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10 LOCOMOTIVES FROM HYUNDAI

Minister now questions order itself

Stays mum on company's breach of contract; says probe into order specs on

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After years' of process, 10 locomotives bought from Hyundai Rotem reached Bangladesh without the alternators specified in the contract, but the railways minister is now questioning the order itself.

Bangladesh Railway (BR) in May, 2016, floated a tender for procuring the 10 metre-gauge locomotives and some other equipment under a project funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

After a long bidding process, in which different government bodies and the ADB were involved, BR in May 2018 signed a deal with South Korean Hyundai Rotem for Tk 297.63 crore.

The locomotives reached Bangladesh in September and it was discovered that Hyundai delivered the locomotives with TA-09 alternators, violating the contract that specified the TA-12 model.

Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan at the Rail Bhaban yesterday said the alternators, an important component of the diesel-electric locomotives, specified in the contract should have been different. He said they were looking into as to why the "applicable" alternators, which according to him is the TA-09, were not selected in the first place.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



BNP General Secretary Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir addressing a rally at the Khilgaon Taltola Market in the capital yesterday. During the rally, party members protested what they said were election irregularities and demanded the abolition of the Digital Security Act.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Ron Sikder's bail extended until April 11

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday extended the bail of Ron Haque Sikder, managing director of Sikder Group, until April 11 in a case filed over abducting, torturing, and opening fire on two Exim Bank officials over a loan permission.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Rajesh Chowdhury passed the order after a hearing on two petitions -- one for granting Ron's permanent bail and the other for exempting him from personal appearance in the

The prosecution submitted a petition seeking cancellation of Ron's bail. It said Ron and his brother Dipu Haque Sikder, who is now abroad, abducted, tortured and opened fire on two Exim Bank officials after they refused to sanction a loan of Tk 500 crore.

India keen on

Our Correspondent, New Delhi

India yesterday said it was

exploring with Bangladesh

Stressing the need for

South Asian regional

power co-operation,

cross-border

LNG SUPPLY

pipeline

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Why no special compartment for women

HC wants to know, asks govt to explain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court, in a rule, yesterday asked the authorities why a special compartment should not be allocated for female passengers and separate reserved seats for children, physically challenged passengers, and senior citizens in every train for ensuring their privacy and security.

The bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice SM Maniruzzaman came up with the rule following a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Mamtaz Parvin seeking necessary directives on this issue.

Mamtaz's lawyer Aimol Hossain Khokon earlier told The Daily Star that a special compartment for female passengers is supposed to be arranged in every passenger-train as per sections 64 and 119 of the Railway Act, 1890.

But the provisions of the law were not implemented and therefore female passengers face different problems in the SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Bhutto's telegram to Bangabandhu

MARCH 11, 1971

Shamsuddoza Sajen

BHUTTO'S TELEGRAM

In a telegram sent to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 11, 1971, Bhutto expressed his willingness to come to Dhaka immediately to work out a solution so that the National Assembly session could be held soon. He urged Bangabandhu to work together to build a "new system" where there would be no discrimination among provinces as well as among citizens. KEEP ECONOMY IN FULL

GEAR Tajuddin Ahmad, general secretary of the Awami League, in a statement today said the people's movement had attained unprecedent heights. It had been made possible because every person in his own sphere had taken it as his sacred duty to implement, in spirit and



in substance, all the directives of Bangabandhu issued in the name of the people of "Bangladesh", he added. He urged people to be prepared to foil the conspiracy of the vested interests and the anti-people forces to destroy the economy of "Bangladesh". The statement called upon people engaged in various economic activities to follow rigorous discipline in every respect for the victory of the people's cause.

The statement also contained several directives for government and nongovernment organisations. The ports were allowed to operate

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Govt, CNNIC to team up to showcase Bangladesh

JAGARAN CHAKMA

The government is going to team up with USbased CNN International Commercial for showcasing Bangladesh's achievements on the global stage.

The CNNIC gave a proposal to the government in this regard on February 22, days before the United Nations Committee for Development Policy recommended Bangladesh's graduation to a developing country from a least developed one.

It proposed signing a deal, "Understanding on CNN International Commercial Partnership Opportunity to Brand Bangladesh Globally for the Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh"

The CNNIC provides SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

China, Russia to launch lunar space station



Russia and China unveiled plans Tuesday for a joint lunar space station, as Moscow seeks to recapture the glory of its space pioneering days of Soviet times, and Beijing gears up its own extraterrestrial ambitions.

Though Moscow was once at the forefront of space travel -- it sent the first man into space -- its cosmic ambitions have dimmed thanks to poor financing and endemic corruption.

It has been eclipsed by China and the United SEE PAGE 10 COL 3 a proposal for supplying refined-LNG through cross-border pipeline and establishment of an LNG terminal. 'We are working assiduously to promote the sub-region comprising Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar and India as

an energy hub," Indian

Foreign Secretary Harsh

Vardhan Shringla said.

He was addressing the inauguration of the South Asia Group on Energy (SAGE), organised by Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), in New Delhi.

আয়করের প্রবৃদ্ধি দেশ ও দশের সমৃদ্ধি

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Two people walking on a bridge in Aminbazar on the Dhaka-Aricha highway yesterday. As the sign says, the bridge has been closed to the public because it is risky and a part of it has even collapsed, but people use the structure despite the risks.

One in three women endure abuse: WHO

Pandemic deepening the problem

AFP, Geneva

One in three women have already suffered physical violence or sexual abuse, the World Health Organization said, warning that the coronavirus pandemic was deepening the problem.

In a report, the UN health agency found that around 30 percent of all women and girls over the age of 15 -- around 736 million people -- have already been victims of such violence throughout their lifetimes,

mainly at the hands of intimate partners.

"Violence against women is endemic in every country and culture, causing harm to millions of women and their families," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a statement on Tuesday, adding that the problem "has been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic".

Dr Claudia Garcia-Moreno, who coauthored the report, acknowledged that experts were still waiting for the full data SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

UNSC fails to condemn coup in Myanmar

Security forces surround, arrest protesters

AGENCIES

The UN Security Council failed to agree on a statement that would have condemned the coup in Myanmar, called for restraint by the military and threatened to consider "further measures."

Talks on the statement would likely continue, diplomats said in New York, after China, Russia, India and Vietnam all suggested amendments late on Tuesday to a British draft, including removal of the reference to a coup and the threat to consider further action.

In Myanmar, security forces launched tear gas and surrounded hundreds SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 5-05 12-45 4-30 6-12 7-30 JAMAAT 5-40 1-15 4-45 6-15 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

আমরা স্বাবলম্বী হব आसींच अधारपत्री त्यस वाहि কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয় কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকা ২য় ১২-তলা সরকারি অফিস ভবন (৪র্থ তলা), সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকার সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের অগ্রিম আয়করের ৩য় কিস্তি প্রদানের অনুরোধ কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকার অধিক্ষেত্রাধীন সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থবৎসরের (২০২১-২০২২ কর বৎসরের জন্য প্রযোজ্য) ০৪ (চার) কিন্তিতে প্রদেয় অগ্নিম আয়করের ৩য় কিন্তি প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ১৫ মার্চ, ২০২১। আয়কর অধ্যাদেশ, ১৯৮৪

ফোনঃ ০২-৯৫৫১৭০৭

৩। যুগ্ম কর কমিশনার, পরিদর্শী রেঞ্জ-৩

এর ধারা ৬৪ [Advance payment of tax] অনুযায়ী যে সকল করদাতার সর্বশেষ নিরুপিত আয় ০৬ (ছয়) লক্ষ টাকার বেশি তাহাদের জন্য অগ্রিম আয়কর প্রদানের বিধান প্রযোজ্য হইবে। উল্লেখ্য ধারা ৬৮ অনুযায়ী নতুন করদাতার ক্ষেত্রে ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বৎসর (২০২১-২০২২ কর বৎসর) এ ছয় লক্ষ টাকার বেশি আয় হইবার সম্ভাবনা থাকিলে তাহাদের জন্যও অগ্রিম আয়করের বিধান প্রযোজ্য হইবে। এই প্রেক্ষিতে কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকার সম্মানিত করদাতাগণকে ৩য় কিস্তির অগ্রিম আয়কর ১৫ মার্চ, ২০২১ তারিখের মধ্যে পরিশোধের জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা হইল। করদাতা বিধি অনুসারে অগ্রীম কর যথাসময়ে প্রদান না করিলে ধারা ৬৯ [Failure to pay installments of advance tax] অনুসারে খেলাপী

করদাতা [Assessee in default] হিসাবে গণ্য করিবার এবং ধারা ৭৩ [Interest payable by the assessee of advance tax] অনুসারে সরল সুদ আরোপ করিবার বিধান রহিয়াছে। এছাড়া নির্ধারিত তারিখের মধ্যে অগ্রিম কর পরিশোধ করা না হইলে আয়কর অধ্যাদেশ, ১৯৮৪ এর ধারা ১২৫ [Failure to pay advance tax] অনুসারে প্রদেয় করের সমপরিমাণ অংক জরিমানা আরোপ করিবার বিধান রহিয়াছে

প্রদেয় অঘিম কর, সম্মানিত করদাতা তাঁহার সংশ্লিষ্ট সার্কেলের উপ কর কমিশনার এর অনুকলে পে-অর্ডার/ক্রসড-চেক/ চালানের মাধ্যমে কর অঞ্চল-৭. ঢাকার নিমুবর্ণিত হিসাব কোডে পরিশোধ করিবেনঃ

> কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকার আয়কর জমার হিসাব কোড নিমুরূপঃ কোম্পানী করদাতার জন্য ঃ ১-১১৪১-০০৩০-০১০১ ব্যক্তি শ্রেনীর করদাতার জন্য ঃ ১-১১৪১-০০৩০-০১১১

অধিকতর তথ্য ও অনুসন্ধানের জন্য যোগাযোগ ঃ ফোনঃ ০২-৯৫৮৫০৭২

৪। যুগা কর কমিশনার, পরিদর্শী রেঞ-৪ ফোলঃ ৩২-৯৫৫০৫৩৬ ৫। উপ কর কমিশনার (সদর দপ্তর- প্রশাসন)

৬। উপ কর কমিশনার (সদর দপ্তর-টেকনিক্যাল) কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকা আশা করে যে, সম্মানিত করদাতাগণ নির্ধারিত তারিখে বা তাহার পূর্বে প্রদেয় অগ্নিম আয়কর পরিশোধপূর্বক

নাগরিক দায়িত্র পালনে সচেষ্ট হইবেন। জাতীয় রাজস্ব আহরণে কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকা সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের সহযোগিতা প্রত্যাশা (মোঃ হারুন অর রশীদ) কর কমিশনার

কর অঞ্চল-৭, ঢাকা ফোনঃ ৫৮৩-১০৬০৩