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Country free of load-shedding

Says PM as govt celebrates 10,000MW milestone of power generation

BSS, Dhaka

The government yesterday celebrated its achievement for touching the milestone in power generation capacity of 10,000-megawatt with a grand and cheerful jubilation.

The celebration was launched in the evening with a spectacular fireworks and laser show at the picturesque Hatirjheel Lake in the capital.

The lake, meticulously designed with bridges, overpasses and walkways, took a different look amid presence of thousands of people during the dazzling fireworks.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina switched on the celebration programme titled 'Alok Utsob' from Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. She also inaugurated the Jatiya Biddyut Saptaha-2013 from the same venue.

Opening the celebration, the premier said, "It's a joyous day for us. It's a successful and historic day for our government. It's a day of setting milestone and materialising our commitment to people."

In the election manifesto, she said, the government had made a commitment to enhance the country's power generation capacity to 7,000 MW by 2013. "Today, we are producing more than our target, making the country free from load-shedding."

"Eight more plants with production capacity of 760 MW power would go for commissioning by January 24, when the present government will fulfill its five-year tenure," she told her audience.

The premier said a total of 57 power plants were constructed in the country during the tenure of the present government while 33 more are now under construction.

"Tender documents are being processed for 20 plants. Now per capita

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



Fireworks and laser show at Hatirjheel project area in the capital yesterday on the occasion of celebrating the country's more than 10,000 MW of power generation capacity.

PHOTO: DARSHAN CHAKMA

37kg gold found in aircraft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport seized 320 gold bars weighing around 37 kilograms from a Qatar Airways flight yesterday morning.

The flight from Doha landed at the airport around 5:00am. After all passengers got down from the aircraft, a cabin crew found some packets

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

RENTAL POWER CONTRACTS

Errant firms set to get extension

SHARIER KHAN

At the fag end of the Awami League-led government's tenure, the power ministry is seeking extension of three rental power contracts by five years, although two of them have performance issues and face heavy penalties.

The ministry is seeking the approval of the cabinet's purchase committee tomorrow to extend the contracts of Desh Energy,

Energies and Precision Energy.

Desh Energy and Energis are facing penalties of \$15 million each for various reasons, including lavish use of fuel and excessive shutdowns of their plants. Both of them obtained court injunctions last year so that the government could not collect the penalties.

The Power Development Board (PDB) observes that the equipment of the two plants is old, inefficient and prone to malfunction.

Hartal delays war trials

Controversy it only can create

Defence counsels keep on skipping proceedings

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Judges, prosecutors, witnesses and accused were present at the court. Some junior defence counsels were there too. Yet the proceedings of war crimes cases against Jamaat leaders Motiur Rahman Nizami and AKM Yusuf did not take place as their senior counsels remained absent citing "unavoidable situation."

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Legal experts react to some war tribunal officials' bid to contest polls for AL

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several legal experts yesterday said war crimes trial would be disputed as a number of prosecutors and investigators of the international crimes tribunals have collected Awami League's nomination papers.

They find no legal bar for the prosecutors and the investigators on seeking nomination but see it as their "moral turpitude".

Earlier on Sunday, at least four prosecutors and two top members of the war crimes investigation agency collected AL nomination forms to contest the next general election.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



Wreckage of buggies caused by a head-on collision between two intercity trains in Phulbaria of Dinajpur yesterday. The accident injured at least 50 passengers.

PHOTO: STAR

50 hurt as 2 trains collide

Dinajpur's rail link with Dhaka, Rajshahi snapped for 6hrs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

At least 50 passengers were injured when two intercity trains collided head-on at Phulbari Railway Station here early yesterday, suspending rail communications between the capital and Dinajpur, Rajshahi for about six and a half hours.

Witnesses said the driver of the Dinajpur-bound Ekota Express from Dhaka mistakenly drove on line-1 of the station at 3:40am. The train crashed into the Khulna-bound Simanta Express, which had been waiting there since 3:14am to allow the passage of Ekota Express.

Locals whisked 22 injured to Phulbari Upazila Health Complex. Of them, Md Amzan Hossain, 55, Abdul Mannan, 35, Monoara Begum, 70, and Md Razu Mia, 15, were later transferred to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital as their condition deteriorated.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Boyfriends you can buy!

MAIL ONLINE

Meeting someone new isn't always the easiest of tasks, so spare a thought for China's young women who face intense parental pressure to find the right man.

As a result, women terrified of returning home without a handsome other half resort to hiring 'boyfriends' for the duration of their visit.

Now a shopping

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

UN launches \$300m appeal for Philippines

Super typhoon victims urgently need food, water, sanitation, shelter

AFP, Manila

The global response to the horrific typhoon disaster in the Philippines gathered pace yesterday, with the launch of a \$300 million appeal by the United Nations as countries and companies swung into action.

UN humanitarian chief Valerie Amos, in Manila, praised the international community's response to Super Typhoon Haiyan but insisted much more needed to be done to help people hit by a catastrophe her organisation fears may have already killed 10,000.

"We've just launched an action plan focusing on the areas of food, health, sanitation, shelter, debris removal and also

protection of the most vulnerable with the government and I very much hope our donors will be generous," she told reporters.


"That plan is for \$301 million dollars," Amos said, adding it was over and above other sums already pledged and did not include \$25 million that the United Nations' central emergency response fund has made available.

"At this point in time it's extremely difficult even to get a sense of what the immediate needs are because it is very difficult to get to some of the areas affected."

The UN estimates that more than 11.3 million Filipinos have been affected, with 673,000 made homeless, since Haiyan --

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL

Do you think the newly passed ACC Act and the provision for prior government permission to file cases against public officials would weaken the authority of ACC?

Yes

91%

No

9%

TOTAL VOTES: 267

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it was justified for the four prosecutors and two investigators of the International Crimes Tribunal to seek nomination from the Awami League for the next general elections?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net



বিজিএমইএ ও বিকেএমইএ



সমৃদ্ধির পথে, একসাথে

Leading Bangladesh to Prosperity

বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স, ২৩/১ পাশুপথ লিংক রোড, কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিজিএমইএ ও বিকেএমইএ'র সকল সম্মানিত সদস্যের জন্য

আনন্দের সাথে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বিজিএমইএ ও বিকেএমইএ'র যৌথ উদ্যোগে আজ ১৩ নভেম্বর ২০১৩ইং বিকাল ৩:০০ ঘটিকায় নুরুল কাদের অডিটরিয়াম বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স, ২৩/১ পাশুপথ লিংক রোড, কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকায় "Exchange of Views on Compliance Issues of RMG Sector in Bangladesh" শীর্ষক এক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ মতবিনিময় সভার আয়োজন করা হয়েছে।

উক্ত সভায় বাংলাদেশ সরকারের বাণিজ্য, শ্রম ও কর্মসংস্থান এবং পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়ের সচিব মহোদয়গণ এবং ঢাকাস্থ জার্মানি, নেদারল্যান্ড, কানাডা, যুক্তরাজ্য, ইউরোপিয়ান ইউনিয়ন দূতাবাসের মান্যবর রাষ্ট্রদূতগণ ও যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের চার্জ-ডি-এ্যাফেয়ার্স বিশেষ অতিথি হিসেবে উপস্থিত থাকতে সদয় সম্মতি জ্ঞাপন করেছেন।

উপরোক্ত মতবিনিময় সভায় বিজিএমইএ ও বিকেএমইএ'র সকল সম্মানিত সদস্যগণকে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য বিনীতভাবে অনুরোধ জানানো হলো।

মহা-সচিব, বিজিএমইএ