

Dear Valued Partner(s),

In addition to the ongoing tough backlog at DAC airport, the transport owners and workers of Bangladesh called an indefinite strike on 7th OCT all around the country. The strike pressed for amendments to the Road Transport Act 2018 passed by parliament on 19th SEP.

In Dhaka, transport workers held processions at different points of the city, obstructed vehicles from plying and even harassed transport workers forcing them to join the strike. Since morning transport workers took position at Tongi Truck Station, Mill gate, Tongi Station, Bata Gate, Kamar Para Bridge adjacent intersection while they held some processions and several covered vans and trucks stranded at the terminals as well as road side. Leaders of Bangladesh Goods Transport Owners and Workers Unity Council, on 6th OCT in a meeting held at Tejgaon truck terminal in the capital announced the countrywide strike. They demand:

1. No case to be filed for road accident under section 302 of Penal Code.
2. Cancellation of BDT. 5 lakhs fine.
3. Making all road accident-related cases bailable.
4. The demands included release of all arrested transport owners and workers.
5. Implementing easy conditions for getting heavy driving licenses and an end to police harassment on the drivers.

Our warehouse area is highly affected on this situation. Our w/h team tried to move some goods by our own vehicle from the facility on last evening around 8:30 PM but the protesters broke the windshield of those vehicles. Hence, the warehouse team is unable to move the loaded trucks to airport since last 48 hrs resulting missing of intended departures today and more backlog to be increased !

Contingency Plans undertaken by BIL:

- W/H team will use off-peak time like mid night while protestors will not be present at the road side area.
- Airport team is to make swift entry of trucks while they report to airport and make further scanning, loading of shipments for the intended departures.

We are closely monitoring the situation and taking steps to ensure departures of all our cargo as fast as possible.

Many thanks,
Raycole Team