# Hyundai's 10 engines

He said directives have been given to the authorities concerned on April 21 for using those locomotives for passengers and freight trains "for trial basis until further notice" and operation started from Sunday.

electric metre-gauge diesel The locomotives -- bought under a project worth around Tk 300 crore -- arrived at a railways workshop in Chattogram's Pahartoli after they were unloaded at the Chattogram port in September last year.

In its report, a BR commissioning committee said the technical specifications of four key components -- engines, alternators, compressors, and traction motors -- of the supplied locomotives did not match the specifications mentioned in the agreement.

The project authorities halted 65 percent of the payment for the locomotives and the railways minister in October last year ordered a probe. The locomotives have been sitting idle in a workshop since then.

A probe committee, led by Farukuzzaman, additional secretary (law and land) of the ministry, submitted its report on February 25. The Daily Star obtained a copy of the report.

The committee recommended actions against Hyundai for supplying locomotives in deviation from the contract and CCIC Singapore Pte Ltd, which the BR employed for the pre-shipment inspection, for failing to carry out its duties.

The probe committee report shows that Hyundai supplied alternator model TA9-12CA9SE, but the agreement sought alternator model TA12-CA9.

Railways officials said the two models are different in terms of power output.

Besides, as per a government plan, all rail lines in the country would be converted into dual gauge within a few years. The government had instructed the BR to purchase locomotives which could be used on both metre-gauge and broad-gauge by changing the undercarriages.

But with the TA9-12CA9SE alternator, the locomotives will not run on broad-gauge, said some officials.

The then project director not only halted the payment to Hyundai but also raised

allegations about "some senior BR officials" joining hands in the unethical activity, to release the fund.

However, the incumbent PD Hassan Mansur said the overall performance of the locomotives is "quite good".

"But as they [HRC] did not give the alternator as per the contract, we have asked them to change those alternators," Hassan Mansur said, adding that "If they do not change the alternator, we will cut money from their due payment...

Asked about equipment supplied without following the contract, he said there is no problem in engine and traction motors and the company made the changes in those equipment taking project authority's permission after the contract was signed.

Replying to another question, he said they would take further steps following the recommendations of a technical committee.

The BR on March 23 formed the fourmember committee, led by Prof Muhammed Mahbubur Razzaque of Buet's Mechanical Engineering Department, to determine whether those engines can be used for railway operations.

The committee was to submit a report within 10 working days.

Mahbubur Razzaque, who was also a member of Farukuzzaman's led probe committee, declined to be part of the new committee.

He said their committee has given their recommendations for taking action against the companies for breaching contract.

'The authority could have formed to determine the extent of punishment, instead another committee was formed how to accept those locomotives. This is ridiculous. So I decided not be part of the new committee," he told The Daily Star vesterday.

Contacted yesterday, BR's Director General Dhirendra Nath Mazumder said the committee was reconstituted with Chief Mechanical Engineer (East) of BR and they were asked to give report "as soon as possible.

Asked whether action would be taken against Hyundai, he said, "We have asked them to change alternator. We will take action if they failed to do so." End...

Most of those filing cases under this law

The statement said that the DSA should

"It is mentioned in the law that the case

belong to the ruling party, he added. "Its

abuse during the pandemic has risen to

be used to regulate issues regarding cyber

must be disposed of within 120 days, with

a possible extension of a further 90 days.

If this case was followed as written, writer

Mushtag Ahmed would not have had to die

Faisel invited the government to

### Lockdown FROM PAGE 1

cases. The restrictions were later extended till April 21 and then to April 28 (tomorrow).

Despite the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, traffic on streets has increased significantly lately, although operations of buses, trains and launches have remained suspended. Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader had earlier hinted that bus services may resume after tomorrow.

But the new government announcement has now understandably made it uncertain. Meanwhile, crowds at

shopping centres and malls have only gotten bigger since Sunday, increasing chances of the spread of the coronavirus.

