

# Afghan VP survives as blast kills 10

REUTERS, Kabul

A roadside bomb in Kabul targeted first Afghan Vice President Amrullah Saleh yesterday morning but he escaped unharmed, his spokesman said. The attack killed at least 10 people.

The Taliban denied involvement in the attack, which comes just ahead of long-awaited peace talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban in Qatar's capital Doha.

"Today, once again the enemy of Afghanistan tried to harm Saleh, but they failed in their evil aim, and Saleh escaped the attack unharmed," Razwan Murad, a spokesman for Saleh's office, wrote on Facebook.

He told Reuters the bomb targeted Saleh's convoy and some of his bodyguards were injured.

Saleh appeared in a video on his social media accounts soon after, saying he had sustained a minor burn on his face and an injury to his hand in the attack.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said in a post on Twitter that Taliban were not involved in the blast.

The former intelligence chief and the senior of President Ashraf Ghani's two vice-presidents, has survived several assassination attempts, including one on his office last year that killed 20 people. The blast killed also wounded 15 people including Saleh's security guards.

"Such attacks won't weaken our resolve for a lasting and dignified peace in Afghanistan," Javid Faisal, spokesman for the National Security Council, said in a tweet.

International powers including the European Union and Pakistan also condemned the attack.

Officials and diplomats have warned that rising violence is sapping trust needed for the success of talks aimed at ending an insurgency that began when the Taliban was ousted from power in Kabul by US-back forces in late 2001.



Refugees and migrants make their way next to destroyed shelters following a fire at the Moria camp on the island of Lesbos, Greece, yesterday. Thousands of asylum seekers were left homeless yesterday after fleeing for their lives as a huge fire ripped through the camp, the country's largest and most notorious migrant facility. The fire destroyed most of the overcrowded, squalid camp.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### More than 1 billion people face displacement by 2050

Rapid population growth, lack of access to food and water and increased exposure to natural disasters mean more than 1 billion people face being displaced by 2050, according to a new analysis of global ecological threats. With the world's population forecast to rise to nearly 10 billion by 2050, intensifying the scramble for resources and fuelling conflict, the research shows as many as 1.2 billion people living in vulnerable areas of sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East may be forced to migrate by 2050. Compiled by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), a think-tank that produces annual terrorism and peace indexes, the register noted that displacement in countries like India and China will mostly be fuelled by scarcity of fresh water in the coming decades.

### Over 300 NGOs urge UN to probe China rights abuses

More than 300 rights groups and other organisations called on the UN yesterday to launch an international investigation into Beijing's human rights abuses, demanding "decisive action". In an open letter to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, UN rights chief Michelle Bachelet as well as to member states, the 321 civil society groups called for urgent actions over rights violations in Hong Kong, Tibet and against the majority-Muslim Uighurs in Xinjiang, as well as suppression of vital information in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, and attacks on rights defenders, journalists, lawyers and government critics across the country.

### California wildfires rage on



Dangerous dry winds whipped up California's record-breaking wildfires and ignited new blazes Tuesday, as hundreds were evacuated by helicopter and tens of thousands were plunged into darkness by power outages across the western United States. 14,000 firefighters are battling 25 major wildfires across the country's most populous state. More than 170,000 Californians were left without electricity. California has now seen more than 2.2 million acres burn in wildfires this year -- an annual record, with nearly four months of fire season still to come.

### Aussie spy agency targeted Chinese journalists: Beijing

Beijing yesterday claimed that Australia's intelligence agency questioned foreign correspondents working for Chinese state-run media in June, seizing computers and mobile phones in raids apparently linked to a billowing spy scandal. The accusation, the latest scrap in a diplomatic falling-out that spans security, trade and media freedoms, follows an investigation by Beijing into Australian journalists based in China. The last two foreign correspondents working for Australian media in China fled Monday, while another -- Cheng Lei, who worked as an anchor for Chinese state TV -- is being detained under "national security" laws.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

# Trump ready to use own cash in reelection bid

Poll shows Biden ahead nationally by 12 pts

AFP, Winston-Salem

President Donald Trump savaged his Democratic opponent Joe Biden on Tuesday at the start of a tour of swing states, but seemed to concede that his reelection campaign is running out of donors, requiring him to dip into his own pocket.

"If I have to, I will," Trump told reporters when asked about spending his own cash. "Whatever it takes. We have to win."

Trump was on form at a rally with supporters in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, which he visited immediately after a speech in Florida -- two of the battleground states he almost certainly has to win to beat Biden on November 3.

After attacking Biden, he reserved his especially acid remarks for Kamala Harris. "You know what, people don't like her. Nobody likes her," said Trump, who also pointedly mispronounced Harris' first name, a gesture common on the right and widely interpreted as a way of demonstrating disrespect.

"She could never be the first woman president. That would be an insult to our country," he said.

His remarks came as a Reuters/Ipsos opinion poll showed Biden leads Trump by 12 percentage points nationally among likely US voters.

The Sept. 3-8 poll, released yesterday, found 52% of likely voters planned to support Biden, while 40% would back Trump. Three percent said they would vote for another candidate, and just 5% said they remained undecided with less than two months to go until the Nov 3 presidential election.

## CHANGES IN BREXIT AGREEMENT

# Temper flares in UK, EU

Brussels 'very concerned'; Scotland, Wales say bill threatens UK's unity

AFP, London

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was accused yesterday of presiding over a "rogue state" as his government introduced legislation that intentionally breaches its EU withdrawal treaty in the messy countdown to a full Brexit divorce.

Johnson defended the government's approach after its extraordinary admission that the new bill governing post-Brexit trade in Britain and Northern Ireland breaks international law.

Asked why the British public at large should respect any laws now, the prime minister told parliament: "We expect everybody in this country to obey the law."

In a bad-tempered exchange with Scottish nationalist MP Ian Blackford, Johnson insisted the bill was about "protecting jobs, protecting growth, ensuring the fluidity and safety of our

UK internal market."

The government maintains its new UK Internal Market Bill is needed to smooth trade between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and help power a recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, once a post-Brexit transition ends this year.

But under its EU Withdrawal Treaty, Britain is meant to liaise with Brussels on any arrangements for Northern Ireland, which saw three decades of bloodshed until the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, and will become the UK's only land border with the EU.

Blackford argued the new bill was a power-grab by London from the devolved administrations in Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast.

"The prime minister and his friends, a parcel of rogues, are creating a rogue state," he added.

Lewis's admission Tuesday provoked incredulity across the

political spectrum in Britain, Brussels and beyond, just as British and EU negotiators are engaged in fraught talks to agree a new trading relationship by a crunch EU summit in mid-October.

Scotland and Wales said the British government's internal market bill will undermine the United Kingdom by stealing powers from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon described the UK government's new bill as "a full frontal assault on devolution" that would steal powers from Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast. She suggested the bill would strengthen the case for Scottish independence.

Reaction to the bill was equally negative in Cardiff, where it was described as a threat to the ties binding the four parts of the United Kingdom together.



Protesters use umbrellas as shields from projectiles fired by Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies moving in to disperse a crowd of demonstrators gathered to protest again in the wake of Dijon Kizzee's killing, outside the South LA sheriff's station on Tuesday night in Los Angeles, California.

PHOTO: AFP

# Emissions hit new record in lockdowns

Finds UN report

REUTERS, London

Concentrations of greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere hit a record high this year, a United Nations report showed yesterday, as an economic slowdown amid the coronavirus pandemic had little long-term effect.

The sharp, but short, dip in emissions earlier this year represented only a blip in the build-up of climate-warming carbon dioxide.

"Greenhouse gas concentrations - which are already at their highest levels in 3 million years - have continued to rise," said Petteri Taalas, head of the World Meteorological Organization, a UN agency based in Geneva.

While daily emissions fell in April to just 17% relative to the previous year, those levels were still on a par with 2006 emissions - underlining how much global emissions have grown over the last 15 years. And by early June, as factories and offices reopened, emissions were back up to within 5% of 2019 levels, according to the report by several UN agencies.

Even if 2020 emissions are lower than last year's output by up to 7%, as expected, what is released will still contribute to the long-term concentration built up since the beginning of the industrial era.

Presenting the latest data on emissions, global temperatures and climate impacts on Earth's oceans and frozen regions, the report showed that atmospheric concentration of CO2 hit 414.38 parts per million in July, compared with 411.74 ppm a year earlier. Scientists say they consider 350 ppm, breached in 1988, a safe limit.

Scientists say a temperature rise beyond 1.5 or 2 degrees will lead to far worse impacts from climate change across the world, including droughts, stronger storms and extreme sea level rise.

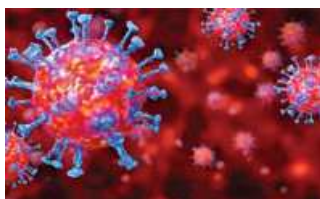
# Pandemic threatens lives of millions of kids: UN

India's cases surge to 4.3m; UK set to tighten curbs

AGENCIES

Disruptions to health services due to the pandemic are putting millions of additional lives at risk worldwide, the United Nations said yesterday, warning that Covid-19 could reverse decades of progress in reducing child mortality.

The past 30 years have seen remarkable strides forward in preventing or treating causes of infant deaths including premature births and pneumonia.



New mortality estimates published by the UN's children's fund UNICEF, the World Health Organization and the World Bank Group found that 2019 saw the lowest number of global under-five deaths on record.

