



4-LANE DHAKA-BHANGA EXPRESS HIGHWAY BUILT WITH BSRM XTREME

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SHAH CEMENT

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY China stakes claim as climate leader

Lambasts US 'obstruction' in global fight against emissions, sets 2060 goal to be carbon neutral

AFP, Beijing

The US is guilty of "obstructing" the global fight against emissions, China said yesterday, as Beijing seized the climate agenda by vowing to go carbon neutral by 2060 -- a target welcomed by environmentalists despite its patchy detail.

The goals, which include a pledge to reach peak emissions in 2030, are still the most concrete yet announced by China, which is the world's biggest polluter and accounts for a quarter of the planet's greenhouse gas blamed for rising temperatures.

They also open a new divergence in relations with the US, which are already pinched by squabbles over trade, tech, defence and human rights.

Speaking to the UN General Assembly, Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday renewed his support for the Paris climate accord and called for a green focus as the world recovers from the Covid-19 crisis.

Under President Donald Trump, the United States -- the world's second-largest polluter -- pulled out of the agreement, blaming China for the stalled momentum on tackling global emissions.

"This clearly... seriously obstructs the progress of

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Politically influential locals involved in sand trading have occupied parts of the Buriganga and the adjoining road leading from Gabtoli to Adabor. They did not even spare the land reserved for the Water Development Board. Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, under whose jurisdiction the riverbanks fall, tried many times to put an end to such encroachment but to no avail.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Tk 10cr yaba pills seized in Cox's Bazar

No arrests yet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Members of the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) recovered 3.5 lakh yaba pills, worth around Tk 10 crore, from Hnila union, adjacent to Naf river in Cox's Bazar's Teknaf upazila on Tuesday night.

No arrest was made in connection with the recovery, said Lieutenant Col Mohammad Foisol Khan, commanding officer (CO) of BGB-2 battalion.

On information that a huge consignment of yaba pills will enter Bangladesh from Myanmar through Naf river, a BGB patrol team took position at the area, he said.

"Around 9:00pm, some people were seen heading towards Kewra jungle on a boat," the BGB official said, adding that when the BGB team asked them to stop, the people fled the area with the boat and went into Myanmar territory.

Later, the law enforcers searched the jungle and

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Daulatdia Ferry Ghat at risk of erosion again

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

River erosion has begun at Daulatdia ferry terminal in Rajbari. A part of terminal-3 and its adjacent area have already gone into the Padma over the last three days.

Locals said large chunks of land would go into the river unless the authorities took steps. Approach roads to pontoon-1, -2 and -3 and over 500 nearby houses were damaged due to erosion last year, they said.

Water Development Board in Rajbari and Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) jointly started dumping geo-bags in the area to stop the erosion.

Locals urged the government to construct an embankment to protect Daulatdia and its adjacent Siddik-Kazirpara and Majid Shekherpara villages from the erosion.

After the erosion last year, it could be possible to open terminal-3, but terminal-1 and -2 are still closed.

Daulatdia has six ferry terminals. Shah Alam, sub-assistant engineer of BIWTA at Daulatdia ferry terminal, said strong currents in the Padma caused the erosion. Geo-bags were being dumped to prevent the erosion.

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Education must reflect people's aspiration



Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman inaugurates the meeting of Education Commission at the Gono Bhaban on September 24, 1972.

September 24, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

BANGABANDHU INAUGURATES EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETING

Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman asks the Education Commission today to expedite its recommendations keeping in view the requirements of the present as well as future generations. Inaugurating the first meeting of the Education Commission at the Gono Bhaban, the prime minister says that the recommendations must reflect the hopes and aspirations of the people, particularly the younger generation of the country. It must

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WEB REGISTRATION

Each selected news site has to pay govt Tk 10,000

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has fixed Tk 10,000 as fee for registration of selected news portals and online editions of newspapers.

An order from the Ministry of Information also said the annual renewal fee for the registration is Tk 5,000. Also, a surcharge of Tk 2,000 has to be paid on the registration.

Another Tk 5,000 has to be paid if any news portal or online edition of a newspaper fails to clear the surcharge within a month after the deadline for the payment, said the order, issued yesterday.

The order mentioned three codes to deposit the amounts in treasury invoice. For payment of registration fee, the code is 1422212, for renewal

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Asteroid to fly by earth closer than our satellites: Nasa



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

An asteroid the size of a bus is set to fly past Earth in the coming hours.

The object, known as 2020 SW, will fly just 13,000 miles above the Earth's surface today, Nasa has said.

That is closer than the artificial objects that are in orbit around our planet, and power GPS, televisions and more.

The object was only discovered on September 18 by a Nasa-funded project in Arizona, and further observations were able to track its trajectory and rule out any chance that it might collide with Earth.

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MONEY LAUNDERING

Rab asks CID to sue DGHS driver Malek

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab yesterday requested the Criminal Investigation Department to sue suspended health directorate driver Abdul Malek for money laundering.

Besides, Rab will take over the charge of investigation of the two cases filed against Malek, who has raked in over Tk 100 crore.

He is accused of being involved in a syndicate

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 24

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-40 12-45 4-30 6-05 7-30
JAMAAT 5-15 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Saudi Arabia to resume umrah from October 4

AFP, Riyadh

Saudi Arabia will gradually resume the year-round umrah pilgrimage for Muslims from October 4, the interior ministry said, seven months after it was suspended because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The kingdom had suspended the umrah in March and later scaled back the annual hajj in a blow to millions of pilgrims around the world amid fears that the coronavirus could spread to Islam's holiest sites.

In the first stage, "6,000 citizens and residents within the kingdom will be allowed to perform the umrah per day from October 4", the ministry said in a statement published by the official Saudi Press Agency on Tuesday.

Visitors from outside the kingdom will be permitted from November 1, when umrah's capacity will be raised to 20,000 pilgrims per day, the ministry added.

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The country's largest solar-based powerplant in Mymensingh's Sutiakhali area is set to start operation in the first week of October. The 50-megawatt plant was established to meet the government's target of using renewable energy to produce 10 percent of the country's total electricity by 2021.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

M'singh solar power plant ready to roll

Set to add 50MW to nat'l grid from next month

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A 50-megawatt solar power plant in Mymensingh's Sutiakhali area, the largest of its kind, is ready to start operations by the first week of October.

The construction work of the megaproject has been finished following all the government rules and regulations, said Group Captain (Rtd) Sheikh Md Shafiqul Islam, director of HDFC Sinpower Ltd.

"It is the largest solar-based power plant among all the projects ongoing in the country and we are hopeful to go into production by the first week of the next month," he said.

HDFC Sinpower Ltd, a joint venture of three companies from Bangladesh, Singapore and Malaysia, implemented the project.

The power plant would help meeting the government's target of generating 10 percent of the country's total electricity using renewable energy by 2021.

The power plant was established on a 144-acre land with an estimated cost of Tk 800 crore. The project started in 2017 and was scheduled to finish by July this year. It was, however, delayed due to coronavirus pandemic.

"A portion of the Chinese staffers, including engineers, went to their country to celebrate New Year but could not return on time due to the pandemic, causing delay to the project," Shafiqul Islam said.

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