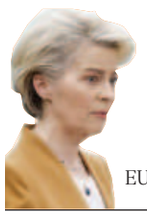
DHAKA MONDAY OCTOBER 12, 2026



"These attacks by Iran's proxies are pushing the region into a spiral of violence. They are destabilizing crucial global transport..."
EU chief **URSULA VON DER LEYEN**

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SECOND EDITION



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Md Shahin, *left*, was scheduled to fly to Saudi Arabia yesterday. He and his brother anxiously check a phone at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for updates. Shahin and many others were unable to travel to KSA after at least eight flights were cancelled following a Houthi missile strike on Riyadh airport.

PHOTO: **RASHED SHUMON**

Visa clock ticks for KSA-bound workers

Nearly 3,000 passengers affected by Riyadh airport closure; migrants facing job deadlines, uncertainty

TASNEEM TAYEB

Having spent Tk 3.5 lakh to secure a job in Saudi Arabia, Mohammad Hasan was all set to leave Bangladesh yesterday afternoon.

"Now I am waiting, not knowing whether I will reach Riyadh before my visa expires on Monday," he told The Daily Star at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka at 3:30pm yesterday.

His predicament reflects the uncertainty facing Bangladeshi migrant workers as the security crisis escalates in Saudi Arabia amid attacks by Yemeni Houthis, disrupting air

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2 Bangladeshis killed in Riyadh airport strike

24 others injured; Dhaka slams attack

STAR REPORT

Two Bangladeshis were killed and 24 others critically injured in Saturday's Houthi missile strike on Riyadh's international airport.

According to the expatriates' welfare ministry, three of them were undergoing treatment in the intensive care unit at King Abdullah hospital.

The Bangladesh Embassy in Riyadh is maintaining contact with hospitals to gather information about the injured and ensure their proper treatment.

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Riyadh airport hit by fresh Houthi strike

Fire reported; people hurt

AGENCIES

A fresh Houthi strike hit Riyadh's international airport yesterday, a day after another attack claimed by the Yemeni group killed at least a dozen people, including two Bangladeshis, and forced authorities to suspend operations at the facility.

The Saudi-led coalition in Yemen said an "unidentified projectile" had targeted Riyadh's international airport Terminal 4, causing a fire. An unspecified number of people were injured, the Saudi civil aviation authority said, adding it was still assessing the damage.

The coalition also said Saudi air defences had intercepted a cruise missile in the vicinity of King Khalid International Airport.

The strikes have exposed vulnerabilities in Saudi defence capabilities as the kingdom wages an air campaign against the Houthis to support a ground war in Yemen by the Yemeni government against the Iran-aligned group.

The airport has been closed since Saturday's attack. However, a long-planned international energy conference went ahead in Riyadh as planned.

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BUSINESS AND BEYOND

CAB questions new LPG prices without hearings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) has been setting fuel prices, including liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), without public hearings, raising questions about whether it is protecting consumers' interests.

The issue came up at a discussion organised yesterday by The Daily Star titled "LPG prices: Who is failing the consumer?" at The Daily Star Centre.

The High Court issued a directive on August 25, 2020, requiring BERC to determine LPG prices through public hearings, said M Shamsul Alam, energy adviser to the Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB).

HC directive on Aug 25, 2020, calls for public hearings for LPG prices

BERC chairman says public hearings unnecessary



CAB says BERC fails to investigate LPG supply chain overcharging

Industry insiders say consumers pay 30-40% above govt-set rates

Last hearing held on Apr 12, 2021

BERC held a public hearing on April 12, 2021, but later stopped holding hearings, including for its latest decision on October 4.

Public hearings allow consumers to challenge the costs operators submit for inclusion in regulated prices. At the 2021 hearing, CAB questioned freight charges submitted by operators.

RELATED STORY ON B1

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