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- Ensure Finance for Achieving Energy-Efficiency Ambition
- Commoners Bear the Brunt of Petroleum Price Hike. Who Cares?



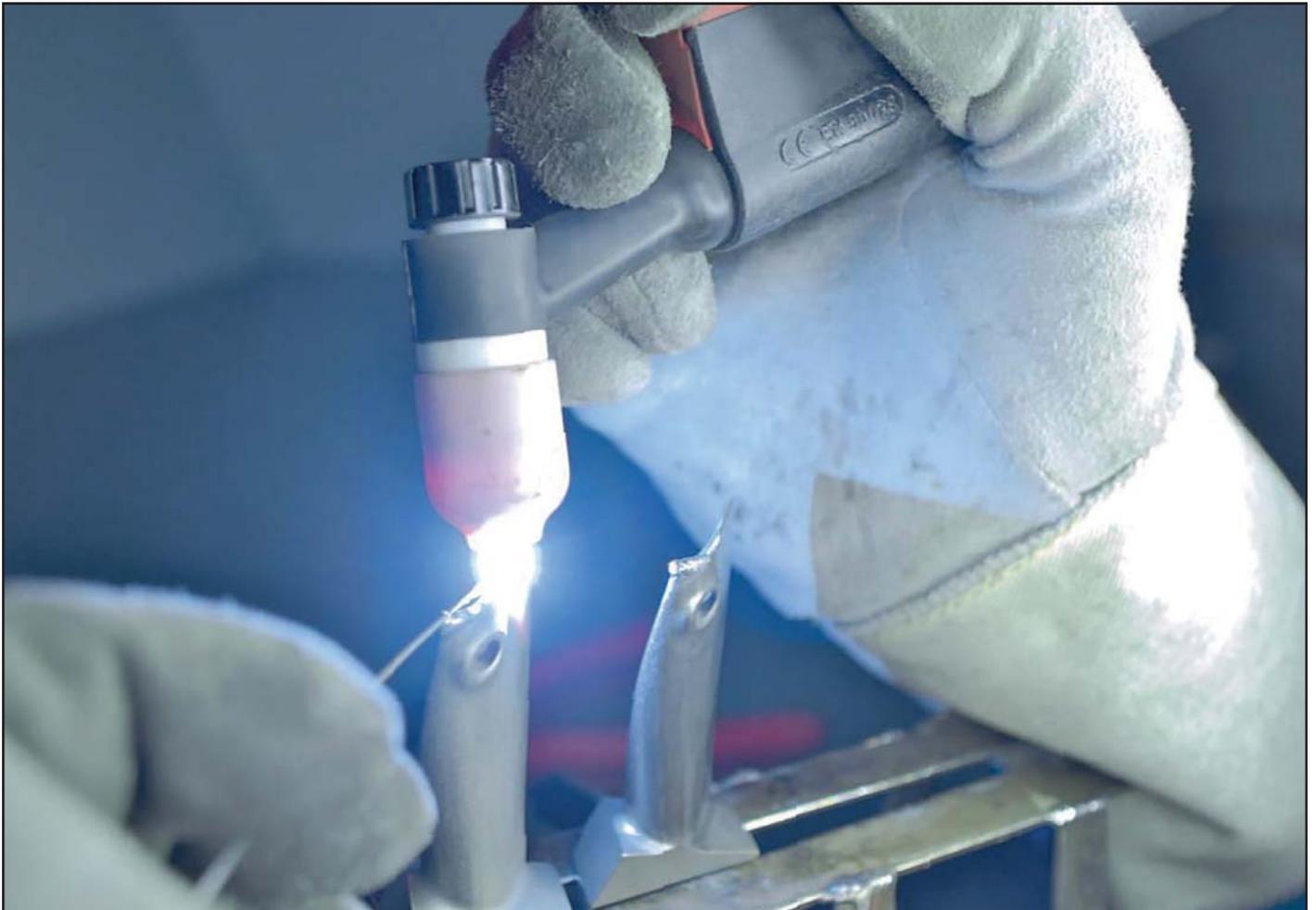
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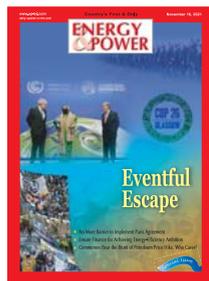
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The relentless efforts made by the United Kingdom has helped adopt the Glasgow Climate Pact. It was a major milestone achieved over the past six years. Deadlocks of negotiations could be over and the Rule Book could be finalized. There are no more impediments to start implementation of the Paris Agreement... Nurul Quadir Tells EP

Individual's opinion does not necessarily reflect editorial policy of Energy & Power



Fortnightly Magazine, Vol 19, Issue 11, November 16-30



EDITORIAL

The nations have stricken the Glasgow Climate Pact, aimed at fighting climate change, after more than two weeks of hectic negotiations. The COP26 had to go into overtime for the deal to be agreed. It would be the first ever deal to cut use of coal, which is most responsible for emitting greenhouse gases. It also committed to providing more money for the developing countries to help stave off the climate impacts. The much-awaited Rule Book for starting implementation of the Paris Agreement has also been finalized, among other developments in the conference where around 200 countries attended.

There were disappointments about the outcome that fell far short of expectations of many countries, different civil society organizations and climate activists. They expressed resentment over China and India's role in weakening the language on coal from "Phase out" to "Phase down". Some observers and delegates also thought that the financing pledges were also not enough to fight the danger of warming while some countries, especially the most vulnerable poorer ones, were unhappy over the not-so-mentionable advances in Loss and Damage negotiations.

While there is no lack of sincerity among the nations to collectively fight against the looming dangers, it is very unlikely that the hectic efforts would yield a success if the very good causes of some poorer or developing countries are overlooked.

h i g h l i g h t s



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Planning Minister MA Mannan has stressed the need for achieving efficiency not only in using energy, but also at every spheres of life though energy efficiency is getting priority due to climate change being the most talked about global issue at present. "The world has advanced way ahead in technology. They (innovators) would not transfer the technology to us automatically... More in Webinar

COVER



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After hectic negotiations in the Glasgow climate conference, nations have stricken a deal aimed at fighting climate change. The deal titled "Glasgow Climate Pact" is the first ever agreement to cut use of coal, which is considered to be the most responsible fossil fuel for emitting greenhouse gases. It also committed to providing more money for the developing countries to help stave off the consequences of climate impacts.

But many observers thought the promises made in the deal were not enough to limit temperature rise to 1.5C above pre-industrial level.

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Encouraged by the readers and patrons, the EP would continue bringing out Green Pages to contribute to the country's efforts in its journey towards environment-friendly energy.

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Nurul Quadir, former Additional Secretary of Bangladesh government and now a faculty member of North South University

Santos Progressing Spartan Project



Santos has issued updates on its development projects offshore Western Australia.

Drilling and completion activities for the Van Gogh Phase

2 infill program have finished, with tie-in and start-up activities to follow for the two remaining dual lateral wells.

The Varanus Island compression and offshore Spartan gas projects are progressing, as the company seeks to developing further reserves for export to Varanus Island.

Following the recent award of the subsea transport and installation contract for Spartan, the first offshore campaign should get under way in early 2022. The compression project is on track for start-up later this year.

In the Timor Sea, the \$3.6-billion Barossa gas and condensate project is progressing with first gas expected during the first half of 2025. First steel for the FPSO's hull was cut early last month at the shipyard in South Korea, three months ahead of plan, and manufacturing has finished of all wellheads and the first subsea tree.

QatarEnergy Orders Six LNG Vessels from Korean Shipyards



QatarEnergy (ex-Qatar Petroleum) has placed the first batch of LNG shipbuilding orders with Korean shipyards.

The company has ordered four LNG

carriers from Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering (DSME) and two from Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI).

The company declared its ship construction options with the two Korean shipyards under the Reservation of Shipyard Capacity agreements signed in May 2020.

QatarEnergy's LNG carrier fleet program is designed to meet the shipping requirements of its expansion projects as well as replace part of Qatar's existing LNG fleet. The North Field expansion projects are expected to increase Qatar's LNG production capacity from 77 million tons per annum to 126 million tons per annum by 2027.

Last month Qatar Petroleum changed its name to QatarEnergy.

Woodside Unveils Plans for Kwinana Hydrogen, Ammonia Plant

Woodside Petroleum Ltd., Perth, plans to establish a world-scale hydrogen and ammonia production plant at a site in Kwinana, just south of Perth, in Western Australia.



The project, named H2Perth, has the support of the Western Australian Government. It will be developed on 130 hectares of vacant industrial land to be leased from the state government in the Kwinana Strategic Industrial Area and Rockingham Industry Zone.

The land is close to existing gas, power, water, and port infrastructure, as well as a skilled resident workforce, the company said.

Full production potential of the phased development is up to 1,500 tonnes/day of hydrogen for export in the form of ammonia and liquid hydrogen.

Chief Executive Officer Meg O'Neill said the building in the Kwinana location is about more than hydrogen. H2Perth also will facilitate growth of renewables in Western Australia by providing the grid with a flexible and stabilizing load that benefits uptake of intermittent renewable electricity by households and local industry, she said.

Gazprom Neft to Collaborate on Automated Drilling

Gazprom Neft has signed a memorandum of understanding with drilling services provider Gazprom Burenie to develop Russia's first 'robotized', digital drilling rig.



This would be deployed for construction of wells on offshore and onshore fields.

The prototype for the rig was created as part of the Petersburg EnergyHUB project, involving Gazprom Neft, Uralmash NGO Holding, Yandex.Cloud, and Bitrobotics.

Goals include reducing lead-times, capital and operating costs associated with hydrocarbon production.

In addition, Gazprom Neft said, digitalizing drilling processes should improve safety through eliminating manual labor and minimizing the human involvement in mechanized operations.

Titas Gas Profit Drops Despite Revenue Growth in Q1

Despite an increase in revenue, Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited suffered a decline in net profit in the first quarter of the current fiscal year.

The country's largest gas distribution company reported a 3.98% drop in net profit in the July-September quarter while its revenue grew 2.52%.

Also, its gross operating profit declined by 16% as its general administrative expenses rose by 4.37% compared to the same period a year ago.

Including its gross operating profit of Tk35.21 crore and non-operating income (investment and financial income), its profit before tax stood at Tk84.87 crore.

After paying tax, its net profit stood at Tk63.90 crore and the earnings per share (EPS) stood at Tk0.65, which is lower than Tk0.67 in the same period of the previous year.

According to its financials, in the July-September quarter, its revenue rose by 2.52% to Tk4360.66 crore, which was Tk4252.66 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Six Workers Suffer Burn Injuries in Bashundhara LPG Plant in Mongla



At least six people sustained severe burn injuries after a steam pipe exploded in the factory of Bashundhara LP Gas Ltd in Mongla Industrial Area recently. The injured were sent

to Khulna Medical College Hospital.

The factory authorities, however, were not allowing the police to enter the complex, said Sub-Inspector Md Liton.

"The staff at the main gate said they didn't know anything about the fire," he added.

The injured are Md Azim, 31, Md Saiful, 30, Md Imran, 29, Hasan Sikder, 28, Md Tariqul Islam, 28, and Nur Alam, 26.

All of them had severe burn injuries when taken to the hospital.

Some of the workers said that the explosion had occurred while refilling the cylinders.

Mongla Fire Service Duty Officer Md Rakib said that the factory authorities had not informed them about the fire. "We don't know what happened there. They have their own firefighting system," he added

Govt to Import 16 Lakh Tonnes Crude Oil

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) recently approved two separate proposals in principle for importing some 16 lakh metric tons of crude oil and 58.50



lakh metric tons of refined oil for the year 2022 to meet the growing demand of the country.

The approval came from the 31st meeting of the CCEA this year held today virtually with Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal in the chair.

Briefing reporters after the meeting virtually, Cabinet Division Additional Secretary Md Shamsul Arefin said that Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) under the Energy and Mineral Resources Division would import 16 lakh metric tonnes of crude oil for this year from Saudi ARAMCO and ADNOC, Abu Dhabi under the Direct Procurement Method (DPM).

He also informed that BPC under the Energy and Mineral Resources Division would import another 58.50 lakh metric tons of refined fuel oil also for this year.

HC Rule on Household Gas Connection

The High Court recently issued a ruling upon the concerned bodies of the government to explain in four weeks as to why they should not be directed to give gas connections to the residential areas for household's use.



The HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman passed the order after holding hearing on a writ petition filed in this regard.

In the ruling the court also wanted to know as to why the decision to pay back consumers' money without giving gas connection should not be declared illegal and why the inaction of the government in this regard should not be declared illegal.

Power secretary, Petrobangla chairman, managing directors of the Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited, Karnaphuli Gas Distribution Company Limited and Bakhrabad Gas Distribution Company Limited have been asked to comply with the ruling within four weeks.

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Summit Extends Grant Duration of Alo'r Pathshala



A grant agreement was signed between Summit Group and Prothom Alo Trust, on October 28 to continue with financial assistance to all six schools of 'Alo'r Pathshala', located in

remote areas of Bangladesh, for two more years.

About 1,200 students study in these six schools where early marriage among girls has drastically been reduced and student dropouts have substantially decreased.

The pass rate among the students of 'Alo'r Pathshala' at Junior School Certificate (JSC) examinations have consistently been hundred percent. For the past 12 years, Summit has been supporting all the schools of 'Alo'r Pathshala' in full.

The director of Summit Group and member of CSR committee Azeeza Aziz Khan, chairman of Prothom Alo Trust and chairman of Envoy Group, Kutubuddin Ahmed, managing trustee of Prothom Alo Trust and editor of Prothom Alo Matiur Rahman, managing director of Summit's Turbine Division ANM Tariqur Rashid, managing director and CEO of Summit Bibiyana Power Company Limited SM Noor Uddin, CEO of Summit Meghnaghat Power Limited Md Reaz Uddin signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations.

Energypac Puts Pickups, Trucks on Display at Vehicle Fair



Energypac has recently organized a month-long national vehicle fair for motor enthusiasts who can easily pick up their desired vehicle (pickup/heavy-duty truck) by visiting the fair.

The fair has been kicked off on November 01, 2021, and will continue till the end of this month. At the fair, Energypac Power Generation Limited (EPGL) has put JAC commercial pickups and Shacman heavy-duty trucks on display.

This fair is underway in 39 districts of the country simultaneously. Customers can call Energypac's helpline number – 09612100200 to know the location and time of the fair. Moreover, buyers will get exciting prizes for booking JAC vehicles.

Humayun Rashid Re-Elected IBFB President



Humayun Rashid, Managing Director & CEO of Energypac Power Generations Ltd. (EPGL), has been re-elected as the president of the International Business Forum of Bangladesh (IBFB).

The announcement was made at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2020 of IBFB, held on

October 30, 2021, via Digital Platform.

Humayun Rashid expressed his delight upon being re-elected as the president at the AGM of IBFB, which is one of the most prominent research and advocacy-based associations among the business leaders and civil society members in the country. At the same event, M. S. Siddiqui, Legal Economist and CEO of Bangla Chemical, and Lutfunnisa Saudia Khan, Director, Commlink Info Tech Limited, were re-elected as the Vice President and Vice President (Finance) of IBFB, respectively.

NSDA, NGOAB Bosses Visit Chevron Funded Uttoron Project in Sylhet



Executive Chairman of National Skills Development Authority (NSDA) Dulal Krishna Saha, and Director General, Non-Governmental Organization Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) K.M. Tariqul Islam,

visited the Uttoron project in Sylhet and Habiganj that is funded by Chevron and implemented by Swisscontact Bangladesh.

Uttoron Skills for better life is a three-year project providing vocational training to 2000 youth in Dhaka and Sylhet division. During the visit, the officials met the trainers and the trainees.

Trainees shared their experiences and their aspiration with the officials. The Executive Chairman and The DG appreciated the quality of training and the innovative ideas Uttoron is implementing to build a better workforce for our country.

The project has introduced a new trade Packaging and Finishing Operation to meet the demand of the packaging industry first time in Bangladesh. Prime Minister's office has already approved the trade.

Eventful Escape



Mollah Amzad Hossain from Glasgow
and Afroza Akther Pervin in Dhaka



After hectic negotiations in the Glasgow climate conference, nations have stricken a deal aimed at fighting climate change. The 26th conference of parties (COP26) had to go into overtime for the deal to be agreed and the two-week event that started on October 31 came to an end on November 13, 2021. The deal titled “Glasgow Climate Pact” is the first ever agreement to cut use of coal, which is considered to be the most responsible fossil fuel for emitting greenhouse gases. It also committed to providing more money for the developing countries to help stave off the consequences of climate impacts.



