



A foot over-bridge in Sylhet city's busy Court Point intersection is rendered useless by the array of parked auto-rickshaws at its stairs. Homeless people now occupy the bridge, inset, making it their temporary sleeping place.

PHOTO: SHEKH NASIR

## Ensure 5pc quota for the physically challenged

Speakers urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers yesterday demanded five percent quota for physically challenged people in all government jobs, including class-I and class-II.

They also called upon the government to take initiatives to ensure five percent quota in private jobs for physically challenged people.

They made the remarks at a press conference titled "Call to Restore Quota for Physically Challenged People", held by 13 non-government organisations (NGOs) at the Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka.

On October 4, the government issued a circular abolishing all quotas for class-I and class-II jobs in civil service.

The move came in the wake of months-long quota reform demonstrations that saw arrests of leaders of the movement and attacks on students.

Addressing the press conference, Executive Director of Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF) Ashrafun Nahar Misti said, "We're frustrated over the gazette, as the quota for physically challenged people has also been abolished."

"The government has ignored the Rights and Protection of Persons with Disabilities Act-2013 while doing so," she said.

Ashrafun said a physically challenged

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## Elegant Egypt campaign launched in capital

CITY DESK

Embassy of Egypt and goBDgo.com along with campaign partners Standard Chartered Bank, Gulf Air and The Daily Star launched "Elegant Egypt", a campaign to promote Egyptian tourism in Bangladesh, said a press release.

The campaign was jointly announced by Walid Ahmed Shamseldin, Egyptian ambassador to Bangladesh; Naser Ezaz Bijoy, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh; Hussain Ghuloom, Gulf Air's country manager to Bangladesh; Md Tajdin Hassan, head of marketing of The Daily Star; Shehab Mekky,

deputy head of mission, Embassy of Egypt; Jebunnesa Chowdhury, managing director and Shamnoon Muheb Chowdhury, director of Go BD Go Limited, at the Egyptian ambassador's official residence in Dhaka. The organiser of the campaign, Go Bd Go Limited, is offering special tour itineraries to Egypt, with a special focus on youths -- study tours, exchange programs etc.

Airline partner Gulf Air is offering special pricing on air fare while Standard Chartered Bank cardholders can visit Egypt with zero percent interest through EMI. Media partner The Daily Star has also taken initiatives to engage youths through various activities.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

## MJF, DFD to host debate on extremism

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) and Debate for Democracy (DFD) is set to host a debate competition on terrorism, extremism and violence, featuring 16 educational institutions of six districts.

"For the first time, madrasa students will participate alongside college students [in the competition]," DFD Chairman Hasan Ahmed Chowdhury Kiron said at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

With the slogan, "Youths Will Fight Extremism", the competition will start in December under MJF's "Sampreeti" programme.

MJF programme director Shahriar Mannan, DFD adviser Prof Abu Rois and National Debate Federation Chairman Dr Tajul Islam Chowdhury Tuhin also spoke.

College and madrasa students from Dhaka, Munshiganj, Narsingdi, Manikganj, Gazipur and Narayanganj can participate in the competition, by signing up through contacting Debate for Democracy via post or email.

# Bringing the country to a standstill

STAR REPORT

Thousands of commuters suffered as transport workers started a 48-hour countrywide work abstention from early yesterday.

They are demonstrating to press home their eight-point demand, mainly related to bringing amendments to the recently passed Road Transport Act-2018.

Except for government-run BRTC buses and some CNG-run auto-rickshaws, no other public transport plied the streets throughout the day, report our correspondents from different cities.

CHATTOGRAM

Due to the strike, port city commuters had to remain stranded on roads for hours. Many were seen moving on foot to go to their destinations.

Presence of private vehicles was also nominal. Most major roads wore a deserted look throughout the day.

In the morning, some human hauliers and three-wheelers started plying the roads, but transport workers "forcibly" stopped those and took keys from drivers, said witnesses.

Those travelling short distances were lucky to find some auto-rickshaws and rickshaws, but most commuters had to go back home.

