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Virus curbs tighten worldwide

Germany warns restrictions likely to continue for months; Greece extends ban on gatherings

AFP, Berlin

Germany yesterday warned that its anti-coronavirus measures were likely to last four or five more months, as Greece announced a new ban on gatherings and Mexico surpassed one million infections.

The novel coronavirus has killed at least 1,313,471 people since the outbreak emerged in China last December, according to a tally from official sources compiled by AFP at 1100 GMT yesterday.

At least 54,001,750 cases of coronavirus have been registered. Of these, at least 34,599,700 are now considered recovered.

Over Saturday, 9,246 new deaths and 607,998 new cases were recorded worldwide. Based on latest reports, the countries with the most new deaths were United States with 1,351 fatalities, followed by Brazil with 921 and Mexico with 635.

Germany, Europe's largest economy, went into partial lockdown in early November, closing bars, restaurants and other recreational facilities but keeping schools and shops open.

"We will have to live with considerable precautions and restrictions for at least the next four to five months," Economy Minister Peter Altmaier told the Bild an Sonntag newspaper.

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Thousands of water lilies bloom in DB Haor of Sylhet's Jaintapur. If anyone wants to enjoy this mesmerising scenic view, they may have to reach there early in the morning when they are most beautiful. This haor is around 42km away from Sylhet city. The photo was taken on Saturday morning.

PHOTO: SHARIFUL HASAN

FM hopeful of signing Teesta deal

Says int'l agencies, NGOs causing Rohingya relocation delay

STAR REPORT

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday expressed his optimism over signing of the Teesta water-sharing deal with India, saying it remains ready for signing since 2011.

"India frequently reiterates [its commitment] about it. It remains ready to be signed," he told reporters at Rajshahi College but did not give any possible signing date, UNB reports.

He said the Teesta deal could not be inked due to India's internal reason.

Momen said human resources and rivers are very important assets, but it will be a curse for all if their best uses cannot be ensured.

The minister said Bangladesh and India are working on 54 common rivers.

In October last year, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina highlighted that

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Killing of ASP Hospital cook, ward boy 'confess'

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Two employees of Mind Aid Psychiatry and De-Addiction Hospital confessed yesterday before a magistrate to their involvement in the death of Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police Mohammad Anisul Karim on November 9.

The employees are: chef Masud Khan and ward boy Asim Chandra Pal.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Masud-Ur-Rahman recorded their confessional statements after Md Faruk Mollah, inspector of Adabar Police Station, also the investigation officer of the case, produced them.

In their statements, they told the magistrate that they, along with other employees, beat the victim, according to court sources.

Further details of the confessional statements could not be known immediately.

After recording their statements, the magistrate sent them to Dhaka Central Jail in Keraniganj.

Meanwhile, one of the directors of the hospital, Fatema Khatun Moyna, 41, was placed on a four-day remand yesterday

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Japan offers technical help

November 16, 1972
SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

JAPANESE ENVOY CALLS ON PM

Japanese ambassador Takashi Oyamada communicates to Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Japan's willingness to provide technical help to Bangladesh when he calls on Bangabandhu at the Gono Bhaban today.

Talking to newsmen after his meeting with the PM the Japanese ambassador says Japan is willing to provide technical help in agricultural and rural development programmes and also in the field of industry, both big and small. Japan is also willing to undertake personnel exchange programmes, he adds. He further informs that the government of Japan is sending a preliminary survey team to Bangladesh shortly to study the feasibility of the proposed bridge over Jamuna River. The giant bridge to be built with Japanese assistance will be a bridge of friendship between Japan and Bangladesh, in the words of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

CABINET DISCUSSES SUGAR INDUSTRY PROBLEMS

The cabinet today reviews the problems of the sugar industry in Bangladesh, including the price of sugarcane and distribution of sugar. The cabinet meeting, presided over by Bangabandhu, also discusses explorations and distribution of oil and gas. Besides, problems relating to food, aviation, shipping and inland navigation are also taken up for discussion. The cabinet takes stock

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Home boss infected with Covid-19

UNB, Dhaka

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan was found infected with Covid-19 on Saturday night.

