

# Trump rejects virtual debate

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as a safety precaution 25 days before the election.

"The American people have witnessed what is the greatest failure of any presidential administration in the history of our country," said Harris, a US senator from California and former prosecutor.

"And frankly, this administration has forfeited their right to reelection based on this," Harris said before a masked and limited audience at the University of Utah.

Saying Trump treated front-line health personnel as "sacrificial workers," Harris -- pointing to Trump's own statements to journalist Bob Woodward -- accused the White House of not moving quickly despite knowing the risks of Covid-19.

"The president said it was a hoax. They minimized the seriousness of it," Harris said.

After a raucous debate eight days ago between Trump and Biden, Pence and Harris took a more civil tone with no name-calling, but sharply disagreed on the reaction to the pandemic.

"I want the American people to know, from the very first day, President Donald Trump has put the health of America first," Pence said, pointing to his ban on travel from China on January 31, a month after cases first emerged in Wuhan.

In contrast to Trump's firehose-like blasts on Biden and his family, Pence demonstrated calm and stability and congratulated Harris on the historic nature of her candidacy.

Harris, the daughter of Jamaican and Indian immigrants, would also be both the first African-American and Asian-American vice president.

But Pence tried to portray her as a radical, saying that Harris -- generally considered close to the Democratic

establishment -- was further to the left than socialist Bernie Sanders.

"More taxes, more regulation, banning fracking, abolishing fossil fuel, crushing American energy, economic surrender to China is a prescription for American decline," Pence said, reciting a list Biden would be unlikely to describe as his platform.

Pence, questioned by moderator Susan Page of USA Today, acknowledged that "the climate is changing" but insisted that market solutions were the best way to reduce carbon emissions.

Even if they delved more into substance, the two candidates revealed little new about their policies and were notably evasive on hot-button issues such as abortion and the Supreme Court.

In one moment that went without commentary on stage but triggered an avalanche of social media commentary, a fly found its way onto Pence, spending a visibly long time on his white hair.

The Biden campaign quickly started selling fly-swatters online with the inscription, "Truth over flies."

The two candidates still scoffed at each other's remarks. At one point Harris, firmly but with a smile, reproached Pence, telling him: "Mr vice president, I'm speaking."

They had one of their most intense clashes about racial justice after nationwide protests over police treatment of African-Americans.

Biden "believes that law enforcement has an implicit bias against minorities," Pence said.

"It's a great insult to the men and women who serve in law enforcement. And I want everyone to know who puts on the uniform of law enforcement every day, President Trump and I stand with you," he said.



US Vice President Mike Pence and Democratic vice presidential nominee and US Senator Kamala Harris take part in the 2020 vice presidential debate moderated by Susan Page of USA Today, on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah, US, on Wednesday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

# Rise in use of the law

FROM PAGE 1  
Quoting data of Cyber Crime Tribunal, Amnesty said nearly 2,000 cases have been filed under the DSA since its enactment on October 8, 2018.

More than 800 cases were filed in the first nine months of this year alone, with many of the country's most prominent editors and senior journalists being increasingly targeted, the rights watchdog said.

"Since its inception, the Digital Security Act has been wielded as a weapon to silence critics and suppress dissent. The Bangladesh authorities have exploited the law's vague and broad provisions to escalate attacks on independent journalism and media freedom," said Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, South Asia researcher at Amnesty International.

"The recent crackdown and increased targeting of prominent journalists is clearly a cynical effort by the authorities to use the Covid-19 crisis as a cover to ramp up these efforts. Bangladesh must substantially reform the DSA and bring it into line with the country's constitution and its human rights obligations," he added.

The Amnesty statement said the DSA imposes multiple undue restrictions on the right to freedom of expression, including up to 10 years' imprisonment for "spreading propaganda" against Bangladesh's Liberation War, the national anthem and national flag using digital devices. Repeated offences carry the maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

The statement listed incidents of arrests and filing of cases under the DSA.

Zakaria said journalists were being targeted simply for reporting on stories critical of the authorities and holding the powerful to account. "The charges against them must be dropped and those detained must be released immediately and

unconditionally."

In its statement, Front Line Defenders said the government passed the DSA despite intense criticism and condemnation from human rights defenders, students, civil society organisations and the international community for its overly broad and vague provisions, which lack legal certainty and precision.

The DSA gives the government absolute power to initiate investigations into anyone whose activities are considered a "threat" by giving law enforcement agencies power to arrest without warrant, simply on suspicion that a crime has been committed through the use of social media, said the rights body.

The law also allows the government to order the removal and blocking of any information or data on the internet it deems necessary, thereby providing broad scope to silence those critical of its policies or who share information on human rights violations in the country, the statement said.

The Act allows for invasive forms of surveillance by permitting authorities to ask service providers and other intermediaries for data without requiring a court-obtained warrant, it added.

Front Line Defenders said at a time when governments should be reducing the prison population to protect against the spread of Covid-19, the authorities in Bangladesh have been arresting people for their legitimate defence and exercise of human rights.

Didar Bhuiyan, a human rights defender, was arrested on May 5 after he shared a report on social media criticising the government's response to the pandemic.

The rights watchdog urged the government to ensure that its laws are sufficiently precise so as not to arbitrarily target human rights defenders or their work.

# 1.3 lakh of them living

FROM PAGE 12  
Of the more than 250,000 Rohingyas left in Myanmar, around 100,000 have been living in refugee camps having been displaced during an earlier wave of violence in 2012.

Thousands of other Rohingyas live in villages spread across Rakhine, but are fearful of the military, which keeps a constant watch on their communities. Conflict between the military and the Arakan Army, an ethnic Rakhine armed group, has complicated their problems.

The 169-page HRW report, based on interviews of more than 60 interviews with Rohingyas as well as Kaman Muslims and humanitarian workers, said the Rohingyas have been living in the camps and camp-like communities and experiencing "severe limitations" on their livelihoods and their movement.

Rakhine State is subject to an internet blackout and remains off-limits to foreign journalists unless they travel in a prearranged trip with government minders. The report said the living conditions in the camps had increasingly threatened Rohingyas' right to life and other basic rights, resulting in higher rates of malnutrition and other health problems.

The HRW called on the international community to exert more pressure on the government of Myanmar and hold officials accountable for the alleged abuses.

The abuses documented included denial of freedom of movement as well as widespread extortion. Those found outside the camp were also reportedly subjected to torture and other abuses by security forces, the report said.

"Life in the camp is so painful," a Rohingya man told the HRW. "There is no chance to move freely.... We have nothing called freedom."

The HRW accused the Myanmar government of using the earlier 2012 violence against Rohingya communities as a "pretext" to segregate and confine the population from the rest of the population.

In April 2017, the government announced that it would begin closing the camps, but actions later taken by the authorities only perpetuated the segregation of the Rohingya, denying them the right to return to their land, rebuild their homes, find work, and take their place back in Myanmar society.

The report said that the "sense of hopelessness in the camps" became pervasive, with not one Rohingya interviewed expressing the belief that their indefinite detention would end.

"I think the system is permanent," a Rohingya woman said. "Nothing will change. It is only words."

Further complicating the situation for Rohingyas is the Covid-19 pandemic, which has prompted the government to impose more restrictions on movement as part of an effort to contain the spread of the disease.

The HRW called on Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi and the military to take necessary steps to grant more freedom to Rohingyas who remain in the country.

"The government's claims that it's not committing the gravest international crimes will ring hollow until it cuts the barbed wire and allows Rohingyas to return to their homes with full legal protection," it said.

# Anti-rape protests roll

FROM PAGE 12  
survivors and security for women in the country.

Several hundred activists of Chhatra Union, Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology and Bangladesh Skateboarding Community protested at Shahbagh intersection demanding exemplary punishment and the speedy trial of all convicted rapists.

