

## 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: October 6, 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 Pataukhali 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.

## Plumbing depths of pandemic pain

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“But the water level in the river will start to fall in the dry season. There will be no earning from the boat then. I don’t know what I will do then,” he said.  
The coronavirus outbreak and resulting shutdown of the economy have thrown the lives of many teachers like Kibria and Meherun into disarray. As the country celebrates World Teachers Day today, many teachers of private schools, especially the ones outside Dhaka, are struggling with no financial assistance from the government.  
The theme of this year’s day is: “Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future”.  
In Bangladesh, the teachers of many kindergarten and other primary-level schools and non-MPO (Monthly Pay Order) secondary schools are ill-paid.

They provide private tuitions to make ends meet.  
The pandemic forced many of the teachers to change their profession and caused some schools to shut. The specific data on it is hard to come by.  
Many private schools, mostly kindergartens, are also undergoing monetary crunch while their teachers are not getting their full salaries.  
Mizanur Rahman, secretary general of Bangladesh Kindergarten Association, said an estimated 20 percent of kindergarten teachers have switched to other professions.  
There are about 40,000 kindergarten schools in the country with around six lakh teachers, he said.  
“Hundreds of teachers are working as labourers at shops, selling seasonal fruits, vegetables, or driving auto-rickshaws and there-wheelers.”

## 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

## Corrupt judges

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The bench had delivered the judgement on December 11 last year, following two separate writ petitions filed by the ministry of housing and public works last year, challenging a verdict given by the First Court of Settlement of Dhaka on November 27, 1995.  
In the judgement, Khandker Musa Khaled, Md Taha Mollah and Farid Uddin Aktar, the then judges of First Court of Settlement of Dhaka, had removed 16 kathas of the land at Kakrail area in Dhaka from the list of abandoned property and given its ownership to four claimants -- KAM Ashraf Uddin (six katha), Lutfunnissa Rahman (four katha), AKM Idris Hossain and his wife Jamila Khatun (six katha) in different plots.  
The HC further observed that the then First Court of Settlement of Dhaka, led by Musa Khaled, had created unprecedented history and handed over the property of the state and people worth thousands of crores of taka to a gang of frauds without any documents or evidence (of claim) and, by doing so, had damaged the dignity of the judiciary.  
“When the gang of frauds witness that property of Tk thousands of crores can be claimed without any

documents and evidence, it sends a message to them and to the general public that the judiciary is for frauds and the affluent, not for the general public,” the verdict said.  
It further observed, “The judiciary is the people’s last resort of hope and expectations. When the judges do their work through corruption, the general people have no place to go. They get disappointed and angry, and try to find the alternatives. Then they take shelter from unlawful people.  
“The rule of law and judicial corruption cannot go hand in hand. If the judicial officers and staffers are corrupt, the rule of law will remain confined only to books...” the HC judges said in the full text of verdict.  
They added, “Numerous reports and articles have been published on the independence of the judiciary in our society in many intellectual forums, newspapers and electronic media. But, there is no specific and clear article, on corrupt members of the judiciary.”  
The HC directed the authorities concerned to send a copy of this verdict to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in order for her to be informed of the matter so that she can take initiatives on a personal level to protect the rule of law and take actions in this regard.

## 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.

## Late-night

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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.

## France steps up search efforts after floods

AFP, Breil-Sur-Roya

Rescue efforts stepped up their search efforts in southwestern France yesterday after floods cut off several villages and killed two people in Italy, with eight still missing in France.  
Breil-sur-Roya, a French village close to the Italian border, was a scene of devastation with houses buried in

mud and turned-over cars stuck in the riverbed, an AFP journalist said.  
Eight people were still missing on the French side of the border after storms, torrential rain and flash floods battered the area, washing away roads and houses, cutting off entire villages and triggering landslips.  
Rescue efforts were concentrated on the Roya valley where around 1,000 firefighters backed up by helicopters

and army units resumed their search hoping to find survivors, and giving assistance to people whose homes were destroyed or inaccessible.  
Storm Alex barrelled into France’s west coast on Thursday bringing powerful winds and rain across the country before moving into Italy, where regions across the north suffered an onslaught on Saturday.

“What we are going through is extraordinary,” the prefect of the Alpes-Maritimes region said Bernard Gonzalez.  
“We are used to seeing images of such disasters on other continents, sometimes with a lack of concern, but this here is something that affects us all,” he told AFP.  
France has declared the region a natural disaster zone.

## Trump can be discharged from hospital today

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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.

## Plumber finds skeleton in wall

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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.

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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-UI-Hassan Maruf

ID No. 602215

Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD

Road Division, Manikganj

GD-1583