

Constituent

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Bangladesh has applied to become a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). It is announced today.

\$62M IMF LOAN

Bangladesh will receive a 62-million-dollar loan from Compensatory Credit Facilities Fund of IMF. Governor of the Bank of Bangladesh AN Hamidullah discloses today. A team of IMF is already in Dhaka to finalise the terms and conditions of the loan. The loan will be provided on 'soft terms' and at 'nominal interest'.

TK 1 CRORE FOR WOMEN'S REHABILITATION

The government has sanctioned Tk 1 crore to the National Board for Rehabilitation of Women for implementation of its programme during the current financial year. The board was set up following a directive of Bangabandhu to establish a suitable organisation to ensure proper rehabilitation of the war-affected women of Bangladesh. The board has worked out a five-year plan involving an expenditure of Tk 10 crore.

SOURCES: October 14, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

Bera mayor

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Speaking to The Daily Star, UNO Asif said the mayor's proposal did not comply with the government rules. "As I tried to explain the matter, the mayor pressed me to stop talking."

He said he would submit a written complain to the higher authorities in this regard.

Pabna Deputy Commissioner Kabir Mahamud said the mayor put pressure on the UNO to sign the resolution on the lease income.

"We have already informed to the higher authorities about the incident. Necessary steps will be taken in this regard," the DC told journalists.

Mayor Baten, also the brother of Pabna-1 lawmaker Samsul Haque Tuku, said Nagarbari and Kazirhat ghats are "properties of the local area".

"As the representatives of the people, we have responsibilities for the area. There are two large ghats in Bera upazila -- Nagarbari Ghat and Kazirhat ghat. The local administration has been leasing out the ghats for years, but the upazila parishad does not get any fund from the lease money," the mayor told this correspondent.

He said he as a representative of the upazila parishad at the meeting proposed that the administration should give the lease income to the upazila parishad for its development. "As they disagreed with my proposal, I boycotted the meeting."

The mayor, however, denied the allegation of misbehaving with the UNO and other officials.

More than half of French nurses approaching burn-out: survey

AFP, Paris

More than half of French nurses are close to burning out, according to a survey of nearly 60,000 of them published on Sunday, which found they were struggling with cancelled holidays and increased work due to coronavirus.

The survey carried out by the national French nursing union found that 57 percent of respondents reported being in a "state of professional exhaustion", up from 33 percent before the global Covid-19 pandemic struck France early in 2020.

The findings underline the strains being felt in the healthcare sector in Europe, which came under unprecedented pressure during the first wave of infections and now faces another surge in admissions.

Bad luck

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"I wanted to have a piece of history that nobody could have."

After 15 years of misfortune, however, Nicole decided the "cursed" pilfered artefacts were responsible. They had "so much negative energy", she said in her letter, "linked to that land of destruction."

The ancient city of Pompeii was buried in volcanic ash after the disastrous eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. The city was rediscovered in the 16th century and excavations have been ongoing since.

It is now one of Italy's most popular tourist destinations, but this accolade comes with frequent problems of visitors acting disrespectfully, even to the point of pocketing illegal "souvenirs".

Nicole apologised for her actions in her letter, saying she was seeking "forgiveness from God". She also hopes to rid herself of the bad luck the stolen artefacts have apparently brought her.

"I am now 36 and had breast cancer twice," she wrote.

"The last time ending in a double mastectomy. My family and I also had financial problems. We're good people and I don't want to pass this curse on to my family or children."



Protesters stand over a toppled statue of president Theodore Roosevelt during an Indigenous Peoples Day of Rage protest in Portland, Oregon, US on Sunday night. Protesters tore down statues of two US presidents and broke windows out of downtown businesses before police intervened.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Bangladesh-India flights

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making a courtesy call to Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader at the minister's secretariat office yesterday. This is Doraiswami's first meeting with Quader, also the general secretary of the ruling Awami League, after he took charge of the Indian High Commission in Dhaka recently.

"We have already resumed visa processes. We encourage our Bangladeshi partners to resume their applications. Almost all visa categories are covered... I am pressing very hard to reopen all visa services," he said.

