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6-HR POWER OUTAGE AT BSMMU HOSPITAL

# Medicare goes haywire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A six-hour blackout paralysed the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) yesterday, causing immense suffering to patients and doctors. Except for a few emergency services using generator, all pathological tests, scheduled operations and outdoor services remained snapped from 6:00am to 12:15pm when power supply resumed, hospital sources said. The power outage happened when the hospital's main power cable got burnt following an electric short circuit, BSMMU Director Brig Gen Abdul Majid Bhuiyan said. He, however, said they did not face any

major crisis. "We responded to the emergency cases using generator." Soon after the power blackout, the hospital buildings wore a deserted look as many patients and their attendants and nurses and doctors walked out of their rooms to take shelter on the compound and the adjacent roads as it got unbearably hot inside. "It's intolerable. I cannot take it anymore, I need some air," said Minhaj Uddin, a neurosurgery patient, who was unable to move from his bed. Relatives of the patients had to climb up and down the multi-storey building to get food, water and medicine, as the lifts were

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Doctors check patients by candlelight at the outdoor section of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University hospital, as a six-hour power outage yesterday threw the country's lone medical university into disarray. Inset, people scheduled to have medical tests done wait outside the hospital.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL



NOISE POLLUTION  
Wasa warned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) warned yesterday the managing director of Dhaka Wasa for causing

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## 11 robbers held after gunfight

Firearms seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Police arrested 11 robbers and recovered four firearms after a gunfight with the gang in Hathazari upazila of Chittagong before dawn yesterday. Three of the arrestees sustained bullet wounds, said Babul Akhtar, assistant superintendent of police (ASP) of Hathazari circle. Three police personnel also sustained minor injuries. The injured police are Sub-inspector (SI) Mir Kashem, SI Shafiqul Islam, Constable Enamul, and Constable Ashiq

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AUG 21 ATTACK  
Charge hearing deferred again

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday again adjourned until October 2 the hearing on charge framing against BNP Senior Vice-chairman Tarique Rahman and 29 others accused in the supplementary charge sheets in the August 21 grenade attack cases. The Speedy Trial

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## 'Khaleda alone' would steer BNP into future

BNP chairperson confirmed to Moriarty her party's participation in 2008 polls

STAR REPORT

About a month after her release from prison on bail in several graft cases in 2008, BNP chief Khaleda Zia had assured the then US ambassador that "she and she alone would steer the party into the future", said a diplomatic dispatch posted on WikiLeaks.



According to the cable sent to Washington on October 14, 2008, Khaleda made the assurance in an apparent bid to clarify her party's stance on the participation in the parliamentary polls towards the year-end. The previous day, Khaleda met the then

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PRAYER TIMING September 28

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr 4-35	5-10
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 4-30	4-45
Maghrib 6-09	6-12
Esha 7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you think Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's criticism of opposition leader Khaleda Zia's demand for caretaker government system is justified?

Yes (17.4%)  
No (80.9%)  
No Comments (1.7%)

TOTAL VOTES: 774

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP acting Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir that PM's refusal to sit with opposition for talks on national issues will push the country towards violence and uncertainty?

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