

# ENERGY & POWER

## #COP29

NOVEMBER 11-22



# Reneging On Rhetoric

- The Promise To Mobilize \$1.0tn More Is Vague
- Energy Sector Reform In 100 Days Of Interim Govt
- Climate Summit In Baku Brings Little Cheer For Bangladesh

# Meghnaghat 718 MW (net) CCPP

*Bangladesh's largest gas based Power Plant*



For providing clean, green & sustainable energy

**JERA Meghnaghat Power Ltd**

---

# Electricity does not come with a compromise, nor does your Safety.

## Buy genuine ABB products

To ensure electrical safety in your system, choose only genuine & authentic ABB products.

For any kind of your requirement please reach us :

ABB Limited, The Glass House (12th Floor)

38 Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212

Tel. +8802 226601860, +8802 226601870

Mobile: +88 01755-642051, +88 01714-110493, +88 01755-642053

Email : [info@bd.abb.com](mailto:info@bd.abb.com)

Web: [new.abb.com/bd](http://new.abb.com/bd)



# ENERGIZING TODAY

# EMPOWERING TOMORROW

## SUPPLYING NATURAL GAS TO BANGLADESH'S GROWING ECONOMY

From Boston to Bangladesh, Excelerate Energy is transforming markets with clean energy.

Since 2018, our LNG import terminals in the Bay of Bengal have helped increase Bangladesh's natural gas supply. Today, we are delivering approximately 20% of the country's natural gas.

Excelerate Energy will continue to support the country's economic growth well into the future by helping bring reliable access to more affordable natural gas volumes to both new and existing customers.

[www.excelerateenergy.com](http://www.excelerateenergy.com)



**EXCELERATE  
ENERGY**

Editor  
Mollah M Amzad Hossain

Advisory Editor  
Anwarul Islam Tarek  
Mortuza Ahmad Faruque  
Saiful Amin

International Editor  
Dr. Nafis Ahmed

Contributing Editor  
Saleque Sufi

Online Editor  
GSM Shamsuzzoha (Nasim)

Managing Editor  
Afroza Akther Pervin

North America Correspondent  
Arunima Hossain

Editor - Digital Content  
Aditya Hossain

Manager A & A  
Md. Ariful Islam

Design & Graphics  
Md. Monirul Islam

Photography  
Bulbul Ahmed

Production  
Mufazzal Hossain Joy

Computer Graphics  
Md. Uzzal Hossain

Circulation Assistant  
Harunur Rashid

#### Editorial, News & Commercial

Room 509, Eastern Trade Center  
56 Inner Circular Road (VIP Road)  
Naya Paltan. GPO Box : 677  
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh  
Tel & Fax : 88-02-58314532  
Email: ep@dhaka.net  
energypower@gmail.com  
Website: www.ep-bd.com

#### Price

Bangladesh: Tk 100, SAARC: US\$ 9,  
Asia: US\$ 12, Europe: US\$ 15, North  
America, Africa & Australia: US\$ 21



## EDITORIAL

The climate deal reached at COP29 on November 24, after tense negotiations in Baku, Azerbaijan, left many developing nations feeling let down. Wealthy countries committed to providing \$300 billion annually in climate finance, a figure many vulnerable nations say falls far short of what's needed. Earlier, wealthier nations had proposed \$250 billion, but the G77 and China bloc pushed back, demanding \$600 billion a year by 2030. Developed nations, however, called this demand unrealistic, further exposing deep divisions over who should bear the financial burden of addressing climate change. The talks also highlighted disagreements over the role of emerging economies like China, with developed nations urging them to shoulder more of the responsibility. While some progress was made—such as advancing adaptation measures and putting Article 6 of the Paris Agreement into action—key discussions on phasing out fossil fuels and setting ambitious emission-reduction targets were left unresolved. Unlike COP28 in Dubai, this year's summit fell short on mitigation commitments. UN Secretary-General Antnyio Guterres described the deal as a step forward but criticized its lack of ambition.

Looking ahead to COP30, bridging the gap between developed and developing nations will be crucial. Achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement will require a renewed focus on boosting climate financing, sharing responsibilities more fairly, and creating stronger plans to cut emissions. Wealthier nations, in particular, need to step up, not just to honor their commitments but to match the scale of the challenges faced by the most vulnerable communities worldwide.

## h i g h l i g h t s

## COVER



37

The lone success, if any want to say, is operationalizing the Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Yet there is a lack of transparency in data sharing by developed countries. On the other hand, the amount of US\$300 billion to be delivered by 2035 was inadequate relative to minimum needs... Prof. Dr. Mizan R Khan tells EP



19

Sixty-two million people in the Asia-Pacific region lack electricity and nearly 1.1 billion do without clean cooking fuels and technologies. Women are the most acutely impacted by energy deficits, and therefore closing the gaps in energy access is a major step forward in addressing gender inequalities. However, women's voices are not heard in discussions on resource allocation and policy prioritization .... More in Special Article



9

The world approved a bitterly negotiated climate deal on 24 November, but poorer nations, most vulnerable to worsening disasters, dismissed a \$300 billion annual pledge from wealthy, historic polluters as insultingly low. After two exhausting weeks of chaotic bargaining and sleepless nights, nearly 200 nations finalized the contentious finance pact in the early hours in Baku, Azerbaijan.



**INSPIRED  
BY ACHIEVEMENT  
WE MOVE  
FORWARD**

Energypac has achieved the prestigious status of **Superbrands 2023-2024**



# Greenpage

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.

## Contents



- 31** Govt to Float Tenders for RE Projects Soon: Energy Adviser
- 32** Bangladesh Lags Behind Rooftop Solar Race
- 33** Chinese Investors Interested in Bangladesh's Power, Green Energy Sectors
- 33** Azerbaijan Breaks Ground on 240 MW Solar Plant

## Contents

- 5** **WORLD WATCH**  
Latest Development In World
- 6** **SNAPSHOT**  
Latest Development
- 9** **COVER**  
Reneging On Rhetoric
- 15** **ARTICLE**  
Energy Sector Reform In 100 Days Of Interim Govt
- 19** **SPECIAL ARTICLE**  
ESCAP Expert Opinion  
Gender Equality Enables Just Energy Transition
- 23** **ARTICLE**  
Bangladesh Gender Action Plan 2024 & Climate Change Adaptation
- 25** **REPORT**  
Yunus Calls for Creating South Asian Power Grid
- 27** Tender for Gas Pipeline from Bhola to Dhaka to be Issued in Dec: Energy Adviser
- 28** BIMSTEC Energy Centre in Bengaluru to Promote Energy Security in Region
- 29** Paid Tk 20cr Bribe for Gas Connection During AL Regime: Commerce Adviser
- 34** **CLIMATE**  
Climate Vulnerable Countries Require Enough Support: CA
- 35** Chief Adviser for 'Zero Carbon'-Based Life-Style to Save Planet
- 36** Dream to Achieve Goals in Life, Prof Yunus Tells Youths at COP29
- 37** **INTERVIEW**  
Prof. Dr. Mizan R Khan  
Technical Lead, LDC  
Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC)
- 39** **COLUMN**  
Climate Summit In Baku Brings Little Cheer For Bangladesh

## Kenya Cancels Airport, Energy Deals with Adani Group



**K**enya's president said recently he has cancelled multimillion-dollar airport expansion and energy deals with Indian tycoon Gautam Adani after U.S. bribery and fraud indictments against one of Asia's richest men.

President William Ruto in a state of the nation address said the decision was made "based on new information provided by our investigative agencies and partner nations." He didn't specify the United States.

The Adani group had been in the process of signing an agreement that would modernize Kenya's main airport in the capital, Nairobi, with an additional runway and terminal constructed, in exchange for

the group running the airport for 30 years.

The widely criticized deal had sparked anti-Adani protests in Kenya and a strike by airport workers, who said it would lead to degraded working conditions and job losses in some cases.

The Adani group had also been awarded a deal to construct power transmission lines in Kenya, East Africa's business hub.

Also, Energy Minister Opiyo Wandayi told a parliamentary committee there had been no bribery or corruption involved on Kenya's part in signing that deal.

U.S. prosecutors indicted Adani this week on charges he duped investors in a massive solar energy project in India by concealing that it was facilitated by an alleged bribery scheme. He was charged with securities fraud and conspiracy to commit securities and wire fraud.

## Oil India to Begin Exploration with Newly Arrived Rig



**O**il India Ltd. has started long-term exploration offshore India with the arrival of the Blackford Dolphin deepwater semisubmersible rig.

The Dolphin Drilling AS rig arrived in Indian waters in

October and has since completed customs clearance and client acceptance. Indian offshore drilling contractor Dynamic Drilling will perform drilling operations on the rig.

The rig contract spans a firm three-well drilling campaign over 14 months with a firm value of \$154 million for the rig and associated services, plus an optional period for 7 months.

## MOL Group to Explore in Kazakhstan

**M**OL Group signed a cooperation agreement with Kazakhstani national oil company KazMunayGas (KMG) to jointly explore oil, gas, and petrochemical opportunities.



The agreement's key priority is the expansion of the existing exploration and production cooperation and the application of MOL technology in Kazakhstan to increase the yield of mature producing fields and the sale of produced hydrocarbons in Europe.

In addition to this, the partners will seek opportunities of potential petrochemical project

concepts in Kazakhstan. Also, the two companies are looking for possible import of Kazakh crude oil to Europe and Hungary.

KMG and MOL Group worked together in Rozhkovskoye gas and gas-condensate field. The field was discovered in 2008 and after exploration and appraisal, five out of nine drilled wells were successfully re-completed for production.

## Adani's Australian Coal Unit Faces Human Rights Complaint

**I**ndia's Adani Group, whose billionaire chairman has been indicted for fraud by US prosecutors, is facing accusations of racism at its Australian coal unit after an Aboriginal group filed a complaint with the country's Human Rights Commission.



The Nagana Yarrbayn Wangan & Jagalingou Cultural Custodians in Queensland state said it filed a complaint alleging serious racial discrimination by the unit, Bravus Mining and Resources, recently.

The complaint details how Adani employees sought to "verbally and physically obstruct and prevent"

members of the Aboriginal group from accessing springs near Adani's Carmichael coal mine "in order to perform cultural rites and share cultural knowledge", the group said in a statement.

"We have endured years of discrimination and vilification from Adani, and we're not putting up with this anymore," Nagana Yarrbayn Senior Cultural Custodian, Adrian Burragubba said in the statement.

## BERC Gets 4 New Members



The government has appointed four new members to the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) for a three-year term.

The newly appointed BERC members are Dr Syeda Sultana Razia, Md Gias Uddin Joarder, Md Abdur Razzak and Md Mizanur Rahman, according to

separate notifications issued recently by the Energy and Mineral Resources Division of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources.

Services of the new members would be considered as full-time and they cannot be involved in any other jobs during their tenure in the BERC.

The notification said as the member of BERC, they won't be able to run any business under their own names or the names of their dependants in any organization under power and energy sector.

## 7 Injured in Mirpur 'Gas Explosion'



Seven people from two families suffered burns in a fire believed to have originated from a gas explosion at a tin-shed house in Mirpur recently.

The injured are Abdul Khalil, 40, his wife Ruma Akter, 32, their sons Hafiz Abdullah, 13, Mohammad, 10, and Ismail, 4, as well as neighbours Mohammad Shahjahan, 25, and his wife Swapna Akter Parvin, 22, both garment workers.

The injured have been admitted to Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery.

Abdul Khalil's niece, Nasima Akter Rupali, said that the

family hails from Munshiganj's Sadar upazila and was living at the rented house on road 16 of Mirpur-11. Shahjahan and Swapna live next door.

Injured Shahjahan said that they were asleep when the explosion occurred in the early morning. Waking to the sound of the blast, they found themselves surrounded by flames and fled outside, their bodies on fire.

Shahjahan added that their house did not have a gas cylinder. However, a gas pipeline runs in front of the house, which had reportedly caught fire two days earlier. Locals had extinguished the flames at that time.

He suspects a leak in the pipeline allowed gas to accumulate in the house, leading to the explosion.

## Quick Rental Power Deals to be Probed: Adviser

Despite a court verdict on quick rental agreements in the power sector, exiting these deals will be challenging, said Energy Adviser Muhammad Fauzul Kabir Khan recently.



However, irregularities will be investigated by a committee, and necessary action will follow, he added.

He made the remarks during a meeting with officials and political leaders at the Circuit House in Chattogram.

The adviser also announced that construction of the long-awaited Kalurghat Bridge would begin in February next year. Additionally, the development of Unit-2 of the

Eastern Refinery is set to commence soon.

To address the ongoing gas crisis, 100 new gas wells will be drilled over the next two years, he said. Tenders for offshore gas exploration are also expected to be invited in December.

During the meeting, various issues such as commodity price control, electricity, road and rail transport, and unplanned infrastructure projects were discussed.

## Govt Approves Ordinance to Repeal Quick Energy Supply Act

Considering the need to ensure purchase and supply of electricity and fuel through transparent and competitive processes in the public interest, the government has decided to repeal the "Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provision) Act, 2010".

Subject to vetting by the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division, the draft of the ordinance was approved at a meeting of the Advisory Council on 20 November.

This decision was made due to widespread corruption and mismanagement associated with the power generation contracts under Section 6 of the act, as well

as a High Court ruling on 14 November declaring sections 6(2) and 9 of the act as illegal, reads a press statement.

Section 9 of the Act says no decision or activity committed or taken under this act can be questioned in court, while section 6(2) of the act says that any planning or proposal related to the buying or investment decisions has to be approved by the energy minister and sent to the cabinet committee for approval after communicating and bargaining with one or more institutions following Section 7 of the Act.



