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3,000 buses to hit city streets to ease traffic congestion: Annisul  
Sun Online Desk



As part of its move to ease traffic congestion, the government is going to introduce 3,000 new comfortable buses on different routes in the capital city through some private operators. “We’ve already reached an understanding with five companies to introduce 3,000 new comfortable buses in the city. We’ve also got permission from the Prime Minister for it,” said Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Annisul Huq. He came up with the disclosure while speaking at a seminar titled ‘Traffic Congestion in Dhaka City: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward’ at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB). Civil Engineering Division of the IEB arranged the programme, UNB reports. The DNCC mayor said the Bangladesh Bank has also approved in principle their proposal to provide loan to the companies that will procure the new buses. Mentioning that terminals are also important alongside introducing new buses, Annisul said they have selected Sayedabad and also some other areas in DNCC to set up new terminals. “We’ll be able to complete this work in four years. We hope traffic jam in the city will be eased to some extent if we can properly implement the plans.” He said DNCC is installing 1200 strong CCTV cameras at different points to monitor and control traffic. Public Works Minister Engineer Mosharraf Hossain suggested the two mayors to stop any type of parking on the city streets to reduce traffic congestion. “If the vehicles are kept parked on the streets, those should be towed away.” The minister also recommended banning rickshaws on the city streets immediately to ease traffic jam. “At least plying of unauthorised rickshaws should be stopped right now to improve traffic.” He also focused on keeping footpaths clean to enable city dwellers to use those smoothly. Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sayeed Khokon said traffic condition in the city cannot be improved without controlling the influx of people to it from across the country. He said decentralisation of administration will help significantly reduce traffic congestion in the city. “Some ministries can be shifted to big cities like Chittagong.”

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