



S Asia Satellite blasts into orbit

PM joins videoconferencing with 6 Saarc leaders after launching of the satellite from India



STAR REPORT

India yesterday successfully launched the South Asia Satellite that will provide telecommunications, disaster management and weather forecasting services, among others, to seven nations of the region.

The satellite was launched into space from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota of Andhra Pradesh.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) developed the satellite at a cost of Rs 235 crore. The mission life of the satellite is 12 years, reports our New Delhi correspondent.

Seven Saarc countries -- India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan -- are

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SSC EVALUATION SYSTEM Results prove much-needed reform worked

WASIM BIN HABIB

The slump in this year's SSC results thanks to introduction of a new evaluation method reinforces the long-held notion about the teachers' being liberal in checking the answer scripts.

It also proves true media reports on allegations against the authorities concerned of instructing the examiners to be more liberal in giving marks.

After publication of results of public examinations in the last several years, especially of the Secondary School Certificate (SSC), there was commotion over the dazzling pass rates, with many claiming the examiners were asked to check answer scripts more liberally to "improve" the students' performance.

But the government every time refuted such allegations, saying there

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16TH BANGLADESH BUSINESS AWARDS Acclaim for excellence

DHL, The Daily Star honour 3 businesspersons, 2 institutions



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

From left, Dohatec New Media Chairman Luna Shamsuddoha, FBCCI President Abdul Matlub Ahmad, Monno Group Chairman Harunar Rashid Khan Monno's daughter Afroza Khan Rita, City Bank Chairman Mohammed Shoeb, Water Resources Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud, Meghna Group Chairman Mostafa Kamal, Bandhan Bank founder Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, Envoy Group Chairman Kutubuddin Ahmed and DHL Worldwide Express (Bangladesh) Pvt Ltd Country Manager Desmond Quiah on stage at the 16th Bangladesh Business Awards ceremony at Radisson Blu last night.



AWARDING EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two companies and three individuals were honoured yesterday at the 16th edition of the prestigious Bangladesh Business Awards for their superlative success as well as contribution to the economy.

Kutubuddin Ahmed, chairman of Envoy

Group, was crowned as the Business Person of the Year, while Meghna Group of Industries took home the Enterprise of the Year award.

City Bank won the accolade in the Best Financial Institution category. Luna Shamsuddoha, founder and chairman of Dohatec New Media, a leading software company of Bangladesh, won the award in the

Outstanding Woman in Business category.

The Lifetime Achievement Award went to Harunar Rashid Khan Monno, a pioneering industrialist of Bangladesh.

DHL Express, the world's leading logistics company, and The Daily Star, Bangladesh's leading English language newspaper, hosted the

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RAMPAL PLANT POLLUTION IMPACT

Greenpeace study shows grim picture

Forecasts 6,000 premature deaths in 40-year lifespan of the coal-fired plant

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rampal power plant would cause at least 6,000 premature deaths and low birth weights of 24,000 babies during its 40-year life, a Greenpeace study said yesterday.

It said the plant, which would burn 5 million tonnes of coal every year, would be among the largest sources of air pollution in the country.

The emissions would elevate the levels of toxic particles, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide over the entire south-western Bangladesh and 100km to the northeast due to prevailing wind patterns.

The affected areas, due to wind patterns, would cover the entire Sundarbans ecosystem, Satkhira, Khulna, Noakhali, Comilla, Narsingdi and Dhaka districts in Bangladesh and Ashoknagar, Kalyangar, Basirhat and Kolkata of West Bengal, it said.

"Exposure to these pollutants increases the risk of diseases such as stroke, lung cancer, heart and respiratory diseases in adults, as

well as respiratory symptoms in children," it said.

"This would happen even if Bangladesh currently had zero air pollution," said Lauri Myllyvirta, coal and air pollution specialist of Greenpeace, in a presentation via Skype from Myanmar.

The presentation was made at a press conference organised by National Committee to Protect the Sundarbans (NCPS), Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) and Doctors for Health and Environment (DHE) at the city's Dhaka Reporters Unity to unveil the study.

India's state-owned National Thermal Power Corporation and Bangladesh Power Development Board are constructing the 1,320 megawatt plant on 1,834 acres 14km north of Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, also a Unesco world heritage site.

Green groups have been opposing the

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NORWEGIAN WEALTH FUND BLACKLISTS BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS -- PAGE 20



Kutubuddin Ahmed
chairman,
Envoy Group

Business Person of the Year

Kutubuddin Ahmed started a garment business in 1984, a year after quitting his job at the Janata Bank.

He struggled to manage the initial capital needed to start the business.

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Mostafa Kamal
chairman,
Meghna Group

Enterprise of the Year

Meghna Group's journey dates back to the 1970s when its founder Mostafa Kamal started commodity trading. After Independence, he began retailing in essential commodities.

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Mohammed Shoeb
chairman,
City Bank

Best Financial Institution of the Year

City Bank's journey began at a time when only four private banks were operating in Bangladesh along with some nationalised and a few foreign commercial banks.

In 1983, 13 visionary

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Luna Shamsuddoha
chairman,
Dohatec New Media

Outstanding Woman in Business

Luna Shamsuddoha started her journey 25 years ago as an IT entrepreneur -- an almost uncharted area for most of her male contemporaries.

She set up an outsourcing

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Harunar Rashid Khan Monno, founder and chairman of Monno Group

Lifetime Achievement Award

Harunar Rashid Khan Monno, who was born in 1933, studied chartered accountancy in the 1950s at Price Waterhouse.

Monno started a business with an eye to cater to the mass market

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দেশবাসীর পক্ষ থেকে প্রাণঢালা শুভেচ্ছা

“শুভ উদ্বোধন”
কক্সবাজার - টেকনাফ
মেরিন ড্রাইভ
(৮০ কিঃ মিঃ সড়ক)



বাংলাদেশ সেনাবাহিনী



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