## Payra 1320 MW TPP

### 1<sup>ST</sup> Ultra Super Critical Power Plant of Bangladesh

- ✓ Plant Capacity - 1320MW (2 X 660 MW)
- ✓ Boiler Technology - Ultra-Super Critical  
27 MPa / 600 / 610 c
- ✓ Heat Rate - 8746.35 kJ/kWh  
@Full load
- ✓ Primary Fuel - Sub - Bituminous/  
Bituminous Coal
- ✓ Coal Supplier - (1) PT Bayan Resources Tbk  
(2) PT Multi Harapan Utama
- ✓ Coal Transporter - Oldendorff, Germany
- ✓ Commercial Operation Date - 15 May, 2020 (Unit - 1)  
8 Dec, 2020 (Unit - 2)
- ✓ Shareholding Structure of BCPCL - NWPGL : 50%  
CMC : 50%

### Grand Opening

of

Payra 1320 MW TPP (1st Phase)  
21st March, 2022

### Eco Friendly Features

- ✓ Flue Gas Desulfurizer (FGD) with  
93% efficiency to capture SO<sub>x</sub>
- ✓ Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) with  
99.60% efficiency to capture ash
- ✓ Low NO<sub>x</sub> Burner
- ✓ 220 meter Chimney
- ✓ Covered Coal Dome
- ✓ Covered Coal Conveying System



### Contribution to National Grid

About **10%** currently

### Facilities at Resettlement Area

- ✓ Technical School with a big playground
- ✓ Multiple Foreign Language Training Facility at BCTI
- ✓ Mosque & Graveyard
- ✓ Tube-well- 48 (Forty-Eight) nos.
- ✓ Pond- 02 (Two) nos.
- ✓ Community Centre & Health Clinic



## **BANGLADESH-CHINA POWER COMPANY LIMITED**

ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Certified

(A Joint Venture of NWPGL and CMC)

UTC Building (Level - 5), 8 Panthapath, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

Phone No. 48118307, 48118308, Web : [www.bcpcl.org.bd](http://www.bcpcl.org.bd), E-mail : [info@bcpcl.org.bd](mailto:info@bcpcl.org.bd)

## Accelerate Delivers Two LNG Cargoes in Nov



infrastructure and the delivery of affordable LNG supply," said Steven Kobos, President and Chief Executive Officer of Accelerate in a recent statement.

**E**xcelerate Energy has delivered two cargoes of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Petrobangla through the company's two floating storage and regasification units (FSRUs) located offshore Moheshkhali Island in November.

"Accelerate Energy is pleased to help fuel Bangladesh's economy through its flexible

"We are proud to have won this contract to provide LNG through an open and fair tender process where we offered the most competitive price."

Accelerate has been operating LNG infrastructure in Bangladesh since 2018, in partnership with the International Finance Corporation.

## Titas Gas Clients Can Pay Bill Online Thru upay



Gas customers can pay their bills seamlessly through upay's digital platform, ensuring greater convenience, flexibility, and accessibility. The signing ceremony was held at Titas Gas head office recently.

**U**pay, a leading digital financial services provider in Bangladesh, has partnered with Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution PLC to facilitate online gas bill payments for customers nationwide.

Through this agreement, Titas

The agreement was signed by Md. Lutful Hyder Masum, General Manager & Company Secretary, Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution PLC and Md. Mahbub Sobhan, Chief Business Officer, upay.

## 7 Workers Injured in Explosion While 'Installing Gas Line Illegally'

**S**even workers were injured in an explosion in Narayanganj's Sonargaon upazila recently.

The injured are Md Joy, 20, Md Sultan, 23, Mizan, 35, Jahangir Alam, 45, Ripon, 38, Shahjalal, 45,

## United Power Posts 127% Profit Growth in Q1

**U**nited Power Generation & Distribution Company Ltd (UPGDCL) posted a massive rise in profit in the first quarter, driven by higher tariffs and stable forex rates.



Its quarterly profit surged a robust 127 percent year-on-year to Tk 418.87 crore, for the July-September quarter of 2024.

This growth is attributed to increased bulk electricity tariffs and stable foreign exchange rates, said the

company in its unaudited financial statements.

The company's earnings per share for the quarter rose significantly to Tk 7.13, from Tk 3.12 in the same period last year, according to a disclosure on the website of the DSE.

## Khulna Power's Q1 Profit Declines 72%

**K**hulna Power Company Ltd (KPCL) reported a substantial profit decline in the first quarter of the current financial year, primarily due to power plant shutdowns linked to unresolved agreements with the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).



Profit of the power producer plunged 72 percent to Tk 1.76 crore in the July-September quarter.

Earnings per share (EPS)

dropped to Tk 0.04 from Tk 0.16 in the same period last year, as per its unaudited quarterly financial statements.

The profit decline was attributed to the postponement of operations of its plants.

and Md Raju, 24.

They are now undergoing treatment at Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery in the capital with two to 22 percent burn injuries, said Shawon Bin Rahman, a resident surgeon of the institute.

Md Rubel, a local resident, said that some workers were working on Asian highway at Sonapur in Kanchpur.

Suddenly, an explosion occurred, leaving seven of them injured, he said.

Siddikur Rahman, deputy general manager of Titas's Sonargaon zone, said, "Firstly, we are not providing any new connections. Any repair work cannot be done without informing us. So, it is clear that someone tried to install an illegal gas line last night. We are looking into the matter."

# Reneging on Rhetoric

Mollah Amzad Hossain, Afroza Akther Pervin & Aditya Hossain

A global climate deal reached on 24 November in Baku left poorer nations deeply frustrated. Wealthy countries pledged \$300 billion annually, far below the \$1.3 trillion expected by developing nations to address climate crises. Heated negotiations, walkouts by vulnerable nations like LDCs and AOSIS, and accusations of bad faith marred the talks. Although rules for carbon credit markets were finalized, the financial commitment was condemned as inadequate, with many calling it a "shameful" failure to meet urgent climate needs.





Summit Power International is transforming Bangladesh's infrastructure with innovative solutions across sectors. Backed by global partnerships and foreign investments, we set new standards in development. At Summit, we empower communities and build a stronger, more prosperous future.

**Empowering Communities**  
**Sustainable Progress**  
**Innovation**



[www.summitpowerinternational.com](http://www.summitpowerinternational.com)

The world agreed on a long-negotiated climate deal on 24 November, but for many poorer nations — the most vulnerable to worsening climate disasters — it felt like a slap in the face. A \$300 billion-a-year pledge from wealthy nations was seen as insultingly low, falling far short of what these nations say they need to address the climate crisis.

After two grueling weeks of chaotic negotiations and sleepless nights, nearly 200 countries reached an agreement in the early hours in Baku, Azerbaijan. The road to the deal was anything but smooth, with tempers flaring and walkouts threatening to derail the talks altogether.

Developing countries had rejected an earlier offer of \$250 billion a year starting in 2035 as “a joke.” Following the backlash, wealthy nations, including the EU, US, and Japan, raised the figure to \$300 billion. But for many, it wasn’t enough. Delegates from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) walked out, declaring the proposal unacceptable. A follow-up statement clarified they hadn’t given up entirely but were standing firm on their demands.

The G77 and China bloc — representing 134 developing countries — had called for \$600 billion annually from developed nations by 2030, as part of a larger \$1.3 trillion global climate finance target. However, this demand was quickly dismissed as unrealistic by wealthier countries.

US climate envoy John Podesta became the target of frustration. After a walkout by LDCs and AOSIS, he was met with chants of “shame” from climate campaigners accusing the Biden administration of failing to honor its commitments. “It’s shameful what they’re doing under Biden,” said Victor Menotti, director of the International Forum on Globalization, as Podesta exited through a side door, trailed by reporters.

“We’ve all worked incredibly hard over these two weeks, and I know no one here wants to leave Baku without a deal,” said COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev during a plenary session on 23 November. “But time is not on our side.”



The plenary resolved procedural issues and finalized new rules for global carbon credit markets, another contentious topic at what was dubbed the ‘finance COP.’ However, late-night delays confused, with delegates waiting anxiously as Babayev assured them the deal was being finalized.

Finally, in the early hours of 24 November, the gavel went down on the finance agreement. But the celebration was short-lived. India’s delegate Chandni Raina immediately condemned the deal, calling it “abysmally poor” and an “optical illusion” that failed to meet the moment.

Other developing nations echoed India’s frustration. Sierra Leone’s climate minister Jiwoh Abdulai called the pledge a “lack of goodwill,” while Nigeria’s envoy Nkiruka Maduekwe said bluntly, “This is an insult.”

Criticism wasn’t limited to the deal itself. Some accused Azerbaijan, an oil and gas exporter, of lacking the ambition to lead during such a critical year for climate action. Meanwhile, protesters accused wealthy nations of bad-faith negotiations, effectively blocking a fair outcome.

Hopes were high coming into Baku. Developing nations were counting on a significant increase in climate finance, far beyond the \$100 billion annual target first pledged in 2009. But those hopes were dashed.

“This kind of dishonesty will make poor, vulnerable nations lose faith in

the COP process,” warned economist Dr. Kazi Kholiqzaman Ahmad. Syeda Rizwana Hasan, adviser to the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change was equally disheartened, calling the result “well short of expectations.”

Harjeet Singh, coordinator for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, said the outcome eroded trust in the process. “It’s better to have no deal than to settle for a bad one,” he said.

The summit also revealed deep divisions over who should shoulder the financial burden. While developed nations, historically the largest polluters, are expected to contribute the most, they argued that emerging economies like China — now the world’s largest emitter — should also play a bigger role. The final deal “encourages” voluntary contributions from developing nations but leaves China’s position unchanged.

Beyond finance, the talks made little progress on transitioning away from fossil fuels, a key achievement of COP28 in Dubai that was notably absent from the Baku agreement.

For many, the deal felt like a betrayal. The LDC bloc called it a “travesty” that failed to protect the most vulnerable or curb global warming. “This is not just a failure; it’s a betrayal,” the group said in a statement.

UN Secretary-General Antynio Guterres expressed disappointment but urged nations to treat the deal as a starting

point. “I had hoped for a more ambitious outcome,” he said.

In the final hours, bleary-eyed diplomats scrambled to finalize the wording. UK Energy Secretary Ed Miliband hailed the deal as a “critical eleventh-hour agreement,” while US President Joe Biden called it a “historic outcome.” Yet many pointed out that the \$300 billion figure falls far short of the \$390 billion experts say is a fair contribution from developed nations. “This was the last chance for the Global North to step up, pay its fair share, and restore trust in this process. They failed,” said Avantika Goswami of the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). As nations left Baku, one thing was clear: the gap between rhetoric and reality in global climate action remains painfully wide.

### ***Breakthroughs and Unfinished Business***

COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, marked a critical juncture in global climate negotiations, addressing long-standing debates over carbon markets, climate finance, adaptation, and transparency. While progress was made in key areas like Article 6 and adaptation, unresolved issues and lingering divides underscored the challenges of fostering equitable climate action.

### ***Article 6: A Milestone for Carbon Markets***

After nearly a decade of negotiations, countries finalized the operational rules for Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which governs voluntary carbon market mechanisms. The agreement established two key frameworks:

#### ***Article 6.2 – Bilateral Carbon Credit Trading:***

Under this mechanism, countries can authorize and trade carbon credits as part of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This system is expected to facilitate international cooperation, enabling nations to achieve emission reduction targets more cost-effectively. However, concerns about accountability remain. Critics argue that weak enforcement mechanisms could allow countries to misreport or trade low-quality credits,



undermining environmental integrity.

#### ***Article 6.4 – A Global Carbon Market:***

This mechanism, known as the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism, creates a centralized market overseen by a Supervisory Body under the UN. The agreement mandates robust environmental and human rights safeguards, requiring projects to secure informed consent from Indigenous Peoples and allowing affected parties to file complaints.

The framework aims to attract new financial flows, particularly for least developed countries (LDCs), by providing capacity-building support. Yet, concerns persist. Trishant Dev, a program officer at the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), cautioned against the transition of projects from the Kyoto Protocol’s Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) to the new Article 6.4 market, warning it could flood the system with low-quality credits.

Despite these concerns, the agreement on Article 6 is a significant achievement, setting the stage for greater transparency and cooperation in global carbon markets. However, the work is far from over; the Supervisory Body faces a long to-do list for operationalizing the system by 2025.

#### ***Finance Overshadowing Mitigation***

Finance emerged as the dominant theme of COP29, sidelining discussions on mitigation. Many developed nations expressed frustration that mitigation-

focused areas received insufficient attention. However, developing countries and civil society groups emphasized that future mitigation ambition hinges on adequate financial commitments from wealthier nations.

While COP29 was labeled a “Finance COP,” progress on finance was mixed. The finalized finance agreement includes a commitment of \$300 billion annually from developed countries by 2035, far short of the \$600 billion demanded by the G77 and China bloc. This has left many developing nations disillusioned, with some calling the pledge a betrayal of trust.

#### ***Transparency: Building Accountability***

Transparency made significant strides at COP29, with advancements in climate reporting frameworks under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF). Thirteen countries, including Azerbaijan, the EU, and Japan, submitted their first Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), setting a strong example for others to follow.

In addition, COP29 concluded negotiations on transparency-related items, including the completion of ETF reporting tools and technical training for developing nations. These tools are expected to enhance accountability, helping countries align their climate actions with global goals.

The #Together4Transparency initiative played a crucial role in promoting the importance of transparency. Over 40 events were organized, highlighting how robust reporting can strengthen

climate policies and identify financing opportunities.

### **Adaptation: Incremental Progress**

Adaptation emerged as a focal point at COP29, with several key outcomes:

#### **National Adaptation Plans (NAPs):**

COP29 established a support program for LDCs to implement their NAPs, addressing the growing urgency of climate adaptation. A High-Level Dialogue convened ministers, financial experts, and donors to discuss innovative financing and technical support, culminating in a call to expedite NAPs and translate them into tangible outcomes.

#### **Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA):**

The meeting set a clear path for continuing work on adaptation indicators, aiming for completion by COP30. The adoption of the Baku Adaptation Road Map highlighted a renewed commitment to transformational adaptation, focusing on building resilience in vulnerable communities.

#### **Indigenous and Local Voices:**

COP29 elevated the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities through the adoption of the Baku Workplan. The Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) received renewed mandates, emphasizing their leadership in addressing the climate crisis.

