



The Daily Star

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33 years of

JOURNALISM WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR

In addition to the regular newspaper, today we present to you the third instalment of our five-part special supplement series, titled

"INNOVATION KEY FOR THE FUTURE", featuring trends in financial innovation and digitisation, pioneering entrepreneurship, ways to secure our energy future, and much more.

Make sure you grab a copy of this collector's item free of charge from your hawkers!



With many school playgrounds and fields being used for fairs and events, there is hardly any place left for people to engage in games and sports. In this context, artificial turf fields are gaining popularity among Chattogram city dwellers. Over 70 such fields have been constructed in the port city over the past three years and they are rented out hourly at Tk 500 to Tk 4,000 depending on the services availed. The photo was taken in Kazir Dewri area yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Fraudsters sneak into NID server again

Obtain sensitive personal info for unauthorised use, police say

MUNTAKIM SAAD

Fraudsters have once again gained access to the smart national identity card information system, allowing them to exploit the system by acquiring sensitive personal information for unauthorised use in providing various government services through cloned websites.

The Cyber Crime Investigation Department of Dhaka Metropolitan Police's Counter Terrorism

and Transnational Crime Division busted this racket after arresting four suspects involved in cloning of a government website.

The gang was offering a range of services, including fake land rent payment certificate, TIN number, Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training certificate, health certificate for expats, tax certificate, bank statement and solvency certificate at different rates, investigators say.

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Saifuzzaman Chy owns over 350 properties in UK

Reports Bloomberg News

STAR REPORT

Former land minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury has built up a UK real estate empire of more than 350 properties worth about £200 million, Bloomberg News reported on Sunday.

The figures were based on a Bloomberg analysis of available Companies House corporate accounts

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

FOREIGN LOAN

Repayment crosses \$4b for first time

Amount expected to soar in coming years

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and ASIFUR RAHMAN

Foreign loan repayment, which was hovering around \$3 billion since fiscal 2012-13, crossed the \$4 billion mark for the first time last fiscal year on the back of high interest payments and short-term loans in the power and energy sector.

In fiscal 2022-23, foreign loan repayment stood at \$4.78 billion, up 32.8 percent year on year, according to the Economic Relations Division.

The repayment increased \$1.18 billion from fiscal 2021-22. In previous years, the repayments increased between \$100-\$400 million.

Going forward, the repayments are expected to increase further because of exchange rate volatility and the possibility of LIBOR/SOFR and EURIBOR rates ticking up, the ERD said in its latest report.

Of the repayment amount last fiscal year, \$2.67 billion was thanks to the government's loans and \$2.11 billion was for the state-owned enterprises' borrowing.

Both the segment's loans increased by 32 percent, but the state-owned enterprises' increase is substantial as its total outstanding debt is only \$8 billion. The government's total outstanding foreign loan is \$62.4 billion.

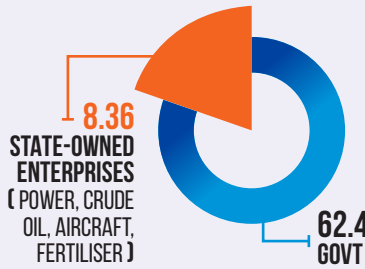
As of June last year, the total public sector outstanding debt is \$70.8 billion.

The state-owned enterprises took short-term loans in this fiscal year, whose interest rate is more than long-term loans, said finance ministry officials. As a result, the repayment amount went up.

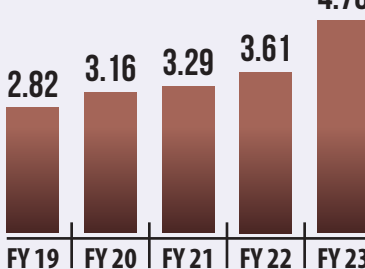
"Even two years ago, the interest rate was below 1 percent on such loans. Now, it is more than 8 percent," they said.

Of the repayment amount, the interest payment was \$1.3 billion, up 99.23 percent

OUTSTANDING FOREIGN DEBT (Billion Dollar)



REPAYMENT OF FOREIGN LOAN (Billion Dollar)



year-on-year, the ERD report showed.

The highest loan was repaid against short-term loans taken to import crude oil: \$1.12 billion, which is an increase of 40 percent from the previous fiscal year.

The power sector's loan repayment increased by 27 percent to \$679 million.

The government has paid \$85 million for loans taken to purchase aircraft earlier, up 49 percent year-on-year increase.

However, the ratio of the government's external debt stock is 15.59 percent of the

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আপনার শ্যাম্পু কি ভয়াবহ বিপজ্জনক প্যারাবেন মুক্ত?

ক্রয়ের পূর্বে যাচাই করে নিন শ্যাম্পুটি মারাত্মক ক্ষতিকর রাসায়নিক প্যারাবেন মুক্ত কিনা!



নিরব ঘাতক প্যারাবেন

চুলের যত্নে ব্যবহৃত পণ্যে থাকা ক্ষতিকর রাসায়নিক প্যারাবেন থেকে হতে পারে হরমোন ভারসাম্যহীনতা, প্রজনন সমস্যা ও ব্রেস্ট ক্যান্সারসহ অন্যান্য ক্যান্সার।



silkore

By Lily

• ইন্ডিপেন্ডেন্ট ল্যাবে পরীক্ষিত প্যারাবেন ফ্রি সার্টিফিকেশনের উপর ভিত্তি করে

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