This correspondent saw 75-year-old Nasima Begum and his son Rashed looking for a vehicle at Rahattar Pool around 9:00am. She said she came from Patiya upazila for an eye surgery. They managed to find an auto-rickshaw, which agreed to take them to the city at a high fare.

"At Rahattar Pool, some agitators intercepted the vehicle and took the key from the driver," she said.

Tapati Bhattacharjee, a teacher from Raozan upazila, had to return home from Muradpur intersection. "Whenever transport workers go on a strike, people suffer. The government should take strict steps against these illegal activities."

Some commuters had to travel on a pick-up van in Sholashahar Gate 2 area. Shahed Ahmed was one of them. He said they had to almost beg the driver to hitch a ride.

However, Oli Ahmed, general secretary of Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Shramik Federation, Chattogram, said, "We are abstaining from work, not enforcing a strike. We are not forcing anyone to not drive vehicles."

"We have kept CNG auto-rickshaws out of purview of our demonstration because of the Chittagong University admission tests," he added.

RAJSHAH

Hundreds suffered as transport workers staged violent demonstrations on the streets in Rajshahi city yesterday.

Transport workers stopped movement of some buses that went to Rajshahi the previous night, and were returning to their respective districts in the morning.

A group of transport workers began barricading Rajshahi-Dhaka highway at Seroil bus terminal few hours after a bus driver was beaten up at Nawdapara.

The demonstrating workers ransacked a bus and a truck in Seroil area that were carrying passengers, defying the strike.

The demonstrators stopped several private cars, micro-buses and manhandled the drivers, but police later took control, dispersing the protesters.

Several hundreds of people thronged Rajshahi Railway Station to catch a train and most of them had to return, or travel without ticket.

At noon, the railway authorities deployed extra contingent of policemen to control the mob at the station.

Nepal Chandra Das had come to Rajshahi from Nimatpur of Naogaon, on his way to Dhaka.

"I booked two tickets to Dhaka; they have become useless because of the strike. Now tickets are not available at railway counters," he said.

Mojibur Rahman was scheduled to join a family function at Thakurgaon. Finding no bus, he went to the railway station at noon.

"The Chilahati-bound train left Rajshahi in the morning. I have no way to join my family now," he said.

SYLHET

No buses, trucks or other transports were seen on roads and highways in and outside Sylhet city.

Transport workers also stopped private vehicles and motorcycles from plying.

Welding bamboo sticks, the workers gathered in Kadamtali Bus Terminal area, Humayun Rashid Chattar and Kumargaon Bus Terminal.

One Abul Hossain came to the city from Balaganj upazila for his father's treatment at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

He said, "I hired a CNG-run auto-rickshaw but the transport workers forced us to get down in Chandipul area. So, I had to take a rickshaw to go to the hospital, paying a high fare."

Moreover, it had been raining since 2:00am, adding to public sufferings amid the transport strike.

Titu Das, a college teacher in Beanibazar upazila, said he goes to the institution by bus. "Most teachers could not attend due to the strike. So, classes had to be suspended."

On the other hand, a huge crowd was seen at Sylhet Railway Station as many chose trains to reach their destinations.

Selim Ahmed Folik, president of Sarak Paribahan Shramik Federation, Sylhet division chapter, said, "We enforced a peaceful strike. We will continue it until our demand is met. People's suffering is not our concern."

CUMILLA

The countrywide strike brought misery for commuters in Cumilla, as the Dhaka-Chattogram highway, regional highways and connecting regional roads were restricted to buses, trucks, covered vans, trailer vans, CNG and battery-run auto-rickshaws, and even private vehicles like cars and micro-buses.

On the first day of the week, service holders, school and college-goers and other commuters including women, children and senior citizens were stuck on the roads.

"I had to change vehicles a few times at

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**ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED**  
 395-397, TEJGAON I/AREA, DHAKA-1208.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

Essential Drugs Company Limited (EDCL) a 100% state owned Pharmaceutical Industry will recruit the following positions in its Dhaka Office and its on going Project EDCL, Gopalganj.