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But many observers thought the promises made in the deal were not enough to limit temperature rise to 1.5C above pre-industrial level. The pledges, if fulfilled, would only limit global warming to about 2.4C and the planet would have to face dangerous consequences. With a temperature rise so far of just 1.1C above pre-industrial level, the world is already facing dangerous heating with record temperatures, wildfires, floods and droughts.

They expressed the fear as India and China took a dramatic stance on a commitment to phase out coal that was included in earlier negotiation drafts. Large emitters such as China, Saudi Arabia and Russia had tried to remove the mention of polluting fuels, according to delegates.

India's climate minister Bhupender Yadav said developing countries have still to deal with their development agendas and poverty eradication. Amid this situation, he asked how they could promise to phase out coal and fossil fuel subsidies. His statement had prompted the countries in the end to agree on a change in the language of the draft to "phase down" rather than "phase out" coal.

This last minute compromise caused expressions of disappointment by many as they thought the negotiators had avoided a major climate concern just to reach a face-saving deal and left an escape route for the major polluters.

COP26 President Alok Sharma himself recognized the setback and said he was "deeply sorry" for how events had unfolded. He told delegates in his concluding remarks that it was vital to protect the agreement as a whole. Mr. Sharma said that China and India will have to explain themselves to climate vulnerable nations as the two nations pushed for the language change. He urged China and India to justify their

PM Hasina Among 5 Influential Dealmakers at COP26

The outcomes of the COP26 Summit depend on Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and four other such influential dealmakers, who have been tasked with committing the 197 countries to the changes.

While Sir David Attenborough, Greta Thunberg, and other popular world leaders gain traction at COP26, the diplomacy and negotiations fall to these diplomats and ministers.

According to the BBC report, they are: China's climate negotiator Xie Zhenhua, Saudi Arabia's Ayman Shasly, UK minister Alok Sharma, Spain's minister for ecological transition Teresa Ribera, and Bangladesh's PM Sheikh Hasina.

The success or failure of the summit depends on these five negotiators, who have a major influence on the outcome.

This is mainly because the countries not only have varying national priorities, but nations forge alliances with each other and form negotiating blocs even within the dialogue.

actions in this regard. He, however, termed the deal a "fragile win" and insisted that it "keeps 1.5C within reach".

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson expected the world to "look back on COP26 in Glasgow as the beginning of the end of climate change".

"There is still a huge amount more to do in the coming years. But today's agreement is a big step forward and, critically, we have the first ever



Hence, countries can be part of different negotiating groups simultaneously.

The Bangladeshi PM represents the Climate Vulnerable Forum, a group of 48 countries who would be the worst sufferers of climate change.

Hasina is the mouthpiece of those who experience climate change firsthand to the COP. Last year, about one-fourth of Bangladesh was hit by floods, leaving millions inundated.

"People like Prime Minister Hasina put a human face on climate change and can help world leaders understand what climate change already looks like," said Dr Jen Allan, an expert in international relations from Cardiff University. 

international agreement to phase down coal and a roadmap to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees," he said.

John Kerry, the US envoy for climate, viewed that the summit would result in a decision that "was somehow going to end the crisis".

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said: "We are still knocking on the door of climate catastrophe... it is time to go into emergency mode - or our chance of reaching net zero will itself be zero."

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As part of the agreement, the parties are expected to pledge further major carbon cuts in the COP27 next year with the aim of reaching the 1.5C goal.

"We would like to express our profound disappointment that the language we agreed on, on coal and

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The achievement of power sector is higher than the target set for unconditional reduction of GHG emission. GHG emission in the power sector should be reduced by 49% under the updated NDC. An investment plan to achieve the target has already been made based on own resource.

Engr. Mohammad Hossain
Director General, Power Cell

fossil fuels subsidies, has been further watered down," Swiss environment minister Simonetta Sommaruga said. "This will not bring us closer to 1.5C, but make it more difficult to reach it." Some observers have, however, considered the deal as a victory and

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There is no alternative to provide special budgetary allocations for achieving the electricity generation target from renewable sources by 2041. A special team should start working on this.

Dipal Chandra Barua
President
Bangladesh Solar & Renewable Energy Association (BSREA)

stressed that it is the first time coal is explicitly mentioned in UN documents of this type.

"They changed a word but they can't change the signal coming out of this COP - that the era of coal is ending," said Greenpeace international executive director Jennifer Morgan.

Finance was a contentious issue as the developed nations missed the date (2020) to provide US\$100bn annually to help developing nations adapt to climate effects and make the transition to clean energy.

Mr Sharma, however, claimed around \$500bn would be mobilized by 2025. Poorer countries had been calling throughout the meeting for funding through the principle of loss and damage - the idea that richer countries should compensate poorer ones for climate change effects they are unable to adapt to. This was one of the big disappointments of the COP26 for many delegations. Several countries that stood to benefit, however, backed the agreement on the basis that talks on loss and damage would continue.

"We recognize the presidency's efforts to try and create a space to find common ground. The final landing zone, however, is not even close to capturing what we had hoped," said Lia Nicholson, delegate for Antigua and Barbuda, while speaking on behalf of the small island states.

The COP26 outcome document, known as the Glasgow Climate Pact, calls on 197 countries to report their progress towards more climate ambition next year, at COP27, set to take place in Egypt. The outcome also firms up the global agreement to accelerate action on climate this decade.

However, COP26 President Alok Sharma struggled to hold back tears following the announcement of a last-minute change to the pact, by China and India, softening language circulated

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the world community to replicate Bangladesh's success stories in non-carbon development. The world can follow our models.

Abul Kalam Azad
Special Envoy for the United Nations
Climate Vulnerable Forum Presidency

in an earlier draft about "the phase-out of unabated coal power and of inefficient subsidies for fossil fuels".

By other terms of the wide-ranging set of decisions, resolutions and statements

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Excessive and inefficient use of water is great issue for agriculture. A large volume of this can be conserved through changing process and infrastructure. If done in a planned manner this can reduce GHG emissions and carbon pollution significantly through reducing power use in agriculture.

Dr. Asaduzzaman
Economist & Climate Expert

that make up the outcome of COP26, governments were, among other things, asked to provide tighter deadlines for updating their plans to reduce emissions.

On the thorny question of financing from developed countries in support of climate action in developing countries,

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the text emphasizes the need to mobilize climate finance “from all sources to reach the level needed to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, including significantly increasing support for developing country Parties, beyond \$100 billion per year”.

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Higher price of fuel has prompted the primary energy producing countries to enhance production. Effective pressure for reducing fossil fuel use is no longer there now. Bangladesh can absorb the pressure of higher fuel price, making its industrial output competitive through enhancing efficiency.

Dr. Mushfiqur Rahman
Energy & Environment Expert

“Negotiations are never easy...this is the nature of consensus and multilateralism,” said Patricia Espinosa, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on

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In this climate summit, I don't think there will be a significant progress about mobilizing the fund needed for achieving emissions reduction target by 2030.

M Ziaul Haque
Director, Department of Environment

Climate Change (UNFCCC). She stressed that for every announcement made during the past two weeks, the expectation is that the implementation “plans and the fine print” will follow. “Let us enjoy what we accomplished but also prepare for what is coming,” Ms. Espinosa said, after recognizing the advancements on adaptation, among others.

Earlier during the conference's final stocktaking plenary, many countries lamented that the package of agreed decisions was not enough. Some called it "disappointing", but overall, said they recognized it was balanced for what could be agreed at this moment in time and given their differences. Countries like Nigeria, Palau, the Philippines, Chile and Turkey all said that although there were imperfections, they broadly supported the text.

“It is (an) incremental step forward but not in line with the progress needed. It will be too late for the Maldives. This deal does not bring hope to our hearts,” said the Maldives' top negotiator in a bittersweet speech.

Mr John Kerry said the text “is a powerful statement” and assured delegates that his country will engage constructively in a dialogue on "loss and damage" and adaptation, two of issues that proved most difficult for the negotiators to agree upon.

Beyond the political negotiations and the Leaders' Summit, COP26 brought together about 50,000 participants online and in-person to share innovative ideas, solutions, attend cultural events and build partnerships and coalitions.

The conference heard many encouraging announcements. One of the biggest was that leaders from over 120 countries, representing about 90 percent of the world's forests, pledged to halt and reverse deforestation by 2030, the date by which the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to curb

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OECD has claimed to have collected and distributed US\$80 billion from Green Climate Fund. But OXFAM said that it is not more than US\$20-22 billion. The actual requirement is US\$500 billion over the next 5 years i.e by 2025.

Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeq Ahmed
Deputy Managing Director
Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

poverty and secure the planet's future are supposed to have been achieved. There was also a methane pledge, led by the United States and the European Union, by which more than 100 countries agreed to cut emissions of this greenhouse gas by 2030.

Meanwhile, more than 40 countries – including major coal-users such as Poland, Vietnam and Chile – agreed to

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It's a good sign that the Scottish government has pledged to provide US\$ 1.0 million for the Loss and Damage secretariat.

Dr. Mizan R Khan
Deputy Director
International Center for Climate and Development

shift away from coal, one of the biggest generators of CO2 emissions. The private sector also showed strong engagement with nearly 500 global financial services firms agreeing to align

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\$130 trillion – some 40 percent of the world’s financial assets – with the goals set out in the Paris Agreement, including limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Also, in a surprise for many, the United States and China pledged to boost climate cooperation over the next decade. In a joint declaration they said they had agreed to take steps on a range of issues, including methane emissions, transition to clean energy and decarbonization. They also reiterated their commitment to keep the 1.5C goal alive.

Regarding green transport, more than 100 national governments, cities, states and major car companies signed the Glasgow Declaration on Zero-Emission Cars and Vans to end the sale of internal combustion engines by 2035 in leading markets, and by 2040 worldwide. At least 13 nations also committed to end the sale of fossil fuel powered heavy duty vehicles by 2040.

Many ‘smaller’ but equally inspiring commitments were made over the two weeks, including one by 11 countries which created the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance (BOGA). Ireland, France,



Denmark, and Costa Rica among others, as well as some subnational governments, launched this first-of-its kind alliance to set an end date for national oil and gas exploration and extraction.

Finance was extensively discussed throughout the session and there was consensus in the need to continue increasing support to developing countries. The call to at least double finance for adaptation was welcomed by the Parties. The duty to fulfill the pledge of providing US\$100 billion annually from developed to developing countries was also reaffirmed. And a process to define the new global goal on finance was launched.

On mitigation, the persistent gap in emissions has been clearly identified and Parties collectively agreed to work to reduce that gap and to ensure that the world continues to advance during the present decade, so that the rise in the average temperature is limited to 1.5 degrees. Parties are encouraged to strengthen their emissions reductions and to align their national climate action pledges with the Paris Agreement.

In addition, a key outcome is the

conclusion of the so-called Paris rulebook. An agreement was reached on the fundamental norms related to Article 6 on carbon markets, which will make the Paris Agreement fully operational. This will give certainty and predictability to both market and

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All countries specially the major polluting countries have to announce enhanced NDCs and ensure implementation. Bangladesh has already announced it. There are major challenges in implementation.

M Hafizul Islam Khan
Director, Centre for Climate Justice – Bangladesh (CCJ-B)

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The private sector should be included in the government initiative to reduce carbon emission by 22%.

Sohel Ahmed
Managing Director
Grameen Shakti

non-market approaches in support of mitigation as well as adaptation. And the negotiations on the Enhanced Transparency Framework were also concluded, providing for agreed tables and formats to account and report for targets and emissions. The Heads of State and Government and the delegates who participated in COP26 brought to the conference a keen awareness of

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the severity of the climate crisis that the world faces and of the need to live up to the historic responsibility of setting the world on the path to address this existential challenge.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina urged the developed countries to submit their NDCs in line with their obligations under the

compromising its development needs, Bangladesh updated its NDC, scrapping 10 coal-based power plants projects involving US\$12 billion foreign investment and setting a roadmap to have 40 percent of the country's energy from renewable sources by 2041 alongside various other measures.

Sheikh Hasina, also chair of the 48-nation Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and V20 (The Vulnerable20), demanded developed countries fulfil their commitments of providing US\$100 billion annually with a 50:50 balance between adaptation and mitigation. She also sought transfer of developed world's clean and green technology at affordable costs to the most vulnerable countries, reminding the developed nations that CVF countries also need development.

"The issue of loss and damage must be addressed, including global sharing of responsibility for climate migrants displaced by sea-level rise, salinity increase, river erosion, floods, and draughts," she added.

The COP26 retained a significant demand for nations to set tougher climate pledges next year, rather than every five years, as they are currently required to do - an acknowledgement that existing

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The developed countries have to ensure implementation of enhanced NDCs over the next decade. They must also provide financial assistance and technical support to the less-emitting countries.

Jahangir Hasan Masum

Executive Director
Coastal Development Partnership

commitments to cut emissions of planet-heating greenhouse gases are nowhere near enough.

Host country Britain said a UN committee should report next year on progress towards delivering the \$100 billion in overall annual climate funding that rich nations had promised by 2020 but failed to deliver. And it said governments should meet in 2022, 2024 and 2026 to discuss climate finance.

Even \$100 billion a year is far short of poorer countries' actual needs, which could hit \$300 billion by 2030 in adaptation costs alone, according to the United Nations, in addition to economic losses from crop failure or climate-related disasters.

Saleemul Huq, director of the ICCCAD climate NGO, said the British COP26 presidency had been "bullied" overnight into rejecting specific loss and damage funding. "The UK's words to the vulnerable countries have been proven to be totally unreliable," he said.



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I think the COP26 would be able to make such progress that would help the Paris Compliance Committee start working on implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Sharaban Tahura Zaman

Doctor of Juridical Science
Student, Berkeley Law, University of California, USA

2015 Paris Agreement and implement those to cut carbon emissions to negate climate change impacts.

"The major emitters must submit ambitious NDCs, and implement those," she said in her statement at the COP26. She highlighted that



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COP26 and Building Green Future

Mushfiqur Rahman

COP 26, the UN Climate Conference, ended on 13 November 2021 in Glasgow, Scotland. Analysts have been assessing the values of the attained progress in global climate talks. Surely, the parties (197 countries who took part in the UN climate conference) have different agendas and assessment viewpoints. Therefore, it is unlikely that all the participants would evaluate the conference outcomes from the same standpoints.

However, there is consensus on certain issues and the parties agree to continue dialogue, meet again next year in Egypt and have agreed to carry forward their efforts to work out ways to restrict global atmospheric temperature within 1.5 degree Celsius to abate climate disasters.

The parties have agreed to cut Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions (as a mitigation measure for atmospheric temperature rise) at a faster rate and considered appropriate reviewing the nationally determined contributions (NDCs) annually (not once in every five years, as agreed in 2015 in Paris Climate Conference and in Paris Climate accord as the parties agreed that the present available NDC are inadequate to limit global temperature rises to 1.5 degree Celsius). The review of NDCs and determining the appropriate level to achieve GHG emission within the agreed time table (not the pledged Net Zero achievement targets at 2050, 2060 or 2070 as many countries announced) for 2030 may help attain some visible changes in the global climate change.

Parties also agreed to 'phase down' coal and other fossil fuel use and discussed to limiting ongoing huge subsidies in different forms for fossil fuels. Despite pressures from industrially developed countries, decisions for 'phasing out' of coal was not possible to agree within the parties.

Despite an agreed decision in the Paris Climate Conference in 2015 to create an annual US\$100 billion fund from 2020 to help the developing countries cut GHG emissions and to cope with (adapt) the global climate crisis impacts, only US\$80 billion were made available in 2021. Major parts of the available climate financing so far have been directed to GHG emission cutting projects (for example, for the renewable energy development projects at the middle income countries) and the poor and most vulnerable (due to climate change) countries receive no funds to their needs for financing climate change adaptation schemes. The UN and the parties of the climate conference participants raised the issue for at least 'a 50:50 split between the funding for emission cuts and funding for adaptation'. The COP26 agreed to 'double the proportion of climate finance going to adaptation' but the details to be worked out.

The COP26 agreed to the finalized 'Rule Book' targeting to help get the Paris Climate Conference 2015 aims and actions for establishment of a transparent carbon trading mechanism. The Paris Climate Conference had outlined the vision of a global trade in emission reductions in the carbon

markets. Within the provisions, a country that intends to sell carbon credits (each carbon credit refers to one tonne of CO₂ that is removed from the atmosphere by a forestry restoration project or by implementing a renewable energy project or energy efficiency efforts so that it prevents producing CO₂) should achieve the target set under the Paris Climate Agreement. Any 'over achievement' by a country can be sold to another country that did not meet its set climate targets. Countries can trade carbon among themselves; private companies can invest and sell the carbon credits. As per the 'Rule Book' any such carbon credit transfer should be verifiable, genuine and help reduce CO₂ and other GHGs. The Russian Federation proposed for unifying the international system of calculating carbon units and to establish a market for carbon trading.

