



Army personnel laying razor wires across the road in Bijoy Sarani intersection on the first day of countrywide curfew yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Passengers stuck as flights grounded

11 int’l flights cancelled as global IT outage hits Dhaka airport

RASHIDUL HASAN and PORIMOL PALMA

Hundreds of passengers were stranded at the Dhaka airport yesterday after flights were grounded due to a glitch in a cyber security software widely used by airlines.

Some flights were also cancelled due to a low turnout of passengers.

Many of them could not reach the airport amid the ongoing countrywide violence.

Sources at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport said 11 international flights were either delayed or cancelled in the last 24 hours till 6:00pm

yesterday.

Many foreign airlines including, Saudia, Air Arabia, and Emirates cancelled the flights, said sources.

Saudi-bound passenger Rimon Mia went through a great ordeal to reach Dhaka from Barishal amid road blockades, lack of transportation, and violence on the streets.

However, upon reaching the airport, he was told that his flight was cancelled.

“My flight was scheduled for takeoff at 6:00am today (yesterday). I was not informed about the cancellation. No one at the airport is telling me when is the next flight,” he said.

“I don’t know what to do now as my visa expires in two days,” he said.

He added that he did not even have a place to stay in Dhaka as he had no relatives here in the capital.

Similarly, Salamat Sheikh, a Dubai-bound passenger, reached Dhaka from Cumilla by renting a car for Tk 10,000. After entering the airport, he was informed that his flight was cancelled.

Many other passengers shared similar ordeals.

“In the current situation, how will I go outside [out of the airport]? Who will give us security?” asked one Saudi-bound passenger, Mohammad

Abir, who came from Narayanganj.

Meanwhile, many passengers failed to reach the airport on time due to the road and rail blockades.

Twelve Bangladeshi migrants who were supposed to fly to Brunei at 2:00am on Friday found out that there flight was cancelled due to a passenger shortage.

“We arranged accommodation for the 12 Bangladeshi migrants,” an official at the airport said.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Muhammad Faruk Khan, however, said operations at the Dhaka airport were going on smoothly without any obstructions.

Air tickets would be counted as curfew pass for the passengers going to airports, the minister added.

Faruk said stern actions will be taken if any airlines increase fares taking advantage of the current situation.

On Friday, an enormous IT outage hit hard banks, grocery stores, TV networks, airlines and even emergency services across the world causing suffering to millions.

The problem occurred when cybersecurity firm CrowdStrike was conducting a software update of its popular product Falcon Cybersecurity Software, said its CEO.

More trouble for Biden

More Democrats call on US president to drop out of presidential race

CNN ONLINE

The number of Democratic senators urging US President Joe Biden to drop out of the 2024 election race, doubled on Friday from two to four.

Senators Martin Hymech and Shyrid Brown joined the team who are calling for Biden to quit the race.

“In part, I agree with many who reached out to me. I think the President should end his campaign,” Brown said in a statement on Friday evening.

Also on Friday, at least 10 more Democrats in the US House of Representatives called on Biden to step aside. They are among more than 30 House Democrats who publicly said that they want Biden replaced.

However, Biden put a deaf ear on the call and said he would continue his campaign from next week.

White House officials believe former House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi backed Representative Adam Schiff’s call for Biden to step aside in the US presidential race and she has told Biden he cannot win the November 5 election, a top White House source with direct knowledge of the matter said.

Schiff said in a statement on Wednesday that he has “serious concerns” about whether Biden can defeat Republican challenger Donald Trump, the first Democrat to come out after the Saturday assassination attempt against the former president. Biden’s campaign had believed that the shooting, in which Trump sustained a



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wound to the right ear, had tamped down calls for him to step aside in the 2024 race before Schiff’s statement.

Meanwhile, in the Republican Convention in Milwaukee on Friday evening, Trump gave a 90-minute speech amid rousing applause. “The vision in our society must be healed. I am running to be the President to all of the Americans not half of the Americans,” Trump said.

“I am not supposed to be here tonight. I raised my right hand and started shouting ‘Fight, Fight, Fight,’ he said referring to the assassination attempt.