Sl. No.	Post	Qualification	Experience & Other Qualification
01.	<b>Dy. Manager, Engineering (Civil)</b> (Dhaka Office)	Post Graduate or Graduation degree in 04 (four) years in Civil Engineering. Candidate having Engineering Degree from any public University shall be preferred and MBA with Production Engineering Degree will be an added advantage.	01 Minimum 08 (eight) years experience in Civil construction works of Pharmaceutical / Chemical Industries and relevant field. * Experience may be relaxed depending on academic and Professional record. 02 Conversant with the latest Engineering and technological development in the relevant field. 03 Computer literacy of the candidate is essential. 04 Minimum age limit 35 years.
02.	<b>Engineering Officer (Electrical)</b> (Gopalganj Office)	B.Sc in Electrical & Electronics Engineering from any Public University.	01 Minimum 03 (three) years experience in Repair & Maintenance work in the relevant field. 02 Experience in the Pharmaceutical Industry will be given preference. 03 Computer literacy of the candidate is essential. 04 Minimum age limit 30 years.
03.	<b>Sr. Boiler Man</b> (Dhaka Office)	S.S.C (Science)-A-Grade Certificate with minimum 10 (ten) years experience.	01 Minimum age limit 35 years.
04.	<b>Sr. Boiler Man</b> (Bogra Office)	S.S.C (Science)-A-Grade Certificate with minimum 10 (ten) years experience.	01 Minimum age limit 35 years.

Interested applicants for the said position may send their applications with C.V. and a recent passport size photograph to the General Manager, Administration & HRM, Essential Drugs Company Limited, 395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, on or before **10 November, 2018**.

**General Manager, Administration & HRM**  
 Essential Drugs Company Limited  
 395-397, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208.

The authority reserves the right to reject or accept any or all applications.

**Invitation for Enlistment**

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

1.	Ministry/division	Ministry of Finance/Internal Resources Division.
2.	Agency	National Board of Revenue (NBR).
3.	Procuring entity name	Member (VAT Policy).
4.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
5.	Brief description of the services	NBR has decided to install Electronic Fiscal Device (EFD) to track all transactions made by the retail shop with their customers at Dhaka and other major cities of the country. The device will have the technical and functional features as determined by the NBR and has to remain in operation during the whole working hours. Suppliers will be responsible for installation & maintenance of these devices at the retail outlets (as decided by NBR) which will have connectivity with NBR servers for read time tracking of sales.
6.	Invitation Ref. No.	File No: 08.01.0000.068.08.004.13
7.	Date	25-10-18
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
8.	Procurement method	Limited Tendering Method.
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
9.	Application closing date and time	Every working day up to 02:00pm until further order.
10.	Name & address of the office(s)	Customs, Excise & VAT Commissionerate, Dhaka (South), Dhaka. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, IDEB Bhaban, 160/A, Kakrail, VIP Road, Dhaka.
	-Application form availability	Customs, Excise & VAT Commissionerate, Dhaka (South), Dhaka. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, IDEB Bhaban, 160/A, Kakrail, VIP Road, Dhaka.
	-Receiving application form	Customs, Excise & VAT Commissionerate, Dhaka (South), Dhaka. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, IDEB Bhaban, 160/A, Kakrail, VIP Road, Dhaka.
<b>INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT</b>		
11.	Eligibility of applicant	The minimum eligibility criteria for enlistment are as follows: a. The minimum 05 (five) years of general experience in supply of EFD of similar machine. b. Supplier have to be authorized OAM. c. The required average annual turnover is BDT 100,00,000.00 in the last three years.
12.	Price of application form (Tk)	Tk. 1000/-
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>		
13.	Name of official inviting application	Md. Rezaul Hasan.
14.	Designation of official inviting application	Member (VAT Policy).
15.	Address of official inviting application	National Board of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
16.	Contact details of official inviting application	Tel. No. Fax No. E-mail.
17.	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all applications.	

**Md. Rezaul Hasan**  
 Member (VAT Policy)  
 &  
 Project Director, VAT Online Project

GD-2505