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is being built with BSRM

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Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant

Work in progress
using Shah Cement

SHAH CEMENT

LIMITED COURT FUNCTIONS Lawyers, litigants left distressed

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Supreme Court buildings, most of which were constructed in the beginning of the 20th century, stand still with an eerie calm hanging all over the premises.

The flurry of activity that used to reverberate through the Renaissance architectural style buildings is absent now: no crowd of lawyers, litigants, clerks, and staff at the court compound.

This has been the scene at the country's highest judicial institution since the Covid-19 outbreak in March last year brought the regular functions of all the courts across the country to a halt, badly hampering the justice delivery system.

Court activities, however, have gone virtual, albeit at a limited scale.

As a result, the rates of case filing and disposal fell drastically, leading to increased backlog of pending cases and sufferings of the justice seekers. Neither the government nor the SC administration have devised any major plan of action to recover the damage caused by the pandemic.

According to the latest decisions of the chief justice, all the benches of the Appellate and High Court Divisions of the Supreme Court will run judicial functions virtually from tomorrow, read two notices of SC administrations.

Since Covid-19 struck the country, all benches have remained operational together only for half this period --

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Children dive into the water of a haor from an unoccupied vessel moored to the shore in Brahmanbaria's Sarail upazila yesterday, to get some relief from the hot and humid weather.

PHOTO:
MASHUK HRIDOY

New gas field found in Zakiganj

Bapex says it'll
last 12 yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh announced discovering of its 28th gas field in Sylhet's Zakiganj yesterday on the occasion of the National Energy Security Day.

The state-owned Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company (Bapex) made the discovery in June, but did not declare it formally as they were assessing the prospects of recovering gas from the drilled well in Ananadapur village of Zakiganj.

In a webinar, State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid said they estimated that the field has 68 billion cubic feet of gas reserve.

"If we use 10 million cubic feet per day (MMCFD) gas from this field, it will be extractable in next 12-13 years," he added.

"The value of the entire

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KOTALIPARA BOMB PLOT Militancy must be eradicated

Says HC in full text
of verdict

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court in the full text of its verdict on the Kotalipara bomb plot case has observed that militancy and militant activities need to be eradicated from the country.

The attempt of perpetrators to kill Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina by detonating bombs in Gopalganj in 2000 is an ignominious chapter for the nation, the HC said in the 86-page full text of the verdict released yesterday.

The HC bench of Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim and Justice Md Badruzzaman confirmed the death penalty of 10 leaders and activists of Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (Huji) for attempting to kill the prime minister by planting a 76kg

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Hungarians take part in wife- carrying contest



REUTERS, Tapiobicske

Some 40 Hungarian husbands, with their wives on their backs, clambered over rough terrain on Saturday in the nation's second wife-carrying contest.

A previous race in October attracted only a dozen couples.

"We have just emerged from a difficult period due to the coronavirus and we need to go and have fun in the open air," Gergely Guruly, who organised the race, told Reuters.

Guruly began preparations in January for the contest, which is said to have origins dating back to the Viking age.

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N'GANJ FACTORY FIRE Probe finds govt body's negligence

SANAD SAHA

The government's factory inspection department has been negligent in monitoring safety measures, found a government probe body formed after the devastating Hashem Food and Beverage factory fire in Narayanganj.

The probe also blamed the factory owner.

After the incident, three government bodies -- Narayanganj district administration, Fire Service and Civil Defence authority, and the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments -- formed three probe bodies.

The district administration's probe body submitted its 44-page report to the deputy commissioner (DC) on August 5 after almost a month-long probe.

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ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Thant sounds warning about Bangabandhu trial



US Senator Edward Kennedy visiting refugee camps at Salt Lake, Kolkata on August 10, 1971.

AUGUST 10, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

THANT'S WARNING

UN Secretary General U Thant warned today that the trial of Bangladeshi leader Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman would "inevitably have repercussions outside the borders of Pakistan".

He added that he had been receiving expressions of concern about Bangabandhu from many governments every day.

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Dismembered body of missing college principal found

Three arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sajar

Rab recovered the dismembered body of a college principal yesterday, 27 days after he went missing from Savar's Ashulia.

The victim, Mintu Chandra Barmon, 36, of Lalmonirhat's Hatibandha upazila, was the principal of Savar Residential School and College in Jamgora area.

Rab arrested three people -- Robiul, his nephew Badsha, and Motalab -- in connection with the incident and said Robiul and Motalab along with Mintu were running the college.

At a press conference, Commander Khandaker Al Moin, director of Rab's legal and media wing, told reporters that they recovered five out of six parts of Mintu's body from the college premises and another part -- his head -- from the capital's Ashkona area.

"Mintu went missing on July 13 and his

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9th grader held in DSA case in Rangpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A Rangpur court yesterday sent a 9th grader to jail after police arrested him in a case filed under the Digital Security Act over a Facebook post.

Police said the 17-year-old boy was arrested in Pirganj on Sunday after he posted a distorted photo of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on Facebook.

Sub-inspector Monirul Rahman of Pirganj Police Station filed the case against the boy, student of a local madrasa.

Sorosh Chandra, officer-in-charge of Pirganj Police

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The Satchhari Tripura village in Habiganj's Chunarughat is on the verge of giving into the river as every time there is heavy rain, the rush of water erodes parts of the village. For years, the 24 families of the village have been living under this threat but nothing has been done to protect them. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO:
MINTU DESHWARA

SURGE IN COVID CASES Sri Lanka holds mass cremations

China reports more cases as some
cities kick off new tests

AGENCIES

Sri Lanka has begun mass cremations to clear a backlog of dead bodies from Covid-19 as cases surge across the island, officials said yesterday.

Daily virus infections in the country have doubled in a month to more than 2,500 with nearly 100 deaths, putting huge strain on hospitals.

On Sunday evening Colombo Municipality began mass cremations, disposing of 15 corpses at the Colombo General Cemetery after the island's main hospital said it had no more freezer space.

It was the first mass cremation since December when the government overruled religious objections and cremated 15 members of the Muslim minority, including a 20-day-old baby.

Following local and international protests, the government then allowed Muslims to be buried in a remote corner of the island's east, in accordance with Islamic traditions.

The Public Health Inspectors (PHI) union said bodies of Covid-19 patients piled up at hospitals over the weekend as crematoriums working round the clock were unable to cope with a rapid rise in deaths.

"At this rate, we may have to build new crematoriums," PHI union chief Upul Rohana told reporters in Colombo.

At the Colombo North hospital there were 20 bodies without refrigeration while the number at the Panadura hospital south of the capital was over 50.

At the Colombo National hospital's mortuary, all 66

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PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 10

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:25 12:45 4:45 6:41 8:00
JAMAAT 5:00 1:15 5:00 6:44 8:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION