

Indo-China row may harm

FROM PAGE 12
on their side,” the former diplomat added.

MajGen(retd)ANMMuniruzzaman, president of Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS), echoed Humayun’s views, saying the standoff between China and India in Ladakh has a negative impact on Bangladesh’s relations within South Asia, particularly because India is Bangladesh’s very large neighbour and has deep connections to Bangladesh both in economic and political spheres.

“But a bigger question that comes to my mind now is the great tension between the US and China and that is going to reshape much of the global landscape in our strategic relationship.”

“I see there is a chance of new cold war 2.0,” Muniruzzaman said, adding that if that comes about, then all countries, including those like Bangladesh, may have to re-navigate pathways as they would reshape their bilateral and multilateral relationship with countries, including the US and China.

The situation may force Bangladesh to choose a side, the analyst said, warning that Bangladesh should avoid taking a side at all cost.

Muniruzzaman said maintenance of strategic autonomy is fundamental to maintaining economic competitiveness and economic freedom. Therefore, Bangladesh needs to be extremely cautious in re-navigating the new complex world that it is entering.

He said the US has reinvented the Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS). Bangladesh is part of the IPS, but it is also a signatory to the China-led Belt and Road Initiative.

Referring to the defence agreements

signed on Tuesday between the US and India on sharing of geospatial information, the security expert said Bangladesh needs to charter its ways very carefully.

Humayun said the military deal between the US and India not only has regional implications, but also global impacts.

During his recent visits to the Maldives and Sri Lanka after India, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo sent anti-China messages.

Referring to a Singaporean diplomat’s recent statement that Cambodia should be dismissed from the ASEAN as it is too close to China, Humayun said he was worried over such a trend.

He said Bangladesh needs a lot of foreign investments for its development and China has the capacity to invest. The Western countries don’t want to make such capital investments.

The former diplomat anticipated that Chinese investments in Bangladesh would be clouded possibly by geopolitical considerations.

He suggested that Bangladesh maintain a sophisticated diplomacy and encourage the countries like India and China to develop an investment framework on loan, debt and repayment accepted globally.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam, CPD Chairman Prof Rehman Sobhan, its distinguished fellows Debapriya Bhattacharya, and Mustafizur Rahman, Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jiming, and Bangladesh Ambassador to China Mahbub Uz Zaman also spoke at the event, moderated by CDP Executive Director Fahmida Khatun.

Three stabbed to death

FROM PAGE 12
city had happened at Notre Dame church and was similar to the beheading earlier this month near Paris of teacher Samuel Paty, who had used cartoons of a topic deeply sensitive to Muslims in a civics class.

Thursday’s attacks, came at a time of growing Muslim anger at France’s defence of the right to publish the cartoons, and protesters have denounced France in street rallies in several Muslim-majority countries.

After the Nice attack, Prime Minister Jean Castex raised France’s security alert to its highest level.

Estrosi said the Nice attacker had

repeatedly shouted “Allahu Akbar” even being detained by police.

At around 9 am (0800 GMT), a man armed with a knife entered the church and slit the throat of the sexton, beheaded an elderly woman, and badly wounded a third woman, according to a police source.

The sexton and the elderly woman died on the spot, the third woman managed to make it out of the church into a nearby cafe, where she died, Estrosi told reporters. None of the victims has so far been named. “The suspected knife attacker was shot by police while being detained. He is on his way to hospital, he is alive,” he said.

Extrajudicial killings fall

FROM PAGE 12
The highest 50 persons were killed in July whereas 23 were killed in January, 27 in February, 37 in March, 16 in April, 29 in May, and 28 in June, it added.

The report was prepared based on news reports published on nine national dailies, online news portals, and ASK’s own findings.

Addressing the conference, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairperson Nasima Begum said no person or institution with good sense can support extrajudicial killings.

A total of 63 prisoners, including 37 convicts, died of various reasons including illness so far this year, the report read.

The report also mentioned that 214 journalists fell victim to torture, harassment and murder on duty.

Besides, 97 cases were filed against 190 persons under the Digital Security Act, with highest 47 persons made accused in 19 cases in May.

The report said 1,307 women were raped, including 270 victims of gang-rape, whereas 45 of the total rape victims were killed and 13 committed suicide.

Alarmingly, 326 women were raped in October, the report added.

Addressing on surge in rape, NHRC Chairperson Nasima Begum said speedy trial in rape cases was required

for the elimination of such a heinous crime.

“A person with good virtue can never get involved in such heinous act,” she added.

The ASK report said 475 women faced domestic violence. Of them, 313 were murdered and 80 committed suicide. Women were subject of fatwa and village arbitration in eight incidents.

Some 1,398 children faced violence including physical torture and 474 children were killed. Of the victims, 824 girls were raped and 25 boys were molested, said the report.

In cross-border incidents, 41 Bangladeshis were killed, including 35 shot dead, and six tortured to death by Indian Border Security Force members, read the report.

Besides, 22 Bangladeshis were injured and 20 kidnapped in cross-border incidents, it said.

Noted rights activist and Secretary General of ASK Executive Committee Noor Khan said a comprehensive report by rights defenders on the progress of rights violation cases can be submitted before the NHRC for its effective steps.

The report can highlight why some cases ended in final report, why some remained pending, and why witnesses failed or disagreed to give account, he said.

80pc of the victims

FROM PAGE 12
was aimed at identifying the risk factors associated with morbidity and mortality while treating Covid-19 patients and helping revise the guideline in line with the findings.

A total of 1,016 Covid-19 patients confirmed by RT-PCR tests at the central laboratory of NIPSOM were enrolled in the study.

The study, first of its kind in Bangladesh for Covid-19 patients, focused on the diagnosis after the 14th and 28th day.

According to the study, 78.3 percent Covid-19 patients having comorbidities died after 14 days of diagnosis.

Of the total patients diagnosed in the study, 2.3 percent died after 14 days of diagnosis while it slightly increased to 2.5 percent after 28 days of diagnosis.

Around 64.40 percent Covid-19 patients did not cure after 14 days of diagnosis. However, it come down to only six percent after 28 days of diagnosis.

Among the deceased, 40 percent had at least one comorbidity.

Male Covid-19 patients died around four times more than the female patients, said the study, supervised by Prof Baizid Khorshid Riaz, director, NIPSOM.

The principal investigator of the

study was Prof Md Ziaul Islam, head, department of community medicine, NIPSOM.

Contacted, Prof Baizid told The Daily Star that the findings echoed the global trend of mortality and morbidity of Covid-19 patients.

“This finding is very crucial as it will help revise the guideline of treating coronavirus patients,” he added.

The study recommended that to reduce adverse morbidity and mortality outcomes of Covid-19 patients, national treatments protocol should be adjusted showing treatment emphasis for the first 14 days of the disease.

The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the study.

It also suggested that to reduce the mortality rate, clinical management must be prioritised for the elderly and comorbid patients.

To avoid unwanted mortality from the Covid-19, hospitals must have adequate facilities for management of comorbidities, it suggested.

It said to minimise the worse outcomes of Covid-19, males, married, elderly, service holders, and urban residents should be emphasised for preventive, promotive and curative measures.

The study is expected to be published in the “Epidemiology and Infection” journal of the Cambridge University soon, said Prof Baizid.

Mysterious

FROM PAGE 12
instrument on Juno, a space probe orbiting the planet.

“UVS was designed to characterize Jupiter’s beautiful northern and southern lights,” said Giles, a Juno scientist and the lead author of the paper.

“But we discovered UVS images that not only showed Jovian aurora, but also a bright flash of UV light over in the corner where it wasn’t supposed to be. The more our team looked into it, the more we realized Juno may have detected a TLE on Jupiter.”

A “sprite” is a transient light event triggered by lightning discharges from thunderstorms below it.

On Earth, they only last for a few milliseconds, distinguishable by a central light with long tendrils both reaching towards the ground and upwards towards the sky.

Meanwhile “elves”, which is short for Emission of Light and Very Low Frequency perturbations due to Electromagnetic Pulse Sources, look like a flattened disk, and are found in the upper atmosphere.

While they are equally ephemeral, they can grow to sizes of 320 kilometers across on Earth.

“On Earth, sprites and elves appear reddish in colour due to their interaction with nitrogen in the upper atmosphere,” said Giles.

“But on Jupiter, the upper atmosphere mostly consists of hydrogen, so they would likely appear either blue or pink.”

These events could have been simply huge bolts of lightning, but scientists quickly ruled out that possibility; the lights were found 300 kilometers) above the altitude of Jupiter’s water-cloud layer, where the majority of the planet’s lightning is formed.

Moreover, the spectrograph recorded that the bright flashes were dominated by hydrogen emissions.

Constitution

FROM PAGE 12
denies that the commitment to socialism has not been spelt out in the draft constitution. He says that Articles 10, 13, 14,15 and others have clearly defined the responsibility of the state for securing various economic rights of the citizens.

BANGABANDHU’S MESSAGE TO TITO CONVEYED

President of Yugoslavia Josip Broz Tito receives Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad today. They have a friendly talk and Abdus Samad conveys to President Tito a personal message of Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

BANGLADESH ENTERS COLOMBO PLAN

The official committee of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee today brushes aside an objection raised by South Vietnam and seats Bangladesh as an observer to the meeting. The question of Bangladesh’s full membership would be placed before the Consultative Committee in November, 1972.

BHASHANI’S PARTY WILL CONTEST ELECTIONS

NAP Chief Maulana Bhashani announces in a press conference today that his party will contest the next general elections and set candidates in all the seats. He urges the government to ensure free and fair elections and demands equal opportunity for projecting the views of the opposition parties in radio and television. He further says that he is opposed to any election alliance with any other party. He, however, adds that if his party decides to enter into alliance with any party, he would have no objection.

Bhashani also says his party would not accept the constitution to be passed by the present Gono Parishad. He states that Awami League has no right to give the country a constitution as the MCAs were elected under the Legal Framework Order (LFO) promulgated by the then Pakistan Government.

SOURCES: October 31, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

25 more die

FROM PAGE 12
country to 4,04,760.

Bangladesh is currently 18th in the list of worst affected countries in the world in terms of the number of cases.

The country is one place below Iraq and one ahead of Indonesia, according to worldometer.info.

A total of 14,268 tests were conducted in 111 labs across the country over the 24 hours and the positivity rate was 11.78 percent.

The overall positivity rate stands at 17.52 percent.

Meanwhile, 1,548 Covid-19 patients have recovered over the 24 hours, raising the total number of recoveries to 3,21,281 -- more than 79 percent of all confirmed cases.

Among the 25 deceased, 16 were male and nine were females.

One died at home and the other 24 passed away in hospitals, said the press release.

Two were aged between 21 and 30, three between 41 and 50, nine between 51 and 60 and the 11 others were above 60 years old.

Of the deceased, one each was from Mymensingh and Barishal divisions, three were from Sylhet, five from Chattogram and 15 were from Dhaka division.



Demonstrators clash with Federal and Portland police at an Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Portland, Oregon, US, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Haider Anwar Juno no more

FROM PAGE 12
pneumonia following a heart attack, Haider Anwar was admitted at Dhaka’s Square Hospital on September 15.

He tested positive for coronavirus couple of days later and was put on life support on the 24th of that month, said Monzur.

Haider Anwar was born on December 29, 1944, in Kolkata.

His father Hatem Ali Khan was an engineer and his grandfather Syed Nausher Ali was a prominent politician in British India.

Haider Anwar attended St. Gregory’s School in Dhaka and completed his higher secondary education from Notre Dame College.

He got enrolled in the Department of Theoretical Physics in the University of Dhaka, from where he attained honour’s and master’s degrees with first class.

A member of the East Pakistan Students’ Union, the student wing of the East Pakistan Communist Party (EPCP) (undivided), he was imprisoned for his participation in the 1962 Education Movement against the anti-people education policy proposed by the notorious Sharif Education Commission, which was appointed by the autocratic regime of Field Marshal Ayub Khan, then President of Pakistan.

In 1966, Haider became the vice president of the East Pakistan Student Union (Menon), the student wing of the pro-Peking EPCP (M-L).

In 1969, the Biplobi Chhatra Union (Revolutionary Student Union) was formed and he was its founding president.

He was one of the key organisers of the 1969 mass uprising against the autocratic regime that forced Ayub Khan out of power.

He was the leader of the cultural organisation Kranti, which operated among workers and peasants in rural and industrial areas.

He was also in the central body of the Co-ordination Committee of Communist Revolutionaries of East Bengal, the pro-Peking party, which was one of the communist organisations waging guerrilla warfare against the Pakistani armed forces in the 1971 Liberation War.

In Shibpur of Narsingdi, a district

in eastern Bangladesh, Haider Anwar and his comrades organised their guerrilla base and confronted the Pakistani army.

He took part in at least five frontal military actions himself, in all of which the Pakistani forces had to retreat.

During the nine months of the Liberation War, Shibpur stood liberated as the Pakistani forces could not manage to enter the area, where Haider Anwar was the Second-in-Command of the guerrilla force.

After liberation, as the Co-ordination Committee reorganised itself as the Leninist Communist Party, which operated through its legal front -- United People’s Party--, he was a member of the central body of both the organisations.

Later, retiring from active party politics, he became fully active in the cultural front.

He was the lifetime president of the Gono Shangskriti Front (People’s Cultural Front), a platform of people’s cultural organisations following anti-revisionist politics. He was also the general secretary of the Bangladesh-Cuba Solidarity Committee.

