Marium and her mother Setu at Rab-11 headquarters in Adamjee in Narayanganj yesterday. Marium was kidnapped from the capital and sold to a couple. PHOTO: COURTESY OF RAB

Matarbari

FROM PAGE 1

bidder for the construction of the plant that would use imported coal

Sources said offers of both the bidders have some shortcomings but the project's financier Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) wants to go ahead with the bids anyway. Jica would provide \$3.8 billion as soft loan.

According to the bid criterion, the bidder must have sound financial position now and in the coming

One of the bidders has a net income loss of 460 billion yen as of December 2016. "The Tec has sought clarifications from the bidders on such matters," said an official.

Around \$3 billion would be spent for the power plant construction and the remaining money would be used for building a deep sea terminal to facilitate import of coal, a township, a high-voltage power line, developing local infrastructure, and rehabilitation of people and purchase of land.

Keeping future expansions in mind, 1,500 acres of land has been selected. The cost of the land has been estimated at Tk 350 crore. Japanese developer Penta Ocean is developing the site and building an embankment. This development is

The power plant was scheduled to be completed by 2023. The government expected that it would be able to begin primary production at half the capacity by the end of 2018, which is now highly unlikely given that the implementation had been delayed by nearly a year.

expected to be completed soon.

The delay was largely due to the Holey Artisan attack where militants killed seven Japanese nationals among other foreigners.

The deceased Japanese nationals included experts for the Dhaka Metro Rail project.

After the attack, all Japanese nationals involved in various projects returned to Japan and they did not come back until recently, upon gaining some confidence that the government was seriously dealing with militancy.

This would be the first venture of the newly formed Coal Power Generation Company of

Bangladesh. The company is expected to float separate tenders to construct a deep sea port which would have the ability to handle ships as large as 80,000 tonnes capacity, a 400kV power transmission line between Maheshkhali and Anwara, and the township with residential alongside non-residential facilities.

A buffer zone would be built in the deep sea port for storing coal. The excess coal of the plant would be shipped to other coal-based power

According to project documents, a 2km long, 250-metre wide, and an 18-metre-deep channel would be prepared between the deep sea port and the jetty. The silt would be used

for development of the port. The cost of electricity from this

plant would be close to Tk 7 per kilowatt hour, which is considered

The power plant would have two units, each with 600MW generation capacity.

About the high cost of the project compared to others, the project document said it was due to inclusion of various components. It said the power plant would be equipped with ultra-super critical technology.

The document said the cost of per megawatt electricity would be higher than that produced in other

plants. The Matarbari project cost is strikingly higher than that of the

Indo-Bangla joint venture 1,320MW Rampal coal power plant that would need around \$1.6 billion to build. But Matarbari project's loan

terms are way friendlier than that

Old Dhaka exposed

FROM PAGE 16

For example, Shakil said, Acetone, a highly flammable chemical, is supposed to be preserved under 23 degrees Celsius for avoiding any explosion. However, it was found left under the sun, exposing it to around 36 degrees Celsius.

All the stores and shops were found lacking even the basic fire safety equipment, like extinguishers, let alone a complete fire fighting system.

The only way to avoid the danger is to relocate them immediately, he said.

The chemical stocks have been surveyed in different areas of Lalbagh, Bangshal, Armanitola, Moulavibazar, Imamganj, Islambagh, Shahidnagar, Kamrangirchar, Chalkbazar, Mitford and Babubazar. The Dhaka South City Corporation

along with the fire department was all set to launch an eviction drive yesterday. However, it had to be postponed due lack of police support, said DSCC sources. The law enforcers were busy dealing

with road transport workers who were enforcing a countrywide strike.

Shakil said, "Those [chemical stocks] are deadly for human lives. Those are kept in such a way that even a spark can cause an inferno in the blink of an eye".

Following the devastating Nimtoli tragedy in June 2010, the commerce ministry was supposed to build a "chemical village" in Keraniganj, after acquiring land, building the physical structure and ensuring safety, for relocation of the chemical stores from the residential areas.

The village is not ready yet.

Of the 62 chemicals surveyed, 22, including Acetone, are extremely flammable, he said, adding that the chemicals are handled everyday without any personal safety gears, safety instructions and more dangerously without controlling the temperature.

Explosive and noncorrosive liquid and powder chemical substances are all piled up, not separately, he said.

Asked, the fire official said his department did not issue any safety licence for dealing with hazardous

chemicals in the residential areas of Old Dhaka.

However, those handing the chemicals might have city corporation trade licences. Sometimes, the explosives department too issue licences without coordinating with the fire department, he said.

