

PADMA BRIDGE RAIL LINK PROJECT IS BEING BUILT WITH BSRM

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT **BSRM** building a safer nation

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS RECOGNIZES

World's Largest VRM

SHAH CEMENT

Bill shocks all around

Dhaka dwellers get weird power bills as they get those based on estimates

HELEMUL ALAM

When Tariqul Islam, a resident of the capital's Kathalbagan area, received the copy of his apartment's electricity bill for March, he was caught off guard.

The amount shown on the bill issued by Dhaka Electricity Supply Company (DPDC) was more than double the usual bill, he said.

"I have received an electricity bill of Tk 4,200 for March as opposed to the average billing of Tk 1,500-2,000," said Tariqul, a businessman who has been struggling to maintain his family for the last two months as his income has dropped to almost zero due to the shutdown.

He said the same happened with the bill for the building's common utilities, including the lift, which went up to Tk 30,000 from the usual billing of Tk 10,000-11,000.

Most of the residents of the area are facing the same problem, he added.

Shajahan Sirazi, a resident of Malibagh, also faced a similar problem. His electricity bill for April stood at Tk2,596, up from the regular billing of around 1,500.

He said his family did not even use air conditioners during this period fearing Covid-19 infection.

"It is unacceptable and the authorities concerned should take immediate steps," said Sajahan, a private job holder.

Many Dhaka dwellers are facing the same problem in recent times.

DPDC Executive Director Harun-or-Rashid said the bills

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



A farmer drying paddy in Hasara area by the Dhaka-Mawa highway before taking the produce to a rice mill for processing yesterday morning. Rice growers saw a bumper yield this year.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

COVID-19 ANTIBIOTICS Overuse will cause more deaths: WHO

AFP, Geneva

Increased antibiotics use in combating the Covid-19 pandemic will strengthen bacterial resistance and ultimately lead to more deaths during the crisis and beyond, the World Health Organization said Monday.

WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said a "worrying number" of bacterial infections were becoming increasingly resistant to the medicines traditionally used to treat them.

The UN health agency said it was concerned that the inappropriate use of antibiotics during the coronavirus crisis would further fuel the trend.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has led to an increased use of antibiotics, which ultimately will lead to higher bacterial resistance rates that will impact the burden of disease and deaths during the pandemic and beyond," Tedros told a virtual press conference

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Biman loses out in prices wars

Cancels all 12 flights as people go for pvt carriers

RASHIDUL HASAN

Biman Bangladesh Airlines cancelled all its domestic flights due to lack of passengers yesterday, a day after the government reopened public transport amid escalation of Covid-19 cases.

Tahera Khandaker, deputy general manager (public relations) of Biman, told The Daily Star said, "We were forced to cancel all our 12 flights [way] scheduled for today [yesterday] as number of passengers were very low."

The maiden flight of Biman on Dhaka-Saidpur route took off on Monday with only four passengers on board while the return flight had 20 passengers, said Tahera.

According to sources the price difference between the national flag carrier and private operators was one of the main reasons behind the passenger shortage.

Biman was charging Tk 7,000 as starting price for tickets while two private airlines -- US-Bangla and Novoair -- charged Tk 3,000 and Tk 3,200 for the same ticket.

That is why people are moving to the two private operators for air travel, said the sources.

Apart from Biman, US-Bangla Airlines

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Bangladesh will join NAM



Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman offers his prayers at the grave of Manik Miah on May 31, 1972.

June 3, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

MALAYSIAN PM SUPPORTS BANGLADESH'S NAM CANDIDACY

Bangladesh will participate in the upcoming Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) conference in Georgetown, Guyana, informs Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad after a meeting with Malaysian Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak today. The Malaysian premier assures that his country will support Bangladesh's candidacy in NAM. Abdus Samad Azad hands over a letter from Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to the Malaysian prime minister. Bangladesh is planning to import rice, rubber and house-building materials from Malaysia.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



RAKHINE GENOCIDE Argentinean court closer to probe Suu Kyi

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

An Argentinean court has moved one step closer to opening a historic investigation against Myanmar's military and civilian leadership over the genocide against the Rohingya people, the Burmese Rohingya Organisation UK (BROUK) said.

The court in Buenos Aires on Friday overturned a previous decision not to pursue a case against State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and senior officers in the Myanmar military.

The court has instead requested now more information from the International Criminal Court (ICC) to ensure that a case in Argentina would not duplicate other justice efforts, BROUK said in a statement yesterday.