Visiting some major shopping malls and markets in Dhaka -- New Market, Chandni Chawk, Gausia, Noor Mansion, Chandrima Super Market, and Bashundhara City Mall -- yesterday, The Daily Star correspondents found shoppers thronging the shops from 10:00am.

At most shopping centres, maintaining health safety rules appeared as a big challenge due to the heavy rush of customers. This correspondents found that only a few of the health safety guidelines were being followed.

their customers were seen with their masks down. At entry points of some markets, antiseptic mix was sprayed on customers, instead of providing them with hand sanitisers. Besides, there was not enough space inside most of the shops to maintain physical distancing.

In comparison to Sunday, the number of customers increased yesterday, said shop owners at New Market and Noor Mansion. They think that the crowds will get bigger once public transport

People were seen

of the virus, according to a UNB report.

yesterday evening.

trafficking, money laundering and bribing Kuwaiti officials with millions of dollars to recruit Bangladeshi workers and get contracts for his company, labour exploitation and

Ashikuzzaman said Papul was not found guilty of human trafficking, but bribing the officials. Another case of money laundering is being investigated.

Quoting Arabic newspaper Al Qabas, Kuwaiti news portal The Times earlier reported that Papul was estimated to have obtained Kuwati diners 5 million in assets in Kuwait. During investigations, all his bank accounts and that of his company were frozen.

Papul went to Kuwait in 1989 as a worker and eventually started working as a recruitment broker and later established companies. He ran four companies involved in providing government through cleaners

Papul was accused of human

also violation of the residence law.

"We can then provide you with contracts in Kuwait, employing 9,000

on May 3 as the number of coronavirus

pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca over

delivery shortfalls of its coronavirus

In Britain, Prime Minister Boris

The Daily Mail newspaper reported

Johnson faced a call to resign after

claims he dismissed the prospect of

The drug giant dismissed litigation as "without merit".

thousands dying from Covid-19.

the vaccine fight

the

patients in intensive care falls.

Meanwhile,

DHAKA TUESDAY APRIL 27, 2021, BAISHAKH 14, 1428 BS

He had no involvement in politics back home before 2016.

Papul invested crores of taka to prevent other potential candidates in the Lakshmipur-2 constituency and became an independent MP in the 2018 national election. His wife Selina Islam allegedly did the same to become an MP from the reserved seats for women.

The Anti-Corruption Commission of Bangladesh opened an enquiry into an allegation that Papul amassed Tk 1,400 crore by trafficking people to Kuwait and laundered the money to different countries.

The ACC said the enquiry was to look into the charges of loan forgery and money laundering by the NRB Commercial Bank Director Kazi Papul, his wife Selina, their daughter Kazi Wafa Islam and Selina's sister Jesmin.

On December 28, a Dhaka Court ordered the freezing of 617 bank accounts and 92 deeds of immoveable properties of Papul, following a petition filed by the ACC.

Johnson had said he would rather see

'bodies pile high in their thousands'

than impose a third coronavirus

India's 1.3 billion population has become the global hotspot of a

pandemic that has killed more than three

million people, even as richer countries

take steps towards normality with

Irfan Salmani told AFP he had been

going from hospital to hospital around

Delhi for three days, searching for

oxygen for his sister.

quickening inoculation programmes.

round of restrictions in January.

Ultimately, Johnson did order a new

lockdown.

### US, Britain rush supplies to India radius of homes will also be dropped FROM PAGE 12

vaccine.

waiter at Baccano, a restaurant near Rome's Trevi Fountain, as he readied for the return of customers.

"Hopefully... we can soon reopen inside as well," he told AFP, adding: goes on and the European Union yesterday launched legal action against

"It's the start of a return to normality. France is also hoping for further improvement with millions of children returning to primary schools and kindergartens yesterday after a threeweek shutdown against a severe third wave of infection.

Secondary schools will reopen in a week's time and restrictions on travel beyond a 10-kilometre (six-mile)

# 'Don't squeeze Yahya'

FROM PAGE 12

ি লেখ হায়িনায় উদ্দোগ যয়ে ঘয়ে যিন্যা

The ministersaid the new administration would try to fulfil the demands of the people by keeping a direct link with them. Kamaruzzaman, who recently travelled inside Bangladesh, said the movement of the Pakistani troops were now restricted to the cities only. But other areas were now completely under their control. He said it was a fact that at some places the Mukti Fouj had to retreat but this did not mean a defeat.

The minister said he was glad to see the high morale of the freedom fighters. He was confident that the millions of people of Bangladesh would fight to the last drop of their blood. He added that attainment of complete freedom could help to forget the agonies of genocide that had been perpetrated in Bangladesh. **ÎNDIAN MISSION STAFF IN DHAKA** 

**INTERNED** The diplomatic deadlock between India and Pakistan in connection with

the repatriation of diplomats, staff and dependents of the respective mission in Calcutta and Dhaka continued today. Pakistan in its latest move practically interned the personnel of the Indian Deputy High Commission in Dhaka, including the head of the mission, KC Sen Gupta, after the mission's closure yesterday. India tonight protested strongly to Pakistan over the internment. The internment was probably in retaliation to India's action in barring the exit of Pakistani

personnel in India without prior permission from the government. **ISLAM DOESN'T PERMIT SUCH BLOODSHED: JAMIAT ULEMA** 

The Jamiat Ulema-i-Hind today expressed its resentment, deepest sorrow and grief over the inhuman atrocities in Bangladesh. A resolution adopted at the conclusion of a two-day meeting of its working committee said, "Islam does not permit such bloodshed and rampage." The Jamiat appealed to intellectuals, thinkers, statesmen and conscientious men all over the world to make fullest efforts to stop largescale killing and destruction.

Shamsuddoza Sajen is a journalist and researcher. He can be contacted at sajen1986@gmail.com



ISO 9001:2015 Certified Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited. (DESCO)

POWER IS YOURS

The organisation also invited the authorities to investigate the alleged attack Heavy traffic congestion that took place at "Amar Habiganj" office. was seen in front of New 'The powerful has always used the Digital Market and Bashundhara Security Act to repress those disclosing City Mall. instances of corruption," said Faruq Faisel, the regional director of Bangladesh and

> resumes. traveling in private cars, rickshaws, three-wheelers, and even in pickups. **'OFFER EID PRAYERS**

AT MOSQUES' In another development, the government has urged Muslims to offer Eid-ul-Fitr prayers at mosques, instead of at Eidgahs, as part of

efforts to curb the spread

Eid prayers are

traditionally offered in

The heat to continue

38 DSA cases filed in 3 months

Article 19's press release. Following this, the attackers filed a case accusing the newspaper's editor of attacking them.

FROM PAGE 12

In addition, the city corporation mayors of Khulna and Rangpur filed two DSA cases against two journalists for publishing news against them. Abu Tayeb, the journalist from Khulna was even arrested on April 21, pointed out the press release.

He is still languishing in jail, they added. The Rangpur mayor filed a DSA case against a journalist named Ratan Sarkar for putting up a Facebook status about corruption perpetrated by the mayor.

"Ratan Sarkar was physically assaulted before. He is now living in fear of being arrested, or worse," said the statement.

'We strongly condemn these arrests, attacks and cases," said Article 19 in the statement, adding that the journalists must be released unconditionally, and that the cases against them must be retracted.

Many shop owners and

NEWS

# Papul to serve seven years in Kuwait jail after Kuwait's Criminal Investigation

Department arrested Papul. Papul is the managing director and

CEO of Marafie Kuwaitia Group. The independent lawmaker from Lakshmipur-2 was also fined 1.97 million Kuwaiti dinars (Tk 55 crore)

on January 28. Papul's fine was also increased by the appeals court yesterday, but the amount could not be known. Following the verdict of Kuwait's

criminal court, his Jatiya Sangsad

The defendants now can seek a

review petition with the court, which,

however, will check if there was any

legal deviation in the legal procedures.

It won't change the verdict delivered

Bangladesh Ambassador to Kuwait

Maj Gen Md Ashikuzzaman said

he learnt that Papul's extension of

imprisonment to seven years through

a newspaper and has asked the

embassy lawyer to collect the verdict

membership was cancelled.

by the appeals court.

copy.

added to the sufferings of the day labourers and those who earn a living through manual work.

"I'm finding it very tough to pull my rickshaw in this scorching heat. I have to drink water and take rest every now and then," said Omar Ali, a rickshaw puller in the capital's Farmgate area.

A recent study says Dhaka has witnessed a rise in temperature of almost 3 degrees Celsius in a span of 20 years while the world is fighting to contain the rise in global temperature below 1.5 degrees, according

a study conducted on five major cities in Bangladesh.

South Asia at Article 19.

worrying levels."

in jail," it said.

reconsider the law.

security.

Chattogram, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barishal and Sylhet have also witnessed rise in both day and night temperatures during the period, said the study which surmised that population density, lack of greenery, uneven building heights, and human activities are the main reasons behind the trend.

The study titled "Surface urban heat island intensity (SUHII) in five major cities of Bangladesh: patterns, drivers and trends" was published in the Sustainable Cities and Society Journal of Elsevier on April 16.

open places and attended by thousands of people. As Ramadan began on April 14, the Eid-ul-Fitr, the biggest Muslim festival, is likely be celebrated on May 13 depending on the sighting of the moon. In a circular yesterday, the Ministry of Religious Affairs said that considering the risk to lives, Muslims are requested to hold

congregations at mosques instead of in open places. Several congregations can be held at the mosques if necessary, it said, noting that carpets won't be allowed to be laid out on

the floors. Before the prayers, the mosques should be completely disinfected and people will have to bring their own prayer mats. The latest decision required greater sanitation and social distancing measures. The elderly, children and those

suffering from diseases should avoid attending the prayers.

All must wear masks and cannot use scalp caps kept in the mosques.

Legal action will be taken if the directives are violated, the ministry warned.

The directive comes as the country grapples with the second wave of Coronavirus. Bangladesh registered 97 more Covid-19 deaths yesterday with 3,306 new cases.

## Nomadland

- FROM PAGE 12
- to win best actor in the final award of the night, besting sentimental favorite Chadwick Boseman, who died of cancer last year.

The unorthodox Oscars ceremony was moved from a Hollywood theater to a glammed-up downtown train station to abide by strict Covid-19 protocols, and reunited Tinseltown A-listers for the first time in more than a year.

22/B Farrukh Sarani, Nikunja-2, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229 Phone:02-8900110-11, Fax: 02-8900100 E-mail: info@desco.org.bd Web: www.desco.org.bd