For many countries, it is really unphysical and unacceptable to rapidly increase renewable energy share and switch off their existing GHS emitting industries, power plants, natural gas hydrate methane emission etc. While gradually shifting from polluting industries and power generation infrastructures, the countries may take advantage of the global carbon markets.

The list of frustration remains among the parties in COP26 for not accomplishment of an agreement among the parties on total restriction on subsidizing fossil fuel, phasing out coal, meeting the commitments for allocating US\$100 billion annual funds for the climate vulnerable countries for their

adaptation efforts, including technology transfer, capacity development and for compensating the loss and damage (they have been incurring due to unabated pollution for several decades by the industrially developed countries, unwillingness of the 'developed west' to engage in negotiations with the developing nations to find out ways and to finance for fighting climate disasters).

The Chinese and Indian positions on different climate issues have been widely discussed in the media while covering COP26 discussions. The positive expectations on climate cooperation further improved as the largest two polluting countries and the two largest economies of the world, USA and China have agreed to cooperate in climate issues despite their differences in several other major global and regional issues. The Russian Federation has tried to promote some issues in the COP26 as well. They wanted 'technological neutrality' involving among others recognition of nuclear energy as 'green'. Russia also proposed to focus less on emission cutting measures rather than emission absorption (Russia has huge carbon absorbing forest resources).

The industrially developed western countries have been trying to consolidate their global leadership in the process of the fight against global warming and they considered that their 'close to green economy' will enable them to take the lead. On the contrary, China, Russia, and many other developing nations are suspicious about the agendas of the 'west' and want to turn them from some narrow interests into universal rules for everyone.

Bangladesh intended to cut carbon emissions approximately 90 million tonnes (22%) within 2030 as it has communicated in the COP26. If Bangladesh maintains business as usual (that is, it does take no initiative to reduce GHG emissions), the country's GHG emissions will go up to 409 million tonnes in 2030. It may be mentioned that Bangladesh's 55% carbon emissions come from the power



Bangladesh delegation members pose for a photo at COP26 venue in Glasgow, Scotland Photo: EP

sector (mainly dependent on fossil fuel burning such as natural gas and LNG, furnace oil, diesel, coal) followed by industries, transport, agriculture, brick kilns, commercial activities etc. The ambitious goal for attaining the GHG emission reduction target within 2030 demands major policy shifts, large investment and huge capacity development within the country including for human capital development. Bangladesh targets 60,000 megawatts of electricity generation in 2041 including with 40% renewable energy share. The present installed capacity of electricity generation in the country stands at 24,000 including 700 MW renewable energy. The government earlier had a set target for attaining 10% share of electricity generation from renewable sources within 2020. The real achievement is far behind the target of renewable energy development. The State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources of Bangladesh has shown his confidence in achieving the goal as the government's determination was communicated to the international forums including in the Climate Vulnerable Forum, where Bangladesh is the chair. So far, there is no clear roadmap on the plans and strategies for attaining the 40% renewable energy share within the next 20 years for the country. Sector experts are unsure that Bangladesh may attain 40% target of

renewable energy as there is no credible roadmap so far for attaining the targets.

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change hopes that within 2030 the transport sector will see major shift as several thousand electric and hybrid vehicles along with electric trains, energy efficient and less polluting fuel oil vehicles will be moving in the country's wide roads and approximately 86,000 unfit and polluting vehicles will be withdrawn from the roads. Also, it is hoped that the hugely polluting brick kilns (nearly 6,000 at present in the country) will cease their operations (within 2024) and compressed hollow brick blocks will replace the age-old bricks as the major construction materials in the country. The ministry further wants to encourage technology shifts in agriculture and industries and in commercial activities to enable energy savings and energy efficient activities. Further, the ministry considers that the solid waste management will be significantly improved by using the technology for waste to electric energy, incinerating harmful wastes and by implementing integrated landfill for waste management. The Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change also intends to increase forest cover from the present 22% to 24% in 2030.



Mushfiqur Rahman
Energy & Environment Expert

COP26 Achievements and Developing World Perspective

Saleque Sufi

The just concluded climate conference could not possibly achieve all what were expected, yet what has been achieved is not less encouraging. The “Glasgow Climate Pact 2021” was adopted despite a last minute intervention by India to water down language from “phasing out” coal to “phasing down”. After two weeks of intensive talks in Glasgow, diplomats from almost 200 countries have agreed to ramp up their carbon-cutting commitments, phase out some fossil fuels and increase aid to poor countries on the front lines of climate change.

The agreement will not put the world on track to avoid catastrophic warming beyond 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit). But experts observed that the pact represents a significant step on a path to a safer future. The pledges on emissions cuts made at the two-week Cop26 in Glasgow fell well short of those required for limiting temperatures to 1.5C, according to scientific advice. Countries agreed to return to negotiation table in 2022 for another conference (COP27) in Egypt,

and re-examine their national plans, with a view to increasing their ambition on emission reduction.

Countries have agreed a deal on the climate crisis that its backers said would keep within reach the goal of limiting global heating to 1.5C, the key threshold of safety set out in the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The Glasgow Climate Pact 2021 has definitely given renewed hopes to climate vulnerable nations and developed countries in going ahead with their planned NDC achievements.

Highlights of Glasgow Climate Pact Emissions Cuts (known as Mitigation)

The current national plans on cutting emissions by 2030, known as nationally determined contributions (NDCs), are inadequate to limit

temperature rises to 1.5C, and according to analysis published during the talks would lead to a disastrous 2.4C of heating.

Only one major emitter – India – produced a new NDC at the talks, so the work of getting NDCs in line with a 1.5C goal was always going to stretch beyond the end of the Glasgow summit.

However, under the 2015 Paris Agreement, nations are only required to return every five years to set new NDCs – and in 2025 are scheduled to discuss NDCs for beyond 2030. Sticking to that timetable would take the world well beyond 1.5C, so one of the crucial aims for the UK hosts was to draw up a roadmap for swifter revisions.

That was achieved – the question of revising NDCs will be on the agenda for next year’s COP27, to be held in Egypt, and for the one following in 2023.

Adaptation and Climate Finance

Rich countries agreed in 2009 that poor countries would receive at least \$100bn (£75bn) a year from 2020, from public and private sources, to help them cut emissions and cope with the



Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina (L) and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson at a meeting in Glasgow, Scotland
Photo: PID

impacts of the climate crisis. But by 2019, the latest year for which data is available, only \$80bn flowed.

Developing countries are angered by this, which was reflected at the talks, and have been promised that increases will follow in the next five years that will bring the finance for the next five years to \$500bn. They also want more of the cash to be spent on adaptation, rather than emissions cuts.

This is important because most of the climate finance currently available goes to funding emissions-cutting projects, such as renewable energy schemes, in middle-income countries that could often be funded easily without help, because they turn a profit. But the poorest countries who need money to adapt to the impact of extreme weather struggle to obtain any funding at all.

In the end, the text agreed to double the proportion of climate finance going to adaptation. The UN and some countries were calling for a 50:50 split between funding for emissions cuts and funding for adaptation, so this has fallen short but is still an important step.

Loss and Damage

Loss and damage refers to the ravages of the climate crisis that are too destructive for countries to prevent or adapt to them – hurricanes and cyclones, for instance, or the inundation of low-lying areas by storm surges.

Countries have been talking about loss and damage for a decade but the discussions have made little progress. Developing countries say they are already spending large sums from their already stretched budgets to repair the damage caused by the climate crisis, but developed countries are wary of the way the discussion has sometimes



Secretary of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Md. Mostafa Kamal Photo: EP

been framed, as a call for compensation or reparations for climate damage, which they cannot accept as it would lay them open to endless legal liability.

At the last COP, discussions moved on far enough for the setting up of a database and communications and reporting system, called the Santiago Network. Many developing countries were hoping that COP26 could provide a further step towards some form of funding mechanism for loss and damage. That has not happened, and the issue will return to the talks next year.

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement

Some countries came to Glasgow opposed to stronger action and tried to suggest that focusing on 1.5C was “reopening the Paris Agreement”, the main goal of which is to hold temperature rises “well below” 2C

above pre-industrial levels while “pursuing efforts” to limit rises to 1.5C.

The UK hosts and supporters such as John Kerry of the US repeatedly pointed out that “well below” 2C could not mean 1.9C or 1.8C, as those were not “well below”, and that going below that got close to 1.5C. There are also repeated references in the text to “the best available science”, which has moved on since the Paris Agreement to show even more clearly that 1.5C is much safer than 2C and that every fraction of a degree counts.

So the argument at Glasgow was firmly won in favor of 1.5C – in itself an achievement for the UK hosts, and much better for the planet.

What Leaders Said at Conclusion?

Alok Sharma, the UK cabinet minister who presided over the fortnight-long COP26 talks in Glasgow, acknowledged the scale of the task remaining: “We can now say with credibility that we have kept 1.5C alive. But, its pulse is weak and it will only survive if we keep our promises and translate commitments into rapid action.”

UN Secretary General António Guterres observed that further urgent work was needed to reaching the goal. He said, “Our fragile planet is hanging by a thread. We are still knocking on the door of climate catastrophe. It is time to go into emergency mode – or our chance of reaching net zero [emissions] will itself be zero.”

Jennifer Morgan, executive director of Greenpeace International said, “It’s meek, it’s weak and the 1.5C goal is only just alive, but a signal has been sent that the era of coal is ending. And that matters.”

Mary Robinson, former UN commissioner for human rights and chair of The Elders group of leaders

and former states people said, “Cop26 has made some progress, but nowhere near enough to avoid climate disaster. While millions around the world are already in crisis, not enough leaders came to Glasgow with a crisis mindset. The world urgently needs them to step up more decisively next year.”

Tina Stege, climate envoy for the Marshall Islands, representing the High Ambition Coalition of developed and developing countries said, “This package is not perfect. The coal change and a weak outcome on loss and damage are blows. But it is real progress and elements of [it] are a lifeline for my country. We must not discount the crucial wins covered in this package.”

Mohamed Adow, director of the Nairobi-based think tank Power Shift Africa, took a harsher view, “The needs of the world’s vulnerable people have been sacrificed on the altar of the rich world’s selfishness. The outcome here reflects a Cop held in the rich world and the outcome contains the priorities of the rich world.”

Making the concession, Lia Nicholson, lead negotiator for Antigua and Barbuda, which chairs the 37-strong Alliance of Small Island States said, “We are extremely disappointed and we will express our grievance in due course.”

The COP also resolved several outstanding technical issues that had prevented aspects of the 2015 Paris climate agreement from coming into operation. These issues, on carbon trading and the “transparency” with which countries monitor and report their emissions, have dogged the annual climate meetings for six years but compromises were finally reached, which earned applause for Sharma. Patricia Espinosa, executive secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change said, “After six years, this is a significant accomplishment.”

One of the most contentious clauses in the final decision was a vaguely worded resolution to phase down “inefficient” fossil fuel subsidies. Energy experts are



Power Secretary Habibur Rahman and DG Power Cell Mohammad Hossain in Bangladesh Pavilion at COP 26 Photo: EP

clear that phasing out coal will be essential to stay within 1.5C of global heating, but the opposition to the inclusion of the reference to a phase out – particularly from major coal-using countries including China, India and South Africa – showed how hard it will be to gain a global end to the dirtiest fossil fuel in time to avoid a 1.5C rise.

Major Polluters Must Reduce Pollution Drastically

Major polluters caused major damage to the environment in achieving their economic development. It is their responsibilities now not only cutting emissions drastically but also compensate for the loss and damage caused to climate vulnerable countries. They must also commit to contribute generously to Green Climate Fund (GCF).

The Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) released an analysis on the sidelines of COP26, which said China, the US, and the EU are likely to occupy more than 90% of the available 1.5 degree C carbon space by 2050. This would leave little room for developing nations including India, Bangladesh are others to grow their economies in the coming decades. Also, the three big emitters would consume 45% of the available carbon space by 2030. “India, for example on the other hand, would emit 59% less than China,

58% less than the US, and 49% less than the EU, from 1850 to 2100, on a cumulative basis, despite turning net zero two decades later than the US and the EU and a decade later than China,” the analysis said.

What Can Bangladesh Do?

Bangladesh has no mentionable carbon footprint and for that matter has no obligation for reducing emissions. Still as a climate vulnerable country it has committed to Net Zero Emission to 2050. Nothing prevents Bangladesh using latest technologies of fossil fuel based power generation ensuring least CO2 emissions. It should also restrict GHG emissions through energy efficiency. Bangladesh must also explore all possible avenues of renewable energy development. It must seek for greener energy (Nuclear, Hybrid Solar, Green Hydrogen). Bangladesh would require accessing to GCF and generous technical support and technology transfer from the developed nations towards achieving Net Zero commitments. There is no necessity that Bangladesh takes hurried decisions in cancelling its fossil fuel based under implementation projects. But it must phase down coal projects and must be more aggressive in renewable energy development and energy efficiency.

EP

Saleque Sufi;

Contributing Editor, EP



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Ensure Finance for Achieving Energy-Efficiency Ambition

Rezaul Ahsan

Planning Minister MA Mannan has stressed the need for achieving efficiency not only in using energy, but also at every spheres of life though energy efficiency is getting priority due to climate change being the most talked about global issue at present.

“The world has advanced way ahead in technology. They (innovators) would not transfer the technology to us automatically. However, we can acquire and adopt modern technology,” he told a recent webinar on “Energy Efficiency Financing” as the chief guest.

Energy & Power magazine in collaboration with Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA) and German Development Cooperation GIZ organized the event as part of a series titled “EP Talks”.

Moderated by EP Editor Mollah Amzad Hossain, Nazmul Haq, Chief Investment Officer at Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), presented the keynote paper. Farzana Momtaz, Member (Energy Efficiency & Conservation) at SREDA, Khondkar Morshed Mil-lat, General Manager at Large Corporate Client Coverage, of Standard Chartered Bank, Arif Ainul Sumon, Chief of Commercial and Institutional Banking, and Engr. Al Mudabbir Bin Anam, Program Coordinator at GIZ, REEEP 2, were the panelists.

The Planning Minister said SREDA and IDCOL were playing a very important role to promote energy efficiency. However, there are some criticisms about fi-

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ancing efficiency as it is being told that the interest rate is very high. There are also allegations that the equipment required for ensuring energy efficiency are being charged much higher than the market price which act as a disincentive for many.

He also said that a lot of talks are heard about fossil fuels. We have to get out of dirty fossil fuels. It is being alleged that

stance would facilitate making significant achievements.

In his keynote presentation, Mr. Nazmul Haq mentioned that three parties would benefit from investment in energy efficiency. First, the party which achieves efficiency; second, the country which reduces carbon emission; and finally, the world. This would help reduce global emission.

When JICA financing was first considered, it was thought that disbursement would take up to 10 years. But the demand was so extensive that the target was achieved in only 3 years. Now the financing under the second project is being done. Large industries are getting loans for achieving energy efficiency, but the SMEs are not getting loans. This must be considered. It takes up to 10 years to achieve complete efficiency. Commercial banks encounter difficulties in providing such longer term loans.



the extensive use of fossil fuel is the major reason for climate change. But for development, the world community had to use fossil fuel. But all countries could not develop equally. We have to get rid of coal. Otherwise, we will become isolated. We cannot continue using coal if the rest of the world moves out of it. We have to work on green energy now. The Prime Minister has made a strong pledge about it. Her strong

It is often not possible to take these loans providing security deposits. Special arrangements can be made for such loan disbursements.

JICA has shown interest in providing more loans. The French development agency AFD has agreed to provide 100 million Euros. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

has also agreed to provide US\$250 million.

Financing is not the lone issue now. We do not have enough skilled manpower for working on energy efficiency. For lack of a required number of qualified energy auditors, it has become extremely difficult for ensuring efficiency. Another difficulty is inability to follow a particular model. In such a situation, it has become essential to follow an internationally accredited energy service company model.

SREDA Member Farzana Momtaz informed that Bangladesh has pledged new targets in its updated NDC. SREDA is implementing a loan disbursement project with the assistance of JICA for enhancing energy efficiency. First US\$100 million and now US\$200 have been made available.

SREDA provides NOCs to firms applying for loans after visiting their premises and being satisfied with their loan worthiness. Later, SREDA also monitors their works. During monitoring, it is assessed how much efficiency they are achieving and how much emissions are reduced through using energy efficient appliances. The industries have obligations for providing regular reports on prescribed forms. Some deviations are sometimes observed. Some sort of reluctance is being shown in getting loans from the project. The reasons assigned are higher interest rates than Bangladesh Bank and other financial institutions. The price of energy-efficient machinery, equipment and appliances are allegedly higher than the market price.

