



4-LANE DHAKA-BHANGA EXPRESS HIGHWAY BUILT WITH BS RM XTREME

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT **BSRM** building a safer nation



GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS RECOGNIZES

World's Largest VRM

SHAH CEMENT

China to test city of 9m in five days

Study shows virus 'survives 28 days' in lab conditions

AGENCIES

All nine million people in a major Chinese port city will be tested for Covid-19 following a tiny outbreak, health officials said yesterday, as surging infection numbers in Europe force another round of containment efforts.

The virus has been largely brought under control in China -- where it first emerged last year -- in stark contrast to many parts of the world still afflicted by rolling lockdowns and high case numbers.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was set to announce a new three-tiered alert system for coronavirus cases in England later yesterday, while German authorities shuttered Berlin bars and clubs after 11:00pm until the end of the month and France is believed to be mulling local lockdowns in major cities.

Six cases of Covid-19 were confirmed on Sunday in China's Qingdao -- a northeastern port city of 9.4 million -- prompting health officials to announce China's first mass testing in months.

Five districts will be tested "within three days" and the whole city "within five days", a statement from Qingdao's municipal health commission said, although it did not give a precise figure on how many people would be tested.

China has extensive, quick test capabilities and by yesterday noon the health commission said more than

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Internet and television cables hanging from poles after being cut by the Dhaka South City Corporation to enhance the beauty of the city. DSCC cleaners are supposed to remove them later on. The corporation has done so reportedly without serving any notice to the ISPs and cable operators. Inset, workers appointed by the DSCC cutting overhead cables. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

CLEARING CABLE CHAOS ISPs, cable operators threaten shutdown

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Internet service providers and cable operators yesterday threatened to shut down internet connectivity and cable televisions for three hours every day from October 18 if Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) did not stop removing hanging cables.

They also demanded fixing of the "last mile cable" issue permanently.

"If the problem is not solved by October 17, we will have a symbolic programme to shut down internet data connectivity and cable TV connections for homes, offices and banks across the country for three hours -- 10:00am to 1:00pm -- every day from October 18," Internet Service Providers Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB) and Cable Operators Association of Bangladesh (COAB) told a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Int'l observers worried about the US vote

CNN ONLINE

2020 is the year where the unlikely, even the unthinkable, can happen. And election observers, organisers and commentators in Africa, Europe and the US fear that there are significant warning signs for the upcoming US elections.

With a pandemic shifting the nature of balloting and US President Trump and his surrogates relentlessly prejudging the result, questioning the fairness of the polls without evidence and rallying his hardcore base, they worry that a protracted poll could lead to a constitutional crisis and even violence.

For months now, Trump and his campaign surrogates have questioned the integrity of the upcoming elections.

The President has encouraged voters to vote twice to test the system (it is crime to vote twice), he has claimed that foreign countries will print mail-in ballots to rig the election and called on his supporters to go to the polls and watch out for "thieving and stealing" on Election Day -- and that's only a partial list.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Constituent Assembly passes rules of procedure

October 13, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

MINOR AMENDMENTS MADE

The Bangladesh Gono Parishad (Constituent Assembly) passes today the rules of procedure with some minor amendments. Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahamn, who is also the leader of the House, tells the Gono Parishad that the rules of procedure would be applicable only in the Gono Parishad. When a parliament is elected it will adopt its own rules of procedure, he adds.

The rules of procedure, comprising 13 chapters and 90 articles, is a significant document as it will conduct the Gono Parishad during the constitution-making. The lone opposition member Suranjit Sengupta (Muzaffar Nap) moves a number of amendments and all of them are rejected by the House while the two amendments moved by the Treasury Bench member Asaduzzaman Khan are accepted. Some members withdraw their amendments.

UNROD CHIEF CALLS ON BANGABANDHU

The UNROD chief in Bangladesh Victor Umbricht calls on Bangabandhu at Gono Bhaban today. They discuss the present food situation of the country.

GATT MEMBERSHIP



SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

US Deputy Secy of State Biegun arrives tomorrow

Dhaka to raise Rohingya repatriation, RMG export issues

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The repatriation of Rohingya refugees, privileges for readymade garments export and investments in infrastructure will be the main issues that Bangladesh will raise during US Deputy Secretary of State Stephen E Biegun's visit beginning tomorrow.

"Rohingya repatriation is our major issue. It is not just our responsibility. They will have to help us," Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen told reporters at his ministry yesterday.

He said the most important thing for Bangladesh is not humanitarian assistance but Rohingya repatriation, which will be stressed upon during the high-placed US

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Bad luck prompts tourist to return stolen relics



FORBES.COM

A tourist who stole ancient objects from the archeological site of Pompeii in southern Italy has returned them saying they "bring bad luck".

The Canadian woman, identified as Nicole, purloined the fragments 15 years ago when she was in her early 20s. However, she blames the theft for a spate of unfortunate events, including serious health issues and financial difficulties.

Nicole returned the two mosaic tiles, ceramic fragments and pieces of an amphora to the ancient city via a travel agent in Pompeii. Along with the package, she attached a letter of confession expressing regret for her actions.

"I was young and stupid," she wrote in the letter, SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Bangladesh-India flights to resume soon

Says Doraiswami

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indian High Commissioner to Dhaka Vikram Doraiswami yesterday said he was hopeful about resuming air travel between Bangladesh and India "very quickly".

He, however, said it would take "more time" to issue Indian tourist and student visas due to this ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Doraiswami was speaking to reporters after

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 13

Fazr 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

Bera mayor 'misbehaves' with UNO

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Palma

Bera Municipality Mayor Abdul Baten allegedly misbehaved with UNO Asif Anam Siddiquee during a meeting at the latter's office yesterday over endorsing a proposal placed by the mayor.

In the upazila law and order development coordination meeting yesterday, the mayor wanted the UNO to give the go-ahead to his proposal. Baten proposed that the income from leasing of Nagarbari ghat and Kazirhat ghat, both in Bera upazila, should go to the upazila parishad fund for its development, said meeting sources.

As the upazila nirbahi officer refused to comply, the mayor hurled abuse at him. Baten then walked towards the UNO and a push and shove took place, they added.

At one stage, the mayor walked out of the meeting.

Currently, the lease income goes to government's revenue account.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



A bailey bridge over Langulia river on the Tangail-Basail road at Nakasim area collapsed on Sunday after a sand-laden truck got on it. With the vehicle falling into the river along with the collapsed bridge, direct road communications to Basail and Sakhipur upazila from Tangail town were disrupted.

PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL

WORK ON AUCTIONS

US duo wins Nobel prize for economics



Paul Milgrom



Robert Wilson

AFP, Stockholm

US economists Paul Milgrom and Robert Wilson won the Nobel Economics Prize yesterday for work on commercial auctions, including for goods and services difficult to sell in traditional ways such as radio frequencies, the Nobel Committee said.

The duo was honoured "for improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats," the jury said.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences noted that the discoveries by Milgrom, 72, and Wilson, 83, "have benefited sellers, buyers and taxpayers around the world," it said in a statement.

Wilson, a professor at Stanford in the US, was spotlighted for developing a theory for auctions with a common value,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2