

Chinese envoy

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that lots of engineers and technicians in local Chinese community here volunteer as the first batch of participants in the phase-3 trial.

On Sunday, Bangladesh's regulatory Medical Research Council (BMRC) extended "ethical approval" for phase-3 human trial of the prospective vaccine by China's Sinovac Biotech Ltd, which appeared to be a forerunner in a global race for developing inoculates against coronavirus.

BMRC decided to approve the last stage trial of the Chinese vaccine as Dhaka-based International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b) submitted a research protocol seeking to carry out the study.

The BMRC official said the regulator kept in consideration "Bangladesh's benefit" alongside prospect and safety issues of the vaccine, studying the advancement of the Sinova's research in China, while reviewing the icddr,b proposal.

However, the BMRC approval would require a subsequent endorsement from Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) and Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA).

Jakarta pledges

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of direct recognition of our Republic. This will help him," he tells newsmen today at the conclusion of his four-day Indonesia visit.

The Bangladesh foreign minister further says, "Pakistan is dead. Pakistan is buried under the ground by their actions -- not ours."

7,000 CORRUPTION CASES PENDING

Over 7,000 cases of corruption, malpractices and abuse of power by officials and men in responsible positions are now lying in different stages in Bangladesh. Of the total number of cases, 2,000 are pending before courts all over the country, enquiries are being conducted in 4,000 cases and over 1,000 cases have been instituted. Meanwhile 13 Class I officers and seven Class II officers have been charge-sheeted on different counts of corruption. Some of the officials have already been suspended and others are also in the process of being suspended.

RECOGNITION BY MALTA
Malta has officially accorded recognition to Bangladesh as a sovereign and independent state on July 21, 1972.

SOURCES: July 23, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

Dhaka to deploy

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"BSF should be careful and should use non-lethal weapons while guarding their borders," he said.

The foreign minister of Bangladesh spoke about the issue three days after three Bangladeshi nationals were lynched to death by a mob in Assam's Karimganj district.

Karimganj police said the incident took place at Bogrijan Tea Estate under Patharkandi Police Station and near the border with Bangladesh.

According to the Ain O Salish Kendra, at least 43 Bangladeshis were killed by the BSF in 2019. The number was 15 in 2018, 24 in 2017, and 31 in 2016.

Ain O Salish Kendra also condemned and protested the killings, saying such killings were gross violations of human rights.

In a statement yesterday, the rights body demanded that Indian authorities take actions against those involved in such a heinous crime.

"Such extra-judicial killings on the basis of suspicion are not acceptable in any way," it said.

ASK expects Bangladesh to give a strong message to India to stop repetition of such killing.

Nasa offers prize

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who needs to use the toilet. The International Space Station has a toilet that was installed in the 1990s, but it is difficult to use and has resulted in messes and unpleasant odours.

A new toilet called Universal Waste Management System is scheduled for installation this year, but it is designed for only the microgravity of space, not the lunar gravity of the moon.

Nasa is going to need a toilet that can be used on the moon's surface, as well -- and one that is small enough to be installed on the lunar lander.

The challenge calls on the public to figure out how to capture sewage and smells in both microgravity and on the moon.

Nasa hopes the prize purse, which will be disbursed among three prize winners, will "attract radically new and different approaches to the problem of human waste capture and containment". Children can enter, too, but they will receive non-cash prizes.

Teams have until August 17 to submit their plans for a lunar loo. The adult winners will be announced on September 30, and the younger winners on October 20.

Proposals will be evaluated on their quality, feasibility, the likelihood that the design could be developed within the next two to three years, and their innovation.

PLO accuses Israel of stealing Christian artefact from Bethlehem

AFP, Jerusalem

A senior Palestinian official on Monday accused Israel of stealing a historical Christian artefact from the West Bank city of Bethlehem.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation's Hanan Ashrawi said the object was "a baptismal font dating back to the Byzantine era", taken overnight from an undisclosed location in the city where Christians believe Jesus was born.

Ashrawi's English-language statement was released at the same time as one from the Israeli defence ministry department responsible for civilian affairs in the Israeli-occupied Palestinian territories, COGAT.

COGAT said that in an "operation that was carried out near dawn" its staff, backed by troops, "returned a rare archaeological relic that was stolen approximately twenty years ago" by antiquities thieves.

COGAT said the object, a fifth-century stone baptismal font about 1.5 metres tall, had been taken

from the Tel Tekoa archaeological site.