While these achievements are noteworthy, they fall short of the transformative adaptation actions demanded by many vulnerable nations. The African Group's push for a separate adaptation sub-goal under the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) was not realized, reflecting continued gaps in addressing the needs of those most affected by climate change.

#### **Gender Equality and Youth Participation**

Gender and youth took center stage at COP29, with important advancements:

##### **Gender Equality:**

The Lima Work Program on Gender was extended for another decade, reaffirming the importance of integrating gender considerations into climate policies. Countries also agreed to develop a new gender action plan for



adoption at COP30, aimed at fostering gender-responsive climate action.

#### **Youth Participation:**

For the first time, COP29 created dedicated spaces for children and youth, including the Youth-led Climate Forum. Four young leaders, including a 10-year-old, moderated sessions and engaged directly with negotiators. This milestone underscored the importance of intergenerational collaboration in driving climate action.

#### **Unresolved Issues: Mitigation and Trade Measures**

Several contentious issues remained unresolved at COP29:

##### **Mitigation:**

The UAE Dialogue on the Global Stocktake (GST) and the Mitigation Work Program failed to reach a consensus due to disagreements over accountability mechanisms for 2023's paragraph 28 mitigation targets. Developed countries argued that future mitigation ambition depends on enhanced finance while developing nations called for clearer implementation pathways.

##### **Unilateral Trade Measures (UTM):**

The European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) sparked heated debates. The BASIC group (Brazil, South Africa, India, and China) proposed including UTM in the conference agenda, but this was blocked. Behind closed doors, the G77 and China bloc voiced strong opposition to CBAM, accusing it of being protectionist and undermining

equitable trade practices.

#### **Civil Society and Non-Party Contributions**

COP29 highlighted the critical role of civil society, businesses, and other non-party stakeholders in advancing climate action. Over 55,000 participants attended the conference, sharing solutions and building partnerships.

The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action released its 2024 Yearbook, showcasing the contributions of non-party actors like businesses, investors, and sub-national governments. These stakeholders are increasingly recognized as essential drivers of progress toward the Paris Agreement goals.

#### **Looking Ahead**

COP29 marked progress on several fronts, particularly in operationalizing Article 6 and advancing adaptation. However, the limited focus on mitigation and the perceived inadequacy of financial commitments underscore the challenges of bridging the divide between developed and developing nations.

As the world prepares for COP30, the stakes remain high. Key issues like enhancing mitigation ambition, addressing adaptation financing gaps, and resolving trade-related disputes will need to be revisited. The decisions made in Baku are a step forward, but much work remains to ensure that climate action is equitable, inclusive, and aligned with the Paris Agreement's goals.

**EP**



## investing in our people for nearly 30 years

**Around 96% of our workforce are Bangladeshi nationals. Over nearly 30 years, Chevron has employed thousands of Bangladeshi and engaged Bangladeshi contractors and suppliers. Together we will explore the energy opportunities of tomorrow.**

**Learn more at <https://bangladesh.chevron.com>**



# Energy Sector Reform In 100 Days Of Interim Govt

Saleque Sufi

The interim government formed after the political changeover triggered by the anti-discrimination movement has passed 100 days in office. Questions have started being asked about whether the government has done enough to make changes to create dynamism toward achieving sustainable energy security essential for the seamless economic development of Bangladesh. The government has made some major decisions and made some changes. However, it is a general belief that without bringing changes in sector administration and setting up transparent and accountable processes at all segments of the power and energy supply chain very little meaningful success will be achieved. This government may not stay in state power for an unlimited period. The actions taken so far by the government might have done damage control, but are considered far short of bringing the derailed energy sector back on track. Line professionals, we mean the right people, are still not on the right track.

The energy crisis is still a matter of concern for industries while the investment community is getting wrong signal. The country has over

30,000MW installed power generation capacity (grid and non-grid). Still, for fuel supply deficit, cannot consistently generate more than 15,000MW. A huge capacity charge is required to be paid for leaving a substantial capacity idle. Due to the lack of exploration and development of gas resources and the failure to decide on mining coal, the previous government had to opt for imported fuel. The dollar crisis handicaps the government in arranging funds for importing fuel. BPDB, Petrobangla, and BPC are in a serious financial crisis. They owe suppliers billions of dollars for the fuel and power they purchased. True the present government inherited all these. In 100 days, the government perhaps identified what went wrong. But they could not find the correct remedy yet to cure. Changing some officials here and there might not prove enough until the process is changed, and the system is developed. The depth and diversity of the fuel and energy crisis are not being felt now for relatively low power demand at the advent of the winter. But with no assurance of additional fuel supply over a short period severe energy crisis may cripple the economy from the middle of February 2025 with the start of intensive irrigation, followed by Ramadan and summer.

Among others, energy sector reforms are a priority of the government. Over the past fifteen years of the Awami League government, the energy sector grew into a thrust sector for the economic development of Bangladesh. In the guise of bringing the entire population under the coverage of electricity, billions of dollars were spent on developing power and energy infrastructure. However, experts believe that due to poor planning and ill-motivated corrupt management of implementation, the energy sector instead of relying on local primary fuel became increasingly dependent on imported primary fuel. Under the cover of the nontransparent Speedy Power and Energy Supply Special Act 2010, Bangladesh developed a huge infrastructure spending with billions of dollars of borrowed money without properly assessing the risks and rewards or without bothering about the economic impacts of the projects. Evil syndicates considering this as a golden opportunity siphoned off this money abroad. The nation is now suffering from the impacts of such ill-planned bad investments. The government is paying through its nose not only the loans with interest but also in arranging funds for huge outstanding payments of public sector enterprises. The

government cannot increase electricity tariffs or the price of fuel like the previous regime indiscriminately.

### **Government Actions**

The interim government right after assuming responsibility immediately stopped the operation of the Speedy Power and Energy Supply Special Act 2010. The negotiation of all contracts based on unsolicited offers was canceled. Even some contracts signed and under the process of execution were canceled. The government also canceled through executive order the BERC Act amendment which irrationally authorized the government to increase the power tariff and fuel Price. That exclusive power and authority was restored to the BERC again. These two were done almost instantaneously to control damage and restore the confidence of stakeholders. The government made some changes in the management of public sector companies, organizations, power and energy divisions. Reform committees started working to identify major irregularities and suggested roadmaps to recovery. Even the committee set up for preparing white papers identified the energy and power sector as a critical area for national economic recovery. It is expected that by the end of December 2024, the government will be in a better position to understand what is required to bring power and energy sector free-performing discipline.

Arranging a smooth supply of primary energy is a major challenge. Bangladesh's humble capacity will not grow as a net primary energy importing country leaving its precious own energy resources (coal, petroleum) underground. It is only a neutral interim government that can decide to mine its own superior quality coal lying at mineable depth. We are aware that this government, including its chief adviser, has zero emission vision. But coal is the cheapest fuel source for Bangladesh for achieving sustainable energy security over the medium term. Bangladesh does not have global obligations for limiting emissions and there are off-the-shelf proven



technologies for mining coal and generating electricity from coal. Bangladesh has several coal-fired power plants in coastal areas. It is possible to assess how technology has restricted emissions to a permissible limit.

The government must also facilitate in all possible manners the expeditious implementation of the exploration and development of petroleum resources offshore and onshore. Managing offshore bidding at a time of global geopolitics will be a huge challenge. The government must also extend full support to Petrobangla and BAPEX in managing the exploration campaign of Petroleum onshore. We have noticed changes in the EMRD, Petrobangla, and energy companies' board of directors. But again, retired professionals having proven track records have not been included. Some organizations like Petrobangla, BAPEX, TGTDC, and GTCL must have dynamic senior management that can work to offset the impacts of wrongdoings over the past 15 years of the previous regime.

We must appreciate the changes made in BERC with a new chairman and members. The Chairman, a former Chairman of Petrobangla, has a wide reputation. Members have been drawn from industry and technical institutions. BERC will have to play a major role in disciplining the operation of the power and energy companies. Apart from

determining the power tariff and price of all fuel fairly and transparently through conducting public consultation, the BERC has to ensure that all licensees comply with acts, rules, policies, and regulations. BERC must have a strong unit to carry out energy auditing. We are sure reform committees will soon submit reports. BERC will ensure that agreed reforms are implemented across all segments of the power and energy supply chain. BERC should resolve the present dispute among Petrobangla companies in assessing system loss.

The government has already given due priority to the expeditious development of renewable energy. The tendering process of grid-connected solar must be expedited and monitored. The essential incentives must be given to rooftop solar to increase contributions to the national grid. The government must also review whether captive generators using gas can supply to the grid if required.

### **Recommendation for Contingency Actions**

The government has got some breathing time as power demand remains lower during the winter. In December 2024 and January 2025, the power supply will be under a manageable limit. However, the crisis will start emerging in mid-February 2025 for the commencement of intensive irrigation, increasing power demand significantly.

The government must ensure that a fuel crisis does not create an issue at that time. There is no quick fix for increasing gas production but there must not be any issue with LNG import. Two FSRUs must have required LNG supply for operation at full capacity during mid-February through Ramadan and high summer. In addition, the government must develop and execute an austerity plan to ensure the optimum utilization of electricity and gas. Fertilizer factories may need to plan overhauling systematically. Fertilizer plants in Chattogram should run at capacity to facilitate maximum withdrawal of RLNG in Chattogram. As far as gas utilization for power generation merit order basis use must be strictly followed. The power system now has several fuel-efficient power plants which must get priorities. PGCB must ensure that grid failure does not happen for avoidable technical reasons. The government must discuss with shop owners to introduce a shopping culture like developing countries. Even after all this, load-shedding may not be avoided.



This must be done in a planned manner. Industries, especially export-oriented ones, must get priority in electricity and gas supply. Theft and pilferage in the name of system loss must be eliminated.

It is not fair to think that an interim government in a short time can resolve

all issues accumulated over two decades of misrule, mismanagement, and willful mistakes. But in a short time, the process has been set and improvements should be visible soon. But there exist huge challenges. **EP**

*Saleque Sufi,*  
Energy Expert



## KALTIMEX ENERGY

BANGLADESH (PVT.) LTD.



Singapore | Indonesia | Bangladesh | Philippines



**POWERING BANGLADESH**

TOTAL POWER SOLUTIONS

 <p><b>MWM</b> Energy. Efficiency. Environment. <i>Gas Generator</i></p>	 <p><b>VIESSMANN</b> <i>Gas Fired Boiler</i></p>	 <p><b>HTT</b> <i>Thermic Fluid Heater</i></p>
 <p><b>EAGLE</b> Technology <i>Plastic Waste to Oil</i></p>	 <p><b>ENMAX</b> Engineering <i>Exhaust Gas Boiler</i></p>	 <p><b>SOLARNEXT</b> <i>Thermal Cooling Chiller</i></p>
 <p><b>OPRA</b> TURBINES <i>Radial Gas Turbine</i></p>	 <p><b>Maxwatt</b> Turbo Systems <i>Steam Turbine</i></p>	 <p><b>RENTAL GENERATOR</b> <i>Diesel Generator</i></p>

Branches
Dhaka
Chattogram
Gazipur
Habiganj
Narayanganj
Chandra
Mawna
Savar

**Head Office**  
Green Orlando (8th Flr), Plot # KA 42-4,  
Proga Sharani, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh.  
T: +88 02 8418491-92

**ISO Certifications:**  
9001:2015 | 14001:2015 | 45001:2018  
[www.kalimexbangla.com.bd](http://www.kalimexbangla.com.bd)

**Emails:**  
sales@kalimexbangla.com.bd  
service@kalimexbangla.com.bd  
egb@kalimexbangla.com.bd

**Hotlines:**  
 **017 300 59 177**  
**017 141 10 993**



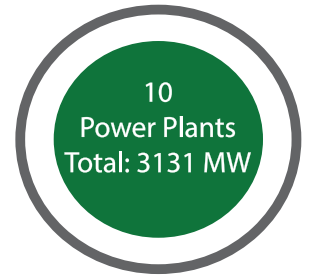


# North-West Power Generation Company Limited

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

## Market Share

- ✓ 3131 MW generation capacity.
- ✓ Highest among all govt. companies.



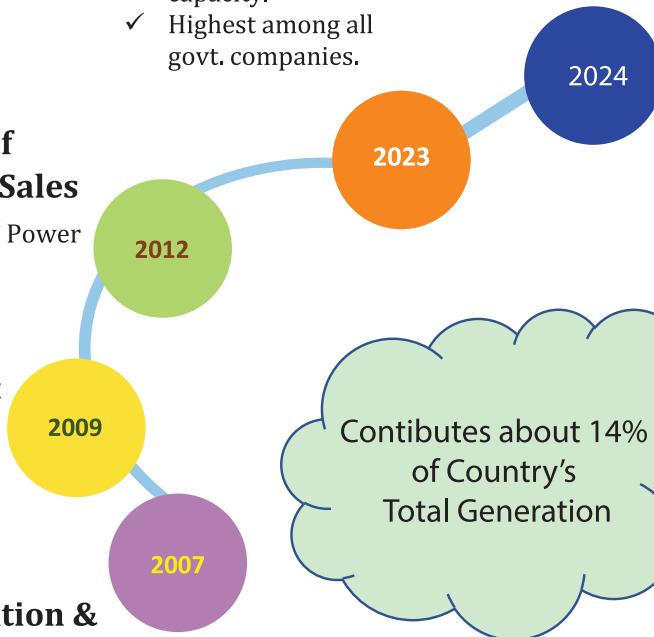
## Start of Electricity Sales

- ✓ COD of 1<sup>st</sup> Power Plant

## Commencement of Business

- ✓ Started with 02 development projects.

## Registration & Incorporation



Contributes about 14% of Country's Total Generation

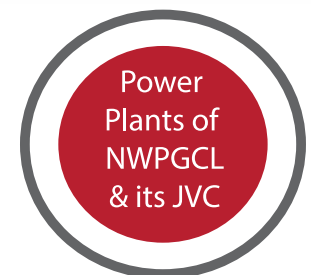


# NWPGCL

*Enlightening Life  
Enlightening Bangladesh*



ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 certified



## ESCAP Expert Opinion

# Gender Equality Enables Just Energy Transition

Kimberly Roseberry & Michael Williamson

Gender equality lies at the heart of a just energy transition. Yet, women continue to be largely marginalized despite their critical roles as consumers, workers, and leaders – within the efforts and institutions driving the shift toward clean energy.

