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Hard time for air passengers

Many reach airport 3-4 days ahead of flight due to hartal

SHARIFUL ISLAM

Abdul Momin Mian set off for Dhaka from Pabna on Friday so that he would not miss his flight to Saudi Arabia last night because of the countrywide 84-hour hartal beginning yesterday.

He had to start his journey amid a transport strike in the district. When his ordeal of reaching Shahjalal International Airport in the capital was over on Saturday evening, his agonising 30-hour long wait for the flight began.

Like him, many people, including women, who are scheduled to travel abroad during the hartal hours, went to the airport quite earlier than their flight schedules.

The majority of them are migrant workers who will lose their jobs for failing to join in time. They stayed there overnight in the open or at the car park in the airport with little food and had to queue up for toilets meant for drivers at the parking.

The sufferings of those who flew to Dhaka yesterday were also immense. They were seen loitering at the airport in anxiety, finding no ways to reach home outside the capital.

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Abdul Alim reached Shahjalal International Airport on Saturday afternoon from Comilla, but his flight to Oman is scheduled for 10:00pm today. He arrived two days ahead fearing he would not be able to reach there during the 84-hour hartal. He is not alone. There were many, inset, at the airport who chose to do the same.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



Hefajat's Nov 15 rally postponed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Hefajat-e Islam yesterday postponed its grand rally scheduled for November 15 at the capital's Shapla Chattar.

The announcement came after a meeting at Hefajat's central office here

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PRAYER TIMING November 11		
Fajr	Azhan	Jamaat
5:00	5:00	5:35
12:45	12:45	1:15
3:45	3:45	4:00
5:22	5:22	5:25
7:00	7:00	7:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Qaisar charged with war crimes

Prosecution presses 18 charges against the ex-minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday pressed 18 war crimes charges against Syed Mohammad Qaisar, an alleged Razakar commander and member of Peace Committee in Habiganj, for his "wartime role" during the Liberation War in 1971.

According to the formal charges, Qaisar was "involved" in at least 11 incidents of killing that left 155 people dead, two incidents of rape and five incidents of abduction, loot, arson and other crimes between April 27 and

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Four war crimes prosecutors seek AL tickets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least four prosecutors of the international crimes tribunal and two top members of the war crimes investigation agency yesterday collected the ruling Awami League's nomination papers to contest the next general election.

Prosecutors Muklesur Rahman Badal collected nomination papers for Kishoreganj-2 (Pakundia-Katiadi) constituency while Sultan Mahmud Simon did it for Sariatpur-2

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ELECTORAL CODE OF CONDUCT

No response from parties

EC to go ahead with amendment

PANKAJ KARMAKAR

None of the 40 registered political parties responded to the Election Commission's (EC) call to give their suggestions about the proposed changes to the electoral code of conduct for political parties and candidates contesting the next general election.

This has forced the EC to move forward to amend the code of conduct without any suggestions from political parties.

The EC on November 2 uploaded the draft amendments on its website, seeking suggestions or recommendations from all within seven days that ended on Saturday

The EC received 35 to 40 suggestions from students, former and present

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Pro-BNP lawyers, freedom fighters meet Khaleda at her house

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pro-BNP lawyers and freedom fighters met the BNP chairperson at her Gulshan residence last night, though the BNP earlier alleged that police were not allowing anyone to enter her house.

A delegation of lawyers led by Khandaker Mahbub Hossain, vice chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council, entered the BNP chief's residence around 8:00pm and held an hour-long meeting with her.

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Admin awaits another mass promotion

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

The government is going to promote around 370 bureaucrats as deputy secretaries and additional secretaries soon although an excessive number of officials have already crowded the two mid-ranked positions in the civil administration.

Around 300 senior assistant secretaries and 70 joint secretaries would be promoted in a week or two in an apparent bid to make more bureaucrats happy ahead of the upcoming parliamentary election.

Excessive promotion has already made the civil administration top-heavy. It pushed the number of officers on special duty (OSD) to around 700 now. Posting and transfer of officials have also been very difficult as there is hardly any vacancy.

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ONLINE POLL

Do you think it was justified for the government to arrest top BNP leaders?

Yes (30%)
No (70%)

TOTAL VOTES: 396

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the arrest of top BNP leaders would deteriorate the political situation and trigger more unrest?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

from 09 December 2013

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YANGON

Biman Bangladesh Airlines resumes twice-a-week flight to Yangon from 09 December 2013. Yangon (Rangoon) came under the wings of Biman in 1976 and the operation was suspended in 2006, the year the capital of Myanmar was moved to Nay Pyi Taw.

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