He also told the audience “drill baby drill, close our border”.

The convention has put Republican unity on display, in contrast to the divisions roiling Democrats. Trump’s former top rivals for the nomination, former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, offered strong endorsements of his candidacy despite their past criticisms.



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Two shopkeepers sit idly in front of their closed shop in Kataban yesterday morning. Due to the ongoing curfew, most of the shops remained closed in the capital.

Family’s struggle

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Banasree as Rab helicopters patrolled over the area and fired tear shells and sound grenades on the ground.

“Due to his financial situation, Jashim was getting increasingly restless. He left his home around evening,” said Ruma.

Before leaving, he shared peanuts with me and other neighbours, and left with a smile.

“I will be back soon,”

Ruma quoted Jashim as saying.

“Never have we thought that he will return in white cloth, lying in a poll of blood,” Ruma cried.

Yesterday morning, this newspaper contacted Kala Miah again. He said they managed to reach Brahmanbaria amid the curfew.

Some of the money was spent at the funeral, while the remaining were given to his family members.

No let up in price hike

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hours from noon, said its chief executive Murtoza Zaman.

He said the decision was taken due to supply chain disruption, alongside several of their staffers being hurt in the unrest.

The unrest has also affected the supply chain of country’s biggest commodity importers and processors.

Bishawjit Saha, head of corporate affairs of City Group, said, “We couldn’t supply any

product yesterday due to unavailability of drivers.”

Taslim Shahriar, deputy general manager at Meghna Group, said they could resume limited scale delivery of goods yesterday following a hiatus of two days.

Safiul Atahar Taslim, finance director at Tk group, said they are trying hard to keep the supply of goods as usual.

Since Wednesday, their supply dropped 30 percent, he added.

arresting him. I clearly saw those who picked up my husband wearing Rab, DB, and police uniforms,” she said, demanding the whereabouts and unconditional release of her husband.

Condemning the arrests, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir demanded the immediate release of the BNP leaders and Nur.

Nur, convener of the Gono Odhikar Parishad, alleged that law enforcement agencies picked him up from his Utara residence in the early hours of yesterday.

Maria Nur, wife of Nur, told journalists that law enforcers entered their house breaking the front door.

“I looked for my husband at DB office. But they denied

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিগত ০১/০৭/২০২৪ খ্রিঃ তারিখে “দৈনিক বাংলাদেশ প্রতিদিন” ও “দ্যা ডেইলী স্টার” পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি অনুযায়ী বারডেম জেনারেল হাসপাতালের অর্ন্তগত ঢাকার বাসাবোতে বারডেম নার্সিং কলেজ, নার্সিং হোস্টেল এবং ১০০ বেডের হাসপাতাল নির্মানের জন্য স্থাপত্য নকশা প্রনয়ন, স্ট্রাকচারাল ডিজাইন, প্রাক্কলন এবং অন্যান্য আনুষঙ্গিক ডকুমেন্ট প্রস্তুতের জন্য কারিগরি ও আর্থিক প্রস্তাব জমাদানের তারিখ ২১ জুলাই এর পরিবর্তে বর্ধিত করণ করে ২৮ জুলাই ২০২৪ খ্রিঃ তারিখ দিন ধার্য করা হলো। ইতিপূর্বে প্রকাশিত অন্যান্য শর্ত অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে।

মহাপরিচালক
বারডেম জেনারেল হাসপাতাল

PRAYER TIMING

JULY 21

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-15	12-45	5-00	6-54	8-15
JAMAAT 4-50	1-15	5-15	6-58	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Rizvi, Nazrul

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early hours of yesterday while police arrested Rizvi in front of Jatiya Press Club premises on Friday noon.

Meanwhile, DB arrested another BNP Standing Committee Member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury from his Banani residence around 10:00pm yesterday.

Besides, Family members of Nurul Haque

Nur, convener of the Gono Odhikar Parishad, alleged that law enforcement agencies picked him up from his Utara residence in the early hours of yesterday.

Maria Nur, wife of Nur, told journalists that law enforcers entered their house breaking the front door.

