

POMPEO-ESPER'S SOUTH ASIA VISIT

Sri Lanka faces ‘difficult’ choices over China ties

REUTERS, Washington

The United States will urge Sri Lanka to make “difficult but necessary choices” on its economic relations when Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visits there next week, a senior US official said on Thursday, apparently referring to China’s deepening influence over Colombo.

Pompeo will also visit India, Maldives and Indonesia on an Asian tour whose main goal is expected to be garnering support in countering China.

His trip comes a week before the Nov. 3 US election in which President Donald Trump has made being tough on China a key part of his campaign to secure a second term.

Pompeo and other US officials have kept up the harsh rhetoric on China, dismissing Beijing’s investments across the globe as “debt diplomacy” and alleging that it leaves poorer nations saddled with too much debt.

Briefing reporters, U.S. officials warned the Sri Lankan government about who they team up with for their economic partnerships, without explicitly naming China.

“We encourage Sri Lanka to review the options we offer for transparent and sustainable economic development in contrast to discriminatory and opaque practises,” said Dean Thompson, the senior State Department official for South and Central Asian affairs.

“We urge Sri Lanka to make difficult but necessary decisions to secure its economic independence for long-term prosperity,” Thompson said.

China’s foreign ministry spokesman dismissed the comments as showing a “Cold War mentality.”

Attempts to use coercion to obstruct normal cooperation between countries will not succeed, ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told a news briefing in Beijing on Friday.



A boy gets food donation from a volunteer at a flooded area in Quang Binh province, Vietnam, yesterday. More than 100 people have died in Vietnam following weeks of severe flooding and landslides.

PHOTO: REUTERS

NEWS IN BRIEF

EU environment ministers strike deal on climate law

European Union environment ministers struck a deal yesterday to make the bloc’s 2050 net zero emissions target legally binding, but left a decision on a 2030 emissions-cutting target for leaders to discuss in December. The landmark climate change law will form the basis for Europe’s plan to slash greenhouse gas emissions, which will reshape all sectors, from transport to heavy industry, and require hundreds of billions of euros in annual investments. It will fix in law the EU target to reach net zero emissions by 2050 and define the rules for reviewing progress towards climate targets.

Malaysian PM seeks king’s nod to declare state of emergency

Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin met the king yesterday to ask him to declare a state of emergency, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said - a move that opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim denounced as an attempt to cling to power. The proposed emergency would include the suspension of parliament, which is due to reconvene in November, but spare the public additional restrictions beyond the coronavirus curbs currently in place, one of the sources said. Muhyiddin, who came to power in March with only a two-seat majority, has been under pressure since Anwar’s declaration last month that he had enough votes in parliament to oust him. Muhyiddin’s office and the palace did not respond to requests for comment on what, if anything, had been decided.

Xi says China’s interests won’t be undermined



Seventy years after Chinese troops entered the Korean War to fight against US troops, President Xi Jinping yesterday said that China will never allow its sovereignty, security and development interests to be undermined. In a long speech, heavy on patriotism and flecked by anecdotes of heroism by Chinese forces, Xi said victory in the 1950-53 conflict was a reminder that his nation stood ready to fight anyone “creating trouble... on China’s doorstep”. Unilateralism, protectionism, and bullying would fail, Xi said on the anniversary of the deployment of Chinese troops to the Korean peninsula to help North Korea fight US-led United Nations and South Korean forces during the 1950-53 conflict. “Chinese people don’t create troubles, nor are we afraid of them,” Xi said to applause.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

Make-or-break election for climate

AFP, Paris

The United States presidential election will be “make or break” for the planet after four years during which Donald Trump frustrated global efforts to slash emissions, climate experts warn, fearing his re-election may imperil the world’s chances of avoiding catastrophic warming.

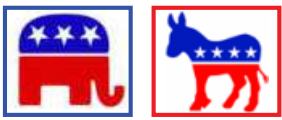
In a year dominated by the coronavirus pandemic, increasing signs of the brutal impacts of climate change have come into view, with record temperatures, sea ice loss and enormous wildfires scorching parts of the Arctic Circle, Amazon basin and the US itself.

Scientists say the window of opportunity to contain Earth’s warming is narrowing fast. This deadline magnifies the global significance of American voters’ choice between Trump and his Democratic challenger Joe Biden to lead the world’s second-largest emitter for the next four years.

Trump, who has described climate change as a hoax, has doubled down on support for polluting fossil fuels and revoked or rolled back a host of environmental standards.

On Thursday’s last presidential debate,

US ELECTION 2020



9 DAYS TO GO

Trump charged that Biden’s climate plan was an “economic disaster” for oil states such as Texas and Oklahoma. Biden said that climate change is “an existential threat to humanity. We have a moral obligation to deal with it.”

And just a day after the US vote on November 3, the country will formally withdraw from the Paris agreement, the international accord aimed at restraining emissions and averting runaway warming.

Trump’s signature act of climate disruption has “already diminished our moral standing, taking us from a leader to the rear of the pack”, climate scientist Michael Mann told AFP.

Without US climate leadership “I fear that

the rest of the world will not take seriously enough their obligations to reduce emissions in time to avert the worst impacts of climate change,” he said. “That’s why I’ve called this a make-or-break election when it comes to the climate.”

US withdrawal has not dampened others resolve, at least for now. The European Commission now wants emissions in Europe cut 55 percent by 2030. But it was China’s recent vow to go carbon neutral by 2060 that has the potential to be a “game-changer”, according to Lois Young, Belize’s envoy to the UN, although she noted the plans unveiled by the world’s largest emitter were still light on detail.

But the US is still crucial.

Laurence Tubiana, who was a key architect of the Paris deal as France’s top negotiator, said the rest of the world simply “cannot compensate” for the country’s emissions. While US states and businesses have independently acted to cut carbon, Tubiana predicted their efforts would fall short without new government policy.

In this context, she said a second Trump term would be “very bad news”.

ELECTION ‘INTERFERENCE’

US slaps sanctions on 5 Iran groups

AFP, Washington

The United States on Thursday slapped new sanctions on five Iranian entities for what it called “brazen attempts” to interfere with the US election.

Stepping up pressure after US intelligence pointed the finger at both Iran and Russia, the Treasury Department accused the Iranian groups of seeking to spread disinformation and division ahead of the November 3 vote.

The Treasury imposed the fresh sanctions against the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), the IRGC-Qods Force, the Bayan Rasaneh Gostar Institute, the Iranian Islamic Radio and Television Union and International Union of Virtual Media.

The announcement came one day after the US Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe fingered Iran as behind recent emails addressed to US voters threatening them to support President Donald Trump and his Republican Party.

Iran summoned the ambassador of Switzerland, who represents US interests in Tehran in the absence of diplomatic relations, to deny the “fabricated and clumsy” allegations.

Palestinians sue Britain for Balfour Declaration

AFP, Ramallah

Palestinian lawyers yesterday filed a complaint to sue the British government for the 1917 declaration setting out London’s support for a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.

The lawyers filed a complaint in the occupied West Bank town of Nablus that claimed “the suffering of the Palestinians” stemmed from this document.

The Balfour Declaration, signed by the then British foreign secretary Arthur James Balfour, is seen as a precursor to Israel’s creation in 1948.

The Balfour Declaration was published on November 2, 1917, a year before the end of World War I.

In one sentence it announced the British government’s backing for the establishment within Palestine, then a region of the Ottoman Empire, of “a national home for the Jewish people”.

With the Balfour Declaration, London was seeking Jewish support for its war efforts, and the Zionist push for a homeland for Jews was an emerging political force.



Thailand’s King Maha Vajiralongkorn and Queen Suthida greet royalists as they leave a religious ceremony to commemorate the death of King Chulalongkorn, known as King Rama V, at The Grand Palace in Bangkok, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Don’t give up on plasma therapy Say experts after Covid-19 study finds no benefit

REUTERS, London

Researchers yesterday called for more research into using blood from recovered Covid-19 patients - or so-called convalescent plasma - as a potential treatment, after a small trial of hospitalised patients in India found it was of no benefit.

