

NEWSIN brief

Suicide bomber kills 9 in Afghanistan

At least nine people, including four security personnel and five civilians were killed and 12 others injured by a suicide bomber in the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad yesterday, an official said.

Second patient dies of Ebola in Uganda

A grandmother in Uganda has died from Ebola, health officials said yesterday, the second fatality in the country since a major outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo crossed the border.

Israel strikes Gaza after rocket fire

Israeli warplanes bombed bunkers at a Hamas base in Gaza early yesterday following the first rocket fire from the territory since early May, the military said.

US accuses N Korea of breaching UN fuel cap

US is accusing North Korea of breaching a UN-imposed ceiling on fuel imports by carrying out dozens of ship-to-ship transfers this year, according to a report obtained by AFP.

Prince of Whales! Trump gets harpooned for spelling error

US President Donald Trump lauded his own diplomacy yesterday with royalty and foreign leaders, but mistakenly cast the heir to the British throne, Prince Charles, as the "Prince of Whales".

'MINE, TORPEDO ATTACKS' ON OIL TANKERS IN THE GULF OF OMAN

Gulf tension takes a new turn

REUTERS, Dubai

Two oil tankers were attacked in the Gulf of Oman yesterday, leaving one ablaze and both adrift, shipping firms said, driving oil prices as much as 4% higher over worries about Middle East supplies.

The Front Altair, carrying petrochemical feedstock, was on fire in waters between Gulf Arab states and Iran after an explosion that a source blamed on a magnetic mine.

A second Japanese-owned tanker was abandoned after being hit by a suspected torpedo, the firm that chartered the ship said.

Yesterday's attacks were the second in a month near the Strait of Hormuz, a major strategic waterway for world oil supplies.

"We need to remember that some

Iran calls incidents 'suspicious', wants regional talks; 44 crew rescued

Oil prices surge by 4 percent as expert warns oil supply to West at risk

Khamenei tells Japan's Abe he has no reply to message from Trump



30% of the world's (seaborne) crude oil passes through the Straits. If the waters are becoming unsafe, the supply to the entire Western world could be at risk," said Paolo d'Amico, chairman of INTERTANKO tanker association.

Tensions have risen since President Donald Trump, who has demanded Tehran curb its military programmes and influence in the Middle East, pulled the United States out of a deal between Iran and global powers to curb Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

Yesterday's attacks came as Shinzo Abe - prime minister of US ally Japan, a big importer of Iranian oil until Washington ratcheted up sanctions

- visited Tehran with a message from Trump and urged all sides not to let tensions escalate.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif described the incidents as "suspicious" on Twitter, noting that they occurred during Abe's visit to Tehran.

Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement said the Kokuka Courageous was damaged in a "suspected attack" that breached the hull above the water line while transporting methanol from Saudi Arabia to Singapore.

It said the ship was afloat and the crew safe with one minor injury reported.

A shipping broker said the blast that struck the Kokuka Courageous might have been caused by a magnetic mine.

Taiwan's state oil refiner CPC said the Front Altair, owned by Norway's Frontline, was "suspected of being hit by a torpedo" around 0400 GMT, as it carried 75,000 tonnes of the petrochemical feedstock naphtha to Taiwan.

Iran's IRNA reported that Iranian search and rescue teams had picked up 44 sailors from two damaged tankers and had taken them to the Iranian port of Jask. That report could not immediately be confirmed.

Yesterday's suspected attacks came a day after Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis fired a missile on an airport in Saudi Arabia, injuring 26 people.

"I do not see Trump as worthy of any message exchange, and I do not have any reply for him, now or in future," the Iranian leader said.



Johnson tops first-round vote for British PM

Brexit hardliner Boris Johnson topped the ballot by a landslide yesterday in a first-round vote for a leader to replace British Prime Minister Theresa May.

Sister of Saudi crown prince faces Paris trial: legal source

The sister of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is to be put on trial in Paris next month for allegedly ordering her bodyguard to beat up a workman in the French capital, a legal source told AFP on Wednesday.

Winds, rain batter western India as cyclone veers away

High winds and heavy rains pounded western India yesterday as a major cyclone expected to hit the coast veered away instead into the Arabian Sea.



US open to dialogue with India after trade snub

The United States is open to dialogue with India after taking away its preferential trading status, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Wednesday as he prepares to travel to New Delhi.

'It is not an interference' Trump says nothing wrong with accepting dirt from foreign govts on opponents

REUTERS, Washington

President Donald Trump said on Wednesday he would see nothing wrong in accepting damaging information on a US political opponent if it were offered to his re-election campaign by a foreign government.

Asked in an interview with ABC News if he would accept the information or alert the FBI, Trump said: "I think maybe you do both. I think you might want to listen, there's nothing wrong with listening."

"If somebody called from a country, Norway, 'we have information on your opponent' - oh, I think I'd want to hear it," Trump said.

Speaking to ABC News on Wednesday, Trump said he disagreed with FBI Director Christopher Wray, who told Congress last month that political campaigns should contact the agency about any suspicious communications from a foreign government.

"I've seen a lot of things over my life. I don't think in my whole life I've ever called the FBI. In my whole life. You don't call the FBI. You throw somebody out of your office, you do whatever you do," Trump said.

Trump compared damaging information on an opponent supplied by a foreign government to opposition research conducted by all political campaigns.

"It's not an interference, they have information - I think I'd take it," Trump said. "If I thought there was something wrong, I'd go maybe to the FBI - if I thought there was something wrong."



Protesters hold signs following a day of violence over an extradition bill that would allow people to be sent to mainland China for trial, in Hong Kong, yesterday. Hong Kong protest leaders yesterday announced plans for another mass rally on Sunday, escalating their campaign against a China extradition bill a day after police cleared them from the streets using volleys of tear gas and rubber bullets.

Ocean wildlife to shrink by 17pc

AFP, Paris

Climate change is set to empty the ocean of nearly a fifth of all living creatures, measured by mass, by the end of the century, researchers have calculated.

In a world that heats up three to four degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels, 17 percent of marine biomass -- from minuscule plankton to 100-tonne whales -- will be wiped out, they reported in the US Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.

To date, Earth's surface has warmed a full degree (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit). Bigger fish and marine mammals already devastated by overfishing, pollution and ship strikes will see especially sharp declines due to rising temperatures.

Even in a "best-case" scenario of limiting warming to 2C -- the cornerstone target of the Paris climate treaty -- the ocean's biomass will drop off by five percent.

Shallow-water corals, which harbour 30 percent of marine life, are forecast to disappear almost entirely under these conditions.

Every additional degree will see the ocean biomass shrink by another five percent. Earth is currently on course to be around 4C hotter by 2100.

"The future of marine ecosystems will depend heavily on climate change," said Junne-Jai Shin, a biologist at the French Institute for Development Research and one 35 experts from a dozen countries contributing to the study.

"Measures to protect biodiversity and fisheries management will need to be revisited." Some regions will be hit much harder than others, the study found.

Climate change will reduce marine biomass by 40 to 50 percent in tropical zones, where more than half-a-billion people depend on the ocean for their livelihood, and two billion use it as their main source of protein.

At the same time, the concentration of life at the poles would likely increase, potentially offering new sources of food.

The global population is set to expand from 7.3 billion today to nearly 10 billion in 2050, and to 11 billion by 2100, according to the United Nations.



Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute Shrimp Research Station, Bagerhat-9300. Memo No. 33.0000.125.06.098.18-286 Date: 12/06/2019. e-Tender Notice. e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following goods:-

Relations getting 'worse and worse' Says Putin over US-Russia ties; Trump to send 1,000 extra troops to Poland. REUTERS, Moscow. President Vladimir Putin said relations between Moscow and Washington were getting worse and worse, noting in an interview published yesterday that the current US administration had imposed dozens of sanctions on Russia.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Office of the Project Director. Construction of Dhaka Central Jail, Keraniganj Project. Prisons Directorate, Bakshi Bazar, Dhaka-1211. Memo No. 58.04.0000.037.02.001.2019-129/1. Date: 10.06.2019. e-Tender Notice. This is to notify all concerned that the following tenders are invited in the National e-GP Portal:

বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন. আইইবি ভবন, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০. স্মারক নংঃ ১৪.৩২.০০০০.৪০০.০১.০০২.১৭-১৪৪৭ তারিখঃ ১৩/০৬/২০১৯ইং. বিজ্ঞপ্তি. এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ ডিজিটাল কমিউনিকেশন লিমিটেড এবং এয়ারটেল বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর পরিচালনা পদ্ধতি ও আর্থিক হিসাবাদি নিরীক্ষার জন্য Information System Audit সংক্রান্ত EOI Ref. No. 14.32.0000.400.01.002.17, Date: 28/11/2017 সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্রয় প্রস্তাবটি অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ বাতিল করা হলো। আফতাব মোঃ রাশেদুল ওয়াদুদ পরিচালক (প্রশাসন) জিডি-১০৯০ বিটিআরসি