

# Lanka hikes power prices by 66pc

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's electricity board hiked consumer rates by up to 275 percent, officials said yesterday, the second steep increase in months as the bankrupt island nation works to secure an IMF bailout.

An unprecedented financial crisis last year saw Sri Lanka's 22 million people suffer through months of food and fuel shortages, along with lengthy power cuts.

The government defaulted on its \$46 billion foreign debt and is finalising a rescue package with the International Monetary Fund to restore its ruined finances.

"We had to raise electricity charges to be in line with IMF conditions that we cannot get handouts from the treasury," energy minister Kanchana Wijesekera told reporters.

"We need to generate revenues to cover our costs."

Households will now pay at least 30 rupees (eight cents) per kilowatt-hour for electricity, a figure in line with average tariffs in neighbouring India.

The 275 percent increase in the lowest tariff follows a 264 percent hike that came into effect six months ago.

Wijesekera said the rate hikes would allow Sri Lanka's state electricity monopoly to end the 140-minute daily blackouts currently in force around the island.



About 50 Rohingya, adults and children are stranded on Lampanah beach, in Aceh Besar, Indonesia yesterday. Miftah Cut Ade, a senior member of the area's traditional fishing community, said the group had arrived from Bangladesh, many in a state of exhaustion. Local residents had offered them food, he said.

PHOTO: AFP

# 6.1 magnitude quake rocks Philippines

AFP, Manila

A 6.1 magnitude earthquake rocked the central Philippines yesterday, the US Geological Survey said, though there were no reports of casualties or significant damage.

The strong and shallow quake struck just off the coast of Masbate province in the centre of the archipelago nation shortly after 2 am (1800 GMT).

The epicentre was 11 kilometres (seven miles) from the coastal village of Miaga in Masbate's Usan municipality, USGS said.

The Philippine seismological agency said it had recorded more than 80 aftershocks.

"It was a bit strong," Masbate provincial police chief Rolly Albana told AFP.

"I was sleeping when we were shaken and woken up."

The province has a population of nearly one million people spread across three islands.

Masbate provincial disaster officer Adonis Dilao told local media some buildings in the capital Masbate City had cracks in their walls, including the provincial hospital.

# Mali junta cracks down on hookahs

AFP, Dakar

The authorities in Mali have begun a crackdown on hookah smoking after giving a grace period to shisha bars to adjust to a ban.


The country's anti-drug agency says it has carried out dozens of arrests in the capital Bamako and seized water pipes after the six-month moratorium expired.

Bars where small groups of smokers -- primarily young men -- hang out to chat and puff on hookahs have flourished in Bamako in recent years.


But their days became numbered when the junta-dominated government on August 15 announced a surprise ban.

It warned that shisha smokers would be liable to a prison term of one to 10 days and a fine of 300 to 10,000 CFA francs (\$0.45 to \$15).

The Central Narcotics Office (OCS) in a Facebook posting said there had been "vigorous" raids by its agents in Bamako on Tuesday night, culminating in "about 50 individuals in prison and a large amount of seized material."



**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Barguna  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)



শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি  
আম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.02.0400.000.14.001.2023.364

Date: 16.02.2023

**e-Tender Notice No. 28/2022-2023**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement as below:  
Procurement Method: **[OTM]**

