

India, China armies make slight retreat

China reportedly made a slight retreat at Galwan Valley, one of the flashpoint leading to standoff with India, in Ladakh region, in a bid to resolve the border tension between the two nations. The China's People's Liberation Army moved back two kilometres on Wednesday while the Indian Army has moved back by one kilometre. However, at another flashpoint Pangong Tso (lake), troops from both sides are stationed and are camping over there. This would be the main focus of the meeting on June 6 between top military officers of India and China. Indian Army Chief MM Naravane is confident enough that the standoff would be resolved at military-level talks.

Guard with knife injures 39 at China primary school

An elementary school guard in China injured 39 people in a knife attack yesterday with many children among the victims, a state office and media reported. Two of the injured were severely hurt in the attack in the southwestern region of Guangxi, the county-level propaganda office said on its social media account. Others sustained light injuries and no one was critically hurt, it said. The suspect, a 50-year-old man surnamed Li who worked as a guard at the school in the town of Wangfu, attacked at around 8:30 am, according to the Paper, a Shanghai-government backed newspaper. Li has been arrested. Many of the injured children were about six years old. China has seen several attacks on schoolchildren in recent years, with eight children killed in a similar attack in Hubei province last year.



India, Australia seal deal to use military bases

India and Australia sealed an accord yesterday to grant access to each other's military bases in order to facilitate mutual defence exchanges and exercises. The agreement - known as the Mutual Logistics Support Agreement - was reached during a virtual summit between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Australia's premier Scott Morrison. The accord allows military ships and aircraft to refuel and access maintenance facilities, and is widely seen as being part of a broader strategy by democracies in the region to counter China's military and economic weight. India has already signed similar agreements with the US, France and Singapore. Besides the MLSA, the other pacts signed will provide for bilateral cooperation in areas of cyber security, mining and minerals, military technology, vocational education and water resources management. In the talks, the two sides also deliberated on a host of key issues including threat of terrorism, maritime security challenges, reform in the World Trade Organisation.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

HK defies Tiananmen vigil ban

Pepper spray, arrests as thousands lit candles, chant democracy slogans

AGENCIES

Thousands of Hong Kong protesters lit candles and chanted democracy slogans as they defied a ban yesterday against gathering to commemorate China's deadly Tiananmen crackdown, with tensions seething in the city over a planned new security law.

Crowds streamed into city's Victoria Park that has hosted huge Tiananmen anniversary vigils for the past three decades, with smaller rallies erupting across the finance hub.

Police arrested some demonstrators in a shopping district on although they allowed the main rally at Victoria Park to proceed. Police also fired pepper spray to disperse protesters who gathered in Hong Kong's working class district of Mong Kok.

The displays of resistance came hours after Hong Kong's legislature passed a bill criminalising insults to China's national anthem, which the pro-democracy movement sees as yet another example of eroding freedoms.

China's plans to impose a security

Legislature passes law making insults to China's nat'l anthem a crime

City braces for national security laws amid global condemnation



law on Hong Kong criminalising treason and subversion, has cemented fears that the semi-autonomous city is losing its treasured liberties.

Hundreds of people were killed in 1989 when China's communist rulers deployed the military into Beijing's Tiananmen Square to crush a student-led movement for democratic reforms.

Commemorations of the event are forbidden in mainland China but have been allowed in semi-autonomous Hong Kong,

which has been granted liberties under the terms of its 1997 handover from the British.

The city was engulfed by seven straight months violent pro-democracy protests last year -- rallies that kicked off five days after the last annual vigil. In response to those demonstrations Beijing last month announced plans to impose the security law.

Critics, including many Western nations, fear it will bring mainland-style political oppression to a business hub.

KILLING OF PREGNANT ELEPHANT IN INDIA

'Justice will prevail'

Kerala CM says ongoing probe identifies 3 suspects

NDTV, THE STATESMAN/ANN



Three suspects have been identified in investigations into the killing of a pregnant elephant that ate an explosives-filled pineapple, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said yesterday.

"Justice will prevail," Vijayan said in tweets amid huge anger and grief after tragic visuals of the elephant, dead in a river, emerged in a forest officer's post earlier this week.

