

Ganoparishad

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allowed to be moved on to the floor of the House. The opposition and independent members are also expected to move some amendments.

YUGOSLAV AID FOR CHALNA PORT REPAIR
Bangladesh is likely to sign an agreement with Yugoslavia providing for \$1.85 crore for the reconstruction of Chalna Port. A Yugoslav team is currently in the city to finalise the deal and negotiations with Bangladesh. With the finalisation of the deal, the construction work which was started in pre-Liberation period with Yugoslav aid would be resumed. It is further learnt that the UNROD will finalise its worldwide tender for undertaking the salvage work at the port. Meanwhile Bangladesh government has undertaken an ambitious scheme for the reconstruction of the Chalna port and a little over Tk 4 crore have been provided in the current budget.

IMF TEAM MAKING ECONOMIC SURVEY
A six-member acquaintance mission of the International Monetary Fund is currently making an economic survey of Bangladesh. The team would study the economic position of the country in different sectors.

SOURCES: October 20, 1972, issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

Two sent

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of his cohort Noor Nabi. Then, Lalon asked her to go to Noor Nabi's residence at Dhigajaan village in the same upazila to get the money.

The girl agreed and went there. Then, Lalon and Noor Nabi kept her confined at the residence and gang-raped her multiple times.

After being freed around 11.00pm, the girl went to police station and filed complaint. Then, police raided the area and arrested the duo on early hours of Saturday.

Later on the same afternoon, they were produced before a court that sent them to jail. The girl was undergoing treatment at a hospital, said Tawhidur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Purbadhala Police Station.

In Mymensingh, Rab on Saturday arrested a man from Garurhat area of Gafargaon upazila on charge of raping a minor girl.

The arrestee is Selim Mia, 45, a grocery shop owner in Bhoraduba area of Bhaluka.

The accused raped four-and-half-year-old girl on October 11-noon, said Samir Sarker, senior assistant superintendent of police (currently working with Rab-14), at a press briefing.

Two days later, the victim's father lodged a case with Bhaluka Police Station. Then, Rab arrested the accused, he added.

In Dinajpur, police arrested a man for sexually harassing three minor girls in Nawabganj upazila yesterday.

The arrested person was Golzar Mia, 50, of Khalippur Sooinik Para in the upazila.

Police said the victims, who are aged between 7 and 9, were familiar to Golzar as all of them live in a same village.

On Sunday afternoon, he took the girls to a secluded place luring them to give chocolate. Then, he started sexually harassing the girls.

Locals noticed the incident and caught him red-handed and handed him to police.

Later, the father of a victim filed a case, said Ashok Kumar Chauhan, officer-in-charge of Nawabganj Police Station.

[Our correspondents from Mymensingh and Dinajpur contributed to this report]

hope that his hardcore base will turn out in huge numbers.

The enthusiasm was evident on Saturday. The crowd shouted "we love you" and, with Trump's encouragement, chanted "lock her up" in reference to Michigan's Democratic governor -- the recent target of a right-wing kidnap plot.

Closing after 90 minutes, Trump remained on stage briefly to dance to the sounds of Village People's "YMCA."

COVID, WHAT COVID?
Conspicuously absent in his stump speech is any real discussion of the coronavirus, which has killed nearly 219,000 Americans, with more than eight million infected, and is spreading again at rates not seen for months.

Polls show that an overwhelming majority does not approve of Trump's erratic handling of the pandemic. This has veered from the record-speed push for a vaccine to the president's constant claims that the coronavirus poses little risk and his repeated downplaying of the need to wear masks.



A Palestinian woman argues with Israeli forces after they demolished her house and shed, near Hebron in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday.

Democrats are anti-American

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He flew on to Wisconsin, a state in the bull's eye of a resurgent US coronavirus spread, where he told jubilant supporters in Janesville: "I did this for us, not for me, believe me."

Trump ended the day in Las Vegas, Nevada, and was set to hold another rally in Carson City yesterday.

"President Trump's strategy is to work for the vote of the American people," his spokeswoman Kayleigh McEnany said on Fox News.

"It's why he'll be in two states today, he'll have two rallies tomorrow, two more in Arizona on Monday, and he's going all in."

Biden, who has run a strikingly low-key campaign yet leads in strings of polls, stayed home in Delaware with no public events. He was due to campaign in North Carolina yesterday.

The Republican incumbent, who only got out of the hospital two weeks ago after falling ill with Covid-19, is planning to keep up the pace throughout the final stretch of the campaign, with almost daily rallies, in

Biden has made this record the center of his campaign, promising to bring what he terms more sober, less politicized leadership to the national crisis.

