

4-LANE DHAKA-BHANGA EXPRESS HIGHWAY BUILT WITH BSRM XTREME

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT

BSRM building a safer nation

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS RECOGNIZES

World's Largest VRM

SHAH CEMENT

Treat NGOs as equal partners

Speakers urge UN, international organisations, donors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a virtual session yesterday said the local and national NGOs in Bangladesh want to be recognised and appreciated for their important role in the development of the country.

Addressing the event, Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) Executive Director Shaheen Anam said, "The NGOs want to be treated as equal partners."

She said the NGOs in Bangladesh have come a long way since 1971. They are no more the aid or relief-giving organisations that they used to be.

"We have come a long way in terms of skills, experience and bargaining power," she added.

Shaheen Anam chaired the virtual session titled "UN in 75: Interfacing Government and Civil Society for Development and Sustainable Peace".

She said it would be "sad" if NGOs were not being treated as equal partners by the United Nations, international organisations, and donors.

The MJF executive director said her organisation has been working relentlessly as an intermediary funding organisation for local NGOs, bridging the gap between small NGOs and donor agencies.

The session, organised by BDCSO Process, a platform of local NGOs and civil society organisations, was part of its annual conference that ended yesterday.

Earlier on Tuesday and Thursday, the organisation held similar sessions.

Speakers yesterday said the UN needs to continue supporting NGOs in Bangladesh to flourish, especially in the technical area.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



Farmers in Bogura's Shajahanpur upazila cultivated bitter gourd on their land but recent floods in the country's northern region damaged most of their crop. Due to lack of supply, bitter gourd was being sold at Tk 2,000 per maund in the district's markets.

PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUI

CHANDPUR MUNICIPAL POLLS

1 killed, 6 hurt in violence, AL man wins

A CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

AL-backed mayoral candidate Zillur Rahman won the Chandpur municipality polls yesterday.

A youth was killed and six others were injured in violence over Chandpur municipality elections.

The dead, Yasin, 18, of Koralia area of the municipality, was an Awami League activist.

Meanwhile, BNP mayoral candidate Akhter Hossain Majhi boycotted the polls around 2:30pm yesterday, alleging irregularities and attacks on their activists.

Witnesses said Yasin, a supporter of an AL councillor candidate, locked in an altercation over a trifling matter with another supporter of the candidate Saeed outside the Gani Model High School polling station in Koralia area around noon.

At one stage,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



Trump eyes come-back with White House speech

Hundreds invited; Biden calls it 'reckless'; second presidential debate cancelled

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump was gearing up for a public speech at the White House for the first time since testing positive for Covid-19, as he prepares a rapid return to the campaign trail just three weeks before the election.

The 74-year-old commander-in-chief has also announced a Florida rally tomorrow in an attempt to relaunch his stumbling reelection campaign against surging Democratic rival Joe Biden, who called the president's behavior "reckless."

Seeking to project strength and improved health, Trump had refused to participate in next week's scheduled debate after organizers shifted it to an online format out of coronavirus concerns.

On Friday the Commission on Presidential Debates made it official, saying next Thursday's debate is scrapped, leaving an October 22 event the final

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

AL organising committee suggests constitutional amendments



Awami League Organising Committee meeting with Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Gono Bhaban.

October 11, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

ALOC'S MEETING WITH BANGABANDHU

The Awami League Organising Committee (ALOC) suggests some amendments to the draft constitution, mainly related to fundamental rights, in its meeting held today at the Gono Bhaban with the party chief Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The meeting lasts for about two and a half hours and the draft constitution is elaborately discussed. Initiating the discussion, Bangabandhu expresses his confidence

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



ABDUCTION IN SAVAR

Three juvenile gang members arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Rapid Action Battalion yesterday claimed to have rescued a kidnapped youth from Savar's Anandapur area and arrested three juvenile gang members in connection with the incident.

The arrestees -- Musha Kazi, 19, Zahid Hasan, 19, and Ashik Hossen, 18, -- are residents of the same area.

Rab-4 sources said one Hridoy, 18, from Manikgonj's Machain village, went to Savar on Friday noon to do a job.

In the evening, the arrestees picked up Hridoy and called his father from his cell phone. The kidnappers demanded a ransom of Tk 30,000 for Hridoy's return.

Around midnight, the father lodged a complaint with the Rab over the incident.

A team of Rab-4, led

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Space internet is ready for people



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

SpaceX CEO Elon Musk has said his space internet project is ready for public use following the latest launch of Starlink satellites.

SpaceX delivered a further 60 satellites into low-Earth orbit this week, bringing the total number close to 800.

The private space firm hopes to eventually launch tens of thousands of Starlink satellites to create a constellation capable of beaming high-speed broadband down to 99 per cent of the inhabited world.

"Once these satellites reach their target position, we will be able to roll out a fairly wide public beta in northern US and hopefully southern Canada,"

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

PBI officials visit gang-rape spot in Noakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Naokhali

Along with three accused, Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) officials yesterday visited the spot in Noakhali where a woman was gang-raped last month.

The PBI team went to the victim's home in Eklashpur union of Begumganj around 10:00am with accused Badal, Kalam, and Saju.

Inspector Mamunur Rashid Patwari, investigating

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 11

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:45 12:45 4:15 5:45 7:15
JAMAAT 5:20 1:15 4:30 5:50 7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Tortured Rohingya boy dies in hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A 14-year-old Rohingya boy died of his wounds at Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital early yesterday, four days after he was brutally beaten up inside a refugee camp and abducted by some Rohingya criminals.

The victim, Ziabur Rahman, died around 3:00am, said Shahin Mohammad Abdur Rahman, resident medical officer of the hospital.

The boy was a resident of Kutupalang registered Rohingya camp in Ukhiya, said camp in-charge Khalilur Rahman.

Hafez Jalal Ahmed, chairman of the camp's Rohingya Community, said Rohingya criminals had abducted the boy on Tuesday when two groups of Rohingyas clashed inside the camp. The incident left four Rohingyas dead.

On Thursday, the criminals left Ziabur under a road bridge inside

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



Poland's Iga Swiatek kisses the trophy as she celebrates after winning the French Open at the Roland Garros, Paris, France yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

World reels from Covid-29 2nd wave

US infections hit two-month high; record cases in Europe force more curbs

AGENCIES

New cases of Covid-19 in the United States hit a two-month high with over 58,000 infections as the number of cases surged in Europe yesterday, and breached 10 million in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Ten of the 50 states reported record one-day rises in cases, including the Midwestern states of Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri and Ohio. Wisconsin and Illinois recorded over 3,000 new cases for a second day in a row - a two-day trend not seen even during the height of the previous outbreak in the spring, according to Reuters data.

The Western states of Montana, New Mexico and Wyoming also reported their biggest one-day jumps in cases, as did Oklahoma and West Virginia.

Nineteen states have seen record increases in new cases so far in October.

In Europe, Germany and Poland enforced new restrictions to fight the coronavirus yesterday after Britain and France forced to take similar measures in face of surging cases.

Bars and restaurants are to close at 11:00 pm (2100 GMT) in Berlin until October 31 in a partial curfew, a measure already imposed -- but starting an hour earlier -- in the financial capital Frankfurt.

The shutdown in the German capital -- with more

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2