### Women as energy users

Sixty-two million people in the Asia-Pacific region lack electricity and nearly 1.1 billion do without clean cooking fuels and technologies. Women are the most acutely impacted by energy deficits, and therefore closing the gaps in energy access is a major step forward

in addressing gender inequalities. However, women's voices are not heard in discussions on resource allocation and policy prioritization. This is despite the reality that women are often primary household energy managers and are uniquely positioned to drive the adoption of cleaner and more sustainable energy technologies, such as energy-efficient appliances and clean cookstoves. Without giving greater space for the voices of women in energy access planning and project implementation, the effectiveness and relevance of energy transition efforts are undermined.

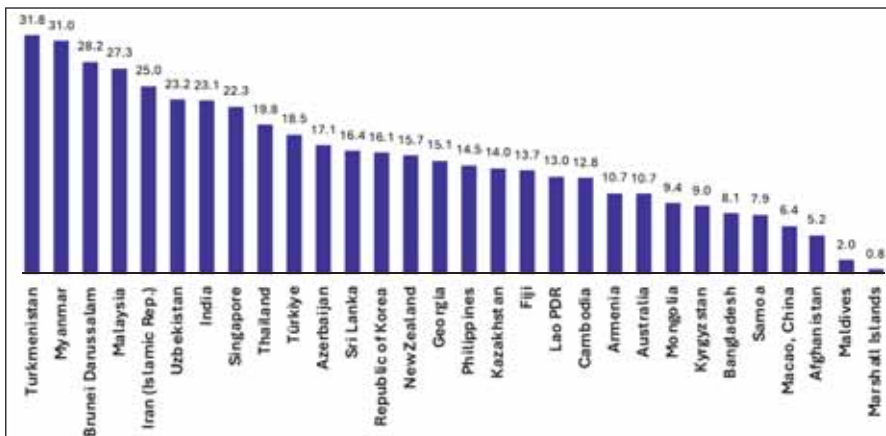
### Women as energy sector workers and professionals

Women account for only 16 percent of the traditional energy sector and are paid 15 percent less than their similarly skilled male counterparts. Female representation in the renewable energy sector is higher, at 32 percent, but still does not approach equity.

The underrepresentation of women is largely due to the industry's historical male dominance and persistent cultural stereotypes. Energy jobs are often seen as physically demanding and technical, reinforcing perceptions that they are better suited for men. Women are disadvantaged in accessing information regarding job opportunities, and companies often lack gender-inclusive policies such as flexible working hours or family support, which can deter women from entering or advancing in the sector. Furthermore, companies in some contexts also consider female employees to be more expensive to employ due to paid parental leave and are thus disincentivized to hire women. This is compounded by a scarcity of female role models and mentors, limiting young women's ability to envision themselves in these careers. However, even before women can enter the workforce, low female

### The Female Share of STEM Graduates is Low, Pointing to a Need for Greater Support

Figure 1: Percentage of STEM Female Graduates in Tertiary Education, Latest Year



Data source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics

participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education is influenced by cultural norms, gender stereotypes, and societal expectations that steer women away from technical fields. In the best cases, women represent less than one-third, but more often less than 20 or even 10 percent of STEM graduates in Asia-Pacific countries (Figure 1). Research from the region has found that, in China, girls surveyed agreed that boys are better at mathematics than girls, while in Australia, girls choose non-STEM careers despite confidence in STEM subjects, and across several countries, gender bias, perceptions of subject difficulty and a lack of support cause girls to discontinue their STEM studies. Asia-Pacific countries are increasingly recognizing the issue, and numerous initiatives have been introduced by governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector to promote female participation in STEM education and careers. However, progress has been slow, and far more efforts are needed to bridge the significant gaps that exist.

### Women as energy sector decision-makers

Evidence demonstrates that companies with more gender-balanced boards have higher returns, yet female representation is low, and even non-existent, in many energy sector decision-making roles. Women in

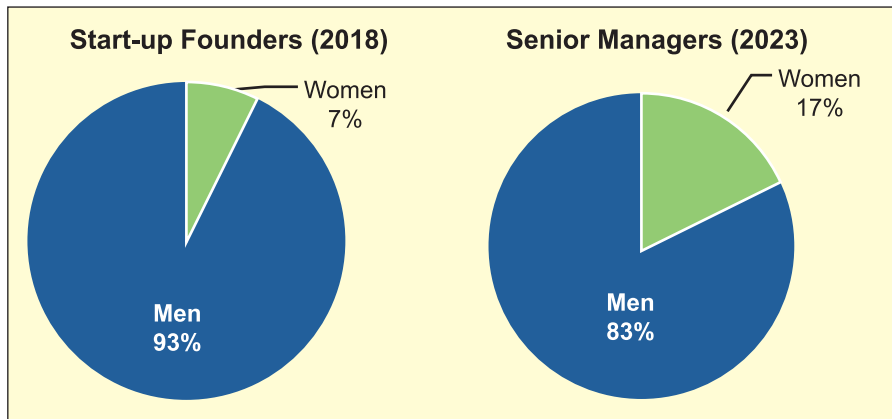
### Women are Highly Underrepresented in Corporate Roles Within the Energy Sector

Figure 3: Percentage Share of Women in Executive and Board Roles, by Economy



Source: S&P Global, 2024

Women Represent a Minority Share of Founders and Managers in The Global Energy Sector  
Figure 2: Gender Breakdown of Founders and Senior Managers in The Global Energy Sector



Source: International Energy Agency, Gender and Energy Data Explorer

senior leadership roles in the global corporate energy sector are just 17 percent, while women make up just 7 percent of founders in start-up companies (Figure 2). Just 9 percent of companies have gender-diverse founders, far less than the average across non-energy sectors, which is approximately 20 percent.

Recent data illustrates regional variations in Asia and the Pacific (Figure 3). Thailand stands out with the highest shares of women in executive and C-suite roles. New Zealand and the Philippines have relatively strong representation compared to others, but women generally hold less than two out of five positions.

In governments, globally it will take 162

years for women to reach gender parity in leading environmental (including energy) ministries. Women are often pigeonholed into limited roles, preventing advancement up the ladder to top-tier leadership positions. In 2024, amongst Asia-Pacific regional ESCAP member States, not one ministry of energy is headed by a woman, and women holding positions within the upper ranks of the ministries are few.

### Promoting gender equality and empowerment in a just energy transition

Women as energy users, workers, and decision-makers are crucial to shaping the energy sector's future, yet barriers limit female participation. Systemic change and efforts are needed to overcome the disproportionate barriers for women and to create a more inclusive environment where girls and women feel confident and empowered. This requires efforts to improve education access, create inclusive workplaces, promote female role models, and open leadership pathways. Only by removing structural and cultural obstacles, can women's enormous potential to drive innovation and sustainability be realized and leveraged for a just energy transition.



**Kimberly Roseberry**  
Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP

**Michael Williamson**  
Chief of Sustainable Energy  
Development and Utilization Section,  
ESCAP



## Bangladesh Gender Action Plan 2024 & Climate Change Adaptation

AKM Monowar Hossain Akhand

The first Climate Change and Gender Action Plan (CCGAP) in 2013 set out a strategic framework to integrate gender considerations into the country's climate actions providing guidelines for some key sectors, including agriculture, water resources, energy, health, and livelihoods. While the Paris Agreement was adopted giving importance to gender aspects in 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been adopted regarding climate actions and priority attention to gender equity. With the priorities and necessities, the

Bangladesh National Adaptation Plan 2023-2050 was revised in 2021, and an updated version of the Climate Change and Gender Action Plan was adopted in March 2024, to make it more relevant to gender-based actions for recognizing gender equality and women's empowerment. The plan suggests ensuring equitable access to resources, establishing a gender-responsive environment, and a socially inclusive adaptation process.

Climate change is a threat with a differential impact on the lives of

women, girls, and the most excluded groups. After the climate-disasters, gender-based violence increases, and becomes gender-specific vulnerabilities. The country adopted international commitments to shape its position on gender equality through the Convention of all Discrimination against Women-1979; and Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action-1995. Similarly, the national policies aimed at eliminating violence against women, ensuring their political participation, providing equal rights to work, and restraining child marriage.

The updated Climate Gender Action Plan-2024 provides concrete action plans, measurable progress indicators, and potential stakeholders, and sets a path for the sustainable inclusion of gender in climate actions. Six key priorities have been identified: (i) Natural resources; (ii) Livelihood; (iii) Infrastructure and settlements; (iv) Women's leadership and participation; (v) Gender-responsive means of implementation; and (vi) Capacity-building, knowledge management and communication. The first three priorities are aligned with the thematic sectors of the National Adaptation Plan-2021, and the latter are cross-cutting priorities.

### Gender Gaps for Climate Adaptation

- Lack of clarification and in some



cases duplication of roles and responsibilities between disasters and climate adaptation programs, especially for women, that limit the process;

- Low-level gender-responsive preparedness program;
- Top-down, centralized decision-making and poor coordination, that hampering to adaptation; and
- Local-level government funds/budgets vary and have limited adaptation processes.

### **Gender Dimensions of Climate Change - Four Propositions**

- Vulnerability to climate change hazards: Women are disproportionately vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change impacts, due to social norms, gender inequality, and reproductive responsibilities, which constrain mobility and survival options.
- Adaptive capacity: Women have less control over capital, limited economic opportunities, and limited participation in the decision-making process, which reduces their adaptation and prevents them from overcoming the hazard situation.
- Migration as an adaptive strategy: Men migrate to urban cities to work as laborers, rickshaw pullers, drivers, and street hawkers, while women migrate to cities to work in garments/factories, and various home-make works, etc.
- Access to institutions that can increase adaptive capacity and build resilience: Very few women can access public institutions-offices, and get minimum adaptation-preparedness support. Institutional gender access is suggested.

### **Development of Climate Actions**

Bangladesh has a gender inequality index value of 0.530, ranking 131 out of 170 countries in the world (2021). Bangladesh has been actively engaged in climate action and environmental protection and is the 7th most climate-vulnerable country in the world. The country has already achieved remarkable success in building resilience to disasters, and increased adaptive capacity to climate impacts. Tremendous progress has been made in



developing gender-responsive recent climate risk reduction plans and guidelines, with the support of UN Agencies, like UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, etc.

The country has developed a series of policies and strategies, after the adoption of Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan-2009 which provides a comprehensive approach to address climate change challenges. The has followed the commitment of major development policy frameworks, national visions, and plans, i.e. Five-year Development Plans, National Adaptation Plan-2015, National Plan for Disaster Management (2021-2025 in 2021), National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2018), Climate Prosperity Plan 2030 (2021), National Perspective Plan 2021-2041, and Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100.

### **Importance of Gender Action Plan**

Bangladesh faces extreme weather events almost every month of the year, and the climate impacts pose hardship challenges to the country's most development works. Although the impacts are not uniform throughout the country, it varies based on geographic locations. The responses to impacts also vary based on socio-economic inequalities among the population, especially on gender in the form of attitudinal discrimination, sexual harassment, domestic violence, and challenges in ensuring citizens' rights.

The country has a rising trend in temperature ( $0.0056^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{year}$ ), while the average annual temperature has been increasing in recent decades. The winters are warmer with an increase of minimum temperature by  $0.45^{\circ}\text{C}$  and summers are hotter by  $0.52^{\circ}\text{C}$  during the pre-monsoon-monsoon months. The rainfall is an increasing trend of annual mean rainfall of  $8.4\text{mm}/\text{year}$  for parts of the country. The tidal variation indicates a rise of  $2.8\pm 0.8\text{mm}/\text{year}$ . The changes are causing extreme climate events and disasters in Bangladesh, which harm human well-being.

To face the challenges through climate actions, there are 6 groups of gender factors identified that affect the climate vulnerabilities of women. These include (a) gender roles and cultural patterns; (b) physical differences and reproductive function of women, for example, learning to swim; (c) gender division of labor and living conditions; (d) gender differences in income and assets represented by gender gap; (e) gender biases in power and decision-making process; and (f) lack of gender-specific data and indicators that affect the institutional capacity to design gender-responsive adaptation policies and strategies.

These factors can explain the differential vulnerability of women and girls in Bangladesh. For example, women and girls in the coastal areas have limited access to early warning information during disasters (e.g.

cyclones, storm surges), inadequate shelter increases risks of gender-based violence, and intra-household food insecurity and lack of sanitation facilities affect women more than men. Similarly, floods, disproportionately impact women collecting drinking water and cooking fuel increasing chances of gender-based violence moving away from home. Many initiatives were undertaken earlier to minimize gender vulnerabilities, but ultimately it failed. To overcome the extreme vulnerabilities, the present gender-based action plan has been prepared. The actions and indicators are suggested in the plan, to be considered as the power relations and minimize the threat and vulnerabilities between women and men.

### Structure of the Action Plan

The Action Plan is divided into 6 priority areas:

- Natural resources (including land, water, forestry, and biodiversity conservation);
- Livelihoods (both agriculture and non-agriculture-based);
- Infrastructure and settlement (including operation, maintenance, and protection);
- Women's leadership and participation (through education and access to information);
- Gender-responsive means of implementation (through financing); and
- Capacity building, knowledge management, and communication (with data & reports). (The actions under the first 3 priority areas are proposed to promote gender balance, and increase women's participation and leadership).

### Gender Action Plan and Outcomes

#### (1) Action Plan- Natural Resources

**Outcome:** Increased resilience of Bangladeshi females and males through promoting gender balance, and participation in ownership, preservation, and management of natural resources, such as land, water, forestry, and biodiversity conservation.

**Actions:** (a) Build stakeholders' capacity to establish linkages of gender equality with ownership, protection, and



management of natural resources, e.g., land, water, forestry; (b) Increase awareness and capacity of women and other vulnerable groups to reduce impacts of water logging, water scarcity, and salinity; (c) Ensure women's meaningful participation in policy, planning and decision-making process for the protection and management of resources, e.g. forestry; and (d) Ensure gender equity and inclusiveness for both women and men in community forest management.