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World Food Programme

বিশ্ব খাদ্য কর্মসূচী

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

Call for Expressions of Interest For contracting NGOs for WFP’s 2025-2026 Partnership cycle (from January 2025 to end 2025/26) To implement the Humanitarian Assistance Programme in Bangladesh to Enhance Food Security, Nutrition and Resilience

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) invites experienced local/national/international NGOs to submit an Expression of Interest for the implementation of “Humanitarian assistance programmes to enhance food security, nutrition and resilience.”

About the Programme:
Under the Country Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026), WFP will support Bangladesh on its path to ending hunger and reducing malnutrition by 2030 through four strategic outcomes (SO):

- **SO1:** Populations affected by crisis in Bangladesh are able to meet basic food, nutrition and other essential needs during and after crises.
- **SO2:** The nutrition needs of women, children, and vulnerable groups in Bangladesh are met through national institutions that have enhanced capacities to design and implement gender- and nutrition-sensitive social safety net programmes by 2026.
- **SO3:** Vulnerable communities in Bangladesh are more resilient to shocks and natural disasters owing to enhanced national disaster management capacity and flexible nutrition- and gender-sensitive social safety net programmes by 2026.
- **SO4:** Vulnerable crisis-affected populations in Bangladesh benefit from enhanced coordination and improved common services during and after crises.

WFP, through its partners, currently provides humanitarian assistance to approximately 1.2 million people in Bangladesh. In collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), other UN agencies, and NGOs, WFP is also working in various sectors namely Food Security, Nutrition, Emergency response and Common Services. In the most vulnerable Bangladeshi communities and the camps, WFP will continue to: i) provide humanitarian food assistance to the Rohingya population every month through E-vouchers; ii) build the resilience of refugees and local communities through skills development, livelihoods, market linkages, food assistance for assets and volunteer services; iii) support schools and learning centres with school feeding and capacity building for relevant national institutions; iv) implementation of an integrated package of malnutrition prevention and treatment interventions and nutrition services targeting children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women; v) implement safety-net programmes; vi) implement disaster risk preparedness and response to protect the food security of vulnerable population; vii) implement Food and Nutrition Security Programme in Urban areas; viii) provide lifesaving food assistance during Emergency Response to any disaster in any geographical location in Bangladesh (through the provision of a standby emergency roster).

Conditions for entry:
The organization must have:

- A fully filled-in profile in the UN Partner Portal (UNPP)
- Legal status (valid registration certificate with NGO Affairs Bureau)
- Experience in the geographic area for which it applies
- Experience in implementing food, nutrition, education (specifically school feeding), cash-based transfers and/or market-based interventions
- Experience in community mobilization and resilience building activities
- Experience in emergency preparedness and response
- Organization’s strategic objectives that are aligned with WFP’s strategic priorities; SO1 to SO4 mentioned above
- Adequate resource capacity (financial human resources and procurement)
- Relevant sector experience (Food, Nutrition, Logistics and Common Services)
- Strong project management experience
- Adequate financial capacity to conduct the required activities supported by an audited financial statement
- Strong relationships with local administration and relevant local and regional institutions

Application Process:
Interested parties are advised to monitor the UN Partner Portal (<https://www.unpartnerportal.org/dashboard>) for opportunities published for Bangladesh (Calls for Expressions of Interest – CFEI / Request for Proposal – RFP – under Partnership opportunities) during the period between July and September 2024. Please note, unlike previous years, that these partnership opportunities require a full proposal from the outset.

All interested local/national/international NGOs with a valid registration certificate from the NGO Affairs Bureau must ensure that their Organizational Profile on the Portal is fully updated with all the latest information and documents, and they must actively apply to the WFP partnership opportunity with a full proposal. Applications must be submitted through the UN partner portal within the timeframes given. A detailed guideline for creating an organizational profile in UN Partner Portal is available at <https://supportcsco.unpartnerportal.org/hc/en-us/sections/360000940774>. Please note that there are no fees for applications and that applying is free of charge.

In case interested NGO’s encounter any technical difficulties with UNPP, please contact bangladesh.flatataskforce@wfp.org.