

PDB to restore 11 power plants by Sept

By Sohel Manzur

The government has decided to restore eleven power generation plants by September this year on emergency basis to overcome the power crisis of the country, according to a source at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

With the reoperation of the plants the Power Development Board (PDB) would be able to supply 413 megawatt additional electricity to its consumers, the source said, adding that special allocation was being made to implement the decision.

Of the total eleven plants, the rejuvenation process of the Syedpur gas turbine, Barisal gas turbine (unit No 1), Haripur gas turbine (unit No 1) and Chittagong barge (unit No 1) has already begun in May.

A total of 95 megawatt of electricity will be produced after resuming the operations of the four power generation plants.

The production of power in the Karnafuli Hydro-Electric Plant had been reduced to 50 megawatt from April due to fall in water level in the Kaptai Lake. Additional 130 megawatt is expected to be produced from this month with the rise in water level of the lake.

Ashuganj gas turbine (unit No 1) and Haripur gas turbine (unit No 2) plants were planned to be rejuvenated in July and August respectively

and an additional 80 megawatt electricity (50 from Ashuganj Plant and 30 from Haripur Plant) will be produced from the two power plants.

The four other plants, Bheramara Electric Plant (unit No 3), Khulna 110 megawatt unit, Chittagong 60 megawatt unit and Shahjibazar Electricity Plant were planned to be rejuvenated in September.

The four plants will produce an additional 108 megawatt of electricity after resumption of operation.

At present 1565 megawatt electricity was being produced against the total highest demand of 1850 megawatt. The actual production capacity of the power generation plants in the country is, however, 2398 megawatt which could not be achieved due to non-operation of a number of plants and units.

The Power Development Board estimated that the demand of electricity in September will be increased to 1900 megawatt and the power generation capacity at the time will be increased to 1978 megawatt, according to sources.

Some units will have to be kept inoperative during the time for emergency need, the sources said, adding that the loadshedding will, however, remain under 150 megawatt despite the inoperation.



Home bound passengers despite repeated warnings against over crowding huddling in whatever open spaces left on motor launches on the eve of Eid-ul-Azha at Sadarghat launch terminal yesterday. — Star photo

3 killed as buses collide in Khulna

KHULNA, June 10: Three people including a mother and her son were killed and five others injured in a bus accident at Choddamile in Fultali upazila, 25 kilometres from here today, reports UNB.

Witnesses and police said the Khulna bound microbus from Dhaka collided head on with a bus from Khulna killing three people on the spot at about 6 am.

The victims were identified as Khaleda Khanam (42), Mrs Salek (35) and her son Bijoy (12). Those admitted to hospital are Abu Salek whose wife and son were killed, Montiaz, Milton, Nazim and driver of the microbus Omar Ali.

They were all passengers of the microbus (Dhaka Metro Cha.02-143).

The injured were rushed to the new hospital in Khulna. They were stated to be in a critical condition.

Police seized the bus (Ja.007A) of Shohag Paribahan but the driver managed to escape.

Magura
Another report from Magura adds, One person was killed and five others were injured when a loaded truck fell into a roadside ditch on the Magura-Jhenidah road Wednesday morning.

The victim, identified as Atiar Rahman (35), was killed on the spot.

Among the injured, Rustom Ali (28) and Alamgir (30) were admitted to Magura Hospital in critical condition.

The accident occurred when the Dhaka-bound truck carrying cattle- heads, lost control and fell into the road side ditch.

Mostafiz, Myanmar FM talk

refugee issue

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 10: Foreign Minister Mostafizur Rahman held a meeting with his Myanmar counterpart here Monday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters relating to the Myanmar refugee situation.

Both the Foreign Ministers are currently here leading delegations of their respective countries to the United Nations conference on environment and development.

Awami League unsure

From Page 1 Col 8 asking it to finalise the revised manifesto incorporating few more suggestions discussed in the meeting.

The sub-committee accordingly, met last Monday and almost finalised the draft of the revised manifesto.

According to sub-committee sources, the members attending Monday's meeting failed to decide whether or not it would be wise to mention the AL's loyalty to 'free-market economy' based on capitalist model.