#### (2) Action Plan - Livelihoods

**Outcome:** Strengthened livelihood through up-skilling the existing and creating new gender-responsive, climate-resilient, resources-efficient, and low-carbon livelihood both in agriculture-based, such as crop, livestock, fisheries, and non-agriculture-based sectors.

**Actions:** (a) Ensure the inclusion of women, particularly those from vulnerable communities, in livelihood-related policies, planning, decision-making and implementation; (b) Improve awareness of women's employment share and wage inequality; (c) Promote gender-responsive, climate-smart agricultural technologies, particularly for women farmers for crop production; (d) Ensure women's participation and contribution in the fisheries, and livestock sectors; and (e) Promote urban agriculture among women at household, rural-community and all public-private levels.

#### (3) Action Plan- Infrastructure and Settlement:

**Outcome:** Reduced risks and promoted well-being with a sustainable early-warning system and protective infrastructure; and access to services such as power and energy, water supply, sanitation, housing, public spaces, and mobility.

**Actions:** (a) Increase women's participation in planning, design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of infrastructure development; (b) Promote gender-responsive and climate-resilient construction principles for inclusive protective infrastructure development; (c) Review policies to provide urban services within the framework of climate-gender; (d) Enhance early-warning, meteorological information collection and dissemination, especially empowering women and women's organizations; (e) Strengthen women's access to use of sustainable sources of energy and involve them in renewable energy; (f) Improve existing and develop resilient infrastructure for water-supply in rural, suburban, and urban communities addressing the practical needs of women; and (g) Provide better access to sanitation facilities and hygiene information in both urban and rural workplaces, especially for women and people with disability.

#### (4) Action Plan- Women's Leadership and Participation:

**Outcome:** Ensured participation and

representation of women at all levels of climate policy, planning, and decision-making across sectors.

**Actions:** (a) Enhance primary, secondary, and tertiary education curriculum for preparing students to adopt gender-responsive climate adaptation; (b) Ensure participation of women at all levels of climate policy, planning, and decision-making across sectors; and (c) Promote women's leadership and building capacity at public institutions.

#### **(5) Action Plan- Gender-Responsive Means of Implementation:**

**Outcome:** Improved access to finance for the implementation of gender-responsive climate adaptation.

**Actions:** (a) Ensure adequate allocation and utilization of gender budget for climate-responsive programs; (b) Building women's economic empowerment, increase fund access to women farmers/entrepreneurs to be climate-resilient; (c) Promote gender-responsive and climate-resilient business and entrepreneurship; and (d) Increase women's participation in tender process activities.

#### **(7) Action Plan- Capacity-Building, Knowledge Management, and Communication:**

**Outcome:** Increased capacity to generate and better knowledge management of gender-responsiveness through data, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

**Actions:** (a) Collect sex, age, and disability disaggregated data from different sectors and make them accessible to identify women's practical and strategic gender needs, and priorities; (b) Make meteorological data understandable and accessible to make an early-warning system effective; and (c) Develop a framework to monitor the implementation of Climate Gender Action Plan.

#### **Gender Budget Development**

The gender budget is linked with the 8th Five-Year plan that aims to establish a country where men and women will have equal opportunities and rights, and where women will be recognized as equal contributors in development activities, under the strategic objectives to:



(i) Improve women's human capabilities; (ii) Increase women's economic benefits; (iii) Enhance women's voice; and (iv) Create an enabling environment for women's advancement.

To implement these objectives, 7 actions are included: (a) increase access to human development opportunities; (b) enhance access to productive resources; (c) increase participation in the decision-making process; (d) establish a conducive legal and regulatory environment; (e) improve institutional capacity and accountability; (e) increase protection; and resilience from crisis; and (f) promote positive social norms.

#### **Conclusions**

The Bangladesh government can implement the Climate Gender Action Plan with targeted programs to increase women's awards (education, skill development), economic opportunities (employment), and empowerment (participation in the decision-making process) programs to reduce women's vulnerability. The gender action plans can be developed with activities, timelines, indicators, and allocated budgets to strengthen the level of preparedness for gender-responsive climate adaptation. Government can align climate-disasters, and gender equality structures for greater synergy, and expand integrated support to local institutions and communities. Urban planning can be considered with

migration issues to build long-term resilience of gender facilities, focusing on the basic needs and constraints of women and men at the local level.

The achievement of the present gender action plan, the government to implement the plan's objectives following the outcomes, and to take appropriate measures to increase women-resilience through promoting gender balance, capacity building, and awareness programs. The women should have free access to local-urban public institutions to get climate information and can increase their adaptive capacity to climate disasters as a proactive gender-responsive group. Government institutions act as preparedness drivers following the gender action plan for Climate Adaptation 2024, along with the National Adaptation Plan 2021, the plan for Disaster Management 2021, the Climate Prosperity Plan 2021, and five-year plans at all levels.

*(References: BD Climate Change and Gender Action Plan-2013, and 2024; Gender and Climate Change in BD, World Bank-2012; Applying Gender Lens to Climate Actions, ADPC, 2021; Gender Equality Brief-BD, UN Women-2024).*



**AKM Monowar Hossain Akhand**  
Former Additional Secretary,  
Ministry of Public Administration,  
Government of Bangladesh.

## Yunus Calls for Creating South Asian Power Grid



Sharing an idea of greater electricity connectivity in the region, chief adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus recently called for creating a South Asian grid to share the hydroelectricity generated by Nepal and Bhutan.

'Bangladesh can easily bring hydroelectricity from Nepal as it is only 40 miles from Bangladesh. Nepalese hydroelectricity will also be cheap,' Professor Yunus said, adding Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Bhutan should think of creating a South Asian grid.

In a meeting with the Social Business Group on the

sidelines of the climate conference in Baku, he said much of the hydroelectricity potentials of the Himalayan nations remain untapped due to a lack of electricity grids connecting Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Bhutan.

Nepal officials have said that the country has the potential to generate 40,000 megawatts of hydroelectricity, which can help lessen the reliance on fossil fuels in bigger countries such as India and Bangladesh.

The chief adviser, who has joined the COP29 climate conference in the Azerbaijan capital, said Bangladesh has put the highest priority on water management to prevent floods and to make the best use of water to boost the country's economic growth. **EP**

## No New Unabated Coal-Power Plants



Twenty-five countries at the COP29 climate summit recently pledged not to build any new unabated coal-power plants, in a push to accelerate the phase-out of the highly polluting fossil fuel.

The United Kingdom, Canada, France, Germany and major coal producer Australia were among the list of mainly wealthy developed economies to sign the

voluntary pledge in Azerbaijan.

It commits nations to submit national climate plans early next year that reflect no new unabated coal in their energy systems.

Unabated refers to coal burned without any measures to reduce its emissions, such as carbon capture and storage, technologies criticized as unproven at a large scale.

Many of the world's biggest coal-power generators -- including China, India and the United States -- did not sign the "call to action" launched in Baku. **EP**

## Govt to Import LNG from Brunei

Bangladesh will import LNG (liquefied natural gas) from Brunei on a long term basis under a G-to-G contract.



The Advisors Council Committee on Economic Affairs (ACCEA), in a meeting with Finance Advisor Dr Salehuddin Ahmed in the chair, approved in principle a proposal in this regard recently.

Energy and Mineral Resources Division of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources moved a proposal of state-owned Petrobangla to seek the approval for such a long term contract.

Currently, Bangladesh has

been importing LNG from Qatar and Oman on a long term basis under government to government (G-to-G) agreements.

Last year, the previous Awami League government signed two more contracts with the two countries to import more LNG.

Under the new proposal, state-owned Brunei Energy Services and Trading Sdn Bhd (BEST) will supply the LNG to Bangladesh. **EP**

## OPEC Secretary General Tells COP29 'Oil is a Gift from God'

OPEC Secretary General Haitham Al Ghais told the recent COP29 climate summit in Baku that crude oil and natural gas were a gift from God, and that global warming talks should focus on cutting emissions not picking energy sources.

The comments came as world governments seeking to limit the damage from global warming gathered in the Caspian Sea nation of Azerbaijan to hash out a sweeping finance deal meant to help countries cut emissions and adapt to the changing climate.

"They are indeed a gift of God," Al Ghais, a veteran Kuwaiti oil executive, said about oil and gas in a speech at the conference.



"They impact how we produce and package and transport food and how we undertake medical research, manufacture and distribute medical supplies. I could go on forever."

His words echoed those of Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev, who used his opening address to the summit last week to hit back at Western critics of his country's oil and gas industry, and who also described those resources as a gift from God. **EP**



# পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি POWER GRID BANGLADESH PLC (An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 Web : [www.pgcb.gov.bd](http://www.pgcb.gov.bd)

## মানসম্পন্ন বিদ্যুৎ নিরবচ্ছিন্নভাবে দেশের সকল মানুষের নিকট পৌঁছে দেয়াই আমাদের অঙ্গীকার

- \* 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।



## Tender for Gas Pipeline from Bhola to Dhaka to be Issued in Dec: Energy Adviser



70 MMCF of gas has been found in Bhola, it cannot be brought to Dhaka or industrial areas due to the lack of a pipeline.

"Bringing Bhola's gas to Dhaka will somewhat alleviate the gas shortage in industries," he added.

The government has planned to issue a tender in December to bring the recently discovered gas resource in Bhola to Dhaka, Power, Energy, and Mineral Resources Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan said on 23 November.

"Interested businesses can participate in the tender and bring the Bhola's gas to Dhaka in the form of compressed natural gas [CNG] or liquefied natural gas [LNG]," the adviser announced at a seminar titled "Ways of Mitigating Energy Crisis in the Industrial Sectors" held at the Westin Hotel in Dhaka.

Fouzul Kabir said although

Speaking at the event, Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) Chairman Zanendra Nath Sarker said an offshore bidding tender will also be opened on 9 December. "We hope to sign an agreement with a world-renowned fuel company for offshore gas early next year."

He further said there is a huge potential for gas discovery in various parts of the country, including the hilly areas. Preparations are underway to open an onshore bidding to explore gas in these areas. **EP**

## Bangladesh Seeks Int'l Law Firm for Power Deal Review

The National Review Committee of the Ministry of Power, Energy, and Mineral Resources has called for the hiring of a renowned international legal and investigative firm to assist in the evaluation of major power generation contracts signed between 2009 and 2024 under Sheikh Hasina's administration.

"We recommend the immediate engagement of one or more top-quality international legal and

investigative firms to assist our committee," the review committee said in its resolution on 24 November, according to the Chief Adviser's Press Wing.

The committee, headed by Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury, said additional time is required to further analyze other solicited and unsolicited contracts.

The committee also said they are gathering evidence that could pave the way for

## Fuel Pricing Reform may Help Lower Inflation, Power Gen Cost: CPD Study

A reform in the pricing formula could reduce diesel and petrol prices by Tk10.50 and Tk11.32 per liter, leading to lower inflation and power generation costs, according to a CPD study.

Energy experts and the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation's chairman agreed with the think tank's findings unveiled at a dialogue titled "Market-Based Fuel Prices: Government-led Initiatives and Possible Amendments".

They, however, emphasized the need to increase efficiency and maintain a steady supply of foreign currency to make this reduction feasible.

At the event organized by the Centre for Policy Dialogue at a city hotel recently, the experts and stakeholders in the energy and power sectors said the current method of determining fuel oil prices is not entirely market-based.

To establish a truly market-based mechanism, they suggested that the price-

potential renegotiations or cancellations of contracts in accordance with international arbitration laws and procedures.

It further added it wants to ensure that its investigations are in line with international standards and will be acceptable in international negotiations and arbitration.

The committee is currently



setting process be entrusted to the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC).

The CPD, in collaboration with the Australian High Commission in Dhaka, conducted the study using the Neural Network Model on the automatic pricing structure, which has been in place in Bangladesh for more than six months.

The government introduced the formula in March in line with the International Monetary Fund's condition involving a \$4.7 billion loan program.

CPD Research Director Khondaker Golam Moazzem, who presided over the dialogue, said while prices are being adjusted, the fluctuations in international market prices are not fully reflected in the current pricing structure. **EP**

conducting a detailed investigation into several contracts, including the Adani (Godda) BIFPCL 1234.4 MW coal-fired power plant, Payra 1320 MW coal plant, Meghnaghat 335 MW dual-fuel plant, Ashuganj 195 MW gas-based plant, Bashkhali 612 MW coal plant, and Meghnaghat 583 MW dual-fuel and 584 MW gas/RLNG plants. **EP**

## BIMSTEC Energy Centre in Bengaluru to Promote Energy Security in Region



The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) has said BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC) in Bengaluru will promote energy security through grid interconnections, renewable energy development and realization of energy efficiency.

The establishment of BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC) in Bengaluru has been seen as a step towards promoting regional cooperation in energy sector within BIMSTEC framework, which is led by India.

The BEC will manage a regional energy database, conduct feasibility studies for

intra-BIMSTEC projects and enhance cooperation by preparing a framework for networking among national agencies of BIMSTEC member States, said the regional organization recently.

Moreover, the Centre will foster capacity building, cross-border investments and infrastructure development for training in energy sector.

The host country agreement between the government of India and the BIMSTEC Secretariat for establishing BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC) in Bengaluru was signed in New Delhi on November 8.

BIMSTEC Secretary General Indra Mani Pandey signed it on behalf of the Secretariat while Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs Jaideep Mazumder signed on behalf of the government of India. **EP**

## Exempt Five Gas Exploration Projects from Feasibility Study, EMRD Writes to Planning Ministry



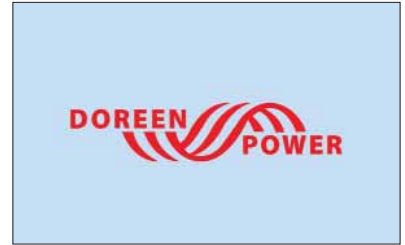
The Energy and Mineral Resources Division approached the Planning ministry to exempt five vital

gas exploration and development projects from the mandatory third-party feasibility study requirement.