"We had given them a 15-February

deadline for relocation," he said, "Now

with the deadline over, we along with the city corporation are going for the eviction drive," he told this newspaper before the drive was postponed. According to the survey findings, the chemicals are stored and handled without the basic safety practice, equipment, fire fighting system. The

residential areas are chocked with narrow inaccessible roads lacking natural water reservoirs for fire fighting. Handling the chemicals with bare hands causes damage to the limbs, respiratory tracts, skin, eyes, liver,

kidney and heart.

Contacted, Chief Inspector of the Department of Explosives, Shamsul Alam, said, "There is no valid licence for dealing with hazardous chemicals in the residential areas".

On the legal actions taken by them against the unauthorised chemical business, he said district administration, police, city corporation and the fire department occasionally conduct mobile court drives which seize illegal chemicals and detain people involved in storing and selling them. "We cannot initiate such drives

ourselves due to lack of manpower," he said, adding that their Dhaka head office has only three inspectors, including him. He said they issue licence for dealing

with highly explosive chemicals only in large volume and only upon clearance from the fire department and the district administration. Currently, there are only around 200

valid licences issued for the city's outskirts, including around 40 for the Keraniganj "chemical village". Though the Keraniganj village has

not been developed by the government yet, around 40 traders have moved there from the residential areas in Old Dhaka on their own, Shamsul added.

New child marriage law protested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

Pirojpur Mahila Parishad yesterday protested the passage of the Child Marriage Restraint Bill 2017 by the Parliament and demanded cancellation of the law.

General Secretary Salma Rahman Happy said the government passed the bill in spite of protests from different organisations.

80-year-old

FROM PAGE 16

mobile phone was stolen from their house. On suspicion, Harun and his relatives stopped me and took me to their house from the bazaar and beat me up mercilessly."

As they did not find any mobile phone with her, she was freed. They took the rice she had been given by people and threw it at her, Achhiron said.

She returned home in the evening.

Later, four Garobazar night guards went to her house on a rick shaw-van and took her to the market. She was beaten up again, alleged the victim's daughter Ramichha Khatun, a day labourer.

The night guards also confined her mother to the market committee's office. When she went there to take her mother home, the attackers pushed her and she fell to the ground, Ramichha said. Around 9:00pm on Sunday, they

freed them after taking their signatures on a blank paper, claimed Ramichha. "I demand punishment of the

attackers," said Achhiron. Nazrul Islam, resident medical

officer of Phulbaria Upazila Health Complex, said Achhiron was admitted to the hospital with bruises on different parts of her body. Her condition was improving,

but she would need at least a week before she could leave the hospital, said the physician. Contacted, Harun refuted the

allegation of beating up Achhiron and said he did not know who assaulted the woman. Rifat Khan Rajib, officer-in-

charge of Phulbaria Police Station, said the victim went to the police station on Monday afternoon, but they did not record her complaint as the spot is in Madhupur upazila of Tangail.

They told her to go to Madhupui Police Station to lodge a complaint against the attackers.

The OC also said Harun filed a complaint with the police station against Achhiron for her alleged involvement in the mobile phone theft on Monday.

'Youth, who stabbed 2

FROM PAGE 16 militants in Rajshahi and

Chapainawabganj," the DIG told The Daily Star last night.

He said police, taking Ajimul along, were conducting drives at different places in Rajshahi to arrest the other members of the militant group.

Police, however, could not confirm how he was radicalised.

A top police official in Rajshahi said the members of the militant group communicated with each other using different mobile apps. The DIG said the Bogra police team

traced Ajimul at the village Tuesday night. He stabbed two police constables, but the cops managed to arrest him. Injured Abdus Salam, 53, and

Ismail Hossain, 33, were receiving treatment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital yesterday. Wishing anonymity, a police official

told this correspondent that the arrestee was skilled in martial arts. "He managed to stab the policemen

even after being caught," the official

added, quoting the DIG as telling some police officials at a meeting at the Rajshahi Police Lines yesterday. Police have frequently been targeted by militants since October 2015, with members of "Neo JMB" carrying out

several terrorist attacks, including at Gulshan cafe and Sholakia of Kishoreganj in July last year and in the capital's Gabtoli when Assistant Sub-Inspector Ibrahim Molllah was stabbed to death at a police check post. In 2003, the JMB launched its first ever

attack on police, killing two law enforcers in Satkhira, said police sources.