Last year around 5.2 million children died due to preventable illness, compared with 12.5 million in 1990.

But it warned that the pandemic risked undoing all this by cutting routine child and maternal health services.

A UNICEF survey across 77 countries found 68 percent reported at least some disruption in child health checks and immunisations.

The pandemic has killed at least 898,503 people worldwide since surfacing in China late last year. More than 27.6 million cases have been confirmed.

The United States has the most deaths with 189,698, followed by Brazil with 68,484 and Britain 41,586.


India reported 89,706 new coronavirus infections yesterday, taking its total caseload to 4.3 million, data from the federal health ministry showed.

The South Asian nation has the highest number of coronavirus infections outside of the United

States, reporting the largest single-day increases in cases every day for more than a month. Its death rate has remained relatively low, but is starting to show signs of rising, with more than 1,000 deaths reported daily for eight days straight.

In Britain, the government announces a tightening of rules on social gatherings amid concern at rising infection rates, particularly among young people.

The law in England will change from next week to reduce the number of people who can gather socially from 30 to six, with some exemptions.



## SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC)

BARC Campus, Farmgate, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

Ref: SAC-705/4(A) Date: 10/09/2020

## Invitation for Re-Tenders

Sealed tenders are invited from interested tenderers/firms for the undermentioned good(s) as per terms & conditions.

1.	Procuring entity name	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC).	
2.	Project name	Supply, necessary installation of Laptop, Desktop Computer and Printer.	
3.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.	
4.	Invitation Ref No. & date	SAC No. 705/4(A), Date: 10/09/2020	
5.	Procurement method	Open tendering method (OTM).	
6.	Budget and source of funds	GOB.	
7.	Tender package name	Supply of 1) Supply and necessary installation of Laptop, Desktop Computer, Printer for SAC office during the year 2020.	
8.	Time for completion of work	4 (four) weeks from the date of signing agreement.	
9.	Tender last selling date & time	27/09/2020 during office hour (up to 3:30pm).	
10.	Tender closing date and time	28/09/2020	Time 11.00am
11.	Tender opening date and time	28/09/2020	Time 11.30am
12.	Name & address of the office(s)	Address a. Selling tender document Finance Section (Room # 503), SAC, Dhaka-1215. b. Receiving tender document Director Division (Room # 603), SAC, Dhaka-1215. c. Opening tender document 1) Conference Room (Room # 521), SAC, Dhaka. 2) Tenderers and their authorized representatives are allowed to attend.	
13.	Eligibility of tenderers/firms	This invitation for tender is open to all eligible tenderer as mentioned below: a) All the tenderers must follow the PPR-2008 rules & regulations. b) The tenderer shall submit with its tender the following additional documents: (I) Up-to-date valid trade licence. (II) Up-to-date income tax clearance certificate. (III) Up-to-date e-BIN (Vat) registration certificate. (IV) The specific experience as supplier in supply of similar nature goods of minimum 10 lakh under one (1) contract successfully completed within the last 5 years. (V) Liquid asset/credit facility not less than 20 lakh. Bank documents in support of liquid asset must be submitted in case of credit line facilities, specific format (PG3-8) to be used by the bank without altering/modifying any word/sentence and adding any condition must be submitted. The issue date of documents should be after the publication date of IFT in publication. (VI) Manufacturer Authorization Letter or contract deed with the importers/manufacturer must submit in form of Manufacturer's Authorization Letter (Form PG3-6). (VII) Certificate of incorporation (in case of limited company). (VIII) Original catalog/brochure must be submitted.	
14.	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk 1,000/- (Taka one thousand only) per set of tender schedule (non-refundable).	
15.	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Tender security amount (Tk) Completion time
	1.	Supply and necessary installation of Laptop, Desktop Computer, Printer.	60,000.00 4 (four) weeks from the date of signing agreement
16.	Name, designation of official inviting tender	Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan, Director, SAARC Agriculture Centre, Dhaka.	
17.	Contact details of official	Tel: +880-2-55027712, 55027715, 55027717.	
18.	Special instructions	a) Rate must be quoted both in figures & in words for each item up to two digits beyond decimal point. b) The tender security shall be in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order drawn from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh. c) If the tenderer submits any false/incorrect or forged certificate, the tender security may be forfeited. d) Original money receipt of purchasing tender document must be enclosed with the tender (original copy). e) Two separate envelopes are to be submitted as stated below: (1) Envelope 1 contains - "ORIGINAL" tender, tender security and all supporting documents. (2) Envelope 2 contains - "COPY" of tender, tender security and all supporting documents. Note: Both 1, 2 envelopes are to be placed in a single envelop.	

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatever.

GD-1425 Dr. Mian Sayeed Hassan  
Director, SAC