Biden issued a statement Saturday saying that "President Trump is knowingly downplaying the severity of the virus."

"At virtually every turn, he has panicked and tried to wish it away, rather than doing the hard work to get it under control," Biden said.

Trump likes to say that his packed rallies are evidence of strength not reflected in "fake" election polls. He also points out that in 2016 few believed he could beat the apparently solid frontrunner Hillary Clinton.

But other than barnstorming the country and hoping that his new push to smear Biden will stick, he has little leverage to shift the dynamics of a race that for weeks has shown consistent advantages for the Democrat.

One chance will be the final televised debate between the candidates on Thursday. However,

more than 21 million Americans have already cast ballots in unprecedented early voting, meaning that the election is already in the process of being decided.

And while Biden is running a much quieter campaign, there was evidence Saturday of popular energy on the Democratic side when thousands of people protested in Washington and other cities against the rapid Republican confirmation of Trump's latest conservative pick for the Supreme Court, Amy Coney Barrett.

Some Republicans, including Trump ally Senator Ted Cruz, have warned of a major defeat on November 3.

But Biden's campaign manager Jennifer O'Malley Dillon said in a Saturday memo reported by The New York Times that the race is far closer than many realize.

"This race is far closer than some of the punditry we're seeing on Twitter and on TV would suggest," she wrote, the Times reported. "In the key battleground states where this election will be decided, we remain neck and neck with Donald Trump."

Europe battles soaring Covid caseload

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yesterday following a steady decline in new cases, but officials stopped short of ending a controversial "stay-at-home" rule.

More than 100 days after the lockdown was imposed on Melbourne's five million residents to fight an out-of-control surge of Covid-19 cases, authorities said that as of midnight they were lifting a two-hour limit on the time people could spend outside their homes for permitted activities.

New Zealand reported one new case in the community yesterday, as the virus re-emerged in the country after many days of no transmission within its borders.

The Health Chief Ashley Bloomfield said in a news conference that the infected person was identified early, and risk of transmission was contained.

Ireland will bring in "decisive" nationwide Covid-19 restrictions today but will stop short of reintroducing the kind of lockdown imposed earlier this year, Higher

Education Minister Simon Harris said yesterday.

Long-time chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat, diagnosed with coronavirus, was being hospitalised in Israel yesterday after his condition worsened, the Palestine Liberation Organization and his brother said.

There are also good signs in battle against coronavirus as Israel started "cautiously" emerging from a second lockdown yesterday after a month of tight restrictions, re-opening preschools, kindergartens, beaches and national parks, with numbers of new infections falling.

TIGHTER MEASURES
Britain is the hardest-hit country in Europe, with over 43,000 deaths from almost 700,000 cases.

But as the government there ramped up restrictions, banning indoor meetings between members of different households in London and several other English cities, there was growing criticism from some quarters.

Under the new measures, about 28 million people -- half of England's population -- are now subject to tight

social restrictions.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel urged citizens to stay at home whenever possible after 7,830 cases emerged over 24 hours.

"What will determine winter and our Christmas will be decided in the weeks ahead" by how people react now, she said in her weekly podcast address.

In Italy, the wealthy northern region of Lombardy worst hit by the first wave of the virus in February, has ordered all bars to shut at midnight.

Slovakia announced Saturday it would test everyone over 10 for the virus, as infections surged there.

"Testing will be free of charge," Prime Minister Igor Matovic told reporters in the country of 5.4 million people, without specifying whether it will be mandatory or voluntary.

Poland, the Czech Republic and Belgium have all announced daily record caseloads.

In the Czech Republic, with record numbers of cases recorded, the government has asked the army to set up a field hospital of 500 beds outside

Prague.

Belgium will impose its own curfew, from midnight until 5:00 am, from today, and will also shut cafes and restaurants for four weeks, reports AFP.

And Poland has closed schools and colleges in major cities while restaurants will have to close from 9:00 pm.

Malaysian health authorities reported 871 new cases yesterday, a record daily count, raising the country's total infections to 20,498.

The Southeast Asian country, which imposed targeted lockdowns this month as infections surged, also recorded seven new deaths, bringing the total number of fatalities to 187, reports Reuters.

China reported 13 new cases in the mainland for October 17, the same as a day earlier, the health commission said yesterday.

All of the new infections were imported, according to a statement by the National Health Commission. China reported 34 new asymptomatic patients, compared with 11 a day earlier.

