ROAD SAFETY IN BANGLADESH AND SOME RECENT ADVANCES

Presentation By

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Outline of the Presentation

- To present the road safety **perspectives** in Bangladesh.
- ➤ To highlight the dimensions and striking characteristics of accident problems
- ➤ To outline some emerging road safety **priorities** and options
- ➤ To discuss some recent **advances** in road safety initiatives
- ➤To outline the "The Way Forward" to road safety situation
- > To propose our requirements and expectation

The Global Burden of Road Traffic Injuries

- Deaths and injuries as a result of road traffic accidents is recognized as global health issue
- It is estimated that road crashes kill 1.2 million people and injure 20-50 million annually (daily road tolls more than 3000 i.e. nearly 140 deaths per hour)
- Accident death rates in developing countries are much higher (at least 50 times) than in developed countries
- In 2020, it is expected to kill 2.4 million, more than those dying due either to malaria, TB or HIV/AIDS
- Fatalities are predicted to increase by nearly 90 percent in low and middle income countries and to decrease by 30 percent in high income countries.

BRIEF DETAILS OF BANGLADESH

- Bangladesh is a country in South Asia
- About 140 million inhabitants
- Area of 147570 sq. km
- About 950 inhabitants per sq. km.
- GDP of around \$450 (US) per head.
- Population growth remains high at 1.43 per annum
- About 25 percent of the population is living in the urban areas
- The rate of urbanization over the last decade has been between 7 and 8 percent

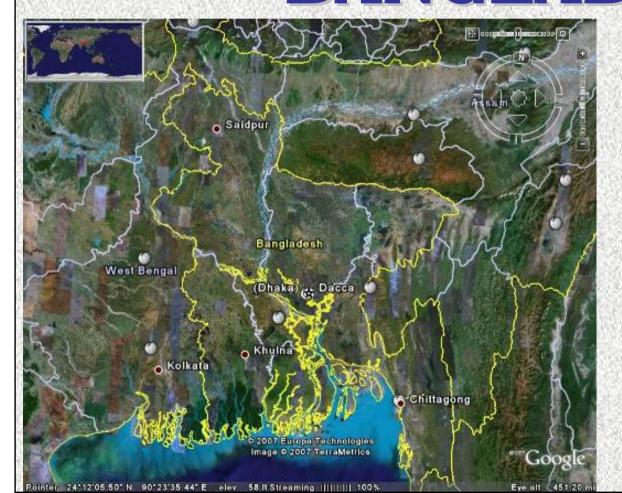


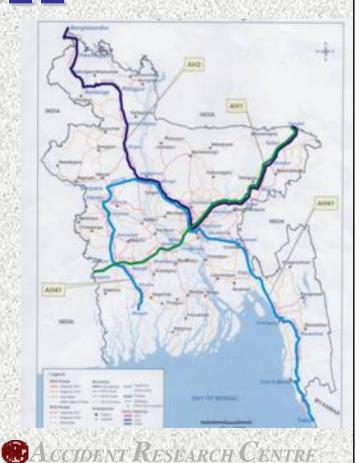
Road Transport In Bangladesh

- Transport is an extremely important part of the Bangladesh economy
- Some 12% of GDP and 20% of the annual development budget is spent on transport, and 9.4% of the national employment is in the transport industry
- Bangladesh, has about **0.7 million** motorized vehicle and
 1.5 million non-motorized vehicles
- At the current growth the number of vehicles in the country is expected to be double in the next ten years
- There has been a continued increase in the shares of passengers and freights carried by road compared to rail and water; currently over 75% of passenger and nearly 70% of freight is carried by road transport



ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS: THE CONTEXT OF BANGLADESH





Our concern for road safety

41 killed as bus goes up in flames

OUR COURESPONDENT, Combi

At least 41 people were killed when an overlanded bus fall into a sinch and burst into fames at Suwagodi in Comilla on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway yesterday.

The overceiowhed hus, belonging to Sit Paribeltan, a maniport company, was specifing insurial Chimiqueng when it lest cuntral 20 (Siometers have Comila noise and wened into a illich around 115pm. The bus instantly burnt into flames when its fluct cank rupbarred and the diesel rangin fine.

Comilisioner (DC) Mobibul Hussein Chowdhuryood The Daily Sar last right. We have recovered 41 bedies from the serekage. We do not think these are any storchodies



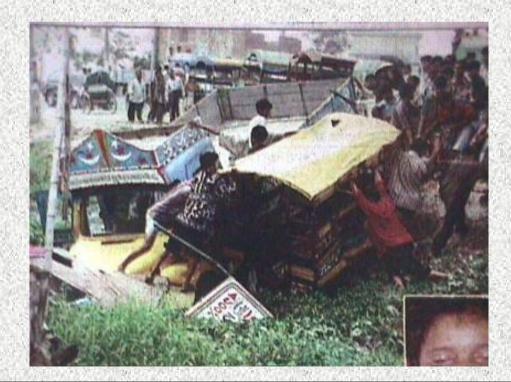
marrier-focus assista

receity stone hodies

Rescuers try to pull the wrockage of the BI-fated bus back on the highway after it yeared into a dijch and explained near Suwagazi to Comilla yeaterday.