"In a tragic incident in Palakkad district, a pregnant elephant has lost its life. Many of you have reached out to us. We want to assure you that your concerns will not go in vain," said the chief minister.

"An investigation is underway, focusing on three suspects. The police and forest departments will jointly investigate the incident. We will do everything possible to bring the culprits to justice."

Earlier yesterday, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar had also tweeted that the central government would investigate the tragedy.

"We will not leave any stone unturned to investigate properly and nab the culprit(s). This is not an Indian culture to feed fire crackers and kill," the minister tweeted.

The wild elephant strayed into a village near Silent Valley National Park in Palakkad last Wednesday and ate a pineapple filled with firecrackers. It exploded in its mouth and in that state the elephant walked for days in pain before it went into a river and died standing on May 27.

Villagers in the region often use firecracker or explosive-filled fruit to protect their fields from wild animals, but the practice has been widely condemned as cruel and disturbing.

Photos shared on social media showed the elephant standing in the river with her mouth and trunk in water, perhaps for some relief from pain. Officials guessed from its shrunk form that the animal may have eaten the fruit 20 days ago and had starved since. She didn't harm a single human being even when she ran in searing pain in the streets of the village, locals and officials said.

The incident has attracted huge condemnation on social media, where the memes showed the mother elephant saying it was her fault to trust the human race, while the unborn child in her womb kept asking: "What is my fault, Ma?"

REACTIONS TO US RACE PROTESTS

Sports stars, musicians, politicians and religious leaders have queued up to condemn the death of George Floyd, an unarmed African-American man whose killing has touched off once-in-a-generation protests across the US. Here is a round-up of global reactions to his death and the demonstrations that have convulsed the United States in the past week.

Your dreams matter: Obama



Former US president Barack Obama on Wednesday applauded the "profound" protests by Americans demanding racial justice. "I want you to know that you matter. I want you to know that your lives matter, your dreams matter." The 58-year-old noted the deadly upheaval of the 1960s civil rights movement, and said "a far more representative cross-section of America" is protesting now than as compared to half a century ago. "There is a change in mindset that's taking place, a greater recognition that we can do better," Obama said.

Structural racism: Bachelet

The UN rights chief slammed "structural racism" in the US and the "unprecedented assault" on journalists covering the protests in fresh comments Wednesday. "The voices calling for an end to the killings of unarmed African Americans need to be heard. The voices calling for an end to police violence need to be heard. And the voices calling for an end to the endemic and structural racism that blights US society need to be heard," Michelle Bachelet said.



Abuse of power: Borrell



EU High Representative Josep Borrell said Europe was "shocked and appalled" by Floyd's death. "This is an abuse of power and this has to be denounced, has to be combatted, in the States and everywhere," he added.

Undermines US democracy: Carter

US ex-president Jimmy Carter said Wednesday he was pained by last week's police killing of an unarmed black man and urged authorities to end discriminatory policing and other systemic injustices that "undermine" American democracy.

"People of power, privilege, and moral conscience must stand up and say 'no more' to a racially discriminatory police and justice system, immoral economic disparities between whites and blacks, and government actions that undermine our unified democracy," Carter said in a statement released by the Carter Center.



Tragic failures: GB Bush



Former president George W Bush called on the US to take a hard look at its "tragic failures". "It remains a shocking failure that many African Americans, especially young African American men, are harassed and threatened in their own country," Bush said in the statement. "This



People gather in Hyde Park in London on Wednesday during a "Black Lives Matter" protest following the death of an Afro-American man in police custody in US.

PHOTO: REUTERS

tragedy -- in a long series of similar tragedies -- raises a long overdue question: How do we end systemic racism in our society?" said Bush. "It is time for America to examine our tragic failures," he stated. "Those who set out to silence those voices do not understand the meaning of America -- or how it becomes a better place," he said without mentioning President Trump.

Trump trying to divide US: Mattis

Former Pentagon chief Jim Mattis issued a stinging rebuke of his erstwhile boss Trump, accusing the president of trying to "divide" America and failing to provide "mature leadership". "Donald Trump is the first president in my lifetime who does not try to unite the American people -- does not even pretend to try," Mattis wrote in a blistering statement posted online by The Atlantic. "Instead, he tries to divide us," added the retired general. "We are witnessing the consequences of three years without mature leadership," he stated.



racism has no place in our society: Johnson



In Britain, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said he was "sickened and appalled" by Floyd's death. "My message to President Trump, to everybody in the United States... is that racism, racist violence has no place in our society," he said.

'Intolerable' racism: Pope

The Pope decried racism over Floyd's killing -- along with "self-destructive and self-defeating" violent protests that followed across the US. "We cannot tolerate or turn a blind

eye to racism", he said Wednesday of Floyd's killing.

True face of America: Khamenei



Iran's Ayatollah Ali Khamenei also condemned the violence -- with a more political message. "It is the true face of America, it's what it has always done all over the world -- in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and other countries, and before that in Vietnam."

Global marches

From Dublin to Wellington, Rotterdam to Paris, thousands gathered for protests this week in solidarity with the US demonstrations. There were demonstrations across Europe on Wednesday, with protesters throwing Molotov cocktails outside the US Embassy in Athens at a rally in the Greek capital attended by three thousand people. Protests in different cities of United Kingdom have been staged and more are on the cards. Several thousand protesters also turned out in Finnish capital Helsinki as well as Stockholm -- although Swedish police broke up that rally due to coronavirus restrictions on large gatherings. Further protests have been called in Portugal's capital Lisbon tomorrow, Poland's Warsaw on Saturday and several Spanish cities on Sunday.

#BlackOutTuesday

What started out as a campaign among music industry executive quickly swept across social media, with stars from Rihanna, Drake, Beyoncé and Kylie Jenner posting a stark black square to their Instagram feeds on Tuesday with the hashtag #BlackOutTuesday. The campaign initially called for music industry employees to take a day off work in solidarity with anti-racism protests, but mushroomed across the internet.

SOURCE: AGENCIES

Covid-19 vaccine must be for all

Says UN chief as more than 50 states meet virtually to find way

AFP, London

United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres yesterday said a new vaccine against the coronavirus had to be available to everyone across the world, as an international conference got under way to raise funds for new life-saving treatments.

The virtual meeting, hosted by Britain, aims to raise \$7.4 billion for immunisation programmes stalled by the pandemic, and launch a new fundraising drive to support potential COVID-19 vaccines.

In a video message, Guterres said: "A vaccine must be seen as a global public good -- a people's vaccine, which a growing number of world leaders are calling for."

There needed to be "global solidarity to ensure that every person, everywhere, has access", he added.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson called for a "new era of global health co-operation" to "unite humanity in the fight against disease", particularly in the poorest countries.

"This virus has shown how connected we are. ... And no one is safe frankly until we are all safe," he added.

