Bangabandhu

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also discuss exports and imports on both sides, balance of trade between the two countries and measures to remove bottlenecks in the way of smooth flow of trade.

FISH EXPORT TO INDIA

The first consignment of fish from Bangladesh, 4,294 kg of hilsa and 875 kg of carp, reaches India today. It may be mentioned that about five tonnes of fish will be exported to India daily under the trade agreement between the two countries signed in March, 1972.

DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH THAILAND SET UP

Bangladesh and Thailand decide to establish normal diplomatic relations between the two countries from today. A note constituting the diplomatic relations between the two countries is exchanged between the Bangladesh High Commissioner and the Thai Ambassador in New Delhi.

SOURCES: October6, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

Condemned

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lawyer ZI Khan Panna at his chamber in the capital for filing an appeal against the verdict.

"I got all the documents today. We will file a petition soon," said Panna on Facebook live in the afternoon.

"Please pray for us so that we get justice," he added.

The families of the other five convicts are also preparing to file appeals with the HC, reports our Patuakhali correspondent.

As per rules, the HC officials will scrutinise the documents and then prepare paper books for hearing on the death reference.

If a lower court sentences any person to death in a case, its judgment is examined by the HC through hearing arguments for confirmation of the death sentence. The lower court has to send the case documents as death reference to the HC within seven days after delivering the verdict.

Apart from Minni, 19, the five other convicts are: Rakibul Hasan Rifat, 23, Al Kaiyum, 21, Mohaiminul Islam Sifat, 19, Rezwan Ali Khan Hridoy, 22, and Md Hasan, 22.

On June 26 last year, Rifat, 25, an internet service provider, was hacked by some youths in front of Barguna Government College in broad daylight. He died at Barishal Medical College Hospital later that day.

A video clip of the attack, believed to be captured on a mobile phone, went viral on social media, triggering public outrage.

The following day, the victim's father filed the murder case with Barguna Sadar Police Station, naming 12 as accused.

Minni, who was seen in the video clip screaming while desperately trying to prevent two men from attacking her husband with sharp weapons, was made the first witness in the case.

But after some days, her father-in-law demanded her arrest claiming that she herself was involved in the murder.

Following investigation, she was named as the seventh accused in the charge sheet.

House helps

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deserve any mercy from the tribunal, he said.

Saniat Ismat Amit, the victim's son, who was present at the tribunal, expressed satisfaction over the verdict.

Matiur Rahman, a defence lawyer, said they did not get justice. They would appeal to the higher court, he added.

On February 10 last year, police recovered the body of Mahfuza from her flat at Sukanya Tower on the capital's Elephant Road.

After the murder, the victim's family reported that their two housemaids went missing along with 20 tolas of gold, valuables, and Tk 50,000 in cash.

The following day, Mahfuza's husband Ismat Kader Gama filed a murder case with New Market Police Station against Ruma and Rita and one Runu Begum in this connection.

During the investigation, the two housemaids made confessional statements to magistrates.

On July 21 that year, Alamgir Hossain Mazumder, sub-inspector of New Market Police Station, submitted the charge sheet against the two before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka.

The investigation officer dropped the name of Runu from the charge sheet as her involvement in the killing was not found.

In the charge sheet, the IO said the accused planned and carried out the killing of the former principal with an intent to loot gold ornaments and money.

On February 9 this year, the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka framed charges against the two accused.

Twenty-seven prosecution witnesses out of 34 gave their depositions before the tribunal in the case.

Saudis and foreign residents circumambulate (Tawaf) the Kaaba at the Grand Mosque complex in the holy city of Makkah, Saudi Arabia yesterday, as authorities partially resume the year-round Umrah for a limited number of pilgrims amid extensive health precautions after a seven-month coronavirus hiatus.