The Israeli-controlled site is near a settlement in the occupied West Bank between Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

COGAT did not specify where the font had been located Monday or where it was taken, and did not immediately respond to AFP's queries.

The Jerusalem Post said the relic was reinstated at Tel Tekoa.

COGAT's statement said it would "continue working tirelessly to preserve the sites and the archaeological relics throughout Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and to prevent antiquities thieves from looting the history of the region."

But Ashrawi said it was Israel which was doing the looting, calling the nighttime operation "an abominable act of thugery and cultural appropriation."

"This systemic policy of plunder is a war crime that must not go unpunished," she added.

Trump to send federal forces to more 'Democrat' cities

REUTERS, Washington

President Donald Trump on Monday said he would send law enforcement to more U.S. cities, as a federal crackdown on anti-racism protests in Oregon with unmarked cars and unidentified forces angered people across the country.

Trump, a Republican, cited New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Baltimore and Oakland, California, as places to send federal agents, noting the cities' mayors were "liberal Democrats." Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot frequently blasts Trump on Twitter.

"We're sending law enforcement," Trump told reporters at the White House. "We can't let this happen to the cities."

State and local leaders in Oregon, as well as members of Congress, have called for Trump to remove Department of Homeland Security secret police forces from Portland, Oregon, after videos showed unidentified federal personnel rounding up people and whisking them away in black minivans.

"Not only do I believe he is breaking the law, but he is also endangering the lives of Portlanders," the city's mayor, Ted Wheeler, tweeted, having previously called the federal presence "political theater" in an election year.

Trump, trailing in opinion polls

behind Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, in June declared himself "president of law and order" and threatened to send the U.S. military into cities after sometimes violent protests and looting in the aftermath of African American George Floyd's death in police custody in Minneapolis.

Federal agents last week began cracking down on Portland protests against police brutality and systemic racism, using tear gas to defend federal buildings and taking some activists into custody without explanation.

"They grab a lot of people and jail the leaders. These are anarchists," Trump said of federal agents sent to the historically liberal city to quell often unruly protests.

Despite a national outcry over the tactics, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials on Monday said they would not back down and would not apologize.

The state of Oregon and the American Civil Liberties Union have sued the Trump administration for unlawfully detaining Oregon residents, and some Republicans spoke out against its tactics on Monday.

"There is no place for federal troops or unidentified federal agents rounding people up at will," tweeted U.S. Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky.

EU agrees huge virus

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BAD NEWS IN BRAZIL, IRAN

Britain, who left the EU in January and will not benefit from the aid plan, revealed yesterday that state borrowing had rocketed to a record £127.9 billion (\$162.5 billion, 142 billion euros) in the three months to June.

Britain has suffered Europe's deadliest coronavirus outbreak, with more than 45,000 deaths recorded to date.

Brazil's death toll meanwhile passed 80,000 late on Monday, according to health ministry figures.

And the Middle East's worst-hit country Iran yesterday recorded a new single-day record death toll of 229. "This raises the overall toll to 14,634," said a health ministry spokeswoman.

Beijing yesterday announced anyone going to China will have to prove they don't have coronavirus before boarding their flight, as the country seeks to prevent new infections after easing travel restrictions.

China has been relaxing a ban on most foreign travellers that was imposed in March to prevent an influx of infections after authorities largely brought the domestic epidemic under control.

TRUMP SUPPORTS FACE MASKS

With no effective treatment yet, there are few options available to combat the spread of the virus, though they do include face masks -- which Trump and his political allies refused to encourage for months.

But he changed direction on Monday, tweeting a photo of himself wearing a mask with the message: "We are United in our effort to defeat the Invisible China Virus, and many people say that it is Patriotic to wear a face mask when you can't socially distance."

"There is nobody more Patriotic than me, your favorite President!"

US authorities are struggling to handle the crisis as infections surge towards four million, with more than 140,000 deaths.

Just over a hundred days from the November presidential election, Trump is struggling to respond to public anger over his handling of the crisis, with the death toll still rising and the economy devastated.

Tens of millions of Americans have been left jobless, and the extra unemployment benefits keeping some from poverty are set to expire at the end of July.

"I'm still struggling to pay the bills and I'm still looking for a job," said Diana Yitbarek, 44, who has been unemployed since April.

"And nowadays it's hard to find a job because everything is closed."