Most of the committee members were of the opinion that the AL should put the issue in the party manifesto some what in a vague manner such as 'people's welfare oriented economy' for technical reasons, sources added.

The sub-committee meeting however decided that this particular issue would be finalised in consultation with party chief Sheikh Hasina after her return from Saudi Arabia. She is expected back home on the 17 of this month.

The proposed manifesto keeping 'socialism,' one of the party's previous four fundamental principles, intact, added a brief interpretation with the terminology saying 'vis-a-vis exploitation free society.'

The prelude in the proposed manifesto observed that the people of the country wanted a revolutionary change

Eid tomorrow

From Page 1 Col 5 offices will remain closed from Thursday to Saturday. However special arrangements have been made to despatch letters on June 13.

Special food will be served in the hospitals, prisons and destitute centres to mark the day.

The government has already ordered release of a total of 202 detenues on the holy occasion after reviewing their cases. Of them 101 detenues have been detained under the Special Powers Act of 1974 and the rest are under trial prisoners for light offences.

Meanwhile, home-bound people began leaving the capital to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha with their kins at home.

Heavy rush was observed Tuesday at the three main bus terminals at Mohakhali, Gabtali and at Syedabad, at the Kamalapur Railway Station and at the Sadarghat launch terminal. Rush would further increase today.

Government offices including the Secretariat looked deserted as most of the employees left after signing the office attendance.

Make-shift cattle markets dotted Dhaka Tuesday while Eid shopping at the other shopping centres has reached its peak.

In a message on the occasion Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia called upon all to involve themselves in building up the country with the same spirit of dedication that they would practise on Eid day for the satisfaction of Almighty Allah.

In a separate message from Saudi Arabia Awami League Chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina conveyed her greetings to the countrymen and wished continued peace and progress of the world humanity.

Eid congregation

Congregations will be held in the capital as elsewhere in the country.

The main Eid congregations in Dhaka will be held at the National Eidgah while four other congregations will be held at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque beginning 6-16 in the morning.

Two congregations will take place at the Dhaka University

Factional clash JCD activist in Jessore killed

JESSORE, June 10: A student activist was killed and another injured at BNP office in Avoyanagar tonight, police said, reports UNB.

The victim Faruk Hossain (22) was identified as General Secretary of upazila JCD unit. Abdul Wadud (40) who received cut injuries is president of district BNP.

Witnesses said about 25 people attacked the BNP office with lethal weapons and killed Faruk. They also exploded about 30 crackers that created panic in the area.

Police said they suspect attackers belonged to a faction of BNP who were ousted from the leadership recently.

Agri farm labourers call off strike

Agricultural farm labourers Wednesday called off their nonstop strike after a fruitful discussion with the government, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at a meeting between the Bangladesh Agricultural Farm Workers Federation and the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADDC) authorities.

DU authorities fear fierce battle anytime

Dhaka University authorities yesterday said that they had no means to handle the growing incidents of violence on the campus.

A statement issued to press on behalf of the university, appealed for not making Dhaka University 'a battle ground.'

Expressing concern over continued campus terrorism, the statement said that violent activities which had increased alarmingly might turn into a bloody battle at any moment.

It urged all political organisations to shun violence in order to settle political problems in the university.

The DU statement also called upon the law enforcing agencies to take active role to mop up illegal weapons from the campus.

Tinbigha

From Page 1 Col 7 tion Cong (I) in the assembly, SS Ray, responsible for scuttling the delegation's visit to Tinbigha. As a result, Basu said that he BJP and anti-Tinbigha accord forces would be encouraged.

CPI (M) sources said that the Chief Minister also requested the Prime Minister to intervene in the matter.

The Prime Minister was reported to have told Basu that he would talk to the Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Minister, Ajit Banja, in this regard.

Loadshedding

From Page 1 Col 7 provided with 120mw of power from the Dhaka region to make up for the shortfall.

Besides fall in the water level for Kaptai Lake, several factors including closure of some generating units needing repair, delay in commissioning of planned units due to shortage of funds and shortage in the supply of gas and fuel hindered the generation of adequate power to meet demand, the minister added.

He said that steps had already been taken to improve the power generation capacity by next year. The government had already undertaken the rehabilitation of three out of the seven units scheduled to be financed by the World Bank, which has blocked the funds because of a high rate of system loss in the power sector.

