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11 power plants mostly sat idle last fiscal

PDB bought electricity from them at high rates

ASIFUR RAHMAN

At least 15 percent of the country's 71 independent power producers were sitting idle for 80 percent of the time last fiscal year, raising questions about their need.

Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB) purchased electricity from the mostly idle power plants at rates much higher than the average purchase price of Tk 14.62 per kilowatt-hour (kWh).

The power plants that are sitting idle 80 percent of the time are: Raj Lanka Power, Summit Barisal Power, Bangla Trac Power Unit-1, Bangla Trac Power Unit-2, Aggreko Energy Solution Aowrahati, Aggreko Brahmanagan, APR Energy, United Mymensingh Power, Paramount Btrac Energy, BR Powergen Ltd, and United Payra Power.



If a power plant produces electricity at 50 percent or 60 percent plant load factor, it produces more electricity over the year and that impacts the total cost.

M Tamim, professor at Buet

The purchase price from the 11 power plants was between Tk 26.08 per kWh to Tk 56.33 per kWh.

"The reason behind the excessive unit cost is that the power plants were sitting idle," said Mohammad Tamim, dean of the chemical and material engineering department at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.

Every power plant has a fixed cost including capacity charge, staff salaries and bank loans, while their variable cost is the fuel cost, which it gets from the government.

The unit price is calculated by dividing the total cost by the total electricity output.

"If a power plant produces electricity at 50 percent or 60 percent plant load factor (PLF), it produces more electricity over the year and that impacts the total cost," he said.

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A puppy makes its own spot amid street children huddled and sleeping together to keep warm in the capital's Basabo. With a cold wave sweeping through the country, those living on the streets become the worst sufferers. The photo was taken on Saturday night, when the temperature was around 17 degrees Celsius.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

The north shivers in biting cold

STAR REPORT

The mild cold wave sweeping over the country, especially the districts of Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Panchagarh and Chuadanga, has been causing immense sufferings to people.

"The sun has not been seen due to dense fog, causing the day temperature to drop. People are suffering in the chilly weather," said AK Nazmul Haque, meteorologist of Bangladesh Meteorological Department.

He added that there is a possibility

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Taming inflation key priority

Say finance, commerce ministers on their first day at office; BB boss wants it down to 6pc

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On their first day at office, the finance minister and state minister for commerce yesterday told reporters in separate briefings that taming inflation is their priority.

During a briefing at his office, Finance Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali said the government would overcome the economic challenges.

However, the finance ministry or

the commerce ministry alone cannot control inflation, he said, adding that all sectors will have to work together.

At the commerce ministry, State Minister Ahsanul Islam Titu at a briefing said whoever tries to create artificial crises – be it the producers, importers or hoarders – will be prosecuted.

According to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, inflation has been over 9 percent since March last year, while

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No arsonists, masterminds will be spared

Says Hasina

BSS, Gopalganj

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said arsonists and their masterminds would be given exemplary punishment so that nobody is burnt to death in future.

"We are taking measures against the arsonists and their masters," she said while addressing a post-election greeting and views exchange meeting with the leaders and activists of Kotalipara Awami League and its associate bodies at Kotalipara Upazila Chattar.

Hasina, also the AL president, said many of those involved in the arson and their masters have already been brought to book and the rest must be detained after scrutinising the CCTV footage.

"None of those who have done such heinous acts will be spared."

The PM came down heavily on the BNP-Jamaat, saying that their movement means burning people to death and torching vehicles, including buses and trains.

A mother with her child on her lap had been burnt to death in a fire on a train, Hasina said, adding that no one could tolerate such a scene.

"They are doing movement for democracy despite the fact that they even don't know how to spell the democracy."

The premier said that by casting ballots spontaneously, the country's people did not respond to BNP-Jamaat's call to prevent the election.

After forming the government for a record fifth term and fourth in a row, Hasina went to Gopalganj to visit her Tunjipara-Kotalipara constituency to pay homage to

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P7 China warns Taiwan over independence move

P11 Can Papon walk the talk?



দ্বাদশ জাতীয় সংসদ নির্বাচনে সংখ্যাগরিষ্ঠ আসনে নিরঙ্কুশ বিজয় অর্জন ও পঞ্চম বারের মতো সরকার গঠন করায় মানদণ্ড অর্জন হিউম্যানিটি, গণতন্ত্রের মানসকন্যা ও সফল রাষ্ট্রনায়ক বহুবন্ধু কন্যা মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী

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দ্বাদশ জাতীয় সংসদ নির্বাচনে নিরঙ্কুশ সংখ্যাগরিষ্ঠতা অর্জন ও পঞ্চমবারের মতো গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের প্রধানমন্ত্রী নির্বাচিত হওয়ায় ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশনের পক্ষ থেকে গণতন্ত্রের মানসকন্যা, সফল রাষ্ট্রনায়ক, স্মার্ট বাংলাদেশের রূপকার মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনা এমপি-কে

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সবাই মিলে
সবার ঢাকা

স্বু, সচল ও গ্রাধুনিক

ঢাকা



শুভেচ্ছান্তে: মোঃ আতিকুল ইসলাম

মেয়র

ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন