



A colourful procession was brought out from Shamibagh in Old Dhaka, as the Hindu community celebrated the first day of Ratha Yatra yesterday. PHOTO: COLLECTED

GAS PRICE HIKE Petition seeks stay order on govt decision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Supreme Court (SC) lawyer yesterday filed a writ petition with the High Court, seeking an order of stay on the government's decision of hiking gas price.

Advocate Eunos Ali Akond submitted the petition to the HC -- also challenging the government notification on gas price hike.

In the petition, he prayed to the HC to issue a rule asking the authorities concerned of the government to explain why decision of increasing gas price should not be declared illegal.

The government decision is illegal and unconstitutional as Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) did not hold any public hearing and issue any notice through newspapers before the gas tariff hike, the SC lawyer said in the petition.

He also claimed that the government increases gas price almost every year, which is unreasonable.

Secretary to the ministry of energy and mineral resources and the BERC chairman and its secretary have been made respondents to the rule.

Advocate Eunos told The Daily Star that the HC may hold hearing on the petition on July 7.

Meanwhile, the Consumer Association of Bangladesh (CAB) recently filed a petition with the HC, claiming that Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

First Hajj flights reach Jeddah

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two Hajj flights, carrying 834 pilgrims reached King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from Dhaka yesterday.

Officials of Saudi Hajj ministry and Bangladesh embassy in Saudi Arabia greeted Bangladeshi hajj participants at the airport with flowers, prayer mats, caps and tasbeeh, Maqsoodur Rahman, councilor [hajj] to the Bangladesh Hajj office in Mecca, told The Daily Star over telephone.

Three more flights of Biman Bangladesh Airlines were scheduled to fly to Saudi Arabia yesterday carrying hajj pilgrims, said officials of the national flag carrier.

The maiden hajj flight BG-3001 of the national airliner took off from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) at 6:58am.

Due to technical glitches, pre-departure immigration of pilgrims couldn't be completed yesterday for the first two hajj flights, Biman officials said.

Biman officials hoped that immigration formalities of hajjis would be completed from Dhaka following resolution of the network problem.

This year, for the first time, immigration formalities of more than half of Bangladeshi pilgrims are scheduled to be completed in Dhaka, meaning they don't need to wait for hours at the Saudi airport to complete the formalities.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Md Mahub Ali and State Minister for Religious Affairs Advocate Sheikh Md Abdullah were present yesterday at the airport to see off the pilgrims.

"We have taken all-out efforts to ensure smooth hajj flight operations this year," Mahub told reporters after inauguration of the flights at the airport.

Biman has taken extra measures in ticketing system to check any harassment of pilgrims as per directives of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, he said.

The state minister hoped that no hajj flight will be canceled this year due to scarcity of passengers, as Biman has already sold 99 percent of its tickets.

This year, Biman decided not to refund ticket money if any pilgrim fails to travel on the scheduled flight.

'Send Obaidul Quader to retirement'

Muktijuddho Moncho urges PM

DU CORRESPONDENT

Muktijuddho Moncho, a platform comprising descendants of freedom fighters, yesterday demanded an apology from Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader for his remark regarding membership of the party.

AKM Jamal Uddin, a teacher of Dhaka University's sociology department and convener of the platform, placed the demand at a press conference held at Dhaka University Journalists' Association (Duja) office.

While speaking at a press conference on June 30 about AL's member collection campaign, Obaidul Quader said there is no rationale in considering if anyone's family member was involved with war crime when collecting members. "His speech is a clear violation of the political ideology of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the spirit of liberation war. He even violates the constitution by giving the speech which the Moncho considers a threat to the autonomy of the country. We think that he has lost the legitimacy to be in the government [cabinet]," said Jamal Uddin while reading out a statement.

"The nation hopes SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

DIG Mizan's nephew sent to jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Mahmudul Hasan, a sub-inspector of Dhaka's Kotwali Police Station and nephew of suspended Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Mizanur Rahman, was sent to jail after he surrendered before a Dhaka court yesterday in a corruption case.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka passed the order after Hasan surrendered before the court and sought bail.

During yesterday's hearing, Hasan's lawyer Kazi Nazibullah Hiru told the court that Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) brought charges of acquiring illegal wealth against his client but it did not send any notice to him. So, the charges were false and he should be granted bail, Hiru added.

On the other hand, ACC public prosecutor Mosharraf Hossain Kajol said that Hasan committed offences under Money Laundering Act and there was specific allegation against him, so his bail petition should be rejected.

At one stage, the judge asked about Hasan's post and salary. In reply to the questions, Hasan said he withdrew Tk 18,000 as salary per month. At that time, advocate Hiru told the court that his client operated a business before joining the police force.

After the hearing, the judge rejected the bail petition and ordered police to send Hasan to Dhaka Central Jail in Keraniganj. Earlier on July 2, the same court rejected Mizan's bail petition and sent him to jail.

On June 24, ACC filed the case with its Integrated District Office in Dhaka against the suspended DIG, his wife Sohelia Anar Ratna and nephew Mahmudul Hasan on charges of amassing over Tk 3 crore beyond known sources of income.

