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# Be cautious about taking up projects

Says PM, suspends Teletalk's 5G scheme to save foreign currency

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the authorities concerned to be more careful about taking up projects involving foreign loans.

She, however, said implementation of projects with local funds would continue to keep the country's economy vibrant and channel money to the poor.

Speaking at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecne), Hasina also instructed the authorities to suspend Teletalk's Tk 236 crore 5G project to keep the country's foreign exchange reserves stable.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Planning Minister MA Mannan said about 80 percent of the project items would have to be imported.



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Zimbabwe batsman Ryan Burl smashes a six during his 28-ball 54, including 34 runs in an over from Nasum Ahmed, as the hosts beat Bangladesh by 10 runs in the third T20I at the Harare Sports Club on Tuesday to win the three-match series 2-1.

PHOTO: AFP

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## Burl blitz seals series for Zim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh lost their first-ever bilateral T20I series against Zimbabwe with a 10-run defeat in the series-deciding third and final match at Harare Sports Club on Tuesday.

Mahmudullah Riyad, returning to the T20I side following injury to skipper Nurul Hasan Sohan, failed to inspire the side after the top-order failed to get the Tigers off to a commendable start in chase of the 157 runs.

Bangladesh lost Liton Das (15), Anamul Haque Bijooy (14) and Parvez Hossain Emon (2) inside the Powerplay before Najmul Hossain Shanto and Mahmudullah stabilised the innings with a 34-run stand for the fourth wicket. After Shanto departed to a scoop shot in the 10th over, Mahmudullah and Afif Hossain contributed with a 39-run stand.

Medium pacer Brad Evans turned the game in

## Dhaka calls back its diplomat in Jakarta

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh authorities have called Kazi Anarkoly, deputy head of mission in Indonesia, back to Dhaka as she was accused of possessing marijuana at her Jakarta residence and sharing it with another foreign citizen.

"She has already been called back and we have started investigating the allegations," said State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam.

Talking to journalists yesterday, he also said the standard of foreign cadres was very high and such allegations were extremely embarrassing.

"If the allegations are proved, stern actions will be taken against the official. We will not compromise," he said.

On July 5, Indonesian police raided Anarkoly's Jakarta flat and found marijuana.

She remained detained for a few hours but was later released as the Bangladesh embassy intervened, said sources at the ministry.

The foreign ministry called her back to Dhaka last week, the ministry sources added.

Asked about the legality of the Indonesian authority's raid at her residence ignoring her impunity under the Vienna Convention, State Minister Shahriar said there was nothing wrong as she was sharing the flat with a foreign citizen.

Anarkoly shared her flat with a Nigerian citizen, said a source.

She is a career diplomat and has served Bangladesh missions in Hong Kong, Rome, and Los Angeles prior to her posting in Jakarta.

She was transferred to the Bangladesh embassy in Jakarta as minister (political) and deputy chief of mission in 2017.

Prior to this posting, she was the deputy consul general of the Bangladesh Consulate in Los Angeles.

She was moved from Los Angeles following an incident.

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AFGHAN DRONE STRIKE

# US kills Al-Qaeda chief Zawahiri

Biden says 'justice delivered'

AFP, Kabul

A United States drone strike killed Al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri at a hideout in Kabul, President Joe Biden said Monday, declaring "justice had been delivered" to the families of the 9/11 attacks.

Zawahiri's assassination is the biggest blow to Al-Qaeda since US special forces killed Osama bin Laden in 2011, and calls into question the Taliban's promise not to harbour militant groups.

It was the first known over-the-horizon strike by the US on a target in Afghanistan since Washington withdrew its forces from the country on August 31 last year, days after the Taliban swept back to power.

The Taliban condemned the drone strike yesterday, but made no mention of casualties nor did they name Zawahiri.

"Justice has been delivered and this terrorist leader is no more," Biden said in a sombre televised address, adding he hoped Zawahiri's death would bring "closure" to families of the 3,000 people killed in the US on September 11, 2001.