ইনকিলাৰ ঃ টাঙ্গাইলে বাদ দুৰ্ঘটনায় নিহত ২০ থান্ত্ৰীর লাখ





Our concern for road safety





Recent Tragedy

The Daily Star 16-4-2008

17 killed as train rams bus in Tangail



The New Nation

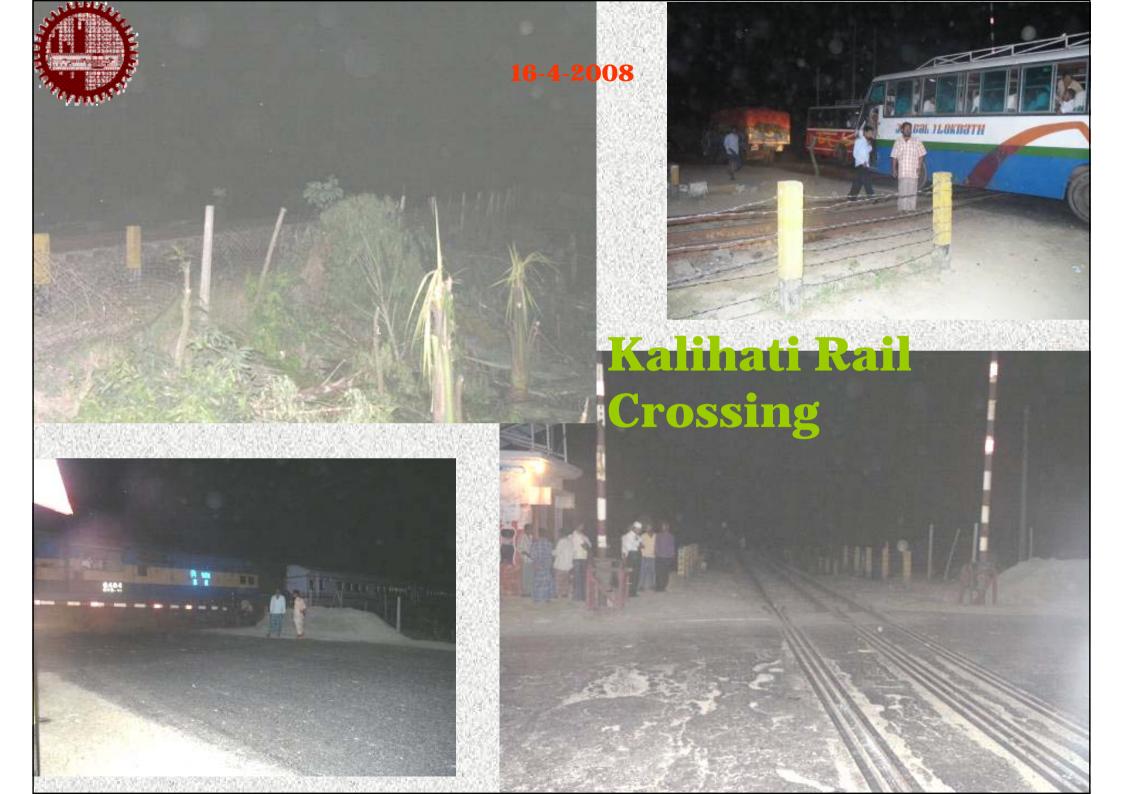
Bangladesh's Independent News Source



The bus left Ballabazar around 2:00am. The intercity Ekata Express from Dinajpur hit the bus around 3:05am when the bus was crossing Elenga Rajabari level crossing on the Mymensingh-Tangail Highway between the Ibrahimabad and Tangail stations.



টালাইলে টেন-বাস সংঘৰ্ষে নিহত ১৭ : তদত কমিটি গঠন, সিগ্নগ্লয়গ্ন বরখাস্ত







Recent Tragedy



The New Nation

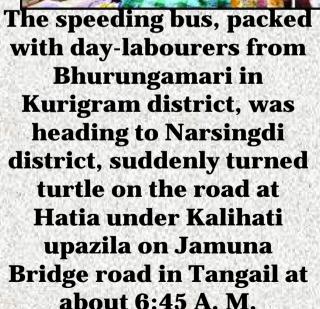
20-4-2008

Bangladesh's Independent News Source

18 killed, 55 hurt in Kalihati again: Second bus accident in 3 days











Dimensions of Road Accidents The daily star

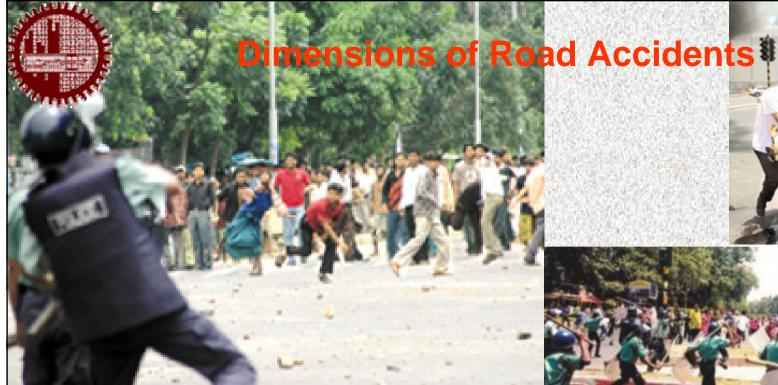




The institute authorities suspended classes for an indefinite period and closed the dormitories to avert further violence.

Of those wounded, 20 are students and 26 policemen.

Aftermath of the Accident in front of Tejgaon polytechnic on 9 May 2008



ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ক্যাম্পাসে বিক্ষুদ্ধ ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের সঙ্গে পুলিশের সংঘর্ষ –ইত্তেফাক



বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ছাত্রী শামী সহপাঠীরা–মোহাম্মদ আলম

Abdullahpur-bound speeding minibus hit Shammee, Rejaul Haq Ranju and several others at Shahbagh intersection at about 11:30am while they were crossing the road. It also knocked a motorcycle and injured its riders.

The DU students burst into violent protests as soon as the news of Shammee's death spread on the campus. They went on the rampage, damaging vehicles on the streets in the university, Shahbagh and Chankharpool areas.

Accident Research Institute
The daily star 29 May 2005



Dimensions of Road Accidents



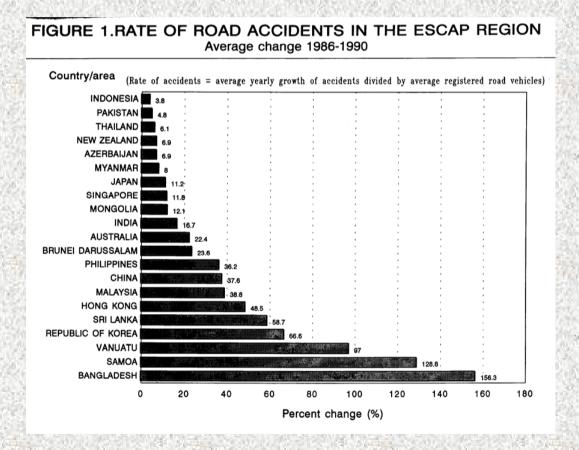
টাঙ্গাইলের কালিহাতীতে বাস দুর্ঘটনায় মারা পেছেন স্বামী ইবরাহিম। এখন তিনটি শিশুসন্তানকৈ কী খাওয়াবেন, কীভাবে মানুষ করবেন সেই ভাবনায় উদ্বিপ্ন কুড়িগ্রামের ভূরস্কামারীর হাউসেরহাট গ্রামের রাশেদা ছবি: সফি খান



