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SHAH CEMENT

PM to open five power plants today

779MW to be added to national grid
BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is set to inaugurate today five power plants that have a total production capacity of 779MW. "Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate these power plants via videoconferencing from the Gono Bhaban at 10:00am tomorrow [today]," Saiful Hasan, a director (public relations) of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), told BSS yesterday.



The five power plants are: Bibiyana-III 400MW Combined Cycle Power Plant in Habiganj, Chattogram 100MW Power Plant Unit-2, Meghnaghat 104MW Power Plant in Narayanganj, Modhumoti 100MW Power Plant in Bagerhat and upgradation of Sylhet 150MW Power Plant to 225MW Combined Cycle Power Plant in Sylhet.

Saiful said the PM's Power and Energy Adviser Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid, among others, will be present at the Bijoy Hall of Bidyut Bhaban during the ceremony.

PM's Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikaus will be present at the Gono Bhaban.

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Sculptures of chitals at Kotbari, Shalbon Bihar in Cumilla are left uncared for. The tourist spot has remained closed since the beginning of coronavirus pandemic. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Sent to Iraq with jobs non-existent

Rab arrests two human traffickers
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

They targeted skilled workers and lured them with lucrative jobs in the middle east. They then took the victims to Dubai on tourist visas and then to Iraq. The human traffickers then sold them for Tk 3-4 lakh.

Many of the female victims ended up in brothels.

The Rapid Action Battalion yesterday arrested two alleged human traffickers, including the alleged kingpin, from Mirpur and Uttara areas in the capital. They seized passports, cheque books, laptops, 407 pieces of yaba, and a car from arrestees' possessions.

"This racket has trafficked 200-250 people to different countries in the middle east in the last five years... Of them, 35-40 are women," Commander Khandaker Al Moin, Rab's Legal and Media Wing director, told

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Covid vaccines hold up against severe Delta

US health authorities say
AFP, Washington

Fully vaccinated people were 11 times less likely to die of Covid and 10 times less likely to be hospitalized compared to the unvaccinated since highly contagious Delta became the most common variant, US health authorities said Friday.

The data came from one of three new papers published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, all of which underscored Covid vaccines' ongoing effectiveness against severe outcomes.

For reasons that are not yet well understood, data from one of the studies suggests Moderna's vaccine has offered a slightly higher level of protection in the Delta period.

It comes a day after President Joe Biden announced an aggressive new immunization plan that includes requiring companies employing more than 100 people to either vaccinate their workers or test them weekly.

"As we have shown in study after study, vaccination works," said CDC director Rochelle Walensky during a press briefing on Friday.

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ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Shah of Persia may mediate

SEPTEMBER 12, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

RAPPROCHEMENT ON BANGLADESH

On the occasion of the 2,500th anniversary of the founding of monarchy in Iran, there rose a possibility that the Shah of Persia would try to bring about a rapprochement on Bangladesh between India and Pakistan with blessings from the Nixon administration, the Soviet Union and Britain. Several proposals were in the air.

One of them was that India should persuade the Bangladesh leaders to accept a settlement on the basis of "more than the Awami League's Six-point -- a confederation between Bangladesh and West Pakistan with very limited powers at the centre".

According to another proposal, as India, Britain and some other countries maintained in different degrees that nothing short of complete independence of Bangladesh was acceptable to the people of Bangladesh, the Yahya regime should, therefore, agree to withdraw its occupation force and explore the prospects of a loose federation of West Pakistan.

ON THE WAR FRONT

In Mymensingh-Sylhet Sector, Mukti Bahini ambushed Pakistani troops at Akhshree killing two and injuring three of the enemy soldiers. In another operation, Mukti Bahini guerrillas encountered Pakistani troops in Abhang. Seven Pakistani troops were killed in heavy exchange of fire.

In Rangpur-Dinajpur-Rajshahi Sector, Mukti Bahini exchanged fire with Pakistani troops in Bhotemari and killed 10 Pakistani

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Afghans mark muted 9/11

Pakistan to restart commercial flights to Kabul
AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan marked the 20th anniversary of 9/11 in muted fashion yesterday with the Taliban firmly in charge, two decades after being ousted for hosting the architects of the US attacks.

The hardline Islamists retook power on August 15, after a lightning offensive that capitalised on the chaotic last weeks of the 20-year US-led occupation that followed the 2001 attacks.

In a sign that things were returning to normal, Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) said it would resume flights to Kabul from Monday, the first foreign commercial service since the Taliban seized power last month.

And in a carefully orchestrated publicity stunt, hundreds of fully veiled women staged a

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'Flying Dragons' roamed southern skies too



REUTERS, Santiago

Scientists in Chile's Atacama Desert have unearthed the fossil remains of a so-called "flying dragon," a Jurassic-era dinosaur previously known only to the northern hemisphere.

The flying reptile belonged to a group of early pterosaurs that roamed the earth 160 million years ago. It had a long pointed tail, wings and sharp, outward pointing teeth.

The beast's fossil remains were discovered by Osvaldo Rojas, director of the Atacama Desert Museum of Natural History and Culture, and then further investigated by scientists at the University of Chile.

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Kalurghat transmitter to go back to radio station

Says info minister
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CTC

Information and Broadcasting Minister Hasan Mahmud yesterday said the radio transmitter used in making the declaration of the country's independence would be reinstalled at Kalurghat radio station, removing it from the Zia Memorial Museum in Chattogram.

The minister was exchanging views with journalists at the Chattogram Press Club.

"The transmitter of Kalurghat radio station, which was used by Awami League leader MA Hannan for re-reading Bangabandhu's declaration of independence, is preserved at Zia museum. The device will be reinstalled at the Kalurghat radio station removing it from the museum."

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Youth held for raping stepsister

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

A youth was arrested yesterday morning for raping his minor stepsister in Manikganj's Saturia upazila.

The victim -- a fifth-grader -- was four months pregnant when police were informed about the incident by locals, said Ashrafur Alam, officer-in-charge of Saturia Police Station.

Additionally, Md Mamun-Ur-Rashid, resident medical officer (RMO) of Saturia Upazila Health Complex, confirmed that the victim was four months pregnant.

The victim was first sent

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Dhaka North City Corporation workers dumped waste over a truck after the vehicle had wrongfully parked on the yard designated for waste dumping near Mirpur bridge road in the capital. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Star HEALTHLINE

Not required debate on VACCINE SUPERIORITY

PROF MAMUN AL MAHTAB

Around this time last year, people all around the world were anxiously waiting for the Covid-19 vaccine.

The media was flooded with anticipatory news, updating us about the vaccines undergoing clinical trials in different countries, so much so that we all became clinical trial experts -- well oriented about the stages of vaccine research.

We would discuss which vaccine would be available first and so on so forth.



Hyginex
Instant hand sanitizer

BEACON Pharmaceuticals Limited

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 12

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:35 12:45 4:30 6:14 7:45
JAMAT 5:10 1:15 4:45 6:17 8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION