

# Illegal parking worsens Khulna's traffic woes

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Unregulated parking of vehicles has become a major factor contributing to worsening traffic congestion in Khulna city.

In several busy intersections, parking lanes have been marked directly on the roads, leaving only a narrow portion for vehicular movement and causing severe traffic gridlocks.

During visits to affected areas such as Moilapota Mor, located between Khulna City Medical College and Ahsanullah College, in front of Baitun Noor Market near New Market, and at Dak Bungalow Intersection on Old Jashore Road, it was observed that around half of the road's space is being used for parking.

Along KDA Avenue, MA Bari Road, and the Hadis Park area, at least 10 clinics and diagnostic centres, as well as 15 banks and corporate offices, are situated on both sides of the roads, yet there are very few designated parking facilities.

Consequently, half of the road remains occupied by illegally parked vehicles.

From KDA Avenue to Sat Rasta Mor, similar issues persist, with many portions of the road taken up for parking motorcycles.

Asaduzzaman Babu, a bookshop owner in Moilapota Mor, said with Khulna's roads already narrow, allocating a significant portion for illegal parking has further reduced their width, severely disrupting

traffic movement.

"During peak hours in the morning and evening, the situation becomes worse. Commuters heading to work or returning home are forced to spend extra time stuck in traffic," he added.

Golam Rosul, a private bank employee, said most commercial

arrange proper garage and parking facilities instead of using the roads. They called for building multi-storey modern parking plazas to accommodate vehicles.

They alleged that instead of preventing illegal parking, police personnel allow it in exchange for money.



buildings lack dedicated parking facilities, which forces vehicles to park on the streets.

Mahbubur Rahman Munna, general secretary of the Nirapad Sarak Chai's Khulna city unit, demanded immediate action against illegal parking on roads.

The city residents, including civil society members, said every commercial building owner must

Contacted, Shofiqul Islam, deputy commissioner (traffic) of Khulna Metropolitan Police, declined to respond.

When approached, KMP Commissioner Md Julikar Ali Haider sent a text message indicating a willingness to discuss the matter further: "Please visit my office at your convenience. We can share our observations and experiences."

He demanded that India cease providing her refuge and ensure her return to Bangladesh to face justice.

## Ensure

FROM PAGE 5

National Telecommunication Monitoring Center (NTMC), and other repressive forces that were allegedly used to suppress protests and target dissent during the AL's rule.

Writer Barnali Saha, a member of the network, said human rights violations during the uprising were orchestrated under the direct supervision and coordination of the then-political leadership and security forces.

The network called for the immediate filing of charges and a transparent trial under the ICT to hold the perpetrators accountable.

The group also urged the interim government to seek the extradition of Hasina from India to face trial in Bangladesh for her alleged role in the crimes.

Azfar Hussain, associate professor at Grand Valley State University in the US, said they called for an end to the protection of Hasina in India, as she is accused of internationally recognised crimes against humanity.

He demanded that India cease providing her refuge and ensure her return to Bangladesh to face justice.

## PRAYER TIMING

FEBRUARY 17

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5-25	12-45	4-30	5-57	7-15
JAMAAT 6-00	1-15	4-45	6-01	7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Tackle graft in edn

FROM PAGE 3

management committee members must hold at least a bachelor's degree, while college board members must have a master's degree. "This measure aims to shield the management process from political interference," he added.

Addressing stalled infrastructure projects, he said DCs have been instructed to find ways to resume work halted due to contractors fleeing after receiving payment.

"Some contractors vanished without completing their jobs, and with no local representatives in place, DCs have been empowered to appoint new contractors for public welfare projects," he said.

Previously, local political leaders played a key role in project selection, but that dynamic has shifted. DCs have now been tasked with identifying essential

local projects, such as road repairs and school building reconstruction, and submitting proposals to the relevant ministries or directly to the planning ministry.

Mahmud acknowledged that many teachers are not receiving their allowances and that school inspectors often harass them. He stressed the need for better oversight, as both parties bear the responsibility.

He assured that students would receive their textbooks by the end of February and that steps were being taken to clear outstanding payments for teachers.

"The funds available for retirement benefits are highly insufficient. At least Tk 6,000-7,000 crore is needed, which cannot be allocated within a single year's budget. A dedicated fund will be created by issuing bonds," he said.

FROM PAGE 3

prevents us from taking appropriate measures," said Dilruba Haider, programme specialist at UN Women.

"Moreover, when allocating resources to tackle the impacts of climate change, women's needs are not taken into account," she added.

UNDP gender team Leader Sharmin Islam said, "Thirty percent of women's earnings go towards coping with the impacts of climate change, while financial constraints become a barrier to addressing the health issues women face due to climate change and disasters, posing a significant challenge to women's empowerment."

"To reduce the additional burden on women, it is essential to increase the knowledge and awareness of the men

in their households," she said.

Dr Mohammad Imran Hasan, head of Climate Justice and Natural Resources Rights at Oxfam in Bangladesh, said if the existing gender gaps were addressed, economic growth could be 40 percent higher.

Attending the event as chief guest, Sharmeen S Mursid, adviser to the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, said, "Specific plans must be made through policies for areas severely affected by disasters, and separate budget allocations must be ensured for this purpose."

"Our analysis and understanding of climate change have expanded, but we have not progressed in a structured manner. We have been working on climate issues for a long time, but the efforts have been disjointed. We talk about fairness, but it is not reflected in budget allocation. As a result, significant gaps remain," she explained.

"We must view all of our work through a gender lens. If we want to make our future resilient and sustainable,

women must be central to climate adaptation," said Maria Stridsman, head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of Sweden.

Environment scientist Ahsan Uddin said, "We have been highlighting women's vulnerability at both national and international levels for a long time, yet we are still far behind in making progress. To achieve our desired goals, all stakeholders -- both government and non-government -- must work together."

MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam said, "Women and children are most affected by climate change, yet their voices are often overlooked in policymaking. Therefore, through the Gender Equality and Climate Alliance Bangladesh, we are striving to bring the perspectives of grassroots women into the policymaking process."

Md Ziaul Haque, director of the Department of Environment; Parveen Mahmud, member of MJF's governing body; and Banasree Mitra Neogi, director of Rights and Governance Programme at MJF, also spoke.

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## STATUTORY NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH, HIGH COURT DIVISION (ORIGINAL STATUTORY JURISDICTION)

COMPANY MATTER NO. 180 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF :

An application under Sections 81(2) and 85(3) read with section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994.

AND

In the Matter of

Mrs. Masuda Kabir, shareholder &amp; Managing Director of Jing Ling Chinese Restaurant Ltd., having its registered Office- at 149/1, Road No.4/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

Petitioner

Jing Ling Chinese Restaurant Ltd., a Private Limited Company having its Registered Office- at 149/1, Road No.4/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka, representative by its Managing Director Mrs. Masuda Kabir and another. .... Respondents

Notice is hereby given that an application under Sections 81(2) and 85(3) read with section 396 of the Companies Act, 1994 was moved in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh by the petitioner for condoning the delay in holding the Annual General Meeting of the company for the financial year ended on 31/12/2024.

The Honorable Court Judge Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel has admitted the said application on 02/02/2025 and Hon'ble court directed the petitioner to publish the notices within 3(three) weeks and also to submit affidavit-in-compliance on or before 6th March, 2025 from the date of publication. Any person interested in the said application may appear before this Honorable Court. A copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of charges.

(Mohammad Shariful Islam) Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh Hall Room No. 1, Supreme Court Bar Association Bhaban, Dhaka-1000. Mobile: 01711173360

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