

China fumes as US lauds Taiwan's democracy

AFP, Taipei
A US cabinet member heaped praise on Taiwan's democracy and its success in battling the coronavirus as he met the island's leader yesterday during a historic visit that China has slammed as a threat to peace.



Health Secretary Alex Azar is in Taipei for a three-day visit billed as the highest level visit from the United States since it switched diplomatic recognition from the island to China in 1979. China insists Taiwan is its own territory and vows to one day seize it.

China flexes muscles with raid, arrests

AGENCIES
Hong Kong pro-democracy media tycoon Jimmy Lai was arrested yesterday and led in handcuffs through his newspaper office as police raided the building, part of a sweeping crackdown on dissent since China imposed a security law on the city.



Police arrest Hong Kong pro-democracy media mogul Jimmy Lai from his home under the new national security law in Hong Kong, yesterday. PHOTO: AFP of June. Two of Lai's sons were among those detained, a police source told AFP as well as Wilson Li, a former pro-democracy activist who describes himself as a freelance videographer working for Britain's ITV News.

China imposes sanctions on US lawmakers over Hong Kong
HK police raid pro-democracy newspaper office, arrest owner

J&K militants kill fifth BJP politician

AFP, Srinagar
A Kashmir politician who died of gunshot wounds yesterday has become the fifth member of India's ruling nationalist party to be killed by militants in the turbulent region since last month.

Belarus election 'rigged' Lukashenko asked to step down after 'electoral farce'

REUTERS, Minsk
The opposition in Belarus rejected official election results handing President Alexander Lukashenko a landslide re-election victory yesterday, saying the poll was rigged and that talks needed to begin on a peaceful transfer of power.

and which has long regarded the country as a buffer zone against Nato, and the West, which has tried to lure Minsk from Moscow's orbit. The streets in the capital and other cities were quiet after violence on Sunday night, when riot police used force to disperse thousands of protesters who had gathered to denounce what they said was an electoral farce.



Tikhonouskaya

NEWS IN BRIEF

Taliban pledge Afghan peace talks after prisoner release
The Taliban yesterday said they were ready to hold peace talks with the Afghan government after a contentious prisoner exchange, which authorities said would begin in the next two days.

Survey: 70% of Japanese find newspapers reliable
About 70% of people find newspapers to be a reliable source of information, according to a survey. The survey was conducted online by the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association on May 26 and 27 in light of the current flood of incorrect information regarding the novel coronavirus.

Rival Thai protests raise fears of return to violence
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SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS, ANN



Relatives of Lebanese army corporal Estephan Rouhana mourns as she is lifted behind his coffin during a funerary procession for him at his hometown of Batroun in northern Lebanon on August 10, 2020, after he died in the August 4 massive blast at the port of Beirut.

Lebanon govt set to resign

Says minister as anger grows over blast; donors pledge \$298m
REUTERS, Beirut
Lebanon's prime minister was set to announce the resignation of his government yesterday, the health minister said, after a devastating explosion in Beirut that has stirred public outrage and spurred a string of ministers to step down.



Advertisement for the Bangladesh government regarding the 2020-21 budget. It includes details about the budget's focus on economic growth and social welfare, and provides information on how to access the budget documents online.

Advertisement for a Pakistani teenager, Faisal Khan, who is being hailed as a 'holy warrior' for his alleged role in the killing of a US blasphemy suspect. The ad includes details about the incident and the public reaction in Pakistan.

Official e-Tender Notice from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. It details the procurement of works for the upgrading of Kamaphuli Tunnel Connecting Road, including the tender ID, reference number, and closing date.