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Biman Boeings towed into each other again



The damage done to the Boeing-787

RASHIDUL HASAN

Two aircraft of Biman Bangladesh Airlines collided at the hangar on Sunday, in a repeat of the incident in April that had left two Boeings grounded for months.

On Sunday night, a Boeing 787 Dreamliner was on its way to the hangar for regular maintenance after arriving from Singapore earlier. It crashed into the wing of a Boeing 737 aircraft stationed inside the hangar.

The wings of both the aircraft were damaged by the collision, but the true extent of damage will be known after investigation, said Tahera Khondoker, general manager for Biman's public relations department.

"It's unfortunate that such an incident took place again," said Abu Saleh Mostafa Kamal, managing director and chief executive officer of Biman.

A four-member committee was formed to thoroughly investigate the incident and stern actions will be taken against the persons found responsible for the collision.

"We provide ground handling facilities to different airlines including foreign carriers but such incidents do not take place in their case. I don't know why this is happening to Biman Bangladesh Airlines' aircraft again and again," he said.

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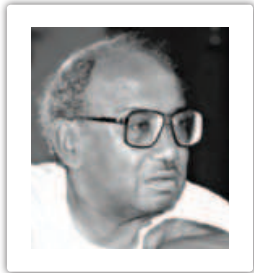


At least three battery-powered auto-rickshaws run against traffic on the Dhaka-Aricha Highway near Savar's Hemayetpur. Vehicles on the wrong way, a deliberate traffic violation, is one of the major causes of road accidents across the country. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

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Legendary director Tarun Majumder passes away



OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Veteran director Padma Shri Tarun Majumdar, known for making popular films based on finely-woven tales of human relationships in the lives of rural and urban middle-class families, passed away in a hospital in South Kolkata yesterday.

He was 92.

Tarun, husband of eminent actress Sandhya Roy, had been undergoing treatment at the state-run Seth Sukhlal Karnani Memorial hospital since June 14 for old-age complications.

After he developed a lung infection, he was

HSIA TO AIRPORT STATION Govt plans 'underpass' for travellers

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Upon arrival at the Dhaka airport, one has to take the trouble of crossing the busy airport road if he or she wants to catch a train or a bus.

Though there is a footbridge nearby, it often proves to be quite troublesome for those carrying heavy luggage to use it to reach the nearby bus stop or the Airport Railway Station.

To ease the passengers' hassles, the government now plans to build an "integrated underpass" to connect the airport with the railway station and other modes of transport, including the metro rail and the bus rapid transit.

Moreover, the underpass will be linked to the Hajj camp in capital's Ashkona area so that pilgrims can reach the airport without any trouble.

Apart from a footpath, the underpass will have a travelator, a moving walkway.

Bangladesh Army is now carrying out a feasibility study and working on the design for the project to be implemented by the Roads and Highways Department (RHD).

Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA), which is coordinating the plan, yesterday held a meeting with all stakeholders concerned at the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) headquarters.

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CIRCULAR ERROR IN GOVT PROJECT 492 officials not getting promised pay

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Information service officers under a government project were supposed to draw a monthly salary of Tk 27,100, according to the job circular and their appointment letters.

However, the 492 officers of "Tottho Apa Project", under the women and children affairs ministry, have been receiving a salary of Tk 24,700 except in the four months since the first phase of recruitment in 2018.

While the anomalies are violations of a contractual obligation, project officials said the salary mentioned in the job circular and appointment letters was "a mistake" on their part.

However, it was a mistake made again.

The second recruitment, to fill 35 vacant posts and take officials for two new upazilas, took place in June this year, according to documents.

Interestingly, the same "mistake" occurred for the

second time.

The project, which started in April 2017 and is supposed to end in June 2023, is aimed at motivating one crore rural women to make use of information technology for their benefit, provide e-commerce support through data centres and form technical knowledge teams through e-learning.

To attain the target, the government recruited one female information service officer in each of the 492 upazilas across the country.

Nasrin Sultana (not real name) is one of the field officers from an upazila under Barisal division, who joined on November 27, 2018.

"I got my salary as per my appointment letter for the first four months. But then, I have started receiving a reduced salary of Tk 24,700," she told The Daily Star.

She said that they were involved in many activities like creating an ID on the

government e-commerce site "laalsobuj.com.", for rural women wanting to sell anything on the online platform.

"We also hold meeting with 200 rural women every month and provide them with basic medical services like checking pressure and blood sugar for free ... We also take women who had faced torture to a local police station and help them file complaints."

Several information officers said the same when talking to The Daily Star.

"We know that as project officials, our salary will not be increased. But it should not mean that you give a circular mentioning a salary and then you pay a reduced amount after appointment," said an aggrieved official, requesting anonymity.

Another official said that the Tk 2,400 they are being deprived of would have benefitted them at a time when prices of essentials and transport have shot up.

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US JULY 4TH PARADE Six shot dead, killer at large

REUTERS, Highland Park

Six people were killed and about two dozen were injured in a shooting at a Fourth of July parade in the wealthy Chicago suburb of Highland Park yesterday, officials said, as panicked spectators fled the scene.

Officials told a news conference that six people were killed and 24 taken to hospital, and that a rifle was recovered from the scene.

"Law enforcement agencies are searching for the suspect; evidence of a firearm has been recovered," officials of the city of Highland Park said. "Numerous law enforcement officers are responding and have secured a perimeter around downtown Highland Park."

The shooting comes with gun violence fresh on the minds of many Americans, after a massacre on May 24 killed 19 school children and two teachers at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, and the May 14 attack that killed 10 people at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York.

Witness Amarani Garcia, who was at the parade with her young daughter, told the local ABC affiliate she heard gunfire nearby, then a pause for what she suspected was reloading, and then more shots again.

There were "people screaming and running. It was just really traumatizing," Garcia said. "I was very terrified. I hid with my daughter actually in a

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Palash, a cattle rancher, spraying water on his bull, worth Tk 15 lakh, in the capital's Gabtoli cattle market. Ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, many farm animals are brought to the markets for sale and most of them suffer in the heat and chaos. Owners try to take their own measures to ensure the animals' comfort. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

8 sent to jail over murder of woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Eight people were sent to jail yesterday for hacking a woman to death and injuring her husband, in Aikadia village in Gopalganj's Muksudpur upazila around 11:00pm on Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Jimi Aktar, 39, wife of Nur Alam, 48.

Habibur Rahman, brother of Nur, filed a case against 25 people with Muksudpur Police Station in this regard yesterday morning.

According to the case statement, Nur borrowed Tk two lakh from his neighbour Ashim Mollah and promised the latter 50 maunds of paddy as interest. However, Nur was unable to harvest enough paddy this season due to frequent rains.

As a result, failed to return the money or give

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Newly identified waterlily is the world's largest

MAIL ONLINE



A waterlily that has been residing in Kew's Botanical Gardens for 177 years has been revealed to be a brand new species, and the world's largest.

It marks the first discovery of a new giant waterlily species in over a century, and botanists at the south-west London garden are describing it as "one of the botanical wonders of the world".

The species has lily pads that can reach over 10ft (3.2 metres) across in the wild, and flowers than can grow up to 14 inches (36cm) – larger than the average human head.

However, the specimen growing in Kew's Waterlily House is a little smaller, with leaves about 8.9 feet (2.7 metres) in length.

It was previously thought the waterlily was a hybrid of two species, however it has now been confirmed to be a third, previously undefined species called Victoria Boliviana.

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