The government division reasoned that rapid exploration of gas will help to reduce dependency on imported liquefied natural gas (LNG).

## Doreen Power's Profit Falls 17%

Doreen Power Generations and Systems said its profit fell in the first quarter of the current financial year, as its plants were shut and costs soared.



Doreen Power's quarterly profit stood at Tk 26.95 crore in July-September quarter, reflecting a decline of over 17 percent year-on-year.

The earnings per share (EPS) fell to Tk 1.48 for July-September 2024 from Tk 1.80 in the same period last year, according to its unaudited financial statements.

The power producer attributed the decrease to the shutdown of three power plants since mid-last year and losses from the sale of non-current assets of the Tangail and Feni Plants.

Despite the profit drop, Doreen's revenue increased by 20 percent year-on-year

to Tk 522.98 crore, which the company said was driven by higher customer demand for electricity.

However, its cost of sales rose significantly, reaching Tk 431.73 crore in the July-September period from Tk 337.53 crore the same period of the previous year, due to increased electricity generation.

The company's net operating cash flow per share was Tk 15.88 in the negative for July-September 2024, down from Tk 6.07 negative in the same period last year.

This decrease is due to reduced receipt of bills from customers during the quarter, Doreen said. **EP**

The proposed five projects will ensure drilling several types of 13 wells, set to be implemented by the fiscal year 2028-29 starting in the next fiscal by the Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla).

Currently, a feasibility study is mandatory for any project with an estimated cost of Tk500 million or over prior to approval of the project by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC), according to the Planning Division's guidelines.

Mohammad Saiful Islam, secretary, Energy and Mineral Resources Division, recently sent a letter to the

Planning secretary Iqbal Abdullah Harun, seeking the waiver of feasibility studies for five projects to save money and time to explore gas.

Mohammad Saiful Islam said in his letter, under the government's directive to strengthen energy security, the Energy Division has planned 23 projects for fiscal years 2025-26 to 2028-29, including 15 well-drilling initiatives.

Among them, development project proposals (DPP) for five key projects have been outlined, featuring drilling at prominent locations such as Begumganj, Sundalpur, Kailashtila, and Titas Gas Field. **EP**

## Paid Tk 20cr Bribe for Gas Connection During AL Regime: Commerce Adviser



Commerce Adviser Sheikh Bashir Uddin has said he had to pay a bribe of Tk 20 crore to the road authorities for digging up a road to lay the 40km gas pipeline for his industry during the previous Awami League regime.

"I had to stand in the rain in front of the residence of the former state minister for power, energy and mineral resources [Nasrul Hamid] to get a gas connection to my industry with my own expenses," said Bashir, the managing director of AkijBashir Group, which has concerns in ceramics, glass, steel and polymers.

"That will not happen now. It's an opportunity for you [the business leaders]. Come to us with business proposals

and solutions and not just problems -- we will sort those out unitedly," he said at a discussion titled "Ways of Mitigating Energy Crisis in the Industrial Sectors" organized by the Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI) recently.

He said the energy sector was one of the pillars of criminalization of the previous government.

Top business leaders at the discussion said insufficient gas and power supply, increased fuel prices and inflation have escalated production costs in Bangladesh, making doing business here harder.

In the first nine months of the year, about 200 factories have shut their operations and another 300 factories are on the way to shutting shop within the next year, said BCI President Anwar-Ul-Alam Chowdhury.

Chowdhury went on to blame the foreign currency devaluation, liquidity crisis in the banking sector, lower imports of liquified natural gas, restrictions on the opening of letters of credit and a lack of good governance in the National Board of Revenue for the situation. **EP**

## Krishi Bank Authorized to Remit \$732m in Dues to Adani Power

The Bangladesh Bank has authorized the state-owned Krishi Bank to remit nearly \$732 million to India's Adani Power, covering dues from March to October 2024, and to provide a financial guarantee extending until October next year.

The central bank issued the directive on Sunday in a

move that could improve power supply from the Indian company.

According to data from the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), Adani Power (Jharkhand) Limited delivered only 110MW on 9 November and 47MW the next day, despite having a full capacity of 1,496MW. **EP**

## SANEM Studies Explore Bangladesh's Pathway to Sustainable Energy Transition

A national-level dialogue in the capital has underscored the urgency of transitioning to renewable energy for macroeconomic stability, environmental sustainability, and economic growth by addressing regulatory flaws, mobilizing investments, and fostering collaboration.

South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM) organized the dialogue titled 'Exploring a Sustainable Pathway for Bangladesh's Energy Transformation Towards Green and Clean Energy' at BRAC Centre Inn, in Dhaka recently.

Under the project, SANEM presented the findings of three studies at this event.

The first study, titled "Macroeconomic Effects of Energy Price Fluctuations: Evidence from Bangladesh", examined the impact of global fossil fuel energy price shocks on Bangladesh's macroeconomy.

The study, therefore, suggested several policy recommendations such as diversification of energy sources, effective monetary policy adjustment, dynamic price adjustment mechanism, revising energy planning, strategic energy reserves, enhancing energy infrastructure, adoption of efficient technology, and attracting FDI in renewable energy projects among others.

The 2nd study titled "An

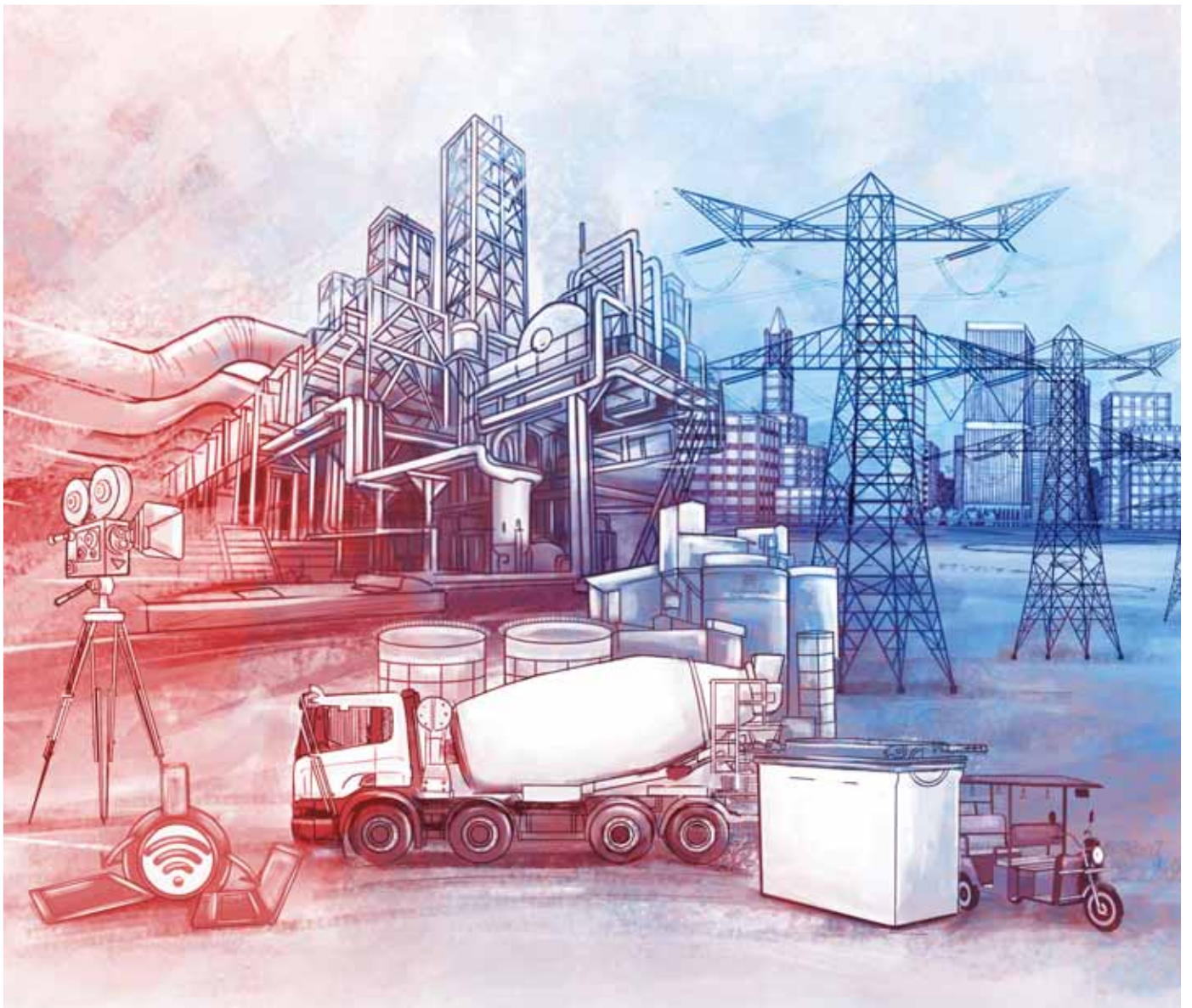


Assessment of Institutional Quality and Political Economy Dynamics of the Power and Energy Sector in Light of the Renewable Energy Transition in Bangladesh", assessed the institutional quality and political economy of Bangladesh's power and energy sector.

It recommends Bangladesh must adopt a cohesive and transparent policy framework to drive its transition to renewable energy. Key actions include abolishing the Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provision) Act, 2010, revising the IEPMP 2023 to phase out fossil fuels and inefficient power plants, and restoring the capacity of the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) through comprehensive reforms.

The third study, titled "Assessing Investment Needs for Renewable Energy Transition in Bangladesh by 2041" focused on solar and wind power development.

It recommends mobilizing the necessary investment, public-private partnerships (PPPs), green bonds, and concessional financing from international institutions like the World Bank, ADB, and GCF are recommended. **EP**



**CONFIDENCE**  
**GROUP** | Let's Believe®





# Green page

## Govt to Float Tenders for RE Projects Soon: Energy Adviser



The government will float tenders for the installation of 30-40 renewable energy projects soon, Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Affairs Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan said on 22 November.

"We can meet electricity demand during irrigation time, by installing

renewable energy sources at open places and rooftops of buildings," he told at a meeting with officials of the northern region of Palli Bydut Samity.

The adviser said, "LNG (liquefied natural gas) worth Tk 6,000 crore is imported annually. Installation of solar power projects can bring down the amount of LNG import and save foreign currency."

"We get sunlight for free, whereas the gas and coal have to be procured using foreign currency. I am urging the Rangpur Palli Bidyut Samity to implement a 200 MW renewable energy project to increase power production in the country," he added. **EP**

## IDCOL Promotes Rooftop Solar for Knitwear Units



Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL) hosted a workshop recently to promote the adoption of rooftop industrial solar system among knitwear manufacturers.

The event took place at a city hotel, focusing on the advantages of integrating rooftop solar technology for members of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA).

Generating electricity from rooftop solar installations is significantly more cost-effective than relying on traditional grid tariffs. Consequently, financing such projects not only presents a sound financial strategy but also contributes to achieving Bangladesh's renewable energy targets.

Power, energy and mineral resources adviser Dr Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan, secretary of the economic relations division (ERD) and chairman of IDCOL Md Shahriar Kader Siddiky, IDCOL executive director Alamgir Morshed, World Bank Bangladesh country director Mr Abdoulaye Seck and Ms Stephanie Rieger, head of division, energy for south Asia at KfW, spoke on the occasion. **EP**

## 10 Year Tax Exemption for RE Producers

The government has granted a significant incentive to renewable energy investors by extending the tax exemption period from five to ten years as the country strives to reduce its reliance on fossil fuel imports, which cost around \$5 billion annually to support gas-, coal-, and oil-based power plants.

Industry insiders say this directive could potentially bring down power prices for consumers.

According to Power Division officials, renewable energy companies that begin commercial power production between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2030 will be eligible for the extended tax benefits.

After the initial 10-year of 100% tax exemption, power producers will pay tax at a rate of 50% for the following three years, and then 25% for the subsequent two years.

The decision was finalized during an inter-ministerial meeting at the Secretariat on 14 November, chaired by Finance Adviser Dr Salehuddin Ahmed and Power and Energy Adviser Muhammad Fauzul Kabir Khan.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from the Finance and Power divisions, as well as the National Board of Revenue (NBR).

At the meeting, the government also decided that a 5% advance VAT on imported materials for renewable energy production would be waived upon certification from the Power Division. **EP**

## Bangladesh Lags Behind Rooftop Solar Race



Despite significant potential for rooftop solar energy, Bangladesh has lagged behind in development, while Vietnam has emerged as a regional leader in the sector.

As of 2024, Bangladesh's total solar energy output stands at 1,084.55 MW, according to the Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority. This includes 258 non-net-metered rooftop solar systems with a capacity of 88.451 MW, and 2,476 net-metered rooftop solar systems generating 111.732 MW.

In contrast, Vietnam produces 9,300 MW of rooftop solar energy out of a total solar capacity of 16,500 MW,

making it the top solar energy producer in Southeast Asia, according to Vietnam Electricity.

Vietnam's total solar energy production is nearly equivalent to Bangladesh's entire power generation capacity.

Bangladesh introduced a policy in 2012 mandating new buildings to install solar panels for utility connections. However, experts have called it a failed initiative.

Khondaker Golam Moazzem, research director at the Centre for Policy Dialogue, criticized the policy as flawed and politically motivated, claiming it primarily served a specific political group.

"Many people installed low-quality solar panels just to obtain utility connections. As a result, most of these systems are now non-operational," said Moazzem, also an adviser to the Just Energy Transition Network Bangladesh. **EP**

## Organix, O Creeds Sign MoU to Boost RE, Waste Management



Organix Energy Inc, a global project developer in renewable energy, and Onushandhani Creeds Limited (O Creeds), a Bangladeshi consultancy specializing in environmental and infrastructure projects, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, or MoU, to collaborate on renewable energy initiatives.

The partnership focuses on "leveraging organic waste and landfill gas to produce Renewable Natural Gas, or RNG, and renewable electricity,

significantly advancing waste management, energy security, and climate resilience in Bangladesh", the companies said in a press release.