Israel's parliament yesterday overturned a sweeping government closure of restaurants aimed at quelling the coronavirus spread, saying it was not based on proven data.

The latest Knesset reversal of a government decree came after Israeli leaders said they were doing all they could to prevent a general lockdown amid a surge in Covid-19 infections in the country, reports AFP.

In Saudi Arabia, authorities said Monday this year's hajj will begin on July 29. The massive annual Islamic pilgrimage has been dramatically scaled down by the authorities this year to around 1,000 compared with the usual 2.5 million people.

While many sporting events have resumed, most behind closed doors, others continue to be postponed, most recently cricket's Twenty20 World Cup which was due to be held in Australia through October and November.

The postponement led the Indian Premier League to propose holding its cash bonanza tournament instead in the United Arab Emirates from September.

Land grabbers feasting on unguarded plots

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this scope to take control of the plots and build boundary walls," Jamil Hasan, DC of Motijheel Division police, told The Daily Star recently.

He said police are already taking action against these grabbers -- having arrested the prime accused and his partner and now conducting drives to arrest their other associates.

Police have information that criminals in some other parts of Khilgaon are still active in land grabbing, the official added.

Regarding alleged police backing of the land grabbers, DC Jamil Hasan categorically said, "We are investigating it and we will take action against all found guilty."

According to police sources, Pintu was a secretary of Khilgaon Police Station unit Chhatra League five years ago. Using this identity, he joined hands with local criminal Mukul and one of their major schemes was collecting illegal tolls and land grabbing.

The police database shows Pintu was accused in the charge sheets of two cases -- over extortion and grabbing -- filed in 2016.

A suspended police constable Harun-Or-Rashid of the same station joined their syndicate -- his job was to take care of the legal side, according to sources.

Rashid is now on the run and the police are looking for him.

Talking with The Daily Star, Prof Humayun said he bought a plot 16 years ago and was not able to build a house there then as the land used to go under water in the rainy season.

In the last couple of years, the situation started changing and he was able to fill his plot with sand and develop it, he said.

"We could not come out of our home and visit my land for a couple of months after the shutdown began for Covid-19 in March. Suddenly, on May 30, I heard that someone had put up a boundary wall and signboard on my land."

Prof Humayun said he then went to visit the land but some youths stopped him from entering.

"Soon after the incident, I submitted three complaints to Khilgaon Police Station but they did not take any action and also did not register any cases for some mysterious reason," he claimed.

Later, he filed the complaint with the DC Motijheel.

During a visit to the Khilgaon area on July 4, this correspondent found someone building new boundary walls around seven to eight separate plots. A temporary tin-shed room was found built on Prof Humayun's plot, in which, locals claim, the criminals used to sit and drink together.

Jahid Hossain Majumder, a banker by profession, said he bought 3.75 decimals of land in 1997 and on May

30 he came to know that someone had put up a boundary wall and signboard on his plot.

Another plot owner, Abul Bashar, said the grabbers also built a boundary wall around his 2.75 decimal plot and demanded Tk 5 lakh to hand over the land.

Bashar said he also visited the police station for around two weeks continuously but failed to register any general diary regarding the issue.

Contacted, Moshir Rahman, OC of Khilgaon Police Station, told The Daily Star that everyone knew about the matter including higher officials, so there was no scope for not registering the complaint.

"There has been no negligence of the police. We registered the case and are investigating it and taking action. We do not know who owns the land and the court will look into it, but the claim against police is totally false and baseless," added the OC.

Shish Al Labib, supervisor of HTS Petrol Pump of Khilgaon, which is owned by Mukul, said he has no idea about the incident and failed to give any details of Mukul's family members.

Nobody could say anything about Pintu's family either.

On July 4, the plot owners held a human chain in front of Mukul's petrol pump demanding action against the land grabbers and that their land be freed.

Africa facing coronavirus 'acceleration'

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Africa and I think that has to be taken very, very seriously," he said.

"South Africa may unfortunately be a precursor, it may be a warning for what will happen in the rest of Africa. So I think this isn't just a wake-up call for South Africa ... we need to take what is happening in Africa very seriously."

The WHO also warned that indigenous communities comprising half a million people around the world are especially at risk from the pandemic due to often poor living conditions.

Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that as of July 6,

there were more than 70,000 cases reported among indigenous peoples in the Americas, with more than 2,000 deaths.