He had authored several books.

In 1975, he authored a two-part book on physics for undergraduate students in Bangla.

“Ekattorer Ronangon: Shibpur” is a recollection of his involvement in the guerrilla warfare waged during the Liberation War.

“Agun Jhora Shei Dingulo” is his autobiographical sketch. His work of fiction, a novel, is “Shomoy Duhshomoy”.

Different social, political and cultural organisations have expressed deep shock at the demise of Haider Anwar.

He will be laid to rest today at Banani grave with state honour.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held yesterday at Taqwa Mosque at the city’s Dhanmondi after maghrib prayers, said Monzur Moin.

His body will be taken at the central shaheed minar at 10:30am today for common people to pay their respects.

Later his second namaz-e-janaza will be held at the Dhaka University Central Mosque.

Govt working

FROM PAGE 12
conference from the Gono Habaan.

Eight renowned personalities and one organisation received the Independence Award 2020, the highest state honour.

On behalf of the PM, Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque handed the prestigious award to the awardees and their relatives.

Hasina said Bangladesh had lost its potentials after the assassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975.

She said her previous government (1996-2001) had started projecting the authentic history of the country’s independence before the people.

Remembering the dream of the Father of the Nation and the great sacrifices of millions of martyrs, the premier said her government wants to rebuild Bangladesh as a hunger- and poverty-free “Golden Bengal”.

“We are running the state with the aim to achieve the goals of taking healthcare services to the doorsteps of people, ensuring education for all, improving the communication system, illuminating every house, providing every homeless and landless person with a house, making Bangladesh economically self-sufficient and enhancing its self-dignity.”

Talking about the Covid-19 pandemic, Hasina said the government was making frantic efforts to protect people and their livelihood and accelerate the pace of economic development.

She urged all to follow the health guidelines to protect themselves from contracting Covid-19 saying that a resurgence of the virus is now seen in Europe.

Hasina said the government has been making all necessary preparations and it is keeping every district hospital ready to deal with the possible second wave of Covid-19 in the country.

Congratulating the award recipients, she said they have made outstanding contributions to their respective fields, including medical, education and culture.

The awardees are Jute and Textiles Minister Golam Dastagir Gazi, Commander Abdur Rouf (posthumous), martyred intellectual and novelist Anwar Pasha (posthumous) and Azizur Rahman for Independence and Liberation War; Prof Dr Md Obaidul Kabir Chowdhury and Prof Dr AKMA Muqtadir for medical science; Kalipada Das and Ferdousi Mazumder for culture; and Bharateswari Homes, a boarding school for girls in Mirzapur of Tangail, for education.

On February 20, the government had picked the renowned personalities and the organisation for the highest state award.

There is a tradition of handing this prestigious award to the recipients on March 25 each year, but it was not possible this year due to the novel coronavirus outbreak.

Since 1977, Bangladesh has been recognising individuals and institutions with the award ahead of the Independence Day every year.

Ministers, chiefs of the three services and members of parliament were present at the function.

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Directorate General of Health Service
COVID-19 Response Emergency Assistance Project
Directorate General of Health Services (Old Building),
Mohakhali, Dhaka – 1212, Bangladesh

Memo No. DGHS/COVID-19 REAP/Advertisement/30/2020/78

Date: 29 October 2020

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of

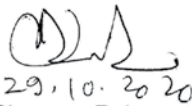
Tender ID No.	Package No	Description	Online Tender Notice Publication date	On-line Tender Closing Date & other information
D506099	G - 02A1	Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Coveralls (Complete Set) [Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Coveralls (Level 3), N-95 Masks, Disposable Hood (Head Cover), Shoe Cover, Surgical Gloves (sterile), Disposable Protective Eye Wear (Face-Shield), Goggles, Biohazard Bag]	29-10-20	Please see tender notice in e-GP
506596	G - 02A2	Procurement of KN-95 Masks		
506464	G - 02A3	Procurement of emergency medical supplies [Surgical Gloves (Sterile), Hand Gloves (Non-Sterile), Goggles, Biohazard Bags, Surgical Masks, Hood Cover, Shoe Cover]		
506656	G - 02A4	Procurement of Sanitizers		
506789	G - 02A5	Procurement of N 95 Masks		

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 system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

The fees for last selling/downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks’ branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

The Procuring Entity reserves the right to all tender(s) or annul the tender proceeding without incurring any liabilities.


29.10.2020
(Dr. Md. Shamsur Rahman)

Deputy Director (P&R) and
Project Director

COVID-19 Response Emergency Assistance Project