

INTERNATIONAL

South Asia wilts in early heatwave

AFP, New Delhi

Millions sweltered in an early summer heatwave across India and Pakistan yesterday, leading to power and water shortages as annual furnace-like temperatures hit South Asia.

In New Delhi, a burning rubbish dump choked residents for a third day with temperatures crossing 45 Celsius (113 Fahrenheit) in parts of South Asia yesterday—several degrees higher than normal—and forecasters warning that it will get even hotter this weekend.

Heatwaves have killed over 6,500 people in India since 2010, and scientists say climate change is making them harsher and more frequent across the region.

The Indian states of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh imposed power cuts on factories as consumption for air conditioning and fans skyrocketed. Many regions also reported falling water supplies that will only worsen until the annual monsoon rains in June and July.

Water shortages will hit farmers hardest, including those growing wheat as India aims to boost exports to help ease a global shortage due to the war in Ukraine.

Temperatures are expected to be up to eight degrees higher than usual in parts of Pakistan, with the mercury peaking at 48 degrees in parts of rural Sindh on Wednesday, Pakistan's Meteorological Society warned.

Supply crunch worsens crisis

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Palm oil, on the other hand, was sold for Tk 165-168 per litre at the wholesale markets and for Tk 170-175 at the retail markets in Chattogram and Bagerhat.

Traders said retail prices of edible oil have gone up by Tk 10-15 per litre overnight.

"Most of the shops in Kazir Dewri do not have edible oil. I was lucky to buy a two-litre soybean oil bottle for Tk 350 today [yesterday], up by Tk 30 from two days ago," said Abul Hossain, a resident of Kazir Dewri bazar area of the port city.

In the capital, this newspaper could not find soybean oil at the Shewrapara bus stop kitchen market, Kazipara bus stop kitchen market and Mirpur 1 kitchen market yesterday.

Mohammad Gofran, owner of Comilla General Store at Karwan Bazar kitchen market, said, "I have been doing businesses in this market for 20 years, but have never seen an edible

oil crisis like this one ahead of Eid."

In Bagerhat, consumers were paying an additional Tk 10-15 for each litre of non-bottled soybean oil.

Visiting several shops, including those at the main market in the district town, The Daily Star found that most of them did not have bottled soybean oil.

Those having bottled soybean oil were charging customers Tk 185 per litre against the retail price of Tk 170.

Besides, consumers were forced to buy loose soybean oil for Tk 190 to Tk 200 a litre.

Earlier, commerce ministry Additional Secretary AHM Safiquzzaman had termed the edible oil crisis in the local market artificial.

Speaking to The Daily Star on Tuesday, he said the country still has edible oil reserves to meet the demand for at least the next one and a half months.

According to the National Board of Revenue (NBR),

our Bagerhat correspondent also contributed to this report.

Freed at last

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"We love you Babu [the prime minister]," she said.

"We are very happy. We sought an Eid gift from the prime minister and she has given it to us," said Subha Safayet Sizda, a student of class three, who was present at the programme.

She said the number of playgrounds in the city had reduced but a playground is very important for children's physical and mental health.

Speaking at the press conference, Mubashar Hussain, president of Institute of Architects Bangladesh, pledged his support to prepare a modern design for the playground and sought funds to make Tentultala a beautiful playground.

He hoped that Dhaka South City Corporation would take charge of the playground from now and do everything for its development.

"We are grateful to the prime minister. With the decision she proved that she is the daughter of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," said Rasheda K Chowdhury, former adviser to the caretaker government and vice president of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon.

Thanking the PM, Dr

Zafnullah Chowdhury, founder of Gonoshasthaya Kendra, said even from behind the scenes the prime minister can see what many politicians cannot.

"We are beside you, prime minister. Do not have any fear," he said.

The construction work of the boundary wall for the police station went on under the supervision of police until midnight Wednesday.

A day after the detentions of Ratna and her son, green organisations, rights bodies and eminent citizens demanded that the government keep the Tentultala playground open to all and stop the construction of a police station there.

On January 31, Dhaka Deputy Commissioner's Office handed over the playground to Dhaka Metropolitan Police for constructing a building for Kalabagan Police Station. At present, a rented place on 30 North Road is being used as the police station.

Over the years, Tentultala playground, which covers one bigha of land, has been in use for multiple purposes. It has been used as a playground, Eidgah and a place for namaz-e-janaza.

Toll likely to be 1.5 times

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the original Tk 10,161 crore.

Prime Minister Sheikh

PROPOSED TOLL RATE OF PADMA BRIDGE			
VEHICLES	FERRY TOLL (in taka)	PADMA BRIDGE TOLL (in taka)	
Bike	70	100	
Car, Jeep	500	750	
Pick-up, luxury Jeep, Prado	800	1,200	
Microbus	860	1,300	
Minibus	950	1,400	
Medium Bus	1,350	2,000	
Bus	1,580	2,400	
Truck (up to 5 tonnes)	1,080	1,600	
Truck (5 to 8 tonnes)	1,400	2,100	
Truck (8 to 11 tonnes)	1,850	2,800	
Truck (three axle)	3,940	5,500	

Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute

Memo No. 33.04.0000.109.01.09.IFT.22/248 Date: 28-04-2022
e-Tender invited in the National E-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the below works.

