



A hapless Saudi expatriate waits to get a ticket at Saudia Airline's booth in front of Sonargaon Hotel in the capital yesterday. It's been a rough week for the expat workers. Back home due to the coronavirus, they were facing expiry of their visa and iqama (residency permits), as flights were scarce. While Saudi authorities eventually permitted Biman to operate flights and agreed to extend the workers' visa and iqama, thousands are still coming to the ticket sales point every day, awaiting their turn to reissue their return tickets.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

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26 dope test-positive cops being dismissed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Shafiqul Islam yesterday said they started the process of dismissing the police personnel -- found positive in dope tests.

"We have conducted dope test on suspected police members. Of them, 26 were found to be positive," he said while inaugurating an office of the newly formed Mirpur Traffic Division.

The police personnel include a traffic sergeant, four sub-inspectors, three assistant sub-inspectors, a nayek and 17 constables.

The commissioner said they believe this action will send a clear message to the rest that none will be spared for involvement in drugs.

"Police members who are involved in drugs or are collaborating with drug dealers are being arrested in cases," he said, adding that many already quit drugs and returned to the right path.

Walid Hossain, deputy commissioner (media), said the 26 police personnel are from DMP's different units.

Total number of them who underwent dope tests could not be known immediately but officials concerned said the process will continue.

SAVAR SCHOOLGIRL MURDER

Smoke and mirrors surrounding arrest of two, alongside Mizan

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Savar*

Savar police in a drive on Friday night arrested Mizanur Rahman (20), who allegedly stabbed Savar schoolgirl Nila Roy to death on Sunday night.

However, there were contradicting remarks about the number of arrestees in a drive at Savar's Rajfulbaria area.

Maruf Hashan Sardar, SP of Dhaka told reporters at Savar Model Police Station yesterday noon that around 10pm on Friday, prime accused of Nila murder case Mizanur Rahman was arrested from a house owned by one Parvez.

Based on information revealed by Mizan, they also recovered the knife used for killing Nila, said the SP, adding that he was sent to Dhaka court with police seeking 10-day remand.

A Dhaka court placed Mizan on seven-day remand in connection with the case.

However, earlier on Friday night, Saiful Islam, inspector (investigation) of Savar Police Station told reporters that they arrested Mizan and his two associates -- Sakib and Joy -- from a house at Savar 's Rajfulbaria area, bringing the number of arrestees in the case to six. One Selim Palowan and Mizan's parents had been arrested earlier in the case.

His statement was broadcast in at least two TV channels, as well as published online on several news web sites including a leading newspaper.

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GANG-RAPE IN KHAGRACHHARI

Victim's mother identifies 3 rapists

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Khagrachhari*

The mother of the woman who was gang-raped in Khagrachhari on Thursday identified three rapists at the Sadar Police Station yesterday.

Mohammad Abdul Aziz, superintendent of Khagrachhari police, said, "The arrestees primarily admitted that they raped the Chakma woman and looted valuables from

their house."

The SP, however, did not disclose the number of the arrestees. He said all are from different parts of the district.

Meanwhile, the victim's mother said she remembered names of two perpetrators -- Shahin and Faruq. They were calling out each other's names that night, she said.

"Both are around 22 years old.

Faruq beat me mercilessly," the mother said.

"The nine rapists with sharp weapons broke into my house around 2am on Thursday, tied me and my husband up and raped my daughter," she said.

"It was a brutal incident. We will disclose identities of the rapists in the

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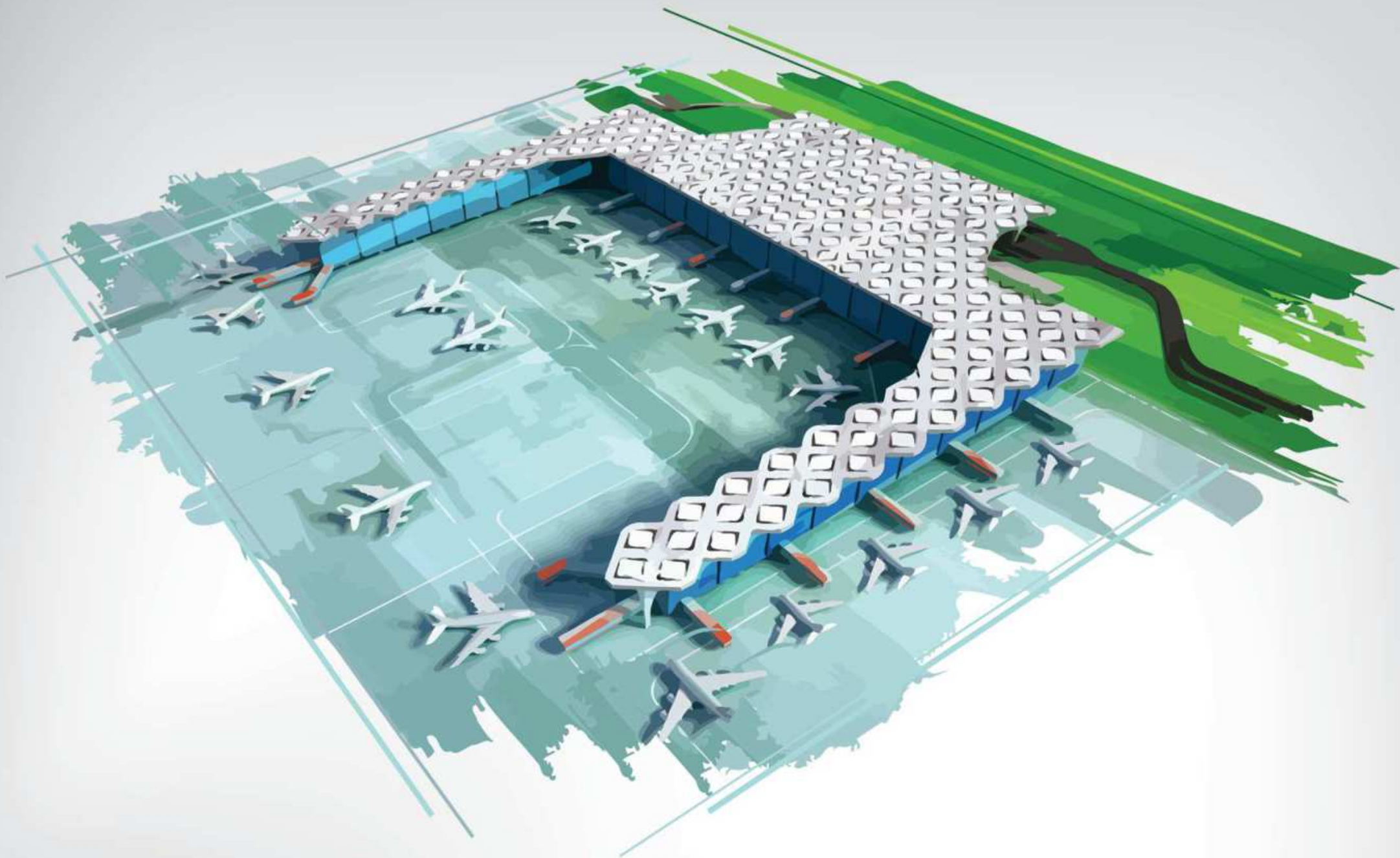
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