



The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXII No. 46 | FALGUN 17, 1418 BS

Your Right to Know

RABUIS SANI 6, 1433 HIJRI

28 PAGES PRICE : Tk 10.00

21st Anniversary

Please ensure your copy of our 80-page supplement (last part) on young achievers and inform us about more such

DAY OF RECKONING

Romney faces key primary in his home state of Michigan

PAGE 7



Today's Spelling Bee words from

Watto unsure of his role

Page: 17, Sports

champs21.com

AVOID ECONOMIC COLLAPSE

Former finance adviser suggests dialogues with opposition, business community

PAGE B1

Good electricity import price set

Dhaka, Delhi sign deal; price fixed at around Tk 4.66/ unit; supply to start by June next year

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bangladesh will start receiving 250 megawatts of electricity from India by June next year at a reasonable price under a purchase agreement signed in New Delhi yesterday.

The agreement was signed between Power Development Board of Bangladesh and National Vidyut Vikas Nigam at the Oberoi Hotel during a meet-

ing of the Joint Steering Committee, headed by the power secretaries of the two countries.

The power from India will travel through an inter-connected grid, Bangladesh Power Secretary Abul Kalam Azad told journalists in the Indian capital.

He said Bangladesh would be getting the electricity for Rs 2.80 per unit, which is about Tk 4 per unit.

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PDB'S PURCHASE RATE

PER UNIT OF POWER



Oil-based rental

Tk 7-9



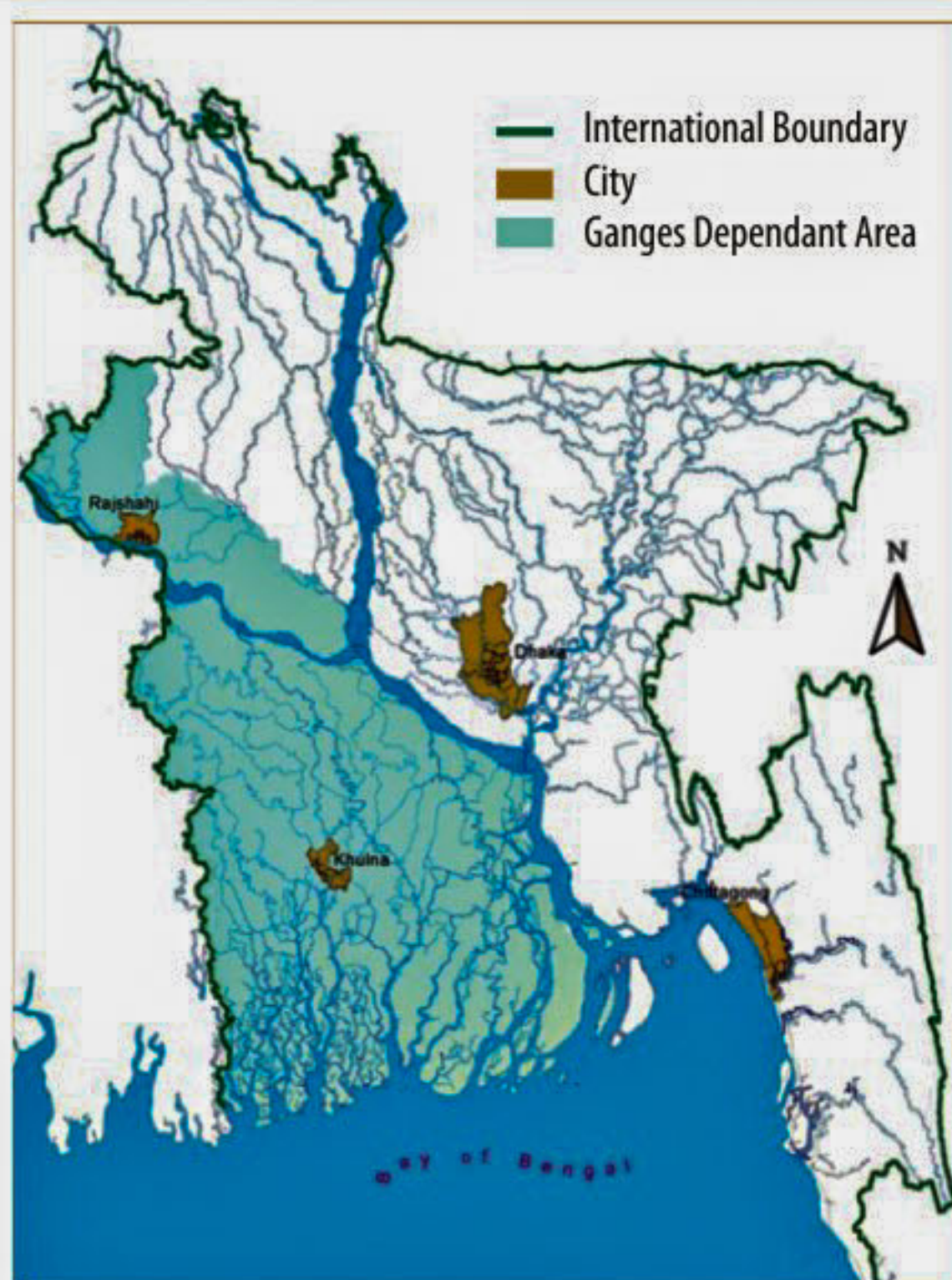
Gas-based

Tk 4.8



State-owned plants

Tk 2.5-3.5



RIVER-LINKING BY INDIA

'Saline death' for half the country

Impact assessment report sees ecological disaster in Bangladesh; Teesta, 3 other rivers to perish; experts fear damage may go far beyond the forecast

PINAKI ROY

Salinity will creep into Manikganj, Kushtia, Goalanda, Bhairab and beyond if India implements its controversial river-linking project.

And the biodiversity of almost half of Bangladesh, even of the Sundarbans, the world's largest

mangrove forest, will be ruined, a group of Bangladeshi experts has assessed.

The experts conducted a study five years ago to ascertain the impact of the Indian project that involves linking 30 major rivers and diverting the water of the Ganges and the Brahmaputra.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Ctg warms up for big festival

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A two-day art camp titled "Chhobir Haat" kicked off yesterday in the Fine Arts Institute of Chittagong University (CU) with a slogan Chaluk Lagatar Utsab (Let the

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4 robbers killed in Rab 'shootout'

'Firearms trader' killed in another encounter; Rab terms him arms dealer

STAR REPORT

Five people were killed in "shootouts" with Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in Bagerhat and Bogra districts yesterday.

Lt Commander Nuruzzaman, company commander of Rab-8, Patuakhali

camp, said four robbers of a local gang Gama Bahini died in a gunfight in the eastern part of the Sundarbans in Sharankhola upazila of Bagerhat.

Of them, three were identified as Bachchu, 38, from Moralganj, and Jamal, 28,

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YUNUS FOR WB US envoy backs PM's proposal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Dan Mozena here yesterday endorsed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's proposal for appointing Prof Dr Muhammad Yunus the

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ACCELERATING ECONOMIC GROWTH

Bangladesh needs 1.5m new jobs a yr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh needs up to 1.5 million new jobs each year for the next 20 years to accelerate economic growth, says the World Bank.

Bangladesh along with other South Asian nations has seen steady job growth

and a substantial decrease in poverty over the past three decades, according to a WB report.

The WB yesterday launched the report styled "More and Better Jobs in South Asia" at Brac Centre in Dhaka.

"Accelerating growth in per capita

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



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