Organix, based in Canada's British Columbia, recently completed a preliminary study on the Amin Bazar Landfill, estimating a production of 1.9 billion cubic feet (bcf) of RNG over 20 years. This could contribute "1,807,275 MMBTU of energy, meeting local natural gas demands, decreasing LNG imports, and reducing emissions equivalent to taking 214,246 cars off Dhaka's roads", according to the statement.

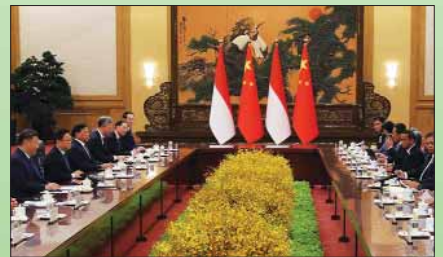
Organix projects use anaerobic digestion which it says generates renewable energy while also producing nutrient-rich organic fertilizer. **EP**



## China, Indonesia Seal \$10b in Deals Focused on Green Energy, Tech

China and Indonesia signed deals worth \$10 billion at the Indonesia-China Business Forum in Beijing recently, spanning sectors including food, new energy, technology, and biotechnology, Chinese state media reported.

The forum followed a meeting on



Saturday between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, who is in China through Nov. 10, the first country he has visited since taking office last month.

Prabowo, who won Indonesia's presidential election in February, also chose China for his first visit as president elect, underscoring Jakarta's commitment to stronger strategic ties with Beijing.

In a joint statement after the leaders' meeting, the countries agreed to enhance collaboration in sectors such as new energy vehicles, lithium batteries, photovoltaics, and the digital economy.

They also pledged to strengthen partnership on the global energy transition and jointly ensure the security of global mineral supply and industrial chains, the statement said.

Prabowo in a separate statement said he was optimistic close cooperation between the two countries would improve regional stability. **EP**

## Chinese Investors Interested in Bangladesh's Power, Green Energy Sectors



Technology Limited, highlighted Bangladesh's potential as a reliable market and strategic export hub.

He noted that Bangladesh currently has a substantial number of battery-powered vehicles but lacks advanced battery technology.

"Considering the rise in electric vehicles, we see a great opportunity to establish a high-quality lithium battery production facility, a solar panel manufacturing plant to address energy needs, and a state-of-the-art satellite communication network in Bangladesh," Wong said.

In a collaborative meeting at the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority's (BIDA) headquarters, Chinese investors outlined significant plans for joint ventures in Bangladesh's power and green technology sectors.

The meeting, chaired by BIDA's Executive Chairman, Chowdhury Ashiq Mahmud Bin Harun, brought together representatives from Bangladesh's Nams Motors Limited and China's Wellbe Communication Technology Limited and Beijing Hairun Haoshen Technology Limited to discuss investments in lithium battery and solar panel manufacturing, as well as satellite connectivity.

Wong Tik Benjamin, Chairman of Wellbe Communication Technology Limited and Beijing Hairun Haoshen

Brigadier General (Retd.) Shafiquzzaman, Managing Director of Nams Motors Limited, expressed similar enthusiasm, emphasizing that the partnership aims not only for profitability but also to contribute to Bangladesh's push for green technology and pollution reduction.

BIDA's Executive Chairman, Chowdhury Ashik Mahmud Bin Harun, expressed gratitude to the Chinese delegation and outlined the benefits of investing in Bangladesh. **EP**

## Azerbaijan Breaks Ground on 240 MW Solar Plant



A groundbreaking ceremony has taken place for the 240 MW Shafag solar power plant in Azerbaijan.

The project, to be located in the Jabrayil region of southwestern Azerbaijan, is being developed under an executive agreement signed between the Azerbaijan Ministry of Energy and bp in

June 2021.

A shareholder agreement between bp, alongside Socar Green and the Azerbaijan Investment Company (AIC) via a joint venture called Shafag (Jabrayil) Solar Limited (SJS�), was signed in October. bp holds a 50.01% stake, while Socar holds 39.99% and AIC 10%.

The groundbreaking ceremony also saw an investment agreement signed between the Azerbaijan government and SJS�, as well as a land lease agreement between the Ministry of Energy and SJS�.

Once completed, the Shafag plant is projected to generate approximately 500 million kWh (500 GWh) of electricity annually. **EP**

## Australia Closed on Record 3.9 GWh of Battery Storage Capacity in Jul-Sept

Eight new battery projects added up to 95% more volume than was recorded in Q3, 2023, according to a Clean Energy Council (CEC) quarterly report which also pointed to a renewables generation boom.

The latest quarterly assessment by Australia's CEC showed investment in energy storage projects



continued to power ahead between July and September 2024, with eight new battery systems that will provide a record 1,235 MW/3,862 MWh of storage capacity reaching financial commitment.

That figure was up 95% compared to the same period of 2023. The CEC said the storage investment commitments totaled at least AUD 1.2 billion (\$789 million), with several projects not providing publicly available investment data.

There were also 10 new large-scale solar and wind energy generation projects with 1,405 MW of generation capacity and a combined value of AUD 3.3 billion which achieved a final investment decision in the three months to the end of September 2024. **EP**

## Climate Vulnerable Countries Require Enough Support: CA



**C**hief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus said most climate vulnerable countries with limited decarbonization capacity need to have adequate financial and technical support to develop green industries.

He said Bangladesh is willing to work with Climate Club to catalyze international cooperation in terms of capacity building, technology transfer and concessional decarbonization finance.

The Chief Adviser was speaking at the High Level Climate Club Leaders Meeting, hosted by Germany and Chile, at COP29 in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

Prof Yunus said deep, rapid and sustained reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and comprehensive international action are required for reducing global GHG emissions by 43 percent by 2030, reaching net-zero by 2050 to limit warming to 1.5 degree Celsius.

He called for demonstrating and deploying proven low-emissions technologies, particularly in emerging markets and developing economies. **EP**

## Rizwana Asks Forest Dept No Longer to Plant Eucalyptus, Acacia Trees

**E**nvironment, Forest, and Climate Change Syeda Rizwana Hasan recently asked the forest department no longer to plant eucalyptus and acacia trees.



She instructed the department to conserve all tree species, except eucalyptus and acacia, planted along roadsides under social forestry program.

The environment adviser made the directives in a special meeting held at the Forest Department office in Agargaon, Dhaka.

Stating that biodiversity rules and guidelines would be formulated to protect biodiversity, she said stressing on involving **EP**

students in wildlife and forest-related activities at the range office level.

Rizwana underscored the need for establishing management committees for protected forests such as Lathitila, Chunati, Satchari and Lawachara.

She called for an end to ecotourism and picnic in these forests and emphasized stopping music and noise disturbances to maintain the natural environment of the forests. **EP**

## Plastic Pollution Talks Must Not Fail: UN Environment Chief



**T**alks to agree the world's first treaty to curb plastic pollution cannot fail and must tackle both production and consumption, the UN's environment chief said recently.

Negotiators are deeply divided on issues including whether to limit new plastic manufacturing and phase out some chemicals, raising concerns that the talks could fail.

"I can't entertain that it fails," said Inger Andersen, evoking

the "massive plastic crisis". "No one wants to find plastic in the placenta or in the blood of the unborn baby."

The negotiations opened hours after COP29 climate talks in Baku that went into overtime and ended in a deal roundly condemned by many developing countries.

Battle lines were quickly drawn in Busan, with several countries initially objecting to a document intended to streamline negotiations.

Andersen said the tussling at COP29 and biodiversity talks before it this year would not "set a negative precedence in any way, shape or form." **EP**

## Climate Loss and Damage Fund Set to Launch into Action Next Year

**A**greements have been signed to pave the way for a United Nations-backed fund for the most climate-vulnerable countries to start project financing in 2025, COP29 host Azerbaijan said recently.

The "loss and damage" fund's board signed a Trustee Agreement and a Secretariat Hosting Agreement with the World Bank and a Host Country Agreement with the Philippines at a ceremony in Baku.

At the ceremony, part of the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP), Sweden also pledged about \$19 million, subject to approval by the **EP**



Swedish government. This raised commitments to over \$720 million, according to a statement on the COP29 website.

France and Italy lead commitments at about \$112 million each, followed by Germany and the United Arab Emirates at \$100 million each, according to on-line data from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the COP convenor. **EP**

## Chief Adviser for 'Zero Carbon'-Based Life-Style to Save Planet



Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus recently suggested creating a new life-style based on 'zero waste and zero carbon' to protect the planet from climate catastrophes, presenting his longstanding dream of creating a new world of three zeroes.

"In order to survive, we need to create another culture. A counter-culture which is based on a different lifestyle. It is based on zero waste. It will limit consumption to essential needs, leaving no residual waste," he said while speaking at the opening session of the World Leaders Climate Action Summit in COP29, held in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

This lifestyle will also be

based on zero carbon where there will be no fossil fuel but only renewable energy, Prof Yunus said, adding there will be an economy that will be based primarily on zero personal profit like the social business, according to a message received here.

Defining the social business as a non-dividend business addressed to solve social and environmental problems, he said a vast part of social businesses will focus on protecting the environment and mankind.

"Human lives will not only be protected but qualitatively enhanced through affordable healthcare and education. It will facilitate entrepreneurship for the youth. Young people will get prepared through new education of entrepreneurship. Education of creating job seekers will be replaced by entrepreneurship-focused education," the chief adviser said. **EP**

## Fossil Fuel Emissions to Hit New Record in 2024



Planet-warming carbon dioxide emissions from oil, gas and coal rose to a new record high this year, according to preliminary research recently that found no sign the world was

moving away from fossil fuels.

Nations gathering in Azerbaijan for crunch UN climate talks have pledged to "transition away" from fossil fuels and aim to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrial times.

Global CO2 pollution needs to be reduced dramatically this decade to reach this target, but the new findings

## Rezwana Seeks Global Support for Transition to RE

Adviser of the interim government for environment, forests and climate change Syeda Rizwana Hasan has said timely and fair financial and technological support is need for Bangladesh's transition to renewable energy.

"Despite hurdles, Bangladesh remains committed to achieve its target of generating 40 percent energy from renewable sources by 2041," she said adding in view of this the interim government is actively revisiting the present energy policies to ensure sustainability and sovereignty."

Rezwana was addressing a sideline event title- "Road to Net Zero: Navigating the Energy Transition in South Asia" at the World Bank-IMF Pavilion during the World Climate Conference (COP-29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The adviser said to reduce dependence on imported solar panels, China has been requested to relocate some of its solar manufacturing plants to Bangladesh.

Noting that policies on solar

from an international network of scientists at the Global Carbon Project showed that oil, gas and coal emissions continue to rise.

The research found that to keep the 1.5C target in sight, the world would now need to reach net-zero CO2 emissions by the late 2030s - far earlier than most countries currently plan.

While scientists said



energy, including high taxes, are also under review, she said potentials of rooftop solar on high-rise buildings and unused government or tea estate lands are being explored as part of its solution.

Speaking in another event organized by UNFCCC, Rizwana noted that implementing Bangladesh's updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) requires US\$ 176 billion by 2030 and US \$32 billion is needed for unconditional actions.

"The remaining amount relies on international support, particularly through mechanisms like Article 6 of the Paris Agreement that provides a framework for countries to cooperate towards the implementation of their NDC through carbon markets. Bangladesh is preparing to submit its NDC 3.0 next year," she noted. **EP**

renewable power and electric vehicles are helping to displace some fossil fuels, growth in emissions from gas and oil pushed global fossil fuel emissions higher this year.

Glen Peters, research director at the Center for International Climate Research in Oslo, said the world was "frustratingly close" to a peak in its fossil fuel emissions. **EP**

## Dream to Achieve Goals in Life, Prof Yunus Tells Youths at COP29



Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus recently called upon the youths to dream to achieve their goals in life as the dream is a power.

“You have to dream . . . the dream is the most powerful driving force in life,” he said while speaking at a youth gathering on the sidelines of COP29 in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

Pointing at the youth population, Prof Yunus said:

“If you dream, there is a very good change in your life. If you do not dream, I can guarantee you it would not happen”.

He also asked the young generation to come forward to build the world they want.

Depicting his long experiences in achieving goals, the chief adviser encouraged the youths to devote themselves in addressing pressing global crises and bring positive changes in the world.

Besides, Chief Adviser Prof Yunus responded to some queries from visiting Bangladeshi journalists at the Bangladesh Pavilion on the sidelines of COP29 in Baku. **EP**

## LDCs Trapped in Climate Debt Spiral



The Climate Debt Risk Index 2024 (CDRI), introduced by Change Initiative (CI), calls for a complete overhaul of the global climate finance framework. The report advocates for grant-based financing, 100% debt relief, and a nature-based economy as essential measures to combat escalating climate debt burdens.

The CDRI, based on an analysis of 20 vulnerable Least Developed Countries

(LDCs), uncovers alarming trends that threaten equity, justice, and sustainable development in climate finance.

Countries such as Mozambique, Madagascar, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka rank among the highest at risk, with Madagascar's Climate Debt Risk Index projected to reach 81.41 by 2030.

The study reveals that total climate debt for the selected 20 LDCs peaked at \$2.73 billion in 2014 and, despite fluctuations, remains significant. The overall climate debt burden has risen 24-fold, from \$0.88 billion in 2009 to \$21.25 billion in 2022. **EP**

## Bangladesh Calls for Climate Justice, Ambitious Pre-2030 Targets at COP29

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, advisor to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Water Resources, called for climate justice, urging the global community to uphold the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR).

“Delaying action until after 2030 is not an option. To keep the 1.5°C goal within reach, developed nations must rapidly scale up mitigation efforts and fulfill their commitments under the Paris Agreement,” she said.

While addressing the 2024 Annual High-Level Ministerial Round Table on Pre-2030 Ambition at COP29 held in Baku, Azerbaijan, she represented



one of the world's most climate-vulnerable nations and emphasized the urgency of collective global action to address the escalating climate crisis.

Bangladesh faces harsh realities of climate change daily, she highlighted the impacts of rising sea levels, intensified cyclones, erratic rainfall and salinity intrusion, said a press release.