### Invitation for Tondor

Invitation for lender									
l	Ministry/Div	finistry/Division Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources							
2	Agency		Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited (DESCO)						
2	Procuring En	tity Name	Procurement, Inspection & Testing Division, DESCO						
3	Procuring En	tity District	Dhaka						
4	Invitation for	Invitation for Upgradation of Master Information Center (MIC) of DESCO on Turn Key Basis							
5			04/2021						
6 Invitation Ref No. 27.24.0000.021.07.04.21.541			0.021.07.04.21.541						
7	Date 25/04/2021								
KE	Y INFORMA								
8	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Procurement Method Open Tendering Method (Single Stage Two Envelope)							
		G INFORMATION							
9		Budget and Source of Funds DESCO's own fund							
PA	RTICULAR 1	CULAR INFORMATION							
10	Tender Name	Name Upgradation of Master Information Center (MIC) of DESCO on Turn Key Basis							
	Tender Selling Date, Closing & Opening Date and Time		La	st Selling Date	<b>Closing Date &amp; Time</b>	Opening Date & Time			
11			Ju	ne 09, 2021	June 10, 2021	June 10, 2021			
				5.00 PM	12.00 Noon	12.30 PM			
				Selling	Receiving	Opening			
12			Office of Deputy General Manager (Accounts), DESCO. House # 22/B (6 <sup>th</sup> floor), Faruque Sarani, Nikunja#2, Dhaka-1229.		Office of the Superintending Engineer (P.I&T), DESCO. House # 22/B (1* floor), Faruque Sarani. Nikunja#2, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh.	Office of the Superintending Engineer (P.1&T). DESCO. House # 22/B (1 <sup>4</sup> floor), Faruque Saraon, Nikunja#2, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh.			
IN	FORMATION			•					
3	Eligibility of Tenderer								
4	Description of Goods & related Service	bods & Upgradation of Master Information Center (MIC) of DESCO on Turn Key Basis. Details are described in Section 6: Employer's Requirements and Section 7: Drawings.							
5	Price of Tender Document	<b>BDT 4,000/-</b> (Four Thousand Taka) only payable in the form of Pay Order/Bank draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favor of 'Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited'.							
6	TenderThe amount of the Tender Security shall be Tk.1,50,00,000 (One Crore Fifty Lac Taka) only. The TenderSecuritySecurity shall be payable in the form of Bank Guarantee/Bank Draft/ Pay Order in favour of Dhaka ElectricAmountSupply Company Limited.								
PR	OCURING E	NTITY DET	AILS						
7	Name of Official inviting the Tender Engr. Mohammad Kamruzzaman								
8	Designation of Official inviting the Tender Superintending Engineer (Procurement, Inspection & Testing)								
	the Tender			Interested firms may obtain further information from the office of the under signed during normal office hours (09:00 AM to 05:00 PM). Office of the SE (Procurement, Inspection & Testing), DESCO. Address: 22/B (1 <sup>st</sup> floor). Faruque Sarani, Nikunja # 02, Uitara. Dhaka-1229. E-mail: <u>pit@desco.org.hd</u>					
0	The procuring	he procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.							
						hammad Kamruzzaman 1g Engineer (P, 1 &T), DESCO			

# 2 warehouse

#### FROM PACE 12

capital's Karwan Bazar.

Each of them paid a monthly rent of Tk 15,000 for each shop in Musa Manson, Rab officials said.

Mostafa lived on the first floor of the building. He managed to flee with his family members through the balcony moments after the fire broke out, they added. The fire also injured 23 people.

Ten of the injured are still being treated at Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery. Three of them, including a newly married

couple, are in the ICU, said Samanta Lal Sen, the coordinator of the institute.

Muna Sarkar and Ashiquzzaman Khan, both computer engineers, got married just over a month ago. They are on life support with severe injuries to their lungs, he added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Regional Controller of Food
Barishal division
Club road, Barishal
www.food.barisaldiv.gov.bd
Record Number Date 25/4/2021
13.01.0000.000.55.032.17.901
www.food.barisaldiv.gov.bd Record Number Date 25/4/2

#### e-Tender Notice No:01/2020-2021 (LTM) (WORKS)

e-Tender have been invited in the national e-GP System portal (http:/www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of Following Works

SL.	Tender	Name of Works	Last Selling	Closing and
No.	ID No.		(Date & Time)	Opening
				(Date & Time)
1.	570494	Repair of Food Godown with	17 May, 2021	18 May, 2021
		Ancillary Facilities at	17:00	14:00
		Subidkhali LSD, Mirzagonj,		
		Patuakhali.		
2.	570630	Repair of Food Godown with	17 May, 2021	18 May, 2021
		Ancillary Facilities at Muladi	17:00	14:00
		LSD, Muladi, Barishal.		

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required

Only Enlisted contractor of Directorate General Food & Those who are renewed in 2020-2021 Fiscal Year can participate in the Tender.

The fees for last selling/downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