Reported Road Accident Trends in (1982-2007)								
	No. of		No. of		No. of Injuries		Total	
Year	Accidents		Fatalities				Casualties	
	FIR	MAAP	FIR	MAAP	FIR	MAAP	FIR	MAAP
		1000						
1982	2782	.400-04-1	1009	palet follow	2172		3181	
1983	3190		1116		3515		4631	
1984	3787	7.25	1242		2587		3829	
1985	3923		1463		2741		4204	
1986	1568		1169		1651		2820	-
1987	1521		1156	-4	1988		3144	A
1988	1890		1367		2083		3450	
1989	2986		1867		3016		4883	
1990	3276		1844	-	2687		4531	
1991	3224	-	1892	2	3017	- 1	4909	0.00
1992	4014		2319	-2	4509		6028	
1993	3140		1495		2409		3904	200
1994	3013		1597	A HAVING	2686		4283	
1995	3346	Y VE	1653	-	2864		4517	
1996	3730		2041		3300		5341	
1997	5448	學》其次	3162	- 4	5076		8238	
1998	4769	3533	3085	2358	3997	3297	7082	5655
1999	4916	3948	3314	2893	3453	3469	6767	6362
2000	4357	3970	3430	3058	1911	3485	5341	6543
2001	4091	2925	3109	2388	3127	2565	6236	4953
2002	4918	3941	3398	3053	3772	3285	7170	6338
2003	4749	4114	3289	3334	3818	3740	7107	7074
2004	3917	3566	2968	3150	2752	3026	5620	6176
2005	3955	3322	3187	2960	2755	2570	5942	5530
2006	3794	3549	3193	3160	2409	2123	5602	5283
2007	4869	3910	3749	3250	3273	2102	7022	5352

Accident Rates in Bangladesh

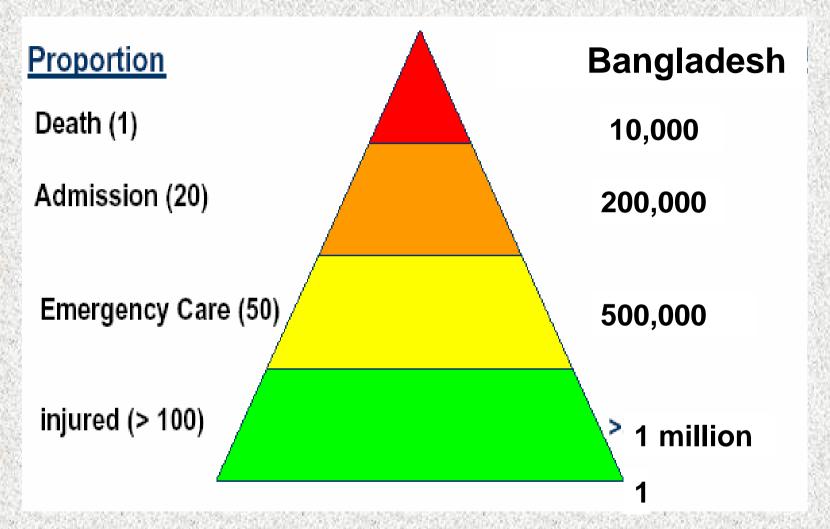
- According to police statistics, Road accidents in Bangladesh claim, on average 4000 lives and injure another 5000 a year.
- Actual estimated road fatalities each year about 10,000 to 12,000 which is at least
 50 times higher than the rates in Western Europe and North America
- In Current prices, road accident in Bangladesh is costing community at least Tk. 5,000 crore/US\$ 850 million per annum (1-3 percent of GDP?)
- Nearly 70% of road fatalities
 occurred on rural sections of the
 main highways as the metropolitan
 cities accounted for only about 20
 percent.
- Over 80% of fatalities are vulnerable road users e.g. pedestrian, bicyclists & motorcyclists.





Road Traffic Injury Pyramid Bangladesh





Source: Bangladesh Health & Injury Survey Report, January 2005

For every injury death, 50 injured attend emergency care 500,000 people are estimated to visit emergency room



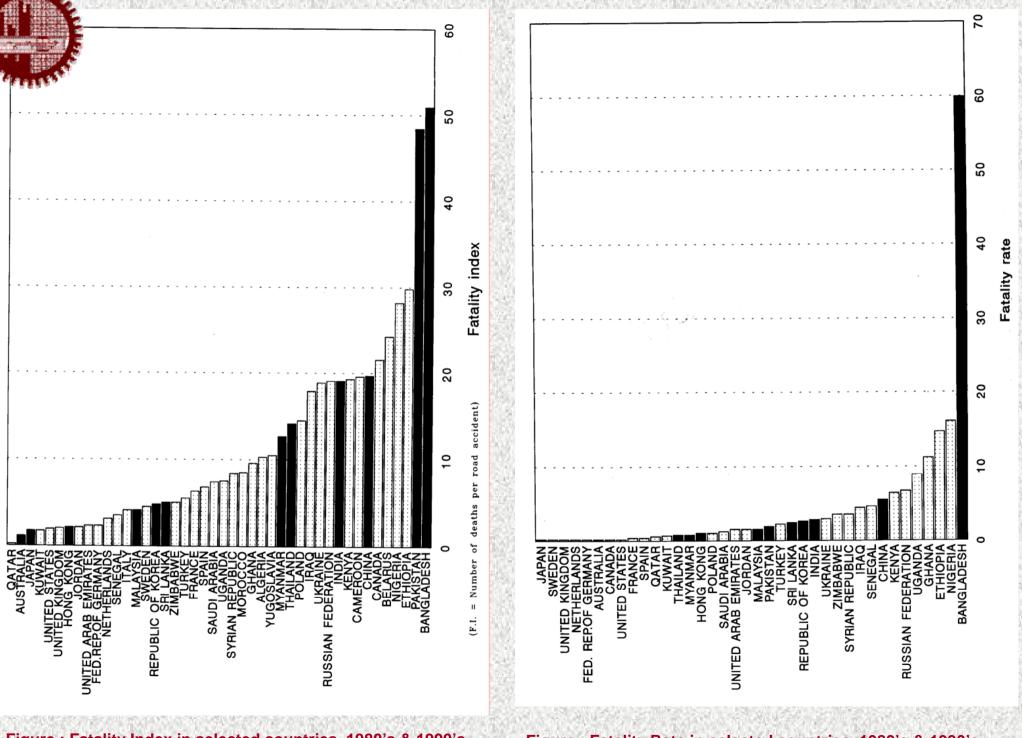
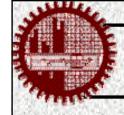