The Tuesday night's stabbing of cops took place near the house of Torikul Islam, a farmer in Kella Baroipara village, about 500 yards off the house of Ajimul's stepfather Ataur

Rahman in the nearby Bujruk

Rajarampur village. Visiting the spot yesterday afternoon, this correspondent saw bloodstains on the ground in front of

Torikul's house. "I saw an elderly man sitting on the chest of a youth lying on the ground," said Asma Begum who witnessed the incident as she came out of her house

to collect water from a tubewell. "I will die, but I won't let you go," she heard the man (constable Salam)

shouting. The man called in someone and told him to handcuff the youth, Asma

Another local Rabeya Begum rushed to the scene from her husband's grocery shop, hearing a hue and cry.

"We thought some outsiders attacked a villager, but the plainclothes policemen told us not to move for-

ward," said Rabeya. Later, another police team from Godagari went to the spot and arrested

key yesterday. Locals said Ataur along with his family members left home hours after Ajimul's arrest. The arrestee lived in Harishpur

village of Chapainawabganj and used to frequent his mother's home, said Masud Alam, a trader in Bujruk Rajarampur village. The youth argued with villagers

twice over offering munajat after the five daily prayers, added Masud. "Villagers have been offering munajat for years and he asked us not to do so."

Ajimul tried to be the imam of a local mosque, but villagers did not let it happen as he opposed offering

Trump softens tone FROM PAGE 16 blocked his immigration order.

He said it was possible if both Republicans and Democrats in Congress were willing to compromise, although he also said US immigration should be based on a merit-based system, rather than relying on lowerskilled immigrants. Comprehensive immigration

reform eluded his two predecessors, Democrat Barack Obama and Republican George W Bush, because of deep divisions within Congress and among Americans over the issue. Trump said reform would raise wages and help more struggling families enter the middle class.

"I believe that real and positive immigration reform is possible, as long as we focus on the following goals: to improve jobs and wages for Americans, to strengthen our nation's security, and to restore respect for our

laws," said the Republican president. Trump's first month in office was dominated by a fight over his temporary travel ban on people from seven Muslim-majority nations, repeated attacks on the news media and harsh personal criticism of judges who

নং: ২৭.০২.০০০০.১২১.১৪.০১১.১৭-২০৭৪

In his speech on Tuesday, he appeared to look for a reset, trying to

move past a chaotic period that sowed doubts about his ability to govern effectively. "The time for trivial fights is behind us," he said.

Financial markets showed a muted

reaction as Trump gave few specifics or new details. Early signs showed Trump's speech drew a positive response. A CNN/ORC

poll found 57 percent of viewers thought Trump's speech was very positive and 69 percent said they felt more optimistic about the future of the country. "He's lost his foot and mouth

disease," said Tom Beckwith, 71, of Seminole, Florida. "This was a tremendous speech. He's cured." Still, there was plenty of evidence of

ongoing partisan divisions. In the chamber of the House of Representatives where Trump spoke, Democrats sometimes sat in silence and turned their thumbs down at his remarks. Many women lawmakers wore white in a subtle show of protest.

Transport strike ends at 'request'

FROM PAGE 1 "Following their [Obaidul and Anisul] assurance, we're requesting all workers and owners to operate their vehicles... We believe road communications will become normal following our request," Shajahan told a press conference at the office of Bangladesh Road Transport Owners Association in

the capital around 2:30pm. "They've realised the demand of the transport workers and assured us of legal assistance," he said after the meeting with transport workers and owners.

State Minister for Rural Development and Cooperatives Mashiur Rahman Ranga, also president of Bangladesh Road Transport Owners Association, and Khandaker Enayetullah, general secretary of the association, were present at both meetings.

The strike began on Sunday initially in 10 southern districts under Khulna division, protesting a verdict that gave life sentence to a bus driver over the deaths of filmmaker Tareque Masud, media personality Ashfaque Munier Mishuk and three others in an accident in 2011. A court in Manikganj, where the accident happened, gave the verdict on February 22.

sentenced a truck driver to death over the death of a woman in a 2003 accident in Savar. In protest, transport workers

Then on Monday, a Dhaka court

extended their strike to other parts of the country without any formal announcement. In fact, the decision to enforce

Yesterday, Quader and Anisul

the countrywide strike came at a meeting of transport owners and workers at Shajahan's house on Monday night. Ranga was also present at the meeting, sources said.

of the Rampal project.

requested Shajahan and Ranga to intervene so transport workers call off their strike, meeting sources

said, asking not to be named. The law minister even went on to assure Shajahan that the government would provide legal assis-

tance to the agitating workers. Shajahan assured them that he would speak with the leaders and workers of other transport associations.