Tender/ Proposal ID No.	Name of works & package description	Last selling date & time	Opening date & time
W-02 693752	Repair & Renovation work of Dormitory Building under BFRI Mymensingh.	11-May-2022 17:00pm	12-May-2022 16:50pm

This is online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal, further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Dr. Yahia Mahmud
Director General
BFRI, Mymensingh-2201

GD-882

GD-881

'Whole of Ukraine' must be liberated

Says UK, tells China its rise depends on playing by the rules

AGENCIES

Britain yesterday denied it was over-reaching against Russia after Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said "the whole of Ukraine" must be liberated, indicating that Crimea must also be regained.

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said Truss's remark, made in a high-profile speech, complied with the West's longstanding stance since Russia seized the Crimean peninsula in 2014.

"We've constantly said that Russia should leave Ukraine sovereign territory, so that hasn't changed," Wallace told Sky News.

But when asked whether Britain would support Ukraine militarily for any offensive to recapture the peninsula, he said:

"There's a long way to go before Ukraine pushes into Crimea.



"I think what I would certainly say is, we are supporting Ukraine's sovereign integrity. We've done that all along. That of course includes Crimea."

Addressing diplomats and business leaders in London late Wednesday, Truss said Britain was "doubling down" on its military support.

"We cannot be complacent -- the fate of Ukraine remains in the balance," she told diplomats and business leaders in London,

deploring the "failure" of global security structures that should have prevented the war.

A victory for Russian President Vladimir Putin would have "terrible consequences across the globe", and more, heavier, weapons should be sent to Ukraine despite the risk of escalating the conflict.

"We must be prepared for the long haul and double down on our support for Ukraine."

Liz Truss also warned that China must play by international rules or be punished.

"China is not impervious," she said. "Their rise is not inevitable."

"They will not continue to rise if they do not play by the rules (and) we have shown with Russia the kind of choices that we're prepared to make when international rules are violated."

253,000 sq kms of forest lost in 2021

REUTERS, Sao Paulo

The world lost an area of forest the size of the US state of Wyoming last year, as wildfires in Russia set all-time records and Brazilian deforestation of the Amazon remains high, a global forest monitoring project report said yesterday. Global Forest Watch, which is backed by the non-profit World Resources Institute (WRI) and draws on forest data collected by the University of Maryland, said in a report that roughly 253,000 square kilometers (97,683 square miles) of forest were lost in 2021. Forests provide a buffer against climate change because of the vast amounts of carbon dioxide that they absorb and their rapid destruction is putting global climate targets at risk, WRI analysts said in a briefing. The high level of 2021 forest loss, while roughly flat with 2020, does not match up with the commitment announced



by more than 100 world leaders at a United Nations climate summit last November to halt deforestation by 2030, the analysts said.

Worker killed as part of under-construction bridge collapses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A worker was killed and 17 others were injured as part of an under-construction bridge collapsed in Rangamati's Borodam area yesterday morning.

The dead, Mohammad Rafiq, 38, was from Sunamganj district.

Ahamad Shafi, executive engineer of the Local Government Engineering Department in Rangamati, said part of the under-construction bridge collapsed due to "negligence of the contractor".

The bridge is being built at a cost of Tk 4.75 crore, he added.

5 Dhaka College students

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attacks wearing the helmets for protection and to hide their identities."

Police are still looking for an unidentified man who was seen in photos hacking Nahiid, he said.

Rab is also conducting a shadow investigation into the incident.

Monirul Islam filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station yesterday, said Moudut Hawlader, officer-in-charge of Shahbagh Police Station.

According to the complaint, Rakibur Rahman Fahim and Tazuddin Ahmed Rasel shared offensive, defamatory, and false statements about Taposh on Facebook.

Local Awami League sources said both Fahim and Rasel were involved with the ruling party.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
Jashore

www.lged.gov.bd
Dated: 27-04-2022

e-Tender Notice: 36/2021-22

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of Following Tender ID & Schemes. (For LTM, only enlisted contractors of The Jashore Region (Jashore, Jhenaidaha & Magura District), LGED are eligible. In that case, tender must be submitted updated tenders enlistment book of LGED).

Sl. No.	Package No. Name of Scheme & Tender ID No.	Tender method	Last date & time of selling document	Last date & time of submission document
1	JRRIDP/21/JSR/W-142 Construction of 50M RCC Girder Bridge on Hazra-Nolghona Road at Ch. 1000m over Mukteshori River Road ID-241615099 under Monirampur Upazila, District-Jashore. (TID No-691225)	OTM	23-May-2022 14:00	24-May-2022 14:00
2	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-55 (a) Improvement of Boaliapara-Uttarpura Road. (Ch. 1958-2625m) Road ID-241615187 under Monirampur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 4 Nos. 0.625mx0.600m dia U-Drain culvert at Ch. 2047m, 2092m, 2312m & 2466m on the same road. (TID No-691453)	LTM	16-May-2022 14:00	17-May-2022 14:00
3	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-56 (a) Improvement of Kondobpur more-Suri more Road. (Ch. 00-1300m) Road ID-241615095 Under Monirampur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 07 Nos. 0.625mx0.600m dia U-Drain culvert at Ch. 7m.225m, 480m.555m, 717m, 950m & 1159m on the same road. (TID No-691454)	LTM	16-May-2022 14:00	17-May-2022 14:00
4	IRIDP-3/JSR/DW-57 (a) Improvement of Hakoba-Bakospol via Debidaspur Road. (Ch. 00-2610m) Road ID-241614061 under Monirampur Upazila District-Jashore. (b) Construction of 05 Nos. 0.625mx0.600m dia U-Drain culvert at Ch. 125m, 572m, 652m, 850m & 1350m on the same road. (TID No-69145			