Asked about a bilateral air bubble pact, under which airlines of both countries can operate international flights with certain restrictions, he said, "We are waiting for final agreement from our partners here."

"We have given our response and we said yes to all the requests from

Bangladeshi partners for seats and everything. So, hopefully, with your support and blessing, we will also start flights very quickly," he added.

Asked whether India will take any initiative to expedite the projects being implemented under Indian lines of credit as most are running behind the schedule, he said: "Yes. Absolutely."

The high commissioner said he has discussed the issue with the minister. He said during the Indian foreign secretary's visit to Bangladesh in August this year, both countries had agreed to set up a new mechanism between the secretary of Economic Relations Division and the high commissioner regarding the LoC projects.

"We will meet as soon as possible to review the projects and progress of these," he said. "Nobody wants these projects to complete quickly [more] than our and your prime ministers."

Talking about bilateral relations,

the high commissioner said, "For India, as I have mentioned in my first press meet here, there is no more important partner than Bangladesh."

Talking to reporters, Obaidul Quader said, water sharing of interlinked rivers, including the Teesta, is an important issue and the high commissioner told him that the Indian prime minister is very much sincere about it and trying his level best.

Both countries are hopeful of a respectful solution of the issues and positive development has already been made in this regard, he said.

"Relationship between the two countries has reached a new level as a result of the sincere efforts of these two prime ministers. India considers Bangladesh an important partner. We want to move forward this friendly and warm relationship for the people of both countries," Quader said.

US Deputy Secy of State Biegun

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official's visit.

Biegun's visit to Bangladesh will be from October 14 to 16 after the first leg of his India visit. During the visit here, he is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Foreign Minister Momen, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam.

The visit is part of the US's objective of advancing its Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS) that aims for a free, secure and rules-based Indo-Pacific.

Momen said the US will raise their issues and Bangladesh will raise theirs. Apart from the Rohingya repatriation issue, Dhaka will also seek to have a moratorium on tariffs for RMG exports to the US -- the largest market for Bangladeshi RMG -- for two to three years in light of the fallout from the pandemic.

"As the US is deepening its friendship [with Bangladesh], we would like it to invest in infrastructure.

The US has no investment in infrastructure development, which we need very much here," he said.

There are also issues about US visas for Bangladeshi students and it will also be raised during the meeting, Momen said.

Asked about Bangladesh's joining the IPS, the minister said Dhaka is ready to join it as long as it is about trade and economy. Dhaka, however, has reluctance on the defense aspects, if any, of the IPS.

Asked about a planned meeting of the US, UK, EU and Japan on the Rohingya issue towards the end of this month, Momen said Dhaka has not been informed of it yet, but heard that they will be discussing sustainable humanitarian support for the Rohingya refugees, their education and improvements in living standards.

"We don't want it. Let them [Rohingya] improve their life back in Rakhine," Momen said, stressing on the

quick repatriation of Rohingya refugees.

These countries will also discuss rescue and disembarkation issues of the Rohingya refugees when they undertake journeys on boats, he said.

"We don't buy such ideas. We have seen none of the regional countries accepting the Rohingyas."

He said the Bangladesh government needs to take control of the Rohingya camps and so is installing fences, without which he said crimes like drug trafficking are spiking.

Touching upon Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jimin's call on him on Sunday, the minister said China is also unhappy that the Rohingya repatriation has not started yet despite China having a role in convening a meeting of Bangladesh and Myanmar to advance Rohingya repatriation last year.

China is trying to convene another such meeting soon to discuss Rohingya repatriation, he said.

China to test city of 9m in five days

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277,000 people had already been tested in Qingdao, with nine positive results.

In June large areas of the capital Beijing were subject to mass tests after the city of more than 20 million detected virus cases linked to a food market.

China has bounced back since the virus emerged, closing the country down and hammering the world's

second largest economy.

Hundreds of millions travelled across the country for the "Golden Week" holiday last week as the country edges back to growth, while rapid tests and swift lockdowns have tamped down secondary waves of the virus.

The picture elsewhere in the world, however, is strikingly different as countries battle new waves and alarming spikes.

