



No pressure, say people who put others under immense pressure

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PRESSURE COOKER CORRESPONDENT

The people of Chapasthan are becoming more aware of the importance of mental health with each passing day. They now know how distressing it can be for a person to get pressured into doing something. It's just that they don't care. They found out that as long as you say “no pressure”, it's all good in the hood. For example, university faculty members, like Kamrul Hossain Chapon, a psychology professor at Brick University, are great at understanding that their students might have a mental breakdown at any moment. “I know you all are going through a tough time. I just want you to know that you don't have to take too much pressure,” the professor told his students a week ago. “Anyways, I'm giving you six assignments, which you have to finish by this week. If you

don't do them, I'm going to write an 'F' on your forehead.” Corporations are also looking out for their workers with the “no pressure” mantra. Recently, Samira, who works at one of the 4,987 digital agencies, had asked for a three-day leave. This is how the conversation with her boss went. “Oh my boss, my inspiration, my idol, will you please show your mercy and allow me to leave your wonderful work premises for three days? Lest I crumble under pressure,” Samira said, weirdly. “Look Samira, taking a leave is your right. You may choose to do so whenever you feel like,” said Marzuk Hasan Lapon, her boss. “But remember, these very choices dictate your fate. “Please take the leave if you want to. The company policy totally supports this, as

we understand how essential it is to give our employees some breathing space,” he continued. “We are, however, short-staffed, and the whole business might crumble, if you do follow through with your plan. But hey, you have the agency to make that decision, so no pressure.” Samira finally decided to not take the leave, for the betterment of the company. “This was totally my decision, and no one coerced me into it. I love my boss!” she said. Meanwhile, Chapasthan Infographics Minister Mainul Hosen Babon held a press conference yesterday and said journalists have the full freedom to publish whatever they want. “Go ahead, do whatever you want. We'll take care of the rest, no pressure,” he said. When asked what he meant by “taking care of the rest”, he replied, “Don't think too much, or I'll make you disappear.”

Employees demand Work-From-Road permission



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

MAHBUB ALAM MUNNA

Just as the Work-From-Home saga is dying down, Chapasthan employees have come up with a new demand – Work-From-Road. They think this could not only reduce the operation cost of organisations but it could also reduce the sufferings of people from the heavy traffic the capital offers them every day. “Yesterday I left home for my office at 8:00am, but I reached my office at 6:00pm when everyone was rushing back home. I lost all my work hours in the traffic jam. So, I applied to my boss for permission to work from the road.” As people, their lives, cars, and minds got stuck in the web of Dhoka traffic, they had to find a way to cope with the new situation and the advent of

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the novel Work-From-Road strategy is a sign that the nation is becoming more and more developed with every red light turning green, and not a single car moving. However, as news went viral that Chapasthan may introduce Work-From-Road, students demanded the same. A female student from Very Hard to Spell Noon School & College said, “The heavy traffic caused me to reach school in the afternoon when classes were already dismissed. If we aren't allowed to join class from the road, classes may have to continue without a single student. It's not students' demand, it's the demand of time.” Meanwhile, the director of “Mad Max: Fury Road” is planning to shoot the sequel on the streets of Dhoka as he found only dust here.

Zap potbellies with potholes

HASAN MEER

Getting tired of your potbelly? If you're like me – a true blue Chapasthani, then you know how hard it is to find time for anything. By the time you wake up, you're already late from last night's extra work that you had to put in to meet the deadline. Then there is that simple thing known as jam,

which you never liked on toast, let alone the road. By the time the day starts, you're exhausted, stressed and famished. So, off you go for some food and those greasy, calorific concoctions seem to linger forever in your potbelly. Now, some wear it proudly, some try to conceal it while most are determined to do something about it. So can anything be done? Of course! You can join the gym. But where's the time or money?

I have the solution for you. Why worry so much when the sidewalks and streets of our city are here to help us out? Thanks to the relentless efforts of the city corporations and other government bodies, most of the roads are being dug up. If not that, the asphalt has probably vanished from the road next to your home, making rooms for potholes, craters and cracks. Just hop on a rickshaw next time you step outside. The constant bumping, jumping and moving forward and backward -- it's the best exercise you can have in between your busy schedule.

The more your rickshaw hits the potholes, the more your potbelly gets the much needed workout. If you happen to discard the bumpy ride and decide to walk, that's okay too. The constant jumping on and off the sidewalks, sidestepping, pushing and shoving to avoid vendors, bikers, people, garbage and who knows what and on top of that, broken

trails will surely do the job for you. But wait, what if it rains? Then you're in for a treat! You get to follow all the above mentioned steps and on top of that can add sprinting as a bonus.

Contact the writer at potbuster@gmail.com for further details on how to make potholes your friend.



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN