

SS POWER REJOINER
The Daily Star
retracts story

THE REJOINER

The report titled "S Alam nexus laundered \$815m through two LCs" published in the front page of The Daily Star on 26.09.2024 caught our attention with disbelief. We reject it with disdain as the contents of the report are unfounded. Your deliberate eye-catching headline is inaccurate and designed to mislead individuals at the absolute detriment of SS Power I Limited. The actual fact is stated below:

a) SS Power I Limited, (SSPIL) a China-Bangladesh joint venture, commenced its full commercial operations on October 26, 2023 under the Implementation Agreement (IA) and Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) signed respectively with the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR), the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB), and the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB). It is the largest foreign investment in Bangladesh's private sector, it contributes net 1224 MW of electricity to the national grid.

b) The project was executed under a Turnkey Contract basis with foreign contractors appointed on an EPC basis. They managed the engineering, procurement, and construction, ensuring the successful commissioning of the power plants. Upon completion, the fully operational facilities were handed over to SSPIL, with approval from all regulatory authorities, including BIDA and Bangladesh Bank.

c) The total project cost was \$2,506 billion, of which \$1.782

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Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus exchanges greetings with Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim at InterContinental Dhaka yesterday. The two leaders held bilateral talks at the hotel.

PHOTO: PID

Malaysia may consider entry of 18,000 workers

Yunus, Anwar Ibrahim hold bilateral talks, discuss possibility of increasing the number of KL-bound workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim has promised to consider the entry of 18,000 Bangladeshi workers who failed to enter the Southeast Asian country in May.

Malaysia needs workers, Ibrahim told a press briefing after meeting Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus during his short visit to

Dhaka yesterday.

Prof Yunus requested him to pursue the Rohingya repatriation issue at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), of which Myanmar is a member.

They discussed the possibility of signing new agreements on agriculture, energy, education, the semiconductor industry, the blue economy, innovation, defence, and

youth development.

Addressing the joint press briefing at a city hotel, Prof Yunus said he and Ibrahim discussed how Malaysia can take more workers and professionals from Bangladesh through multiple entry visas.

Ibrahim, who led a 58-member delegation, arrived in Dhaka around 2:00pm. He met Prof Yunus at the

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2 MONTHS OF JULY UPRISING

Many injured staring at bleak future

MD ABBAS and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

People are filled with hope for a better tomorrow with incoming reforms, but that is not the case for those who sacrificed their future for the fall of the Awami League regime.

Many have lost their ability to work after being severely injured during the July-August uprising.

It has put unbearable pressure on their families already struggling to cope with financial hardship amid economic headwinds left by the ousted Sheikh Hasina government.

They have pleaded for help from the interim government led by Nobel Peace Prize winner Professor Muhammad Yunus.

Some have suggested they will have to beg without the support they need.

The Daily Star found more than 200 such patients undergoing treatment in some of the major government hospitals in Dhaka two months after the regime's fall.

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Mozammel



Sujon



Smoke rises from the debris of a destroyed building in the aftermath of an Israeli strike on the neighbourhood of Mreijeh in Beirut's southern suburbs yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Iran's allies will keep fighting Israel

Says Khamenei as Israeli offensive in Lebanon continues; air raid on West Bank refugee camp kills 18

AGENCIES

Iran's supreme leader yesterday vowed in a rare address that his allies around the region would keep fighting Israel, as he defended his country's missile strike on its arch-foe.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's address in Tehran follows Iran's second-ever direct attack on Israel and was also the first since exchanges of fire between Tehran-backed Hezbollah fighters and Israeli troops escalated into full-blown war in Lebanon.

Beyond Tehran, crowds of protesters gathered in Jordan and Bahrain, which both have ties with Israel, after Friday prayers in a show of support for Iran-backed Hamas and Hezbollah.

Nearly a year into the Gaza war, Israel has shifted its focus to securing its border with Lebanon, to allow tens of thousands of Israelis displaced by cross-border rocket

attacks by Hezbollah to return home. The Israeli military launched a wave of strikes on Hezbollah strongholds around Lebanon, killing more than 1,000 people since September 23, according to the Lebanese health ministry, and forcing hundreds of thousands to flee their homes in a country already mired in economic crisis.

The attacks have killed an Iranian general, a host of Hezbollah commanders and, in the biggest blow to the group in decades, assassinated its leader, Hassan Nasrallah.

Speaking to a crowd of thousands in Farsi-speaking Iran, Khamenei said in Arabic: "The resistance in the region will not back down with these martyrdoms, and will win."

The Iranian leader charged that Israel was a "malicious regime" which

has "only kept itself standing by the injection of American support".

It "will not last long", he said.

The address came as Israel weighs retaliation for Hezbollah backer Iran's missile attack which Tehran said was revenge for the killing of Nasrallah and other top figures.

Iran's top diplomat, Abbas Araghchi, visited Beirut and said that his government backs "the efforts for a ceasefire" that would be acceptable to Hezbollah and come "simultaneously with a ceasefire in Gaza".

The escalation has left people in Lebanon fearful that there will be no swift end to the violence engulfing their country.

In Beirut, 35-year-old displaced nurse Fatima Salah said people were

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