From this meeting at the road transport ministry, Shajahan and Ranga along with transport association leaders and workers went to the office of Bangladesh Road Transport Owners Association where they held an hour-long meeting.

At the meeting, some workers' leaders put pressure on Shajahan and Ranga so they don't call on them to resume operation. They argued that death or life sentence over road accidents was not justifiable. Shajahan and Ranga then told

them that Obaidul and Anisul assured him of legal assistance in this regard. Asked who is responsible for the public suffering and business

losses, Shajahan told the press conference that people would evaluate that. Transport workers earlier told the injury of her son in the inci-The Daily Star that they called the dent. strike with full backing of their

leaders, though Bangladesh Road Transport Workers Federation, the top transport workers' body, tried to distance itself from the move. But Federation General Secretary Osman Ali said on Tuesday, "The Federation did not

call the strike; workers did. The workers even stopped working spontaneously. Had the Federation called the strike, we would have done so through a press conference."

Over the last few years, Shajahan because of the strike.

drew much criticism for defending road transport workers and their demands,

sometimes even illogical ones.

SUFFERINGS, VIOLENCE The strike caused immense public sufferings and huge business

Perishable goods like fruits, vegetables and fish were rotting at various land and river ports as well as wholesale markets across the country, our correspondents say.

Though the strike was initially

peaceful, it turned violent on Tuesday when transport workers clashed with police at Gabtoli Bus Terminal. Tension was high in the area

throughout the night as additional police and Rab members were called in. Yesterday, a transport worker

during clashes. The dead is Shah Alam, driver of a Baishakhi Paribahan bus.

died after being shot by police

He suffered pellet injuries, said Manjurul Haque, medical officer of Selina General Hospital, where he was initially taken.

Meanwhile, police filed two cases over Tuesday night's violence at Gabtoli against 46 named and over 1,000 unnamed people. A woman filed another case over

THE LONE MAN

Despite the public sufferings across the country, no treasury or opposition bench lawmakers discussed the issue in parliament. The only MP to raise the issue is

Tahzeeb Alam Siddique, an independent lawmaker. "Holding innocent people

hostage, transport owners and workers want to remain above the law, the entire judicial system and the court," he said, narrating how road communications collapsed

"হাউসহোল্ড এনার্জি প্লাটফর্ম প্রোগ্রাম ইন বাংলাদেশ" প্রকল্প

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বিদ্যুৎ, জালানী ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়

বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগ টেকসই ও নবায়নযোগ্য জ্বালানি উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ (স্রেডা) আইইবি ভবন (১০ম ও ১১ তলা), রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০

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ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম ও বেতন স্কেল	পদের সংখ্যা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
٥.	প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপক সাকুল্য বেতন: ৮০,০০০/- (আশি হাজার) টাকা	০১ (এক) টি	কমপক্ষে স্নাতক। অফিসের কাজে কমপক্ষে ৫ বছরের অভিজ্ঞত থাকতে হবে। কোন দাতা সংস্থায় কাজের পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতা এব ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ডিগ্রিধারীকে অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।
۵.	প্রকল্প কর্মকর্তা সাকুল্য বেতন: ৫০,০০০/-	০১ (এক) টি	কমপক্ষে স্নাতক। কম্পিউটার চালনায় দক্ষতা এবং অফিসে কাজে দুই বছরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। কোন দাত

২. প্রকল্প পরিচালক, "হাউসহোল্ড এনার্জি প্লাটফর্ম প্রোগ্রাম ইন বাংলাদেশ" প্রকল্প, বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগ, আইইবি ভবন, ১১তলা রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০ বরাবর জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয়ের চাকুরির আবেদনের মডেল ফরম অনুযায়ী আবেদন করতে হবে যা

প্রকল্প পরিচালক, "হাউসহোল্ড এনার্জি প্লাটফর্ম প্রোগ্রাম ইন বাংলাদেশ" প্রকল্প, বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগ, আইইবি ভবন (১১ তলা) রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০-এর অনুকূলে তফসিলি ব্যাংক-এর যেকোন শাখা থেকে ক্রমিক নং ১ এবং ২-এ বর্ণিত পদের জন্য যথাক্রমে ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা এবং ৩০০/-(তিনশত) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার (অফেরতযোগ্য) এর মূল কপি সহ আগামি ২০ মার্চ ২০১৭ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে উল্লিখিত ঠিকানায় আবেদন সরাসরি/ডাকযোগে/কুরিয়ারের মাধ্যমে পৌঁছাতে হবে। সরাসরি আবেদন নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে স্রেডার অভ্যর্থনা করে

