22 more die in 24 hrs UNB, Dhaka

Twenty-two people were reported dead from Covid-19 in 24 hours till 8:30am yesterday, according to a press release issued by the Directorate . General of Health Services (DGHS).

With this, the total number of deaths rose to 5,577, while the death rate stood at 1.46 percent.

Another 1,537 cases were recorded in the meantime, taking the total number of people infected to 381,275, added the press release

Against a number of 13,815 tests, the positivity rate was 11.13 percent while the overall positivity rate stood at 18.17 percent.

At least 1,537 Covid-19 patients recovered in the same 24 hours, which took the total number of recoveries to 295,873, while the overall recovery rate stood at 77.6 percent.

Among the newly infected, 4,292 were males and 1,285 were females. Of the 22 newly deceased, 17 were aged above 50 years.

So far, 2,844 people have died in Dhaka division, 1,122 in Chattogram 359 in Rajshahi, 449 in Khulna, 193 in Barisal, 238 in Sylhet, 254 in Rangpur and 118 in Mymensingh.

Bangladesh reported its first Covid-19 cases on March 8. The number of cases reached the 300,000mark on August 26. The first death was reported on March 18 and the death toll exceeded 5,000 on Sept 22.

Across the country, 12,501 people are now in isolation and 40,576 are in quarantine.

#### Save stranded

FROM PAGE 12

him at the Gono Bhaban today. The prime minister also says that those Bangalees who have already returned home from Pakistan are being enrolled as voters. It may be recalled that the enrolment of voters for the first general election to be held in independent Bangladesh began on October 1, 1972. BANGLADESH MUST BE

ADMITTED TO UN

Afghanistan, Ireland, Thailand, Malta and Chile, all members of the United Nations, have emphasised the need for Bangladesh's admission into the world body in the interest of establishing peace in the subcontinent. Participating in the debate in the General Assembly of the UN the leader of the delegation from Thailand said, "While its [ Bangladesh's | birth took place in unhappy circumstances and the birth pains may be slow to heal, the existence of Bangladesh with its 75 million people and recognised by many nations including Thailand could not be simply brushed aside. SOURCES: October 15, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

#### Man held

law's mobile phone.

Around 12:45am early yesterday, the victim filed a case with Manirampur police, who arrested the six accused hours later, said Rafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Manirampur Police Station.

The other accused are Mostafa Kamal Mosto, 35, Faisal Hossain, 22, Abdul Ali Sheikh, 30 and Asadul Gazi, 28.

In Narayanganj, police arrested a man early yesterday on charge of raping two sisters, both garment workers, from Shiddhirganj police station area.

The accused Abu Bakar, 55, is building caretaker in the upazila's Kandapara area.

The victims, aged between 10 and 15, were familiar with Abu Bakar as they lived in the same area. Police said the victims worked at a

garment factory in Mouchak area. On October 5, they were returning home from work at around 10:00pm Abu Bakar intercepted them on their way and addressed them as "Natni" (granddaughters). He took the girls to a room at the ground floor of a building, where he confined and raped them. The accused then released them but after threatening to kill them

if they disclose the matter to anyone. On Monday evening, the victims and their family members filed a case with police, who arrested Abu Bakar with hours.

He was produced before the senior judicial magistrate's court of Narayanganj yesterday afternoon with

a five-day remand prayer. The hearing is scheduled to be held today, said Alamgir Hossain,

sub-inspector of Shiddhirganj police In Dinajpur, a court yesterday sent a

boy to jail on charge of raping a girl in Parbatipur upazila.

The arrestee was Gopal Mohanto, 19, of Sahebpara area.

Police said the victim was in a relationship with Gopal. On October 9, he took the girl to a secluded place, promising to marry her.

Gopal then raped the girl and took photos and videos while doing so. He later uploaded the video on Facebook, police said.

On Monday night, the victim's father filed a case with police and the accused was arrested.

He was produced before a court, which sent him to jail yesterday, said Emdadul Haq, OC of Pabatipur

Railway Police station. (Our correspondents from Benapole, Narayanganj and Dinajpur contributed to the story.)

## US wants Bangladesh as partner

between the two countries.

The US wants countries like Bangladesh to be its partner as it moves to institutionalise the Quad -an alliance of US, Japan, Australia and India -- to advance the Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS) that speaks of a free, open and secure Indo-Pacific region,

It also wants to reduce the trade gap with Bangladesh. Out of \$8.2 billion trade between the two countries, the US had a trade deficit of \$4 billion in 2018, he said.

