

## Students' demo stops Dhaka

*Commuters suffer as private  
university students take to  
streets, causing traffic chaos*

STAR REPORT

Thousands of private university students took to the streets and blocked traffic in the capital and elsewhere yesterday to press home their demand for lifting the 7.5 percent VAT imposed on their "tuition fees" in the current budget.

City dwellers suffered immensely as thousands of students barricaded key points in Rampura, Mohakhali, Baridhara, Dhanmondi and other areas for over six hours since around 10:00am, causing heavy traffic congestion that spilled over to nearby roads and allies.

Similar demonstrations were held in Chittagong and Sylhet.

The protest under the banner of "No VAT on Education" came a day after police opened fire on an anti-VAT demonstration of East West University students in Rampura. At least 35 people, including several students of the university, were injured in the shooting.

The government slapped 7.5 percent VAT on private

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1