



Brilliance in Bangladesh Awards 2006

Eleven students who achieved high marks in O and A Level subjects under the University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) pose for photograph with William Bickerdike, CIE's regional manager for South Asia, and Richard Sunderland, deputy director, British Council, at a prize giving ceremony titled 'Brilliance in Bangladesh Awards 2006' at the British Council in the city yesterday.

One to die, five others get life for killing businessman

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced a man to death and five others to life imprisonment for killing Gazi Abbas, a businessman of Karwan Bazar, in the city's Tejgaon area in February 2002.

The convict with death is Naruttam Saha alias Ashik while Nazrul Islam, Shahidul Islam Himel, Roni, Apu Barman and Sagar alias Rafiq were jailed for life.

Of them, Himel and Nazrul are now in custody but the others are still at large.

Judge Mohammad Monzurul Bachhid of the Fourth Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court delivered the verdict at a packed courtroom.

The punishment of the fugitives will be effective from the day of their arrest or surrender, the judge said.

According to the prosecution, Abbas, also treasurer of Karwan Bazar Small Wholesale Business Samity, was killed by a gang of extortionists as he protested their activities in front of his rented house at East Tejgaon Bazar on February 17, 2002.

The victim's wife Saleha Akhter Minu filed a murder case with Tejgaon Police Station against Ashik and five others the same day.

BIBIYANA GAS FIELD

Production likely to start by early Dec

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet.

Gas production in the country's much-talked-about Bibiyana Gas Field and supply of the same to the national grid will be delayed for some months, an official of US company Chevron told The Daily Star yesterday.

Chevron that took over the gas field along with others in Sylhet region from another US company Unocal is now getting prepared to start production by the end of November or in early December this year.

Earlier, the Unocal officials said they were going to start the job in September.

Row over land acquisition and delay in transportation of rig components from abroad and other reasons caused the delay, the official said.

The then Unocal had started implementing a major work plan involving \$230 million in the Bibiyana Gas Field in the remote area of Nabiganj upazila under Habiganj district.

Under the programme, works for setting up a 500 MMCFD gas processing plant at the south pad of Bibiyana has been going on in full swing. The total expenditure may go up to \$245 million, the official said.

Meantime, drilling of six wells on the north pad of the Bibiyana Gas Field had already been completed.

The company will drill another one in the same field. The German driller company Deutag had been

entrusted with the task of drilling. Besides, the company will drill five more production wells at its south pad. Initially, 200 MMCFD gas will be supplied to the national gas grid.

It will raise the national supply to the Petrobangla's pipeline to 1800 MMCFD.

However, by the end of 2008, the chevron will raise the production up to 400-500 MMCFD, which will be the optimum production at the Bibiyana Gas Field, the official claimed.

Works on the laying of a 47 kilometre long pipeline from the Bibiyana Gas Field to the national

grid at Muchhai had also been completed.

Presently, the US Company is supplying 80 to 100 MMCFD gas to the national grid from five wells in Moulvibazar Gas Field while about 140 to 150 MMCFD gas is being supplied from Jalalabad Gas Field.

However, there are scopes to raise the supply from Moulvibazar Gas Field to meet Petrobangla's demand, the official added.

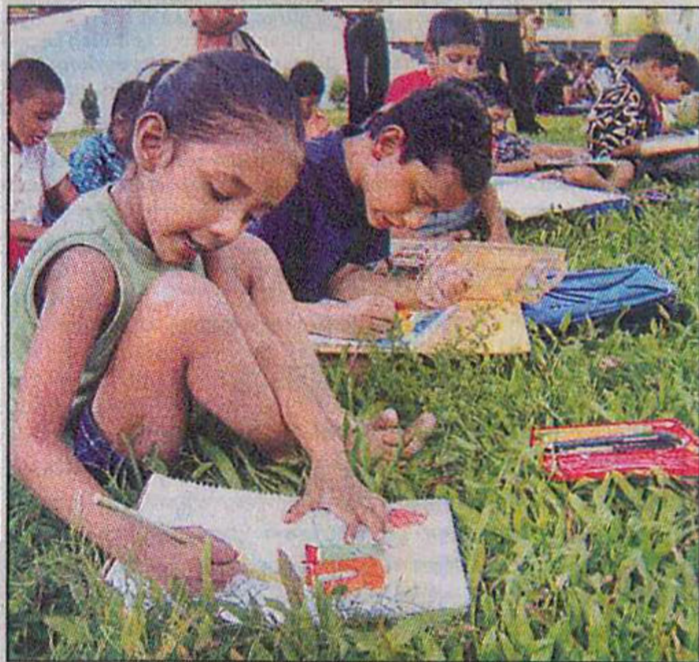
The Bibiyana Gas Field is considered as the country's second richest gas field with a recoverable proven reserve of 2.4 TCF. However, the probable reserve here will be 5.5 TCF, the Chevron official

claimed.

Petrobangla signed Gas Purchase and Sale Agreement (GPSA) with the then US Company Unocal on December 8, 2005 for Bibiyana gas.

There are two old gas wells in the north pad of Bibiyana Gas Field. The then Occidental had successfully drilled them in 1998.

It engaged German company Deutag for drilling the wells. However, the much-talked-about Magurchhara Gas Field in Moulvibazar suffered a severe blowout in June 15, 1997 when Deutag was engaged in drilling work.



Children take part in a drawing competition organised by Sat Rang Art School at Khokan Park at Bogra yesterday.

Case filed against 35 RU JCD men

RU CORRESPONDENT

The contractor of the fifth female hall of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday filed a case with Matihar police against 35 Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders and activists on charge of demanding toll, vandalising construction equipment and locking up the hall on Monday.

The contractor, Asaduzzaman Kota, alleged that the cadres also

threatened to kill him several times after the filing of the case.

However, police failed to arrest any of the accused JCD cadres though they are roaming around the campus.

RU JCD Convener Nuruzzaman Likhon brushed aside the allegation of involvement of JCD men with the incident. All the accused are expelled leaders and activists, he claimed.

Officer-in-Charge of Matihar Police Station Ramzan Ali told newsmen that police were deployed at the construction site to ensure uninterrupted construction of the hall and they are looking for the accused activists and leaders.

Earlier, JCD cadres led by Romel, Shovon, Jewel and Masud demanded Tk 50,000 from the contractor, resulting in the suspension of the construction work.

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