PHOTO: AFP

Migrants want labour issues

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on December 4 last year and was scheduled to return in the middle of March this year, got stranded as international flights were suspended since March 8 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

He said he has an electronics shop in Kuwait, but cannot return as Kuwait has yet to allow Bangladeshis to return. Bangladesh is one of the many countries from where travel to Kuwait remains suspended.

"We are facing huge losses," Sabur told this correspondent. He added that there are some 15,000 Bangladeshis who were stranded due to the coronavirus pandemic. Many of their work permits have expired and they are frustrated.

Meanwhile, the Kuwait authorities have cancelled visas of several thousand Bangladeshi workers who were recruited by Kuwaitia Marafie Group, whose CEO Shahid Islam Papul from Bangladesh and about a dozen others -- both Kuwaiti and Bangladeshi -- are facing charges of human trafficking, money laundering and cheating.

Kuwait's CID arrested Shahid, an independent lawmaker from Laxmipur-2. He was accused of charging each foreign worker, mostly from Bangladesh, up to 3,000 dinars to be taken Kuwait.

Many, however, alleged that they were not provided with the jobs and wages as promised.

The Kuwait authorities are cancelling job contracts of Kuwaitia Marafie Group, which will mean job losses of several thousand Bangladeshis in Kuwait, home to over 300,000 expatriate Bangladeshis.

Jalal Uddin, a Bangladeshi working for a hospital in Kuwait, yesterday said he wanted Foreign Minister Momen to request the Kuwaiti authorities not to cancel visas of Bangladeshis.

"Workers are not responsible for the irregularities, so they should not be victimised," he told this correspondent.

Egypt unveils

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the necropolis of the ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis, a Unesco World Heritage site.

"We are very happy about this discovery," said Mostafa Waziri, secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

Since the find of the first 13 coffins was announced almost three weeks ago, more have been discovered in shafts at depths of up to 12 metres (40 feet).

An unknown number of additional coffins may still lie buried there, the tourism and antiquities minister, Khaled al-Anani, said at the site, near the 4,700-year-old pyramid of Djoser.

"So today is not the end of the discovery, I consider it the beginning of the big discovery," he said.

The coffins, sealed more than 2,500 years ago, date back to the Late Period of ancient Egypt, from about the sixth or seventh century BC, the minister added.

Excavations in Saqqara have in recent years unearthed troves of artefacts as well as mummified snakes, birds, scarab beetles and other animals.

The discovery of the coffins is the first major announcement since the outbreak of Covid-19 in Egypt, which led to the closure of museums and archaeological sites for around three months from late March.

Dozens of statues were also found in the area including a bronze figurine depicting Nefertem, an ancient god of the lotus blossom.

Preliminary studies indicated the sarcophagi likely belonged to priests, senior statesman, and prominent figures in the ancient Egyptian society of the 26th dynasty, Anani said.

All the coffins would be taken to the soon-to-be-opened Grand Egyptian Museum on the Giza plateau, he added.

They would be placed opposite a hall hosting 32 other sealed sarcophagi for priests from the 22nd dynasty, which were found last year in the southern city of Luxor.

Trump can be discharged today

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unable to carry out his duties, would have an "aggressive" campaign schedule this week, as would Trump's three oldest children.

"We can't stay in our basement or shut down the economy indefinitely. We have to take it head-on," Trump campaign senior adviser Jason Miller said on ABC's "This Week" yesterday.

Trump has repeatedly played down the threat of the pandemic, even as it has killed more than 208,000 Americans and hammered the US economy.

CONDITION UNCLEAR

Differing assessments of Trump's health from administration officials on Saturday left it unclear how ill the president had become since he tested positive for the coronavirus on Thursday night.

A White House team of doctors said on Saturday morning Trump's condition was improving and that he was already talking about returning to the White House.

Within minutes, White House chief of staff Mark Meadows gave reporters a less rosy assessment, saying, "The president's vitals over the last 24 hours were very concerning and the next 48 hours will be critical in terms of his care. We're still not on a clear path to a full recovery."