"Indigenous peoples often have a high burden of poverty, unemployment, malnutrition and both communicable and non-communicable diseases, making them more vulnerable," Tedros said, adding that those in current epicentre the Americas were of particular concern.

The WHO boss urged nations to take all necessary health precautions, with special emphasis on contact tracing.

"We do not have to wait for a

vaccine. We have to save lives now," he said.

Global infections stand at more than 14.7 million, according to a Reuters tally, with more than 610,000 deaths.

The WHO welcomed news that AstraZeneca's experimental vaccine was safe and produced an immune response in early-stage clinical trials in healthy volunteers.

"We congratulate our colleagues for the progress they have made," Ryan said. "This is a positive result, but there is a long way to go ... We now need to move to large-scale trials."

Rape suspect killed

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After about 10-15 minutes, the Rab team found an unidentified "drug peddler" lying injured there. He was taken to Puthia Upazila Health Complex, where doctors declared him dead around 5:00am.

Locals later identified the dead as Ekhlash, said the release.

Ekhlash allegedly raped Eva, 12, a sixth grader, on January 25 by mixing sedatives in her food when she went to his house to visit her sister, according to Puthia police.

Eva had been keeping mum since then. She returned home the next day. The schoolgirl died by suicide on April 9.

Her father Selim Uddin filed a case with Puthia Police Station over

the rape and death, accusing Ekhlash, his father Abdul Kashem and mother Jarina Begum.

A rickshaw-puller from Ramjibanpur village in Puthia, Selim Uddin said he had been demanding justice for her daughter since her death.

On June 10, he alone stood on a road in Puthia upazila with a banner demanding arrest and exemplary punishment to the accused over the rape and death of her daughter.

Ekhlash's uncle Zinnat Ali said law enforcers picked up his nephew from Narayanan's Fatulla area on July 4.

He had been missing since then, Zinnat said, adding that he knew Ekhlash to be a rickshaw-puller.

Turkey to stay in Syria until 'people are free': Erdogan

AFP, Istanbul

Turkey will maintain its military presence in northern Syria "until the people are free," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday, blasting the "so-called" parliamentary vote in the war-torn country.

Turkey has launched three military incursions into northern Syria since 2016 to battle the Islamic State group and Kurdish militia deemed by Ankara as "terrorists".

"We will continue to stay in this country until our thousand-year neighbour and brother, the Syrian people, reach freedom, peace and security," Erdogan said in a televised speech in the capital Ankara.



বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস্ এন্ড সার্জানস্
Bangladesh College of Physicians & Surgeons

বিসিপিএস নং- ৭৭৬/২০২০/১৫১১৩ তারিখ : ২১-০৭-২০২০ খ্রিঃ

জমি ক্রয় বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ কলেজ অব ফিজিশিয়ানস্ এন্ড সার্জানস্ (বিসিপিএস) এর আঞ্চলিক কেন্দ্র স্থাপনের লক্ষ্যে চট্টগ্রাম, রাজশাহী, সিলেট ও যশোর শহরগুলোর কেন্দ্রস্থল থেকে ০৫ কিলোমিটার দূরত্বের মধ্যে কমপক্ষে ৪০ ফুট রাস্তা সংলগ্ন প্রতিটি শহরে ০১ (এক) একর করে জমি ক্রয় করা হবে। জমি বিক্রয়ে আগ্রহী মালিকদের (জমির প্রকৃত মালিক/পাওয়ার অব এ্যাটর্নী প্রাপ্ত) শতাংশ প্রতি জমির বিক্রয় মূল্য উল্লেখপূর্বক জমির তফসিল, দলিলের ফটোকপি, পর্চা (সিএস, আরএস, এসএ), মহানগর জরিপ (যদি থাকে), বিক্রয়যোগ্য জমির পরিমাণ, মৌজা ম্যাপ, বিক্রয়যোগ্য জমির কেচ/লে-আউট নকশা, চৌহদ্দি, মোট মূল্য ও সংশ্লিষ্ট কাগজপত্র আগামী ২০/০৮/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ৪.০০ টার মধ্যে সীলগালা অবস্থায় সরাসরি কলেজের প্রশাসন বিভাগে রক্ষিত বক্সে দাখিল করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। জমিটি নিষ্কটক হতে হবে।

উল্লেখ্য যে, দাখিলকৃত যেকোন জমি গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা বিসিপিএস কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।



(অধ্যাপক আবুল বাসার মোহাম্মদ খুরশীদ আলম)
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