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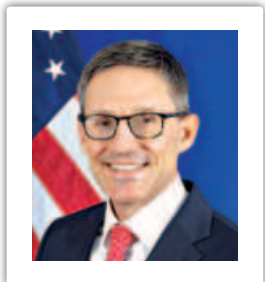


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2 top officials from US, India fly in today



Derek Chollet



Vinay Mohan Kwatra

PORIMOL PALMA

Two high-level foreign officials – US State Department Counselor Derek Chollet and Indian Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra – are expected to arrive in Dhaka today.

While Chollet's visit may prominently feature the Rohingya crisis and promoting democracy in Myanmar, Kwatra will hold the foreign office consultation to discuss bilateral relations ahead of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to New Delhi to attend the G20 Summit in September, said diplomatic sources.

During his two-day visit, Chollet, an official of the rank of an under-secretary, will meet Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen. He is expected to call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Chollet's visit comes on the heels of a series of senior US

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LNG SPOT PURCHASE

Another cargo on way at lesser price

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Bangladesh has ramped up its activity in the international spot market for liquefied natural gas after the recess of seven months, purchasing yet another cargo in a space of two weeks as the government looks to ensure adequate supply ahead of Ramadan and the summer months.

The country depends on imported natural gas for about three-quarters of its power generation, but was forced to ration gas supplies last year as global prices were driven up by Russia's war in Ukraine.

Since the start of the year, LNG prices plunged more than 70 percent from August's record \$70 MMBtu on slower demand and high inventory levels in Europe and North Asia.

This along with the forthcoming summer and irrigation season means the government is active in the spot LNG market once again, issuing tenders regularly.

Japanese JERA offered to supply a cargo to state-owned Rupantarita Prakritik Gas (RPGCL) at about \$16.5 per Million British Thermal Units (MMBtu) in a tender that closed on Sunday, according to officials of Petrobangla, which is in charge of LNG imports.

The offer from JERA, a major LNG reseller, is the lowest received.

The LNG cargo of 33,600 MMBtu would be delivered between March 10 and 11.

JERA's tender would be placed for approval at the next meeting of the cabinet committee on purchase.

Two weeks earlier, RPGCL had purchased one LNG cargo from French TotalEnergies for delivery in late February.

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Women browsing flowers at a shop in the capital's Shahbagh on the eve of Pahela Falgun, the first day of spring, yesterday. Flower shops were busy making bouquets and garlands for buyers who came by, but the sale was very low due to high prices. Pahela Falgun coincides with Valentine's Day.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Sarah showed the way

VC of BSMMU, 6 others sign up for organ donation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seven people, including Vice-Chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Prof Sharfuiddin Ahmed, have announced that they would donate their organs after death, following in the footsteps of Sarah Islam – the first cadaveric organ donor in the country.

They have officially signed up for this at a reception yesterday for those involved in the first cadaveric organ transplant process at the BSMMU.

After the event, Prof Sharfuiddin and Shobnam Sultana, mother of Sarah Islam, inaugurated the "Sarah Islam Cadaveric Transplant Cell" at the hospital.

Presiding over the event, Sharfuiddin said, "Sarah

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A path not often taken

Patuakhali farmer sells land to build road for fellow villagers



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A thoughtful farmer in Patuakhali came up with the wonderful idea to construct a 1,400-foot road in the Kalapara upazila to make it easier for his fellow villagers to commute.

Kamal Hossain, of Kumirpara village, sold 30 decimals of land for Tk 7 lakh to come up with the money to execute his plan.

With the help of local labourers, he

was able to recently finish constructing the mud road in just 15 days.

He decided to take the initiative as people of his village, including farmers and students, previously had to travel on a low and narrow road to get to the upazila town. Besides, during the rainy season, the road used to get submerged under the Andharmanik river's tidal surge.

While around 250 families in

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Man dies of Nipah virus at DMCH

So far, 8 people died this year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 22-year-old youth from Narsingdi, who was infected with the Nipah virus, died yesterday while undergoing treatment at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Shah Alam breathed his last at the hospital's emergency department around 8:00pm, DMCH Director Brigadier General Nazmul Haque told The Daily Star.

The patient was admitted to the hospital on Friday with a fever.

As his condition deteriorated, doctors suggested a Nipah virus test and it came out positive yesterday evening. He died shortly afterwards.

Shah Alam used to live in Raipura upazila's Shibpur area with his family.

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New structures found at Mayan site in Mexico

CNN ONLINE



Archaeologists have revealed a group of structures discovered at the famed Mayan Chichen Itza archaeological site in Mexico's Yucatan peninsula, believed to have been part of a housing complex inhabited by the elite of the sacred city founded in the 5th Century AD.

Archaeologist Francisco Perez Ruiz said there were no known residential groups in Chichen Itza, meaning the housing complex would represent "the first residential group where a ruler lived with his entire family."

The area, known as Chichen Viejo, is expected to be integrated in the near future into the visitor area of the Chichen Itza archaeological site, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The newly discovered complex includes the entrance arch, the House of the Snails, the House of the Moon, and the so-called Palace of the Phalluses.

Researchers from the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) hope that this area and those yet to be uncovered can provide

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The mangled remains of a CNG-run autorickshaw after it collided head-on with a truck on Joypurhat-Bogura regional highway in Joypurhat's Khetlal yesterday morning. Five passengers of the three-wheeler died in the crash. Bottom, a truck skidded off and overturned beside Cox's Bazar-Teknaf Marine Drive on Sunday night, killing a man.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

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Road crash claims 5 lives in Joypurhat

3 more killed in Cox's Bazar

STAR REPORT

At least five people were killed and another was critically injured when a CNG-run auto-rickshaw collided head-on with a truck in Joypurhat's Khetlal upazila yesterday.

Amjad Hossain, 50, Sirajul Islam, 60, Shahna Parvin, 50, and Nafiz Hossain, 20, were all residents of the upazila.

Nafiz was driving the CNG-run auto-rickshaw, while the others were the passengers, police said.

Quoting witnesses, police said the CNG-run auto-rickshaw was travelling from Joypurhat town to Khetlal upazila in the morning. Upon reaching Malipara area of Khetlal municipality, it collided with a speeding truck coming from the opposite direction.

Two people died on the spot, said Razibul Islam,

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স্মারক নং-এনআইইএনটি/প্রশাসন-২০২৩/২১৭ তারিখ: ১৩/০২/২০২৩ইং

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

"সম্পূর্ণ শ্রবণ প্রতিবন্ধীদের কক্সার ইমপ্লান্ট ডিভাইস প্রাপ্তি আবেদন"

মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার নির্দেশে ন্যাশনাল ইনস্টিটিউট অব ইএনটি-তে গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের সমাজকল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়ের অর্থায়নে এবং স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়ের সার্বিক সহযোগিতায় শ্রবণ প্রতিবন্ধীদের কল্যাণে 'কক্সার ইমপ্লান্ট কার্যক্রম' চালু করা হয়েছে। এই কর্মসূচির মাধ্যমে শ্রবণ প্রতিবন্ধীদেরকে সার্জারীর মাধ্যমে সরকারী অর্থে কক্সার ইমপ্লান্ট ডিভাইস (যন্ত্র) প্রদান করা হবে। সমাজকল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়ের অনুমোদিত কক্সার ইমপ্লান্ট বরাদ্দ নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদেরকে ডিভাইসটি বিনামূল্যে/আংশিক মূল্যে প্রদান করা হবে।

কক্সার ইমপ্লান্ট ডিভাইসটি বরাদ্দ পাওয়া ও সার্জারীর মাধ্যমে কানে স্থাপনের জন্য আগ্রহী শ্রবণ প্রতিবন্ধী শিশু রোগীর অভিভাবকগণের পক্ষ থেকে আবেদন আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। উল্লেখ্য ০৫ বৎসরের নীচের শিশুদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে। আবেদনপত্র ও বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য যোগাযোগ করুন- সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে দুপুর ১.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত (বৃহস্পতি দিন ব্যতীত), রুম নং-৭০৯ (৭ম তলা), কক্সার ইমপ্লান্ট বিভাগ, ন্যাশনাল ইনস্টিটিউট অব ইএনটি, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা। আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ ও জমা দেওয়ার শেষ তারিখ ৩১ মার্চ ২০২৩ইং পর্যন্ত।

অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মোঃ জাকারিয়া সরকার

পরিচালক

ন্যাশনাল ইনস্টিটিউট অব ইএনটি

তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা

জিডি-২৫৬