

Explore oil, gas in Bangladesh's offshore PM's advisor suggests US

UNB, Dhaka

US companies should consider oil and gas exploration in Bangladesh's offshore areas, said Tawfiq-e-Elahi, energy advisor to the prime minister, yesterday.

At a meeting held in Washington with US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and Environment Jose W Fernandez, Tawfiq also urged the US government to invest more in Bangladesh's renewable energy sector.

They further discussed the existing bilateral energy cooperation and explored possible ways to strengthen it further, reads a press release.

Mentioning that the current global energy shortages caused by the Ukraine war had placed many countries, including Bangladesh, at risk in sustaining their energy security, the advisor sought US' attention to play its role to improve the situation.

Acknowledging that the Ukraine war is affecting countries of the world, the US did not impose sanctions on essential commodities like food,

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Members of the Hindu community across the country, including Dhaka (inset) and Chattogram, celebrated Jannmashtami, the birthday of Lord Krishna, with festivity and due religious fervour yesterday. Different socio-cultural and religious organisations and temple authorities drew up elaborate programmes to celebrate the occasion.

PHOTO: COLLECTED, PALASH KHAN

2 dead, dozens missing after 9 trawlers capsized

STAR REPORT

Two fishers died and dozens went missing after nine trawlers capsized in Bay of Bengal yesterday due to turbulent sea.

Near Nijhum Dwip in Noakhali, Mainuddin and Md Raful were found dead while Sharif and Belal are missing after "MB Siraj" fishing boat carrying 16 fishers capsized amid a heavy storm in the bay.

Meanwhile, at least five fishing trawlers capsized in the Bay of Bengal near Patuakhali's Kuakata.

Although 54 fishers of these trawlers have been rescued, at least 16 remain missing, confirmed Ansar Uddin Mollah, president of Kuakata's Alipur Fishery Owners Association.

The sunken trawlers are FB Ma Moni, FB Saiful, FB Al Mamun, FB Kulsum and FB Rafiq.

In Cox's Bazar, 11 fishers have gone missing as three more trawlers sunk near Nazirtek-Bakkhali channel and Kutubdia island.

Coast guards are conducting search operations in all the areas to find the missing people.

The surviving fishers said the reason behind these incidents is turbulent sea, due to the depression formed in Bay of Bengal.

Man arrested with 17 gold bars

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A man was arrested with 17 gold bars from Rudrapur in Jashore's Sharsha upazila, a place near the Bangladesh-India border, yesterday.

The arrestee was identified as Montaj Hossain (45) of Putkhali village in Benapole.

After being informed, a team of Border Guard Bangladesh raided the area at noon, said Lt Colonel Tanvir Ahmed, commanding officer (CO) of 21 BGB Battalion.

In the end, it's the children who suffer

Tangail school closed for over two years due to relocation row, pandemic, erosion

MIRZA SHAKIL

By the bank of Jamuna river stands Char Chandani Government Primary School in Tangail's Bhuapur upazila.

Located in a remote char, this school was the only means of education for over 150 students who were enrolled in the institution before the pandemic started in 2020.

Although the Covid-enforced school closure was lifted in September last year, it has not been possible to resume classes – first because of river erosion and then due to a conflict between locals.

As a result, many students dropped out, while some got



enrolled at nearby madrasas.

As it was impossible to carry on classroom activities in the school's old buildings due to erosion, they were sold off in an auction in July last year.

The idea was simple, to use the money collected from the auction for relocating the school somewhere else.

However, conflicts between locals on selecting a site for the school building and indecision of the authorities lead to children being deprived of education for over two years now.

Some want the school to be re-established on the east bank of

Jamuna, as most of the current batch of students hail from there. Meanwhile, people on the west bank want the school on their side, pointing out that there is no educational institution there.

There is also a political catch in this story.

The school was the biggest polling station in the area.

Seeking anonymity, locals claimed that the UP chairman and member candidates are against the relocation of this school to maintain their existing control over the polling station.

Two local lawmakers have also

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The school was the biggest polling station in the area. Seeking anonymity, locals claimed that the UP chairman and member candidates are against the relocation of this school to maintain their existing control over the polling station.

There were 158 students in the institution before it was closed. Now, we are in contact with 121.



Nazmul Morshed
Headteacher of the school

সত্যকীরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ইদানিং বেশ কিছু ওয়েব সাইটে লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, কোন কোন ভূয়া প্রতিষ্ঠান "ইস্টার্ন হাউজিং লিমিটেড" এর বিভিন্ন প্রজেক্টের পুট বিক্রয়ের মিথ্যা বিজ্ঞাপন দিচ্ছে। উক্ত বিজ্ঞাপন এ প্রলুব্ধ হয়ে পুট ক্রয় করতে সকলকে বিরত থাকতে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। ভূয়া প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে পুট ক্রয় করে প্রতারিত হলে "ইস্টার্ন হাউজিং লিমিটেড" কোন ভাবেই দায়ী থাকবে না। "ইস্টার্ন হাউজিং লিমিটেড" এর প্রজেক্টের পুট ক্রয় করতে সরাসরি কর্পোরেট অফিসে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা:

৫৯/বি, কামাল আতাতুর্ক এভিনিউ, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১৩।

হট লাইন

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জরুরী প্রয়োজনেঃ

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'Manipulation might be involved' Momen on price hike

UNB, Gopalganj

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday said the recent hike in prices of essentials is concerning and that there might be "manipulation" behind the hike.

"We are suffering a lot. The price of a dozen eggs was Tk 90, now it is Tk 150. I can't figure out how it happened," he told reporters in Tungipara.

"Prices [of essentials] have skyrocketed, and we are very concerned and worried about it. If there is no manipulation here, how can the price increase like this?" wondered the minister.

"However, there is no reason for Bangladesh to become like Sri Lanka. We are rather better than other countries," he added.

Momen said propaganda is being spread in an organised way to create crisis and instability. "Some media outlets make false reports to create anarchy in the country. This is very unfortunate," he said.

Earlier, leaders of Bangabandhu Foundation paid homage to Father of the Nation at his grave in Gopalganj's Tungipara.

Momen, president of the foundation, placed floral wreath at Bangabandhu's grave in the morning.

Executive President of the Central Committee of Bangabandhu Foundation Moshirur Malek, Vice President Abdul Khalek Mia and Md Delwar Hossain were also present among others.



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June - August 2022

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