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# Get jobs abroad via legal channels

*PM urges migrants; directs ministry, agencies to take care of the ones in trouble abroad*

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry and recruiting agencies to take care of Bangladeshi expatriates.

"I request you one thing that those who're involved in manpower migration -- from the recruiting agencies to the ministry -- to give them [expatriates] due honour and make sure they're not facing any problem," she said while addressing a programme virtually marking the International Migration Day 2020 from the Gono Bhaban.

The expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry organised the event at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC).

Hasina said everything has to be looked after by the recruiting agencies and the ministry for those who are willing to go abroad. "Ensure their security, especially the female migrant workers."

About the homebound expatriates who have lost their jobs during the Covid-19 pandemic, she said the government is taking care of them and



**Risking their lives, people jump over a median railing on a flyover after being dropped off by a bus in the capital's Postogola. Violating traffic rules, most bus drivers drop passengers in the middle of flyovers. The photo was taken yesterday.**

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

ORIGINS OF PANDEMIC

# China blocks entry to WHO Covid team

*Tedros 'disappointed'*

AFP, Beijing

An expert mission to China to probe the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic was in disarray yesterday after Beijing denied entry to the World Health Organization team at the last minute despite months of painstaking negotiations.

Ten experts were due to arrive in China this week for the delicate, highly politicised task of establishing how and where the virus jumped from animals to humans.

But with a number of the team already in transit, China denied them entry visas, prodding WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, to say he was "very disappointed".

China is determined to control the origin story of the virus, which has killed more than 1.8 million people around the world and laid waste to global economies.

The first cases of the coronavirus were recorded in the central Chinese city of

# AL completes 12 consecutive years in office

BSS, Dhaka

The ruling Awami League has greeted countrymen on the completion of an era of the AL government at a stretch under the leadership of Bangabandhu's daughter Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Awami League General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader, in a statement yesterday, congratulated the people and announced the party's programmes marking the anniversary.

Doa mahfil and special prayers will be arranged wishing long life and sound health of Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina and overall welfare of the people.

Dhaka city south and north units of the AL will arrange a doa and milad mahfil centrally at the party's Bangabandhu Avenue central office after Asr prayers.

Milad and doa mahfil will be arranged at all mosques across the country at a convenient time.

Special prayers will be held at International

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# BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

## Discrepancies in pay will be reduced: Bangabandhu



**Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with his parents at his village home in Tungipara on January 7, 1973.**

January 7, 1973

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

MAINTAIN DISCIPLINE

Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman today reiterates his government's intention to reduce the huge discrepancies in salaries of various grades of government officials. The existing administrative system, which the prime minister considers the legacy of the capitalistic and colonial set-up, would soon undergo a drastic metamorphosis, declares Bangabandhu. He expects the Pay Commission and

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# VIRUS 'IMPRISONMENT'

## Bangladeshi worker sues Singapore employer

AFP, Singapore

A Bangladeshi migrant worker is suing his ex-employer and dormitory operator in Singapore, accusing them of "false imprisonment" after he was locked in his room during a coronavirus outbreak.

The majority of Singapore's more than 58,000 cases have been among low-paid migrants living in crowded dormitories, sparking criticism of the affluent city-state's treatment of its foreign workforce.

Construction worker Rahman Mohammad Hasibur filed a claim

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# PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 7

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5:30 12:45 4:00 5:30 7:00  
JAMAAT 6:05 1:15 4:15 5:35 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

# Democrats ahead in Senate race

*Win first Georgia runoff, lead in second; Congress to certify Biden win*

REUTERS, Atlanta

Democrats won one US Senate race in Georgia and surged ahead in another yesterday, moving closer to a stunning sweep that would give them control of Congress and the power to advance President-elect Joe Biden's policy goals.

Raphael Warnock, a Baptist preacher from the historic church of Martin Luther King Jr., beat Republican incumbent Kelly Loeffler to become

the first Black senator in the history of the deep South state.

Jon Ossoff, a documentary filmmaker who at 33 would become the Senate's youngest member, also declared victory with a narrow lead over incumbent David Perdue, although media including Edison Research had yet to call that race.

If upheld, the results would amount to a final defeat for outgoing President Donald Trump, who stands to be the first US president since 1932 to lose

the White House and both chambers of Congress in a single term.

The outgoing president campaigned for both Republicans, while at the same time leveling false accusations that his own loss in the November presidential election was tainted by fraud, and attacking Republican officials in the state. Some Republicans said that discouraged his supporters from voting.

With 98% of votes in and counting

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**19<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh Business Awards**  
DHL The Daily Star  
AWARDING EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS

**Abdul Muktadir**  
Chairman and Managing Director of Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd  
has been awarded as the  
**Business Person of the Year 2019**  
in 19th Bangladesh Business Awards

We are proud and honored  
Employees of  
Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd  
Incepta Vaccine Ltd  
Incepta Hygiene & Hospicare Ltd  
Incepta Herbal & Nutricare Ltd  
Incepta Chemicals Ltd

Our vision is to  
become a trusted healthcare company  
to ensure better health for everyone, everywhere

আধুনিক শরিয়াহভিত্তিক ব্যাংকিং সেবা নিয়ে  
আমরা এখন আপনার আরও কাছে

অব্যাহত অগ্রযাত্রার ধারাবাহিকতায়  
এক্সিম ব্যাংকের দু'টি উপশাখার

**শুভ উদ্বোধন**  
আজ ৭ জানুয়ারি ২০২১  
বৃহস্পতিবার

**পদ্মুয়া উপশাখা**  
(বক্সগঞ্জ শাখার অধীনে পরিচালিত)  
হাজী আব্দুর রহমান মার্কেট, পদ্মুয়া রাস্তার মাথা  
চৌদ্দগ্রাম, কুমিল্লা

**নাচোল উপশাখা**  
(চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ শাখার অধীনে পরিচালিত)  
নাচোল বাসস্ট্যান্ড, নাচোল  
চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ

আমাদের সকল শাখায় বিইএফটিএন এবং আরটিজিএস এর মাধ্যমে আন্তর্জাতিক লেনদেন করা হয়

**EXIM BANK** এক্সপোর্ট ইমপোর্ট ব্যাংক  
অব বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড  
শরিয়াহ ভিত্তিক ইসলামী ব্যাংক

কল সেন্টার 16246