

Vehicles asked  
not to head  
for Aricha

By Staff Correspondent

Ferry services at Aricha ghat have been suspended since 9 pm last night due to thick fog.

Sources said that all ferries operating in Aricha-Daulatdia and Aricha-Natkhola routes were suspended, leaving some 991 vehicles stranded at the ghat.

Meanwhile, officials at Aricha ghat have advised bus operators and the passengers not to proceed towards Aricha before improvement of the weather.

Talking over telephone from Aricha ghat, an official told The Daily Star that a four-member special team of BIWTC

See Page 12 Col 1

**Free Golap Barua,  
urges chief of  
ULFA armed wing**

By Staff Correspondent

The chief of armed wing of the United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), Paresh Barua, in an interview with the BBC has appealed to Bangladesh not to hand over Anup Jetia alias Golap Barua, the said general secretary of ULFA, to India.

He has also called for unconditional release of Golap Barua.

The ULFA leader said his organisation has been waging a movement against Indian expansionism like that of Bangladesh against the Pakistan occupation forces.

He appealed to Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to release the captured ULFA leader Golap Barua on humani-

See Page 12 Col 2

**Inside Today**

**Article**

**Only a Creamy  
Layer**

Column: Perspectives  
by Brig (Rtd) M Abdul  
Hafiz

Page 4

**Focus**

Can Dhaka traffic be  
improved; and AIDS in  
Bangladesh and  
Mongla Port

Page 5

**Business**

Primary products help  
hit export target

DSE index edges  
higher

Pages 6, 7

Sehri, Iftar timings			
Ramadan	Jan	Sehri	Iftar
5	5	5:18	5:29
6	6	5:18	5:29
7	7	5:18	5:29

**Notice**

**(Regarding Audit of Firms  
Registered under VAT)**

জাতীয় রাজব সংরক্ষণে অংশ নিন  
মুসক অডিটে সহযোগিতা করন

VAT system has been introduced since 1st July 1991. Under this system a tax-payer himself calculates the tax from the consumer while delivering/providing goods or service and deposits in the govt exchequer. That is, a goods producer/service provider realises this tax from the consumer at the time of selling goods/providing service and deposits in govt exchequer.

The duty of VAT management is to verify the matter whether this tax is properly calculated and paid in due amount & at due time and maintain the national revenue paid up by the local consumers.

To ensure realisation of due amount of revenue at due time the VAT management often audits a few activities of some selected tax-payer firms. For this, the firm selected for audit is informed in advance to keep ready such documents of account as may be required for auditing. So, it is not possible to complete auditing in prescribed time smoothly & properly without sincere cooperation of the registered firm authority.

Under Clause 34 of VAT Act 1991, any registered tax-payer firm is bound to produce any document of accounts under this Act on demand to the audit officer, otherwise it is considered a punishable offence under Clause 37.

As such, therefore, all tax-payer firms registered under VAT are requested to actively cooperate in auditing. The firm concerned may ensure, prior to auditing, if the audit officers are carrying proper ID Card & audit order issued by the commissioner concerned.

DDP-29447-29/12  
G-25

National Board of Revenue

**Air, ferry services suspended for fog  
Shivering cold all over:  
10 die, hundreds sick**

By Special Correspondent



Day labourers sitting around a fire at noon at Dholakhal as a cold wave gripped the city yesterday.

— Star photo by A K M Mohsin

**'Save BIRDEM, resist evil  
attempts to disrupt service'**

By Staff Correspondent

The Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (DAB) yesterday hoped that the people would come forward to resist any evil attempt to disrupt service to the patients at the BIRDEM through 'illegal' trade union activities.

Secretary General of the DAB Dr. Fasih Uddin Mahtab expressed the hope at a press conference yesterday evening.

The agitating Employees Welfare Association (EWA) of BIRDEM is scheduled to declare today all office bearers of the DAB 'persona non grata'.

The DAB is a nonprofit voluntary socio-medical service organisation which treats 16 hundred diabetic patients everyday, while it covers 25 thousand patients across the country. Mahtab said adding: 'We hope people would come forward to resist any evil attempt to disrupt the organisation's continued service to the patients and protect the institu-

tion from the danger of collapse due to illegal trade unionism.'

However, the representatives of the DAB and the EWA were holding talks to settle the disputes till the writing of this report last night.

The EWA is fighting for scrapping of the service rule of 1996 which said that all the new appointments would be made on 'contract basis' and the hiring and firing authority would be lying with the man-

THE DAB and the EWA eventually reached a settlement last night, according to DAB treasurer Maj Gen (rtd) A R Khan. According to the settlement, the authorities concerned would formulate a new set of service rules, combining those adopted in 1992 and 1996, in a month, Khan said. The EWA leaders have agreed to postpone their agitation today. However, none of the EWA leaders was available for comment.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

Millions of sports lovers in the country may be deprived of enjoying on TV and Radio the Independence Cup cricket tournament starting in the capital on January 10.

It is learnt that both the state-run media — Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar — were in a fix as the organisers, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), struck a deal with the America-based company — WorldTel.

The WorldTel reportedly sold the transmission rights to the Doordarsan International for an undisclosed sum. This has left both the local electronic media with the only option to make a deal with the foreign company.

BTB and the Betar are reported to have been asked to pay 1.20 crore and 12 lakh taka respectively for the rights to air all six matches of the tourney.

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on

See Page 12 Col 3

agent of the hospital.

The DAB said yesterday that they would not concede to the illegal demand of the employees.

The EWA leaders, in a letter to the Director General of BIRDEM on December 23 last, said that the DAB office bearers would be declared *persona non grata*, if the 1996 service rule was not scrapped by January 5. They also threatened that the employees would physically prevent the DAB office bearers from entering office, if the demand was not met within the stipulated time.

The National Council of DAB met on December 24, the day after EWA had sent the letter, to review the situation and formed a five-member body to formulate a comprehensive service rule for the organisation in the light of the rules adopted in 1992 and 1996. The Council also decided to seek suggestions of EWA leaders on