

# Power failures make port city life unbearable

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

With two gas-fired power plants with a combined capacity of 510 megawatts sitting idle, the period of power blackout has nearly tripled to 10-16 hours daily in Chittagong city since last week, making the lives of the electricity-starved residents almost unbearable.

And the recent rise in temperature has added to their miseries, particularly at night when the demand soars.

“My one-year-old baby could not sleep a wink last night due to frequent power failures,” Shaila Sharmin, a resident of Panchlaish area, told The Daily Star on Tuesday. “We are experiencing load shedding 10 to 15 times daily now-days.”

Each time the outage lasts one hour or longer now, leaving the city dwellers without electricity for about 10-16 hours every day, said locals, adding that it was around 4-6 hours a week back.

Production at 150MW Shikalbaha Peaking Power Plant and 360MW Raozan Thermal Power Plant was suspended on September 21 and August 15 respectively due to unavailability of gas. With low water level, production dropped at Kapitai hydropower facility in Rangamati too, from 230MW to 186MW recently, further worsening the situation.

Swapan Kanti Chakraborty, chief engineer of Chattagram Bidyut Kendro,

blamed an increase in demand and fall in production for longer periods of load shedding.

The daily demand in Chittagong city averages 550MW during the day and 650MW at night, while 390-400MW (day) and 450-480MW (night) are currently available, according to Swapan Kumar Saha, chief engineer (distribution), Power Development Board (PDB), Chittagong south zone.

A resident of West Bakalia area, Rashedul Hasan, said, “Power blackout is just unbearable at night.” He urged the authorities to cut load shedding at least during night.

Though the PDB officials said gas supply was too inadequate to produce enough electricity, Karnaphuli Gas Distribution Company Ltd (KGDC) does not seem to be able to provide gas any time soon.

Jamil Ahmed Ali, managing director of KGDCL, said the demand of gas in Chittagong was over 400 billion cubic feet, while KGDCL got less than half of it from the national grid. “As we’ve to supply gas to the fertiliser factories now, we can’t provide gas to the power stations.”

The power plants in Chittagong zone, if they operate at full capacity, can feed the national grid as much as 850MW daily, but on Monday the supply stood at only 479MW, said Swapan Chakraborty.

## CEC rejects

FROM PAGE 3

However, according to the EC’s central database, the total number of voters is 9,19,48,224 till last Tuesday. But according to the reports sent by the commission’s field level officials, the total number of voters is 9,14,93,319 till last Sunday.

“The information of the central database is correct. We will scrutinise both the lists to find out where it went wrong,” EC Secretary Muhammed Sadique told

The Daily Star last night.

Over 9 crore voters will exercise their franchise in the next general election supposed to be held between October 27 and January 24.

Meanwhile, the EC yesterday started distributing national identity (NID) cards in Dhaka, Gazipur and Manikganj.

The EC-appointed staff will be distributing the NID cards door to door for two weeks. Those, who will fail to receive the

cards, will get the opportunity to collect it from the respective upazila election offices.

The cards would soon be distributed in other districts in phases, said EC officials.

A total of 70 lakh new NID cards, including 5,32,261 in Dhaka, will be distributed across the country to the new voters, who were enrolled last year. The EC plans to complete the task by October next.



Passengers suffer at the bus stand in Alankar area of Chittagong city yesterday with no long-distance buses running on Dhaka-Chittagong highway as Chittagong Zilla Sarak Paribahan Malik Samity enforced an eight-hour transport strike after demonstrators burned and vandalised vehicles on the highway protesting the death of a private university student in a road accident in Sitakunda on Tuesday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Sayedee urges

FROM PAGE 5

Ahmed Ziauddin, Justice Sinha had unlawfully interfered in the tribunal’s proceedings.

He said Nizamul reportedly told Ziauddin during the “Skype conversations” that Justice Sinha had assured to promote the former, an HC judge, to the Appellate Division after Nizamul delivered verdicts against three war crimes accused.

In the other petition, Sayedee said Justice Shamsuddin had attended some meetings in London in 2010 and 2011 supporting demands for trying Sayedee over war crimes and therefore might be biased in dealing with the case.

Tajul Islam, representing Sayedee, told The Daily Star that dates for hearing the petitions are yet to be fixed.

Convicted war criminal Abul Quader Mollah had submitted with the SC on April 3 petitions containing similar allegations and urging the two judges the same.

The apex court rejected the petitions on April 17 and on September 17 sentenced him to death for committing crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War.

Yesterday, the five-member bench of the Appellate Division, headed by Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, continued hearing Sayedee’s appeal against the death penalty.

SM Shahjahan, representing Sayedee, read out pages 21 to 29 of the 120-page judgment of the ICT-1. The court fixed today’s date for further hearing.

## PADMA GRAFT ALLEGATION CASE ACC to send team to Canada

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) will send a delegation to Canada in the last week of October for further investigation into the Padma bridge graft allegation.

The ACC decided to send the team to get more information on hearing of the case filed under Canada’s Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act, said ACC Secretary Faizur Rahman Chowdhury at the commission’s monthly press briefing at its office in the capital yesterday.

A Canadian card, dealing with the Padma bridge graft conspiracy case, will start fresh hearing in the first week of November, he said.

He did not mention the names of the delegation members.

On September 19, the Canadian police brought bribery charges against three persons including Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Bangladeshi former state minister for foreign affairs, and Canadian national Kevin Wallace, former senior vice-president of SNC-Lavalin International Inc (SLII).

“Wallace is also an accused in a case filed by the ACC on December 17 last year in which the name of Abul Hasan Chowdhury was included as a suspect,” he said.

The delegation will visit Canada to get documents from the relevant authorities and try to interrogate the accused living in Canada, he said.

## Rajuk knocks down structure before Chhoto Katra

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) yesterday demolished a structure being built illegally before Chhoto Katra, a Mughal heritage, in Old Dhaka.

As per antiquities law, it is illegal to set up any structures within 250 metres of any place which had been declared as a heritage site, which can put the site in danger, or undermine it aesthetically.

SA Mannan, Rajuk member of Planning, said in future, if owners of land within the “buffer zone” wish to develop their plot, they must consult Rajuk.

The Chhoto Katra had been reenlisted by the Rajuk as a heritage site in 2009.

## Obituary

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Rokaya Akbor, mother of singer Asif Akbor, died due to old age complications at Dhaka Modern Hospital yesterday. She was 76.

He left behind five sons and two daughters to mourn her death.

## Pro-BNP lawyers

FROM PAGE 5

and the attorney general observed that the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act-1973 did not have a provision for review petitions.

Yesterday, Moudud said the government’s decision to amend the ICT act to ensure its right to file an appeal after the trial court delivered a verdict was unprecedented. He also termed the SC verdict awarding death penalty in place of a lower court’s judgement of life imprisonment as exceptional.

“We don’t believe that the trial proceedings of this case (against Mollah) have been completed, maintaining the existing laws and international standard. Therefore, the trial proceedings of this case have become questionable internationally,” he said. The case against Quader Mollah was filed to serve the political interest of the government, he alleged.

He, however, did not reply to any question from journalists after his statement.

Pro-BNP lawyers Khandker Mahbub Hossain, Zainul Abedin, Rafiqul Islam Mia, Mahbub Uddin Khokon and Badruddoza Badal were present at the conference.

On September 17, Moudud had refused to make any comment about the apex court verdict against Mollah, although he was present at a press briefing organised by Mollah’s lawyers at the SCBA to express reaction on the verdict.

