



Europe battles soaring Covid caseload

Melbourne eases curbs as infections fall; NZ reports fresh case

AGENCIES

Millions of Europeans faced tough new coronavirus restrictions as governments stepped up efforts to slow the surge in infections, after the World Health Organization reported a "very concerning" 44-percent rise in European cases over one week.

Paris and several other French cities went under a nighttime curfew that will last at least a month. England banned mixed household gatherings in the capital and other areas, and Swiss imposed mask order for indoor public spaces.

The need for action in France was underlined as the country recorded another record for new cases, with over 32,000 registered in 24 hours.

Global cases of the disease, which has killed more than 1.1 million people around the world, have been soaring beyond levels seen in the first wave earlier this year, when many countries resorted to national lockdowns to get control of the crisis.

As well as the death toll, the pandemic has wrought social and economic havoc across the world.

Restrictions in Australia's second-biggest city were eased slightly

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Built recently by Dhaka North City Corporation, this part of the footpath in the city's Karwan Bazar area remains inaccessible to pedestrians as traders have piled up trunks and other goods on it. A man is seen stepping on to the street to go around a pile. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

DEPARTING MIGRANTS Turkish Airlines starts issuing tickets

RASHIDUL HASAN

Turkish Airways started issuing tickets to Italy-bound Bangladeshi expatriates from yesterday, giving hopes to some of the 15,000 people waiting to return to the European country.

The tickets are being issued at the Gulshan office of the Turkey flag carrier to people with permission to stay in Italy, said Ejaz Kadry, sales and traffic officer of the company.

Besides, Qatar Airways and Emirates recently started carrying Bangladeshi passengers to Italy, officials at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport said.

But many of the 15,000 expatriates won't be able to return to Italy because their residency permit has expired, Hridoy Ahmed, spokesperson of a platform

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Democrats are anti-American

Says Trump as he sets hectic campaign pace in three-state trip; Biden stays home

AFP, Janesville

President Donald Trump campaigned at a frenetic pace Saturday in a three-state trip that started with a Michigan rally where he called opponent Joe Biden a "criminal" and pounded his claim that the Democrats are anti-American.

Addressing a rally in Muskegon, Michigan, Trump focused on US culture war themes, telling a large cheering crowd that the Democrats wanted to "erase American history, purge American values and destroy the American way of life."

And he ramped up his increasingly intense attempt to paint Biden as corrupt, pushing the same conspiracy theory that led to his impeachment last year and a new, murky report in the New York Post that purports to reveal evidence of corruption by Biden's son Hunter.

"Joe Biden is a corrupt politician and the Biden family is a criminal enterprise," Trump said to more cheers.

"He's a criminal, he's committed crimes," he said. "He's a national security risk."

Trump -- who was impeached for allegedly abusing his office in an attempt to find dirt on Biden, and later acquitted -- had the campaign trail all to himself just 17 days before the election.

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Ganoparishad session resumes today



Erma Saller, ambassador of Austria in Bangladesh, calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on October 19, 1972.

October 19, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON CONSTITUTION

The general discussion on the constitution bill begins in the Ganoparishad today. Top leaders of the ruling party and at least one MCA from each district are expected to participate in the general discussion. The lone opposition member from the National Awami Party (NAP) Suranjit Sengupta and two independent members will also join the discussion.

It may be recalled that Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has already made his preliminary remarks on the draft constitution when the bill was placed in the Ganoparishad on the opening day of its current session on October 12, 1972.

Meanwhile, the two-day meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) concluded yesterday. The ALPP has received about 750 proposals for amendments to the draft constitution from the ruling party MCAs. Only those amendments proposals which will be considered acceptable to the ALPP will be

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Two sent to jail for rape

2 more held over harassing minor girls

STAR REPORT

A Netrokona court on Saturday sent two persons to jail on charges of gang-raping a woman and two others were arrested on charge of raping and sexually harassing minor girls in two districts.

The accused in Netrokona are Lalon, 25, a truck driver, and Noor Nabi, 25, a rickshaw puller.

Police said the victim, mother of a seven-year-old boy, had been staying at Purbadhala Upazila Health Complex in Netrokona with her grandfather who was undergoing treatment there.