On 13 November 2019, BROUK petitioned

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Wayward whale takes break in Montreal



AFP, Montreal

A young humpback whale that swam up one of Canada's major rivers and has been exploring the waters off Montreal for a few days was likely led astray while on a hunting trip, authorities have said.

Since Saturday, the giant creature has been swimming in the St Lawrence river against the backdrop of the Montreal skyline -- hundreds of kilometres (miles) from the waters it usually calls home.

The humpback is likely to be the same creature as that seen a few days ago further downstream near Quebec City, said Marie-Eve Muller of the Quebec marine mammal emergency network (RQUIMM).

Humpback whales live near both the Arctic and Antarctic, with adults growing up to 17 metres (55

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

ROHINGYA CAMP First refugee dies from Covid-19

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A Rohingya man has died from Covid-19 in Cox's Bazar's Ukhiya upazila.

He is the first Rohingya person who died from coronavirus infections, Abu Toha MR Bhuiyan, chief health coordinator of the refugee relief and repatriation commissioner's office in Cox's Bazar, said yesterday.

The 71-year-old breathed his last at the isolation

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



PRAYER TIMING JUNE 3

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-05	12-45	5-00	6-45	8-15
JAMAAT 4-40	1-15	5-15	6-50	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

UNITED HOSPITAL FIRE HC asks for probe reports

May consider ordering compensation for victims' families

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday sought separate probe reports -- from four authorities concerned -- on the deadly fire at the corona isolation unit in United Hospital that killed five patients on May 27.

The authorities of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk), Fire Service and Civil Defence, Criminal Investigation Department of Police and United Hospital authorities were ordered to submit their respective probe reports to the court by June 14.

The court said it may consider passing an order for compensation to the victims' families if they move any petition.

The HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim came up with the order following a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



Discarded personal protective equipment lying on the ground near DMCH corona-isolation unit, posing risk of further spread of the deadly virus. Inset, gloves, masks and other waste floating in the murky water of the fountain there. Unmindful dumping of these hazardous materials on the premises of the country's premier hospital has been going on for over a month now.

PHOTO: RASHED SUMON

Europe emerges from dark days

LatAm struggles to contain virus; Indonesia cancels hajj pilgrimage

AFP, Paris

The French revelled in a return to cafe terraces yesterday as Europe emerges from its darkest days of the coronavirus pandemic, which has shifted its centre to Latin America where pressure is mounting on fragile healthcare systems.

The virus has claimed more than 375,000 lives in its more than six-month tear around the globe, upending

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সকল জীবন বিমা গ্রাহকদের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, জীবন বিমা পলিসি চালু থাকাকালীন পলিসিতে অবরিত মৃত্যু সুবিধা অর্থাৎ সুবিধা কলম থাকবে। বিশ্বাসী এখন কভিড-১৯ যার আক্রমণ এবং ইতোমধ্যে কয়েক লক্ষ মানুষ করোনা সংক্রমণে মৃত্যুবরণ করেছেন। কভিড-১৯ মহামারীতে কোনো জীবন বিমা গ্রাহকের মৃত্যু হলে বিমা দাবী পাওয়া যাবে না মর্মে জনমনে একটা বিভ্রান্তি রয়েছে। তাই বাংলাদেশের সকল বেসরকারী জীবন বিমা কোম্পানীর পক্ষ থেকে বাংলাদেশ ইন্স্যুরেন্স এসোসিয়েশন সকল জীবন বিমা গ্রাহকের সময় অবশ্যই অন্য জায়গায় যে, করোনা সংক্রমণে কোনো গ্রাহকের মৃত্যু হলে বৈধ ও গ্রহণযোগ্য প্রমাণের দাবিদ সাপেক্ষে আর্থিক মৃত্যুর ন্যায় সংশ্লিষ্ট বিমাকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বিমা দাবী পরিশোধ করবে। বাংলাদেশ ইন্স্যুরেন্স এসোসিয়েশন আশা করে এই বিভ্রান্তি প্রকাশের পর কভিড-১৯ এ অসমর্থ হয়ে মৃত্যুর ফেরে দাবী পরিশোধে উত্তম বিচারিত অবদান হবে ও দাবী নিষ্পত্তিতে বাধা থাকবে না।

শেখ কবির হোসেন
প্রেসিডেন্ট

BIA বাংলাদেশ ইন্স্যুরেন্স এসোসিয়েশন
হোসেন টাওয়ার (১০ম তলা), ১৯৬, নয়া পল্টন, ঢাকা-১০০০।