Figure: Fatality Index in selected countries, 1980's & 1990's

Figure: Fatality Rate in selected countries, 1980's & 1990's

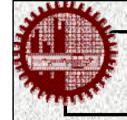


Poverty Impact of RTA

- Road accidents disproportionately affect the poor and their consequences plunge household into acute poverty.
- Poor people are forced to use non-standard and unsafe vehicles.
- NMV operators particularly rickshaw pullers are being unaware of traffic safety are putting lives at rest.

 Of the children being killed and permanently disabled in RTA, the majority are from the poor families.





Poverty Impact of RTA

- Many families are driven deeply into poverty by the loss of a breadwinner and the added burden of the disable members.
- According to TRL over 70% of poor household reported their household income and food consumption decrease after a road death (for non-poor it is 57%)
- Some 61% poor families are forced to arrange loan after road death (34% for non-poor)

 Among the poor, 32% road deaths occur to head of households (compare to 21% non-poor)



WHERE DO ACCIDENTS OCCUR

- Nearly 37 percent in National Highways,
- 12 percent in Regional Roads
- 15 percent in Feeder Roads.
- Nearly 40 percent at junctions in urban areas.
- Accidents are highly clustered at some locations.

Urban, Rural Accidents and Fatalities

Reported	Accidents	Reported Fatalities		
Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	
%	%	%	%	
50	50	34	66	
38	62	25	75	
38	62	25	75	
33	67	25	75	
35	65	25	75	
35	65	25	75	
38	62	26	74	

- In Dhaka nearly 52 percent of all accidents occurred at only
 9 percent of the total 200 intersections
- In the rural areas about 43 percent of reported National Highway accidents occurred in only 5 percent length of National Highways
- These characteristics clearly demonstrate that accidents are amenable to targeted and site specific treatments



ACCIDENTS BY SEVERITY

- Fatal 65 percent
- Grievous 24 percent
- Simple 6 percent
- Collision type 5 percent
- Demonstrates the prevalence of significant underreporting of Injury accidents.



HOW ACCIDENTS HAPPEN

- Most common accident types
- Hit pedestrian (45%),
- · Rear end collisions (16.5%),
- · Head on collisions (13.2%),
- Overturning (9.3%).
- These four accident types account for nearly 85 percent of the accidents





WHO ARE INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS

Over involvement of Buses and Trucks

- In Accidents,
 - bus/minibus 42%
 - trucks 37% and
- In fatal accidents
 - bus/minibus 38%
 - trucks 30%





WHO ARE INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS

(contd.)

Pedestrians-the most Vulnerable road user group

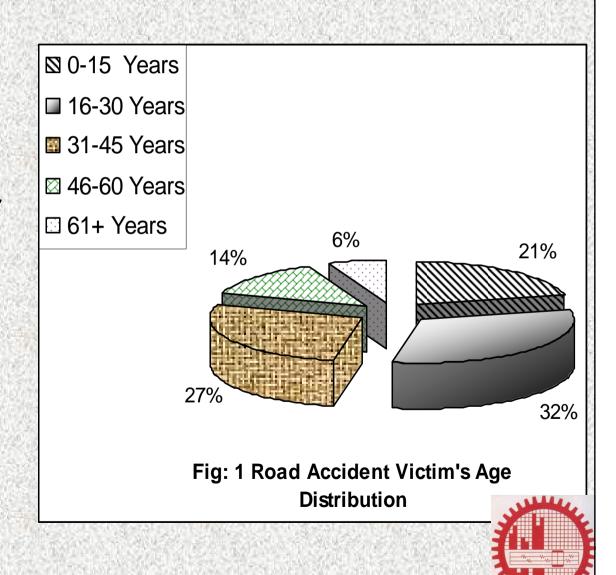
- Pedestrians alone are involved in more than 47 % of road accidents and 49 % of all fatalities
- In urban areas pedestrians accounted for 62 percent of fatalities and in Dhaka city this is nearly 70 percent



WHO ARE INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS

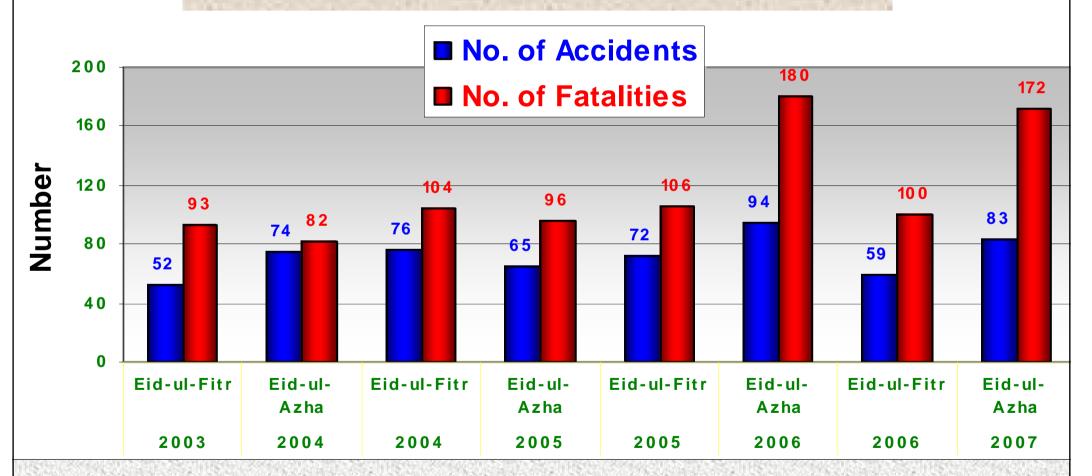
Involvement of Children in Road Accidents

- About one third of the total pedestrian fatalities are children under age of 16 years.
- Fatalities of children under 16 years of age are accounting for nearly 22 percent of all fatalities in Bangladesh and are 2.5 times higher than those in industrialized countries.





