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TRANSWORLD

CAPE TOWN & BENGAL AIRLIFT P-2 P-3

HAJJ FLIGHTS FROM CHATTOGRAM

WILDERNESS **OF BANDARBAN**

BLUE ECONOMY

EASE VISA FOR FOREIGN TOURISTS

Economic impact of tourism in Bangladesh during pandemic period

---By Shahabuddin Ahmad

As one of the world's largest economic sectors, Travel & Tourism creates jobs, drives exports, and generates prosperity across the world. The sector. comprised of a wide range of industries, aims to serve and support domestic, international, business and leisure visitors. Companies, large and small, in industries ranging from accommodation and transportation to food & beverage, culture and sports & recreation, all strive to create products and services that bring people together, support communities and celebrate the wonders that our world can offer.

From the Pandemic period beginning from December 2019 the tourist trade all over the world suffered very badly. As a result airlines flights were cancelled, tourist resorts had hardly any visitor hotels and restaurants faced lack of business and people working for these establishments had been facing jobless situation and the government program for employment suffered badly. The GDP also suffered as tourism contributes to GDP. But the WTTC, President & CEO, Gloria Guevara Manzo says, "yet again, the

See Page-4



Padma Bridge: Dream comes truc

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Unvelling the Plague of Padma Bridge in Mawa, Munshiganj, Marking the Official Inauguration of the brudge.

Parliament passes Bangladesh Tourism Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2022



The Bangladesh Tourism Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2022 was passed in Parliament earlier this month aiming to boost revenue from the tourism sector. State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism M Mahbub Ali placed the Bill and it was sent passed by voice vote, reports UNB. As per the Bill, the authorised capital of the Corporation shall be Tk 10.00 billion instead of Tk 150 million while the paid-up capital will be Tk 4.00 billion instead of Tk 500.000.

Story Of Bangladesh's Padma Bridge: More Than Just A Bridge?



Bangladesh's much anticipated Padma Bridge has been inaugurated on June 25 this year. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the long-awaited bridge. The commuters of 21 districts of the southwest part of the country ealier crossed the Padma River via ferries through the country's Banglabazar-Shimulia route. Passengers and drivers had to suffer from long traffic jams. It will be the largest bridge in Bangladesh and the first fixed river crossing for road traffic. The two-level steel truss bridge will carry a four-lane highway on the upper level and a single-track railway on the lower level.

As the Padma Bridge, the dream of millions in the south has been inaugurated the miseries of people would end. The multipurpose bridge will make the journey easier for commuters and freight vehicles, and gradually boost the country's GDP by 1.3 to two per cent. The Padma Bridge, which is designed in two tiers with steel-truss composite keeping road on the top and rail below, is the deepest foundation bridge in the world. After inaugurating the Padma Bridge on the east side on June 25, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressed a mammoth rally on the other side of the river, her first public appearance in the southwestern part of the country since late See Page-4