Zawahiri was believed to be the mastermind who steered Al-



Qaeda's operations -- including the 9/11 attacks -- as well as bin Laden's personal doctor.

A senior administration official said the 71-year-old Egyptian was on the balcony of a three-storey house in the Afghan capital when targeted with two Hellfire missiles after dawn Sunday.

"We identified Zawahiri on multiple occasions for sustained periods of time on the balcony where he was ultimately struck," the official said.

The house is in Sherpur, one of Kabul's most affluent neighbourhoods, with several villas

occupied by high-ranking Taliban officials and commanders.

The Taliban's interior ministry previously denied reports circulating on social media of a drone strike, telling AFP a rocket struck "an empty house" in Kabul, causing no casualties.

Early yesterday, however, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid tweeted that an "aerial attack" was carried out. "The nature of the incident was not revealed at first," he said.

"The security and intelligence agencies of the Islamic Emirate investigated the incident and found in their preliminary investigations that the attack was carried out by American drones."

Although Biden did not mention the Taliban in his televised address, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said "by hosting and sheltering" Zawahiri, the Islamist group had "grossly violated the Doha Agreement" which paved the way for America's withdrawal.

Zabihullah, in turn, accused Washington of breaking the 2020 deal.

Zawahiri, who grew up in a comfortable Cairo household before

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## Giant panda species found in Europe

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Scientists have uncovered a new species of giant panda in the wetlands of Bulgaria which they say could be the "last known" and "most evolved" of the kind discovered in Europe.

Unlike its modern-day black and white relative, researchers, including those from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, say the ancient species, named *A. nikolovi*, was not reliant purely on bamboo.

"Although not a direct ancestor of the modern genus of the giant panda, it is its close relative," explains study co-author Professor Nikolai Spassov from the Bulgarian National Museum of Natural History.

The findings, published last week in the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, suggest the ancient panda likely fed on softer plant materials -- aligning with the general trend toward increased reliance on plants in this group's evolutionary history.

"This discovery shows how little we still know about ancient nature and demonstrates also that historic discoveries in paleontology can lead to unexpected results, even today," Dr Spassov said.

Scientists assessed the upper carnassial tooth, and an upper canine, originally unearthed in

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Commuters in the capital suffered immensely as different political programmes and rallies caused severe traffic jam at multiple intersections yesterday. The photo was taken in Kakrail area.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## Rohingya man shot dead in Ukhiya

UNB, Cox's Bazar

A 26-year-old Rohingya refugee was allegedly shot dead on Monday night at Balukhali Camp in Ukhiya upazila of Cox's Bazaar for working as a volunteer for a private organisation, police said.

The dead is Nurul Amin, who used to work as a volunteer in the camp for a private organisation, said Mohammad Ali, OC of Ukhiya Police Station.

The incident occurred on Monday night in the Modhurchara area of Camp-4, he said.

"A group of Rohingyas was angry with him as he had been working as a volunteer for a private organisation. We suspect they shot him dead and fled," said the OC.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
কৃষি মন্ত্রণালয়

**বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

বিষয়: 'বঙ্গবন্ধু জাতীয় কৃষি পুরস্কার, ১৪২৭ ও ১৪২৮' বঙ্গাব্দ এর মনোনয়ন আহ্বান

বঙ্গবন্ধু জাতীয় কৃষি পুরস্কার ট্রাস্ট এর ট্রাস্টি বোর্ডের ৬৪ সভার সিদ্ধান্ত অনুযায়ী 'বঙ্গবন্ধু জাতীয় কৃষি পুরস্কার, ১৪২৭ ও ১৪২৮' বঙ্গাব্দ প্রদানের নিমিত্ত মনোনয়নপত্র আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। মনোনয়নপত্র দাখিল ও বাছাইয়ের তফসিল নিম্নরূপ:

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জেলা কমিটি কর্তৃক মনোনয়ন বাছাইয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	২০ অক্টোবর ২০২২
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