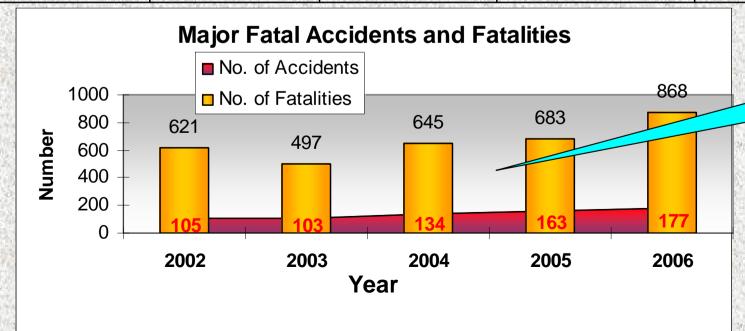
Accidents and Fatalities During Eid Vacation



Trends of Major Fatal Accidents*

* Accidents where at least 3 persons killed

Year	No. of Acciden ts	No. of Fatalities	No. of Injuries	Fatalities/Accid ents	Injuries/Acci dents
2002	105	621	1460	5.91	13.90
2003	103	497	1781	4.83	17.29
2004	134	645	2032	4.81	15.16
2005	163	683	2154	4.19	13.21
2006	177	868	2843	4.90	16.06
Total	682	3314	10270	4.86	15.06



Increasing Trends

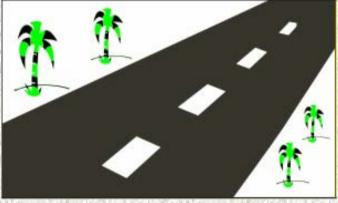
Factors of Road Traffic Accident

• 1. Road Users



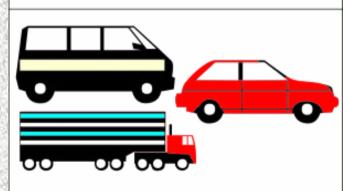


• 2. Road





• 3. Vehicle





WHAT FACTORS CONTRIBUTE

ACCIDEN

Road user errors (90%)

 Adverse road conditions or environment (30%)

Vehicle defects (10%)



SAFETY ISSUES OF CONCERN

- Road Environmental Deficiencies
- Defective and Road unworthy Motor Vehicles
- Drivers Incompetency
- Under Reporting of Accidents
- Inadequacy in Police Inspection and Safety Education
- Poor Enforcement





UR ROAD SAFETY PRIORITIES

- Setting realistic problem specific goals and targets
- Systematic understanding and investigation of the accident problems
- Use of correct procedures

Some priority issues include:

- Control of speeds.
- Promote pedestrian safety
- Treatment of Hazardous Road Locations
- Introduction of the road safety audit process

OUR ROAD SAFETY PRIORITIES

(contd.)

Some priority issues include:

- Prevention and reduction of dominant accident types and their severities
- Traffic law enforcement is critical component
- Promote safety conscious behaviour of road users, heavy vehicle drivers in particular
- Road safety education, especially for children
- Vehicle standard and fitness
- Prompt emergency assistance and efficient trauma care management

DUR ROAD SAFETY PRIORITIES

(contd.)

Some priority issues include:

- Accurate and comprehensive accident and injury data collection and management
- Improved and innovative solutions including the application of ITS
- Research and professional capacity building.
- Secure legitimate and adequate road safety funding
- Strengthening institutional capacity

Indeed, it is the effectiveness of implementation that matters most.

Some Recent Advances in Bangladesh

- Achieving safety on our roads depends greatly on the commitment and efforts of the Government and other relevant organizations
- The concerned authorities have started to realize the need for scientific study and research regarding the causes and commensurate remedial measures

Some Recent Advances in Bangladesh

Road Safety Organizations and Strategic Action Plan

The National Road Safety Council (NRSC) was estable which drew up National Road Safety "Strategic Action Plan" covering the period from July 1997 to June 1999. Subsequently the National Road Safety Council (NRSC) of Bangladesh formulated an updated

"National Road Safety Strategic Action Plan 2005-2007"

The vision- fifty percent reduction in the annual number of fatal road accidents within the next fifteen years.

The goal- ten percent reduction in the annual number of road accident fatalities by the end of the year 2007 (NRSC 2005).



Priority Sector Activities

- The Road Safety Action Plan identified the nine priority sector activities for improving road safety. The nine sectors are:
- I. Planning, Management and Co-ordination of Road safety
- II. Road Traffic Accident Data System
- III. Road Safety Engineering
- IV. Road and Traffic Legislation
- V. Traffic Enforcement
- VI. Driver Training and Testing
- VII. Vehicle Safety
- VIII. Road Safety Education and Publicity
- IX. Medical Services for Road traffic Accident Victims





Establishment of Accident Research Institute (ARI) at BUET

- ❖ Accident Research Centre (ARC) has been established at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) within the top priority programs of the government in 2002 to carry out scientific research for clear understanding of the road safety problems and ascertaining the underlying causative factors, which contribute to accidents on roads, railways and waterways.
- ❖ ARC is expected to play major role to develop pragmatic, cost-effective scientific solutions and bring about significant improvements in the capability of the professionals and workers.
- ARC conducts appropriate training programs and workshops to develop qualified human resources for professional capacity building and also for creating mass awareness on road safety etc.









ACTIVITIES OF ARI

- ➤ Development of accident database and management system
- > Accident research and investigations
- Safety training for professional and institutional capacity building
- > Development of countermeasures and interventions
- > Organizing Conferences, Seminars and Workshops
- > Collaborative linkages
- > Dissemination and application of findings
- Establishing library resources (journals, conference proceedings, books etc.) for research
- Full-fledged research laboratory and accident investigation facilities

Some Recent Advances cont.

The International Conference on Road Safety in Developing Countries

In order to generate road safety commitment and strengthen efforts at the national level ARC organized the first ever International Conference on Road Safety in Developing Countries in Bangladesh last year with a view to strengthen global collaboration and share multi-sectoral experience on road safety in developing countries.







