



# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION



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## PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES UGC for uniform admission system

Universities to decide after discussion

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The University Grants Commission now wants a uniform admission system for all private universities as the majority of public universities are set to introduce the new system next year.

Once introduced, the uniform system at private universities will reduce the financial burden and hassles of admission seekers and their guardians, says the regulatory body for both public and private universities.

In its "Annual Report 2019", the UGC has made a set of recommendations, including the introduction of uniform admission system for private universities.

It submitted the report to President Abdul Hamid on Sunday.

Top UGC officials said the new system will help address the issues regarding some private universities that enrol students without any admission tests, flouting the UGC rules on student admission.

"We have made the recommendations, keeping in mind many issues," UGC Member Prof Muhammed Alamgir told The Daily Star yesterday.

The majority of public universities have already announced that they would hold a uniform admission test titled "Central Admission Test" to reduce the hassles of admission seekers, he mentioned.

"Now we can tell the private universities to go for uniform admission test. Public medical colleges first introduced the system and then private medical colleges followed suit.

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As the cold wave sweeps over the country, street children find a sweet spot to take a nap at Khilgaon in the capital. They sleep close to an exhaust vent of a restaurant kitchen that is pumping out warm air from the stoves.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## 1,776 more Rohingyas sail for Bhashan Char

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Some 1,776 more Rohingyas are set to be relocated to Bhashan Char in Hatiya upazila of Noakhali today.

The second batch of Rohingyas from 428 families of refugee camps have already reached Chattogram from Cox's Bazar yesterday, witnesses said.

Witnesses in Ukhia and Teknaf said the Rohingyas, who would like to go to Bhashan Char voluntarily, were taken to Chattogram on buses amid presence of law enforcers.

They said officials briefed the refugees on how they would be taken to the island and gave them breakfast in the transit camp at Ukhia Degree College ground and then they were taken to Chattogram.

The refugees will be taken to Bhashan Char from Chattogram Boat Club on navy ship this morning, officials said.

Rohingya leaders said they became interested in moving to Bhashan Char after knowing the detailed facilities in the island.

They said many are showing interest to

PHOTO ON PAGE 12 SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## Saudi flights suspended for another week

More than 5,000  
workers stuck

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Saudi Arabia yesterday extended suspension of all international flights to the kingdom for another week, adding to the worries of more than 5,000 migrant workers in Bangladesh about their return to that country.

The Saudi government, however, said foreign citizens would be able to leave the kingdom by air.

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## Health watchdog remains invisible

Not a single meeting held in last  
nine months of pandemic

RASHIDUL HASAN

The parliamentary standing committee on health ministry has shown nothing short of indifference to the health emergency caused by the pandemic.

It had not held a single meeting, let alone make a visible move since March when the first cases of the coronavirus were detected in the country, putting the healthcare services under strain and exposing corruption and mismanagement in the health sector.

Since it was formed in January 2019, the JS body met only six times, officials said. As a result, the committee could not ensure accountability and transparency in the health ministry.

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## COVID VACCINE ROLLOUT India starts 2-day dry run in 4 states

NDTV ONLINE

A two-day dry run for coronavirus vaccine program started in Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat and Assam yesterday morning.

Focus on management of possible adverse events after immunisation, and dry runs that include checks on cold storage and transportation arrangements will be part of program that will be carried out in the chosen districts in each state.

All the Indian states will report the observations - recorded during the program - to the Centre. The government plans to cover 30 crore people in the

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## Govt retreated from stance, zealots didn't

Menon tells Star on row over sculpture

GOLAM MORTOZA

Rashed Khan Menon is an important figure in Bangladesh's political history. He was at the frontlines during the mass upsurge in 1969 and the Liberation War in 1971. Currently, he is the president of the Workers Party of Bangladesh. He is also a lawmaker from Dhaka-8 and has previously served as a minister in the Awami League-led government. Menon recently talked with The Daily Star about the current political situation in the country.

The following are excerpts from the interview.  
The Daily Star: The AL-led grand alliance government is in its third consecutive term. As a politician and alliance partner, what is your observation on the current political and social situation?



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# THIS EVENING

## HONOURING OUR ICT LEADERS WITH THE PRESTIGIOUS

### 5th The Daily Star

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### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Sergi Herrero**  
Group Co-Chief Executive Officer  
VEON

Sergi Herrero joined VEON, a multinational telecommunication services company headquartered in Netherlands, as joint Chief Operating Officer in September 2019, following a period as Facebook's Global Director of Payments and Commerce Partnerships, where he oversaw the launch and growth of payment and commerce capabilities for Messenger, WhatsApp and Instagram. He has also led the deployment of Charitable Giving, the scaling and optimisation of the Facebook Ads payments business and drove the expansion of the platform's global marketplace. Before joining Facebook in 2014, he held several senior roles in technology, banking and consulting.

### CATEGORIES OF AWARDS

ICT SOLUTION PROVIDER OF THE YEAR (LOCAL MARKET FOCUS)

ICT BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

ICT START UP OF THE YEAR

DIGITAL COMMERCE OF THE YEAR

ICT SOLUTION PROVIDER OF THE YEAR (INTERNATIONAL MARKET FOCUS)

ICT PIONEER

Time: 6:30 pm

The programme will be virtual and will be broadcasted LIVE from our Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/dailystarnews](http://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)

## SAFA Award for Best Presented Annual Report 2019

# Bank Asia is the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Winner among all Private Banks in South Asia