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**SHAH CEMENT**

# RAMPAL POWER PLANT Production to start in December



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid protests by environmentalists, Bangladesh-India Friendship Company Ltd has almost completed the construction of the first unit of Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant in Rampal, around 14 kilometres from the Sundarbans.

"Hopefully, we will start generating electricity in December and add it to the national grid," said Kazi Absar Uddin Ahmed, managing director of the company.

"We are supposed to get back-feed power through a 230-KV line in the second week of this month to test different types of machinery such as generator and boiler in phases,"

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An army personnel talking to a man who was without a mask near Naya Bazar police box in the capital yesterday. He was later fined Tk 200 by a mobile court for not maintaining one of the main health safety rules to prevent the spread of Covid infections.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN



Fazal-e-Khuda (1941-2021)

## 'Salam Salam Hajar Salam'

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Noted lyricist Fazal-e-Khuda, best known for the legendary song "Salam Salam Hajar Salam", passed away yesterday.

He breathed his last around 4:00am at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital in the capital.

The 80-year-old artiste and his wife Mahmuda Sultana tested positive for coronavirus before his death.

Born in Pabna's Banagram on March 9, 1941, the lyricist penned more than 10,000 in his 50-year-long career.

Artists like Bashir Ahmed, Abdul Jabbar, SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

# Locals come to helpless widow's help

She was unable to cremate her husband as all in her family had Covid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

One must not lose faith in humanity, Mahatama Gandhi, the leader of India's non-violent independence movement against British rule, once said. And events that transpired at Kushtia's Mirpur municipality in the early hours of yesterday bring to mind that saying.

On Saturday evening, Kalpona Karmaker had lost her husband, Prafulla Karmakar, to Covid-19 at Kushtia General Hospital.

The 60-year-old widow wanted to take the dead body to their home in the municipality's Purba Para, but her two sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren, who are also infected with the coronavirus, forbade her.

Out of option, Kalpona took the body in an ambulance to the Mirpur Municipal Crematorium at midnight.

The ambulance left after dropping off Kalpona and the dead body by the gate of the crematorium, after which the night

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## ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

### Dhaka's power system crippled

JULY 5, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

#### POWER IN DHAKA REPORTED CUT OFF

Bangladeshi freedom fighters knocked out the electrical power station in Dhaka. The city has been blacked out since July 3 night.

Several foreign newsmen were in East Pakistan, but no news of the attack came out of Dhaka. It was speculated that reports were being blocked by the authorities or that the cable office had been shut by the power failure.

Another major East Pakistani town, Comilla, had been without power for over a week, its power plant reportedly also knocked out by guerillas. Comilla, a key rail and road junction, had been a focus of increasing guerrilla activity against the Pakistani army.

Bangladeshi guerillas had vowed to step up activity as their response to Pakistan President Yahya Khan's speech to the nation on June 28 where he declared that martial law would continue even after a civilian government was established in East Pakistan.

The crippling of the Dhaka power plant was considered to be the most dramatic act ascribed to the guerillas since the Pakistani army seized control of the city in late March after killing several thousand civilians.

**PAKISTAN CHARGES BRITAIN WITH INTERFERING IN AFFAIRS**  
The Government of Pakistan disclosed today that it had lodged a protest with Britain charging that a concerted anti-Pakistan campaign was under way in London.

The Pakistani radio said the protest was delivered on July 3 to

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# Man sets his sleeping wife alight

She gets severe burns; he gets arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A woman was set on fire in her sleep allegedly by husband in Moulvibazar's Barlekha upazila early yesterday.

Victim Rahima Begum, 20, who suffered around 63 percent burns, was undergoing treatment at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Police arrested her husband Shipon Ahmad, 25.

Faizul Islam, medical officer at Barlekha Upazila Health Complex, said Rahima's hands and face were burnt. As her condition was critical, she was referred to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, he added.

Victim's father Rafiq Uddin said Shipon, of Arenga village of Barlekha upazila, married his

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# Bangladesh sends mangoes to Asian friends



PORIMOL PALMA

As the pandemic continues to put people in misery the world over, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is sending sweet mangoes to India and several South Asian and Middle Eastern countries recognised to be friends.

The mangoes being sent currently are Haribhanga, a variety farmed in the northern districts of Rangpur, Nilphamari, Dinajpur and Thakurgaon. The ones from Rangpur are the sweetest.

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# TORTURE IN REMAND Doctors find injury marks on woman

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

Doctors found injury marks on the body of a woman, who stands accused in a murder case of Barishal's Ujirpur upazila.

On Friday, she told a Barishal court that the investigation officer of the case sexually harassed her and some other police personnel tortured her physically during her remand at Ujirpur Police Station.

Doctors of Barishal Sher-E-Bangla Medical College Hospital conducted a health checkup on the woman after the court ordered the hospital's director to submit a report within 24 hours.

Meanwhile, the superintendent of Barishal police yesterday filed a case against the police personnel and formed a committee to investigate the incident as per the

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# PLANE CRASH 45 killed in Philippines

C-130 with 96 onboard overshoots runway

AFP, Cotabato

At least 45 people were killed and dozens injured yesterday when a Philippine military aircraft carrying troops crashed and burst into flames after missing the runway in the country's south, officials said.

Nearly a hundred people, most of them recent army graduates, were on the C-130 Hercules transport plane which was trying to land on Jolo island in Sulu province around midday.

Some of the soldiers

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## PRAYER TIMING JULY 5

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4:10 12:45 5:00 6:55 8:17  
JAMAAT 4:45 1:15 5:15 7:00 8:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Amid rain, cancer patient Shahina Aktar being taken to a private clinic in Moghbazar in a van after her radiation therapy at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The 55-year-old and her son Babu reached the capital from Cumilla yesterday morning. The photo was taken near the Central Shaheed Minar.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# Free media the answer to disinformation

Says Irene Khan at UNHRC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The detention of cartoonists, bloggers and journalists under the Digital Security Act in Bangladesh has led to allegations of torture and death in custody, said a top diplomat at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC).

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has expressed alarm at the sharp rise in the use of "false news" laws to clamp down on criticism of governments in the wake of the pandemic in many countries in Asia, said Irene Khan, the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

She made the comments while placing her report at the 47th session of the UNHRC in Geneva from June 21 to July 13.

Responses by states and companies to disinformation have been problematic, inadequate and detrimental to human rights, Khan said, according to a statement of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

She called on states to uphold the right to freedom of expression as the primary means by which to fight disinformation.

"Although there is no universally accepted definition of disinformation, drawing broadly from international practice I have interpreted the concept to mean false or misleading information disseminated intentionally to cause serious social harm, and misinformation to mean the dissemination of false information unknowingly."

While disinformation is not a new phenomenon, what

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