Some Recent Advances cont. National Workshop on Organizational Roles and Responsibilities of Road Safety

To address the importance and integration of various organizational collaboration in solving road safety problems ARC organized a national workshop on organizational roles and responsibilities of road safety in April 2007.

Some important aspects addressed in the workshop are:

- Definition of responsibility
- Assigning the task
- Setting up a permanent group
- Planning and assigning adequate technical and financial task and
- Evaluation of the outcome of actions.





Some Recent Activities of ARC contd

Workshop on "Road Safety in Bangladesh: Constraints and the Way Forward"

As a part of "Celebrating 60 Years of Engineering Education in Bangladesh", a two day Workshop was organized by ARC, BUET with the support by The World Bank and the Roads and Highways Department in 21-22 November 2007.

The workshop was attended by World Bank road safety experts and representatives of the local office and the key road safety stakeholders in Bangladesh.

The workshop recommendations have been endorsed and submitted to Government



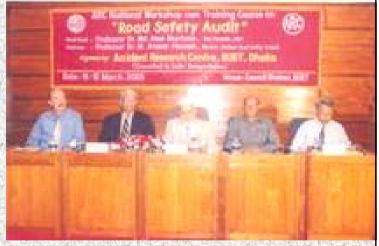


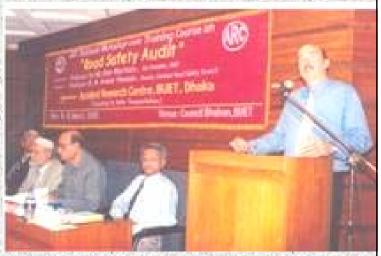


Some Recent Advances contd...

National Workshop cum Training Course on Road Safety Audit

To introduce the concept, importance and potentials of systematic implementation of road safety audit process in promoting greater road safety in developing countries, like Bangladesh, a National Workshop cum Training Course was organized by ARC in March 2005. Over fifty participants from nearly eighteen organizations participated in the Workshop.





The Observance of UN First Global Road Safety Week

- In pursuance of the United Nations General Assembly resolution A/60/5 on "improving global road safety", the key global event of the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week was being hosted around the world.
- The event was observed in Bangladesh in a befitting manner and made significant contribution to address road safety in a firmer way by consolidating effective and coordinated road safety initiatives at central, regional and local levels.



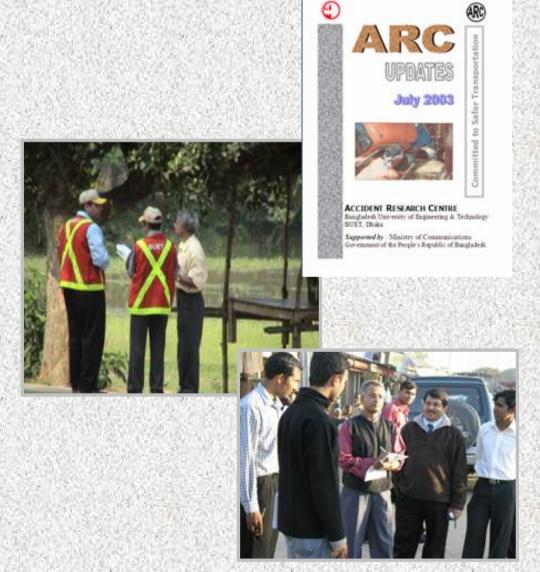




Some Recent Advances cont...

Jome Major Road Safety Research and Investigations

- Hazardous Road Location (HRL) Program
- Investigation of Major Fatal Accidents and Accidents during **Festivals**
- Metropolitan Street Accidents
- Involvement of Pedestrians and Children in Road Traffic Accidents
- Understanding Heavy Vehicle Drivers' Behavior





Some Recent Advances cont...

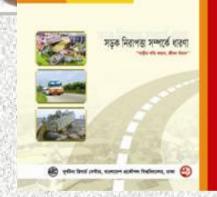
Road Safety Training and Awareness Programs

 Training for Professionals

Training for Students

Training for Heavy
 Vehicle Drivers







Some Recent Activities of ARC contd... Road Safety Capacity Review by

The World Bank





Road Safety Management Capacity: The World Bank Review

Problems:

- A very serious road safety and public health problem with tragic, premature and costly loss of life and permanent disability;
- Exacerbating poverty reduction efforts particularly in rural areas and is set to deteriorate further as motor vehicle traffic grows;
- Effective road safety management across government needs to be established urgently and on a sustainable basis;
- While the key responsibilities and resourcing lie with government, all sectors of civil society and the business sector need to be motivated and engaged;
- Require delivery of agreed visions, targets, strategies and action plans.

Strengths:

- Determination amongst government and professionals from across disciplines and sectors to make progress;
- Recognition of the need to work together to improve outcomes via new institutional arrangements;
- Excellent local professional expertise and professional partnership building and the existence of a well-supported and highly effective accident research centre;
- The recent establishment of a new Highway Traffic Patrol (although not yet resourced for its task);
- Some commencement of road safety engineering approaches and potential capacity in the roads authorities;
- Some framework for local community engagement and the active support of key international and national donors in transport and health sectors



Weaknesses:

- Lack of effective institutional ownership of road safety and multi-sectoral understanding of how to address challenges in improving road safety;
- Agencies lack clearly mandated road safety goals and responsibilities in the absence of Lead Agency;
- Lack well-coordinated multi-sectoral decision making on the basis of all necessary considerations;
- Key delivery partnerships for effective intervention; an appropriate legislative framework; sustainable and transparent funding;
- Systematic understanding and investigation of road safety problems across government;
- Further development of the knowledge base about the identification and implementation of effective solutions and effective performance monitoring.



Key governmental agencies are:

- Ministry of Communications (MOC)
- Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
- Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA)
- Roads and Highways Department (RHD)
- Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)
- Bangladesh Police
- National Highway Patrol (NHP)
- Bangladesh Police (Dhaka Range)
- Directorate of Health Services



Research and Profession Bodies:

- Accident Research Institute (ARI), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)
- National Institute of Trauma and Orthopedic Rehabilitation (NITOR)
- Centre for Injury Prevention and Research Bangladesh (CIPRB)
- Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP)
- Red Crescent
- BRAC Road Safety Programme
- Media Communication Foundation (MCF)
- Nirapad Sharak Chai
- University of Rajshahi
- Truck and Bus Owners' and Operators' Associations
- Civil Societies



The Way Forward

Improvement of road safety is a multi-disciplinary task and does not occur by itself. Road accidents are problems that cover many sectors (social, health and economic), which can only be tackled effectively if the state takes a leading role and responsibility with due commitment.

Efforts should be strengthened with due regards to the following:

- Making road safety a policy priority
- Designating a Single Central Agency for Road Safety
- Activating lead agencies
- Establishment of a reliable data set
- Seeking solutions of accident problems through correct procedures, standards, safety conscious planning and design and good practices

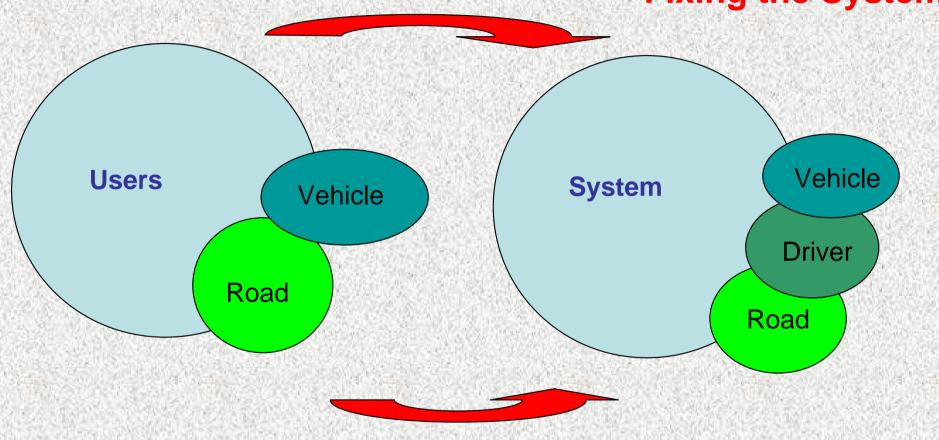


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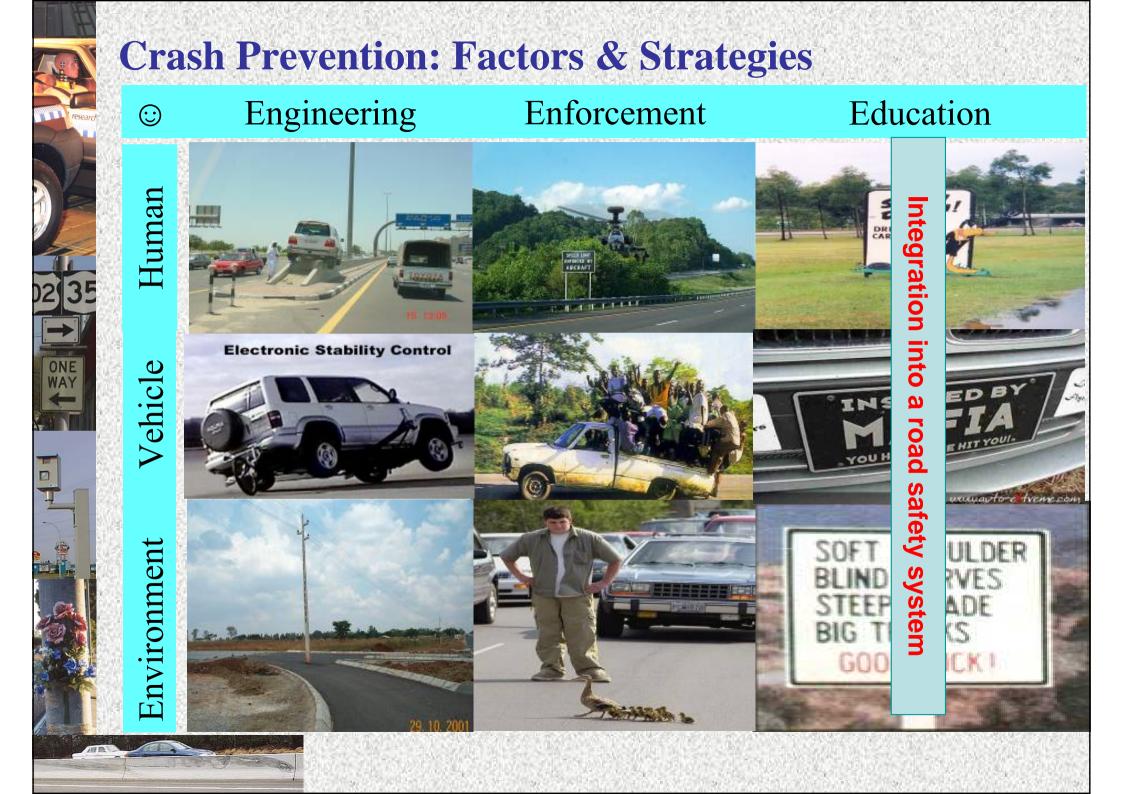
- Undertaking a comprehensive approach to address the human, vehicle and environmental factors
- Improvement of the roadway system
- Changes in attitudes of drivers
- Providing appropriate training and education
- Making available requisite funding and resources
- Transferring and adapting best practices and interventions
- Foster safety research excellence through exchange and linkage with institutions at regional and international levels.

Road Safety Strategies: Paradigm Shift Needed

Fixing the System



Blaming Drivers



Urgent Necessity:

A 2nd Generation project supported by the World Bank and the Government of the

Republic of Bangladesh:

- The most efficient and effective way to accelerate the achievement of ambitious safety targets in Bangladesh is to target the high social crash cost density corridors.
- The corridor would aim to:
 - accelerate the transfer of road safety knowledge to project participants;
 - strengthen the capacity of participating agencies, industries and community groups and
 - achieve quick proven results benchmark measures to allow a national roll-out programme.
- Would achieve this address the ultimate reductions in death and serious injuries and related social costs, and also would address the poverty alleviation impacts.



