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AMPHAN AFTERMATH

Water crisis with water all around

People in submerged Koyra villages still stuck with multifarious problems

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

There's water all around Amena Begum. Yet, her son has to bring drinking water in a raft from a shallow tube well 2.5km away.

Hundreds of cyclone Amphan victims stranded on the partially submerged Koyra Sadar-Bedkashi road in Khulna's Koyra upazila have to access drinking water similarly.

Losing their homes and belongings to Amphan, these people have been living in makeshift shanties on the dryer parts of the road since May 21, a day after the cyclone.

"Some people gave us rice, lentil and oil as relief. But no one gave us water," Amena said.

The Koyra Sadar upazila with two water treatment plants is 8km away, so most families cannot go there to fetch water, she added.

Proshanta Kumar Paul, Koyra upazila public health engineer, said in the four worst-hit unions of Koyra, 1,100 tube wells have been fully submerged or damaged by the tidal surge during the cyclone.

He said 1.4 lakh water purification tablets and 1,500 water jars --10-litre each -- have been distributed among

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Unknown artists pay tribute to the frontline warriors of Covid-19 with graffiti painted on the wall of DCC market in the capital's Gulshan. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Nasim's condition critical

Ex-health minister's blood pressure fluctuating

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The physical condition of former health minister and ruling Awami League MP Mohammed Nasim turned critical yesterday due to acute fluctuations in blood pressure.

Infected with Covid-19 and later suffering from a stroke, the senior AL leader remained unconscious since he had a brain surgery on Friday, said Raziul Haque, a neurosurgeon at Bangladesh Specialized Hospital (BSH) where Nasim is undergoing treatment.

He has been on a ventilator at the ICU for the last two days, the doctor said, adding that they were trying to keep his blood pressure under control.

"His overall condition is critical," the doctor said.

Nasim was admitted to BSH in the capital's Shyamoli as he was feeling unwell. Later, he was tested

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INDIA-PAK-BANGLADESH

Official Covid-19 numbers disguise undercounting

Reports the Economist

STAR DESK

The numbers related to Covid-19 infections and deaths in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan disguise both widespread undercounting and a rate of growth that was frightening even before the recent lifting of restrictions, the Economist reported.

At the current pace, it said, the numbers are doubling every two weeks, suggesting that by the end of July, when some models predict the outbreak will peak, the official number infected may reach 5m and the death toll could approach 150,000.

If one goes by official counts, the region's toll looks relatively modest -- some 350,000 confirmed cases and fewer than 9,000 deaths so far.

Low levels of testing mean that the real numbers could be far worse. One foreign health official in Pakistan reckons the death toll is between two and three times the government's count, wrote the London-based weekly newspaper.

John Clemens of ICDDR,B (formerly the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh), estimates

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

"Six-point demand was the roadmap to independence"



Bangabandhu addressing a massive gathering on the occasion of Six-point Day at Suhrawardy Udyan on June 7, 1972.

June 7, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

BANGABANDHU'S JUNE 7 SPEECH

The nation observes the historic June 7 throughout the country with due solemnity. The grateful nation pays rich tribute to Manu Mia, Mujibullah, Abul Hussain and countless others who laid down their lives on June 7, 1966 for achieving the right to self-determination of the nation and paved the way for the liberation of Bangladesh.

On this historic occasion, Bangabandhu today speaks to a mammoth gathering at the Suhrawardy Udyan. Recounting the history of Six-point Movement, the prime minister says that

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Historic Six-point Day today

BSS, Dhaka

The historic Six-point Day, marking the demand for autonomy for the then East Pakistan, is being observed today virtually across the country amid the Covid-19 outbreak.

On June 7 in 1966, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had launched a massive movement against the misrule of the Pakistanis on the basis of the 6-point demand.

Eleven people, including Manu Mian, Shafique and Shamsul Haque, were gunned down by the police and paramilitary EPR on that day in Dhaka and Narayanganj during a hartal called for the release of Bangabandhu and other leaders detained over launching the six-point movement against the then barbaric ruling clique.

Bangabandhu had launched his historic

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Fossil reveals a dinosaur's last meal



REUTERS, Washington

In a forest rebounding after a wildfire 110 million years ago, an armoured dinosaur devoured a meal of tender ferns in western Canada before suffering a sudden death - perhaps drowning in a river or a flash flood - and being washed out to sea.

That unfortunate Cretaceous Period beast is now providing unique insight into the dietary habits of plant-eating dinosaurs. Scientists said on Wednesday the fossilised stomach contents of the dinosaur, called Boreolopelta markmitchelli, were preserved in exquisite detail with its skeleton, revealing what was on the menu for its last meal.

The fossil, from the province of Alberta, represents the best-preserved stomach contents

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After 3-hour wait for x-ray, man dies in hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

A 55-year-old man with Covid-19 symptoms died yesterday after reportedly being denied treatment at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital (SZMCH) in Bogura.

Md Golam Rabbani, a dispensary owner in Bogura town, was taken to the emergency unit of the hospital around 6:00 am as he was suffering from fever, cough and breathing complications for the last

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PRAYER TIMING JUNE 7

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
 AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-45 8-15
 JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

POLICE BRUTALITY Key global cities rally for justice

Several US states announce police reform as demonstrations continue for 11th night

AGENCIES

Taking a knee, chanting and ignoring social distancing measures, outraged protesters from Sydney to London kicked off a weekend of global rallies against racism and police brutality yesterday.

The death during the arrest of George Floyd, an unarmed black man in the US state of Minnesota, has brought tens of thousands out onto the streets during a pandemic that is ebbing in Asia and Europe, but spreading in other parts of the world.

UK Health Secretary Matt Hancock spoke for many concerned officials as he tried to convince Britons not to gather for events involving more than six people this weekend, no matter the cause or their rage.

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A Black Lives Matter painting is seen on 16th street near the White House as protests against the death in Minneapolis police custody of George Floyd, continue in Washington DC. The street was renamed Black Lives Matter Plaza.

PHOTO: REUTERS

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC Brazil threatens to quit WHO

India overtakes Italy as 6th worst-hit country

AGENCIES

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has threatened to pull out of the WHO over "ideological bias," as his counterpart Donald Trump said the US economy was recovering from the coronavirus pandemic while Europe slowly reopens its borders.

From Africa to Europe to Asia, governments are focused on reviving economies ravaged by weeks of restrictions to contain the virus that has killed almost 400,000 people worldwide since it emerged in China late last year.

India reported a record 9,887 new coronavirus cases in one day yesterday and overtook Italy as the world's sixth-biggest outbreak, two days before the relaxing of a lockdown with the reopening of malls, restaurants and places of worship.

European countries that are among the hardest hit are steadily reopening with the infection rates slowing even as Latin America is battered by the epidemic, especially Brazil which now has the world's third-highest number of virus deaths.

Fuelling the debate raging around the pandemic, its origins and the best way to respond, Bolsonaro criticised the World Health Organization for suspending clinical trials of the drug hydroxychloroquine for Covid-19 -- a decision it reversed this week -- and threatened to follow in Trump's footsteps by quitting.

"I'm telling you right now, the United States left the WHO, and we're studying that, in the future. Either the WHO works without ideological bias, or we leave, too,"

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