The Indian results, published in the BMJ British Medical Journal, found that the plasma, which delivers antibodies from COVID-19 survivors to infected people, did not help hospitalised patients fight off the infection, and failed to reduce death rates or halt progression to severe disease.

The findings are a setback for a potential therapy that US President Donald Trump touted in August as a “historic breakthrough”,

and one experts say has been used in some 100,000 patients in the US already, despite limited evidence on its efficacy.

Scientists not directly involved in the India study, which involved around 460 patients, said its results were disappointing but should not mean doctors give up hope altogether on convalescent plasma.

They said further and larger trials are needed, including in COVID-19 patients with milder disease and those newly infected.

While the United States and India have authorised convalescent plasma for emergency use, other countries, including Britain, are collecting donated plasma so that the treatment could be widely rolled out if it is shown to be effective.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পঃ পঃ কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়

কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহ

Kaliganj@uhfpo.dghs.gov.bd

স্মারক নং-উজ্জ্বেদস্বাস্থ্যকমঃ/কালীগঞ্জ/বিনাইদহ/২০২০/৭৮০

তারিখঃ ২২/১০/২০২০ইং

এম.এস.আর উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহের এবং ইহার নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন উপ-স্বাস্থ্য কেন্দ্রসমূহের ২০২০-২১ অর্থ বৎসরের এম.এস.আর (মেডিকেল এন্ড সার্জিক্যাল রিকুইজিটস) স্থানীয়ভাবে ক্রয়ের নিমিত্তে পিপিআর ২০০৮ ও ২০০৯ এর আলোকে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী/অভিজ্ঞ সরবরাহকারী/প্রস্তুতকারী ও বিশ্বস্ত যোগাযোগসম্পন্ন ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট থেকে প্রদত্ত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে গ্রুপ ওয়ারী পৃথক পৃথকভাবে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়।
২	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার নাম	উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহ।
৩	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার উপজেলার নাম	কালীগঞ্জ।
৪	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার জেলা	বিনাইদহ।
৫	যে জন্য দরপত্র আহবান	এম.এস.আর সামগ্রী ক্রয়।
৬	দরপত্র আহবানের সূত্র ও তারিখ	উজ্জ্বেদস্বাস্থ্যকমঃ/কালীগঞ্জ/বিনাইদহ/দরপত্র/২০২০/৭৮০ তারিখঃ ২২/১০/২০২০ইং।
৭	সম্প্রদায়িক পদ্ধতি	পিপিআর ২০০৬ ও ২০০৮ এর আলোকে।
৮	বাজেট বরাদ্দের উৎস	রাজস্ব খাত।
৯	গ্রুপ ভিত্তিক কাজের বিবরণ	এম.এস.আর “গ্রুপ নং “ক”- (ইউসিএল বর্ধিত/উন্নয়ন)। এম.এস.আর “গ্রুপ নং “খ”- সার্জিক্যাল যন্ত্রপাতি। এম.এস.আর “গ্রুপ নং “গ”- গিলেন সামগ্রী। এম.এস.আর “গ্রুপ নং “ঘ”- পজ, ব্যাজেজ, তুলা ইত্যাদি। এম.এস.আর “গ্রুপ নং “ঙ”- পরীক্ষা নীতিমালা/কেমিক্যালস সামগ্রী। এম.এস.আর “গ্রুপ নং “চ”- এম.এস.আর আসবাবপত্র ও ক্রিনেন সামগ্রী।

