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16 PAGES PLUS LIFESTYLE : Tk15.00

Load-shedding worsens sharply

Minister sees no respite before November

ASIFUR RAHMAN and ZYMA ISLAM

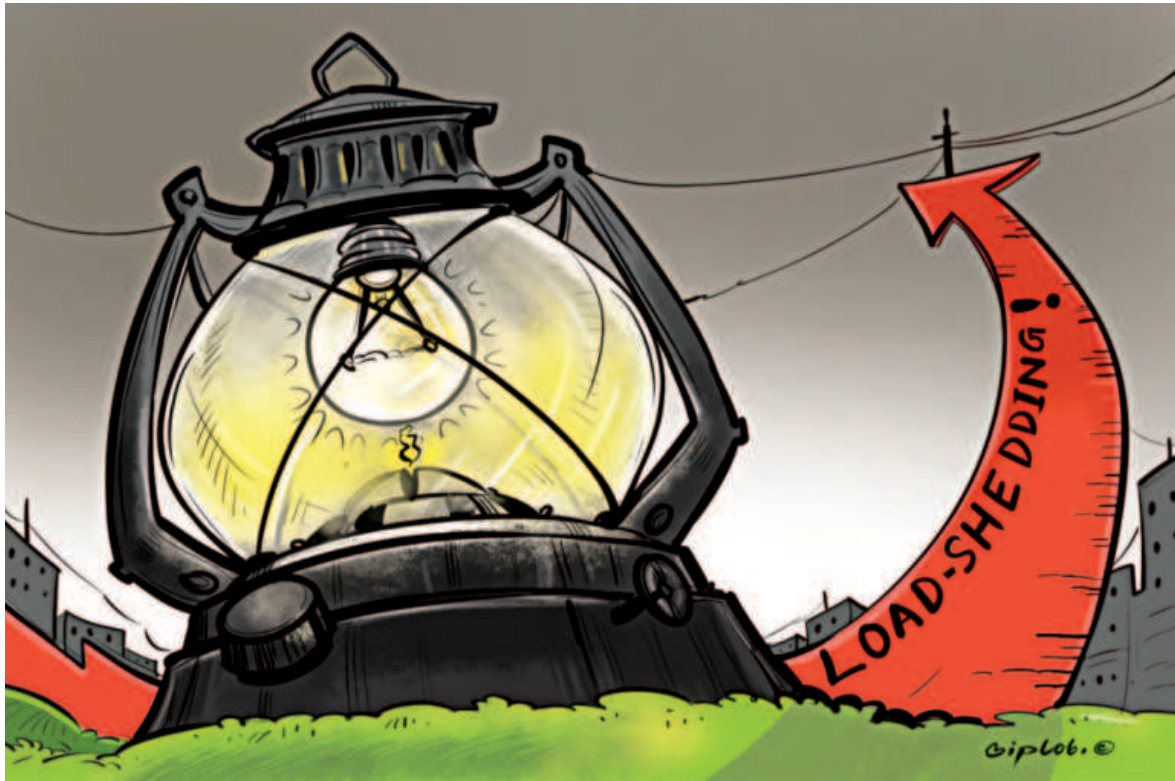
Power outages during the three-day weekend were so frequent that they prompted the state minister for power to speak about the extent of the problem yesterday.

All areas in Dhaka experienced between four to six hours of load-shedding yesterday, even after midnight, something not seen in the previous months amid the ongoing energy crisis.

Due to a gas and fuel shortage, as many as 58 power plants are not operating to their usual capacity, leading to this nighttime crisis over the past week. The production shortfall yesterday was around 4,118MW, or a third of the national demand, according to Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB) data.

"The power plants that run during the day are being kept idle at night, this is why load-shedding has increased," Nasrul Hamid, the state minister for power, energy and

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Putin retaliates, strikes Ukraine cities

Vows more attacks as 11 killed, dozens hurt in air raids; German consulate in Kyiv hit

AGENCIES

Russia launched its most widespread air strikes since the start of the Ukraine war yesterday, raining cruise missiles on busy cities during rush hour and knocking out power and heat, in what President Vladimir Putin called revenge for a blown up bridge.

Missiles tore into busy intersections, parks and tourist sites in the centre of the capital Kyiv.

Explosions were reported in Lviv,

Ternopil and Zhytomyr in western Ukraine, Dnipro and Kremenchuk in central Ukraine, Zaporizhzhia in the south and Kharkiv in the east. Ukrainian officials said at least 11 people were killed and dozens injured, and swathes of the country left without power.

Germany said a building housing its consulate in Kyiv had been hit in the strike, though it had not been used since the war started.

Thousands of residents raced to bomb shelters as air raid sirens rang

out through the day. The barrage of dozens of cruise missiles fired from air, land and sea was the biggest wave of air strikes to hit locations away from the front line, at least since the initial volleys on the war's first day, February 24.

"The Kyiv regime, with its actions, has put itself on the same level as international terrorist organisations. With the most odious groups. To leave such acts without a response is simply impossible."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Gunfire, shelling again on Myanmar side of border

MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT, Cox's Bazar

Panic grips the locals in bordering areas of Cox's Bazar's Whaikhayang and Bandarban's Tambru, as heavy gunfire and intermittent shelling on the Myanmar side have been heard again after a pause of 10 days.

Residents of the bordering villages said they heard the sound of gunfire and shelling from the Myanmar side around 11:00pm on Sunday and it continued till 8:30am yesterday.

At least 3,127 families comprising 15,000-20,000 people live within 500 metres of the border in Teknaf upazila of Cox's Bazar, while around 300 families with 1,200-1,500 members reside in Tambru area close to the border. Besides, 4,200 Rohingyas have been living at a camp in no-man's land of the Tambru border over the last five years.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Hiding in hills

Rab learns of new militant outfit training recruits in remote CHT hideouts, says 12 linked to it arrested since Oct 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 55 young men who left their homes over the last two years being inspired into militancy are currently training to make explosives in remote hilly areas and carrying out activities of a new terror outfit with support from one or two "separatist" groups.

Family members of some of them used to believe that they were staying abroad and some even sent money to their parents from hideouts through mobile financial services.

The Rapid Action Battalion made the disclosures yesterday at a press briefing where they provided a list of 38 suspects with family phone numbers and addresses. According to family members, they are

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We would like to express our gratitude to the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for being a pioneer in the development and progress of Bangladesh. We would also like to congratulate every one involved in the construction of this magnificent bridge.

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BSRM building a safer nation

87%* of girls believe that being beautiful means having a fair complexion, beautiful hair or perfect body structure.

Dove's goal is to help 5 million Bangladeshi children gain high self-esteem by 2030, so they do not grow up with false ideas about beauty.

For details please see the entertainment page.

Dove self-esteem project

*Data based on Dove Self-Esteem Project's deployment with Plan

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