Cancel 'antistate' power deal with Adani **Demands Fakhrul**

UNB, Dhaka Terming the government's p o w e r deal with

the Indian

Adani Group anti-state, BNP yesterday demanded immediate cancellation of the agreement.

"People of Bangladesh have already received a copy of the contract with Adani Group. This is an extremely uneven deal signed with an ulterior motive," said BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul İslam Alamgir.

Speaking roundtable, he said the question has now arisen in different countries about how a government can ink such an agreement as the Washington Post exposed the government's power agreement with the Adani SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

'She can't take daughters out of Bangladesh'

SC on Japanese citizen Nakano Eriko STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday ruled Japanese Citizen Nakano Eriko cannot take her two daughters Jasmine Malaika, 12, and Nakano Laila Lina, 10 until further order.

Jasmine is now with her mother Eriko and Laila with her father Imran Sharif.

The SC also directed that Jasmine will stay with her mother and Laila with her father until further order.

Yesterday, the bench, headed by Chief Justice Foez Siddique Hasan passed the order.



Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 5-05 12-30 4-30 6-12 7-30

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SHIPBREAKING YARDS

Where safety takes a back seat





ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Another accident occurred at a shipbreaking yard in Chattogram's Sitakunda upazila yesterday, claiming one life. But such accidents, and the injuries and deaths that accompany them, are nothing new there.

In the past 18 years, 251 workers have been killed in accidents at shipbreaking yards.

According to experts and rights activists, frequent accidents have been occurring at these sites due to the "sheer negligence" of owners regarding workers' safety.

Yesterday morning, Ashraf Mollah, 66, hailing from Narail's Lohagara upazila, died while working at Taher Ship Breaking Yard, located at Bara Auliya, said Sub-Inspector Nurul Alam Ashek of Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH) Police Camp.

"Mollah sustained burn injuries from an explosion while cutting a pipe in a ship," Nurul said. "He was rushed to CMCH in a critical condition, and the on-duty physician declared him dead around 11:00am."

According to the data of NGO Shipbreaking Platform, an international coalition campaigning for clean and safe ship recycling, 249 people were killed in accidents in Sitakunda between 2005 and 2022.

At least two workers have been killed this

year so far.

According to international rules, owners must remove toxic elements from a ship before bringing it ashore for breaking, but most owners do not properly do this, said Tapan Dutta, convener of Shipbreaking Workers' Trade Union Forum.

As per rules, owners must train workers before making them break ships, but most do not follow this. Instead, they just let

According to experts and rights activists, frequent accidents have been occurring at these sites due to "sheer negligence" of owners regarding workers' safety.

newcomers do the work without training, which raises the risk of accidents, he said.

Fazlul Kabir Mintu, a member of the forum, said owners do not provide workers with adequate safety gear, and so when any accident occurs, workers are more likely to be vulnerable. Due to this, the rate of death in these accidents is so high.

"As per the labour law, a worker involved in risky work should get rest for half an hour

concentrate," said Mintu. "This rule is absent at shipbreaking yards.'

A press release of NGO Shipbreaking Platform, issued on June 2, 2022, stated, "Since the beginning of 2022, out of the 18 accidents that shook Bangladesh's shipbreaking industry, six have taken place at yards owned by Kabir Steel Re-Rolling Mills (KSRM), a concern of the conglomerate Kabir Group."

Asked, Dulalul Karim, director of Kabir Steel Shipbreaking Yard, said they try their best to ensure workers' safety and supply all safety equipment. However, accidents still occurred at times.

Contacted, Abu Taher, president of Bangladesh Ship Breakers and Recyclers Association, said out of 300 shipbreaking yards, 30 are now operating in Sitakunda. "All the owners are now receptive to making the vards safe for workers."

Shuvankar Dutta, inspector at the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment, said he heard about the accident in Taher Shipbreaking Yard. "I am looking into it."

About frequent accidents, he said work is ongoing to make the yards green. "Seven yards have already applied for this, and we after every two hours of work, so that they can have certified two of them as green yards."

Climate change leads to rise in kidney patients

Experts tell seminar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The risk of developing kidney disease is increasing globally due to the detrimental effects of rising temperatures caused by climate change, said experts yesterday.

In this regard, Bangladesh ranks 10th among the world's most vulnerable countries, they mentioned.

They said this at a seminar jointly organised by Gonoshasthaya Samaj Vittik Medical College and Gonoshasthaya Dialysis Center at Gonoshasthaya Kendra in Savar.

In the meeting, Chief Nephrologist of Gonoshasthaya Dialysis Center Brig Gen (retd) Prof Mamun Mustafi presented the article titled "Climate Change and Kidney".

To know how kidney disease is connected with climate change, he said, a group of doctors from Brazil and Australia conducted a survey in all hospitals of Brazil's 1,816 cities from 2015 to 2020.

They recorded how many kidney patients admitted in the five years due to excessive heat caused by climate change. In the survey, they found around 27 lakh people were hospitalised with kidney problems due to the heat, about

In the survey, it was found that around 27 lakh people were hospitalised with kidney problems due to the heat, about 0.9 percent of the country's population.

0.9 percent of the country's population. Accordingly, this result can be used to infer the

situation in Bangladesh, Mamun said. He explained that due to heat, our body can face various issues. Among them, the biggest one is heat stroke, which can cause kidney failure. In this case, the most vulnerable are children, elderly, and those who are already suffering from various diseases.

Prof Ayub Ali Chowdhury, who is a kidney expert, presented the article, titled "War and Kidney", at the seminar.

He said disasters and wars are injuring people and increasing mental stress, which indirectly leads to people suffering from kidney disease.

Dr Manjur Kadir Ahmed, coordinator of Gonoshasthaya Kendra, presided over the programme, in which Prof Altafunnesa Maya, president of Gonoshasthaya Kendra Trust, was chief guest. Besides, Md Abul Hossain, acting vice chancellor of Gono Bishwabidyalay, was present as

7 hospitalised with dengue

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STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seven more people were hospitalised with dengue in 24 hours till yesterday

Thirty-one dengue patients, including 17 in the capital, are now receiving treatment at hospitals across the country.

So far, the DGHS has recorded dengue cases, 736 recoveries, and nine deaths this

The country logged 281 dengue deaths in 2022 - the highest on record after 179 deaths recorded in 2019. Also, it recorded 62,423 dengue cases and 61,971 recoveries last year.

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Ref: 27.28.8878.201.07.001.21.87

Date: 09/03/2023

e-Tender Notice

The following e-Tender are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd):

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date
1 797622		Procurement of spares parts for GT & BoP fire detection system.	07-Mar-2023	05-Apr-2023 15:45 PM	06-Apr-2023
2	795427	Supply of spare parts for heat exchanger.	05-Mar-2023	04-Apr-2023 12:00 PM	05-Apr-2023

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 (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).



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Memo no. 12,21.0000.010.41.468.20.1131

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1.	794152	OTM	Weather station with accessories under Upgrading Regional Horticulture Research Station, Cumilla to Regional Agricultural Research Station at RARS, BARI, Cumilla	and the second of the second o	14-Mar-2023 12:40

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Project Name: Upgrading Regional Horticulture Research Station, Cumilla to Regional Agricultural Research Station

Fees have to be deposited for downloading the tender documents from e-GP Portal through any registered bank. For further information please contact e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

> Engr. Md. Ferozur Rahman Superintending Engineer (In-charge)