Turkish Cypriots vote for leader amid Med tensions

AFP, Nicosia
Turkish-held northern Cyprus, a breakaway state recognised only by Ankara, was voting yesterday for a new leader in a run-off election held amid heightened tensions in the eastern Mediterranean.

The presidential vote pits incumbent Mustafa Akinci, 72 -- who supports reunification with the majority Greek-speaking Republic of Cyprus in the south -- against the right-wing Turkish nationalist Ersin Tatar.

Tatar, 60, who advocates a two-state solution, now holds the title of prime minister in the self-proclaimed Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). He has controversially received the open backing of Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Under Erdogan, Turkey has become

an increasingly assertive regional power that is now engaged in a bitter dispute with EU states Greece and Cyprus over oil and gas reserves in eastern Mediterranean waters.

The European Union has deplored Turkey's move and warned Ankara against further "provocations", while multiple countries have staged military drills in the region in recent months.

One voter, Said Kenan, 76, said yesterday's election was "very important for me and for the community and for the Turkish Cypriots," adding that he backed Akinci's hopes for a "federal solution" for the island divided since 1974.

Yesterday's second-round ballot was triggered after Tatar won 32 percent of the vote on October 11 ahead of Akinci, who garnered just under 30 percent in a field of 11

candidates.

But Akinci was seen to be in a stronger position now, having won the backing of Tufan Erhurman, a fellow Social Democrat, who came third last time around.

After voting, Akinci said he hoped people would remember the election as a day of "democracy and will", while his rival Tatar stressed the importance of maintaining a "good relationship with Turkey."

The 738 polling stations were due to close at 6:00 pm (1500 GMT). At 1:00 pm, turnout was 30 percent.

The polls come amid an economic crisis deepened by the Covid-19 pandemic, which has largely shuttered the tourism sector and led to the closure of Ercan airport in the north and crossing points to the south.

The TRNC, now with a population

of about 300,000, was established after the north was occupied by Turkey in 1974 in reaction to a coup that aimed to annex Cyprus to Greece.

Earlier in October, Turkish troops angered the Republic of Cyprus by reopening public access to the fenced-off seaside ghost town of Varosha for the first time since Turkish forces invaded the north.

That move drew EU and UN criticism and sparked demonstrations in the Republic of Cyprus, which exercises its authority over the island's southern two-thirds, separated from the north by a UN-patrolled buffer zone.

On the eve of the vote, Greek-Cypriot protesters again massed, at a checkpoint along the so-called "Green Line", holding signs that read "Cyprus is Greek" and demanding the return of northern territories.

Turkish starts

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of Bangladeshi expatriate workers, told The Daily Star yesterday.

A delegation of the platform Italy Help Centre might meet the Italian ambassador today at his office to discuss the issue.

On October 12, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen said Italy wouldn't allow Bangladeshis to enter the country until December 31, due to fears of a second wave of Covid-19.

On October 15, Momen said Italy had withdrawn the flight embargo for Bangladeshis with valid stay permits. People whose permits have expired should make formal applications, he added.

Since early yesterday, several hundred workers gathered at the Turkish Airlines office for the tickets.

Ejaz said they are making the passengers fill out certain forms for necessary information.

"We will create a database based on that information. Then we will send a message to their phones asking them to collect their return ticket on a particular date," he told The Daily Star.

For now, the airlines will give tickets to only the people whose resident permit will expire before November 30.

The process of issuing tickets will continue later.

Turkish Airlines will not be carrying more than 60 to 70 Italy-bound passengers throughout this month and November, officials said, adding that the rest of the 200 to 210 seats had been booked beforehand.

Turkish Airlines is now operating Airbus 330 and Dreamliner between Dhaka and Istanbul.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions imposed by the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, airline companies carry a maximum of 260 passengers in wide-body planes.

There are at least 2,000 Italy-bound passengers who have valid residence permits.

Turkish Airlines is operating seven flights from Dhaka to Istanbul each week.

ISPs call off strike
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removing our cables from now on. So, we have withdrawn our shutdown," MA Hakim, president of ISPAB, told The Daily Star yesterday.

"Morevoer, we don't have to seek permission from the DSCC to dig roads to replace our cables underground," he added.

On October 12, internet service providers and cable operators threatened to shut down their services across the country for three hours -- from 10:00am to 1:00pm -- every day from October 18 if their demands are not met after the DSCC started removing overhead cables.

On Saturday night, the ISPAB and the COAB postponed their decision to shut down their services across the country for three hours every day for a week after an emergency meeting with the Post and Telecommunications Minister Mustafa Jabbar.