This year alone, two catastrophic floods caused \$1.7 billion in damages—equivalent to 1.8% of the national budget. **EP**

## ADB Launches Environment Action Plan 2024–2030

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched its Environment Action Plan 2024–2030 presenting a road map for addressing the impacts of the triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, pollution, and climate change in Asia and the Pacific.

Under the plan, ADB aims to expand the scale and scope of nature-positive investments and mainstream environment into relevant operations and investments, while working to conserve the environment and nature as a vehicle for economic growth and improved livelihoods.



The plan has three linked pillars: biodiversity and ecosystem management, pollution control and circular economy, and nature-based climate solutions, said an ADB press release.

It aligns with ADB's broader commitment to supporting the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. **EP**

# The Promise To Mobilize \$1.0tn More Is Vague

**T**he lone success, if any want to say, is operationalizing the Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Yet there is a lack of transparency in data sharing by developed countries. On the other hand, the amount of US\$300 billion to be delivered by 2035 was inadequate relative to minimum needs. There were some lacunae in the adopted text: no share mentioned between adaptation and mitigation as well as no mention about a specific share between loans and grants. Moreover, it is a vague promise that the remaining US\$1.0 trillion to be mobilized from all sources as the past experience does not provide a good lesson.

Prof. Dr. Mizan R Khan, Technical Lead, LDC Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC), said this in an interview with **Mollah Amzad Hossain**, Editor of Energy & Power.

**You attended the COP29 in Baku Azerbaijan. How do you evaluate the outcome of COP29?**

Not a success other than operationalizing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Even there, the outcome particularly for the 6.2 part of the Article, the level of transparency in data sharing by developed countries was not at the level expected.

**COP29 was tagged as financing COP. Developed countries pledged a fund of US\$300 billion annually by 2035 responding to the least developed poor nations'**

**demand for US\$1.3 trillion. There is considerable doubt whether even this amount would be available. What are your observations?**

I have shared my interview with you. The amount of US\$300 billion to be delivered by 2035 was inadequate relative to minimum needs. As I mentioned, there were some lacunae in the adopted text: no share mentioned between adaptation and mitigation; so the former is likely to remain poor, as in the past; no earmarked share/amount for the LDCs and SIDS, even though they have demanded US\$220 billion & US\$39 billion respectively. Then there was no mention of a specific share between loans vs grants; no share to be channeled through the climate regimes funds, like the GCF and other funders; no mention of share for Loss & Damage; no clear link established between climate finance and debt burdens of developing countries; no strong call for reforming of the multilateral financial institutions like the World Bank & IMF.

Besides, the remaining US\$1 trillion to be mobilized from all sources is vague; the past experience does not provide a good lesson. China and some other countries will voluntarily contribute for sure while China appears more open this time about their supporting other developing countries than before.

**Glasgow Climate Summit had a pledge to double the contribution**



Prof. Dr. Mizan R Khan

*The major challenge for COP30 is to restore the trust between the Global North and the Global South. The trust deficit continues to widen in matters substantive to solving the issues, such as ambitious mitigation and scaling climate finance. However, I believe that COP30, under the progressive leadership of Lula De Silva of Brazil, a University Professor, can expect a better outcome.*

**to the adaptation fund in two years. But that has not been realized. The Baku declaration has a pledge that developed countries would triple the contribution from the level of 2022 by 2030. What is your opinion about it?**

In climate negotiations, procrastination is a serious problem. When there is no roadmap for doubling the level of adaptation finance by 2025, compared to the 2019 level, the goal will not be achieved. Development partners know for sure that by next year reaching the target of about US\$40 billion is not feasible for them. So,

they have pushed it for 2030, I argued this point in my first book published by Routledge in 2024 from London that unless there is an additional level of pledge. But I believe it will not be reached. There is a lacuna in conceptualizing adaptation, which is viewed to be contributing to local or national public good under the narrow neoclassical economic lens. But I have argued in my first book published in 2014 from London by Routledge that unless adaptation is regarded as a global public good, it will continue to remain poor, as it is now.

***Bangladesh could not access much though funds kept flowing in the global fund. Bangladesh is getting a maximum of US\$1 billion annually from various funds, multilateral and bilateral. However, Bangladesh needs US\$12.5 billion annually for mitigation and adaptation. What additional strategy Bangladesh should adopt to increase global support?***

If we add the figures from both the NDC & NAP, the yearly need goes much higher. I do not think Bangladesh gets a billion for addressing climate change, though detailed data are not available. I think the amount stands between US\$200 million to US\$300 million a year.

As Bangladesh is graduating soon, the grant component of foreign aid will go down, but Bangladesh can claim the grants from climate finance, which is not also encouraging. But for that, we need to build further capacity for writing fundable proposals from a variety of funding agencies. Together, we need to strengthen our monitoring, evaluation, and transparency framework of climate investments. Climate finance will flow more to those countries that have a strong track record of transparency and accountability in utilizing both domestic and foreign funds.

***There is a belief that rich nations***

***themselves have financial difficulties now. Hence their capacity for contribution to climate funds has declined. What will you say?***

I agree. There is a traffic jam of replenishment of more than a dozen agencies including GEF, IDA, etc. Second, industrial countries are also heavily indebted, particularly to their own financial systems. Plus devaluation of Japanese, European & other currencies against the US Dollar requires much more to commit only to maintain the previous level. However, the international financial system is awash with liquidity, as argued by the latest IPCC Report, but money does not flow where it is needed most. For example, US\$1.1 trillion is given as a subsidy a year to the fossil fuel industry, and more than US\$2.2 trillion is spent on the military budget for maintaining the perceived threats to military security, but climate change is a real existential threat. But a fraction is not available there. So, the availability of funding is a matter more of political will, rather than of economics.

***It is usual practice that in the technical level negotiation over the first the international financial system is awash with liquidity, as at every COP draft decisions are worked out. These are finalized in the ministerial-level meetings. But it was not possible in Baku. Why did it happen this time?***

Because the Azeri Presidency did not do the minimum required homework during 2024 at the political level. Now, decisions are more and more decided at the political level, than by technical negotiators.

***It was mentioned in a study report of the Financial Standing Committee that US\$5.1-6.8 trillion would be required by 2030 to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Besides, this adaptation would require US\$445-584 billion every year. There is no assurance***

***of getting more. Under this situation, do you believe that the Net Zero target by 2050 or restricting global warming to 1.5-2.0 degrees Celsius can be achieved at all?***

We already live in a warmer world which is closer to 1.5 degrees; to achieve that by 2030, there is a need for a 43% reduction of GHG emissions, but given the full compliance of all the NDCs submitted, we can achieve only 6% of reductions. Even last year, there was an increase in total GHG emissions. The NDC 3.0 to be submitted by major emitters may have ambitious mitigation targets, but their implementation I am not very optimistic about.

***How can CSOs, NGOs, and Youth play a role as pressure groups to OECD countries to create pressure on their state leaderships?***

This depends more on the youth groups of the global north, where democracies are more mature than in the global south. So, the increasingly active youth leaders from both aisles should unite hands and strongly lobby particularly in the G20 countries, which emit more than 80% of global emissions. Here again, the youth leadership of the developed North must take the lead.

***UNFCCC started its journey from Brazil. It also played a significant role in finalizing the Kyoto Protocol. Now, what are the major challenges of COP30?***

As a long-time negotiator, I believe the major challenge for COP30 is to restore the trust between the Global North and the Global South. The trust deficit continues to widen in matters substantive to solving the issues, such as ambitious mitigation and scaling climate finance. However, I believe that COP30, under the progressive leadership of Lula De Silva of Brazil, a University Professor, can expect a better outcome.

**EP**

# CLIMATE SUMMIT IN BAKU BRINGS LITTLE CHEER FOR BANGLADESH

Reverse Swing



Farid Hossain

**B**angladesh, a delta nation of 170 million people, is vulnerable to climate change and related disasters. Frequent floods, cyclones, and occasional droughts claiming lives and livelihoods every year speak of the depth of the climate vulnerability. Not unsurprisingly, Bangladesh has been at the forefront of the most vulnerable developing countries as they try to devise national strategies to minimize the damages and intensify the negotiations with the rich countries, bilaterally and at international forums, to get better deals. But more often than not we don't get enough of what we need. That is unfortunate.

When the Baku climate summit wrapped up last month the rich countries agreed to triple finance to developing countries, from the previous goal of USD 100 billion annually, to USD 300 billion annually by 2035.

The developed nations, which are mostly responsible for global warming, also agreed to do more in all actors and work together to scale up finance to developing countries, from public and private sources to the amount of USD 1.3 trillion per year by 2035.

Known formally as the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), it was agreed after two weeks of intensive negotiations and several years of preparatory work, in a process that requires all nations to unanimously agree on every word of the agreement, according to the COP29 conference documents.

"This new finance goal is an insurance policy for humanity, amid worsening climate impacts hitting every country," said Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change. "But like any insurance policy – it only works – if premiums are paid in full, and on time. Promises must be kept, to protect billions of lives. "It will keep the clean

energy boom growing, helping all countries to share in its huge benefits: more jobs, stronger growth, cheaper and cleaner energy for all."

There are doubts whether the rich countries will deliver on the pledges.

Prof Muhammad Yunus, the chief adviser of Bangladesh's interim government, did not hide his disappointment about the outcomes of the successive UN climate talks. His attack on the rich countries had been direct.

"Why should there be a negotiation? You are causing the problem, then you solve it," he told The Associated Press in an interview in Baku, Azerbaijan. "We will raise our voice and tell them it's your fault, like what we did with colonialism."

Yunus said the climate negotiations, known as COP29, can be "humiliating" for poor countries. Yunus likened the talks to a "fish market" packed with people trying to get the best bargains. "That's a very wrong perception of the whole thing," he said.

There are other concerns too. Donald Trump's return to the White House has deepened doubts about whether the developed countries would be able to fulfill their promises. Trump opposed the Paris Agreement during his first term as the US president (2016-20).

He is not alone. Right-wing parties that also opposed the Paris deal on reducing carbon emission to a tolerable level are gaining dominance in countries like Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, Germany, and France. This has resulted in the unwillingness of the developed countries to even pledge the USD 1.3 trillion fund demanded by climate-vulnerable nations.

The concern of the developing countries has well been shared at the

Baku summit by the country's Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan, who is also a climate warrior.

A Dhaka daily reported that during the COP29 summit in Baku, Rizwana expressed dissatisfaction with the global financing mechanisms, saying that a significant portion of funds is being offered as loans rather than grants. "We do not want to take on more debt, this increases our financial burden."

Delays in mitigation measures by developed nations are exacerbating climate risks and reducing disaster management capacities, she said, adding, "Our losses are increasing and risks growing due to these delays."

Description: The Business Standard Google News Rizwana did the right thing when she stressed the need for ensuring quick and sufficient disbursement of loss and damage funds and for some disasters like salinity intrusion both financial and technological solutions are needed.

"To tackle salinity, we need research on how to sustain food and crop production in affected areas. Without adequate funding and technology, it will be challenging for Bangladesh to address such issues," she said.

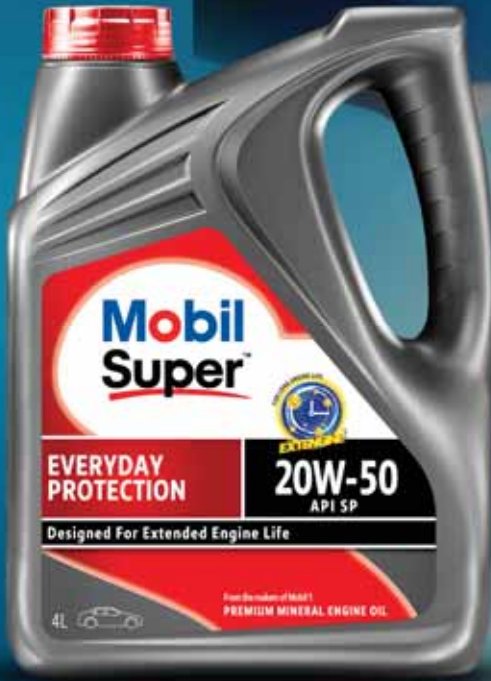
Highlighting Bangladesh's vulnerability, the adviser said two severe floods this year caused \$1.7 billion in damages, equivalent to 1.8% of the national budget. Over the past 18 months, the country has experienced 15 climate-induced disasters, leaving 1.2 million people waterlogged, she said.

"Despite contributing only 0.4% to global greenhouse gas emissions, Bangladesh faces disproportionate impacts. The country aims to reduce emissions by 22% by 2030 requires \$45 billion in domestic funds and \$135 billion in international support," **EP**

**Mobil  
Super™**

**সুরক্ষিত হৈঞ্জিতে**

**প্রথ চলুন ভাবনাহীন, প্রতিদিন**



**Mobil Super™**  
Everyday Protection  
**20W-50 API SP**

- ✓ সর্বাধুনিক ExtEngine Molecule Technology- তে তৈরি
- ✓ ৬৫% পর্যন্ত উন্নত Wear Protection নিশ্চিত করে
- ✓ সর্বোচ্চ মানের API SP গ্রেড নিশ্চিত করে হৈঞ্জিনের সর্বোত্তম সুরক্ষা
- ✓ 20W-50 ভিসকোসিটি সুপারিশকৃত সব ধরনের পেট্রোল/অকটেন চালিত গাড়িতে ব্যবহার উপযোগী

**MJL Bangladesh PLC.**

16669  
mjbl.com

# JAC

☎ 09612100200

# **DRIVE** YOUR **DREAMS**



THE MOST RUGGED & STYLISH

## **JAC T8**

Double Cabin Pickup

- ⊗ 18" ALUMINUM ALLOY WHEELS
- ⊗ MULTIFUNCTION STEERING
- ⊗ EBD BRAKING SYSTEM

**Energypac**<sup>®</sup>

**SIEMENS**  
energy

# Let's make tomorrow different today



Siemens Energy is a trademark licensed by Siemens AG.

[siemens-energy.com](https://www.siemens-energy.com)