THREE-TIER SYSTEM

Britain's leader Johnson was set to unveil his tiered system yesterday, with northwestern Liverpool expected to be the only city placed in the top category.

Like governments across Europe, Johnson's Conservative cabinet is seeking to balance bringing down the rate of new infections against frustration and concern about the economy.

Papia, her husband get 27 years

FROM PAGE 1
Before pronouncing the verdict, the couple were produced before the court amid tight security.

In his observation, the judge said the accused were not honest political leaders as they kept arms, bullets and Tk 58.41 lakh illegally in their possession.

The accused were so-called political leaders who cannot bring any welfare for the masses. They are harmful to the people, the court also observed.

This judgment will send a clear message to other political leaders like Papia and her husband, the judge added.

Dhaka Metropolitan Public Prosecutor Abdullah Abu said the prosecution was satisfied with the verdict.

Defence lawyer Shakhawat Ullah Bhuiyan said it was a fabricated case and they were dissatisfied with the judgement.

They would challenge the verdict at a higher court, he added.

On September 27, the judge set yesterday for delivering the verdict in the case on completion of the trial within nine working days.

During their arguments, the prosecution told the tribunal that they have been able to prove the charges against the accused and

sought highest punishment -- life-term imprisonment.

The tribunal recorded statements of 12 prosecution witnesses, including complainant of the case. The same tribunal framed charges against the couple in the case on August 23.

A team of Rab arrested Papia and her husband Sumon, a former Chhatra League leader, and their two accomplices at Dhaka airport on February 22 when they were trying to leave the country.

The following morning, Rab raided the house of Papia on Indira Road in Farmgate and recovered a foreign pistol, two magazines, 20 bullets, five bottles of foreign liquor, Tk 58,41,000 in cash, and credit and debit cards of different banks.

On February 24, an arms case was filed against the couple with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station.

Rab Sub-Inspector Arifuzzaman submitted the charge sheet before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka against the couple on June 29.

Except this case, two more cases under the Special Powers Act and one graft case under the Money Laundering Prevention Act for amassing about Tk 6.24 crore illegally were lodged against the couple.

ISPs, cable operators

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They also demanded installation of "last mile cable" following the on-the-spot approval by a committee consisting representatives of the ISPAB, the COAB, Bangladesh, Telecommunication Regulatory Commission, Nationwide Telecommunication Transmission Network (NTTN) and city corporations.

They said the Dhaka South City Corporation started removing hanging cables from all roads, including main roads, from August to enhance the beauty of the city without serving any prior notice to internet service providers and cable TV operators. In the last two months, ISPAB and COAB members have faced an estimated loss of Tk 20 crore for the removal of the cables, they added.

ISPAB and COAB leaders also said they applauded the decision of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) to remove the hanging cable to enhance the beauty. However, it is not a logical

solution to remove the hanging cable worth crores of taka without prior notice.

And for removing the cables, lakhs of internet and cable TV subscribers will be deprived of internet and cable TV services. The subscribers include students who have online classes, they added.

Online health services, including services delivered by hospitals and clinics, are also being disrupted during the pandemic.

Their other demands are: fixing the prices of internet and cable TV services by the ministry concerned at every level, including for homes, offices, and banks; setting the prices of NTTN by the government to provide low cost internet and cable TV services; and measure to ensure that NTTNs have the capability for uninterrupted service delivery to customers.

They also sought the prime minister's intervention for resolving the issue.

Int'l observers worried

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His claims about the vulnerabilities in the US voting process have little grounding in reality, as CNN's fact checkers have repeatedly pointed out. But observers with experience in challenging elections abroad say the rhetoric itself is dangerous.

"I think that Trump is preparing us for the narrative of a rigged election. That has happened in other jurisdictions I have worked," said Dren Nupen, a South African election expert.

Nupen has organised national and party elections throughout Southern Africa for decades and worked with a team preparing South Africans for their historic 1994 ballot.

"(Trump) is planting the seed in the mind of voters that this thing is not going to be fair. His ammunition is basically the voters. If he loses, then he can say that he knew there were issues with the vote and can mobilize them," Nupen said.

