



B1 RECORD EXPORT
Receipts hit \$4.76b in March



P6 Grammys 2022
Jon Batiste's "We Are" wins Album of Year



P7 Med Boat Tragedy
Nearly 100 die in int'l waters: UN



P11 World Cup Best XI
Salma Khatun delighted with inclusion



RESILIENCE ... Farmers along with their family members try to salvage as many peanuts as they can at a crop field in Burdeo Haor of Sylhet's Companiganj upazila yesterday. Flash floods inundated several hundred hectares of cropland in the region over the last few days.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

City stung by gas crisis for 2nd day

Bibiyan gas field struggles to fix the glitches

HELEMUL ALAM

For the second day in a row, many neighbourhoods in the capital suffered an acute gas crisis yesterday, as the authorities struggled to fix the technical problems that occurred at Bibiyana Gas Field in Sylhet on Sunday.

Residents of Mirpur, Pallabi, Lalmatia, Shahjahanpur, Mohammadpur, Tejuri Bazar, Razabazar and Dhanmondi complained of severe gas shortage, and said they had to buy food and iftar items from restaurants.

According to Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla), consumers in different city areas have been experiencing shortages or low pressure in gas supply from Sunday following technical glitches at the gas field.

Officials at Chevron Bangladesh, the operator of Bibiyana Gas Field, said, two of the five gas-processing trains and six of the 26 wells at the gas field faced technical problems around 1:15am on Sunday, reducing the field's gas production to around 800 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) from 1,250 mmcf.

One of the two trains was fixed on Sunday night while

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SRI LANKA SHAKE-UP AMID ECONOMIC CRISIS

Opposition rejects unity govt offer

Demands president's resignation as protests continue

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's opposition yesterday dismissed the president's invitation to join a unity government as "nonsensical" and instead demanded he resign over the country's worsening shortages of food, fuel and medicines.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's overture came as armed troops looked to quell more demonstrations over what the government acknowledges is the country's most severe economic crisis since independence from Britain in 1948.

Police fired tear gas and water

cannon to disperse thousands of protesters trying to storm the private home of the prime minister – the president's elder brother and the head of the family political clan – in Tangalle, once a bastion of support for the Rajapaksa in the island's south.

The president asked opposition parties represented in parliament to "join the effort to seek solutions to the national crisis," after the late-night resignation of nearly all cabinet ministers to pave the way for a revamped administration.

But the leftist People's Liberation Front (JVP) responded by urging Gotabaya Rajapaksa

and his once popular and powerful family to immediately step down.

"He really must be a lunatic to think that opposition MPs will prop up a government that is crumbling," JVP lawmaker Anura Dissanayake told reporters in Colombo.

The main minority opposition party, the Tamil National Alliance (TNA), also dismissed the idea of their joining a Rajapaksa-led administration.

"His offer to reconstitute the cabinet with opposition MPs is nonsensical and infuriates the people who have been demanding his resignation,"

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Biden hopes for stronger Dhaka-Washington ties

Writes to Hasina; Momen, Blinken meet in DC

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US President Joe Biden yesterday expressed his wish to watch the Dhaka-Washington ties scale new heights over the next 50 years based on the solid foundation laid over the past five decades.

The two nations are linked through familial, academic and commercial ties since 1958, when Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman participated in a 30-day exchange programme in the US, he said in a letter to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to mark 50 years of bilateral relations, reports BSS.

Bangladeshis and Americans share the ideals of democracy, equality and respect for human rights that are the foundation for healthy, secure and prosperous societies.

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Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky, 4th from left, stands in the town of Bucha, northwest of the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, yesterday. Zelensky said on Sunday the Russian leadership was responsible for civilian killings in Bucha, outside Kyiv, where bodies were found lying in the street after the town was retaken by the Ukrainian army. Story on page 12.

PHOTO: AFP

Cop suspended for harassing teacher over wearing 'teep'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid outrage on social media and beyond, Dhaka Metropolitan Police yesterday suspended constable Nazmul Tareque, who was accused of harassing a college teacher for wearing a "teep" on her forehead.

DMP has taken the move hours after its Teigaon Division identified the constable from CCTV footages and intelligence information, confirmed Md Faruk Hossain, deputy commissioner of DMP, to The Daily Star.

A probe body, comprising additional deputy commissioner of protection unit and assistant commissioner of Teigaon Division of DMP, was also formed to investigate the incident.

The committee was instructed to submit a report within three working days, according to an order signed by Mostaq Ahmed, deputy commissioner (protection unit) of the DMP.

Earlier on Saturday, Teigaon College teacher Lata Samaddar filed a general diary with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station saying a policeman harassed

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