Sl.	Tender ID	Name of works	Last selling date & time
01	788554	1. Major Maintenance of 30.00m long RCC Girder Bridge on Amtali-Kakchira RHD (Dowatala)-Chandukhali GC Via Ayla GC Road at Ch: 50m [Road ID: 504282001] 2. Major Maintenance of 16.20m long RCC Girder Bridge on Potkakhali R&H- Nali GC Road at Ch: 5480m [Road ID: 504282002] 3. Major Maintenance of 72.00m long RCC Girder Bridge on Barguna UZ HQ- Kakchira Via Fuljhuri GC Road at Chainage: 58m [Road ID: 504282003] 4. Major Maintenance of 23.80m long RCC Girder Bridge on Amtali-Kakchira RHD (Dowatala)- Chandukhali GC Via Ayla GC Road at Ch: 7510m [Road ID: 504282001] 5. Major Maintenance of 27.50m long RCC Girder Bridge on Barguna UZ HQ- Kakchira Via Fuljhuri GC Road at Chainage: 9030m [Road ID: 504282003] under Barguna Sadar Upazila Dist: Barguna.	06.03.2023 16:00
02	78855	1. Major Maintenance of 9.00m RCC Box Culvert on Munshigonj Hat (RHD)- Nali (Shapilaja GC) Via Charduan GC Road at Ch: 5850m [Road ID: 504852001] under Patharghata Upazila Dist: Barguna, 2. Major Maintenance of 9.00m RCC Box Culvert on Munshigonj Hat (RHD)- Nali (Shapilaja GC) Via Charduan GC Road at Ch: 6536m [Road ID: 504852001] under Patharghata Upazila Dist: Barguna, 3. Major Maintenance of 63.00m RCC Girder Bridge on Bamna GC-Khopatua GC-Ramna Launch Ghat RHD Road at Ch: 6628m [Road ID: 504192001] under Bamna Upazila Dist: Barguna.	06.03.2023 16:00
03	788556	1. Minor Maintenance of 22.00m RCC Girder Bridge on Patharghata GC (Macherkhal)- Charduan GC via Khalifar Hat- Macherkhal Road at Ch: 6535m [Road ID: 504852006], 2. Minor Maintenance of 8.00m RCC Girder Bridge on Patharghata GC (Macherkhal)- Charduan GC via Khalifar Hat- Macherkhal Road at Ch: 1712m [Road ID: 504852006], 3. Minor Maintenance of 45.00m RCC Girder Bridge on Nachnapara UP (RHD) -Taluker Charduan Hat via Napitter Kheyaghat Road at Ch: 8440m [Road ID: 504853013] under Patharghata Upazila Dist: Barguna.	06.03.2023 16:00
04	788557	1. Minor Maintenance of 50.00m RCC Girder Bridge on Amtali Mahishhkata R&H-Kalagacia Kaserhat GC via Gulishakhali Bazar Road at Ch: 3000m [Road ID: 504092010], 2. Minor Maintenance of 45.00m RCC Girder Bridge on Amtali Mahishhkata R&H- Kalagacia Kaserhat GC via Gulishakhali Bazar Road at Ch: 14800m [Road ID: 504092010] under Amtali Upazila Dist: Barguna.	06.03.2023 16:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited through online at any branches of registered banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Suprio Mukherjee  
Executive Engineer  
LGED, Barguna

GD-292

## ANTARCTICA'S 'DOOMSDAY GLACIER' Warm water melts weak spots, say scientists

REUTERS, Mexico City

Scientists studying Antarctica's vast Thwaites Glacier - nicknamed the Doomsday Glacier - say warm water is seeping into its weak spots, worsening melting caused by rising temperatures, two papers published in Nature journal showed on Wednesday.

Thwaites, which is roughly the size of Florida, represents more than half a meter (1.6 feet) of global sea level rise potential, and could destabilise neighbouring glaciers that have the potential to cause a further three-meter (9.8 foot) rise.

As part of the International Thwaites Glacier collaboration - the biggest field campaign ever attempted in Antarctica - a team of 13 US and British scientists spent about six weeks on the glacier in late 2019 and early 2020.

## Iran jails influential academic for 8 yrs

AFP, Tehran

An Iranian court has sentenced influential sociology professor Saeed Madani Ghahfarokhi to eight years in prison, his lawyer told AFP yesterday.

Madani, 62, who has published books on topics including prostitution, violence against women, child abuse and drug addiction in Iran, has been in detention since May last year.

"My client was sentenced to eight years in prison for forming a hostile group and one year for propaganda against the system," said his lawyer, Mahmoud Behzadrad, adding the verdict was final.

Madani, a professor at Tehran's Allameh Tabataba'i University, had previously been arrested several times and served a six-year prison sentence from 2011.

Iran has been rocked by a wave of protests since mid-September, sparked by the death in custody of Mahsa Amini, 22. "Since my client has been in prison, he has been consulted by some officials to find ways to deal with the violence" that broke out at the protests, said Behzadrad.

## TUNISIA PROTEST Journalists accuse state of intimidation

AFP, Tunis

Dozens of journalists and rights activists protested in the Tunisian capital yesterday, accusing the state of "repression" and attempts to intimidate the media.

The protest, organised by the SNJT journalists' union, came three days after police arrested Nouredine Boutar, the director of popular private radio station Mosaïque FM.

The station has often been critical of President Kais Saïed, who in 2021 sacked the government, froze parliament and seized almost total power in moves rivals have called a coup.

The demonstrators gathered outside government headquarters in Tunis, some wearing red tape across their mouths while others shouted "No to repression of journalists".



**বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক**  
বিভাগীয় কার্যালয়  
কৃষি ব্যাংক ভবন  
জিন্দাবাজার, সিলেট

গণমানুষের ব্যাংক

ফোনঃ ০২-৯৯৬৬৩৩০৬২  
০২-৯৯৬৬৩৯০৯০  
ইমেইলঃ [gmsylhel@krishibank.org.bd](mailto:gmsylhel@krishibank.org.bd)

তারিখঃ ১৫-০২-২০২৩ইং

**e-Tender Notice (OTM)**


This is to notify all concern that, the following tenders have been published through National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Sl No.	Tender ID	Tender name	Tender publishing date and time	Tender closing and opening date and time	Tender method
01	ID: 786287 Ref No: BKB/Admin42/part-03(Money Counting)/2022-23/2149	Supply and Installation of 72 Nos. Money Counting Machines for Several Branches of Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Sylhet Division.	13 Feb 2023, 11:15am	7 March 2023 12:15pm	OTM

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-Government Procurement Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) and you can also ask help from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Md. Nazmul Hussain  
General Manager

GD-294



**CONFIDENCE CEMENT LIMITED**

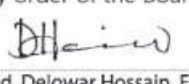
Registered office :Confidence Heights,Plot-1, Lane -1,Road-2, Block-L, Halishahar H/E, Agrabad Access Road, Chittagong, Tel:023333-11471-3  
Liaison Office : Ispahani Building (3rd floor), 14-15 Motijheel C/A., Dhaka, Tel:02-223382431


**PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION**

It is notified for information to all concerned that the Board of Directors of the Company in its Meeting held on 16/02/2023 commenced at 03.00 PM among other has taken the following decisions:

- In order to meet ongoing financial requirements and equity injection to the associate companies, the Board considered and approved the proposal for issuance of Convertible Preference Shares up to BDT 150 (Taka One Hundred and Fifty) Crore only as may be modified further pursuant to the instructions of the BSEC or the requirement of law, subject to approval of Shareholders in the ensuing 5th EGM, Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) Exchanges and complying with the requirements embodied in relevant laws and regulatory authorities concerned.
- In order to enable the Company to raise of capital through issuance of convertible preference shares of up to BDT 150 Crore, the Board proposed to increase the Authorized Capital of the Company from the existing TK 100 Crore to TK 350 Crore along with the inclusion of Preference Share as the capital item to be divided into 200,000,000 (twenty crore) ordinary shares of Tk. 10/- (Taka ten) each amounting to BDT 200,00,00,000 (Taka Two Hundred Crore) and 150,000,000 (Fifteen crore) preference shares of Taka 10.00 (Taka ten) each amounting to BDT 150,00,00,000 (Taka One Hundred and Fifty Crore) subject approval of the shareholders at the ensuing 5th EGM.
- Subject to approval from the shareholders in ensuing 5th Extra Ordinary General Meeting, the existing Clause - V [Share Capital] of the Memorandum of Association of the Company and Article 5 [Share Capital] of the Articles of Association and existing Article No. 63 of the Articles of Association of the Company, shall be altered.
- The Board then fixed the Date, Venue and Record Date for the 5th Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) as follows :
  - Date and time of the 5th EGM : **Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 11 AM.**
  - Venue of the 5th EGM : **Digital Platform (Meeting Link will be provided later)**
  - Record Date for 5th EGM : **March 13, 2023**

Dated : 16 February 2023

By order of the Board  
  
Md. Delowar Hossain, FCS  
Company Secretary



**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Govt. Sundarban Adarsha Kula**  
231, Khan Jahan Ali Road, Khulna  
Website: [www.gsac.edu.bd](http://www.gsac.edu.bd)

Memo No. GSAC/Goods/CEDP/G-15/2022-2023/04/184

Date : 16/02/2023

**e-Tender Notice 2022-2023/01**

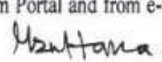
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last Date and Time of Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date & Time
1	790914	Procurement of Campus Networking for Government Sundarban Adarsha College, Khulna	06-March-2023 2:00 pm	06-March-2023 2:30 pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' Branches up to **05-March-2023 4.00pm**

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP Held Desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

  
**(Professor Masuda Sultana)**  
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