Sharif Mahmud, public relations officer of the ministry, confirmed it.

Covid-19 test result of the home minister came positive on Saturday night, he said, adding that Mustafa Kamal Uddin, senior secretary of the ministry's public security department, was also diagnosed with Covid-19.

On March 8, Bangladesh recorded its first cases. The first death was reported on March 18 and the death toll exceeded 6,000 on November 4.

Some 1,837 new infections were recorded in 24 hours ending at 8:00am yesterday, taking the total cases of Covid-19 to 4,32,333, in the country. Around 14,060 samples were tested across the country during the time.

Indian holy city records highest number of oil lamps



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A north Indian city has maintained its Guinness World Record for lighting the highest number of oil lamps in celebration of Diwali for the second year running.

The holy city of Ayodhya, where Hindus believe the god Ram was born and where he returned after 14 years in exile, lit 606,569 oil lamps and kept them burning for at least 45 minutes.

Thousands of volunteers took part in the lighting of the lamps along the banks of the Saryu River, in the streets and in houses on Friday evening.

Last year, they lit 409,000 oil lamps.

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25 female 'Jamaat' activists' sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Twenty-five female leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami were arrested on Saturday night, while they were holding what police said was a secret meeting in Kushtia.

Police claimed that the meeting was for planning subversive activities.

Islamic University Police Station Officer-in-charge Mostafizur Rahman said the women were holding the meeting at a house next to Jhaudia Bazar Mosque in Kushtia Sadar upazila. A police team raided the place around 8:00pm and arrested them.

Among the arrestees is Sajeda Begum, amir of Jhaudia Union unit of Mahila Jamaat.

All are wives and relatives of local Jamaat leaders and activists, the police official said. Police filed a case against them

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Minor found dead in Jubo League leader's home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

An 11-year-old Tripura girl was found dead at the house of a Jubo League leader in Khagrachhari on Friday.

Moumita Tripura was a domestic worker at the house of Ananta Bikash Tripura, relief and social welfare secretary of Jubo League committee in the district.

"Moumita was found hanging from the fan, but her feet were touching the floor. We are investigating whether she died by suicide or it was a homicide," said Inspector Golam Afsar of Khagrachhari Police Station.

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PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 16

Fajr

Zohr

Asr

Maghrib

Esha

5:00

12:45

3:45

5:25

7:00

JAMAT

5:35

1:15

4:00

5:30

7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



With heavy loads, a three-wheeler, locally known as Nasimon, plying on the wrong side of Dhaka-Aricha highway. It may cause an accident anytime. Ignoring a ban, people are running such slow-moving vehicles on the highways. This photo was taken from Savar's Hemayetpur recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

'He won because the election was rigged'

Trump backtracks on acknowledging Biden won election

REUTERS, Washington

President Donald Trump backtracked yesterday after appearing to acknowledge for the first time that Joe Biden won the Nov. 3 election, saying he conceded "nothing" and repeating his unfounded claims of widespread voting fraud.

Biden defeated Trump by winning a series of battleground states that the Republican incumbent had won in 2016. The Democratic former vice president also won the national popular vote by more than 5.5 million votes, or 3.6 percentage points.

Trump made his conflicting statements in a series of Twitter posts.

"He won because the Election was Rigged," Trump wrote on Sunday morning, not referring to Biden by name. "NO VOTE WATCHERS OR OBSERVERS allowed, vote tabulated by a Radical Left privately owned company, Dominion, with a bad reputation & bum equipment that couldn't even qualify for Texas (which I won by a lot!), the Fake & Silent Media, & more!"

About an hour later, Trump wrote, "He only won in the eyes of the FAKE NEWS MEDIA. I concede NOTHING! We have a long way to go. This was a RIGGED ELECTION!"

Speaking on the NBC program "Meet the Press," Biden's pick for White House chief of staff, Ron Klain, said, "Donald Trump's Twitter feed doesn't make Joe Biden president or not president. The American people did that."

Trump's campaign has filed lawsuits seeking to overturn

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