Local Banks and other financial institutions would come forward for providing loans if an agreed business model can be adopted. Information regarding energy efficiency must be made accessible to all. Financing facility must be extended for recently added waste management.

Mr. Arif Ainul Sumon said they were mainly focusing on renewable energy. Large funds are required for infrastructure development. In present circumstances, we encounter problems in



Abdul Mannan



Nazmul Haque



Farzana Mamtaz



Khondkar Morshed Millat



Arif Ainul Suman



Al Mudabbir Bin Anam

providing loans at 10-year terms. For this, we need assistance from foreign banks and financial institutions.

When JICA financing was first considered, it was thought that disbursement would take up to 10 years. But the demand was so extensive that the target was achieved in only 3 years. Now the financing under the second project is being done. Large industries are getting loans for achieving energy efficiency, but the SMEs are not getting loans.

Another challenge of the government now is securing funds for solar power. The cost of generation is higher. Such plants cannot supply power round the clock. For that reason, wherever the en-

ergy efficient power plants or plants from renewable energy are installed should be in operation round the clock. Fund for energy-efficient power plants is easily available. But necessary initiatives needed to be launched for accessing such funds.

Engr. Al Mudabbir Bin Anam of GIZ mentioned that energy efficiency is inherently linked with climate change. The main focus of the global discussion of climate change now is achieving energy efficiency. By 2024, we will move one step ahead towards the developed world. For sustaining the development, the use of energy would be significantly increased. There is no option now to achieve energy efficiency. We have to ensure that the fuel we use can add value through maximizing services. Then we have to see how we can maximize use of renewable energy. We have to give importance to alternative energy. These are articulated in detail in the energy master plan.

Financing is extremely important for energy efficiency. Provision of loan for sustainable energy is encouraging, yet not much loan provision is

observed for energy efficiency. These need to be increased. Moreover, the same amount of impetus given on energy efficiency of new industries is missing for the energy-efficient operation of old and existing industries.

The cost of power generation needs to be reduced. Huge subsidy is still being given here. By increasing the capacity of generation in a pragmatic way, the cost of generation can be reduced.

Mr. Morshed Millat of Bangladesh Bank mentioned that Bangladesh Bank has started working with an objective to achieve absolutely 100 percent sustainable financing for renewable energy and energy efficiency by 2050. We need to mention a few matters related to sustainable financing here. If any bank or financing institution provides an amount of BDT 100 loan,



BDT 15 has to be sustainable financing. BDT 2.0 out of this BDT 15 would be green financing. If another BDT100 is allocated to any company based on its successful utilization of the first BDT 100 loan, that company may be again provided with BDT 100 loan. Now in this BDT 100, 20% that is BDT 20, would be sustainable financing and BDT 5.0 would be green financing. In future, green financing would be increased to 20-25%.

By 2050, sustainable financing would be 100%. Green financing would be 50%. Financing for the export-oriented industries towards transformation to green energy use and efficiency would be open. My recommendation here would be mentioning the green industry in the SREDA permission for a new industry that would assist in providing loans to a great extent.

EP

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যোগাযোগ

আরিফুল ইসলাম ০১৭২৫ ৫৮৩০৮৫

মোফাজ্জল হোসেন জয় ০১৭২২ ৬৭৭৬০৯

কম ৫০৯, ৫১০, ৫১১ ও ৫১২, ইস্টার্ন ট্রেড সেন্টার, ৫৬ ইনার সার্কুলার রোড, পুরানো পল্টন লাইন, ডিআইপি রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০, জিপিও বক্স ৬৭৭, ফোন +৮৮০২৫৮৩১৪৫৩২

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Challenges of Fuel Price Hike in Bangladesh

Saleque Sufi

The price spiral in the global fuel market (oil, gas and LNG) has already started affecting Bangladesh. The prices of LPG, diesel and kerosene have just been increased. In the not too distant future, the prices of gas and electricity would also be adjusted commensurate with the fuel oil price. Consequently, the prices of all commodities as well as the fares of services like road transports and waterways would go up. That in turn would increase the prices of essential commodities. Whatever the policy makers may like to term it – be it price adjustments or action to discourage fuel smuggling across the border, this situation could be better managed if Bangladesh could plan its fuel utilization professionally and pay heed to the advice of experts and engage experts in energy sector planning and management. In a free market economy, it is the demand and supply that determine the market price. But the government agencies can definitely work as a watchdog so that market manipulation does not grow rampant. The fuel price hike has already adversely impacted the living and livelihood in the post-COVID new normal time of the citizens of Bangladesh. People outside the gas franchise have to pay three or four times per month for cooking. The diesel price hike would push up irrigation and power generation costs. If the gas price is also increased, it would raise the cost of gas-based power, CNG and cost of production of all gas-based industries. Moreover, it is still uncertain how long the present trend of price hike in the international

market would continue. Bangladesh must plan for expediting its own fuel exploration and development, and execute aggressive plans for alternate energy like renewables.

It has become a trend in Bangladesh that any time the prices of diesel and CNG increases, the transport owners (road and waterways) force the government to increase fares through enforcing strikes. Political activists, mostly the pro-government front leaders, lead the owners associations. The hartal-type programs create immense miseries of common people. No one realizes that the fuel price is

For a 23% increase in diesel price, the transport fare is said to have increased by 27%. What is the rationale of this increase? How does this fare increase the prices of commodities? In 7 years between 2014 and 2021 when the prices of crude oil and linked petroleum products were extremely low, did people get the benefit?

only a minor segment of managing transport business. Transport owners earn huge profits at the expense of miseries of commuters. Commuters must not be held hostages every time. Commuters must not be made to pay higher fares for others' mistakes. The government agencies must better coordinate among themselves

beforehand whenever they increase or adjust whatever sugar coated words the ministers' use. Any increase in transport fare increases the price of essential commodities. The government has little or no control over the prices of essential commodities as well.

Is it the Right Time to Increase Diesel, Kerosene Prices?

Winter is approaching and an intensive irrigation period will follow. Despite extension of the power grid to every nook and corner of the country, irrigation is still largely dependent on diesel pumps. Solar irrigation pumps have not grown that big yet. Obviously the increase of diesel price would affect irrigation unless the government provides subsidy. Kerosene is used mostly by poor villagers. Its price would hurt the marginalized population only. Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) is a state monopoly in petroleum products business in Bangladesh. It has made windfall profits over the last 7 years since 2014 during which the crude oil price and for that price of all linked petroleum products were at their lowest levels. Many countries lowered the prices but Bangladesh after repeated persuasion adjusted marginally. BPC is said to have earned BDT 40,000 crore over the past 7 years. Now for crude price increase, how such huge profit earning can be offset in no time? Why can't the government provide subsidies for a while? Is price increase of petroleum products the only way to minimize losses of BPC? There have been allegations of corruption in crude purchase, theft and pilferages of petroleum products against BPC and its

EFFECTS OF FUEL PRICE HIKE



TRANSPORT

- Bus, launch fares to go up
- Goods transport by road and waterways to be costlier



AGRICULTURE

- Ploughing, irrigating and harvesting cost to increase
- Overall cost of cultivation of farmers to go up



BUSINESSES

- Higher shipment cost
- Increased cost of captive power plants
- Overall cost of businesses to rise



marketing companies. Has the government done enough to curb corruption and eliminate losses? Why do the end users have to bear the burden all the time?

For a 23% increase in diesel price, the transport fare is said to have increased by 27%. What is the rationale of this increase? How does this fare increase the prices of commodities? In 7 years between 2014 and 2021 when the prices of crude oil and linked petroleum products were extremely low, did people get the benefit?

Why before announcing the price hike, relevant ministries, agencies and organizations could not coordinate? Mischief mongers always hunt for opportunities? The transport owners immediately went on strikes, causing immense miseries of commuters and the general public. The owners will maximize profits at the expense of the commuters. The fare hikes of transports would increase the price of essential commodities. People's sufferings would be compounded.

Power, LPG and Gas Prices

Water price in 12 years increased 14 times and gas price 9 times. In the not

too distant future, the gas price and power tariff would also be increased for sure. But is it a global price increase that leads to price increase for all utilities? Poor planning, flawed strategies, and corruption also contribute.

The government boasts 24000 MW plus installed power generation capacity. But it struggles managing the grid power demand of 13000 MW. Why do most of the 7000 MW liquid fuel based power plants cannot be retired? Why does the capacity charge need to be paid keeping a big portion of these idle?

The Bangladesh Power Development Board mentions that it incurred 55% loss in one year for gas deficit and price increase of liquid fuel. But inside information does not support this. Keeping its own generation plants idle, BPDB imported power from India per agreement. BDT 13,155 crore of capacity charges it accounted for leaving many rental and quick rental plants idle. For failure in evacuating full 1320 MW power from imported coal based Payra Power plant for delays in completing power transmission facility, BDT 170-180 crore capacity charge is being paid as penalty to the project owner.

In recent times, the price of 12 KG LPG cylinders (majority of population use for domestic cooking) increased to BDT 1313. Justice is not being done as consumers having piped gas connections are paying much less.

Govt Ignores Experts' Suggestions

Bangladesh economy cannot sustain the price impacts of the global fuel market for a long time. It could have avoided growing big on imported fuel if it could plan its own fuel exploration and exploitation professionally. Instead of professional planning and managing energy companies, the government placed non-technical bureaucrats in BPC and Petrobangla. Coal would possibly remain buried forever. Petroleum resources would not be explored and exploited in required volume for meeting the burgeoning demand growth.

Experts kept alerting Bangladesh for a while for planning fuel utilization in a pragmatic way. They always warned that Bangladesh must not become exclusively reliant on imported primary fuel. It cannot absorb global fuel market volatility, for the shallow coastal area and absence of deep seaport setting up import infrastructure (coal port and

LNG/LPG terminals) are extremely challenging. Experts advised utilizing coal reserves and aggressively exploring and exploiting potentials of onshore and offshore petroleum resources. Till 2030, Bangladesh fuel mix as suggested was 60:40 on own-imported fuel. But the government hardly listened to the experts' advice.

The global fuel market has already pushed crude oil prices growing around US\$ 85 /bbl. Prices of all petroleum products linked with crude including LPG have also shot up. Concerns about the global warming and pledges for achieving the Net Zero targets have created panic, mad rush for using gas /LNG as alternate interim fuel. This caused a phenomenal increase of gas /LNG prices in the global market. Bangladesh imports crude, petroleum products and LPG from the global market. In the wake of depletion of proven reserves of its own domestic gas, it started importing LNG from the global market. Bangladesh failed to exploit its own coal reserve. It imports coal for a

large coal based power plant brought into operation in 2018. It will be importing coal for two more large power plants coming into operation in 2022 and 2023. Steadily from an exclusive own fuel dependent country, Bangladesh is growing into a major fuel importing country.

What Should Bangladesh Do?

Bangladesh has to continue importing crude and petroleum products, LPG and LNG. Hence it has no other options but to adjust the price of fuel smartly in the local market. Wherever necessary, it has to provide subsidies. All out endeavors must be made for expediting petroleum exploration and increasing production from own gas fields. Bangladesh must also leave nothing unturned for expanding renewable energy – solar, wind, and energy from waste. We are not sure whether Bangladesh can exploit its coal reserves in future. It missed the coal train. Another major aspect is energy efficiency and energy conservation. It must be made into a movement.

The increasingly exclusive dominance of the bureaucracy of energy planning, management has proved counter-productive. These must be left for the line professionals letting them work in a transparent and accountable manner. It may take a few years for the global fuel market to get back to pre-COVID state. Some say it may never get back as net zero 2050 targets making the world transition from fossil fuel to renewable may keep the global fuel market volatile. Bangladesh from 2026 would lose LDC advantages. It cannot let the price of fuel and energy go beyond reach in the meantime. This would create overarching adverse impacts. Industrial growth would be impacted – Bangladeshi export commodities would lose competitiveness.

We hope that the policymakers would appreciate challenges as well as evaluate and take pragmatic actions.



Saleque Sufi;

Contributing Editor, EP

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আরিফুল ইসলাম ০১৭২৫ ৫৮৩০৮৫
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বিজ্ঞাপন হার	টাকা
শেষ প্রচ্ছদ (রঙিন)	৫০,০০০.০০
দ্বিতীয় প্রচ্ছদ (রঙিন)	৪০,০০০.০০
তৃতীয় প্রচ্ছদ (রঙিন)	৪০,০০০.০০
ভেতরে পুরো পাতা (রঙিন)	৩০,০০০.০০
ভেতরে অর্ধেক পাতা (রঙিন)	২০,০০০.০০
ভেতরে ১ কলাম (রঙিন)	১০,০০০.০০
ওয়েব সাইট প্যানেল প্রতিমাসে	২০,০০০.০০
ওয়েব সাইট স্পট প্রতিমাসে	১০,০০০.০০

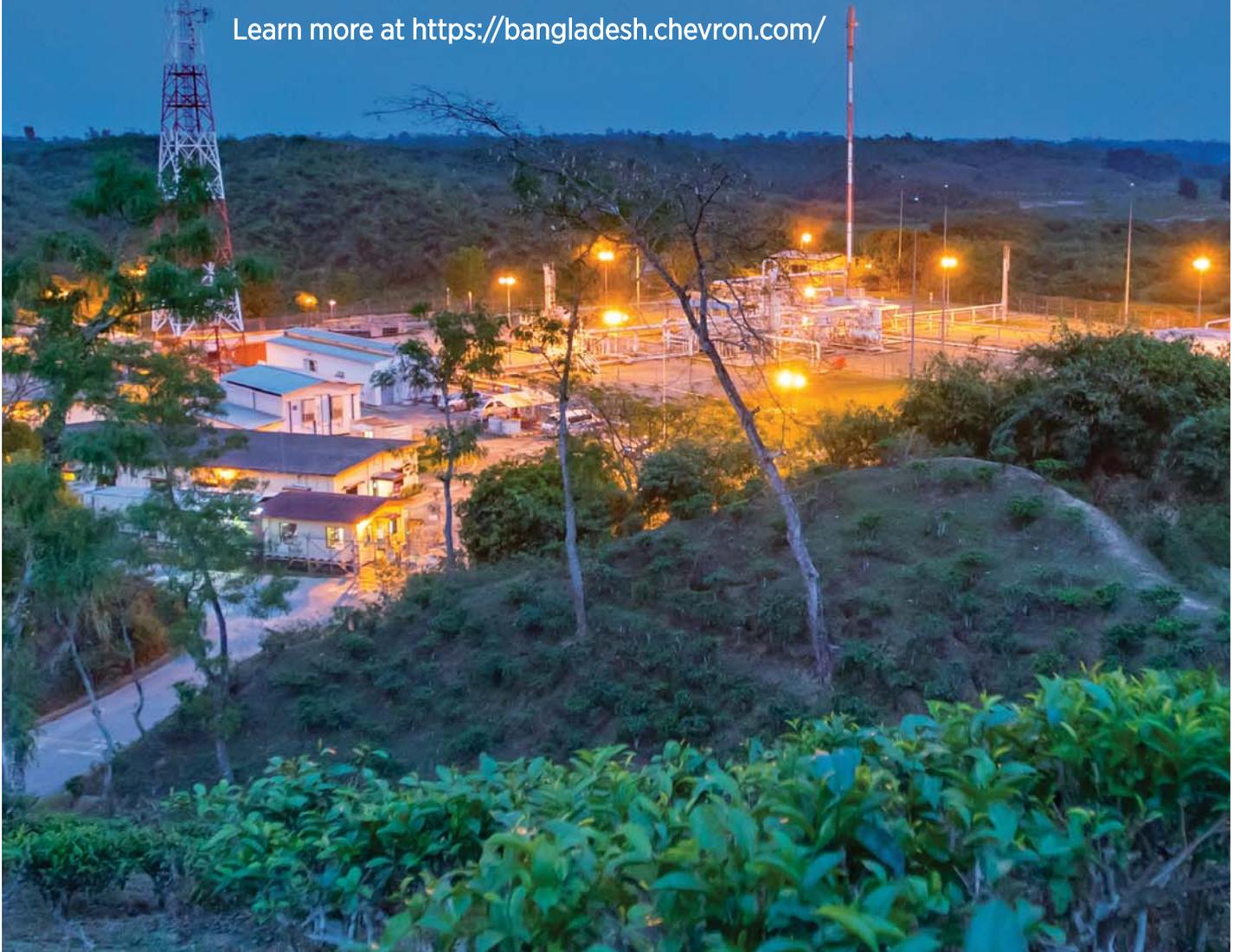
রুম ৫০৯, ৫১০, ৫১১ ও ৫১২, ইস্টার্ন ট্রেড সেন্টার, ৫৬ ইনার সার্কুলার রোড, পুরানা পল্টন লাইন, ভিআইপি রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০
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Mir Moinul Huq Memorial Lecture - 9

Clastic Sequence Stratigraphy: Standard Methodology & Application to the Bengal Basin

Mortuza Ahmad Faruque

Mir Moinul Huq Memorial Lecture Series-9 was held on 25 September 2021. This memorial lecture series is being conducted with participation from all over the globe. The session chair was Naz Husain, a retired IT Administrator of NASA, who joined from Houston. He informed that this lecture series is being carried out every month in the honor of Mir Moinul Huq who spent all his professional life in hydrocarbon exploration in Bangladesh. This lecture series is an integral part of remembering Moinul Huq and carrying out his devotion to exploration geology that he left behind. This technical session is providing knowledge and awareness among the geoscientists in the field of oil and gas exploration in Bangladesh. Meanwhile, nine such lectures have so far been arranged online through Zoom application and each lecture were attended by 60-80 geoscientists from Australia, USA, Canada, Norway, UK and Bangladesh. The moderator of the session was Md. Jasim Uddin, Ex Geologist, Petrobangla, BAPEX & IOCs and Nazim Ahmed from Calgary acted as chief coordinator of the session.