Tk 2.6CR SCAM ACC approves charges against ex-diplomat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday approved charge-sheet of a case filed over misappropriation of Tk 2.6 crore by Maksud Khan, former councillor of Bangladesh High Commission in Canada.

The case was filed with Shahbagh Police Station on December 13, 2017, said ACC's Public Relations Officer (PRO) Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya. The charge-sheet will be submitted before court soon, he added.

According to the case statement, Maksud siphoned off the amount, equivalent to 4,12,382 Canadian dollars from SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

VISIT

STUDY IN INDIA

World Class Education at An Affordable Cost

OPENS TODAY

INDIAN EDUCATION FAIR 2019

ENTRY FREE

Hotel Pan Pacific, Sonargaon, Dhaka
107 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue

MEET OVER 50 INDIA'S FINEST UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES 05th & 06th July, 2019
(Friday & Saturday) 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS & ADMISSIONS ০৫ এবং ০৬ জুলাই, ২০১৯
(শুক্রবার এবং শনিবার) সকাল ১০টা থেকে সন্ধ্যা ৭টা

Wide range of Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Professional & Vocational courses in Engineering, Management, Medical, Hotel Management, Fashion, Aeronautics, Biotechnology, Law & Life Sciences on offer.

Quality Education

World-Class Infrastructure

Affordable Fees

Comfortable & Safe Environment

Highest Standard of Placements

Brand Sponsor

Platinum Sponsor

Knowledge Partner

University Partners

SHARDA UNIVERSITY

LOVELY PROFESSIONAL UNIVERSITY

GraphicEra

CHITKARA UNIVERSITY

JIS UNIVERSITY

OUR SPONSORS

Education Partners

KALINGA UNIVERSITY

PANDIT DEENDAYAL PETROLEUM UNIVERSITY

IEM

SRM UNIVERSITY AP

AIMS INSTITUTE

VIT UNIVERSITY

Associate Sponsors

DIT UNIVERSITY

PANIPAT INSTITUTE OF ENG. & TECH.

NSHM

ADAMAS

Parul University

SEETA GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS

JGI JAIN UNIVERSITY

Supported by

Organiser

Co-Organisers

High Commission of India, Dhaka

EXHIBITIONS & MEDIA PVT. LTD.

Promoters of INDIAN EDUCATION IN BANGLADESH

8801712571098

8801617098784

CHITTAGONG Exhibition Schedule:

Hotel Raddison Blu Lalkhan Bazar - Chittagong

08th & 09th July, 2019
(Monday & Tuesday) 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

THE FIRST, THE ONLY, THE BEST

LG
Life's Good

LG OLED TV
World's Best Selling OLED Brand

World's Best Selling OLED Brand

BEST OF CES 2018

WINNER BEST TV PRODUCT

LG InstaView Door-in-Door™
Experience the convenience of seeing what's in the fridge without opening the door

LG Smart Inverter Washing Machine
Energy Saving with Inverter Technology

LG DUAL Inverter Air Conditioner
Energy Saving with Dual Inverter Compressor

LG Convection Microwave Oven
Charcoal Lighting Heater enhances speed of cooking and healthy cooking

BUTTERFLY Committed to Care

Please buy genuine LG products from Butterfly Showrooms with 'LG' Logos only

LG Hotline: 09678-545454

DHAKA TODAY

THEATRE
Tamshik
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: 6pm

CULTURAL EVENT
Gaan Kobitar Chhayatole
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
Time: 6:30pm

DISCUSSION
Karl Marx & the Communist Manifesto

Organiser: Banglar Pathshala
Venue: RC Majumder auditorium, University of Dhaka
Time: 9am

WORKSHOP
Guitar for Beginners
Venue: Studio 6/6, Mohammadpur
Time: 3pm

WORKSHOP
Food Photography
Venue: Vertical Horizon, Dhanmondi
Time: 11am

SAMSUNG

Convertible 5in1
Twin Cooling™

Make Life Convertible

NORMAL

SEASONAL

VACATION

EXTRA FRIDGE

HOME ALONE

10 YEAR WARRANTY
ON THE COMPRESSOR
DIGITAL INVERTER TECHNOLOGY

RT39
Capacity: 394 liters
Price: Tk. 73,900
Offer Price: Tk. 70,900
EMI Price: Tk. 5,908

RT42**
Capacity: 415 liters
Price: Tk. 75,900
Offer Price: Tk. 72,900
EMI Price: Tk. 6,075

RT47
Capacity: 465 liters
Price: Tk. 82,900
Offer Price: Tk. 79,900
EMI Price: Tk. 6,658

RT56
Capacity: 551 liters
Price: Tk. 95,900
Offer Price: Tk. 92,900
EMI Price: Tk. 7,742

FREE HOME DELIVERY

12 MONTH EMI*

Authorized Distributors: SAMSUNG SmartPlaza

FairElectronics

TRANSKOM DIGITAL

electra

RANGS INDUSTRIES

08000 300 300

Terms & Conditions apply. For further details, please call 08000 300 300 or visit your nearest authorized dealer. The offer is valid till July 31, 2019. **RT42 model has 4-in-1 conversion feature. **EMI offer is subject to the agreement between the authorized partners and the respective selected banks. The offers are subject to change without any prior notice. Product images shown are for representational purposes only, actual products may vary.