



## Power gets a third of Tk 108,240cr subsidies

Capacity charges may take up most of it

ASIFUR RAHMAN and REJAUL KARIM BYRON

More than a third of the subsidies allocated in the new budget is for the power sector due to what experts say is the huge spending on capacity charges.

The large sum of subsidy has raised eyebrows as the government increased electricity prices several times since January last year.

Currently, the power generation

All sectors combined, subsidy allocation for the fiscal 2024-25 is Tk 108,240 crore, of which the power sector will get Tk 40,000 crore, or 37 percent of the total.

In the current fiscal year, the power sector got Tk 35,000 crore of the total Tk 106,897 crore subsidy.

For many years before 2021-22, subsidies for the sector used to be between Tk 7,000 crore and Tk 9,000 crore.



PHOTO: STAR

Winners of the bti-The Daily Star Stellar Women Award 2023 pose for a photo at the Banquet Hall of the Kurmitola Golf Club last night.

### Hasina gets warm welcome in Delhi



OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina reached New Delhi yesterday to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Narendra Modi today as the Indian prime minister.

She became the first

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## Laurels for women breaking the barriers

bti-The Daily Star Stellar Women 2023 gala puts the spotlight on 12 pioneers in various sectors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Building Technology and Ideas Ltd (bti) and The Daily Star yesterday honoured 12 women from various walks of life for their exemplary contributions to nation-building.

The first ever "bti-The Daily Star Stellar Women-2023" gala, held at the banquet hall of Kurmitola Golf Club in the capital, acknowledged the women who challenged conventions and inspired innovation, inclusivity, and empowerment.

They were selected in 12 categories for trailblazing in their

respective fields: Shamsin Ahmed

in the development sector; Tasfia Tasbin in technology; Nazli Hussain in architecture; Sadia Jafrin in education; Ridy Sheikh in culture; Shamima Akhter in corporate; Salma Akter Mone in sports; Dr Sakina Khanam in agriculture; Lutfunnahar Piki in writing; Monoshita Ayruali in startup and entrepreneurship; Tawhida Shiropa in social welfare; and Rozina Islam in journalism.

Speaking as the chief guest, Housing and Public Works Minister RAM Obaidul Mukhtar Chowdhury

appreciated the initiative, terming it a "great task".

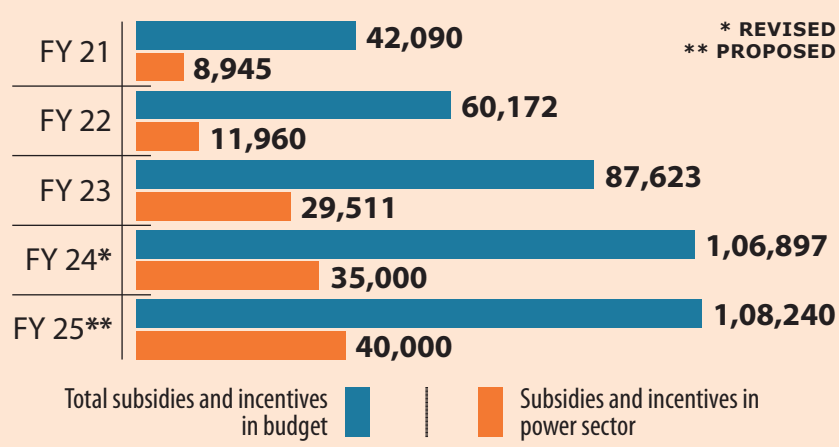
He congratulated bti and The Daily Star for organising a programme promoting women and recognising their contributions, saying this recognition will greatly inspire other women.

About the government measures to empower women, Muqtadir said that after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's assassination, there were attempts to take the country backwards.

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### SUBSIDIES AND INCENTIVES IN BUDGET

(Taka in Crore)



capacity is around 26,000 megawatts while the highest generation was recorded at 16,477MW on April 30 this year.

Finance Minister AH Mahmood Ali in his budget speech said 27 power plants with a combined capacity of 9,144MW were being constructed.

According to a study by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) last year, most of the subsidy money was spent to pay capacity charges, a fee paid to private power plants whether they produce electricity or not.

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# Congratulations!

## bti The Daily Star Stellar Women 2023!

**SHAMSIN AHMED**  
Identity Inclusion  
Development Sector

**TASFIA TASBIN**  
Markopolo.ai  
Technology

**NAZLI HUSSAIN**  
PRAXIS Architects  
Architecture

**SADIA JAFRIN**  
Grow Your Reader  
Education

**RIDY SHEIKH**  
STARBASE Dance Studio  
Culture

**SHAMIMA AKHTER**  
Unilever Bangladesh Ltd.  
Corporate

**DR. SAKINA KHANAM**  
BINA  
Agriculture

**SALMA AKTER MONE**  
AFC  
Sports

**LUTFUNNAHAR PIKI**  
NBR  
Writing

**MONOSHITA AYRUANI**  
SHAPE Industries Ltd.  
Startup & Entrepreneurship

**TAWHIDA SHIROPA**  
Moner Bondhu  
Social Welfare

**ROZINA ISLAM**  
Pratham Alo  
Journalism

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