



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE



## DESCRIBING PINOCHET RULE

Chileans want "dictatorship", not "military regime", in textbooks

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## ANIMATED MEENA

Twenty-one years on, the iconic character remains ageless

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## Rampal gets rolling

Hasina, Manmohan jointly unveil foundation plaque of coal-fired power plant despite green groups' protest; formal import of 175MW power from India begins, 250MW by next month

HASAN JAHID TUSHER and AMANUR AMAN, from Kushtia

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Manmohan Singh yesterday unveiled the foundation plaque for Rampal power plant amid growing public concern that the coal-fired plant, only 14 km off the Sundarbans, may bring on a disaster for the world's largest mangrove forest.

Though the Rampal project site is in Bagerhat, the unveiling ceremony was held at Bheramara in Kushtia, where the two leaders also inaugurated the Bangladesh-India Power Transmission Centre.

Manmohan joined the programme through a video conference from New Delhi.

Through the Bheramara power transmission centre, Bangladesh will get every day 500 megawatt (MW) of electricity that will help the country



Rampal will do no harm to Sundarbans and the livelihoods in the area

SHEIKH HASINA



Maintain highest environmental standards in implementing the project

MANMOHAN SINGH

address its ongoing power crisis.

This is the first time in South Asia that the two countries are trading electricity. Bangladesh yesterday got 175MW of power, which will gradually

go up to 250MW a day next month and to 500MW at the end of the next month.

Hasina also inaugurated a 360MW gas-fired power plant in Bheramara. Speaking via video conference, Manmohan urged the authorities of the Rampal plant, a joint venture of Bangladesh and India, to maintain the highest standard of environmental safety in operating the plant, given that the Sundarbans is a common heritage site of the two countries.

The transmission line and the power station in Bheramara provide a safe and reliable link between the power grids of the two nations, he said.

The Indian prime minister said it would add a new dimension and strengthen the bonds of friendship between India and Bangladesh.

Manmohan said India wishes to see a strong and prosperous Bangladesh.

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## THE POWER PLANT

Location

14km off Sundarbans

Capacity

1,320 megawatts

Project Cost

\$1.5 billion

Project area

1,834 acres

Implementation by India-Bangladesh joint venture company

## Go all out to resist polls

Khaleda asks party men to form 'Sangram Committee' at every polling centre

PRABIR BARUA CHOWDHURY and IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, from Sylhet

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday said "all-party action committee" would be formed at every polling centre to resist "one-sided election under Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina".

"We will wait till October 24 to see whether the government brings a bill in parliament and restores the caretaker government system. Otherwise, we will start a movement from October 25," she said at a mammoth rally at the Alia Madrasa ground in Sylhet.

"Today, I want to tell you that all-party sangram committees will be formed at all polling stations across the country to resist one-sided election under the Awami



Rampal power plant to destroy Sundarbans

KHALEDA ZIA tells Sylhet rally

League," the opposition leader said to roaring cheers from the crowd.

The Election Commission is now working to set up around 40,000 polling centres for the next parliamentary election likely to be held between October 25 and January 24.

If voted to power, Khaleda said, the BNP would try this government's high-ups, including Sheikh Hasina. "You [Hasina] keep talking about crimes against humanity while you yourself have committed many crimes against humanity including killing and forced disappearance in the last five years. So you will be tried."

The leader of the opposition said though

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## WAR CRIMES TRIAL

## None can resist execution of verdicts: PM

HASAN JAHID TUSHER, from Kushtia

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday reaffirmed that the delivered verdicts in war crimes cases would be executed irrespective of "steps to be taken" by Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia to "prevent" it.

"I want to say clearly that you [Khaleda] had tried to save the killers of the Father of the Nation but failed. The verdict of the Father of the Nation assassination case has been executed and the same way verdicts of the war crimes trial will be executed on this soil Insha Allah," she said.

"Whatever attempts you [Khaleda] take,

PHOTO ON PAGE 5

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## KAMALAPUR STATION

## Ticket staff killed, Tk 17 lakh looted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified criminals killed a railway employee at the cash room of Kamalapur Railway Station in the city yesterday and looted over Tk 17 lakh earned from ticket sales.

The deceased, Israfil Hossain, 59, was a ticket booking clerk.

On information, law enforcers reached the spot around 5:30am and found Israfil lying dead on the floor of the room, with his hands and feet tied up, and mouth taped with scotch tape, said Dhaka railway police.

A temporary camp of Rapid Action Battalion was just 10 yards off the crime scene.



Israfil Hossain

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**SIEMENS**

Congratulations to Power Grid Company of Bangladesh on successful completion of the country's landmark power project

Siemens is proud to be part of 1X500 MW HVDC Back to Back Project at Bheramara

Answers for energy.

### Prime Bank Limited takes pride in closing a syndicated facility of BDT 3960 Million for Star Ceramics Pvt. Limited.

We are thankful to Star Ceramics Pvt. Limited and the participating banks & non-banking financial institution for successful closer of syndicated facility on October 3, 2013.

## Participants



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# DuSai

...And let me talk to you with your silence that is bright as a lamp, simple as a ring. You are like the night, with its stillness and constellations.

Your silence is that of a star, as remote and candid... **Pablo Neruda.**