The session speakers of Lecture-9 were Dr. Abu Yousuf, Ex-Staff Geologist, ConocoPhillips and Abid Lodhi, Consultant Petroleum Geologist. Dr. Abu Yousuf presented a paper on the concept of Clastic Sequence Stratigraphy, Standard Methodology & Application to the Bengal Basin where he explained that the sequence stratigraphy investigates stacking patterns of strata in response to varying accommodation and

sediment supply through time. Unlike other stratigraphic methods including lithostratigraphy and biostratigraphy, sequence stratigraphy is a genetic, process-based approach to stratigraphy. For a meaningful analysis, process-based sequence stratigraphically significance surfaces are carefully identified through integration of available data. These are mappable surfaces that form sequence or system tract boundaries. The sequence stratigraphically significance surfaces allow paleogeographic interpretations, which, in turn, enable prediction of facies and lithologies away from control points. Proper construction of this stratigraphic framework ensures process-based understanding of the stratigraphic architecture and prediction of the reservoir, source-rock, and seal facies characterization and delineation. Combination of in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience can help successful exploration of these risky stratigraphic traps.

Dr. Yousuf has appraised the meeting of the analysis of sedimentary basin fill which involves subdividing a sedimentary basin fill into individual sequences of deposition. The main aim of this is to reconstruct how sediments filled a basin and thereby, how the stratigraphy evolved through space and time. He recommended a model of independent methodology that requires the identification of all sequence stratigraphic units and bounding surfaces, which can be delineated on the basis of facies relationships and stratal stacking patterns. The main aim is to reconstruct how sediments filled a basin and thereby and

how the stratigraphy evolved through space and time. One of the key motivations is to predict the distribution of reservoir, source-rock, and seal facies.

Abid Lodhi, a speaker of the session, presented on the application of seismic and sequence stratigraphy in subdividing the thick sedimentary succession concealed beneath the delta plain. A large part of Bangladesh comprises fluvio-deltaic plain and is devoid of rock outcrops, the latter being restricted only in the Eastern Fold Belt. Seismic and sequence stratigraphic procedures are essential for resolving the enormously thick sub-cropping Cenozoic sequence. The inconsistencies in lithostratigraphic correlation and chronostratigraphic classification of the stratigraphic units of the Bengal Basin, debated for a long time which could be addressed by the application of the standard sequence stratigraphic methodology endorsed by the International Stratigraphic Commission.

The Paleogene successions were deposited in a passive margin set up during the drifting phase of the basin history and constitute major transgressive successions. The Neogene successions are characterized by the formation of prograding complexes and the rapid regression of the shoreline since the collision of the Indian Plate with the Eurasian Plate. The basin fill history of the Bengal Basin described here which deals with the post break-up sedimentation and excludes the Gondwana intracratonic

নর্থ-ওয়েস্ট পাওয়ার জেনারেশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড

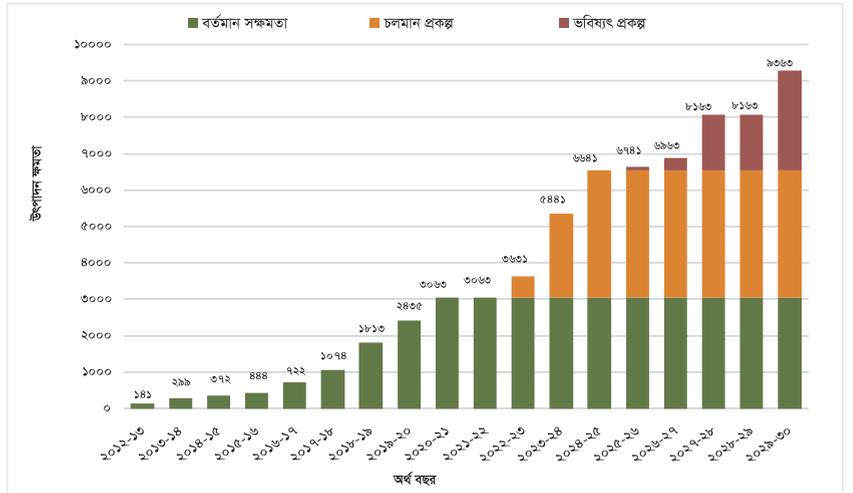
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শেখ হাসিনা'র
হাত থেকে
পুরস্কার
গ্রহণ করছেন
নর্থ - ওয়েস্ট
পাওয়ার জেনারেশন
কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
এর প্রধান নির্বাহী
কর্মকর্তা প্রকৌঃ
এ.এম. খোরশেদুল আলম

এক নজরে কোম্পানির সার্বিক চিত্র

- মোট বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র - ৯ টি
- বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন ক্ষমতা - ৩০৬৩ মেঃওঃ
- চলমান প্রকল্পের সক্ষমতা - ৩৫৭৮ মেঃওঃ
- ভবিষ্যৎ প্রকল্পের সক্ষমতা - ২৭২২ মেঃওঃ
- ২০৩০ সাল নাগাদ বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন লক্ষ্যমাত্রা - ৯০০০ + মেঃওঃ



নর্থ-ওয়েস্ট পাওয়ার জেনারেশন কোম্পানি লিঃ

আইএসও ৯০০১:২০১৫, আইএসও ১৪০০১:২০১৫ এবং আইএসও ৪৫০০১:২০১৮ সনদপ্রাপ্ত

(বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)

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Clastic Sequence Stratigraphy

Standard Methodology and Application to the Bengal Basin



Session Chair

Naz Husain
Geo-Scientist &
Retd. IT Administrator
of NASA, Houston



Speaker

Dr. Abu Yousuf
Ex Staff Geologist
ConocoPhillips &
Husky Energy



Speaker

Abid Lodhi
Consultant
Petroleum Geologist



Moderator

Jasim Uddin
Ex. Geologist,
Petrobangla,
Bapex & IOC

• LIVE

Time:
8pm (Bangladesh Standard Time)

Date:
25th Sep, 2021 (Saturday)

basin which is broad, shallow, saucer-shaped basin. Consequently, it will describe the Cenozoic sediments in a basin-wide sequence stratigraphic context which have been deposited and preserved in response to the various basin formation and fill processes.

Abid Lodhi also discussed on regional seismic stratigraphic correlation proposed by Dr. Lietz & Kabir in 1982 and regional seismic stratigraphic transect suggested by Lindsay in 1991. Seismic sequences were defined based on the seismic reflection patterns and seismic properties resulting from changes in the eustatic sea level. He told about mega-sequence framework of Cairn & Shell which were worked out during 1995-2004. The sequence bounding unconformities were formed at certain sea-level positions, during specific geological times and are globally synchronous. The seismic reflectors representing the sequence bounding unconformities are represented by a discrete geological time referenced to the eustatic sea-level event.

Abid Lodhi mentioned regarding weaknesses of Cairn's mega-sequence framework which are lateral variation of seismic facies characteristics of facies-

belt within a mega-sequence could not be addressed. He also addressed on Shell's mega-sequence framework became untenable because of mixing of various sequence interpretation methodology and reliance on global eustatic curve for calibration of ages and events undermining the effects of basin dynamics and sediment supply. He proposed a mega-sequence framework in different parts of the Bengal Basin varied due to variable controls such as type, setting and evolution dynamics of the basin, subsidence rates and tectonics, sediment sources, sedimentation and preservation and relative changes in sea level. He discussed on the high-resolution sequence stratigraphy, its prospect and reservoir context.

After their presentations, given valuable comments as discussant by Abu Chowdhury, first honors batch of Geology Dept. in Dhaka University and ex-Geophysicist, living in Houston, who did the ground-breaking work in sequence stratigraphy in the early 2000 and Dr. Badrul Imam, Prof of Geology, Dhaka University discussed on their presentation and appreciated their work on sequence stratigraphy. Dr. Nasir Eza-zul Huq from UK, Fazlul Karim Azad

from USA, Dr. Mohhamed Hossain Tipu and Khalis Ahmed from Calgary were given their comments as participants.

Dr. Lietz, one of the key members of 'German Geological Advisory Group' participating from Germany thanked the organizers for inviting him to express his views. He mentioned that he came to Bangladesh in 1977 with the task to assess the hydrocarbon potential of the country. At that time the focus was on possibility of finding oil in the country. Prakla seimos was brought in to carryout digital multi-fold survey for the first time in Bangladesh. The data was proven to be of very good quality compared to analog data available. It was of better quality to interpret as well. Regional line PK-1 and several other lines in Surma Basin were shot with an objective to identify sequence boundaries and tie-in with wells. Data exchange with ONGC enabled pin pointing stratigraphic issues. It is of utmost importance to resolve those issues and establish an acceptable stereography of the country.

EP

Mortuza Ahmad Faruque;
Former Managing Director, BAPEX



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- * গ্রিড উপকেন্দ্র, গ্রিড লাইন ও টাওয়ার জাতীয় সম্পদ, তা রক্ষা করা সকলের দায়িত্ব।
- * গ্রিড উপকেন্দ্র, সঞ্চালন লাইন ও বৈদ্যুতিক টাওয়ারের গুরুত্বপূর্ণ যন্ত্রাংশ চুরি প্রতিরোধে সহায়তা করুন, বিদ্যুৎ বিপর্যয় থেকে দেশকে বাঁচান।
- * উচ্চ ভোল্টেজের বৈদ্যুতিক টাওয়ার ও লাইন হতে নিরাপদ দূরত্ব বজায় রাখুন।
- * বিদ্যুতের গ্রিড লাইন ও টাওয়ার হতে নিরাপদ দূরত্বে স্থাপনা নির্মাণ করুন।
- * বৃক্ষ রোপনে গ্রিড লাইন ও টাওয়ার হতে নিরাপদ দূরত্বে স্থান নির্বাচন করুন।
- * বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহারে সাশ্রয়ী হোন। আপনি বিদ্যুৎ সাশ্রয় করলে তা অন্য একজন ব্যবহার করতে পারে। এমনকি সাশ্রয়কৃত বিদ্যুৎ গুরুতর অসুস্থ কারও জীবন বাঁচানোর কাজে লাগতে পারে।
- * বিদ্যুৎ অপচয় রোধে সচেতনভাবে ফ্যান, বাতি ও অন্যান্য বৈদ্যুতিক যন্ত্রপাতি ব্যবহার করুন।
- * বিদ্যুৎ সাশ্রয়ী (LED/CFL/T5) বাল্ব ব্যবহার করুন।
- * যথাসম্ভব দিনের আলো ব্যবহার করুন।
- * বিকাল ৫:০০ টা হতে রাত ১১:০০ টা পর্যন্ত সময়ে বিদ্যুতের চাহিদা বেশী থাকে। এ সময় দোকান, শপিংমল, বাসা-বাড়ীতে আলোকসজ্জা হতে বিরত থাকুন।





Fuel Prices to be Adjusted with Fall in Global Market: Nasrul

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid recently said the government would adjust fuel prices as soon as prices falls in the global market.

"Fuel price was also reduced in 2016. Now the price has been adjusted due to price hike in international market as well as for stopping

smuggling," he said while exchanging views with journalists.

Nasrul said the government has re-fixed the prices of diesel and kerosene for the greater national interests after considering overall perspectives, though diesel price in Bangladesh is still lower than other neighboring countries. **EP**

India Cuts Fuel Taxes Ahead of Festive Season

The Indian government recently reduced taxes on petrol and diesel in a bid to improve consumer sentiment, as Asia's third-largest economy recovers from the shocks of severe lockdowns to control the spread of the coronavirus.

The excise duty on petrol has been reduced by 5 rupees (\$0.0671) per liter, and that on diesel by 10 rupees (\$0.1342) per liter, the government said in a statement.

Following the federal move, at least ten states ruled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), or his allies, said

late Wednesday they would go further and reduce local fuel taxes by as much as 7 rupees a liter.

The tax relief comes on the eve of the Hindu festival of Diwali, which marks the beginning of a busy festive season in India, typically marked by increased consumer spending.

The federal government will face a revenue loss of between 550 billion rupees (\$7.38 billion) and 600 billion rupees from the cut in taxes, a government source told Reuters, declining to be named as the detail is not public. **EP**

Petrobangla to Amend Model PSC

State-owned hydrocarbon corporation Petrobangla has moved to further amend the Model Production Sharing Contract (PSC) 2019 in order to attract international oil companies (IOCs) amid hike in fuel prices in the international market.

The principal upstream energy body is going to appoint an experienced foreign consultant to draw the amendments that would convince the IOCs to invest in Bangladesh's offshore gas fields.

"We've already sought expression of interest (EOI) from interested parties to choose a consultant for the job," said a senior official at Petrobangla.

He informed that November 21 has been set as the deadline to submit the EIO by the interested bidders.

Official sources said the recent excessive hike in petroleum fuel, especially that of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) has prompted the government to go for further amending the existing PSC to attract the IOCs to invest in Bangladesh's offshore gas blocks.

The country has now a total of 48 blocks of which 26 are located in offshore areas and 22 onshore. Of the 26 offshore blocks, 11 are located in shallow sea (SS) water while 15 are located in deep sea (DS) water areas. **EP**

BPDB Needs Tk700cr Extra to Run Oil-Based Power Plants



count for 28 percent of country's power generation capacity. About 46 plants (liquid fuel based) can produce 3,676MW power. Of it BPDB-owned plants' capacity is around 1200MW.

Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) needs Tk 700 crore extra as subsidy to run its 1200 MW liquid fuel-based power plants along with its Tk7,000 crore regular subsidy.

"Following the recent fuel price hike, we have prepared a proposal, which will be forwarded to the Finance Ministry within a few days," a senior official of the state-owned power generation authority said.

Oil-based power plants ac-

The PDB has been incurring a loss of around Tk 20 crore per month for the last three months for meeting up the fuel bills. Following the recent fuel price hike it needs to pay around TK 60 crore every day, official said.

Private power producers are enjoying a tax holiday on oil imports while the government buys power from them at a higher rate. According to BPC figures, it sold 1.6 million tonnes of oil to power plants in fiscal 2019-20. **EP**

Fuel Price Hike to Soar Prices of Essentials: CAB



The increase in prices of diesel and kerosene will cause prices of daily essentials to go up, Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) has said.

In a recent statement, SM Nazer Hossain, vice-president of central committee of the organization, called on the government to reduce fuel prices.

With the announcement of a hike in fuel prices on the pretext of rising prices in the

global market, there will be a spike in the prices of daily commodities, said the statement.

The statement said, "Rising prices of daily commodities, especially rice, sugar and vegetables, have led to a decline in the livelihoods of common people. The prices of gas and electricity have also been hiked multiple times. The value of dollars has also gone up abnormally."

A few days ago, the prices of Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) products, which people with low income depend on, were also increased. **EP**

Chinese CMC Resumes Coal Extraction from Barapukuria Mine

Chinese contractor CMC initiated extracting coal again from the country's lone operational underground coal-mine at Barapukuria in Dinajpur after securing the job - renewed again for another six years with a 4.93 per cent hike in the contract price.

The contractor initiated extracting coal from October 16 - almost three months after shutting down operations, BCMCL officials said.

The CMC would continue extracting coal under previous terms until November 16.

The Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase already approved awarding the coalmining job to

the CMC, he said.

The state-owned Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Ltd (BCMCL) would ink a new deal with the CMC within the next month.

The CMC would get US\$85 per tonne for extracting coal from the Barapukuria coalmine under the new deal.

The Chinese contractor would have to extract around 4.50 million tonnes of coal from the mine within the next six years.

The company had to extract around 3.2 million tonnes of coal from the mine within four years under its deal with the BCMCL that expired on August 10, 2021. **EP**

IAEA Sending Fact Finding Mission to RNPP

A technical team of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will visit Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant in the third week of November 2021 to examine the country's capabilities to control and manage the NPP safely, securely and measure economic strength to run the plant over its life span including the safe management of radioactive waste.

"This is the first one...all together five technical team comprising technical, legal, security experts from IAEA members will visit Bangladesh in the next 36 months to examine the

Member State's (Bangladesh) competencies and capabilities to be able to control and manage the NPP safely, securely, and economically over its life span including the safe management of radioactive waste," said Dr Mohammad Shawkat Akbar, Managing Director of the Nuclear Power Plant Company Bangladesh Ltd and Project Director of RNPP.

Bangladesh is going to build a nuclear power plant, using uranium 235 as the reactor fuel at the proposed plant. However, the waste products of uranium can become dangerous and fatal. **EP**

Gas Demand, Supply Management 'Getting Tough'



for the government to find a suitable solution to manage the situation, particularly in 2022," said a top official at the Energy and Mineral Resources Division.

Official sources said the government is planning to send a team, headed by the senior secretary of the Energy and Mineral Resources Division, to Qatar and Oman to manage the increasing import of LNG from long-term contracts.

The escalating price of liquefied natural gas (LNG) has put the Energy and Mineral Resources Division into a "trouble" over its demand and supply management following the diesel and kerosene price hike.

According to official sources, top policymakers are now weighing different options, including further upward adjustment in gas price, enhancing LNG import from long-term contracts and increasing local gas production.

"But There's no easier option

The government has long-term contracts with the two nations to annually import 2.5 million metric tons of LNG from Qatar and 1.5 million MT from Oman. It also imports another 1.5 million MT from the international spot market to meet the growing demand for natural gas. **EP**

Energypac Inaugurates 3S Centre in Ctg



Leading power, energy, and engineering solutions provider Energypac Power Generation Ltd has inaugurated YC Diesel Marine Engine 3S Centre in Chattogram, said a press release.

A virtual inauguration ceremony was held in this regard on Sunday with the presence of chief guest Mahbubul Alam, president of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Humayun Rashid, CEO and MD of EPGL, and other officials from EPGL.

EPGL is the sole distributor of YC Diesel Marine Engine in Bangladesh. It is China's number one marine engine brand, the top-quality engine is used in various vessels for ensuring safe and efficient performances.

With its growing popularity in Bangladesh, there is already one state-of-the-art YC Diesel Marine Engine '3S Center' in Dhaka. And now EPGL has extended its services to Chattogram as well to provide prompt customer experience with genuine spare parts and superior service assurances. **EP**

Jatri Kalyan Samity Protests Fuel Price Hike



Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity recently demanded the government cancels its decision to increase fuel price and thus relieve people of the transport strike.

In 2016, when fuel price was cut down by TK 3, the bus fare was brought down by only TK 0.3.

So, now that the fuel price has been raised by TK 15, the bus fare must not be increased more than by TK 0.15, Mozammel Hoque Chowdhury, secretary general of the organization while reading out a paper during a press conference.

Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity arranged the press conference at Dhaka Reporter's Unity to protest the fuel price hike and "public harassment in the name of transport strike". **EP**

Shell CEO Talks Shell Break Up at Web Summit

Royal Dutch Shell plc chief executive officer Ben van Beurden was at the Web Summit conference in Portugal recently.



Why do you not break Shell apart and say we have a hydrocarbon business, and we have a clean business?

That was the question posed to Royal Dutch Shell plc chief executive officer Ben van Beurden during an on-stage interview at the Web Summit conference in Lisbon, Portugal, which was attended by Rigzone.

"The energy transition is just that, it's a transition, so you have to go from one to the other. You're going to be in an uncomfortable place, where you are going from one to the other," van Beurden said, responding to the question.

"We need the legacy busi-

ness funds [for] this business of the future. If I need to build my hydrogen business just with the income from my current hydrogen business, it's going to take me a century," he added.

"We have to be able to fund that transition to the business of the future and if you think about the innovations that we are going to need to build this electrical, hydrogen, bio system for the world with carbon capture and storage nature solutions etc., it needs the interdependency of the component parts that currently make up Shell. To break it all apart, we're not going to be able to make some huge transitions," van Beurden went on to say. **EP**

Power Import from Adani Plant to be Delayed

Import of electricity from 1600MW Jharkhand power plant of India is likely to be delayed by six months due to the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic, said officials.

"It could be delayed by 4-6 months," said a project official.

He said Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and Adani Power (Jharkhand) Ltd of India were taking all the necessary steps to import the electricity.

BPDB and Adani Power Ltd signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) and Imple-

mentation Agreement (IA) in November, 2017 to start electricity generation as per the required commercial operation date (RCOD) in January, 2022.

According to a Power Division review meeting recently, the overall progress of the project is around 77 percent.

Officials said Power Grid Company Bangladesh (PGCB) would take all the necessary measures for back feeding power supply to import the cross border electricity by December, 2021 and supply the electricity by January, 2022. **EP**



প্ৰৱৰ্ত ২ বাৰ দেশৰ
সেৱা পুৰস্কাৰ প্ৰাপ্ত

Omera
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দেশৰ সেৱা এলপি গ্যাস



▶ সঠিক মাপ ও মানসম্পন্ন

▶ চলে বেশি, সাশ্রয় বেশি

▶ বিশ্বাসৰা প্ৰযুক্তিৰ তৈৰি

▶ বাজাৰেৰ সবচেয়ে নিৰাপদ সিলিন্ডাৰ

▶ পীওয়া যায় দেশেৰ সৰ্বত্ৰ

City Bank Arranges Funding to Help Set Up HFO Fired Power Plant



City Bank has recently arranged funding to help set up a heavy fuel oil (HFO) fired power plant of Doreen Group named Manikganj Power Generations Limited (MPGL), which has capacity of 162 MW, and is located at Shingair, Manikganj, Bangladesh.

The Financial Closure Ceremony took place in Renaissance Dhaka Gulshan Hotel.

Tahzeeb Alam Siddique MP, Managing Director, Manikganj Power Generations Limited, Mashrur Arefin, Managing Director &

CEO, City Bank, Md. Arfan Ali, President & Managing Director, Bank Asia Limited were present on the occasion.

Under the syndication arrangements, City Bank has arranged long term loan facilities totaling BDT 7.42 billion from Bank Asia Limited, Eastern Bank Limited and itself. City Bank participated in the syndication with BDT 2.17 billion and provided Credit Guarantee of BDT 5.25 billion against which Bank Asia and Eastern Bank have financed their plant, said a statement. **EP**

Japan Power Prices Near 10-Month High

Electricity prices in Japan rose to their highest in nearly 10 months recently, amid elevated global prices for liquefied natural gas (LNG) and coal - the main fuels to supply country's \$150 billion power market.

While coal and LNG prices have pulled back from records in Asia, they remain high just as Japanese buyers are tempted back into the spot market to keep stocks high for the coming winter season and the resultant higher demand.

The prices for delivery of electricity reached 55 yen (\$0.48) per kilowatt hour (kWh) the highest since late-January.

Traders said higher LNG prices were starting to filter through to the local power market.

Japanese buyers of liquefied natural gas (LNG) are scouting for cargoes to ensure they have adequate supplies of the super-chilled fuel to meet peak heating demand this winter. **EP**

Electric Train Service on N'ganj-Dhaka-Ctg Route

Bangladesh Railway (BR) is finally going to start conducting a feasibility study to explore whether electric train service can be introduced on Narayanganj-Dhaka-Chattoogram route.

The planning minister recently approved a Tk 15.07-crore project for carrying out a study and detail design to introduce electric train service for the first time in the country.

The development came more than six years after BR took the initiative and over five years after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave the directive to introduce the system, which is considered

cost-effective and environment-friendly.

Now, BR has to conduct the study and detail design within April 2023. If the study finds that operation of such trains is viable, BR would take another project.

Under the system, a railway electric traction system supplies electric power to locomotives, and so, trains do not require any onboard fuel. An overhead electricity line has to be installed along the railway track to transmit energy.

Currently, BR operates diesel-powered trains on its 3,019-kilometre railway network. **EP**

Second High-Level Meeting of OPEC-GECF Takes Place

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) held the Second High-Level Meeting of the OPEC-GECF Energy Dialogue, hosted by the GECF on 27 October 2021 via videoconference.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Yury Sentyurin, GECF Secretary General, and Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo, OPEC Secretary General.

It noted the importance of crude oil and natural gas to the global economy and in meeting current and future energy demand, highlighting that both commodities will account for around half of the total global energy mix in the decades ahead.

"Together, OPEC and GECF



can count on their respective competencies to ensure that the global economy heals after the devastation of coronavirus and that a reliable and secure energy supply serves humanity like never before," said Yury Sentyurin in his opening address.

In his remarks, the OPEC Secretary General highlighted the importance of the ongoing dialogue with the GECF, noting that it is crucial for the organizations of two vital energy sources to regularly cooperate and exchange views on pressing issues in the interest of global energy stability and sustainability. **EP**



UK Expatriates Can Contribute to Bangladesh's Development: Nasrul

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid has said that the United Kingdom (UK) expatriates have the opportunity to contribute more to the development of Bangladesh.

"The UK expatriates have the opportunity to contribute more to Bangladesh's development as the cooperation of expatriate Bangladeshis is needed to develop the infra-

structure, information and technology, power, energy, extraction of mineral resources, planned urbanization and communication sectors as developed world. Investment in these sectors is very profitable," he said.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a function organized by the Mayor of Red bridge in the UK to mark the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence, a press release said. **EP**

Two Waste-to-Energy Projects Face Speed Bumps

As city authorities are struggling to catch up with the growing waste management problem, the government is trying to handle it shifting its focus on waste-to-energy projects, but the projects taken so far failed to make any breakthrough.

Two much-sought waste-to-energy projects – one in Dhaka and another in Narayanganj – could not start the ground work even after getting the approval from the Cabinet Committee on Public Purchase a year ago.

Dhaka, the national capital that generates some 6,000 tonnes of garbage every day,

is expected to see a sea change in garbage disposal once the proposed waste-to-energy plant at Aminbazar could be implemented.

The 42.5MW Aminbazar project, aimed at using the garbage of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), got the clearance from the committee on November 12, 2020 while the 6MW plant received its nod on September 16, 2020 to be set up at Jalkuri, Narayanganj.

Both the build-own-operate (BOO)-basis projects will generate electricity using the incineration technology where the garbage will be burnt to create heat for power generation. **EP**

GECF Stresses on Need for More Investment in Supply Side of Gas

As the climate crisis threatens to provoke an energy crisis, the world should approach decarbonization carefully to prevent artificial acceleration of 'greening' the international agenda at the expense of true sustainability, the Secretary General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) has said.

Other speakers who joined the specially convened Gas Market Dialogue organized by the International Energy Forum (IEF) on 28 October, included Dr Tawfiq e-Elahi Chowdhury Bir Bikram, Adviser (Minister) to the Prime Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Affairs of Bangladesh, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs of India, George Miculescu, State Secretary, Ministry of Energy of Romania, Kamal Abbasov,

Deputy Minister of Energy of Azerbaijan, Amos Hochstein, Senior Advisor for Global Energy Security at the Department of State, U.S., Mr Patrick Pouyanné, Chairman and CEO of TotalEnergies, Mr Charif Souki, Executive Chairman of Board, Tellurian Inc. and the Pulitzer Prize-winning speaker Mr Dan Yergin, Vice Chairman of IHS Markit.

Welcoming the participants, Joseph McMonigle, Secretary General of the IEF, said: "We need to keep making progress on climate action while at the same time ensure we have the energy supplies today to power development and growth. The world urgently needs more investment and energy supplies, new technologies to mitigate carbon emissions, and adaptation support to vulnerable countries." **EP**

United, BPDB Sign Deal on 590MW Power Plant



2026, Director (Public Relations) of BPDB Saiful Hasan Chowdhury said.

He said Power division secretary Md Habibur Rahman

Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) recently signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) with United Chattogram Power Limited to buy 590 megawatts (MW) electricity.

Under the deal, United Chattogram Power Limited will commission a combined power plant at Anwara in Chattogram to supply the electricity from January 28,

witnessed the signing ceremony as the chief guest, while BPDB chairman Engineer Md Belayet Hossain presided over it at Bidyut Bhaban in the capital city.

Secretary of BPDB Saiful Azad and Managing Director of United Chattogram Power Limited Moinuddin Hasan Rashid signed the contract on behalf of their respective sides, Hasan said. **EP**

Rahimafrooz Receives Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Industrial Award 2020



Rahimafrooz Renewable Energy Limited has been awarded the “Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Industrial

Mujib Industrial Award 2020’ in seven categories for their contributions to the country’s economic growth.

Munawar Misbah Moin, managing director and Engineer Mohin Habib, chief executive officer of the company, were present on the occasion.

This was the first time that the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Award was introduced in seven categories.

Award 2020” for its outstanding contribution in the solar power sector.

A total of 23 companies have received ‘Bangabandhu Sheikh

Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun distributed the award among the recipients at a programme at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in Dhaka recently.

The award will be given every year from now on, Industries Ministry Deputy Secretary Mostaq Ahmed told the New Nation

Toyota’s Hydrogen Car Now in Dhaka

Last month, Tijarah Motors limited imported the first hydrogen powered car in Bangladesh, the Toyota Mirai.

While the technology was interesting, the car was uninspiring to drive, according to many consumers and car enthusiasts and refueling was a major challenge.

Toyota’s second generation Mirai hydrogen FCEV is upon us, with a



sharp new look, a lower price, a better platform, more range, and updated technology.

The 2021 model is now bigger and built on the same RWD platform as the Lexus LS sedan, with seating for five.

The driving range has increased 30% over its predecessor, while power is up slightly, with 182hp and 300ft-lb of torque.

Its high-performance fuel cell is backed with a battery that also stores the braking energy.

The exterior is modern and sophisticated, and the RWD proportions are outstanding. The car looks futuristic and follows the same design language as Toyota’s flagship brand Lexus.

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Bangladesh in Talks with Saudi Company for 1GW Solar Project



Saudi sovereign wealth fund PIF holds a 44% stake, about a potential green hydrogen project, Salman F Rahman, MP, told Arab News.

"We have been talking with ACWA power for solar. In fact, ACWA power people were there in Bangladesh recently and they met our ministry of energy and they are negotiating a large solar project, a one gigawatt solar project. So, that is under negotiation," he said.

"We hope to conclude it soon and they will be signing an agreement pretty soon," he added.

Bangladesh has an installed capacity of 2.4 gigawatt, Rahman added, and the country needs more energy to expand the economy and attract investors. **EP**

Bangladesh is in talks with Saudi Energy company ACWA Power to develop a large solar project which would supply Southeast Asian nations with one gigawatt of electricity as it shifts towards more clean energy sources, said Salman F Rahman, MP, the private sector industry and investment adviser to the prime minister.

The country is also engaging in early talks with ACWA Power, in which the

Policy Support Needed for RE Development

Speakers at a webinar have urged the government to set the renewable energy as a priority sector to scale up its use saying that policy support is instrumental for its development.

"There're huge potentials for renewable energy, especially solar power, for different sectors, including irrigation, and motor vehicle recharging," said Munawar Misbah Moin, Vice President of Bangladesh Solar and Renewable Energy Association (BSREA).

The BSREA, a platform of private operators in solar and renewable energy business, organized the seminar titled "Energy Access & Resilience of Bangladesh - Potentials and Challenges" with its president Dipal Barua in the chair.

The organizers said the seminar was arranged in order to send its

outcomes to the "Blue Zone", the window and connector of people to COP26.

Chairman of Bangladesh Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (Sreda) Mohammad Aladdin and Energypac CEO and director Nurul Aktar also addressed the seminar. BSREA general secretary Data Magfur conducted the event.

Munawar Moin said solar home systems (SHSs) have been the best example of success in renewable energy as it illuminated 6 million homes across the country.

Now solar irrigation, solar chilling systems for rural industry, solar recharging stations for electric vehicles have new potential areas for renewable energy where it could be utilized for climate resiliency, he added. **EP**



Solar-Powered Insect Trap

Farmers of Patuakhali are getting the opportunity to use the solar-powered insect trap that kills most of the pests that wreak havoc on crops.

A solar-powered insect trap stores power in a battery, with which a bulb glows for four hours from sunset.

The harmful insects and flies hovering over the crops in search of food get



attracted to the bright light and perish on the toxic water kept in a tub beneath it.

The agricultural officials come to the fields in the morning and observe the dead insects in the water of the tub.

They identify the number of beneficial insects and harmful insects among the dead insects. Later, they advise the farmers to use pesticides in the field if the number of harmful insects is high.

Farmers are getting the opportunity to use this environment friendly technology for free and are benefiting from pest management.

However, the farmers and field-level agricultural officials said that the number of traps is lesser than needed. This technology has been proven to be beneficial to the farmers to protect the crop from the attack of harmful insects. **EP**

Efforts to Decarbonize RMG Sector Renewed



The development partners have renewed their commitment for IFC's Partnership for Cleaner Textile (PaCT II) program to support decarbonization of the readymade garment (RMG) sector in Bangladesh.

The Bangladesh RMG sector, now the second largest in the world, needs to accelerate recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 and improve sustainability and global competitiveness.

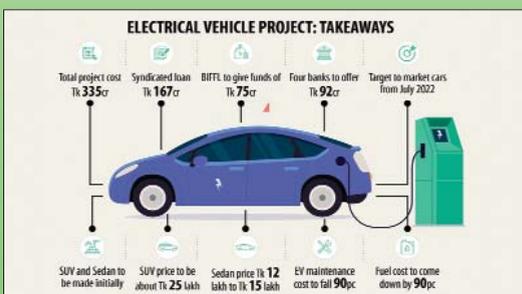
The government of Denmark, through the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), has committed

additional funds of \$3.19 million to enhance RMG sector-wide activities.

"The latest UN IPCC report on climate change has reminded us once again to take climate action now to keep the global average temperature to well below 2°C. The fashion industry alone contributes around 10 percent of global emissions. PaCT is supporting cleaner production and green growth in the RMG sector towards a sustainable Bangladesh," said Danish Ambassador to Bangladesh Winnie Estrup Petersen.

EP

Five Lenders Arrange Tk167cr for First EV Plant



Five banks and non-bank financial institutions are going to provide a syndicated loan of Tk 167 crore for the country's first electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing plant of Bangladesh Auto Industries Ltd (BAIL).

The proposed project's cost is estimated to be Tk 335 crore. The remaining amount will come from equity and foreign direct investment.

Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Ltd (BIFFL) is the loan's lead arranger. The others are Agrani Bank Ltd, Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd, Bangladesh Development Bank Ltd and First Security Islami Bank Ltd.

According to the BAIL, the BIFFL would contribute Tk 75 crore and the banks the rest Tk 92 crore.

A financing agreement between the BAIL and the financiers was signed at Dhaka Club recently.

The BAIL has almost completed setting up the factory on 100 acres of land at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar, Chattogram.

EP



30 Institutions to Get 'Green Factory Award'

A total of 30 institutions from six sectors will be given the 'Green Factory Award' this year for the first time, commemorating the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to handover the award as the chief guest at a function on December 8, said a handout recently.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has introduced the 'Green Factory Award, 2020' aiming at building Bangabandhu's 'Sonar Bangla' and



encouraging the local industrial institutions for competitive participation in the global arena.

From this year, the award will be given every year, the handout said, adding that under the policy formulated for the award, 30 institutions from six sectors have been selected considering some criteria related to labor quality such as essential compliance, environmental compliance, institutional compliance and innovative activities.

The institutions are 15 factories from garment sector, three institutions from food processing sector, and four from tea industry sector, two from leather industry sector, three from plastic sector and three from pharmaceutical industry sector.

EP

World Needs to Share Responsibilities of Climate Migrants: Hasina



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the world would have to share the responsibilities of the climate migrants, as she addressed the Scottish Parliament here at an event titled “Call for Climate Prosperity”.

“The world has to share the responsibilities of the climate migrants – the people displaced because of climate change induced natural events like sea-level rise, river erosion, increasing salinity, floods and draughts. The issue of loss and damage must be addressed properly,” she said.

The Prime Minister said Bangladesh already has six

million climatically displaced populations with an additional burden of 1.1 million Myanmar Rohingyas, adding that the COVID-19 pandemic has created additional challenges to address.

The premier was presenting the keynote speech titled “A Bangladesh Vision for Global Climate Prosperity” at the Committee Room, the Scottish Parliament recently.

Speaker Alison Johnstone received the Bangladesh premier on her arrival at the Scottish Parliament.

Sheikh Rehana and CVP Thematic Ambassador Saima Wazed Hossain were present. **EP**

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Adopted Strategy to Help Expedite RE Use: Nasrul Hamid

Nasrul Hamid has said that the adopted strategies would expedite use of clean and renewable energy alongside its expansion and diversify.

“In Bangladesh adopted strategies for expansion of renewable energy have been playing effective role to diversify of clean energy use,” he said this while addressing COP26 Energy Transition Council (COP26 ETC) Ministerial Event in Glasgow on 4 November.

Nasrul said that advanced

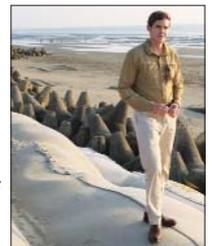


technology, research and financial coordination are needed to ensure massive expansion of renewable energy, adding, “Working together to increase capacity must be required.”

He said that Bangladesh wants to work together with the Energy Transition Council and all concerned for expansion of clean energy. **EP**

Wärtsilä Makes 2030 Carbon Neutral Pledge

Finnish marine technology firm Wärtsilä has set a goal of becoming carbon neutral in its own operations and of providing products that will be ready for zero carbon fuels by 2030.



Wärtsilä’s “Set for 30” carbon neutrality commitment covers direct greenhouse gas emissions from the company’s own operations, including the research and development and factory engine testing areas, as well as purchased energy.

The second key climate target relates to Wärtsilä’s product portfolio and its readiness for zero carbon fuels by 2030. In July this year, the company launched a major test program towards carbon-free solutions with hydrogen and ammonia fuels.

According to Wärtsilä, its current portfolio already enables its customers to switch to carbon neutral fuels, such as biofuels or synthetic methane. The transition to carbon neutral or carbon free fuels will happen gradually once these become available, the company said.

This is a natural step in our aim to shape the decarbonization of marine and energy

Håkan Agnevall, president and CEO of Wärtsilä, commented: “These new ambitious Set for 30 climate targets demonstrate our commitment to our purpose of enabling sustainable societies. Our aim is to support our customers on their decarbonisation journey, thereby shaping a sustainable future for the marine and energy sectors. Our products, solutions and services will meet stringent environmental requirements, and the fuel flexibility of our engines powering these sectors is key for enabling the transformation. In parallel, we also need to do our part as an organisation and minimise our own environmental footprint.” **EP**

US to Confront Climate Crisis with Bangladesh: Miller



US Ambassador to Bangladesh Earl Miller has said his country will confront the global warming crisis with Bangladesh through supporting the country’s climate change adaptation endeavors.

“The climate crisis is here. This is not a challenge for future generations. Together, we must

confront it today,” he said. The envoy made the comment when visiting the US government climate resilience projects in Cox’s Bazar.

He also traveled to St. Martin’s Island to assess the effects of climate change and learn about local adaptation efforts while COP26 continues in Glasgow, a US embassy press release said here recently.

“COP26 in Glasgow is a pivotal moment at the start of this decisive decade to tackle the climate crisis,” Miller said **EP**

CONTRACT SIGNING BETWEEN FOOD MINISTRY AND
CONFIDENCE INFRASTRUCTURE AND GSI, USA JV
CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL SILO AT NARAYANGANJ



Hasina Holds Talks with Prince Charles, Bill Gates



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently held talks with her apparent to the British throne Prince Charles and US business magnates and philanthropists Bill Gates and Melinda Gates on climate change and development issues on COP26 sidelines.

Briefing newsmen on the premier's engagements, foreign minister Dr AK Abdul Momen said during the talks with the two global figures, she highlighted Bangladesh challenges, initiatives and demands to face the climate change impacts.

He said Charles was accompanied by representatives of four major banks including the HSBC

while the Prince of Wales, who undertakes official duties on behalf of the Queen, talked about private sector engagements in the climate issues.

"They want private sectors to be involved in the climate issues," Momen said, adding that during the meeting the premier gave some proposals seeking investment in renewable energy sector, particularly in offshore wind energy and building embankments and roads along the coastal belts and riversides.

Sheikh Hasina told the meeting that her government took a bold decision to scrap 10 coal-based power plants involving US\$12 billion foreign investment, reflecting Bangladesh's willingness to concentrate on renewable energy in the interest of environment.

The Charles-led delegation said they would examine the proposals visiting Bangladesh as they wanted to participate in Bangladesh's development process. **EP**

StanChart Develops Its Energy Transition Desk

The Standard Chartered Bank recently outlined the growth of its Energy Transition Desk in line with its recent announcement of how the bank will meet its commitment to reach net zero carbon emissions in its financial activity by 2050, says a statement.

Standard Chartered's Energy Transition business will initially encompass carbon trading on the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) and Financial Natural Gas

trading, bringing them together onto a single desk.

Launched in August, the desk has assisted numerous clients in their needs across the global gas markets and European ETS, helping them manage the current extreme volatility seen in European and Asian gas markets, as well as strong moves in the Henry Hub and European ETS.

Over the course of the remainder 2021 and into 2022, its scope of activities will be increased to cover physical gas, other mandatory emissions schemes, and the voluntary carbon markets. **EP**

Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan to be Implemented in 2030, Says Saima Wazed



Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan' which has been presented at the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) will be implemented in 2030 and it needs local and foreign funds.

Saima Wazed Hossain, chairperson of the National Advisory Committee on Autism and Neuro Developmental Disorders and World Health Organization's (WHO) Goodwill Ambassador for Southeast Asia, took part in a discussion on the sidelines of Glasgow Climate Conference recently. She briefed representatives of different countries following the discussion. **EP**

Saima Wazed said 'Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan', under the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), will pave the way for tackling climate change and Bangladesh is working to that end.

"If we can implement the plan properly, we will be able to solve the problems related to climate change," Saima Wazed told reporters. **EP**

Contracted Foreign Suppliers Slash LNG Sale to Bangladesh

Contracted foreign suppliers slash LNG sale to Bangladesh as spot-market prices are overshooting contract rates, it is alleged, amid a sort of gambling with energy on the global market to cash in on post-corona business rebound.

Sources said the long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) suppliers are providing a minimum quantity of the gas to state-run Petrobangla as the contract price of the fuel is cheaper than spot-market rates.

"The suppliers prefer trading in LNG on the volatile spot market where prices surged around fivefold the LNG price under term deals," said one source.

They supplied maximum quantities of LNG to Bangladesh during last year when the spot price of the liquefied gas was lower compared to the prices

agreed upon under term deals, market-insiders said.

Qatar's Qatargas and Oman's Oman Trading International (OTI) are the long-term suppliers of LNG to Bangladesh.

One of them supplied around 128,000 cubic meter of LNG with a single cargo recently to Petrobangla. On the contrary, they had supplied as high as 150,000 cubic meters of LNG with a single cargo during their 'favorable' price of LNG, they added.

The regular size of an LNG cargo is 138,000 cubic meters. Under long-term deals with Qatargas and OTI, the purchase prices for Bangladesh range up to US\$11 per million British thermal unit (MMBTU), according to the latest price as on October 25, 2021. **EP**



Hasina Joins World Leaders for 'Last, Best Hope' Climate Summit

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has joined the world leaders in UK's Glasgow for what is dubbed as "last, best hope" climate summit against the backdrop of growing worries about the fate of the planet earth.

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the UN Secretary-General António Guterres have been greeting world leaders as they arrive

in Glasgow as they met around 120 world leaders with fist bumps as the COP26 summit prepares to get into full swing.

Sheikh Hasina attended the event as a key-stakeholder being the chair of 48-nation Climate Vulnerable Forum's (CVF) with demands seeking richer nations' recognition to climate vulnerable countries need. **EP**

Hasina Asks Developed Nations to Submit Plans to Cut Emissions



Prim Minister Sheikh Hasina has urged the developed countries to submit their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in line with their obligations under the 2015 Paris Agreement and implement those to cut carbon emissions to

negate climate change impacts.

"The major emitters must submit ambitious NDCs, and implement those," she said in her first proposal, out of four, while giving the national statement at the 26th Session of the

Developed Nations Lack Sincerity in Promised Climate Financing: Hasan

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud has said the developed countries still lack sincerity and willingness in providing their pledged financing to help combat climate change.

He called upon the developed nations to provide equal funds for mitigating the consequences of natural disasters induced by climate change and adapting to the changing environment.

Hasan, also the Awami League joint general secretary, made the call while speaking at a discussion at Bangladesh pavilion on the sidelines of the Conference of Parties (COP)-26 in Glasgow of Scotland.

Centre for Climate Change **EP**



and Environmental Research (C3ER) of BRAC University arranged the event on 'Transparency Mechanism in Paris Agreement: Issues, Concerns and Opportunities for Effective Implementation'.

Chaired by C3ER advisor Dr Ainun Nishat, the meeting was addressed, among others, by member of Parliamentary Committee on Climate Change Tanvir Shakil Joy, secretary of Economic Relations Division Fatima Yasmin and environmental experts Dr Gary Fox, Dr Saleemul Haq and Dr Atiq Rahman. **EP**

Conference of the Parties (COP26) joined by some 120 leaders of developed and developing countries.

She said compromising its development needs Bangladesh updated its NDC, scrapping 10 coal-based power plants projects involving US\$12 billion foreign investment and setting a roadmap to have 40 percent of the country's energy from renewable sources by 2041 alongside various other measures.

Sheikh Hasina, also chair of the 48-nation Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and V20 (The Vulnerable20), demanded developed countries fulfil their commitments of providing US\$100 billion

annually with a 50:50 balance between adaptation and mitigation.

The Bangladesh premier's third proposal sought transfer of developed world's clean and green technology at affordable costs to the most vulnerable countries reminding the developed nations that CVF countries also need development.

"The issue of loss and damage must be addressed, including global sharing of responsibility for climate migrants displaced by sea-level rise, salinity increase, river erosion, floods, and draughts," she said in her fourth proposal. **EP**

Sheikh Hasina Blames Major Emitters for Breaking Funding Pledges



"the major greenhouse gas emitting countries have failed to deliver their promised annual 100 billion dollars".

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and CVF Thematic

Ambassador Saima Wazed Hossain also addressed the dialogue titled "Climate Vulnerable Forum Leaders' Dialogue: Forging a CVF-COP26 Climate Emergency Pact" at COP26 venue in the Scottish city.

The Bangladesh premier once again reminded the major emitting countries about the extra vulnerability of the 48 CVF member states while presiding over the dialogue.

Sheikh Hasina said the vulnerable countries were trying to tackle the debacle adopting plans with own resources.

EP

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently said the non-delivery of promised funds by major carbon emitting developed countries exposed climate vulnerable poorer nations to a state of more helplessness.

"This is an unfortunate dilemma, and for survival, we have been swayed to adopt measures on our own to face the devastating consequences of climate change," she said at a 48-nation CVF leaders' dialogue as the forum chair on COP26 sidelines.

Sheikh Hasina called the situation "saddening and disappointing" as until now

Bangladesh Adds Voice to End Global Deforestation

Bangladesh has signed the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, where the country pledged to end or reduce deforestation by 2030.

"We have signed the declaration on forests and land use, and our name has been updated to the list," Md Moniruzzaman, additional secretary to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, told a coordination meeting with the delegates at the Bangladesh pavilion in Glasgow recently.

Over 100 countries,

representing 85% of the world's forests, made a commitment to end deforestation by 2030 at the ongoing United Nations Climate Conference in Glasgow on 2 November.

Bangladesh stayed away from the deforestation deal signed at the COP26 summit arguing that the country's constitution already provides clear and specific guidelines on preservation of forests, several delegates said.

In the wake of widespread criticism at home, the country later decided to add its voice to the international deforestation chorus

EP

UK Announces £120m to Support Climate Action in Bangladesh

COP26 President Alok Sharma has announced £120 million to support climate action in Bangladesh.

The new program for Bangladesh, from 2021 to 2027, will scale up locally-led adaptation, expand renewable energy, tackle pollution and waste, and develop and empower the next generation of climate leaders.

The funding for the Bangladesh Climate and Environment Program will help build resilience, prevent pollution, protect biodiversity, strengthen renewable energy and better manage waste, while also supporting women's access to finance, education and skills in Bangladesh.

He also announced how a £165 million of UK funding will tackle climate change, including by addressing the gender inequalities that make women and girls more vulnerable to climate change, and by empowering women and girls to be leaders in climate action.

Speaking from COP26 in Glasgow, Alok Sharma said gender and climate are profoundly intertwined.

"We see that in terms of the impact of climate change, which affects women and girls disproportionately. And we see it in terms of tackling climate change, where we know our efforts are more effective when women and girls are at their hearts," he said.

EP

Australia Interested to Help Bangladesh Build Climate Resilience



He said both the leaders discussed the cooperation between the two countries and they particularly emphasized the importance of climate cooperation and Rohingya repatriation issues.

Australia has shown keen interest to help Bangladesh over Rohingya repatriation and building climate resilience.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison came up with the message while holding a bilateral meeting with his Bangladeshi counterpart, Sheikh Hasina, on the sidelines of COP26 held recently.

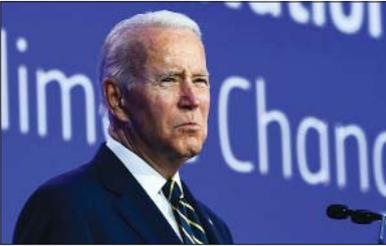
"The bilateral meeting was held at the invitation of the Australian Prime Minister," said PM's press secretary Ihsanul Karim said.

The Australian prime minister said his country will help Bangladesh, especially in climate resilience building and Rohingya repatriation.

Sheikh Hasina said Bangladesh is a climate vulnerable country and Australia is also experiencing extreme climate events, including bushfire, floods, coral reef bleaching. "Both the countries can work closely to build resilience against the impacts of climate change," she said.

EP

Biden Apologizes for Trump Exit from Climate Accord



US President Joe Biden has apologized to world leaders for his predecessor Donald Trump's withdrawal from a global climate accord and said fighting the crisis should be seen as an economic opportunity.

In a reference to Trump, who withdrew from the Paris climate deal on world action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Biden told the COP26 summit in Glasgow that he was sorry.

"I guess I shouldn't apologize

but I do apologize for the fact that the United States in the last administration pulled out of the Paris Accords and put us sort of behind the eight ball a little bit," he said, noting that one

of his first actions on taking office this January was to re-enter the accord.

Trump had argued that the Paris accord killed jobs.

But in his main speech to the UN COP26 summit in Glasgow, Biden said that fighting climate change will boost, not hurt economies.

"Within the growing catastrophe I believe there's an incredible opportunity -- not just for the United States, but for all of us," he said in his speech to the summit. **EP**

IRENA Partners with AOSIS to Accelerate Energy Transition in SIDS

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) on November 8 signed an agreement at COP26, known as 'Adaptation Day', that will see the two organizations work closely to mobilize climate finance and to advance the deployment of renewable energy across Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

According to IRENA analysis on the first round of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) conducted in 2019, around USD 16 billion of financing is needed by 2030 to achieve the respective targets of SIDS.

In September this year, AOSIS and IRENA through the SIDS Lighthouse Initiative committed to achieving a total of 10 GW installed renewable energy capacity in all SIDS by 2030 under a joint energy compact submitted to the UN. At the end of 2020, around 6 GW of renewables were operational in SIDS.

The signing ceremony took place at the AOSIS pavilion – the first time the Alliance has secured a space for small island representation at COP – between IRENA Director-General Francesco La Camera and H.E. Mr. Molwyn Joseph, Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment of Antigua and Barbuda and Chair of AOSIS. **EP**

100% Carbon Offsetting for 1bn Liters of UK Fuel

The UK's biggest supplier of fuel cards - the payment system that van and lorry drivers use to buy fuel - is launching a new service that can offset 100% of the carbon its customers currently release from the 1 billion liters of fuel they use each year.

UK Fuels, owned by Radius Payment Solutions, has partnered with UK-government endorsed carbon offsetting company Forest Carbon to invest in renewable energy projects.

The new carbon offsetting service will benefit the 76,000 British businesses of all kinds which use fuel cards

from UK Fuels, the 500,000 drivers who work for them and of course their customers.

Businesses which take up the new service can reduce their carbon footprint and support their social and environmental responsibilities while avoiding the risk of wasted investment in ineffective offsetting schemes.

UK Fuels has pledged not to take any profits from the new biodegradable 'Radius Future' fuel card. Companies will pay 1 penny on each litre of standard fuel, which will be invested by both Forest Carbon and UK Fuels. **EP**

Solar Impulse Foundation Presents New Tools

While the world's leaders gathered in Glasgow to discuss the global effort to fight climate change, the Solar Impulse Foundation and

Bertrand Piccard was there presenting new tools to enable them to adopt more ambitious environmental policies.

These tools are the result of five years of searching, analyzing and promoting more than 1300 products, processes, and services that protect the environment in a profitable way.

To search through all these solutions, the Foundation launches the Solutions Explorer. It offers a one-of-a-kind search engine that showcases climate solutions from all over the world



which are part of an ever-growing, curated, and publicly-accessible database.

Businesses, public authorities, and individuals can navigate the Solutions Explorer to help them work towards their climate objectives in a cost-competitive and profitable manner. Its filtering tool enables Solutions to be selected based on sectors, clients, applications, environmental benefits, and technologies. It allows the user to discover new and efficient ways of producing, consuming, and valuing resources. **EP**

COMMONERS BEAR THE BRUNT OF PETROLEUM PRICE HIKE. WHO CARES?

Reverse Swing



Farid Hossain

There have been flurry of arguments and counter arguments in favour and against the recent 23% hike in diesel and kerosene prices. The state-run Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) has defended the Nov. 3 midnight move as necessary to lessen the burden of subsidies the government pays in this sector. The hike has also been blamed on the oil price rise in the international market. Another argument has been that diesel and kerosene are smuggled to India too since these petroleum products are cheaper in Bangladesh compared to the price in the neighboring country. In further defense of its sudden step, BPC reminded the public that it had been incurring a loss of Tk 20 crore a day because of international price hike.

The critics, however, have argued that the hike by Tk. 15 a liter (from Tk. 65 to 80) has been too big a leap made at one go. This could well have been done in phases making the increase bearable to the consumers keeping in mind the fact that a rise in petroleum prices also leads to a snowball effect in nearly all sectors of the economy. Critics also have strongly maintained that BPC did not lower the prices for about seven years when the oil was selling much cheaper in the global market. During those years it had earned a huge amount of profit so much that the government, under a newly-enacted law, took the money from it to finance development projects. Had that profit money not taken by the government, BPC could have avoided making this unusually high hike of the now-costly imports. According to them the state-run agency has the capacity to continue with subsidizing the petroleum prices for a few

more months with going for the unsavory price hike at a time when the mass people are either paying more from their wallets to buy the daily essentials or buying less that they need for a living.

Yet another argument from the critics has been on the legal front. They refer to the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC), set up under a law enacted in 2003.

The critics, however, have argued that the hike by Tk. 15 a liter (from Tk. 65 to 80) has been too big a leap made at one go. This could well have been done in phases making the increase bearable to the consumers keeping in mind the fact that a rise in petroleum prices also leads to a snowball effect in nearly all sectors of the economy.

The law clearly states that electricity tariffs and prices of downstream petroleum products should be fixed by the energy regulator, BERC, through public hearings. BERC, is a regulatory agency that regulates the gas, electricity and petroleum products in the country. Let's recall here a public hearing BERC held in January this year when the price of LPG was re-fixed. Then why has BPC bypassed

the public hearing as prescribed by the law of the land in the latest case of a highly controversial hike in diesel and kerosene? Is it a case of violation of law? Can this issue be taken to the court? Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB), a non-profit consumer rights group, thinks so. It has vowed to take the issue to the court. Let's wait and see what happens next.

But the next is already happening on the streets. Soon after the price hike, transports across Bangladesh halted demanding that they be allowed to raise fares. Without giving any notice the owners, joined by workers, went on a strike (even though they don't call it so), on a day (Friday) when lakhs of students and job-seekers were supposed to sit in different examinations, crucial for their future. Many failed to make to the exam centers. The government did not waste time to yield to the transport owners' undue pressure and agreed to raise the fares ranging from 26% to 35% transferring the entire load to passengers who are none but the commoners (who account for the country's majority) but not those few who make decisions sitting in air-conditioned rooms (even during winter) and drive to offices in either government transports or latest-brand private cars.

When the commoner goes to the kitchen markets he/she knows how deep the pain is. When the commoner tries to take a bus he/she know how unforgiving life can be. Still, life goes on regardless of what happens to the common (ordinary) people. Still, we are made used to see and tolerate the rich and the powerful to become more powerful at the cost of the governed. But how long? Won't there be a backlash?

EP

মহাসেতুর বুক ভোগে অমো ভরমা



বসুন্ধারা এল. পি. গ্যাস লিমিটেড-এ যুক্ত হয়েছে বিশ্বমানের প্রযুক্তি নিয়ে প্রথম বাংলাদেশের পতাকাবাহী এলপিগ্যাস ক্যারিয়ার “বসুন্ধারা এলপিগ্যাস চ্যালেন্জার”। শুরু হয়েছে-“শিপ টু শিপ ড্রাগফার”। ৪৪০০০ মেট্রিকটন সক্ষমতার বিশাল এ জাহাজ আমাদের গর্ব, আমাদের সকল গ্রাহকের অধিকার।



ভরমা রাখুন স্বাস্থ্যকে থাকুন

হটলাইন: ১৬৩৩৯

No More Barrier to Implement Paris Agreement

Thanks to the relentless efforts made by the United Kingdom, the host country of the COP26, that the Glasgow Climate Pact could be adopted. It was a major milestone achieved over the past six years. Deadlocks of negotiations could be over and the Rule Book could be finalized. There are no more impediments to start implementation of the Paris Agreement. However, there is a delicate balance between the interest and aspiration in the deal.

Climate expert Nurul Quadir, a former Additional Secretary of Bangladesh government and now a faculty member of North South University, made the observation in an exclusive interview with Energy & Power Editor **Mollah Amzad Hossain**.

How would you evaluate the achievements of the Glasgow Climate Summit?

The Climate Pact declared at Glasgow has successfully resolved the deadlock of negotiations prolonged for over the past 6 years. The Act has signaled the official commencement of the implementation of the Paris Agreement. But we cannot say as yet that all issues have been resolved. But it is undoubtedly a giant positive step for the future. Agreement has been reached for global stocktaking every 5 years. It was possible to agree to a common format for registering the report. That would facilitate flow of similar climate related information for all countries. Every country talked loudly about achieving global warming restrictions below 1.5 degree C. This would help confront the challenges of achieving the target.

Global Geopolitics is about climate issues. The negotiations have been going on for 20 years. How do you look at it?

Any international summit experiences divergent views and opinions. In the days of multilateralism, every group tried achieving the goals from their own perspectives. This is more vibrant in climate negotiations. Final decisions cannot be taken without meeting the minds of all parties. Similarly a single country or a particular group of countries cannot take decisions. All stakeholders have to negotiate for arriving at a consensus.

This was the 26th event of the UN Climate Summit or Conference of Parties (COP). The Paris Agreement was the culmination of the Kyoto Protocol. In 2015 two milestone achievements were made. These were the SDG and Disaster Management Protocol. At the initial stage, there was a general perception that climate concerns did not have scientific basis. But experts observed that it does not matter. If we feel that this might happen, we must take required precautions. Based on such feelings, we discussed it during the first conference and the IPCC was created. Energy policy and energy politics were there. The countries, which relied on imported fuel, were keen to resolve the climate issues at that stage. But those blessed with their own fuel were reluctant.

We participated in the COP26 in accordance with IPCC guidelines. At a stage of the conference, big countries divided into groups and formed blocks - the USA was in one and the EU in



Nurul Quadir

Bangladesh has no obligation to submit NDC. None was bothering as we were among the LDCs. There is nothing about submitting financial statement. Still Bangladesh submitted an enhanced NDC. It was also submitted earlier. Much greater was achieved than what was committed in earlier submitted NDC. But the target of financial assistance could not be achieved. It would be great if Bangladesh can achieve it now.

another. The convention is actually a frame of convention and not the entire convention. But the frame of convention was concluded as indicators, policy guidelines and objectives are all included in that.

COP is a forum where decisions need to be taken on consensus of all and not on majority decision. It is being said that Article 6 could be narrowed down. What does it actually mean?

At Katowice in Poland, we made a breakthrough. The article 6 remained outstanding. World leaders left nothing unturned to create consensus this time.



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There is politics here. The Paris Agreement could be concluded as France and its allies were desperate for it. The CVF also tried their best. In COP26, host UK and allies tried to achieve success. That is why some achievements could be made. But the Rule Book finalization and commencement of works on its basis may not be made.

Only 2 days are left before the conclusion of COP26. What would happen to the carbon mechanism?

I have reasonable doubt about achieving carbon mechanism 6.2. But 6.8 non-market mechanism is important for us, where there can be some progress. Carbon Market Mechanism per CDM formulated in accordance with the Kyoto Protocol was supposed to end by 2020 in accordance with the Paris Agreement. But it could be done. Because the CDM rule has no mention about when it would end and how it would end. The LDC group does not want it to end. But Africans want the end of it. It is also unclear who would get the points – whether it is the donor country which provides money to a country for reducing emission or the host country? Now both parties are claiming this. That is where the double counting came. Some countries also brought the issues of emission reduction under previous CDM.

The USA participated full-fledged in COP26 for the first time after Paris. I told earlier that the UK and its allies want to achieve something at COP26. The USA also wants to see what has happened. John Kerry, special climate envoy of the US president, appeared vocal right from the onset. The USA and China have issued a joint statement. But there have been no talks about loss and damage.

Loss and damage mechanism was introduced from Warsaw. Santiago network followed it up. A temporary secretariat was supposed to be set up from COP26. Scotland has declared to contribute US\$1 million for it. What do you expect?

Some achievements would be made of what LDCs and other groups are demanding. First was deciding on a

framework. Fortunately we could do that. The next is governance for it. There is a debate about CMA or COP doing it. Decision needs to be taken whether CMA or COP alone would do it. LDCs want both CMA and COP to govern. But the USA and its allies want only the CMA to govern. Third is the financing. Scotland committing US\$1 million is a positive indicator. Loss and damage financing has been discussed at Glasgow. Meeting of minds between G77 plus China is also a positive development.

The Heads of government of 123 countries joined the COP26. Is there anything new?

There were possibilities that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US

The USA participated full-fledged in COP26 for the first time after Paris. I told earlier that the UK and its allies want to achieve something at COP26. The USA also wants to see what has happened. John Kerry, special climate envoy of the US president, appeared vocal right from the onset.

President Joe Biden would not come. But they both came. China was thought not to join, but they did. These were positive outcomes. There is a feeling now that something would happen. But it is not that COP26 would achieve everything. But negotiations in the leaders summit has created new dynamism.

Bangladesh has submitted an enhanced NDC. US\$176 billion would be required to implement this by 2030. Can it be achieved? Can Bangladesh attract global assistance for it?

Bangladesh has no obligation for NDC. None was bothering as we were among the LDCs. There is nothing about submitting financial statement. Still Bangladesh submitted an enhanced

NDC. It was also submitted earlier. Much greater was achieved than what was committed in earlier submitted NDC. But the target of financial assistance could not be achieved. It would be great if Bangladesh can achieve it now.

The first IPCC report stated that 45% carbon emission reduction by 2030 would be required for meeting the target of 1.5C global warming limit. But even if the present NDCs are implemented, carbon emission would increase by 17%. Do you find any pathway of getting out of the situation in the current COP negotiations?

One of the major issues of discussion in the ongoing COP was finding a pathway for restricting global warming below 1.5 degree C and reducing emission. But till now consensus for a pathway could not be reached. This means the NDCs submitted by countries would not be enough. Fresh enhanced NDCs would be required. G20 countries have to take the leading role. Global warming cannot be restricted below 1.5C unless China takes greater initiative for this. But there is tremendous pressure for it. Pressure groups are working right across the globe.

US\$100 billion was supposed to be contributed to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) every year from 2020. Oxfam said it has contributed about \$20-22 billions. OECD report states of US\$ 80 billions. What is the progress?

Developed countries have failed in contributing US\$ 100 billion so far. It would not happen in 2021 as well. US\$ 500 billions would be required over the next 5 years. It would be essential for filling up the gap. The countries wanted time till 2023. But contributing US\$100 billions each year is a consensus decision. There is no scope for moving out from it now.

Finally, what actually has the world achieved from COP26?

Five Countries together contributed US\$ 300-350 millions in the adaptation board. It is a significant achievement for adaptation. But we have to wait until the conclusion of the COP26 to assess other achievements.



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