"When you have armed citizens who now buy into this idea of an armed militia protecting the vote and when you have people on the other side saying they can't take this anymore, there are all the ingredients for a very volatile situation," said Ory Okolloh-Mwangi, a Kenyan political commentator and investment professional at the Omidyar network.

Okolloh-Mwangi has long pushed for greater transparency in election processes and her opinion about the US election is shared amongst several notable African political scientists. Ken Opalo, a Georgetown University

political scientist, has also raised the specter of "armed post-election violence" after seeing clashes over policing protests in the US this year.

DEMOCRACY'S GOLD STANDARD? There is, perhaps, no small amount of schadenfreude from international observers who, for years, were told by US officials that their country represents democracy's gold standard. "During elections I have run, African political analysts always thought that US observers had massive chutzpah to sit in judgment of our systems," said Nupen.

The sentiment was likely reinforced when Secretary of State Mike Pompeo tweeted on Thursday that the US would consider consequences for those that "undermine democracy" across Africa, a continent with more than 50 nations.

South Africa's Independent Electoral Commission has run six general elections including the historic 1994 vote with remarkably little fuss, given that many outsiders believed that the country would descend into anarchy ahead of its democratic transition.

The US electoral system, by comparison, is incredibly complex, with a highly decentralised election spread over more than 10,000 jurisdictions, making its success with elections notable. Despite the complexity, state and local officials in the US have succeeded in running highly contested elections since the country's inception. Still, the behavior of the incumbent is widely seen as a caveat.

US duo wins Nobel prize

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"a value which is uncertain beforehand but, in the end, is the same for everyone," according to the academy. Wilson's work showed why rational bidders tend to bid under their own estimate of the worth due to worries over the "winner's curse," or winning the auction but paying too much.

Milgrom, also at Stanford, then came up with a more general theory of auctions, by analysing bidding strategies in different auction forms.

The academy noted that while "people have always sold things to the highest bidder," societies have also had to allocate "ever more complex objects... such as landing slots and radio frequencies."

"In response, Milgrom and Wilson invented new formats for auctioning off many interrelated objects simultaneously, on behalf of a seller motivated by broad societal benefit rather than maximal revenue," the academy said.

The winners will share the prize sum of 10 million Swedish kronor (about \$1.1 million, 950,000 euros).

Speaking to reporters in Stockholm via a telephone link, Wilson said the announcement had been "very happy news," conceding that despite his research focus he himself had "never

participated in an auction."

However, he quickly had to retract his statement. "My wife is pointing out that we bought ski boots on eBay, I guess that was an auction," Wilson said.

Last year the honour went to French-American Esther Duflo, Indian-born Abhijit Banerjee of the US, and American Michael Kremer for their experimental work on alleviating poverty. NOT CREATED BY ALFRED NOBEL Even if it might be the most prestigious prize an economist can hope to receive, the economics prize has not reached the same status as the awards originally chosen by Alfred Nobel in his 1895 will founding the awards, which included medicine, physics, chemistry, literature and peace.

It was instead created in 1968 through a donation from the Swedish central bank and detractors have thus dubbed it "a false Nobel."

The award closes the 2020 Nobel season, which saw the closely-watched peace prize awarded to the UN's World Food Programme.

Women have been more prevalent than usual this year, with American poet Louise Glück winning the literature prize.

"চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন সম্পর্কিত যেকোন ধরনের
অভিযোগ/পরামর্শ জানাতে ১৬১০৪-এ কল করুন"

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Chattogram City Corporation
Tigerpass, Batali Hill, Chattogram
www.ccc.org.bd

Memo No. 46.11.1600.002.03.20.100224 Dated: 11/10/2020

e-Tender Notice-Elect/2020-21/03

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 (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents of following packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to **28-10-2020 at 12.00.**

Sl No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender ID	Last date & time of selling documents	Last date & time of submission documents
1.	EESPWR09001	Electrical Wiring work of City Corporation Madarbari Sebak Colony. (4th Floor)	501991	28.10.2020 12.00	28.10.2020 14.00

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

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GD-1626