



Vested quarter out to mislead people: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said a vested quarter continues to mislead people by spreading rumours but there is nothing to worry about.

The vested quarter is misleading people by stoking up fears, and this will continue in the coming days, she said urging people not to be misguided by such propaganda.

The PM was addressing the graduation ceremony of the National Defence Course-2022 and Armed Forces War Course-2022 at the Sheikh Hasina Complex of Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) at Mirpur Cantonment.

Talking about the global economic crisis stemming from the Russia-Ukraine war, she said her government has been able to maintain stability in the country.

"We'll continue to make socio-economic development, keeping Bangladesh free from terrorism, militancy, drugs and corruption. We don't want war with anyone," she added.

The PM said her government was able to raise the foreign currency reserves to \$48 billion amid the Covid pandemic from only \$5 billion in 2009. Then the money from the reserves was used to buy Covid vaccines and testing kits, and also food and other commodities.

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Despite the Tejgaon truck stand situated close by, truckers choose to illegally park their vehicles on the Mayor Anisul Haque road in the capital, causing traffic jams in the area every day. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Rab arrests 5 militants who targeted a law enforcer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five operatives of newly formed militant outfit Jama'atul Ansar Fil Hindai Sharqiya were planning to kill a member of a law enforcement agency before they were arrested by Rab on Sunday.

The outfit recruited three to four members who would have executed the plan in Gaibandha under the leadership of an armed and trained member, Rab said yesterday.

The five operatives were arrested from Narayanganj's Sonargaon and Dhaka's Gulistan areas on Sunday.

The arrestees are: Sakib Mahmud, 27, Golam Sarowar, 25, Forhad Hossain, 22, Murad Hossain, 21, and Wasiqueur Rahman alias Nayem, 28.

Sakib was the trained leader of the team, said Commander Khandaker Al Moin, director of the legal and media wing of Rab,

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Enact law to shield pvt banks from scams

TIB urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid the latest scandal in the country's banking sector, Transparency International Bangladesh yesterday called upon the government to formulate a "beneficial ownership transparency act" to protect private banks from pitfalls.

It also urged the government to join the global financial platform, Common Reporting Standard, to ensure better monitoring and transparency in the banking sector.

In a statement, the graft watchdog said recent incidents of embezzling several thousand crores of taka from at least three private banks through false documents in the name of non-existent companies have pushed the country's banking sector to the verge of a collapse.

It added that the sector was already riddled with incidents of massive loan defaults and money laundering.

TIB believes the "whimsical decisions to change top positions in banks underpolitical consideration" has predominantly created a favourable condition for embezzlement.

Terming the latest incident of embezzlement "alarming", Iftekharuzzaman, TIB executive director, said in the past 14 years the amount of defaulted loans has increased to six times more than before.

The recent loans were granted "unusually swiftly" at a time when banks have been unable to recover bad loans despite efforts by changing its definition and through rescheduling, he said.

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School students cross a bamboo bridge, with a half-built concrete one right in front. The incomplete bridge has been in this state for 27 years as the authorities concerned have taken no initiative to complete it. Locals have long been saying that their commutes would be made much easier if the bridge was functional.

PHOTO: MASUK HRIDOY

MANPOWER, CARRIAGE SHORTAGE IN BR

99 out of 361 trains left inoperative



TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Nearly one in every three passenger trains remain inoperative due to shortages of carriages and manpower.

Although the government injected over Tk 70,000 crore into the railway sector in 14 years, the state-run agency cannot operate at least 99 of the 361 trains in its fleet.

All these out-of-operation trains are local, mail and commuter trains that are relatively cheaper and are

often used by low-income people and short-distance commuters.

BR authorities say they will resume services of some of these trains, subject to the availability of manpower and carriages. These trains were taken off the track amid Covid-19 outbreak in early 2020.

However, some trains went out of service over the last decade, and they are unlikely to operate again, sources said.

The BR's 3,093km network is divided into two zones -- east and

west. Of the BR's 361-train fleet, 192 are in the east zone and 169 in west zone.

And of the 99 inoperative trains (27.42 percent), 56 are from the east zone and 43 from west zone. They include 57 local trains and 12 mail trains.

Apart from them, the BR suspended train operations on Dhaka-Narayanganj route in December to facilitate works of the Padma Bridge Rail Link Project.

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- Close to **30%** trains remain inoperative
- Tk **70,000cr** invested in rail sector over the last decade
- BR depriving commuters of the low-cost transport service
- Its earning fell from Tk **1,618cr** in 2017-18 to Tk **1,166cr** in 2020-21

2 toddlers burned to death in a locked house

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

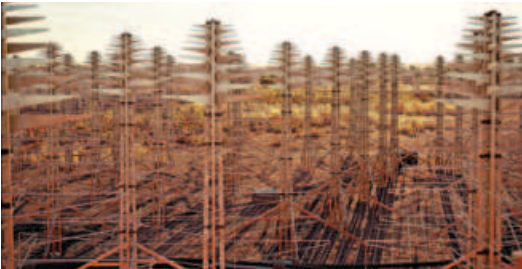
Two siblings were burned to death yesterday after their house caught fire in Madaripur Sadar upazila. The deceased were identified as two-and-a-half-year-old Rudra Baidya and one-hand-a-half-year-old Manab Baidya.

The incident took place at the rented house of the family in North Jhikarhati area of Ghatmajhi union of the upazila.

"Rudro and Manab were left unattended in a locked house by their mother Purnima, and their maternal grandmother. Locals saw smoke coming out of the house and rushed to the spot to put out the fire. Manab died on the spot while Rudra died on his way to a local hospital," said Monwar Hossain Chowdhury, officer-in-charge of Madaripur Sadar Police Station.

Purnima's husband Manik was arrested and sent to jail in a theft case

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Australia starts building most powerful telescope

AFP, Sydney

Australia yesterday started building a vast network of antennas in the Outback, its section of what planners say will eventually become one of the most powerful radio telescopes in the world.

When complete, the antennas in Australia and a network of dishes in South Africa will form the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), a massive instrument that will aim to untangle mysteries about the creation of stars, galaxies and extraterrestrial life.

The idea for the telescope was first conceived in the early 1990s, but the project was plagued by delays, funding issues and diplomatic jockeying.

The SKA Observatory's Director-General Philip Diamond described the beginning of its construction as "momentous".

The telescope "will be one of humanity's biggest ever scientific endeavours", he said.

Its name is based on the planners' original

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সবাই মিলে কর দিলে উন্নয়নের সুফল মিলে

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

কর কমিশনারের কার্যালয়

কর অঞ্চল-৫

২৮/এফ, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা

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করের টাকায় উন্নয়ন হবে

বিশ্ব অবাক তাকিয়ে রবে

অগ্রিম আয়কর

২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থ বৎসর (২০২৩-২০২৪ কর বৎসর) এর জন্য অগ্রিম আয়করের ২য় কিস্তি পরিশোধ সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

- বিদ্যমান কর আইন অনুযায়ী যে সকল করদাতার সর্বশেষ নিরূপিত আয় ৬ লক্ষ টাকার বেশি তাদের অগ্রিম আয়কর পরিশোধের বাধ্যবাধকতা রয়েছে।
- ২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থ বৎসরের জন্য ০৪(চার) কিস্তিতে প্রদেয় অগ্রিম আয়করের ২য় কিস্তি পরিশোধের শেষ তারিখ ১৫ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২২
- সংশ্লিষ্ট সার্কেলের Deputy Commissioner of Taxes এর অনুকূলে চালান/পে-অর্ডার/ক্রসড চেকের মাধ্যমে অগ্রিম আয়কর পরিশোধ করতে হবে।
- চালানের মাধ্যমে সরাসরি কর জমার ক্ষেত্রে কোম্পানী করদাতাদের প্রদেয় আয়কর ১-১১৪১-০০২০-০১০১ কোডে এবং ব্যক্তি করদাতাদের প্রদেয় অগ্রিম আয়কর ১-১১৪১-০০২০-০১১১ কোডে জমা করতে হবে।
- নির্ধারিত তারিখের মধ্যে অগ্রিম আয়কর পরিশোধ করা না হলে আয়কর অধ্যাদেশ, ১৯৮৪ এর ৬৯, ৭০ ও ৭৩ ধারা অনুসারে ১০ শতাংশ হারে সরল সুদ এবং ১২৫ ধারা অনুযায়ী প্রদেয় আয়করের সমপরিমাণ অংক জরিমানা আরোপযোগ্য।
- সন্মানিত করদাতাগণকে নির্ধারিত তারিখে অথবা তার পূর্বে প্রদেয় অগ্রিম আয়কর পরিশোধ করে সরল সুদ এবং জরিমানা পরিহারের সুযোগ গ্রহণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে।

জাতীয় রাজস্ব আয়কর আপনার সহযোগিতা একান্ত কাম্য

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আবু সাইদ মোঃ মুস্তাক

কর কমিশনার

কর অঞ্চল-৫, ঢাকা

জিডি-২২৪৮