



A portion of the road behind Janata Tower at Karwan Bazar in the city remains waterlogged for the last ten days due to leakage in the main Wasa pipeline. Wasa authorities, however, have turned a blind eye to the problem.

## Illegal bus stands removed from Ctg city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) removed all the illegal bus stands from the city centres to ensure smooth traffic movement in the port city.

According to sources, most of the illegal bus stands of the city centre were shifted to the city outskirts before the expiry of the notice issued by CMP traffic department on Saturday night.

The notice issued on January 10 gave 10 days' time for shifting the illegal bus stands from the city centres.

As some of the buses tried to depart the city from their previous bus stands after the expiry of the notice yesterday, the CMP traffic department seized them.

"Some fifteen buses were seized while trying to leave the city from the previous bus stands in violation of the notice order," said CMP DC (Traffic) Abu Sufian.

"Besides, an equal number of trucks were also held during this time as they were found to ignore the changes made in the routes for their movement," he said.

The move for making the city streets congestion free and eviction of illegal occupants from the footpaths was hailed by the city dwellers.

However, the removal of bus stands from the city centres created resentment among some bus owners who had their own and separate parking lot beside the bus stands.

"We are leaving the buses from our own parking lot," defended an officer of a transport service plying buses in Dhaka-Chittagong highway from the city's Dampara area.

In this regard, CMP DC said there are some rules and regulation for every transport service to follow and so one cannot establish a bus stand in the city centre and disrupt smooth traffic movement.

## BRTC special bus services for Bishwa Ijtema devotees

Bss, Dhaka

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) will operate special bus services for the convenience of devotees of Bishwa Ijtema to be held from February 2 to 4 on the bank of the river Turag at Tongi.

The special bus services will start on January 28 and will continue till February 6 with operating as many as 115 BRTC buses, including 66 double-deckers, on Gulistan-Kalyanpur-Tongi route, said a press release.

Besides, BRTC's another 262 buses on different routes will provide 'extended service' to the devotees besides the normal service. The buses will make stoppages at places like Aricha, Manikganj, Paturiaghata, Mawa, Tongi, Narsingdi, Bhairab, Kularchar, Sayedabad, Gulistan, Victoria Park, Kamalapur and Gabtali towards their last destination at Turag congregation.

For smooth operation of the special service, the BRTC authorities will open a control room at Joarsahara bus depot (phone number 8911778 and 9551985), added the release.

## VHF team to attend World Hindu confe

A delegation of Vishwa Hindu Federation (Bangladesh Chapter) will attend the Third World Hindu Conference at Prayag, Allahabad, India soon, says a press release.

Over 200,000 delegates will participate in the global conference, the biggest congregation of Hindus.

The delegation will also attend the "Arda Kumbha" Half Grand Pitcher Festival beginning February 7 at Triveni in India.

## 1589 sacks of fertiliser seized, 4 traders held

UNB, Sherpur

In their intensified drive against smuggling of agri-inputs, Armed Forces members recovered 1,589 sacks of fertiliser from Tarakandi Bazar in sadar upazila of Sherpur, Tarail upazila of Kishoreganj and Dhamrai upazila of Dhaka districts yesterday.

During the drive, four fertiliser traders were also arrested by the Army personnel. Of them, Anwar Hossain was arrested in Sherpur while Rabindranath Ghose, Babul Hossain and Towhidur Rahman in Dinajpur.

In their drive at Tarakandi Bazar in Sherpur district, Army and police personnel recovered 1,047 sacks of fertiliser from a number of shops and arrested Anwar.

UNO Nawab Aslam Habib led the drive that continued from Saturday afternoon to midnight.

The recovered fertiliser was kept at the BADC godown to distribute among the farmers at a fair price.

Sources said the traders collected the fertiliser from Ashuganj Fertiliser Factory and

Jamuna Fertiliser Mill.

In another drive, police recovered 500 sacks of fertiliser from Tarail upazila of Kishoreganj district yesterday morning.

A team of police, led by TNO AFM Hayatullah and OC Samsul Haq, raided the house of Dulal Miah and recovered the fertiliser. No one was arrested in this connection.

Another 42 sacks of fertiliser were recovered from Dhamrai upazila yesterday.

The Army members raided different shops in the area and recovered the fertiliser from a deserted house adjacent to local Barajethail mosque at Balia union. The recovered fertiliser was distributed among the marginal farmers at a fair price.

The traders were selling the agri-input at Tk 380-400, much higher than the government fixed rate.

In Dinajpur, Rabindranath Ghose, Babul Hossain and Towhidur Rahman were arrested from Khamshama upazila for selling fertiliser at higher prices to Army men who went to them disguised as farmers.

## 7 robbers held in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested seven suspected robbers with two firearms and other lethal weapons from an under construction building at South Mugdapara in the city early yesterday.

The arrestees are identified as Rafiq Mollah, Raju Ahmed Sheikh, Fazul Haq Fakir, Ayub Hawlader, Gazi Mollah, Mohiuddin and Syed Ahmed Majhi.

On information, Rab officials raided the house at around 3:00am where an organised gang of robbers were preparing to commit a robbery in the area.

The seized firearms and weapons include a revolver and six rounds of bullets, one cut rifle and five cartridges, steel cutter and an iron rod.

Meanwhile, members of the same Rab battalion arrested two drug peddlers from Kaptan Bazar in Sutrapur yesterday and seized four kgs of cannabis.

The arrestees Selim Mian and Aftab Uddin alias Babu had been carrying out the illegal trade in the area since long, a Rab press release said.



PHOTO: STAR  
Central leaders of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal call on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at her Banani office in the city yesterday.