly, Mohammad Nannu, a 35-year-old battery-driven auto-rickshaw driver from Kurmitola Bihari Camp, sustained a left leg fracture in a road accident on December 26.

He was being treated on the floor, but on Friday, he received a bed and underwent surgery to insert a rod in his leg.

However, he was told to leave the hospital due to the bed crisis. "They told me I had to go home because others needed the space more. However, I've been asked

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Road blockades in 2 spots  
leave commuters stranded

Postgrad doctors block Shahbagh for stipend raise while dismissed armed forces members protest at Jahangir Gate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Roadblocks at two key points of Dhaka led to severe traffic congestion across major areas of the city yesterday morning.

Trainee doctors blocked Shahbagh intersection while armed forces members dismissed or forced to retire during the previous government's regime staged a sit-in in front of Jahangir Gate, leaving commuters stuck in long tailbacks for hours.

Areas including Mohakhali, Banani, Tejgaon, Bijoy Sarani, and Dhaka University experienced significant disruption.

The Shahbagh protest began around 11:45am when trainee doctors affiliated with BSMU and BCPS postgraduate private programmes blocked the intersection, demanding an increase in their monthly allowance to Tk 50,000.

Currently, the allowance stands at Tk 30,000 following a recent government revision

from Tk 25,000 for those who passed the FCPS Part I exam.

Despite staging a similar demonstration last Sunday, the doctors vowed to continue their protest until their demands are met. As of 5:30pm, the blockade at Shahbagh remained, exacerbating traffic woes in the



Shahbagh

surrounding areas.

Shahbagh Police Station Officer-in-Charge AKM Shahabuddin Shahin said efforts were underway to manage traffic by rerouting vehicles, but congestion persisted.

Around 3:45pm, Mehedi Hasan, an employee at a private

organisation, was travelling by motorcycle from Shyamoli to Karwan Bazar. Speaking to Prothom Alo, he said the entire route from Khamarbari to Karwan Bazar was clogged with traffic. "It took me nearly 25 minutes to cover this stretch, which usually takes about seven



Jahangir Gate

minutes. Vehicles are moving very slowly," he added.

Meanwhile, earlier in the day, forcibly retired and sacked armed forces personnel blocked the road near Dhaka Cantonment's Jahangir Gate around 11:00am.

Demonstrating under the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

DHAKA AIRPORT  
ACC to probe graft  
allegations in third  
terminal project

UNB, Dhaka

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday said it will launch an investigation into allegations of irregularities, corruption and embezzlement linked to the construction project of the Third Terminal at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka.

ACC Director General (Prevention) Md Akhtar Hossain said this while briefing reporters outside the ACC headquarters in the capital, stating that project director AKM Maksudul Islam along with others, is accused of severe misconduct.

The allegations include abuse of power, fraudulent activities, and extensive corruption.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Monsur Ahmed  
new chair of TIB  
trustee board



Monsur Ahmed Tahera Yasmin Manzoor Hasan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent rights activist and founder trustee of Impact Foundation Bangladesh, Monsur Ahmed Choudhuri, has been elected chairperson of the trustee board of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB).

He will succeed outgoing chairperson Sultana Kamal, TIB announced in a media release yesterday.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

18,000 DENIED ENTRY TO MALAYSIA

Workers demand  
refunds after  
missing deadline



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers who paid hefty amounts of money to go to Malaysia but couldn't leave within the specified time frame held a human chain yesterday in front of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment in Eskaton.

They raised a seven-point demand at the human chain, including a refund of their money.

The aspiring migrants began the protest programme around noon and ended around 6:30pm.

The protesters alleged that, although the deadline for entering Malaysia expired on May 31, the agencies failed to send them there for unknown reasons.

Despite multiple assurances from the government about refunding their money, most of them are yet to

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Bangladesh  
calls for swift  
resolution

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh has urged for a swift resolution to the issue of 18,000 Bangladeshi workers unable to enter Malaysia by the 31 May 2024 deadline.

This call was made during a meeting between Chief Adviser's Special Envoy on International Affairs, Lutley Siddiqi, and Malaysian High Commissioner Mohd Shuhada Othman yesterday at the Foreign Service Academy in Dhaka.

Siddiqi called for a possible solution on this issue at the earliest. Both the dignitaries assured to work together to eliminate the corruption caused by recruitment syndicates involving Bangladeshi and Malaysian nationals and loopholes in the system that allow for the mistreatment of workers, causing harm and losses for both nations.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Piles of cardboard -- abandoned on the roadside after the truck that was carrying them had an accident a couple of days ago -- occupy part of the footpath and road in front of the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the capital's Gulistan area. Despite the truck being removed, the cardboard remains, causing inconvenience to pedestrians and traffic movement. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN