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# 9 fish species on verge of extinction

*Finds global study, says one in every four local fish species threatened*



Some endangered fish species being sold at Lalbazar in Sylhet city. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

DWOHA CHOWDHURY

On May 7, a fisherman in Sylhet caught a 180kg Baghair from the Kushiara river and brought it to Lalbazar, a famous fish market in the city.

Having learned that the fish would be put on display, hundreds of curious locals flocked in for a glimpse. Too big for a single customer, the fish was later cut into pieces and sold among locals within hours.

Such "celebrations" of big catch and its public display has long been a tradition in rural Bangladesh, but experts are concerned at the rate some sweetwater fish species, including Baghair, are vanishing.

This particular fish species is listed as "critically endangered" by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

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Although Sunamganj's Tanguar Haor is protected by RAMSAR Convention and fishing is banned there to save endangered species of fish, a fisherman is seen fishing there. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: DWOHA CHOWDHURY

# Lowest daily Covid deaths reported in two months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health officials reported 80 deaths from Covid-19 yesterday, the lowest in over two months.

On June 27, the officially reported toll was 77.

Amid the transmission of the Delta variant of coronavirus from the beginning of May, the number of deaths started rising and crossed the 200-mark on July 7.

The highest single day toll, 264, was recorded on August 5 and 10.

With yesterday's toll, the number of deaths rose to 25,926, which is around 1.74 percent of the total confirmed cases.

Officials said in the 24 hours preceding 8:00am yesterday, 3,436 people tested positive for Covid-19, the lowest in over two and a half months. This took the number of total confirmed cases to 14,89,589.

The positivity rate reported yesterday was 13.67 percent.

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# 7 held for forging certificates of student

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nur Tabassum Sultana, a student of Dhanmondi Kamrunnessa Girl's High School, studied hard to pass both her JSC and SSC examinations from the Dhaka Education Board.

When she was about to register for her HSC exams, she found that all her certificates with the education board had someone else's name on them.

The education board's result archive online was also showing her certificate with her name, her parents' names and date of birth all changed.

Following the incident, the Detective Branch (DB) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police on Friday arrested seven people, including a lower-rank employee of the education board, said AKM Hafiz Akhter, additional commissioner (DB) of

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# World's first 3D-printed Wagyu beef revealed



MAIL ONLINE

The world's first 3D-printed Wagyu beef has been revealed by scientists, who say it has marbling 'just like the real thing' and is grown from stem cells in the lab.

Most 'cultured' meat produced so far has come out like mince rather than steak, composed of simple muscle fibres rather than more complex structures.

However, steaks - particularly from delicate Wagyu beef - contain fat, muscle and blood vessels in an intricate structure producing a marbling effect, and this is what the team from Osaka

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# Officials bury carcass of whale in Cox's Bazar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forest and livestock officials buried a large Bryde's whale yesterday, around three days after it was washed ashore dead.

The decomposed body of the 33 feet-long whale was noticed by local fishermen in Monkhal beach area of Cox's Bazar's Teknaf upazila on Wednesday morning.

Shawkat Ali, livestock officer in Teknaf, told The Daily Star that they performed an autopsy on the whale and found that it died due to gastrointestinal perforation.

Gastrointestinal perforation occurs when a hole forms all the way through the stomach, large bowel, or small intestine.

"This could have caused by a hit by a propeller or sharp object of mechanised boats plying in the sea", he said adding that they

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**ROAD TO FREEDOM**  
THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

## We have to make it ourselves, says Tajuddin

AUGUST 29, 1971  
SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

**JANMABHUMI'S PUBLICATION RESUMED**  
Tajuddin Ahmed, prime minister of Bangladesh, said at Mujibnagar today, "None can bring us freedom. We have to achieve it ourselves by shedding our blood."

Tajuddin Ahmed, who was inaugurating the function organised in connection with the resumption of publication of Janmabhumii, a weekly, said, "No barbarous force can throttle the voice of the people. The republication of Janmabhumii has proved this truth."

The function was attended by many including journalists and writers. Syed Nazrul Islam, the acting president of Bangladesh in a greeting said, "The republication of Janmabhumii at this juncture has created a new chapter in the struggle of Bangladesh."

Mustafa Allama, editor of the weekly said in his address, "We shall create global public opinion in regard to the release of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and recognition of Bangladesh through the paper."

**ON THE FRONTLINES**  
Mukti Bahini today raided Razakars guarding RCC road bridge in Badiakhali area in Mymensingh. Four Razakars were killed and seven wounded. Another group of freedom fighters damaged a railway bridge near Boira under Sarishabari Police Station with an explosive substance.

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# Cox's Bazar Runway Expansion Hasina to break ground today

RASHIDUL HASAN

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is set to virtually inaugurate the ground breaking ceremony and unveil the foundation stone of the runway extension at Cox's Bazar Airport today morning.

The Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) has taken the initiative to construct the longest runway in the country by extending the existing 9,000-foot runway by another 1,700 on the Bay of Bengal.

On February 9, the Caab signed a deal with the Chinese joint venture of Changjiang Yichang Waterway Engineering Bureau (CYWEB) and China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) on the expansion of the runway.

According to project documents, the deadline to finish construction is May 10, 2024.

Under the agreement, the contractor will extend the runway towards the Maheshkhali channel through coastal land reclamation.

The government in 2019 took the initiative to expand the runway to upgrade it to international standards and offer foreign holidaymakers a hassle-free trip to the world's longest unbroken sea beach.

Once the work is complete and the runway operational, passengers on planes

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**A health worker vaccinating a readymade garment worker as the factories in Chattogram EPZ started inoculating their workers. Inset, workers standing in a queue to get vaccinated. Story on page 3.**

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

# India, US to work closely on Afghanistan

NDTV ONLINE

The US and India will continue to work closely on Afghanistan and the United Nations, the US State Department said in a statement after a meeting between US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken and Indian Foreign Minister S Jaishankar.

"Secretary of State Antony J Blinken spoke today with Indian External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar. They discussed a broad range of shared priorities, including continued coordination on Afghanistan and in the United Nations. Secretary

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**PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 29**

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-30	12-45	4-45	6-33	8-00
JAMAAT 5-05	1-15	5-00	6-36	8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## We Deeply Mourn

**Dr. Mohammed Abu Taher Choudhury (1929-2021)**

Dr. Mohammed Abu Taher Choudhury (Consultant Psychiatrist), h/o the late Nafisa Taher (daughter of Tara Miah of Faridpur) and the last remaining member of the 1946 first batch of Dhaka Medical College, died with his family at bedside, following a heart attack on 27th August morning at Whipps Cross Hospital in London (inna lillahi wa innailayhi raji'un). He was born in Barogaon Noakhali in 1929.

He left behind his sons, Parvez, Javed and Tareq, daughters in laws, seven grandchildren, and a host of relatives and well-wishers to mourn his death.

He was buried at the Gardens of Peace Cemetery in London. His youngest son Tareq (Toronto) was there for his burial too.

Dr. Taher's relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.