"Besides, a majority of our military arms acquisition is from China. The US wants to grab a share of this market," Humayun, also acting president of Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, told this correspondent.

"The US engagements with Bangladesh will continue to grow in the coming days," a diplomatic source said, adding that the visit of US Deputy Secretary of State Stephen E Biegun starting today is also part of

His three-day visit follows a series of engagements with Bangladesh over the last month.

On September 11, US Secretary of Defence Mark T Esper spoke to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to discuss IPS, maritime and regional security, global peacekeeping, and initiatives to modernise Bangladesh's military capabilities.

Last year, the US Embassy in Dhaka revealed Bangladesh was in talks to buy sophisticated Apaches and missiles from the US. As per the US law, any

country buying such equipment would have to sign two deals -- Acquisitions Cross Servicing and General Security of Military Information Agreement.

Discussions are still on in this regard, sources said.

On September 15, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs Laura Stone held an online press briefing with Bangladeshi journalists, detailing the IPS objectives.

She said Bangladesh is a country with enormous potential, given its human resources capacity and strategic location between South and Southeast Asia. With a dynamic and fast-growing economy in normal times, Bangladesh is a development

"Future success will be fuelled by deepening its democratic institutions

and governing structures," Stone said. On September 30, Bangladesh and the US signed the Open Skies Transport Agreement that allows unrestricted capacity and frequency of services, open route rights, liberal charter regime, and open code-sharing pportunities.

US aviation expert Emily Derrick rites in Simpleflying.com that this agreement will further expand the economic and commercial partnership. It also has some impacts on military and private aviation.

On the same day, the two countries, for the first time held a US-Bangladesh Economic Partnership consultation and discussed the whole range of trade and economic partnership. Both sides recommended forming a Joint Public Health Experts Response Group to promote cooperation in healthcare bilaterally and regionally.

The US has proposed opening a Foreign Commercial Service Office in Dhaka and announced creation of the US-Bangladesh Energy Industry Working Group for energy cooperation, while emphasising or

cooperation on the blue economy. Humayun Kabir said having strong ties with the US is good, but trade and economy should be Bangladesh's focus, not security aspects.

For example, Bangladesh should negotiate for the GSP (Generalised System of Preference) facility for Bangladeshi exports to the US, which suspended the privilege following the Rana Plaza collapse in 2013.

He said the US may want Bangladesh to be on its side to counter China, but Bangladesh should manage this very delicately with diplomatic skills as China is a good friend of Bangladesh.

One relationship should independent of the other "One relationship," Humayun said.

He said Bangladesh can take a lesson from ASEAN, which has serious tension with China over the South China Sea, but when the US wants ASEAN to counter China, the regional bloc does not seem interested.

Asked if Bangladesh can purchase defence equipment from the US, the former diplomat said, "Presently we are mostly reliant on Chinese arms. We can surely diversify.

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen told reporters on Monday that Dhaka is enthusiastic to work with the US on trade and economic fronts, but reluctant on defence aspects.

#### MP Nixon flouted

issue. We have decided what to do, which will be revealed in a day or two.'

On Monday, a letter was sent to the Election Commission, among other authorities concerned, from the Cabinet Division seeking action against the violation of the electoral code of

The CEC added, "The activities carried out by the MP during the election were not desirable. He has violated the electoral code of conduct and the provisions of actions will be taken against him as per the law."

On the other hand, Nixon Chowdhury yesterday demanded legal action be taken against the Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur Atul Sarkar for acting in favour of rival candidate of BNP KM Obaidul Bari in the recently held election for the chairman post of Charbhadrasan

At a Jatiya Press Club conference,

he alleged that the Faridpur DC was involved in leaking his telephone conversation with the upazila nirbahi officer of Charbhadrasan, including abusive languages against an AC (land) through "super editing".

Flanked by local Awami League leaders in the briefing, the independent MP said in the upazila election held on October 10, executive magistrates carried out a rampage, creating obstacles for AL voters so that they couldn't vote for the AL-backed candidate Md Kawsar. Many AL leaders and activists were

also arrested "for silly activities" on the election day, he said. Nixon said he first called AC (land) after one AL man was arrested on election day for smoking. "He told me

that he will look into the matter.' "Later, the AC [land]'s phone was found switched off, so I called the UNO, who said one of my men was detained. I then told the UNO that the AL activist did nothing wrong, he was

standing on a field and smoking. But the BGB detained him nonetheless. I told the UNO to take action in this regard. But that is all I said [in the now leaked phone conversation]. The rest [of the words] were not mine," he claimed, adding, "I didn't use any abusive words while talking to the

He also said the abusive language was "not from his voice" and the conversation was "super edited".

"It was made through super-editing and the DC has instructed his officials to do so," said Nixon.

The Cabinet Division on Monday sought action over violations of the electoral code of conduct for local body polls by Nixon and the newly elected upazila chairman.

It wrote to the Prime Minister's Office, the Parliament Secretariat, the Election Commission Secretariat and other authorities concerned to that

# 'Unethical'

In Europe, governments are battling to curb surges with new controls and increased testing, while trying to avoid the devastating nationwide lockdowns of March and April.

Cases have climbed rapidly in Britain, France, Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic in recent weeks, raising fears tighter restrictions in a prime-time that the still-low death rate could rise.

Covid-19 patients as soon as next week, curfews.

the system's chief warned yesterday. "It's inevitable," Martin Hirsch,

the head of the 39 hospitals in Paris and its suburbs, told the Parisien newspaper, estimating beds will be at 70%-90% capacity by October 24.

President Emmanuel Macron is widely expected to announce TV interview Wednesday night, Hospitals in Paris could have most with some media speculating Paris of their intensive care beds packed with and other cities could face evening

## Campaigns focus

House said Trump had tested negative for Covid-19 on consecutive days and was not infectious to others.

They were the president's first negative Covid-19 tests announced by the White House since Trump said on October 2 that he had contracted the virus. In a memo, Dr. Sean Conley did not say when the tests were conducted.

## Trade partners' failures cost

provided to a foreign public official, where the benefit is not legitimately due.

The report finds enforcement against foreign bribery shockingly low among half of G20 countries. It says that fewer of the world's biggest exporters are actively investigating and punishing companies paying bribes abroad.

The study, "Exporting Corruption 2020", conducted bi-annually by the TI Secretariat in Berlin, finds that active enforcement against foreign bribery significantly decreased since 2018.

Only four out of 47 countries, which make up 16.5 percent of global exports, actively enforced legislation against foreign bribery, compared to seven countries and 27 percent of global exports in 2018.

In fact, most countries, 34 out of 47, covered by the study, conducted practically no enforcement of their relevant laws.

Poorest performers include China, Japan, India, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, the Netherlands, Canada and Mexico, many of whom are Bangladesh's largest trade and investment partners.

China, the world's largest exporter, failed to open a single investigation into foreign bribery between 2016 and 2019, though Chinese companies have been allegedly involved in multiple scandals and investigations by other countries.

Two other major exporters -- Hong Kong and India -- did not open a single foreign bribery investigation from 2016 to 2019.

Singapore opened only one investigation and concluded one case with sanctions during the past four

In a statement, Executive Director of TIB Iftekharuzzaman said, "It is shocking that the biggest global exporters are showing the worst track records of compliance to their own pledges against foreign bribery.

"We are alerting our government, foreign trade entities and other stakeholders to take rigorous corruption prevention measures in foreign trade and investment," he said, drawing attention of diplomatic missions and other representatives of the relevant countries for taking concrete actions against foreign

# S'pore Airlines sells

to welcoming them to Restaurant A380 @Changi," Lee Lik Hsin, Singapore Airlines' executive vice president of commercial said in a statement.

The restaurant is one of several experiments Singapore Airlines has turned to boost business as the coronavirus pandemic depresses demand for air travel.

The carrier announced the move last month after Australian airline Qantas offered a seven-hour "flight to nowhere" that reportedly sold out in iust 10 minutes.

Singapore Airlines is offering four different dining packages for its pop-up eatery based on its various cabin classes. Prices range from about \$39 for an "economy" seat to \$473 per person for a luxury suite.

Those lucky enough to snag a month.

reservation will dine on the carrier's "signature international cuisine" as well as a menu of special dishes crafted by Singaporean chef Shermay Lee. Two complimentary alcoholic drinks are included with each ticket.

A380 jets can normally seat up to 471 people, but Singapore Airlines said it will only use about half the seats for dining to adhere to the group limit guidelines in place for restaurants.

Passengers who couldn't get a ticket — or just don't want to eat on a plane — can have Singapore Airlines' first-class and business-class meals delivered to their homes through a separate package the carrier is offering.

Aviation enthusiasts can also book a behind-the-scenes tour of the carrier's training facilities, complete with activities for kids, starting next

#### Govt won't co-fund trial

"We are not co-funding the trial. That was not in the agreement. They never asked for money when they approached us," Maleque said.

"As per agreement, they'll bear all expenses of the trial, they'll give us 110,000 free vaccines and they'll share the technology so that our pharmaceutical companies can make the vaccine."

Sinovac, which last month commenced Phase III trials on its "CoronaVac" vaccine in Turkey, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

In the letter to the government from September, Sinovac also said it had sought funding for the trial from the Innovations (CEPI) - a foundation backed by public funds and private philanthropy - but this had failed to come through.

"We are working on plans to partially rectify the funding situation

by the end of October or early November," said the company in the letter, but stressed it would still require co-funding to complete the trial in Bangladesh.

The government's state medical

research agency had given a go-ahead to the Phase III trial in July and government approval came a month later. Maleque said Sinovac was still free

to conduct the trial in the country with its own funds. "They can conduct the trial. But we can't co-fund the trial with a private

company. It has to be a government-

to-government deal if we go for cofunding," he added. The minister said the government was Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness in talks with at least five frontrunners

for the vaccine, including Astrazeneca "We will ensure the best vaccine for our people. We have allocated funds for that and our development partners are also eager to fund us," Maleque

#### Production can increase

conditions. Favourable environment and reduction of pollution in river ranges from 900 grams to 1,200 water can increase hilsa breeding. The rate of hilsa coming to rivers

from the sea will rise, he said. Around 55-60 percent hilsa eggs will hatch this time, he hoped. A mother hilsa lays 10-12 lakh

eggs.
"Even if 5 percent fry survive, the fish production will increase by around 10 percent next year," he

added. Strict measures have been taken to protect mother hilsa in the last 10 vears. The 65-day ban on catching hilsa from the sea ended on July 23. Apart from this, the 22-day ban will

help boost hilsa production. As the number of big fish increases, so do the quantities of eggs laid and

hatched, he said. He said the main reason for a hilsa being large is that a hilsa can come back to the sea from rivers more than once. If the age of a mother hilsa is three years, the quantity of its spawning will increase, more eggs will hatch and

more fry will survive. He said hilsa production was 5.33 lakh tonnes last year, but it will be over 5.5 lakh tonnes this year.

Bimal Chandra Das, Barishal district fisheries officer (hilsa), said the ban from today was fixed as the new moon starts on Friday and the full moon will be on October 28.

Meetings with fishermen ended.

In the next few days, leaflets will be

distributed and a comprehensive programme against awareness catching hilsa will be conducted, he added. "The size of hilsa has increased from previous years, and its

percent in the Barishal region next year," he added. Ajit Kumar Das Manu, president of Barishal Motsho Arotdar Samity,

production may go up by 10-20

said the weight of 60 percent hilsa supplied to the market this year grams. Hilsa is being seen in larger sizes than previous years. Even hilsa weighing 2.5kg to 3kg can be found.

Israil Pandit, president of Khudro

Motshojibi Samity of Barishal

region, said as the fishermen get the government assistance late, they have to catch fish when the ban on fishing is in force. Anisur Rahman, divisional deputy director of Barishal fisheries department, said hilsa production

protection programmes. Last year, 3.29 lakh tonnes of hilsa were netted in the Barishal division, and 5.33 lakh tonnes of hilsa in the

country, he added.

is increasing every year due to the

implementation of government hilsa

This year, the government has allocated 10,566.84 tonnes of rice for 52,80,342 fishermen as assistance as they will not catch fish during the 22-day ban, he added. Hilsa production has increased

around 80 percent in the last 10

years for taking up different hilsa

protection programmes, said Masud Ara Momi, deputy chief of fisheries department in Dhaka. Around 2.98 lakh tonnes of hilsa was produced in 2010-2011, and the production reached 5.33 lakh tonnes

in 2019-2020, Masud added. According to the Barishal fisheries department, the 22-day ban will be in force in 36 southern and coastal districts.

While talking to correspondent, several upazila nirbahi officers said they already received the rice allocation order, but it would take several days to send the rice to the union parishads concerned.

Contacted, Deputy Commissioner of Barishal SM Ajiar Rahman said if anyone violates the restrictions during the 22-day ban, strict action will be taken against them.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ কমিশনার এর কার্যালয় গাজীপুর মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ গাজীপুর।



"দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি"

স্মারক নং-গাজীঃ মেট্রোঃ পুঃ/প্রশাঃ/২০২০/২৭৭১/ই

"The Public Procurement Regulation-2008" মোতাবেক (সংশোধনী-২০১০) অনুযায়ী চলতি ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বছরে গাজীপুর

said.

মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশের নিমুবর্ণিত মেরামত প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়নের জন্য বাংলাদেশের প্রকত ঠিকাদার/নির্মাণ প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকত খামে প্রতিযোগীতা মূলক উন্যক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচেছ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর ৪-০৫/২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বৎসর মন্ত্ৰণালয়/বিভাগ স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ বাংলাদেশ পলিশ পুলিশ কমিশনার, গাজীপুর মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ সংগ্রাহক সত্ত্বার জেল গাজীপুর মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ। ০৫. দরপত্রের বিষয় মেরামত প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন কাজ দরপত্রের সূত্র নম্ব পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, ঢাকা স্মারক নং-৪৪.০১.০০০০.০৪৩.৫৬-২০১৯/২১৪ (৪), তাং-২৬/০৮/২০২০ খ্রিঃ 09. দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি উনাক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)। বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত পুলিশ বাজেটের কোড নং- "৩-২২১১-০০০১-৪৯৯১- অন্যান্য মেরামত ও সংরক্ষণ" খাত। ০৫/১১/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত। দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রাপ্তির সর্বশেষ তারিখ দরপত্র জমা প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময় ০৮/১১/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখ সময় বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সম ০৮/১১/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখ সময় বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্র দাতা বা মনোনীত প্রতিনিধিদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র সমূহ খোলা হবে। দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারীর অফিস ও ঠিকান পুলিশ কমিশনার এর কার্যালয়, গাজীপুর মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ। 22. পুলিশ কমিশনার এর কার্যালয়, গাজীপুর মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ দরপত্র প্রাপ্তির স্থান পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, গাজীপুর। পুলিশ কমিশনার এর কার্যালয়, গাজীপুর-এ রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাক্সে দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান 50. দরপত্র খোলার স্থান পুলিশ কমিশনার এর কার্যালয়, গাজীপুর মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ। দরপত্র মূল্যায়ণের তারিখ 'The Public Procurement Regulation-2008" অনুযায়ী পূর্ত-কাজের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ দরকারী/স্বায়ত্ত্বশাসিত সংস্থা/বেসরকারী অন্য যে কোন সংস্থার নির্মাণ কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা। দরপত্রের সহিত যে সকল কাগজপত্র জম সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজ বাস্তবায়ন সংক্রান্তে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স , হালনাগাদ আয়কর সার্টিফিকেট , ভ্যাট

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ર	. 02	জিএমপি, গাজীপুর এর ডিবি অফিসের মেরামত কাজ	¢00/-	e,,900/-

এবং নাগরিকত্ব সার্টিফিকেট।

ঠিকাদার ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্তাধিকারীর স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত প্যাতে আবেদন পূর্বক পূলিশ কমিশনার, মেট্রোপলিটন পূলিশ, গাজীপুর এর কার্যালয় হতে পত্রিকায় বিজ্ঞাপন প্রকাশের তারিখ হতে ০৫/১১/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত দরপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। দরপত্রের সহিত পুলিশ কমিশনার, মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ, গাঞ্জীপুর এর অনুক্লে যে কোন তফসিলভুক্ত ব্যাংকের ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/ পে-

দরপত্র সংক্রান্তে অন্যান্য তথ্যাবলী দরপত্র সংগ্রহকালে নিমুশ্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয় হতে জানা যাবে। (ঘ) টিইসি-এর সুপারিশ পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত হওয়ার পর বরান্দের আলোকে কার্যাদেশ প্রদান করা হবে। এতদসংক্রান্তে কোন

> বিপি নং-৭৯০৬১৪০০২৩ উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (এস্টেট এন্ড ডেভেলপমেন্ট)

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রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট, সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র

প্রদান করিতে হইবে

অর্জারের মাধ্যমে বর্ণিত নির্ধারিত দরপত্র জামানত অব্যশই দাখিল করতে হবে। কার্যাদেশে উল্লেখিত সময়ের মধ্যে মেরামত প্রকল্প সম্পন্ন করতে হবে দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন কারন দর্শানো ব্যতীত দরপত্র বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ রাখে।

পক্ষে/ পুলিশ কমিশনার গাজীপুর মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ, গাজীপুর