

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

HILSA IN RIVERS

Production can increase by 10pc

Experts hope for next year as 22-day ban on netting fish begins

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

Over half the hilsa eggs laid are likely to hatch this year due to favourable environment, researchers and officials said.

They said this would be over 5-10 percent more than last year.

Even if 5 percent of the fry survive, the fish production will increase by around 10 percent next year, they said.

They called for strict monitoring of bans on all fishing in rivers where there are hilsa, hilsa selling, and hoarding, and transportation.

A 22-day ban on catching fish goes into effect from today to November 4.

If all things go well, the fish production will rise around 10 percent next year, they expect.

Hilsa researcher Anisur Rahman, chief scientific officer of Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute in Chandpur, thinks more mother hilsa will spawn and more eggs will hatch this year.

Last year, around 48.92 percent eggs hatched. This year, there was heavy rainfall at the beginning of the monsoon, which is conducive to the arrival of hilsa into rivers from the sea.

Lots of plankton have grown in rivers due to favourable

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Fishermen rolling up their fishing nets and taking them off their trawler as they will not need them for some time. The government imposed a 22-day ban on catching, transporting, storing, buying and selling of hilsa. The photo was taken in Chattogram's Fishery Ghat area yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



US wants Bangladesh as partner

Say experts as Biegum arrives today

PORIMOL PALMA

The US has intensified its engagements with Bangladesh to advance its Indo-Pacific Strategy amid the lowest point in decades of its relationship with China, which is expanding its global footprint.

Foreign relations analysts say a series of talks surrounding trade, economic and defence cooperation, and the signing of an open sky deal in a month are significant steps towards this end.

Bangladesh's former ambassador to the US M Humayun Kabir says there are some clear objectives for high level of engagements

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Campaigns focus on swing states

Trump, Biden head to Pennsylvania, Florida

REUTERS, Washington

President Donald Trump was set to travel to Pennsylvania yesterday for his second campaign rally since his bout with Covid-19, while Democratic rival Joe Biden is heading to Florida as the fight for the White House focuses on two of the biggest battleground states.

Trump returned to the campaign trail on Monday night in Florida for the first time since disclosing he had the coronavirus, throwing out protective masks to supporters but not wearing one himself as he talked about his recovery.

"I went through it now. They say I'm immune. I feel so powerful," Trump told the crowd, who stood shoulder to shoulder, with most not wearing face coverings. "I will kiss everyone in that audience, I will kiss the guys and the beautiful women, I will give you a big fat kiss."

The rally came hours after the White

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Save stranded Bangalees from persecution: Bangabandhu

October 14, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

BANGABANDHU CONVEYS HIS GRAVE CONCERN TO WALDHEIM

Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in a communication to the United Nations Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim expresses grave concern over the rapidly deteriorating condition of the stranded Bangalees in Pakistan and seeks his good office's support in securing their expeditious repatriation.

In a personal letter today Bangabandhu appeals to the secretary general, "It may be recalled that Your Excellency's representative who visited Bangladesh earlier this year was afforded all facilities to see personally the arrangements made by my government for the safety and wellbeing of persons of non-Bangalee origin living in Bangladesh. I shall therefore be grateful if you would kindly consider sending a representative to enquire into the condition of the Bangalees living in Pakistan."

STRANDED BANGALEES WILL BE ENROLLED AS VOTERS

Bangabandhu today assures that the Bangalees stranded in Pakistan would be enrolled as voters. He holds out this assurance while talking to the families of some stranded Bangalees who call on

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Man held for raping two sisters in Narayanganj

STAR REPORT

A woman was raped in Jashore on Monday, while a man was arrested early yesterday for allegedly raping two sisters in Narayanganj.

Meanwhile, a 19-year-old was sent to jail by a Dinajpur court on charge of rape.

In Jashore, police said that rapist, Sakib Hossain of Manirampur upazila, was a neighbour of the woman.

On Monday afternoon, the victim, who is mother of three, went to local market where she met with Sakib. Then, he took her to a house at Taherpur area in the same upazila and raped her. At that time, five other persons recorded the video, which they used to blackmail her for money.

As she denied, the accused sent the video clip to the victim's brother-in-

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S'pore Airlines sells out meals on parked A380



NEW YORK POST ONLINE

Airplane food never got such rave reviews.

Reservations filled up within minutes on Monday for a pop-up restaurant Singapore Airlines has opened aboard two Airbus A380 planes at the city-state's Changi Airport.

Every available seat on the double-decker jets was reserved within half an hour after bookings opened for the lunch service on October 24 and 25, prompting the airline to add more slots for its "Restaurant A380" experience.

"We are grateful for the extremely strong support from our customers, and we look forward

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FOREIGN BRIBERY Trade partners' failures cost Bangladesh dearly: TIB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) has expressed grave concern over the failure of leading foreign trade partners of Bangladesh in taking steps on foreign bribery.

Referring to a Transparency International (TI) report titled "Exporting Corruption 2020: Assessing Enforcement of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention", launched globally yesterday, TIB alerted the government saying the failure of foreign trade partners is causing huge financial loss to the country.

TIB has also called upon foreign trade partner countries to strengthen laws and enforcement systems.

By definition, foreign bribery includes providing or offering a benefit to a foreign public official, or causing a benefit to be

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SINOVAC VACCINE Govt won't co-fund trial

Says health minister

REUTERS, Dhaka

The government will not co-fund a late-stage domestic trial of a potential coronavirus vaccine developed by China's Sinovac Biotech, Health Minister Zahid Maleque told Reuters yesterday.

His comments come weeks after Sinovac asked the government to co-fund the domestic trials, which sources said would cost roughly \$7 million.

Sinovac informed the health ministry in a letter, seen by Reuters, that a delay in approvals in Bangladesh had resulted in funding getting reallocated to trials in other countries.

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PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 14

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

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A group of hawkers swarm a car as they try to sell Covid-19 safety kits, including masks, to the passengers at a set of traffic lights at Technical intersection on Mirpur Road in the capital yesterday morning. Many hawkers who used to sell other items on the streets have switched their products over the last few months.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

'Unethical'

WHO chief slams herd immunity as Covid response; 2nd vaccine trial paused over unexplained illness

AGENCIES

The World Health Organization chief warned Monday against just allowing the coronavirus to spread in the hope of achieving so-called herd immunity, saying it was "unethical" as China rushed yesterday to test an entire city within days after a minor outbreak.

The virus is still spreading rapidly around the world, with well over 37 million infections, and nations that had suppressed their first outbreaks are now struggling with fresh surges -- especially in some parts of Europe.

"Herd immunity is a concept used for vaccination, in which a population can be protected from a certain virus if a threshold of vaccination is reached," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus pointed out during a virtual press briefing.

For measles, for instance, it is estimated that if 95 percent of the population is vaccinated, the remaining five percent will also be protected from the spread of the virus. For polio, the threshold is estimated at 80 percent.

"Herd immunity is achieved by protecting people from a virus, not by exposing them to it," the WHO chief said.

"Never in the history of public health has herd immunity been used as a strategy for responding to an outbreak, let alone a pandemic," he insisted.

In the absence of a vaccine, governments are wary of allowing the virus to spread unchecked, with China launching a sweeping drive to test all residents of Qingdao after a handful of cases were detected on Sunday.

"As of 8 am... our city has taken 3.08 million samples for nucleic testing," the city's health commission said yesterday, adding that no new positive samples were found.

Chinese officials intend to test the entire city -- around 9.4 million people -- by Thursday.

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