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# Aviation sector faces rough ride

Jet fuel prices hiked; domestic air travel to get pricier

RASHIDUL HASAN

Air travel within the country is going to get costlier as Padma Oil Company, the only source of jet fuel in the country, has once again increased the price of the fuel.

This is the seventh time in eight months that Padma, a subsidiary of the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, has increased jet fuel prices, dealing a another blow to local carriers that have yet to recover from the sharp decline in business due to the pandemic.

Aviation industry insiders told The Daily Star that the local airlines that operate international flights will lose their competitiveness.

Air travel will inevitably get costlier and it is the passengers who will have to spend more, they added.

The BPC decision, put in effect on June 8, has increased

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Illegal structures on both sides of a railway lines have been removed for constructing an elevated expressway from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to Kutubkhali on Dhaka-Chattogram highway. This photo was captured from the capital's Mohakhali rail crossing area yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

ROAD TO FREEDOM  
THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

## Spike in guerilla attacks



With the limited shelter capacity already exhausted, Bangladeshi refugees are squatting in makeshift shelters that had mushroomed in various parts of Kolkata. The photo was taken at Salt Lake.

JUNE 11, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

GUERRILLA ATTACKS CONTINUE

Mukti Foj guerillas made a series of attacks on Pakistani positions in Cumilla sector in the last few days, killing at least 28 Pakistani soldiers, according

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

UNIVS' POOR SHOW IN GLOBAL RANKINGS

# Lack of research, quality publications key reasons

Say noted educationists



"Several universities in India, China and Singapore are moving forward. If we look at them, we can understand our shortcomings."

RETIRED DHAKA UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR SYED MANZOORUL ISLAM

"... the government doesn't like people who come forward with competent and independent initiatives in education and research."

JAHANGIRNAGAR UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR ANU MUHAMMAD



MUNIR MOMTAJ and ASIFUR RAHMAN

Lack of support for research and absence of quality publications are the main reasons for Bangladeshi universities lagging behind in most of the world rankings, said educationists.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, four eminent teachers of three different universities said not recruiting qualified teachers, non-participation of foreign teachers

and students and the unavailability of latest information on university websites are among the causes.

On Wednesday, Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) published the world university rankings for 2022, in which Dhaka University (DU) and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) failed to make any progress.

QS evaluates 1,300 universities across the world according to six

metrics: academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty/student ratio, citations per faculty, international faculty ratio, and international student ratio.

Like the previous year, both universities were placed in the 801-1,000 bracket.

DU Vice-chancellor Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman told The Daily Star

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6  
RELATED STORY ON PAGE 3

COVID PANDEMIC

# India sees record deaths

S Asian nations turn to China, Russia for vaccine help

AGENCIES

India yesterday recorded a global record of more than 6,000 coronavirus deaths in 24 hours after one state dramatically revised upwards its data, stoking suspicions that the country's toll is much higher than reported.

According to health ministry figures, 6,148 people died in the previous 24 hours,

taking total fatalities to almost 360,000, the world's third highest.

The previous world record according to an AFP tally was 5,527 in the United States on February 12, although this was also due to an upwards revision of earlier deaths.

On Wednesday the eastern state of Bihar hiked its death toll by around 4,000 to almost 9,500 after reviewing death records,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



PRAYER TIMING  
JUNE 11

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-05 12-30 5-00 6-50 8-15  
JAMAAT 3-57 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE:  
ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



PHOTO: COURTESY OF MOSABBER HOSSAIN RIBON



A black-naped monarch, also known as black-naped blue flycatcher, recently spotted in the Satchhari National Park in Habiganj's Chunarughat. This bird generally feeds on insects and is found mostly in southern and south-eastern Asia.

# Buddhadeb Dasgupta no more

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Noted Bengali filmmaker Buddhadeb Dasgupta passed away at his Kolkata residence yesterday.

He was 77, and had been suffering from kidney-related diseases. He is survived by his wife Sohini Dasgupta, also a filmmaker, and two daughters.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed her condolences over his death.

"Saddened at the passing away of eminent filmmaker Buddhadeb Dasgupta. Through his works, he infused lyricism into the language of cinema. His death

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



POST-COUP MYANMAR

# Junta hits Suu Kyi with graft charges

AFP, Yangon

The Myanmar junta has hit deposed civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi with corruption charges over claims she accepted illegal payments of gold and more than half a million dollars in cash, state media reported yesterday.

The country has been in turmoil since the generals ousted Suu Kyi on February 1, with more than 850 civilians killed in a brutal crackdown by security forces on near-daily protests against the coup.

The 75-year-old Nobel laureate, who has been in custody since the putsch, is facing a raft of wide-ranging criminal charges, including sedition and breaching a colonial-

era secrecy law.

The latest charges relate to allegations by the former Yangon chief minister that Suu Kyi illegally accepted \$600,000 in cash from him along with around 11 kilograms of gold.

The Anti-Corruption Commission found evidence that Suu Kyi had committed "corruption using her rank", according to the Global New Light of Myanmar, a state-run newspaper.

"So she was charged under Anti-Corruption Law section 55."

She is also accused of abusing her authority when renting two areas of land for her charitable foundation.

After weeks of legal wrangling, SEE PAGE 10 COL 3