NEWS IN brief

Ghorashal power project bidding prices opened

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Power Development Board (PDB) yesterday opened price offers of six bidders in the 450megawatt Ghorashal combined cycle power project.

The PDB, however, restricted entry of more than one official per bidder at the price opening event, which is an open event to ensure transparency.

The lowest price offer of the bidders will be disclosed after primary evaluation, said PDB officials.

The six bidders are Japanese Marubeni and Korean Hyundai joint venture; Altom (Swiss) and Alstom (India) joint venture; Chinese companies Sinohydro and Sepco; Joint venture of CNTIC and CMC; and Shanghai Electric Company.

Under the tender terms, the bidders will arrange loan for the PDB and engineer, procure and construct (EPC) the plant. The PDB will provide sovereign guarantee for the loan.

Woman dies from burns

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman died from burn injures in the capital yesterday evening.

The dead is Reshma Begum, 33, a garment worker. Reshma's husband Dulal Miah, a rickshaw garage owner, and their daughter Shumi Akthar, 14, also suffered burn wounds in the incident at their house in Manda area.

Shumi said she got up from sleep hearing screams and saw fire on her parents' bodies around 3:00am yesterday. She also caught fire and got injured when she went near them.

On information, police rushed in and took them to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where Reshma died. The reason behind the fire could not be known.

Two held with VoIP equipment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) equipment worth Tk 40 lakh were recovered by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) from a house in the port city yesterday.

Two youths, Belal and Delwar, of Chittagong were held in this connection.

Rab personnel also recovered the VoIP equipment, including four VoIP boxes, two quantum boxes, one computer, one Wi-Fi connection of Banglalion, some antennas and around 450 SIM

Charges pressed in Aminul murder case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Workshop

Discussion

meeting

National Human Rights Commission

will organise a workshop; Venue: Brac

Bangabandhu Mohila Parishad will hold

Sangskriti Bhaban (third floor); Time:

a discussion; Venue: Chhayanaut

Experience sharing

Centre Inn; Time: 10:00am.

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has pressed charges against two accused in the murder case of Aminul Haque in Rajshahi city.

The two accused are Sarwar Hossain, 40, a plastic shop owner and his aide Abdul Hakim, 20 of Kishoreganj.

ASP Enamul Haque of Rajshahi divisional CID submitted the charge sheet with the Chief Metropolitan Court of Rajshahi on August 14, said court sources.

Aminul went missing on April 10 last year and police later found his body, cut into nine pieces, three days later in Sarwar's house.

Sarwar and Hakim, who were arrested from the

Brac Samajik Khamotayan Karmasuchi

and The Hunger Project Bangladesh

will organise an experience sharing

meeting; Venue: Jatiya Press Club;

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Sangskritik

Foundation will hold a discussion;

Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time:

Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Ltd will

Time: 3:00pm to 5:30pm.

Discussion

10:45am.

AGM



Family members, friends and relatives offer prayers at the chehlum of Humayun Ahmed at Banani DOHS Community Centre in the capital last evening. Finance Minister AMA Muhith and Nobel Laureate Prof Muahmmad Yunus were also present. The celebrated author died of colon cancer in a New York hospital on July 19 at the age of 64.

PHOTO: COURTESY

AL won't take power in undemocratic way

Says Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Awami League did not desire to assume power through undemocratic means, as her party relied on public confidence.

"Many people have thirst to go to power through an 'undemocratic detour'. But our way is democratic," she said. "If people want, we will stay in power. If they don't want, we won't."

Those who have an intention to abuse power will surely make a detour to power, said Hasina, also the president of the ruling AL. She however warned that no-one would be allowed to toy with the fate of the people.

The prime minister was addressing a discussion at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Pro-AL student body Bangladesh Chhatra League organised it in memory of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Fazilatunnesa Mujib, who were assassinated on August 15, The prime minister said more than 5,999

polls had so far been held under the present government in a free, fair and neutral way. No-one could raise any question against a single election, and even no single clash or death occurred centering the elections, she added.

The AL chief said they believed in people's empowerment and would accept what the people would want.

Hasina urged the BCL workers to take lessons from the political life of the Father of the Nation. Bangabandhu knew that public trust and confidence could not be won if the party got weak, she said, advising the Chhatra League men to concentrate on their studies.

Coast Guard arrests 36 robbers in Ctg

Six engine boats, trawler seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Coast Guard yesterday arrested 36 robbers and seized six engine boats and a fishing trawler from Karnaphuli river in Chittagong.

Acting on a tip off, four teams of coast guard also recovered 600 litres of lube oil and some handmade weapons from the outer anchorage area of the river, said Coast Guard officials. "The robbers will be handed over to police after pri-

mary interrogation," Abu Mohammad Akik, Coast Guard commander (east zone) told The Daily Star. About 12 more robbers managed to flee, added the

commander. Captain AZM Jalaluddin, zonal commander of Coast

Guard (east zone), said, "The robbers mainly target foreign merchant vessels carrying lube oil, metal parts of vessels and the very expensive 'Berthing Houser rope' that amounts to Tk 2 to 3 lakh per roll."

"They throw the items of the ship and collect them from the water," he added.

dents in Dhaka, Chittagong, Netrakona and Panchagarh yesterday. Our staff correspondent reports, a schoolgirl was killed

Four people were killed and 18

others injured in road acci-

road crashes

4 killed in

METRO DESK

and eight of her family members were injured when a pickup van carrying them overturned on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in the capital's Jatrabari area early yesterday. The deceased Afsana

Akhter Mim, 13, was a class VIII student of Daffodil Kindergarten School, North Badda. Police said the accident

occurred around 3:00am as driver of the vehicle lost control over the steering.

Three of the injured were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH while others were released from the hospital after giving treatment.

In Chittagong, CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver Abdul Kuddus, 25, of Bhola, died instantly as a car hit his vehicle near Lalkhan Bazar Circle in the city early yester-

In Netrakona, Rajon Mia, 40, died instantly and eight others were injured as a human hauler fell into a ditch beside the road near Lapsia Bazar in Khaliajuri upazila

yesterday. Two of the injured were taken to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital while others to a local health complex.

In Panchagarh, motorcyclist Anisur Rahman, of Jatanpukuri village in Boda upazila, was killed and two others were injured as their motorbike collided headon with another at Dhanipara village in the upazila yesterday.

ZIA TRUST CASE

Khaleda skips hearing for 'illness'

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday for the sixth time deferred its delivery of order on whether it will accept charges against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and three others in Zia Charitable Trust graft case.

The deferment came following the defence counsels' time petition as the BNP chairperson did not appear before the court due to illness.

In the petition, the defence said they want the hearing to be held in presence of Khaleda, so they need time. Judge Zahirul Haque of the Senior Special Judge's Court gave them time until October 1.

On Monday, Advocate Masud Ahmed Talukder, a defence counsel, told The Daily Star that Khaleda would appear before the court yesterday.

On August 8, 2011, the Anti Corruption Commission filed the case against four people, including Khaleda, for abusing power in raising funds from unknown sources for the trust. The other accused are Harris Chowdhury, former political

secretary of Khaleda; Ziaul Islam Munna, assistant private secretary (APS) of Harris; and Monirul Islam Khan, APS of former Dhaka city mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

MC COLLEGE ARSON

8 Shibir activists held

College reopens today after 7-week closure

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Police yesterday arrested eight activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir for their alleged complicity in the arson attack on Sylhet's MC College hostel on July 8.

They are Shahedul Islam Shahed, Rezaul Karim Reza, Sultan Ahmed, Lokman Ahmed, Salauddin Gazi, Atiqur Rahman Atique, Delwar

Hossain and another Sultan Ahmed. Liakat Ali, OC of Shahporan Police Station, the arrested Shibir activists participated in

Monday's agitation programmes.

On Monday, about a hundred students blocked the Sylhet-Tamabil highway in front of the college demanding normalcy on the campus and compensation for the damages caused by the arson attack.

After a seven-week closure since the arson attack, the college will reopen today.

Police has been deployed on campus and around since yesterday.

Meanwhile, a group of MC College students yesterday met with city Mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran and sought his support in their demand for compensation for the losses caused by the arson attack and a congenial atmosphere on campus.

About a hundred students under the banner "Common Students" yesterday formed a human chain in front of the college demanding reconstruction of the burnt down portion of the hostel and making probe committees' reports public.

Three probe committees have been investigating the incident.

On July 8, a group of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Jubo League activists allegedly burned down about 200 rooms of the hostel after clashing with Shibir activists.

ghting South African miners & NUM ------We are with yo

ধুলিশের গুলিতে নিহত ৩৫ আফ্রিকান খনি শ্রমিক----আমরা তোমাদের ভূলবো ন

35 killed South African miners ---- We shall not forget you

protesting the killing of 35 South African mineworkers in a police firing on August 16.

National Garment Workers Federation (NGWF) ---- 28.08.'12 National Garment Workers Federation forms a human chain in front of National Press Club in the capital yesterday

Hallmark staff assault journos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hallmark Group's employees allegedly assaulted a private television channel's journalists at the company's Tentuljhora office at Savar on the capital's outskirts yesterday.

Dipu Sarwar, a senior reporter of Boishakhi Television, told The Daily Star that he along with videographer Miron Hossian and local correspondent Abdul Halim went to the Hallmark's office to report on the recent financial scam involving the group. The company's employees locked in an altercation with

them as they reached the main entrance of the office complex, Dipu said. One Atiar, who identified himself as the company's gen-

eral manger, along with scores of other employees and security guards assaulted the journalists when they sought access to the office, he said. They first snatched Miron's camera and then assaulted

him, Abdul and driver Anwar, said Dipu. "We went to shoot Hallmark Group's industrial units and get its authorities' version on the massive financial embez-

zlement of Tk 2,686 crore from Sonali Bank unearthed recently," he added. Contacted, Shamim Hossian, general manager of Hallmark

Group, said the reporters tried to enter the company's premises forcibly despite the security officers telling them that no high official were present to address them, he said. "It resulted in an altercation but no physical assault," he added.

Miron filed a case with Savar Police Station in this regard. Dhaka Reporters' Unity in a statement condemned the assault and demanded arrest of the guilty.



Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Barisal, Chittagong, Khulna, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:19pm and rises tomorrow at

5:40am. Country's highest temperature 36.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 25.3 degrees at Cox's Bazar.

The highest maximum temperature is likely to be 35-36 degrees Celsius and the lowest minimum temperature may be 25-26 degrees Celsius.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: City/Town Humidity Temperature

in Celsius in percentage Morning Min: Max: Evening 33.2 26.5 73 Dhaka 32.0 25.8 Chittagong 36.0 27.0 Rajshahi 33.2 27.8 Rangpur 34.7 27.0 Khulna 33.6 73 26.6 Barisal