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Dhaka commits to buy 10 planes from Airbus

Macron says before wrapping up his trip

STAR REPORT

Bangladesh has committed to buying 10 new A350 airplanes from Airbus, a multinational aerospace corporation, as the two countries forge a new strategic partnership.

"I thank you for your trust in the European aerospace industry. And this commitment for 10 Airbus A350 is important," Macron yesterday said at a joint media briefing after a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Prime Minister's Office in Dhaka.

Speaking at the briefing, Hasina said, "We both hope that this new strategic move between Bangladesh and France will play an effective role in establishing regional and global stability and peace."

The two countries also signed a letter of intent for space partnership between Airbus and Bangladesh



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Satellite Company Ltd. The letter includes a clause about buying the Bangabandhu-2 Earth Observation Satellite System. Bangladesh's first satellite Bangabandhu-1 was also manufactured by a French company.

Besides, a credit facility agreement was also signed with Agence Française de Développement, under which France will provide €184 million to support urban governance and infrastructural development in Bangladesh.

According to a Reuters report, French officials said the deal for the Airbus flagship A350 planes, which is still being finalised, is with the national flag carrier Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

Biman's current fleet comprises of six Boeing 737-800s, four 777-300ERs, four 787-8s, two 787-9s, and five

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and French President Emmanuel Macron at a joint press briefing at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday. The two leaders joined the event after holding bilateral talks.

PHOTO: PTD

Macron's day out

PORIMOL PALMA

While French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to Dhaka featured geopolitics, trade and economy, he won the hearts of Bangladeshis with his curiosity to experience the local culture and way of life.

"Wherever the president goes, he experiences the local aspects of the country -- call it arts and culture, health, education, anything. He likes to

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Biman heading for a mixed fleet

Commits to Airbus A350s before making business case

ZYMA ISLAM

Bangladesh has committed to buying 10 Airbus A350s for Biman but the carrier is yet to come up with a business case for purchasing the planes.

In a statement to the media after a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Prime Minister's Office, French President Emmanuel Macron yesterday thanked Bangladesh for trusting the



European plane maker.

The Biman Bangladesh Airlines board on May 3, 2023, decided that such a purchase could only happen after a technical and financial evaluation.

Biman had created two committees to conduct the techno-financial evaluations.

This correspondent spoke to Biman insiders with knowledge of the committees

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India's Virat Kohli jumps in the air to celebrate his century against Pakistan in an Asia Cup Super Four fixture at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday. Kohli scored 122 not out as India smashed 356 for two before restricting Pakistan for 128 to register a 228-run victory.

PHOTO: AFP

Kohli, Rahul help India thump Pakistan

REUTERS

India beat rivals Pakistan by 228 runs after Virat Kohli passed 13,000 in one-day internationals en route to his 47th century and KL Rahul marked his return from injury with a ton in a lopsided Asia Cup Super Four clash in Colombo on Monday.

Pakistan's batsmen, needing a daunting 357 for victory after Kohli made 122 not out off 94 balls and Rahul remained unbeaten on 111 off 106, never really got going and finished on 128 with Naseem Shah and Haris Rauf both absent through injury.

India spinner Kuldeep Yadav (5-25) ripped through Pakistan's lineup following a brief rain interruption after Jasprit Bumrah removed Imam-ul-Haq and Hardik Pandya castled the dangerous Babar Azam.

India had reached 147-2 in 24.1 overs after half-centuries by skipper Rohit Sharma (56) and fellow opener Shubman Gill (58) on Sunday but rain meant the match would finish on the reserve day and the runs continued to flow after a

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Tk 4,282cr project for developing Mongla Port

China to fund it; AIIB to finance power supply infrastructure; proposals to be placed before Ecneec today

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government is going to implement a project with Chinese funds for the development of Mongla Port.

Another project aimed at improving power infrastructure in the southern part of Chattogram division and Bangabandhu Hi-tech City in Gazipur will be funded by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

Besides, a project for empowering the country's rural women will be implemented by the government with funding by the United Nations Development Programme, the Swedish embassy, and Marico Ltd.

The three project proposals are likely to be placed for approval at the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council meeting today.

Of the Tk 4,282.36 crore Mongla Port development project, the Chinese government will provide 88 percent or Tk 3,782.36 crore in loan under a government to government mechanism, according to the Ecneec meeting agenda.

The remaining Tk 500.39 crore will be financed by the Bangladesh

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ASSAULT ON BCL LEADERS

ADC Harun suspended

Inspector transferred; no case filed yet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday suspended Additional Deputy Commissioner Harun-or-Rashid from his post, two days after he along with several policemen allegedly tortured two Chhatra League leaders inside Shahbagh Police Station.

Earlier on Sunday, Dhaka Metropolitan Police withdrew Harun from Ramna Division and attached him to its Public Order Management Division over the incident. The same day, he was transferred to the Armed Police Battalion (APBn).

After his suspension yesterday, Harun has now been attached to the Police headquarters, according to a home ministry order.

The DMP formed a three-member probe committee on Sunday, which was asked to submit a report in two work days.

Victims and other BCL leaders alleged Harun along with several policemen tortured BCL Organising Secretary Anwar Hossain Naeem and BCL Science Affairs Secretary Sharif Ahmed Munim at Shahbagh Police Station on Saturday night. Another BCL leader who came to their rescue was also assaulted.

Among them, Naeem is still receiving treatment at a city hospital.

Naeem told reporters on Sunday that 10-12 policemen, including Harun, beat him in the OC's (investigation) room of Shahbagh Police Station. They all had their faces covered with cloths, and the nameplates on their uniform were taken off.

"I recorded some of it on my phone, but

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ADC Harun

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem

Date of Expire
12 September, 2022

"The pioneer of industrialization of the country and the visionary of economic development of the people who tirelessly created jobs for millions of people through modern industrialization."

This Kushtian luminary will be immortal in memory.

On the 1st death anniversary today
12 September, 2023, of Prominent industrialist

Alhaj Mohammad Nasir Uddin Biswas
the Founder Chairman and Managing Director of Nasir Group of Industries, the family members, all the officers, employees and workers of Nasir Group are deeply saddened.

We pray to the Almighty Allah for peace and forgiveness of his departed soul. May Allah grant him Jannatul Firdaus, Ameen.

Nasir Group