মেয়াদ শেষে অব্যাহতি পত্র হিসেবে গণ্য হবে। আলাদাভাবে কোন আদেশ জারীর আবশ্যকতা থাকবে না। (খ) চুক্তিভিত্তিক জনবলকে প্রকল্প পরিচালক এই প্রকল্পের আওতায় প্রয়োজনবোধে অন্যস্থানে বদলি করতে পারবে। (গ) কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যেকোন পক্ষ থেকে এক মাসের নোটিশে অথবা এক মাসের বেতন প্রদান সাপেক্ষে এই চুক্তিপত্র বাতিল করতে পারবে। তবে চুক্তিপত্র বাতিলের পূর্বে সরকারি পাওনা পরিশোধ করা হবে।

প্রার্থীর ঠিকানা সংবলিত ১টি ফেরত খাম সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। আবেদন পত্রের সাথে কোন সনদ পত্রের কপি সংযোজনের প্রয়োজন নাই। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় সকল সনদ পত্রের এক সেট ফটোকপিসহ মূল কপি পেশ করতে হবে।

(ঘ) খামের উপরে পদের নাম অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করতে হবে। স্বাক্ষরবিহীন ও অসম্পূর্ণ আবেদন সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে

(চ) সরকারি/আধাসরকারি/স্বায়ত্তশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানে চাকুরীরত প্রার্থীদের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে এবং মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় নিজ নিজ প্রতিষ্ঠানের অনাপত্তি সনদের মূলকপি অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে।

উল্লেখপূর্বক ইউপি চেয়ারম্যান কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত প্রত্যয়নপত্র/উপযুক্ত সনদসহ পিতা/মাতার জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের কপি সত্যায়িত করে মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় জমা দিতে হবে। উল্লিখিত পদের জন্য লিখিত, মৌখিক এবং ব্যবহারিক (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের ভিত্তিতে প্রার্থী নির্বাচন

আবেদনপত্রের সাথে দাখিলকৃত পূর্বে প্রদত্ত কোন তথ্য মিথ্যা/ভূল প্রমাণিত হলে কোন নোটিশ ব্যতিরেকে তাকে চাকুরী থেকে বরখাস্ত করা হবে

সদস্য-সচিব

তারিখ: ০১ মার্চ ২০১৭ খ্রিঃ

স্রেডা-র আওতাধীন "হাউসহোল্ড এনার্জি প্লাটফর্ম প্রোগ্রাম ইন বাংলদেশ" প্রকল্পের অধীনে নিয়োক্ত পদে সরাসরি নিয়োগের

স্রেডা'র ওয়েবসাইট www.sreda.gov.bd এর রিক্র্টমেন্ট (নিয়োগ) পেইজে পাওয়া যাবে

রক্ষিত বাব্রে জমা রাখা যাবে (ক) প্রকল্পে নিয়োজিত সকল জনবল চুক্তিকালীন সময়ে সার্বক্ষণিকভাবে প্রকল্পের কাজে নিয়োজিত থাকবে এবং এই চুক্তিপত্রই

(৬) আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সদ্য তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ৩ কপি সত্যায়িত ছবি এবং ১০ টাকা মূল্যের ডাক টিকেটযুক্ত

(ছ) প্রার্থী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সন্তান/নাতি-নাতনী হলে প্রার্থীকে তার পিতা/মাতা/দাদা-দাদী/নানা-নানীর মুক্তিযোদ্ধা প্রমাণের জন্য মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সনদপত্রের অনুলিপি ও গেজেটের সংশ্লিষ্টাংশের ফটোকপি, মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সাথে সম্পর্ক

চূড়ান্ত হবে। লিখিত, ব্যবহারিক/মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য প্রার্থীদেরকে কোন প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে (ঝ) নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারী বিধান অনুযায়ী কোটা অনুসরণ করা হবে।

কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই অপেক্ষমান প্যানেল তৈরী এবং বিজ্ঞাপন বাতিল/প্রত্যাহারের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ

(মোঃ আব্দুল্লাহ আল মামুন) সহকারী পরিচালক "হাউসহোল্ড এনার্জি প্লাটফর্ম প্রোগ্রাম ইন বাংলাদেশ" প্রকল্প

নিয়োগ কমিটি

Ajimul. The team sent the injured cops to a hospital. Ataur's house was under lock and

Another villager Abdul Alim said