Some students of left-leaning student bodies started protests in front of the National Museum at Shahbagh around 11:30am.

They demanded the resignation of Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal for his failure to stop rape incidents across the country.

They announced that a mass rally will be held today at 4:00pm at Shahbagh to press home their demands.

In the afternoon, around a hundred students protested on Dhanmondi Road 27, chanting "We want justice."

Dhaka University Teachers Association (Duta) yesterday formed a human chain at the base of Aparajay Bangla, demanding quick trial of all those who perpetuate violence against women and punishment to rapists.

They said teachers have to take the responsibility of building a moral nation.

Similar protests were held in Lalmonirhat, Gazipur, Rajbari, Thakurgaon Faridpur,

Sunamganj, Bhola, Jashore and Bagerhat districts.

Meanwhile, protesters in Moulvibazar said they were attacked by Chhatra League men in front of the Press Club at 12:00pm during the rally organised by leftist student organisations. However, Moulvibazar police and BCL said they didn't know anything about the incident.

Shubhinoy Roy, president of the district Chhatra Union, said it was during their prescheduled programme to protest the rise of rape across the country that a group of Chhatra League men attacked them.

Moulvibazar Police Officer-in-Charge Yasirul Haque said, "We have not received any such complaint."

District BCL Vice-President Amit Roy said he didn't hear of any such incident.

Meanwhile, police in Brahmanbaria got into a scuffle with BNP men when they were staging an anti-rape human chain in front of the Zila Parishad Market around 11:00am.

In Kishoreganj, police chased away a rally by Chhatra and Jubo Adhikar Parishad, protesters alleged. A group of BCL men also allegedly halted the protest by general students of Chattogram protesting the countrywide rape incidents yesterday evening.

Around 50 students of different institution formed a human chain at Wata intersection area around 4:00pm.

# Scientists develop robot

FROM PAGE 12  
The "ribs" of the squid are connected to two circular plates, with one attached to a nozzle for shooting water and the other carrying a waterproof camera or other sensor.

The researchers decided that a cephalopod -- the group of marine animals that includes squid, octopus, cuttlefish, or nautilus -- was the best

choice of design because of their speed.

Squid can reach the fastest speed of any aquatic invertebrates, through a similar natural jet propulsion system.

The robot can reach a speed of approximately 18 to 32 centimetres per second, which equates to roughly half a mile per hour - faster than most other soft robots, they claim.

# 2 accused placed

FROM PAGE 12  
charge of Begumganj Model Police Station, said police arrested Kalam from Cumilla's Daudkandi and Shahed from Begumganj's Eklashpur on Wednesday night.

After preliminary investigation, the two were produced before the court with remand prayers, the IO said. The court placed Kalam on six days' remand in two cases and Shahed on two days' remand in a case, he added.

Ten people have so far been arrested in connection with the rape incident.

Alamgir Hossain, superintendent of Noakhali police, said the victim

filed three cases against nine named people and seven to eight unknown others over the incident.

Drives are on to arrest the other accused, he added.

There was widespread outrage on social media after the graphic video of a woman in Noakhali being gang-raped was uploaded and shared on Sunday.

The video also documents that sticks were used as instruments of torture when executing the action of rape and the whole gang of men aided and abetted each other in raping the woman.

# Constitution in shortest

FROM PAGE 12  
(ALPP) at the Engineering Institution, the prime minister who is also leader of the House, says that the people are eagerly awaiting a constitution and the Awami League government is pledge-bound to give the country a constitution.

"We shall fulfil our pledge by framing the constitution," he adds. Bangabandhu observes that his party can legitimately feel proud for being able to give the country a constitution in such a short time. Considering the circumstances under which Bangladesh was born one could say that the country is getting a constitution much quicker, he adds. He points out that no country, born in a revolution, could frame a constitution in such a short time.

The prime minister renews his call to the MCAs to help maintain law and order in their respective areas. He reiterates that general elections would be held earlier than expected.

On the question of the dissolution of the Gono Parishad immediately after the framing of the constitution he says that the suggestion of the organising committee of the Awami League in this respect would be honoured. **BORDER TRADE SUSPENDED**  
The mid-term review of Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement by the officials of both governments ends in Dhaka today with a decision to suspend the border trade between the two countries. A credible source says the Bangladesh delegation wanted the border trade suspended as they felt that meaningful implementation of the provisions of border trade was not possible unless adequate checks and control could be established along the entire border between the two countries.

SOURCES: October 10, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

# Amin Uddin new

FROM PAGE 12  
attorney general Mahubub Alam to continue establishing the rule of law and justice in the country, as well as the independence of the judiciary.

"I will work to ensure justice for people of the country," he said.

AM Amin Uddin was born at Kulaura in Moulavibazar in October 1963. The eminent lawyer has completed his masters and law degrees from Dhaka University.

He was enrolled as a lawyer for the lower court in 1987, as a High Court lawyer in 1989 and as a lawyer for the Supreme Court's Appellate Division

in 2003.

He was appointed assistant attorney general from 1996 to 2000 and as deputy attorney general in 2000. He served in that post until the then Awami League government was in office till October 2001. Amin Uddin was elected president of the Supreme Court Bar Association last year and re-elected this year.

Amin Uddin, who was elected as secretary of the Supreme Court Bar Association in 2006, told this correspondent that there is no legal bar for serving as the president of the SCBA while holding the office of attorney general.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Department of Public Health Engineering  
Panchagarh District, Panchagarh  
Phone: 0568-61261

Memo No. 46.03.7700.061.14.005.19-90b/2

**Invitation for e-Tender Notice**  
**Tender No. 03/2020-2021**

01	Ministry/Division	Local Government Division.
02	Implementing agency	Department of Public Health Engineering.
03	Project/program name	Village Water Supply Project (VWSP).
04	e-Tender IDs	Tender ID 501692 & 501694.
05	1. Installation of # 6 Shallow Tubewell Under Village Water Supply Project of Department of Public Health Engineering, Panchagarh District, Panchagarh. 2. Installation of Shallow Submersible Tubewell with 1.5 HP Submersible Pump Under Village Water Supply Project of Department of Public Health Engineering, Panchagarh District, Panchagarh.	
06	Name, designation & address of official inviting tender	A. N. Md. Nimul Eashan, Executive Engineer, DPHE, Panchagarh. Tel. No. 0568-61261.
07	This is online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal & no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Interested persons/firms can see details in the website: <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">www.eprocure.gov.bd</a>	

A. N. Md. Nimul Eashan  
Executive Engineer  
DPHE, Panchagarh

GD-1606

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
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Memo No. 35.01.5874.187.07.7-82.20-1545

**e-Tender Notice**

This is to notify all concerned that the following tender have published through e-GP Portal.

Tender ID, Package No. & date of publishing	Name of work	Last selling date	Closing and opening date & time
Tender ID No. 502889 Tender Package No. 03/ e-GP/PMP/Brdge/ Culvert/SE/RHD/MRC/ 2020-21	Construction of 1 x 2.00 meter Clear Length 3.00 meter Clear Height RCC Box Culvert with U Type wing wall at Ch. 800m (Tabujure) 1 x 3.00 meter Clear Length 2.00 meter Clear Height RCC Box Culvert with U Type wing wall at Ch. 1800m (Chatarikhai) of Shahbazpur-Daulatpur Road (Z-2816) 2 Nos. 1 x 4.00 meter Clear Length 2.00 meter Clear Height RCC Box Culvert with U Type wing wall at Ch. 4100m (Golsha) & 4700m (Taradharan) of Bariekha-Shahbazpur-Latu Road (Z-2815) 3 x 5.00 meter Clear Length 4.00 meter Clear Height RCC Box Culvert with U Type wing wall at Ch. 10200m (Jora) of Moulvibazar Rajnagar-Sylhet Balaganj Road (Z-2017) 1 x 2.00 meter Clear Length 3.00 meter Clear Height RCC Box Culvert with U Type wing wall at Ch. 2612m (Ranimura) 2 x 6.00 meter Clear Length 5.00 meter Clear Height RCC Box Culvert with U Type wing wall at Ch. 10232m (Boradahar) of Juri - Fultola - Batuli Road (Z-2823) & 3 x 6.00 meter Clear Length 4.00 meter Clear Height RCC Box Culvert with U Type wing wall at Ch. 4526m (Noyabazar) of Juri - Lathilla Road (R-282) under Road Division Moulvibazar during the year 2020-2021.	08.11.2020, up to 15:00	09.11.2020, at 14:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Moulvibazar.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk: [www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)).

