

Dhaka Nagar Paribahan begins operations

- A Monitor Desk Report

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Dhaka: To streamline the capital's public transport system, Dhaka Nagar Paribahan, the new bus route rationalisation initiative, commenced its pilot operation on December 26.

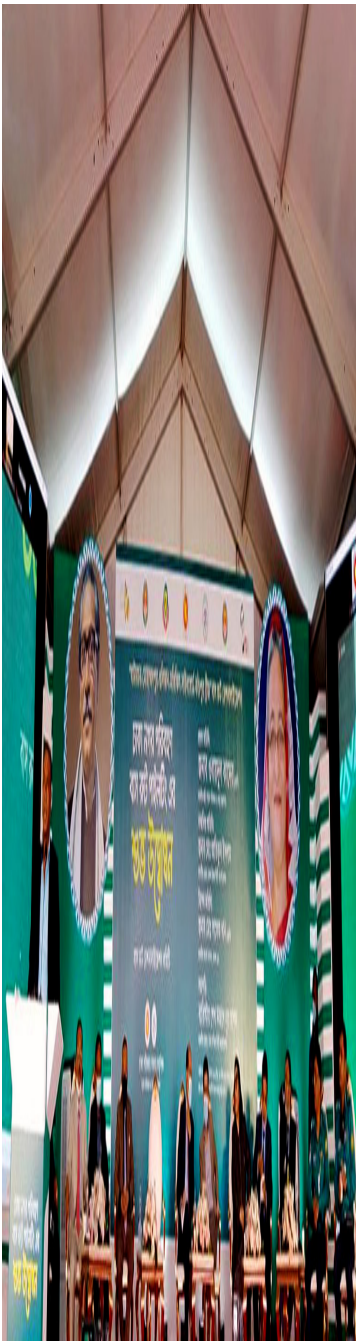
Obaidul Quader, Minister for Road Transport and Bridges, inaugurated the pilot operation of the bus franchise system virtually at 11:30 am at Mohammadpur BRTC Counter.

Fazle Noor Taposh, Mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and Atiqul Islam, Mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) were also present on the occasion.

"All kinds of cooperation will be provided (from ministry) to build an orderly and modern public transport system," said Qader in his inaugural speech.

Initially, Dhaka Nagar Paribahan will operate 50 buses on a 21 km route from Ghatarchar to Kanchpur. The 21 km route covers Bosila, Mohammadpur, Elephant Road, Shahbagh, Paltan and Motijheel.

The buses are using an e-ticketing system while the bus drivers have special uniforms.



The inauguration ceremony of Dhaka Nagar Paribahan bus service attended by high dignitaries on December 26 at Mohammadpur BRTC Counter

Earlier, Fazle Noor Taposh, Mayor of DSCC on December 19 after the 20th meeting of the Bus Route Rationalisation Committee said, "A total of 100 buses have been approved to operate on the route from Ghatarchar to Motijheel via Kanchpur."

Taposh also warned that no unauthorised buses will be allowed to operate in the capital metropolis.

Of the 50 buses ready to run from December 26, 30 are BRTC double-decker buses while 20 buses belong to Trans Silva.

Taposh said, after scrutiny, they selected four out of eight transport companies who sought approval to run buses on the route. He added that among private transport companies, 60 buses of Jahan Enterprise and five buses of HR transport secured approval.

The bus fare on the route will be BDT 2.15 per km. There will be 40 passenger sheds and 16

bus bays on the route.