Meadows, whose initial comments were delivered on condition that he not be identified, altered his tone hours later, telling Reuters that Trump was doing "very well" and that "doctors are very pleased with his vital signs."

Meadows did not clarify the discrepancy in his comments. A Trump adviser who spoke on condition of anonymity said the president was not happy to learn of Meadows' initial remarks.

However in an interview with Fox News broadcast Saturday night, Meadows revealed that Trump's condition on Friday was far worse than officials had made public, saying doctors recommended the president go to the hospital after seeing he had a fever and his blood oxygen level dropped rapidly.

White House doctor Sean P. Conley told reporters outside the hospital on Saturday that Trump had not had trouble breathing, and was not given oxygen at Walter Reed.

He declined to give a timetable for Trump's possible release from the hospital, and later had to issue a statement saying he misspoke after appearing to suggest Trump had been diagnosed as early as Wednesday.

In a statement on Saturday evening, Conley said the president was "not yet out of the woods" but his team remained cautiously optimistic.

CAMPAIGN RESHAPED

With Trump off the campaign trail indefinitely, his campaign announced "Operation MAGA," based on his slogan "Make America Great Again," which will see high-profile allies including Pence and Trump's elder sons, Donald Jr. and Eric, take over in-person campaigning this week.

Pence, who tested negative on Friday, is scheduled to debate Democratic vice presidential nominee Kamala Harris on Wednesday.

Biden, who largely avoided direct criticism of Trump during a campaign trip to Michigan on Friday, took a more aggressive tone on Saturday while speaking to a transit workers' union, even as he wished the president well.

"I'm in a little bit of a spot here, because I don't want to be attacking the president and the first lady now," Biden said, adding he hoped Trump and his wife Melania, who also has the illness, make a full recovery.

Conley said Trump had received the first two doses of a five-day course of Remdesivir, an intravenous antiviral drug sold by Gilead Sciences Inc that has been shown to shorten hospital stays.

He is also taking an experimental treatment, Regeneron's REGN-COV2, as well as zinc, Vitamin D, famotidine, melatonin and aspirin, Conley has said.

Kyrgyzstan goes to polls as vote-buying fears rise

AFP, *Bishkek*

Kyrgyzstan's parliamentary election got underway yesterday with observers and smaller parties warning that vote buying could spoil a rare competitive election in former Soviet Central Asia.

Surrounded by authoritarian states with rubber-stamp legislatures, elections in mountainous Kyrgyzstan offer a colourful and sometimes unpredictable contrast.

President Sooronbai Jeenbekov will be hoping for a cooperative parliament as he plans for life after his term ends in 2023, knowing that his own predecessor and former protege Almazbek Atambayev is currently languishing in jail.

With the coronavirus pandemic battering paltry incomes, many observers are warning that the stage is set for massive ballot fraud by well-resourced parties.

Svetlana Lavrova, a resident of the capital Bishkek, told AFP that she watched citizens arrive by minibus at a polling station where they were greeted and handed pieces of paper.

Observers have warned that what Lavrova called "bussing" could indicate a coordinated vote-buying effort on the part of well-resourced, pro-government parties.

"Am I alone in voting according to my conscience?" 55-year-old Lavrova asked.

An AFP correspondent saw several Mercedes minibuses parked outside a polling station in the Besh-Kungey village close to Bishkek, where dozens of soldiers were queing to vote.

The correspondent said that civilian voters in the same queue appeared to be dressed differently from residents of the village, and that well-built men in tracksuits were observing the queue.

The Central Election Commission said nearly 500,000 voters among the 3.5 million electorate changed their place of voter registration ahead of the polls.

Monitors have warned the figure could be yet another indicator of coordinated vote buying campaigns.

Polling stations across the country opened at 0200 GMT and will close at 1400 GMT, with the first results expected late yesterday.

Sixteen parties are competing for seats in the 120-member legislature.

The Birimdik (Unity) party is viewed as loyal to Jeenbekov and includes the president's brother and former parliamentary speaker Asylbek Jeenbekov among its candidates.

Its main rival, Mekenim Kyrgyzstan (My Homeland Kyrgyzstan), is associated with a powerful clan whose figurehead Rayimbek Matraimov -- a former customs service official -- was the target of anti-corruption protests last year.

Testing dropped

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This is around 11.41 percent of the 9,859 tests carried out in the 109 Covid-19 testing labs across the country.

With this, the total number of confirmed cases rose to 3,68,690 since the DGHS reported the first three cases on March 8.

In the same 24 hours yesterday, a total of 1,587 Covid-19 patients were added to the total recoveries, taking the total to 2,81,656.

This is more than 76 percent of all cases detected, according to the press release.

The DGHS also reported 23 deaths due to Covid-19 in those 24 hours, raising the total number of deaths to 5,348.

This is around 1.45 percent of all cases detected.

Six of the deceased were females, the press release said.

One of the deceased yesterday died at home while rest 22 died in hospitals.

One each deceased was from Sylhet, Khulna, Chattogram and Rajshahi divisions while two were from Rangpur, and the rest 17 were from Dhaka division.

One each was aged between 11 and 20, 21 and 30, and 31 and 40 years while three were aged between 41 and 50 years, five between 51 and 60 years and the rest 12 were over 60.

So far, more than half (51.16 percent) of the deceased were aged over 60 years old.

As of noon yesterday, a total of 2,610 people were undergoing treatment in general beds and 291 were in Covid-19 dedicated hospitals across the country, said the press release.

Talk-show

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They had been living in the ancestral four-storey building of KS Nabi in Dhanmondi area with their father until his death on August 10, after which they went to live with their mother, who was separated from Siratun.

The two recently went back to their ancestral home with their aunt Meherin Ahmed. But their father's elder brother Kazi Rehan Nabi refused to allow them into the house.

After Adian and Nahian were denied entrance into the residence as Rehan did not even open the door despite their requests, Dhanmondi Police Station was informed about the matter, Manzill said, adding that police did not take cognisance of the allegations but have, however, taken necessary steps to ensure that Adian and Nahian can live in their ancestral home in line with the HC order.

Police have also submitted a compliance report to the HC yesterday, he said.

Plumber finds

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flat were terrified of the recovery. Of them, a school-going girl and women were the most affected from the incident.

Shyamol Khan, the person whose family now stays at the flat, yesterday said they rented the house in November last year. They were not allowed to leave the flat as police were still investigating the case.

The building owner said he started construction the establishment in 1990 and the work ended in 1993.

The building, holding No 389, was abandon for several months after the construction.

Prof. Selim Reza, head of forensic medicine at Shahheed Suhrawardi Medical College, said Mirpur police sent 156 pieces of bones for forensic test recently.

They have sent the samples -- teeth, bone and hair for DNA test. "It will take one to three months to get the result," he told The Daily Star.

Muntazirul Islam, officer-in-charge of Mirpur Model Police Station, said they were yet to get a breakthrough.

"From the building owner to tenants, everyone is a suspect to us in this case," he added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Manikganj Road Division, Manikganj
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E-mail: eeman@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No. 2752 Dated: 04/10/2020

e-Tender Notice

This is online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. e-Tender is invited in e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) by Executive Engineer RHD, Road Division, Manikganj for the procurement of:

Tender Description

Tender Reference No.	Tender ID No.	Name of work	Last selling date & time	Submission/ opening dt.
05/e-GP/EE/ Mkg.Rd/2020-2021	501457	Repair and Beautification work in front of Nabinagar National Mausoleum on the occasion of "Great Victory Day" on 16th December at 1st Km (P) of Nabinagar-EPZ-Kaliakoir (Chandra) Road (N-540).	19-Oct-2020 16:00	20-Oct-2020 12:00

Md. Gaus-Ul-Hassan Maruf
ID No. 602215
Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD
Road Division, Manikganj

GD-1583