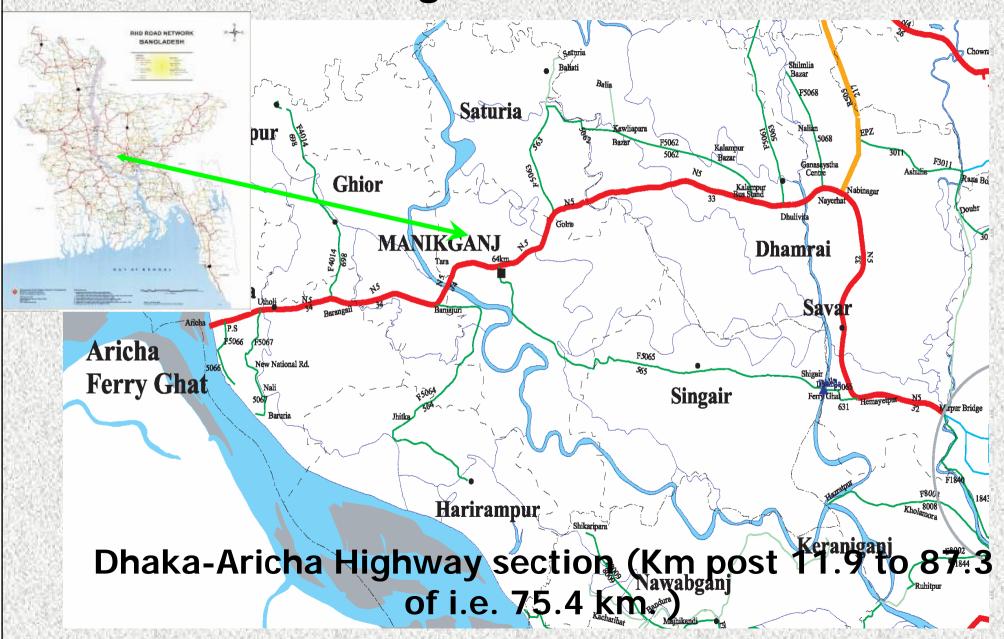
Proposed Road Safety Demonstration Project Dhaka-Aricha Highway

(A section of Asian Highway)

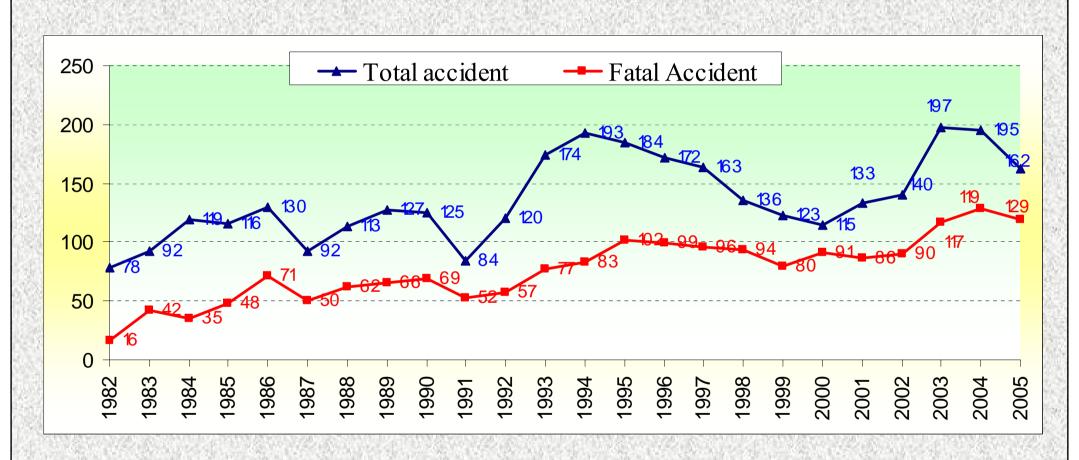




Location Map of the Dhaka-Aricha Highway Along the Route N 5



Yearly Accident Trends along the Selected Highway (1982-2005)

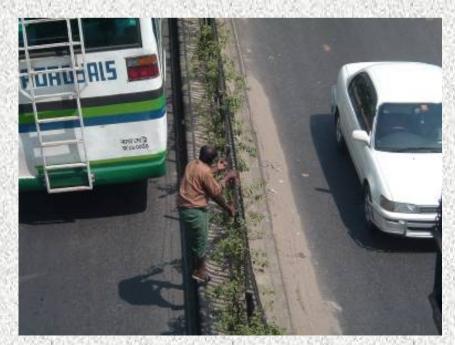


Source: Banik 1982-84, Hoque M. M.1985-1989, Moniruzzaman 1990-2002, ARC 2003-2005

Glimpses of Road User Behavior











Glimpses of Road Environment









Dur Expectation and Proposals

We should focus very seriously to develop an appropriate response to this man-made epidemic and some essential requirements are:

- Considerable effort is needed to establish a comprehensive data system, sufficiently detailed and reliable to enable the major safety problems be identified and understood;
- Require government to give road safety issue a central importance in policy agenda and channels safety work on broad front setting specific targets like other countries (e.g. zero vision in Sweden) and monitoring outcomes;
- Institutional and Professional Capacity Building at national and regional levels;
- Promotion of Global Partnership, Regional Collaboration and Linkages and Exchanges,



Our Expectation and Proposals (contd...)

- Seeking Mechanisms for Technology Transfer, Knowledge Sharing and Good Practices
- Organise Regular Workshops, Seminars, Conferences to Address the Regional Safety Issues and Priorities
- Setting up Regional Safety Research Institutes to Foster Excellence in Research, Training and Good Practices
- Secure and Availability of Adequate Funding and Other Resources
- Support from International Aid Agencies and Other Specialized Institutes viz. World Bank, ADB, AusAID, WHO, UN, ESCAP, ARRB, REAAA, GRSP, IATSS are Vital

Establishment of

"Australasian Road Safety Association/Foundation"

- Promote co-operation among national institutions, organizations, bodies and professionals.
- Establish regional and global networking of research findings and encourage technological transfer among the countries.
- Strengthen relationship with international Aid agencies
- Promote traffic safety at the regional and international levels and exchange efficient and urgent actions in education, legislation, awareness, research, engineering and technological interventions.
- Produce road safety resource materials, manuals, periodicals, newsletters and other documents.
- Help create a cadre of strong technical professionals/officials in the countries in the region (advanced courses, training modules)



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