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TRANSPORT STRIKE

Ctg 'cut off' from 9 dists for 10 hours

Thousands suffer as they get stranded at bus stops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattogram's road communication with nine districts was nearly cut off for about 10 hours due to a strike enforced by a group of transport owners, causing daylong suffering to thousands of people yesterday.

The vehicles began plying the roads around 4:00pm, after the authorities assured the transport owners of informing the road transport minister about their demands.

Gono o Panno Paribahan Malik-Oikya Parishad on Wednesday announced that they would go for the strike unless their demands were met.

Some of their demands include cancellation of all fines for expired licence and registration of vehicles; relaxed requirements for drivers' licence; and fitness certificates for older vehicles.

Across the port city, students, office goers and other commuters faced severe transport crisis until the evening. School students stood helplessly near intersections looking for vehicles in the morning.

Hundreds of commuters had to walk to their destinations in the scorching heat throughout the day.

Mallika Debi, mother of a 2nd grader, said she struggles on the way to and from her daughter's school on an ordinary day due to inadequate public transport in the city. But yesterday's strike made it much worse, she added.

Almost no buses left the terminals in Shubhpur, Kadamtali, Alangkar, AK Khan, Bahaddarhat and Cinema Palace.

People who wanted to go to Cox's Bazar, Khagrachhari, Rangamati, Bandarban, Feni, Noakhali, Lakshmipur, Cumilla and Brahmanbaria had to wait for hours for buses.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



The 10-hour long transport strike enforced in greater Chattogram by the Gono o Panno Paribahan Malik Oikya Parishad (transport owners) caused commuters, mostly office-goers and students, to suffer through most of the day. Inset, A mother and child waiting with their bags on the side of a road due to lack of transport. The photos were taken in Chattogram city's Bashir Zaman area yesterday morning.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



NRC IN ASSAM

Every illegal immigrant will be thrown out

Says Indian home boss

NDTV, Guwahati

Indian Home Minister Amit Shah has declared the centre will throw "every single illegal immigrant out" of the country, breaking his silence over the controversial National Register of Citizens (NRC) list that was released on August 31 and declared more than 19 lakh people as foreigners.

Shah also declared the centre had no intention of altering or scrapping Article 371 of the Indian constitution, which grants special privileges to north-eastern states.

"Various people have raised all kinds of questions on the National Register of Citizens (NRC). I want to clearly say that not a single illegal migrant will be allowed to stay in the country by the Government of India. That is our commitment," Amit Shah said at a North Eastern Council meeting in Guwahati yesterday.

Amit Shah is in Assam for a two-day visit - his first since becoming Home Minister - that was preceded by the state government declaring Assam a "Disturbed Area" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act of 1958.

Post the release of the final NRC list, some BJP leaders had expressed disappointment at the number of Bengali Hindus, who constitute 18 per cent

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 9

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-30 6-20 7-45
JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 4-45 6-25 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

'Liberate' Hong Kong

Thousands of protesters call on Trump; police fire teargas as clashes erupt

REUTERS, Hong Kong

Hong Kong police yesterday fired tear gas to disperse protesters in the upmarket Causeway Bay shopping district, after demonstrators had rallied at the US Consulate calling for help in bringing democracy to the Chinese-ruled city.

Police moved on protesters from the Central business district who dispersed to nearby Admiralty, the bar district of Wan Chai and on to Causeway Bay in a now familiar pattern of cat-and-mouse clashes over three months of unrest.

Activists set barricades, smashed windows, started street fires and vandalised the MTR metro station in Central, the smartest district of the former British colony.

Central district, home to banks, jewellery shops and top-brand shopping arcades, was awash in graffiti, broken glass and bricks torn up from pathways. Protesters set fires from cardboard boxes, building barricades with metal fencing.

"We can't leave because there are riot police," said protesters Oscar, 20, in Causeway Bay. "They fired tear gas from the station. We are heading to North Point."

North Point is east of Causeway Bay. Thousands of protesters earlier sang the Star Spangled Banner and called on US President Donald Trump to "liberate" the city. They waved the Stars and Stripes and placards demanding democracy.

"Fight for freedom, stand with Hong Kong," they shouted before handing over petitions at the US Consulate. "Resist Beijing, liberate Hong Kong."

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

DEFAMING A JOURNO Mainul out of jail on bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Former caretaker government adviser Barrister Mainul Hosein yesterday walked out of jail on bail four days after a Dhaka court sent him to jail in a case filed by journalist Masuda Bhatti for defaming her in October last year.

Mainul was released from the Keraniganj Central Jail around 4:00pm after receiving a release order from the court, Senior Jail Super

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Tangled up in trauma

Teen rape victim, her son to hear verdict on their custody today; 'rapists' in jail awaiting trial

MOSTAFA SHABUI, Bogura

Tumpa (not her real name) grew up in her maternal grandfather's house in a small village of Bogura's Dhunat upazila and was a seventh-grade student at a nearby high school.

But her life changed when on April 15 last year her neighbour, Bakul, 24, allegedly went inside her home and then raped and impregnated her, according to a case filed by Tumpa's father.

With a seven-month-old baby in her arms, she fled her father's home in August 2018 in search of a roof over her

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



TO PREVENT CHEATING Teacher makes children wear cardboard boxes

NDTV ONLINE

A school teacher is in hot water for making his students wear cardboard boxes on their heads in a bid to prevent cheating. The bizarre incident took place in a school in the central Mexican state of Tlaxcala, according to Daily Mail.

Furious parents have demanded that ethics and values teacher Luis Juarez Taxis be dismissed from the school for making a classroom full of students wear cardboard boxes during an exam to stop them from copying from each other.

One outraged parents shared a photograph of the scene, which

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

IN MEMORIUM



"No. None of this is contained in a dome- You cannot be contained in shapes. And the paint is still fresh. The earth, air, and water now know you by name, but you will never leave your space here, where your feet had placed you, right beside me."

- Dr. Numair Atif Choudhury

DR. NUMAIR ATIF CHOUDHURY
Author of BABU BANGLADESH!

MAY ALLAH GRANT HIM ETERNAL REST

- MS. LUBNA CHOUDHURY, Mother (Founder Principal & Chairperson, B.I.T)
- MS. ANIKA RAHMAN - Sister
- MS. TALITA CHOUDHURY - Sister
- MS. DURE LIAQUAT ALI KHAN - Aunt
- MR. ARIFE & MR. BUNTY ISLAM - Uncles

KFC

Col. Harland Sanders

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