Speaking to journalists after yesterday's meeting, Mayor Taposh said, "Dhaka city is filled with the rubbish of cables and wires. So, we collectively agreed to free the city of such things. We want to make it a beautiful city and that is possible if we work together."

He added, "The ISPAB and COAB will start removing the overhead cables from DSCC areas with their own arrangements and they will take these cables underground from tomorrow. The misunderstanding between us is now over."

The mayor further said the DSCC will extend all possible support to them in this regard free of cost.

"Hopefully, we will be able to get rid of this 'cable debris' hanging over our heads in Dhaka city by November."

He said that there were misunderstandings and disagreement on some issues between the city corporation and the service providers.

"For the greater interest of the city, the corporation will make all possible concessions."

Delwar
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Senior Judicial Magistrate Mashfiqul Haque placed Delwar on a five-day remand in rape case and two-day in two other cases after Begumganj police produced him before the court seeking 17-day remand, said Assistant Public Prosecutor (APP) Saiful Islam Harun.

Two other cases were filed under Women and Child Repression Prevention Act and Pornography Control Act in this connection.

"Delwar Bahini" chief Delwar has been made prime accused in the cases.

Besides, Delwar has also been shown arrested in two murder cases filed with Begumganj Police Station earlier, APP Saiful said.

Chicken

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watch the nugget's ascent into space.

The grocery store chain hired Sent Into Space to launch the chicken nugget into space. According to its website, Sent Into Space is the "world's leading space marketing company, specialising in space-themed marketing campaigns and publicity stunts."

"From a site in rural Wales, the nugget traveled through the Earth's atmosphere to an altitude of 110,000 feet (that's 33.5km) where it floated in the region known as Near Space," Sent Into Space wrote in a statement on its website. That would be 20.7 miles.

The nugget spent an hour "floating" in space in low pressure and temperatures that can drop to -65 degrees Celsius, according to Sent Into Space.

Near space is the region between our livable atmosphere and outer space, according to Sent Into Space. It begins roughly 12 miles (19 km) above Earth where atmospheric pressure reaches the point where a human requires a pressurized suit to survive. Outer space begins at roughly 62 miles (100 km) above earth.

PHILEX গ্রুপে নিয়োগ

প্রতিষ্ঠিত ফিলেক্স গ্রুপ অব কোম্পানির দায়িত্ব পূর্ণতার জন্য জরুরি ভিত্তিতে প্রশাসন বিভাগে সরকারি/বেসরকারি যাকুরীতে অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন স্ন ও কন্স্ট্রাক্শন ডিপার্টমেন্টের পুরুষ/মহিলা নিয়োগ করা হবে।

ক্র.সং	পদের নাম	পদের সংখ্যা	যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা	বেতন/জাতা
০১	এক্সিকিউটিভ ডিরেক্টর	০১	স্নাতক/স্নাতকোত্তর সমমান, সরকারি/বেসরকারি যাকুরীতে ৩০ বছরের বাতাব অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে	আসামসা সাপেক্ষে
০২	ক্রান্তি ডিরেক্টর	০২	স্নাতক/স্নাতকোত্তর সমমান, সরকারি/বেসরকারি যাকুরীতে ৩০ বছরের বাতাব অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে	সাপেক্ষে

সম্মান জনক বেতন, ট্রান্সপোর্ট সুবিধা, বৃত্তি ভাতা, উপবে চারা, স্বাস্থ্যকর ইন্ড্রিমেন্ট সুবিধা, আত্মীয় প্রাণীদান (আমনি) ২০/১০/২০২০ ইং তারিখের (৭ দিনের) মধ্যে শিক্ষণাত সন্দ, পূর্নাঙ্গ জীবন বৃত্তান্ত, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, স্না কোলা ছবি সহ প্রকৃত ইমেইলে আবেদন করুন। E-mail: philexgroup@gmail.com

Egypt releases satirist after two years in jail: family

AFP, Cairo
An Egyptian activist and satirist detained for more than two years has been released, his family has announced.

Shady Abu Zeid was arrested in May 2018 and held in pre-trial detention over charges of "membership of a banned group" and "disseminating false news", according to rights group Amnesty International.

"Shady was released under judicial supervision, and is now at home with us," his sister Rola Abu Zeid wrote on Facebook on Saturday.

The Cairo-based Association for Freedom of Thought and Expression (AFTE) said a court specialising in terrorism made the decision on October 10.

Pre-trial detention can last up to two years under Egyptian law, but the period is often extended.