১০	দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ	২২/১০/২০২০ইং।
১১	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়ের শুরু ও শেষ তারিখ	পরিচয় প্রকাশের তারিখ হইতে ১১/১১/২০২০ অবিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
১২	দরপত্র দলিলের তারিখ ও সময়	১২/১১/২০২০ তারিখ সকাল ১০.০০ ঘটিকা হইতে দুপুর ১১.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৩	দরপত্র বাজ খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১২/১১/২০২০ তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা।
১৪	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়ের স্থান	উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহ।
১৫	দরপত্র দলিল গ্রহণের স্থান	উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহ।
১৬	দরপত্র বাজ খোলার স্থান	উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহ।
১৭	দরপত্রপ্রাপ্ত যোগাযোগ	সিডিউসে বর্ণিত সকল শর্তাবলী।
১৮	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর নাম	ডাঃ শামীমা শিরিন।
১৯	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর পদবী ও ঠিকানা	উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পঃ পঃ কর্মকর্তা, কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহ।
২০	স্ব-স্ব গ্রুপের দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য (অফেরতযোগ্য) ক, খ, গ ও ঘ গ্রুপ- ৭৫০/- (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা, ঙ ও চ গ্রুপের জন্য ৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা কোড নং-১/২৭১১/০০০০/২০৬৬ তে ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে সোনালী ব্যাংক, কালীগঞ্জ-২ শাখায় জমাগুরুত চালানের মূলকপি জমা প্রদান করিয়া অত্র দপ্তরের ক্যাশ শাখায় জমাদান সাপেক্ষে দরপত্র দলিল ক্রয়/সম্প্রদায়িক করিতে পারিবেন।	
২১	দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন কমিটি/কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল করিবার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। সর্বনিম্ন দরদাতার দরপত্র গ্রহণে টিএসি বাধ্য নহেন।	
২২	বর্ণিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি ও শর্তাবলী হিসাবে গণ্য হইবে।	
২৩	অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ এই দরপত্র বিক্রেতার কোন সংশোধনী থাকিলে শুধুমাত্র অত্র অফিসের নোটিশ বোর্ডের মাধ্যমে জানানো হইবে।	
২৪	দরপত্রের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী সিডিউসে সন্নিবেশিত থাকিবে।	

স্বাক্ষরিত

২২/১০/২০২০ইং

ডাঃ শামীমা শিরিন

উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পঃ পঃ কর্মকর্তা

কালীগঞ্জ, বিনাইদহ

GD-1693

Half-measures won’t save nature

Warn 60 leading scientists

AFP, Paris

Bending the curve of nature’s rapid decline will require attacking the problem aggressively along several fronts at once, leading scientists warned Thursday.

From preventing the extinction of lions and polar bears to halting the destruction of life-sustaining primary forests, only a multi-pronged plan can stitch together a “safety net” for the natural world, they argued in a peer-reviewed commentary in Science.

“It will not be enough to have, for example, an ambitious goal for reducing species extinctions if goals for ecosystems and genetic diversity are not sufficiently ambitious too,” co-author Piero Visconti, a researcher at the International Institute for Applied System Analysis said in a statement.

The nature rescue plan from 60 experts worldwide is offered as a blueprint ahead of a biodiversity summit next year in China. Originally scheduled for this month, the “COP15” negotiation of nearly 200 nations under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity -- postponed due to the pandemic -- is tasked with setting new goals.

So far, efforts to protect and restore nature on a global scale have failed spectacularly.

The planet is on the cusp of a mass extinction event in which species are disappearing at 100 to 1,000 times the normal “background” rate, most scientists agree.

The UN’s science advisory panel for biodiversity warned in a landmark report last year that one million species face extinction, due mostly to habitat loss and over-exploitation. Human activity, it concluded, had “severely degraded” three-quarters of ice-free land on the planet.

Last month the WWF’s biennial Living Planet Index showed that wild populations of animals, birds, fish and plants have plummeted nearly 70 percent since 1970.

“We are utterly failing to protect the diversity of life on Earth,” Johan Rockstrom, director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and co-chair of the international Earth Commission, said at the time.

“We are failing to protect the resilience of our global commons. And we are failing to ensure a stable planet for future generations,” he said.

Next year’s biodiversity summit is widely seen by experts as a make-or-break moment for halting and reversing nature’s destruction.

ALTAIRE

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Memo No. RRI/Pra. Unnoyon/1312/2018/391 Date: 22/10/2020

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This is to notify all concerned that the following tenders are invited in the National e-GP Portal:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Last selling date	Opening date
1	477080	08/11/2020	09/11/2020
2	452120	08/11/2020	09/11/2020

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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GD-1692