

Hartal observed in Chittagong

Chittagong Office

CHITTAGONG, Nov. 30:—A dawn to dusk haral was observed in the port city today.

Islami Chhatra Shibir, Chittagong City Unit called this day-long hartal to press home their demands which include permission to participate in the examination to nine Shibir activists of the Chittagong Polytechnic Institute, freeing the Polytechnic Campus from the armed cadres of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal etc.

The port city came to a halt during the hartal period. All kinds of vehicles stayed off the roads but the rickshwas more or less plied on the city roads as usual. Inter district bus services to and from Chittagong city did not ply today. But the trains and Bangladesh Biman flights to and from Chittagong operated uninterrupted.

The hartal affected the cargo handling of Chittagong port for the first half of the day.

But the production in mills and industries was not affected despite the hartal call. The hartal appeared to have affected the partial transaction of the commercial banks. Attendance in both the private and public offices were relatively thin. The day however, passed off peacefully. Chhatra Shibir held a rally at
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Andarkilla Square to make today's hartal a success. The rally was addressed among others by Shah Alam, Md. Rezaul Karim, Md. Sahinul Alam and others.

Meanwhile, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, City, North, South and University Units in a joint press statement strongly condemned the hartal programme of Chhatra Shibir. The JCD leaders pointed out that 20 students including nine of Shibir and 13 of JCD activists of the Chittagong Polytechnic Institute were debarred from participating in the ensuing examination as per the decisions of the Technical Board due to their poor attendance in the classes. They thanked the people for their resentment of today's hartal.

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