He added that the 210mw Chittagong thermal power station was expected to be commissioned by April next year and the 210mw fifth unit of the Ghorasal power station would start functioning from December 1993.

Besides, the ECNEC has already approved a 90mw power station at Fenchuganj and two 100mw power stations at Sidhirganj and Mymensingh.

Replying to a question, the minister said that since 1989 increase in power generation was only 70mw while the average annual demand rose by 200mw.

Dr Hossain also said that the overall system loss in the power sector decreased slightly from 42 per cent during the formation of DESA last year to 30 per cent.

He told a questioner that upto April this year the total outstanding electric bills payable to PDB and DESA stood at Taka 832 crore out of which government organisations owed Taka 158 crore.

The Midnight File

Ukrainian coal mine blast toll rises to 55

KIEV (UKRAINE), June 10: The death toll from a methane explosion in a Ukrainian coal mine rose to 55 on Wednesday. Twenty-four miners remained in a hospital, nine in critical condition, said Viktor Shumyatsky, a member of the Donbass strike committee, the permanent organization representing many Ukrainian miners, reports AP.

Israeli planes strike Shi'ite strongholds in Lebanon

SIDON (Lebanon), June 10: Israeli warplanes attacked Shi'ite Muslim guerilla strongholds Wednesday after clashes in the security zone it occupies in south Lebanon. Police in the southern market town of Nabatiyah said fighter-bombers rocketed the Lowzeih hills in Iklim al-Tuffah, or the Apple Province, in two sorties, reports AP.

Romanian parties agree on polls in Sept

BUCHAREST, June 10: President Ion Iliescu announced Wednesday that leaders of the main political parties have agreed that parliamentary and presidential elections should be held Sept. 27, reports AP.

Four parties support June 21 hartal

By Staff Correspondent

A joint meeting of Awami League, Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF), Ganatantri Party and Gana Azadi League yesterday supported the June 21 countrywide dawn to dusk hartal.

Held at the Minto Road official residence of the Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina, the meeting also called upon the countrymen to make the hartal a success.

The National Coordination Committee for Realisation of the Spirit of the Liberation War and Resistance to the Killers and Collaborators of 1971 has called the day-long hartal demanding execution of the 'Gana Adalat' verdict on Jamaat chief Golam Azam.

Chaired by the AL Acting Chief and Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad, the meeting was also attended by Sheikh Abdul Aziz, Abdul Mannan, Mohiuddin Ahmed MP, Salahuddin Yousuf, MP, Abdur Razzak, MP, Tofael Ahmed, MP, Mohammad Nasim, MP, Shudhansu Shekhar Haldar MP, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Prof Abu Sayeed, Abdul Monem Sarkar and Mirza Sultan Raja of the Awami League, Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Nurul Islam Nahid, Dilip Barua, and Pankaj Bhattacharya of PDF, Mohammad Afzal of Ganatantri Party and Advocate Nurul Islam of Gana Azadi League.

The meeting in a resolution demanded withdrawal of cases against 24 sponsors of Golam Azam.

Islam is the religion of peace, amity and tolerance, Hasina said. "It also teaches mankind to work for greater wellbeing of the creation."

The Awami League chief said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had taken steps to establish an exploitation-free society to ensure people's fundamental rights in accordance with Islam's message of justice and equality.

But assassination of Sheikh Mujib deepened the economic crisis, she said, widening the gap between the rich and the poor resulting in deprivation and subjugation of the common masses.

Hasina called for taking renewed pledge to establish an exploitation-free society replacing the existing social order which deny the poor of Eid festivity.

US threatens

From Page 1 Col 4 The documents are being prepared for signing by more than 100 heads of state who will gather in Rio by Friday.

Jacques Attali, president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, urged the UN plenary delegates to use today's defense funds to protect the environment.

"As the Cold War gives way to the Green War, resources must be released," he said. "An environmental industry and research on pollution (must) be developed and ... the military-industrial complex be replaced by an environmental complex."

Debate ends Thursday at the summit, officially called the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. There more than 100 world leaders are to meet for the signing of the final documents.

