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Biman flight survives midair engine trouble

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Biman flight to Dubai from Chittagong made an emergency landing in Dhaka after the number one engine of the Boeing 777-200ER developed a problem about eight minutes into the flight.

Flight BG 047 took off from Chittagong at 12:33am yesterday. One of the engines suffered an in-flight engine surge, damaging the engine. The loud noise caused passengers to panic, Biman officials said.

The captain shut down the engine and asked the Air Traffic Control at Shahjalal International Airport for an emergency landing.

"The aircraft landed normally and safely with passengers disembarking the aircraft in the normal way. An alternative aircraft was made available and it took off from HSIA at 3:36am for Dubai," said a Biman Press release.

The 777 is capable of flying safely with one of its two engines running. The aircraft in question was manufactured in 2001 and it would re-enter service once all necessary engine repairs were done, the release said.

There had been no previous operational issues with the

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BANGLADESH in FINAL

Bangladesh centreback Nasiruddin Chowdhury (C) scores the winner against Thailand in the Bangabandhu Gold Cup semifinal yesterday. The hosts will face Malaysia in the final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium tomorrow. Story on page 14.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED



MG!

Khaleda Zia did not let our country's prime minister enter [Khaleda's] office. So can anyone other than a lunatic say that Khaleda Zia will sit for

PM's ICT ADVISER
SAJEEB WAZED JOY

TALKS ON FRESH RECRUITMENT Saudi delegation due tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A high-profile Saudi Arabian delegation will arrive in Dhaka tomorrow to discuss the procedure for recruiting workers from Bangladesh.

"The team will sit with the expatriates' welfare minister and the bodies concerned [with manpower export] during their stay in Dhaka," Sarwar Alam, counsellor (labour wing) at Bangladesh embassy in Riyadh, told The Daily Star over the phone yesterday.

Ahmed F Alfahaid, deputy minister for international affairs of the Saudi labour ministry, will lead the delegation which would leave on February 11.

Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Secretary Khandaker Md Iftekhar Haider said the Saudi delegation would make the visit to inspect the interested migrant jobseekers' database as part of the procedure for the recruitment.

Ending a six-year restriction, Saudi Arabia has recently reopened its labour market for Bangladesh, generating new hopes among thousands of

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Too costly for a borrower Indonesian woman sets fire to expatriate Bangladeshi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Failing to get the repayment of debt, an Indonesian woman has allegedly set fire to a Bangladeshi expatriate in Malaysia, leaving him critically injured.

The identity of the victim, aged around 32, could not be known immediately. He was working at a construction site.

The incident happened near Kampung Baru market at Bukit Mertajam in George Town, the capital of Penang state, on Wednesday around 7:50am, Malaysian

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Tiger nations to fight poaching jointly

Set up anti-poaching network

AFP, Kathmandu

Thirteen countries which are home to the world's dwindling population of wild tigers yesterday agreed to establish an intelligence-sharing network to fight traffickers, concluding an anti-poaching conference in Kathmandu.

Around 100 experts, government and law enforcement officials attended the five-day summit, co-hosted by Nepal and conservation group WWF to hammer out a regional plan to fight poaching in Asia.

"We cannot allow wildlife crime to con-



tinue to wrap its tentacles deeper into the region," said Tikaram Adhikari, director general of Nepal's department of national parks and wildlife conservation.

"Our individual efforts may win us a few battles, but we can only win the war only if Asia presents a united front to stop the poaching, end the trafficking and wipe out demand," Adhikari said in a press statement.

Nepal has twice been recognised for going a full year with no poaching incidents

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



Kids browse books at Amar Ekushey Boi Mela on the Bangla Academy premises yesterday morning. The festival complex was filled with the little ones from 11:00am to 2:00pm as the hours were allocated exclusively for children.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

UN to be in touch with AL, BNP to resolve differences

Political issue separate from peacekeeping

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations will continue to be in touch with the leaders of the Awami League and the BNP to help them resolve differences, said a UN spokesperson.

"We'll continue to be in touch with the leaders of the two main parties, trying to make sure that they can resolve their differences," said Farhan Haq, deputy spokesman for the UN secretary-general, while addressing a regular press briefing on Thursday.

"We've made our concerns known," Haq said, replying to queries about the political situation in Bangladesh.

Reminded that Bangladesh is a peacekeeping contributory country, the spokesperson said the political process is separate from the issue of UN peacekeeping.

"Well, the political process is separate and apart from the issue of peacekeepers in UN missions, who are under the control ultimately of the mission."

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

N Korean ship denied entry

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka yesterday denied entry of a North Korean ship to Chittagong Port as the UN Security Council had imposed embargo on the ship's owning company for carrying prohibited arms over a year ago.

On information, Bangladesh Navy halted the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



PRAYER TIMING

FEBRUARY 7


Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-35 12-45 4-15 5-46 7-15

JAMAAT 6-10 1-15 4-30 5-50 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL

Do you think it was justified for the Prof Emajuddin Ahmed former VC of DU to write to the UN secretary general to mediate and initiate talks to resolve the political standoff in the country?

Yes

(57%)

No

(43%)

TOTAL VOTES: 513

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP-Chairperson Khaleda Zia that her movement is completely peaceful and systematic?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

Jordan vows to eradicate ISIS

Broadens campaign against jihadists; coalition air strikes in Syria 'kill US female hostage', 30 militants

AFP, Amman

Jordan yesterday vowed further retaliation against the Islamic State group for the burning alive of one of its pilots, as thousands rallied in Amman in solidarity with his grieving family.

Jordan said dozens of its jet fighters struck ISIS on Thursday, and had widened their campaign from Syria to include targets in neighbouring Iraq.

Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh told CNN

the operation was "the beginning of our retaliation over this horrific and brutal murder of our brave young pilot."

Earlier this week, ISIS released a video of the gruesome killing of airman Maaz al-Kassasbeh, whose death has sparked grief and deep anger in Jordan.

Meanwhile, ISIS yesterday claimed that a female American hostage had been killed in an air strike in Syria by the US-led coalition.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Termites halt desertification

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

They are considered to be pests with a taste for anything made out of wood, but for ecologists they could become a vital weapon against the steady advance of deserts around the world.

Mounds of soil made by termites when they build their high-rise nests have been found to hold back the encroachment of deserts in dry, savannah grasslands threatened with desertification, scientists have found.

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