The woman was familiar to Lalon previously. On October 16 night, Lalon called her over phone and asked her to come out of the hospital.

In response, the woman met her around 8:00pm. Then, Lalon offered some fruit for her ailing grandfather. Then, the woman sought some financial help from Lalon for her grandfather's treatment.

Lalon agreed and introduced her with one

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Chicken nugget sent to space



CNN ONLINE

Astronauts, chimpanzees and now a chicken nugget.

Scientists have launched plenty of people and things into space, but a British supermarket is the first to send up a piece of breaded protein.

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, Iceland Foods Ltd, commonly known as Iceland, sent a chicken nugget into the cosmos.

In a video released by the chain, viewers can

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NOAKHALI GANG-RAPE

Delwar on 7-day remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

A Noakhali court granted seven-day remand to Delwar Hossain, the prime accused in the cases filed over gang-rape and torture of a woman in Begumganj upazila in the district, yesterday.

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PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 19

Fajr 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

25th DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF

LATE AL-HAJJ JAHURUL ISLAM



The 25th death anniversary of the founder Chairman of Islam Group Al-Hajj Jahurul Islam is being observed today.

A Doa mahfil will be held at his birth place Bhagalpur, at 11 a.m. October 19, 2020 in the mosque of Jahurul Islam Medical College & Hospital. All relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for his eternal peace.

On behalf of Islam Group

Begum Suriya Islam
Manzurul Islam

Syeda Islam, Mafida Islam
Naima Islam, Kaneta Islam
and Members of the Family

ISPs call off strike

Makes deal with DSCC over last-mile cable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Internet service providers and cable operators yesterday withdrew their decision to shut down services across the country after a meeting with DSCC Mayor Barrister Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh at the Nagar Bhaban yesterday.

The Internet Service Providers' Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB) and The Cable Operators' Association of Bangladesh (COAB) made the withdrawal after they reached an agreement with the Dhaka South City Corporation.

"The mayor assured us that the DSCC will stop

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LAND SALE AT BASHUNDHARA BLOCK "A"

Land measuring 70/110 katha totally unencumbered at Sayham Road, Block A, East 40 feet, North 25 feet and South 25 feet road beside Road No. 9 and 7. Ready for Registration and construction. Total land is surrounded by boundary wall with bricks and tin.

Only intending buyers can contact at 01711535147

BSF shoots Bangladeshi dead in Chuadanga

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A Bangladeshi citizen was shot dead by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) along Damurhuda border in Chuadanga early yesterday.

The deceased is Umedul Hossain, 32, son of Shahidul Islam of Thakurpur village in the upazila.

Lt Col Khalekuzzaman, director of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB)-6, confirmed to The Daily Star that Umedul was gunned down by BSF personnel of Hudapara camp in the Indian district of Murshidabad on Thakurpur border around 4:30am.

He crossed the border illegally to bring cattle from there, the BGB official said.

BSF took his body to their camp, our Kushtia correspondent reports, quoting the BGB official.

BGB has sent a letter to the BSF, asking them to return the body.

শ্রদ্ধাঞ্জলি

আজ ১৯শে অক্টোবর ২০২০ইং, (সোমবার) দেশের অন্যতম উদ্যোক্তা ও বিশিষ্ট ব্যবসায়ী এবং নাভানা লিমিটেড ও আফতাব অটোমোবাইলস্ লিমিটেড এর প্রতিষ্ঠাতা, আমাদের পরম শ্রদ্ধেয় মরহুম আলহাজ্ব জহুরুল ইসলাম সাহেবের ২৫তম মৃত্যুবার্ষিকী।

তিনি ছিলেন আমাদের আদর্শ, পথ প্রদর্শক এবং সকল কর্ম প্রেরণার উৎস। আজকের এই দিনে আমরা তাকে শ্রদ্ধাচিতে স্মরণ করছি এবং তাঁর বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনা করছি।

সফিউল ইসলাম (কামাল)
চেয়ারম্যান
নাভানা লিমিটেড
আফতাব অটোমোবাইলস্ লিমিটেড