More than 50 countries are taking part in the meeting, as well as individuals such as billionaire philanthropist Bill Gates, to raise funds for Gavi, the vaccine alliance. Over the next five years, it wants to reboot halted programmes and provide vaccines at a much-reduced cost to some 300 million children worldwide. Gavi and its partners will also launch a financing drive to purchase potential COVID-19 vaccines, scale-up their production and support delivery to developing nations.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh						
Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges						
Bridges Division						
Bangladesh Bridge Authority						
Setu Bhaban, Banani, Dhaka-1212						
www.bba.gov.bd						
Invitation for Tender						
1	Ministry/Division		Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges Division.			
2	Agency		Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA).			
3	Purchaser name		Chief Engineer, BBA, Dhaka.			
4	Purchaser code		Not available.			
5	Purchaser district		Dhaka.			
6	Invitation for		Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, and Maintenance of 10 (ten) Nos. Slow Speed Weigh in Motion (SSWIM) scales including real time web based live video and data monitoring system with RFID at Bangabandhu Bridge, Bhupur, Tangail/Sirajganj.			
7	Invitation Ref. No.		50.01.0000.401.00.097.17-382.			
8	Date		04 June, 2020.			
KEY INFORMATION						
9	Procurement method		Open Tendering Method (OTM).			
FUNDING INFORMATION						
10	Budget and source of funds		GoB/BBA's own fund.			
11	Development partners (if applicable)		Not applicable.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION						
12	Project/program code (if applicable)		Not applicable.			
13	Project/program name (if applicable)		Not applicable.			
14	Tender package No.		1 (one).			
15	Tender package name		Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of 10 (ten) Nos. Slow Speed Weigh in Motion (SSWIM) scales including real time web based live video and data monitoring system with RFID at Bangabandhu Bridge, Bhupur, Tangail/Sirajganj.			
16	Tender publication date		Date: 04 June, 2020.			
17	Tender last selling date		Date:	July 21, 2020	Time:	During office hours
18	Tender closing date and time		Date:	July 22, 2020	Time:	12:00 Noon
19	Tender opening date and time		Date:	July 22, 2020	Time:	03:00pm
20	Name & address of the office(s)		Accounts Section, Bangladesh Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (principal)		Not applicable.			
	Selling tender document (others)		Not applicable.			
	Receiving tender document		i) Conference Room (2nd Floor), Bangladesh Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka. ii) Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.			
	Opening tender document		Conference Room (2nd Floor), Bangladesh Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka.			
21	Pre-tender meeting		A pre-tender meeting shall be held on June 29, 2020; 11:00am.			
	Place of pre-tender meeting		Office of the Chief Engineer, Setu Bhaban, Room # 401, BBA, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka-1212.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER						
22	Eligibility of tenderer		i)	<b>General experience:</b> The tenderer shall have a minimum of <b>05 years</b> of overall experience in the role of contractor, subcontractor or management contractor.		
			ii)	<b>Specific experience:</b> a) The minimum specific experience as a contractor or subcontractor or management contractor in supply, installation & commissioning of SSWIM (Slow Speed Weigh in Motion) scale at least <b>01 contract</b> of similar nature successfully completed within the last <b>10 years</b> with a value of at least <b>BDT 88.80 (eight) crore i.e. BDT 80 million (excluding maintenance)</b> . b) Tenderer with experience for supply of SSWIM (Slow Speed Weigh in Motion) with real time web based monitoring in a single contract completed in last 10 years shall be preferable supported with certificate. c) Service provider must have experience certificate for smooth operation & maintenance of similar web based Electronic Computerized real time video & data monitoring system of axle load control station (SSWIM) project. d) Service provider should have a valid maintenance contract with SSWIM equipment manufacturer (OEM) for smooth operation and maintenance and also for ensuring spare parts. e) Local agency partnership/distributorship certificate for Bangladesh market, for the proposed Weigh in Motion (WIM) shall be preferable.		
			iii)	The required average annual turnover shall be greater than <b>10.80 (ten) crore/100 million (BDT)</b> for 03 (three) years within last <b>5 years</b> .		
			iv)	The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderer shall be <b>BDT 8.00 crore/BDT 80 million</b> .		
23	Brief description of goods		Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and System Maintenance & Operation of 10 (ten) Nos. Slow Speed Weigh in Motion (SSWIM) scales including real time web based live video and data monitoring system with RFID at Bangabandhu Bridge, Bhupur, Tangail/Sirajganj. Include: a) Supply, Testing, Commissioning of 10 Nos. SSWIM (Slow speed weigh in motion) weigh scale. b) System Maintenance & Operation for 5 (five) years. c) Supply of spare parts, Hardware & Software.			
24	Brief description of related services		Not applicable.			
25	Lot	Identification of lot	Location	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in months
	1	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and System Maintenance & Operation of 10 (ten) Nos. Slow Speed Weigh in Motion (SSWIM) scales including real time web based live video and data monitoring system with RFID at Bangabandhu Bridge, Bhupur, Tangail/Sirajganj.	Bangabandhu Bridge area, Tangail & Sirajganj	3000.00 (three thousand only)	BDT 35.00 lac/3.5 million (BDT thirty-five lac) only	10.5 (ten point five) years
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS						
26	Name of official inviting tender			Quazi Muhammad Ferdous.		
27	Designation of official inviting tender			Chief Engineer.		
28	Address of official inviting tender			Bangladesh Bridge Authority, Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani, Dhaka-1212.		
29	Contact details of official inviting tender			Tel. No. +880255040313   Fax No. +880255040313		
30	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.					
Quazi Muhammad Ferdous Chief Engineer Ph: +880255040313 E-mail: dir-tech@bba.gov.bd						
GD-947						