Documents being prepared include a statement of moral principles on the environment; conventions on climate control, protecting plant and animal species and forestry; and a blueprint for cleaning up the Earth.

Strongly appreciated the fortitude and courage with which the people of Bangladesh had faced natural calamities in the past and expressed the hope that they would be better equipped to tackle such calamities in future.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman earlier briefed Strong about the impact of natural disaster like flood, cyclone etc on the natural economy and gave a resume of present government's short term and long term plans to combat the natural disasters and other measures already adopted to protect and maintain a balanced environment.

Another report says, Mostafizur Rahman signed the frame work convention on climate change on behalf of the government of Bangladesh here yesterday.

Minister for Environment Abdullah Al Noman was also present on the occasion.

Time deposits, the spokesman added, rose by 10.6 per cent from Tk 17,800 crore on June 30, 1991 to Tk 19,693 crore on May 14, 1992.

All these figures amply demonstrate that there had been no adverse impact on our banking system as apprehended by certain quarters, the spokesman emphasised.

He however, did not show separate figures of the private banks and those of nationalised commercial banks.

While taking no liability for deposits in illegal banking of BCI, the spokesman held out assurance that depositors of BCCI will get back their money.

He said negotiations are nearing completion to refoat BCCI by early August when all small depositors will get return their money. Even the big depositors will get back their money, if not immediately, but in due course when the bank will operate profitably.

Pangsha double-murder 11 get life terms

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, June 10: Eleven persons were sentenced to serve jail-terms for life in a sensational double-murder case by the District Sessions Judge here today.

Judge Fazlur Rahman in his verdict acquitted seven other accused, including a former UP Chairman.

Those who are to suffer life imprisonment for murdering Abdus Salam and Md Aminul Islam about two years ago are: M Kuddus, Nader, MA Berek, Moslem, M Anwar Hossain, Mazibur Rahman, Shamsur Ali, Jalal, Mannan, Razzak, Aslam Choudhury.

Razzak and Aslam Choudhury are absconding. They were tried in absentia.

The 11 convicts were also fined 5000 Taka each. In default, they are to be in jail another for six months.

The case in brief is that Abdus Salam and Aminul Islam were shot dead and then beheaded by the accused persons in the afternoon of October 17, 1990, near the village Baghjhapra, while travelling by motor cycle from Pangsha.

Following the incident, relatives of the deceased filed a case with the Pangsha Police Station. The police, after investigation, chargesheeted the 18 persons.

Khaleda

From Page 1 Col 8 Presided over by city BNP President Mir Shawkat Ali, MP, the function was addressed, among others, by LGRD and Cooperative Minister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Planning Minister M. Zahiruddin Khan, BNP City General Secretary Salahuddin Ahmed, MP, DUCSU Vice President Amanullah Aman, MP and student leader Fazlul Huq Milan.

The Prime Minister said the objective of BNP was to bring about overall development in the country particularly in rural areas. "Our politics is to develop the 68,000 villages in the country," she said, adding "we want to bring smiles to the people living in villages."

Begum Khaleda Zia said BNP is the first political party to establish multi-party parliamentary democracy in the country since it believes in diversity of opinion.

She urged the new entrants to carry forward part's objective of production-oriented politics and elimination of violence. She said "you cannot attain development if you cannot establish peace and discipline in society."

In this connection she called upon them to make Mirpur a violence-free area in the city. She said we have to uproot violence from society, which was initiated by the autocratic regime.

Brig Anwar takes over as DG of BDR

Brigadier/ Mohammad Anwar Hossain BP, PSC has taken over the charge of Director General of Bangladesh Rifles Wednesday says a press release, reports BSS.

Commissioned from Pakistan Military Academy with graduation degree in infantry, Brig Anwar Participated in the liberation war of Bangladesh with 3 East Bengal in 7 sector, Z. force and in 5 sector.

The case was later investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) which framed the charge against the convicts.

A total of 11 witnesses were produced before the court to prove the charge.

The Sessions Judge Court granted one week for the convicts to appeal in the high court.

State defence lawyer advocate Mujib Khan pleaded for the absconding accused while prosecuting lawyer Aferuddin Ahmed and Humayun Kabir appeared for the state.

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