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Bus, auto fare set to rise

Some bus operators in Dhaka already charging additional fare

PANKAG KARMAKAR

Some bus operators in the capital are charging additional fare due to gas price hike, although the authorities concerned repeatedly said they would not increase it until the government decided about it.

Passengers are forced to pay additional charges from Tk 5 to Tk 8 on different routes that led bus staff and passengers to lock horns in last couple of days.

Meanwhile, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader is scheduled to announce a revised fare chart for CNG-run buses and three-wheelers in Dhaka and Chittagong cities today.

The move to increase public transport fare came following the government's increased CNG price from Tk 30 to Tk 35 per cubic metre on September 1.

"I used to pay Tk 12-15 for travelling from Jatrabari to Farmgate through a local bus popularly known as No 36. They are charging Tk 20 for the same route for the last three days," said Kawsar Mahmud, a private jobholder, yesterday.

Asked by the passengers why they were charging high before the government announcement, the bus staff replied the government would not subsidise the owner's loss, Kawsar told The Daily Star.

Another passenger Saidur Rahman said, "I used to pay Tk

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What now appears to be a ball of worn-out posters, tattered banners and old festoons, is actually a stainless steel globe installed to add grandeur to the EPZ roundabout in Chittagong. Lack of a cleanup has rather made it an eyesore.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

JSD proposes dropping JP ministers

PARITHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) of the ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance yesterday proposed dropping Jatiya Party-backed ministers from the cabinet and this suggestion had support of a few other alliance partners.

JSD General Secretary Sharif Nurul Ambia placed the proposal at a meeting of the alliance held at Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina's Dhanmondi office yesterday, meeting sources said.

The JSD proposal came after Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad on Tuesday commented that the Awami League's slogan is "Joy Bangla" and Jatiya Party's slogan is "Bangladesh Zindabad".

Ershad, also special envoy to the prime minister, had recently been coming down heavily on the government.

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4-NATION MOTOR VEHICLE MOVEMENT

Fees not finalised yet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The technical committees of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) yesterday wrapped up their first meeting on the two protocols of the motor vehicle agreement in Dhaka without fixing the fees for using the road corridors.

Insiders said the Indian side proposed for free movement of passengers

and personal vehicles and fees for goods vehicles only.

Bangladesh, however, opted for imposing fees for all types of vehicles -- lower for passengers and personal vehicles but higher for freight, they added.

Delegates of BBIN that inked the motor vehicle deal in Thimpu in June for introducing a seamless movement of vehicles among the countries dis-

cussed the issues of permitting and tracking vehicles, completing customs and immigration smoothly and ensuring security.

"We also agreed that all vehicles to be permitted for operating in the BBIN region will have a passport or identification and will have to deposit bank guarantee," an official of the road transport and bridges ministry told The Daily Star at the Westin Hotel, the

Re-registration of mobile SIM from Sunday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

All mobile phone users will have to re-register their numbers within three months from Sunday.

"Those who have already registered their SIMs will have to verify the registrations for enjoying an uninterrupted service," Tarana Halim, state minister for posts and telecommunications division, told journalists yesterday.

"Re-registration would also be required for the SIMs which had not been registered properly."

She said details of the procedures for the re-registration would be made public within Sunday following a meeting with mobile phone operators.

The state minister was speaking at a views-exchange meeting with the Telecom Reporter's Network Bangladesh (TRNB) at her office.

"We have found that [some] mobile phone connections are the root of criminal activities like militancy and abduction. So we are going for re-registration of all existing numbers."

If any user fails to complete the process within the given time, their connections will be deactivated

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NEWS ANALYSIS

An adventure indeed

SHAKHAWAT LITON

It was an "adventure" to Adventure Land!

Narayanganj City Corporation did not have any plans on Monday to open its newly constructed children's park, Adventure Land.

But for Shamim Osman, the Awami League MP from Narayanganj, all that was irrelevant. He showed that, to him, the words "right" or "wrong" or a sense of decorum, are irrelevant.

He barged in Monday and inaugurated the children's park built by the NCC in the city.

The NCC has just completed construction of the park in the city's Fatullah area at a cost of Tk. 25 crore under public-private partnership. "Adventure Land" was built on six acres of its own land.

City Mayor Selina Hayat Ivy had planned to have the park inaugurated either by the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina or the LGRD Minister Khandaker Mosharrar Hossain.

But Shamim Osman showed her that he certainly knows how to rain on her parade.

Flanked by a group of his men, he inaugurated Adventure Land. He did not bother to talk with the city corporation before doing so.

Mayor Ivy found it unwarranted and unfair. She said: "Shamim Osman can't do this."

But Shamim Osman has proved that he could.

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Though floodwater has started receding in some areas of Kurigram, Majhialirchar Govt Primary School in Sadar upazila is still under water, and people could row a boat yesterday on what used to be the school playground. There has been no school for over two weeks.

PHOTO: ABDUL WAHED

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কোরবানির গরু হুট-পুটকরণ সম্পর্কিত সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতি ও প্রয়োজনীয় কার্যক্রম গ্রহণের জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, মাংসের জন্য বিশেষ করে কোরবানির উদ্দেশ্যে গবাদিপশু হুট-পুটকরণে স্টেরয়েড ও হরমোন জাতীয় ঔষধ প্রাণিদেহে প্রয়োগ, পশুখাদ্যে ব্যবহার ও খাওয়ানো সম্পূর্ণ নিষিদ্ধ এবং আইনত: দণ্ডনীয়। ইহা প্রাণিস্বাস্থ্য ও জনস্বাস্থ্যের জন্য ক্ষতিকর।

গবাদিপশু হুট-পুটকরণে এ জাতীয় ঔষধ ব্যবহার না করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে অনুরোধ জানানো হলো। কারণ বিরুদ্ধে হুট-পুটকরণে এ জাতীয় ঔষধ ব্যবহারের প্রমাণ পাওয়া গেলে তাঁর বিরুদ্ধে মৎস্য খাদ্য ও পশুখাদ্য আইন-২০১০ ও পশুখাদ্য বিধিমালা-২০১৩ মোতাবেক আইন অনুযায়ী ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

প্রচারে: প্রাণিসম্পদ অধিদপ্তর, বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা।

Sleep scientists for starting school from 10:00am

BBC ONLINE

As they prepare a major study to test the idea, UK scientists have said that starting school at 10:00 could have huge benefits for teenagers.

Research suggests that society pays too little attention to our "body clock" - and adolescents in particular have a late-running biological rhythm.

This means insisting on an early start can cause sleep deprivation, which in turn can affect learning and health. A sleep expert made the argument at the

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ONLINE POLL
Do you agree with Prof Mustafizur Rahman, executive director of Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) that the salary hike will not contribute to any significant inflationary pressure?

Yes (37%)
No (63%)
TOTAL VOTES: 62

TODAY'S POLL
Do you agree with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that children must be allowed to enroll in class-I without any written admission test?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING
SEPTEMBER 10
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
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JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 4-45 6-17 8-15
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION