The Daily
Best News
Dhaka: Thursday 05 November 2026: 20 Kartik 1433: 24 Jumada al-Awwal 1448 Hijri

Roadmap ready for drilling, overhauling 150 wells targeting 1,752 mmcfd gas



Staff Correspondent

In a concentrated move to augment the country's local gas production amid global supply chain crunch, the government has drawn up a roadmap to drill and overhaul 150 gas wells in two phases by 2031 targeting 1,752 million cubic feet per day (mmcfd) gas from domestic sources.
Under the roadmap, the authorities have divided the programme into two phases -- the 1st phase by January 2028 and the 2nd phase from February 2028 to December 2031.
Talking to BSS, a Petrobangla official said that they are working to increase domestic natural gas production, reduce dependence on imported liquefied natural gas (LNG) and narrow the widening gap between gas demand and supply.
Another official at the Planning Commission informed that of the total 150 wells, 104 will be new wells while 46 will undergo workover operations.
According to the plan, the government had brought 77 wells under project or board approval, including 77 wells under 27 projects and four workover wells approved by the boards of the relevant gas companies.
"Of the 51 wells approved so far, work on 32 has been completed, 11 are under implementation in the field and work on the remaining eight is awaiting commencement," the official said.
The official added that the authorities would seek approval for another 26 wells under 10 projects currently undergoing the approval process, while they would bring the remaining 73 wells under project or board approval in phases.
Talking to BSS, Petrobangla Chairman Abdul Mannan said the government has set a target to drill 150 wells by 2031 to raise gas output and strengthen the country's local gas production.
"Gas from the new wells will help increase supply to the national gas grid, which will reduce dependence on imported LNG, as the government has been working to drill more gas wells as per its target," he said.
According to the Planning Commission, the 32 completed wells have secured an additional gas supply potential of 270.8 million cubic feet per day (mmcfd). Of this amount, 139.6 mmcfd has initially entered the national gas grid.
Since the present government assumed office on February 17, 2026, work on 11 completed wells through drilling or workover operations has secured an additional supply potential of 58.8 mmcfd. Of this, 41.9 mmcfd has initially entered the national grid.
The 11 wells under field implementation include Sundalpur South-1, Bhola North-3, Bhola North-4, Shahbazpur North East-1, Srikail Deep-1, Mubarakpur Deep-1 and Fenchuganj South-1 under Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company Limited (BAPEX); Titas-29, Bakhrabad-7 and Titas-31 Deep under Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited (BGFCL); and Rashidpur-13 under Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (SGFL).
The proposed Titas-32 and Titas-33 drilling project is among the 10 projects awaiting approval. Once approved, the authorities will drill

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Evidence-based approach sought to measure corruption

Staff Correspondent

A two-day national workshop titled "Measuring Corruption for Reform: Strengthening Evidence and Accountability in Bangladesh" ended here on Tuesday, highlighting the critical importance of strengthening institutional capacity to generate credible data on corruption. The workshop concluded with panel reflections from key oversight bodies and development partners on

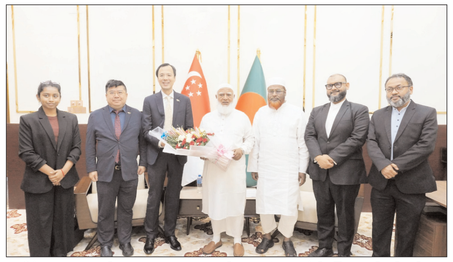
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BCC to develop 16 futsal fields

Staff Correspondent

Barishal City Corporation (BCC) has taken an initiative to develop 16 futsal fields across the city to promote sports and create opportunities for children and young people to engage in physical activities. Under the government's playground development project, the city corporation has finalised a list of

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Singapore keen to strengthen ties with Bangladesh, High Commissioner meets Opposition Leader

Diplomatic Desk

Singapore has expressed interest in further strengthening its bilateral relations with Bangladesh and expanding cooperation in trade, investment and development initiatives.
Singapore's non-resident High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Derek Loh, conveyed this interest during a courtesy meeting with Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Dr Shafiqur Rahman MP at the latter's official residence at 29 Minto Road in Dhaka on Tuesday.
The meeting, held at 10:30am on November 3, took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, with discussions covering Bangladesh's current political and economic situation, anti-corruption efforts, industrial and commercial development, democratic progress, the proposed referendum, implementation of the July National Charter and other necessary state reforms. During the discussion, High Commissioner Derek Loh highly appreciated the positive role of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami in the country's economic development and democratic progress.
He also expressed optimism about further strengthening relations between Bangladesh and Singapore, expanding bilateral cooperation and exploring new opportunities for development initiatives in both countries.
The discussions came at a time when Bangladesh is seeking to advance its economic development, strengthen democratic institutions and pursue institutional reforms.
The Singaporean delegation included Chargé d'Affaires Philip Ong and Mrithini T.G. Gritharan, Country Officer at the South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa Directorate of Singapore's Ministry of Foreign

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Bangladesh AI business summit to be held on Thursday: Mahbub Anam



Staff Correspondent

Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Minister Faqir Mahbub Anam said "Bangladesh Artificial Intelligence (AI) Business Summit 2026" will be held in the capital on Thursday.
"The day-long summit will be jointly organised by the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) on November 5 at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, aiming to expand the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the country's business and economy, increase productivity and strengthen public-private partnerships," he said. The minister

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Pirganj Upazila Health Complex Chief Assistant Found Working Bare-Chested with Cigarette on Table Behind Locked Doors at Midnight

Monsoon Ahmed, Thakurgaon Correspondent:

Allegations of behaving in a completely unprofessional manner have surfaced against Babul Hossain, Chief Assistant (Additional Charge) of the Pirganj Upazila Health Complex in Thakurgaon, for working behind locked doors and windows in a state of undress deep into the night where critical government hospital documents are supposed to be secured.
Such a scene was witnessed around 10:00 PM last Sunday (November 1) in a room of the hospital's administrative block. The incident has triggered widespread discussions and criticism across the hospital premises. Eyewitnesses reported that long after official working hours had ended, he remained inside his room. The doors and windows of the room were locked from the inside. Peeking from outside, he was seen

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CPC International Department chief arrives in Dhaka on three-day visit



Staff Correspondent

Minister of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Liu Haixing arrived in Dhaka on Tuesday night on a three-day visit to Bangladesh.
During his visit, Liu is scheduled to meet President Mirza Fakhrul Jahidul Islam Rony. BNP Standing Committee Member and Prime Minister's Public Administration Affairs Adviser Ismail Zabiullah, BNP Vice Chairman Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Altaf Hossain Chowdhury and BNP Joint Secretaries General Khairul Kabir Khokon, Syed Emran Saleh Prince, Advocate Abdus Salam Azad and Prime Minister's Protocol Officer Kamrul Islam, among others, welcomed the Chinese delegation at the airport.
Liu will begin his engagements on Wednesday at 8:20 am by paying homage at the mausoleums of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the capital.
He is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at the Bangladesh Secretariat at 10:00 am on the Islam Alamgir and Prime Minister Tarique Rahman. He will also attend a political dialogue, programmes on Bangladesh-China relations and other engagements.
He arrived at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 11:00pm on Tuesday aboard an Emirates Airlines flight, said Prime Minister's Deputy Press Secretary

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Government Iqbal Memorial Degree College Shines by Overcoming Teacher Crisis and Pass Rate Slump

* Amid overall disaster in the Comilla Board, the historic educational institution outshines the board's average pass rate.
* Out of 48 sanctioned teaching positions, only 22 are filled; no permanent lecturer exists in core science subjects.
* Despite massive absenteeism caused by online complications and unaware expatriate guardians, teachers refused to give up.
* 'Chapter-wise Evaluation Tests' and attractive award systems introduced to boost classroom attendance and verify academic standards.

