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Naberezhnaya Tower is an office complex consisting of 3 individual office buildings under connected to each other via a common basement. At 268.4 meters, this 59-story tower remained the tallest building in Europe, until the City of Capitals was completed in 2009.



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Star-DHL awards tonight

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Daily Star and DHL Express are all set to host the 10th Bangladesh Business Awards 2009 tonight to crown winners for extraordinary performance in business.

This year, individuals and businesses are being awarded in five categories -- Best Financial Institute, Best Enterprise, Best Business Person of the Year, Outstanding Woman in Business and Lifetime Achievement.

Bangladesh Bank SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Allow power plants without bidding

Suggest JS body chiefs at pre-budget meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A pre-budget meeting yesterday suggested formulation of special laws for awarding deals for setting up power plants without tender to meet the severe power crisis.

The suggestion came from a meeting of the chairmen of parliamentary standing committees with the finance minister at his secretariat office.

Chairman of the standing committee on law ministry Suranjit Sengupta said at the meeting power generation totals only 4,500 megawatt 39 years after independence. The government now plans to raise production of power to 8,000 MW in next three and a half years. Does the government have "Aladdin's lamp" to make this happen, he asked.

Suranjit said special measures are needed to

achieve this target, and those have to be specified in the finance minister's budget speech for the coming fiscal year. Special laws have to be made and suitable persons given the responsibility of materialising this goal, he added.

The House body chief mentioned that a minister has said light is visible at the end of the tunnel, and power crisis would end very soon. Sengupta however said, "If special measures are not taken, budget will come and budget will go, but no light will be seen at the end of the tunnel."

Chairman of the standing committee on industries ministry Tofail Ahmed said, "Our tendering process is very lengthy. If we go for this process, power crisis cannot be solved in three to four years."

He said many investors with huge funds are

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Outages back after Baishakh relief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Power Development Board on Pahela Baishakh generated a record 4,606 megawatt giving the country almost zero load shedding after a long time but it was the same old frequent power cuts yesterday.

This record generation was possible as most industrial and commercial gas consumers observed the holiday which allowed gas to be diverted to power plants. Those plants were unable to produce at optimum levels due to gas crisis.

The maximum generation was reached around 10:00pm

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India wants LNG, coal-based joint venture power

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India's state-owned National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is exploring the possibilities for joint ventures in generation of electricity in Bangladesh using liquefied natural gas (LNG) and coal.

India has proposed to set up a LNG terminal in Bangladesh in a joint venture to create a power generation capacity of around 1,000 MW, NTPC sources in New Delhi said yesterday.

According to the proposal, after meeting demand in Bangladesh, the remaining power will be supplied to India through a transmission link being set up between the two countries by state-owned Power Grid Corp. of India Ltd.

Details of the plan would be decided after a Bangladeshi delegation visits India soon to study the LNG terminals.

"Since Bangladesh does not have much coal reserves, we suggested setting up an LNG terminal either through a joint venture with India or on their own. They can then use the gas to generate power and also sell it to India through the transmission link we are building," Indian Power Secretary HS Brahma said.

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Maj Gen Rafiqul Islam

BDR, Ansar get new chiefs

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

The government yesterday brought a few but significant changes in posts of the Army, BDR and Ansar.

The present Director General of Bangladesh Rifles Maj Gen M Mainul Islam has

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GOVT HOUSES Case against Bashundhara chief to go on

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected two writ petitions of Bashundhara Group Chairman Ahmed Akbar Sobhan alias Shah Alam challenging the legality of the proceedings against him in a graft case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission.

The HC bench of Justice Md Imman Ali and Justice Obaidul

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Trial of mutiny at Pikhana begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A special court yesterday began trials for 624 BDR men of 13 Rifles Battalion in a case filed for last year's February 25-26 mutiny at Pikhana BDR Headquarters.

Meanwhile, earlier in the day the court deferred the charge framing date set for yesterday against 84 accused of the mutiny under Dhaka Sector Headquarters to October 3.

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PHOTO: RABIUL HASAN

Locals excavate the dried up stretch of near-dead river Manda, now reduced to almost a puddle, in Naogaon. They set up two shallow machines to draw groundwater and preserve it so that they can irrigate farmlands through canals. The photo was taken recently.

PM tells of plans to solve water, power crises

Lays foundation of Sayedabad water treatment plant-2

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said the government has undertaken a 'mega-plan' to ensure adequate water supply, apart from power generation, not only in Dhaka city but also across the country.

She said this yesterday while addressing the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Saidabad Water Treatment Plant Phase-2.

The premier noted that the population of Dhaka city is increasing rapidly, but growth in services and infrastructure for the citizen could not keep up with that pace.

"That's why new problems are arising in the scenario here," she said.

The premier said she is aware of the twin utilities crisis, but was quick to abdicate her government of all responsibilities. She repeated her claim that the previous BNP-led 4-party alliance and then the caretaker government during the emergency should bear responsibility for these problems.

"The problems we face could not have been solved in just 15 months, and the people of the country know that very well," she said.

Regarding the opposition's threat of forging a movement agitated by the utilities crisis, Hasina said, "My government in 2001 left with 4000 MW being generated, how come it is still languishing in that position? The 4-party alliance and caretaker governments have to answer this question. If there is any movement spurred by the water and power crisis, it should be against them."

Hasina reiterated another claim that her government has

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Let fugitive tycoons return, boost business

JS body on finance asks govt

RASHIDUL HASAN

A parliamentary committee yesterday asked the government to take measures to bring back businessmen who went into hiding abroad during the last caretaker government's rule.

"We urged the government to take the fugitive businessmen into confidence so that they return to the country and play roles in their sectors," said AHM Mustafa Kamal, chief of the parliamentary standing committee on finance ministry.

These businessmen are now running businesses in different countries, investing there, thus depriving their own country, Mustafa Kamal, popularly known as Lotus Kamal, told

reporters after a meeting of the committee at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

"The government should ensure that they will not be put behind bars upon their return," said Lotus Kamal, an Awami League lawmaker and also chief of Bangladesh Cricket Control Board.

"It is the businessmen who run the country and it is the government's duty to cooperate with them," he added.

In the face of the last caretaker government's anti-corruption crackdown, a good number of politicians-businessmen fled the country to avoid arrest.

The anti-corruption drive earned criticism

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Student killed for protesting driving on playground

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A university student was hacked to death by a gang of criminals at Fatulla in Narayanganj on Wednesday just because he protested their riding a motorcycle into a field where he along with his friends was playing cricket.

The victim was identified as Saiful Islam Khaiyam, 22, a student of engineering department at Dhaka United International University.

Police could not hunt down any of the killers till yesterday.

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FRAUD 'PIR' Confession recorded

A CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Fraud 'pir' Amzad Hossain who was arrested for torturing children in the name of treatment yesterday gave

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Girl stabbed

Teenaged boy attacks her for spurning 'advances'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A teenaged boy stabbed a 15-year-old schoolgirl in Golapganj upazila in Sylhet Wednesday afternoon after she refused his advances to go out with him.

The unruly boy attacked her with a knife, repeatedly stabbing her right hand.

Fahmida, a student of class ten at Nasir Uddin High School in the upazila, was first taken to the upazila health complex and later shifted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College hospital for treatment.

Apu, the 17-year-old miscreant, was expelled from the same school two years ago for behavioural problems. Locals said he

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OnlinePoll. Do you think the government should give massive subsidy in installing solar panels to encourage people to use solar power? Yes (82.5%), No (16.4%), No Comments (1.1%). Total votes: 537. TODAY'S POLL. Do you think the government should form a powerful body to take necessary steps to handle unrest in RMG sector whenever it occurs? Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Monno Medical College (Proposed) & Hospital. "Monno Sati", Gilsh, Manikganj. A Concern of Monno Welfare Foundation. নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি. মনু মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল ৩০০ শয্যার একটি উন্নত ও আধুনিক হাসপাতাল এবং ৫০০ শয্যায় উন্নতি করণের প্রক্রিয়া চলমান যা মানিকগঞ্জ সদর হতে ৫ কিলোমিটার দূরে ঢাকা-আরিচা মহাসড়কের পাশে অবস্থিত। চিকিৎসা সেবার ক্ষেত্রে এ হাসপাতালকে আন্তর্জাতিক মানের উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে এর প্রতিষ্ঠাতা বিশিষ্ট শিল্পপতি ও সমাজসেবক জনাব হারুন আর রশিদ খান মনু নিরলস ও অক্লান্ত পরিশ্রম করে যাচ্ছেন। তিনি এ হাসপাতালের অবকাঠামোগত উন্নয়ন সহ আন্তর্জাতিক মানসম্মত চিকিৎসা সামগ্রী স্থাপনের ব্যবস্থা করছেন এবং করবেন, যেখানে দেশের স্বনামধন্য বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকগণ তাদের উন্নত জ্ঞান ও মেধা প্রয়োগের মাধ্যমে দেশের একটি হাসপাতালে আন্তর্জাতিক পর্যায়ের চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদান করতে সক্ষম হবেন। পর্যায়ক্রমে এই হাসপাতালের সকল বিভাগকে আরও আধুনিক ও আন্তর্জাতিক মানের উন্নয়নের পরিকল্পনা রয়েছে স্বনামধন্য এই শিল্পপতির। এর ফলে, চিকিৎসাক্ষেত্রে এদেশের মানুষদের বিদেশমুখীতা হ্রাস পেতে থাকবে বলে তিনি প্রত্যাশা করেন। তাঁর এই মহৎ উদ্যোগে অংশ নেয়ার জন্য আমরা দেশের অভিজ্ঞ ও পারদর্শী চিকিৎসকগণের আন্তরিক সাহায্য কামনা করছি। মেধা বিকাশের পর্বাণ সহযোগীতা ও পরিবেশ তৈরীর দায়িত্ব আমাদের এবং উন্নতমানের চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদানের দায়িত্ব বিশেষজ্ঞ চিকিৎসকগণের। চিকিৎসকগণ এখানে সুন্দর পরিবেশে অবস্থানকরে পূর্ণকালীন কাজ করতে পারবেন অথবা প্রয়োজনীয়ক্ষেত্রে অন্য কোথাও অবস্থান করেও খন্ডকালীন ভিত্তিতে চিকিৎসা সেবায় আত্মনিয়োগ করতে পারবেন। তাই আত্মীয় প্রার্থীদেরকে সদ্য তোলা ২ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রঙিন ছবি ও পূর্ণ জীবন-বৃত্তান্তসহ আবেদনপত্র আগামী ৩০-০৪-২০১০ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্ন ঠিকানায় পাঠানোর জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। বেতন ও অন্যান্য সুযোগ-সুবিধাদি আলোচনা সাপেক্ষে নির্ধারিত করা হবে। অধ্যাপক ডাঃ এ.বি.এম. আলী আকবর বিশ্বাস অধ্যক্ষ কাম প্রকল্প পরিচালক মনু মেডিকেল কলেজ (প্রস্তাবিত) ও হাসপাতাল "মনু সিটি", গিলশ, মানিকগঞ্জ। মনু মেডিকেল কলেজ (প্রস্তাবিত) ও হাসপাতাল প্রধান কার্যালয় ইসলামপুর, ধামরাই, ঢাকা-১৩৫০ E-mail: admin@monno-group.com