A. K. Shamsuddin Ahmed  
ID No. 000379  
Superintending Engineer, RHD  
Road Circle, Moulvibazar

GD-1609

# Court frames charges

FROM PAGE 12  
Both the accused were in the courtroom when the charges were framed on Wednesday said lawyer Abdul Hai, counselor for the lawmaker.

"It is a baseless case. It will be reflected in the verdict," said Hasibur Rahman Swapon.

"This case is based on conspiracy and instigation ...," he said.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
District: Nilphamari  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

Memo No. 46.02.7300.000.14.003.20.1903;

**e-Tender Notice: 10/2020-21 (OTM)**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works are given below:

Sl. No.	Tender proposal ID	Name of the scheme with package No.	Last selling date and time	Closing date and time	Opening date and time
01	495476	Improvement of Dokhin Sonakhuli-Vajonchur via Khamalpara Road. Ch. 1000.00m-3040.00m under Upazila Dimla District Nilphamari. Road ID 173124082 [Package No. PRONIL/DIMVR20-21W-140]	08-Nov-2020 up to 17.00 hrs.	09-Nov-2020 Time: 12.30 hrs.	09-Nov-2020 Time: 12.30 hrs.
02	495477	Improvement of Kakina Chapani Madrasa-Tista Main Canal Road. Ch. 0.00m-1783.00m under Upazila Dimla District Nilphamari. Road ID 173125089 [Package No. PRONIL/DIMVR20-21W-141]	08-Nov-2020 up to 17.00 hrs.	09-Nov-2020 Time: 12.30 hrs.	09-Nov-2020 Time: 12.30 hrs.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 17.00 hrs. on 08-Nov-2020. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) and also for e-mail: [sen.nilphamari@lged.gov.bd](mailto:sen.nilphamari@lged.gov.bd) or call to: 0551-61485. Interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

Sujan Kumar Kar  
Executive Engineer  
LGED, Nilphamari  
Phone: 0551-61485  
[sen.nilphamari@lged.gov.bd](mailto:sen.nilphamari@lged.gov.bd)

GD-1602

**Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)**  
PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
Phone: 8181658-61, 8181169, 8181664-69; Website: <http://www.pksf-bd.org>

**Vacancy Announcement**

PKSF has been implementing "The World Bank" funded project titled "Sustainable Enterprise Project (SEP)" since August 2018. The objective of this project is to increase adoption of the environmentally sustainable practices by targeting microenterprises following business cluster development approach. PKSF hereby invites applications from the suitable candidates for the recruitment of the following position under SEP:

S.N	Name of the Post	Consolidated Monthly Salary
1	Senior Program Officer (Branding, E-commerce and Innovation Specialist); No. of Post: 01 (one)	BDT 1,65,000/-

The employee will be recruited initially for one year with an opportunity for performance-based annual renewal during the project period. Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should apply online by **24 October 2020**. For detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and instructions to apply, please visit PKSF website: [www.pksf-bd.org](http://www.pksf-bd.org).

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. PKSF is an equal opportunity employer. Any kind of persuasion will be treated as disqualification of the candidate. PKSF reserves the right to cancel this recruitment process without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Golam Touhid**  
Deputy Managing Director