Md. Fakhrul Islam, Feni District Correspondent:

Defying an acute teacher crisis, alarming student absenteeism in classrooms, and various social adversities, the historic Government Iqbal Memorial Degree College in Daganbhuiyan, Feni, has displayed phenomenal success in the HSC examinations. In the 2026 HSC

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Guimara Region Distributes Free Textbooks to Tripura Students

Desk Report

The Guimara Region of the Bangladesh Army has taken a humanitarian initiative to expand educational opportunities for students from ethnic minority communities in hilly and remote areas. As



part of the initiative, free textbooks have been distributed among Tripura students studying in Class XI to help them continue their education and pursue higher studies.
The books were distributed on Monday (November 2) by the Guimara Region in response to a request from the Bangladesh Tripura Students' Unity Council.
Many students in the hilly regions face various obstacles to higher education due to financial hardship, difficult communication systems and a lack of essential educational materials. In particular, many families struggle to arrange textbooks and

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Legal notice sent to Nasiruddin Patwary

Staff Correspondent

A legal notice has been sent to National Citizen Party (NCP) Senior Joint Convener Nasiruddin Patwary over his remarks about Water Resources Minister and BNP Joint Secretary General Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annie, which the notice described as false, fabricated and defamatory.
Supreme Court lawyer Md Yasin Arafat (Samrat) sent the notice on Tuesday (November 3) on behalf of Advocate Mahmudur Rahman Mission Bhuiyan, assistant office secretary in charge of Lakshmipur district and joint convener of the municipal unit of Jatiyatabadi Swechchhasebak Dal. The notice asked

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Freedom Fighter AKM Nasir Uddin Kalu is Peerless: His Identity Lies in His Deeds in Shariatpur

Roman Akhand, Shariatpur Correspondent

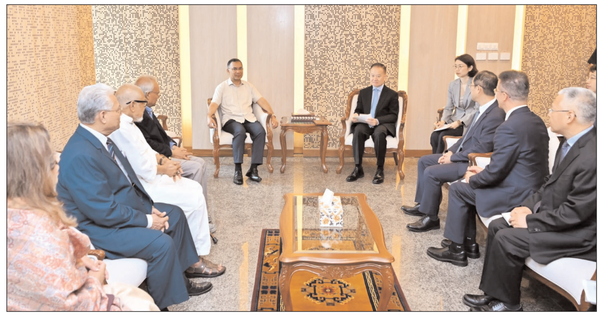


Among the handful of personalities whose names are uttered with utmost respect in the political history of Shariatpur, the glorious saga of the Liberation War, and the evolution of local government systems, Valiant Freedom Fighter Alhaj Sardar AKM Nasir Uddin Kalu stands out prominently. As a freedom fighter, politician, public representative, and organizer, he has established himself with distinct glory. Throughout his extensive political career, spanning from union parishads to the national parliament and district council, he has maintained a unique stature in the public life of Shariatpur.
Valiant Freedom Fighter Alhaj Sardar AKM Nasir Uddin Kalu is peerless by himself. In Shariatpur, his identity lies in his deeds, and the greatest recognition of his achievements is the love and respect of the people.
He actively participated in the glorious Liberation War of 1971, playing a vital role as a frontline combatant and organizer in the struggle to achieve national independence. Following independence, he continued working to uphold the spirit of the Liberation War and establish the rights of freedom fighters. In recognition of his service, he also served as the Convenor of the Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad, Shariatpur District Unit Command.
Earning the trust and affection of common people in his political journey, Nasir Uddin Kalu was elected as a Member of Parliament multiple times. While serving as an MP for the Faridpur-14 and subsequently Shariatpur-1 (Palang-Jajira) constituencies, he contributed significantly to infrastructural development, education, health, and communication systems in the region. **Continued to page 7**

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Prime Minister seeks China's cooperation in resolving Rohingya crisis



Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has sought China's cooperation in resolving the problems caused by the presence of a large number of Rohingyas in Bangladesh.
The Prime Minister made the call during a courtesy call on Liu Haixing, Minister of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, with the Prime Minister.
The meeting was held at the Prime Minister's Office in the Bangladesh Secretariat today.
Prime Minister's Deputy Press Secretary Shahadat Swadhin gave this information.
During the meeting, Liu Haixing conveyed the greetings of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Prime Minister Tarique Rahman. In return, the Prime Minister also conveyed greetings to Chinese President Xi Jinping and the country's Premier Li Keqiang.
Liu Haixing said that during Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's visit to Beijing, a joint declaration was made for a new era in the future bilateral relations between the two countries. In light of that declaration, areas of mutual cooperation will be further expanded. He said China will continue to support Bangladesh's development and progress. China's commitment to Bangladesh remains unchanged and he expressed hope that the relationship between the two countries will deepen and strengthen in the future. He also expressed confidence in the potential for economic growth and development of Bangladesh under the leadership of Prime Minister Tarique Rahman.
Tarique Rahman said that the foundation of Bangladesh-China relations was laid during the time of martyred President Ziaur Rahman. This relationship has held a special place in the hearts of the people of the two countries for a long time.
The Prime Minister said it is now their **Continued to page 2**

BB allows preference share issuance to foreign investors

Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Bank (BB) has allowed resident companies in the manufacturing and service sectors to issue preference shares in favour of non-resident investors, aiming to facilitate foreign investment and simplify the repatriation of dividends and redemption proceeds.
The Bangladesh Bank issued a circular yesterday outlining detailed guidelines on the issuance, conversion and redemption of preference shares, as well as the repatriation of dividends to foreign investors. According to the Foreign Exchange Investment Department (FEID) Circular No. 04, dated November 3,

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Tk 714cr DSCC infrastructure project awaits ECNEC approval

Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) has proposed a Taka 714.28 crore project to repair and develop damaged roads, drains and footpaths in 10 selected thana areas under its jurisdiction.
The draft project is awaiting approval at the next meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) tomorrow. Prime Minister and ECNEC Chairman Tarique Rahman will preside over the meeting at 10:30am tomorrow at the Cabinet Room (Room No.

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Experts for soft loan to boost investment in renewable energy

Staff Correspondent

Researchers and energy experts yesterday called for soft terms financing, increasing grants and supporting from development banks to boost investment in Bangladesh's renewable energy sector.
They said financing conditions need to be eased and investment risks reduced to accelerate energy transition without increasing the government's debt burden.
A study conducted by Change Initiative says Bangladesh needs annual investment of around $154 crore in the renewable energy sector up to 2030.
However, the current annual investment stands at only $19 crore, leaving an annual financing gap of approximately US$135 crore, it said. At the same time, nearly 90 percent financing is coming as loan for the energy sector.
The study "Sustainable Debt Management in Bangladesh's Energy Sector: Channeling Multilateral Development Bank Financing into Renewable Energy through Public Financing Mechanisms," was unveiled at a national dialogue at CIRDAP in the city.
State Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Sheikh Faridul Islam chaired the event, while State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaed Islam attended as the chief guest.
The study said increasing investment alone would not be sufficient to expand renewable energy; financing terms must also be made more affordable.
It recommended providing

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Italy opens skills-based migration pathway for Bangladeshis

MM Rahmatullah

Bangladesh and Italy have stepped up efforts to promote safe, regular and skills-based labour migration through a new pre-departure training initiative aimed at preparing Bangladeshi workers for employment and integration into Italian society. The initiative, titled "Language, Civic and Professional Training for Skilled Migration to Italy," was presented at a programme held at Dhaka Regency Hotel in the capital on Tuesday (November 3).
Dr Mahdi Amin, Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh with the rank of State Minister, attended the programme as the chief guest.
Antonio Alessandro, the Ambassador of Italy to Bangladesh delivered the welcome address, highlighting the importance of strengthening bilateral cooperation

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Law enforcement on alert amid protests, BNP on the ground

Staff Correspondent

Tension is prevailing in the industrial area of ??Gazipur over the workers' movement demanding a minimum wage of Tk 30,000. On Tuesday (November 3), scattered protests, road blockades and tire burning incidents by workers took place in different areas. Law enforcement agencies are on alert to prevent possible violence and sabotage. At the same time, leaders and activists of BNP and allied organizations have taken positions at different places on the highway.
A group of workers started a protest by burning tires on the Dhaka-Tangail highway in Naojor area of ??Gazipur around 9 am yesterday. This stopped traffic on the highway. On receiving information, police went to the spot and lobbed teargas and sound grenades to disperse the protesters. Apart from this, scattered protests by workers were also reported in Chandra Pallibidyut, Mouchak, Konabari, Bhogra and

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Government working to build technology-based and international standard immigration system: H M



Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed has said that Bangladesh is more connected to the outside world than ever before in the global context. In this situation, the government is working tirelessly to develop a technology-based and international standard immigration system to address cross-border risks, as well as facilitate international travel and trade. He made this statement while addressing the chief guest at a briefing titled 'IOM Strategic Framework on Immigration and Border Governance in Bangladesh (2027-2031)' organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) at the Meghna Hall of Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon in Dhaka today.
The Home Minister said that modern, integrated and technology-based secure border management plays an essential role in achieving economic growth of the country as well as strengthening national security. The minister said that besides ensuring national security in border management, legitimate travel and trade must be accelerated. Highlighting the National Integrated Border Management Strategy and the Five-Year Strategic Reform and Development Framework (2027-2031) adopted by the government, he said that digital transformation, responsible use of artificial

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Chief prosecutor to send letter to home ministry to confiscate Hasina's assets

Staff Correspondent

A letter is going to be sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs to execute the court verdict for confiscation of assets belonging to ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who was sentenced to death in a case related to crimes against humanity committed during the July 2024 mass uprising, and former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal. Md Aminul Islam, Chief Prosecutor of International

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Demands Raised for Playgrounds, Road Widening, and Traffic Decongestion for Urban Development in Bogura

M. A. Majid, Bogura Correspondent

Representatives from diverse professions and classes have emphasized constructing playgrounds, widening roads, and evicting illegal structures to ensure planned urban development, enhance civic service standards, and relieve traffic congestion in Bogura city.
Speakers raised these demands during a civic gathering organized by Bogura City Corporation at Shaheed Titu Auditorium on Wednesday (November 4).
Presided over by City Corporation Administrator M. R. Islam Swadhin, the gathering was conducted by Chief Executive Officer Sayed Ali. Bogura-6 Member of Parliament and District BNP President Rezaul Karim Badsha attended as the chief guest. Special guests included BNP Chairperson's Advisor and former MP Helaluzzaman Talukdar Lalu, District Council Administrator Ahsanul Tayeb Zakir, Principal Abdul Hai, Metropolitan Jamaat Secretary ASM Abdul Malek, and Metropolitan BNP Secretary Moniruzzaman Moni. Speakers demanded the establishment of playgrounds in every ward of the city, road widening, and effective planning to alleviate traffic congestion. They also urged the eviction of illegal shops around Fatehabad Bazar More to restore normal traffic flow.
Speakers further noted that larger city wards need to be reorganized based on population and size to streamline civic services and make ward-level development activities more dynamic.



Lighthouse Executive Director Harun-or-Rashid, Bangladesh Journalists Development Association Central Chairman Mominur Rashid Shine, Bogura Press Club President Rezaul Hasan Ranu, Senior Journalist Mirza Selim Reza, and District BNP Organizing Secretary K. M. Khairul Bashar, alongside leaders from various political, social, cultural, and professional organizations, attended the event. Speakers underscored the collective initiatives of the City Corporation, concerned institutions, and citizens in building Bogura as a clean, modern, and planned city.

National plan gains momentum: Dr. Zahid Hossain

Staff Correspondent

Minister for Women and Children Affairs and Social Welfare Professor Dr. AZM Zahid Hossain MP has said that the national plan is being continuously enriched and made more effective in line with the needs of the time.
He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, the election manifesto was formulated with utmost importance to the expectations of the people of the country, and currently the government is working relentlessly to implement it.
He further said that Dr. AZM Zahid Hossain said this as the chief guest at a discussion meeting organized to mark the release of the World Bank's report titled 'Demographic Change in South Asia: From Tailwinds to Headwinds for Development' at a prestigious hotel in the capital yesterday.

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Gazipur labour unrest turns violent: 30 injured, 7 arrested

Staff Correspondent

At least 30 people, including workers and police personnel, were injured in clashes between garment workers and police in Gazipur as workers took to the streets demanding a minimum monthly wage of Tk30,000. Industrial police arrested seven people on charges of sabotage.
The clashes and chases took place in the Bhogra, Naojor, Mouchak and Palli Bidyut areas from around 9:30am until noon on Tuesday.
According to workers and industrial police, employees of Panasia Limited in Naojor came out of the factory around 9:30am and gathered on the western side of the Dhaka-Tangail

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