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ধানমন্ডি রাসেল স্কয়ার থেকে পায়ে হাটা দূরত্বে কলাবাগান মাঠের বিপরীতে দক্ষিণমুখী ৮৩৭ এবং ১০৬০ ব: ফ্ল: নির্মাণাধীন ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রি চলছে।  
যোগাযোগ-০১৭৫৫৫৫৮৫১৮  
০১৭৫৫৫৫৮৫১৮

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০১৯১৪৪৯৬৬৬৬, ০১৯১৪৪৯৬৬৬৬

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৩, কাওরান বাজার বা/এ, ঢাকা-১২১৫  
**জরুরি রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজের জন্য গ্যাস ফিল্ডের প্রসেস প্ল্যান্ট সাময়িক বন্ধ রাখা সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি**  
সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, জরুরি রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজের জন্য সিলেটের কৈলাশটিলা গ্যাস ফিল্ডে অবস্থিত এমএসটিই প্ল্যান্ট গত ২০/৯/২০১৩ তারিখ হতে বন্ধ থাকায় এ ফিল্ড হতে দৈনিক ৫৫ মিলিয়ন ঘনফুট হারে বর্তমানে গ্যাস সরবরাহ বন্ধ রয়েছে। এ রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজ আগামী ০২/১০/২০১৩ তারিখ সমাপ্ত হবে। সে জন্য বিদ্যুৎসহ অন্যান্য খাতে গ্যাসের সরবরাহ কিছুটা হ্রাস পেয়েছে। অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ গ্যাস সরবরাহ হ্রাসজনিত সাময়িক অসুবিধার জন্য পেট্রোবাংলা দুঃখ প্রকাশ করে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের সহযোগিতা কামনা করছে।  
আগামী ঈদুল আযহার ছুটির সময় বিবিয়ানা গ্যাস ফিল্ডের প্রসেস প্ল্যান্টের ক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধি ও জরুরি রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজের জন্য ১৫/১০/২০১৩ হতে ১৯/১০/২০১৩ তারিখ পর্যন্ত পাঁচ দিন প্ল্যান্ট বন্ধ রাখতে হবে। এজন্য সে সময় বিবিয়ানা ফিল্ড হতে গ্যাস উৎপাদন বন্ধ থাকবে। এছাড়া প্রসেস প্ল্যান্টের বার্ষিক রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজের জন্য ঈদ পরবর্তী ২১/১০/২০১৩ হতে ২৫/১০/২০১৩ তারিখ পর্যন্ত বাঙ্গুরা গ্যাস ফিল্ডও বন্ধ থাকবে। ঈদের সময় কল-কারখানা ও অফিস আদালত বন্ধ থাকার জন্য সাধারণত ঈদ ও ঈদ পরবর্তী সময়ে দেশে গ্যাসের চাহিদা বেশ হ্রাস পায়। অতএব ঈদ এবং ঈদ অব্যবহিত পরে বিবিয়ানা ও বাঙ্গুরা ফিল্ড হতে গ্যাস উৎপাদন সাময়িক বন্ধ থাকলেও সে সময়ে তেমন কোন সমস্যার উদ্ভব হবে না বলে পেট্রোবাংলা আশা করছে। প্রকাশ থাকে যে, এ জাতীয় রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ কাজ সাধারণত ঈদের ছুটিতে সম্পন্ন করা হয়ে থাকে।  
জিডি-৩৬২৩

- কর্তৃপক্ষ

## Hefajat oposes

FROM PAGE 5

Bangladesh Qawmi Madrasa Education Commission, told The Daily Star yesterday that Hefajat was spreading false information.

The commission had just formulated a “Qawmi Madrasa Education Policy-2012” which had a proposal on formulation of the law on supervising Qawmi education, he said, adding that they were still taking recommendations from Islamic

scholars.

The memorandum claimed that the country’s Qawmi Islamic scholars had formed a “Qwami Madrasa Shikkha Board Bekaful Madarisili Arabi” to supervise Qwami education, but the government had not yet recognised it.

The 13-point demand includes reinstatement of the phrase “Absolute trust and faith in the Almighty Allah” in the constitution.

**বাড়ি বিক্রয়**  
বারিধারা আবাসিক এলাকায় ৮ কাঠা জমির উপরে ৩ তলা বাড়ি দক্ষিণমুখী, বেইজমেন্ট ও লিফট আছে। অল মার্বেল দ্বারা নির্মিত, লোকের কাছাকাছি, আকর্ষণীয় লোকেশনে নতুন বাড়ি বিক্রয়। ০১৭১১-৫৪৮৪৮০

**ফাইনেস্ট ফ্ল্যাট**  
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**WANTED**  
● Manager (Sales & Marketing),  
● Manager (Production), ● Manager (Technical), ● Manager (Quality Assurance) & ● Manager (Lean).  
Candidate must have good experience in the related field. Apply before December 31, 2013 to The Adviser,  
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**WANTED**  
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Office of the Director Procurement  
Telephone Revenue Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.  
**No:DP/L-05/IR/ BTCL/Project/2013-14(3)/2**  
**Dated: 24-09-2013**

**Invitation for Local Tenders**

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Post & Telecommunications		
2	Agency	Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Limited		
3	Procuring Entity Name	Managing Director, BTCL		
4	Procuring Entity Code	---		
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		
6	Invitation for	Tender	Goods	Single Lot
7	Invitation Ref No.	DP/L-05/IR/ BTCL/Project/2013-14(3)/2		
8	Date	24-09-2013 AD		
KEY INFORMATION				
9	Procurement Method	OTM (National)		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
10	Budget and Source of Funds	BTCL's own fund		
11	Development Partners (if applicable)	None		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
12	Project / Programme Code	-		
13	Project / Programme Name	BTCL/Project		
14	Tender Package No.	BTCL/Project/2013-14(3)		
15	Tender Package Name	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Hardware and Software (O/S & Database Platform) for Computerization of Commercial Accounts of BTCL on Turn-Key Basis.		
16	Tender Publication Date	25-09-2013 AD		
17	Tender Last Selling Date	11-11-2013 AD		
18	Tender Closing Date and Time	12-11-2013 AD @ 11-30 AM.		
19	Tender Opening Date and Time	12-11-2013 AD @ 11-35 AM.		
20	Name & Address of the office(s)	Office of the Director (Procurement), BTCL, Telephone Revenue Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.		
- Selling Tender Document (Principal)				
- Selling Tender Document (Others)				
- Receiving Tender Document				
Office of the Director (Procurement), BTCL, Telephone Revenue Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room No: 318, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.				
- Opening Tender Document				
21	Place	Office of the Director (Procurement), BTCL, Telephone Revenue Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room-318, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.		
Pre-Tender Meeting				
Date: 22/10/2013 AD, Time : 11:00 AM, Venue : Office of the Director (Procurement), BTCL, Telephone Revenue Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room-318, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.				
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
22	Eligibility of Tenderer :	All national Eligible bidders having experience and other requirements as per conditions of tender document.		
23	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Server Systems, Networking Equipment, Desktop PC, Laptop and UPS, Software (Operating System, DBMS, System Security etc.), Materials, Systems and Services for Site Preparation, Computer Furniture etc.		
24	Brief Description of Related Services	Supply, Installation, Configuration, Operation of LAN, WAN with VPN at Central site and Remote sites, Testing and Commissioning etc.		
25	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	Tk. 5,000.00 (Five thousand only) (non-refundable)		
26	Lot No	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Completion time (weeks)
		single lot	all over Bangladesh	24 (Twenty Four)
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
27	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Abu Sayed Joarder		
28	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Dy. Director (Local Procurement)		
29	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone Revenue Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room-322, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.		
30	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	8150700	8150511	ddclpct@btcl.net.bd http://www.btcl.gov.bd
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.			

GD-3601

(Md. Abu Sayed Joarder)  
Dy. Director (Local Procurement)