US, Taliban to hold more peace talks AFP, Washington

The United States and the Taliban will open fresh negotiations next week, the US negotiator said Saturday, as he voiced hope for progress in ending America's longest war. Zalmay Khalilzad, the US special representative on Afghanistan, said the two sides would start their seventh round of talks on June 29. Khalilzad is hoping to negotiate a deal under which the United States would withdraw troops first sent after the September 11, 2001 attacks. In turn, the Taliban would guarantee that Afghanistan

42 IS fighters killed near Lake Chad

would not be used as a

extremists such as al-

staging ground by Islamist

REUTERS, Abuja

Qaeda.

West African troops killed 42 suspected Islamic State fighters in a battle in the Lake Chad region on June 21, the heaviest death toll suffered by the insurgents in the last six months, a regional military task force said in a statement. The Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) comprising troops from countries bordering the lake - said one of its soldiers was killed and 10 others were injured.

Cambodia building collapse toll hits 18 AFP, Sihanoukville

Victims of the Cambodia building collapse were buried alive as they slept, a survivor told AFP yesterday, as the death toll at the Chinese-owned site rose to 18 and increasingly desperate rescuers picked through the compacted rubble for any further signs of life. There are fears many more workers may be buried as rescuers had

of Sihanoukville. Kim receives 'excellent' letter from

Trump: KCNA

scoured barely half of the

debris of twisted metal,

glass and large concrete

building collapsed on

slabs after the seven-storey

Saturday in the beach resort

AFP, Seoul

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un received a personal letter of "excellent content" from US President Donald Trump, the country's state media said yesterday, amid a nuclear deadlock between Pyongyang and Washington.

Talks have been stalled since the collapse of a second summit between the two leaders in February after they failed to agree on what the North would be willing to give up in exchange for sanctions relief.

The two sides have blamed each other for the breakdown but both have expressed a willingness to meet again, with Trump saying earlier this month that he had received a "beautiful letter" from Kim.



Yesterday, the North's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported that Trump had written to Kim, who "said with satisfaction that the letter is of excellent content".

"Appreciating the political judging faculty and extraordinary courage of President Trump, Kim Jong Un said that he would seriously contemplate the interesting content," KCNA

The report gave no further detail about the content of the letter or when it was sent and received.

NEWSIN Plan faces broad Arab rejection

REUTERS, Riyadh/Amman/Cairo

Arab politicians and commentators greeted US President Donald Trump's Middle East \$50 billion economic vision with a mixture of derision and exasperation, although some in the Gulf called for it to be given a chance.

In Israel, Tzachi Hanegbi, a cabinet member close to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, described Palestinians' rejection of the "peace to prosperity" plan as tragic.

Set to be presented by Trump's sonin-law Jared Kushner at a conference in Bahrain on June 25-26, the blueprint envisions a global investment fund to lift the Palestinian and neighbouring Arab economies and is part of broader efforts to revive the Israeli-Palestininan

US'S MIDDLE EAST PEACE PUSH

\$50 billion plan to be discussed next week in Bahrain

Arabs reject Kushner 'economy first' approach, regard it as "non-starter" and "dead on arrival"

Arab League renew pledge to give Palestinians \$100m in aid monthly

peace process. "We don't need the Bahrain meeting to build our country, we need peace, and the sequence of (the plan) -- economic revival followed by peace is unrealistic and an illusion," Palestinian Finance Minister Shukri Bishara said yesterday.

The lack of a political solution, which Washington has said would be unveiled later, prompted rejection not only from Palestinians but also in Arab countries with which Israel would seek normal relations.

From Sudan to Kuwait, commentators and ordinary citizens denounced Kushner's proposals in strikingly similar terms: "colossal waste of time," "nonstarter," "dead on arrival."

Meanwhile, The Arab League yesterday reaffirmed a pledge to pay \$100 million a month to the Palestinian Authority, a day after Washington unveiled its Middle East peace plan.

They also insisted, in an implicit rebuke to the White House's economic plan, on the "complete Arab support to the Palestinian state's economic, political and financial independence".

Egyptian liberal and leftist parties slammed the workshop as an attempt "consecrate and legitimise" occupation of Arab land and said in a joint statement that any Arab participation would be "beyond the limits of normalisation" with Israel.



While the precise outline of the political plan has been shrouded in secrecy, officials briefed on it say Kushner has jettisoned the two-state solution - the long-standing worldwide formula that envisages an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza.

Arab analysts believe the economic plan is an attempt to buy off opposition to Israel's occupation of Palestinian land with a multi-billion dollar bribe to pay off the neighbouring hosts of millions of Palestinian refugees to integrate them.

Jawad al-Anani, a former senior described politician, Jordanian

widespread suspicion after Trump's decisions to move the US embassy to Jerusalem and recognise Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

"This is an unbalanced approach: it assumes the Palestinians are the more vulnerable side and they are the ones who can succumb to pressure more easily," he said. "This is a major setback for the whole region."

Kushner's economic proposals will be discussed at the US-led gathering in Bahrain this week. The Palestinian Authority is boycotting and the White House did not invite the Israeli government.

Istanbul votes in mayoral polls in a test for Erdogan

Istanbul returned to the polls yesterday in a re-run of the mayoral election that has become a test of Turkish democracy as well as President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's continued popularity at a time of economic trouble. Election authorities annulled the first vote in March after Erdogan's ruling party alleged corruption. Critics say Erdogan simply did not like the result, after a little-known former district mayor, 49-year-old Ekrem Imamoglu, snatched victory for the opposition by just 13,000 votes. Imamoglu faces Binali Yildirim, a mildmannered Erdogan loyalist who oversaw several huge transport projects and served as prime minister.

India rejects critical US religious freedom report

India yesterday hit out at a US report saying religious intolerance was growing under its rightwing government, setting off a new spat ahead of a visit by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. An annual report on international religious freedom released by Pompeo on Friday said Hindu-groups had used "violence, intimidation, and harassment" against Muslims and low-caste Dalits in 2017 to force a religion-based national identity. But Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government insisted that no foreign country had the right to criticise its record. Pompeo arrives in New Delhi on Tuesday for a trip intended to strengthen ties, but already complicated by spats over trade tariffs, data protection rules, US visas for Indians and buying arms from Russia.



'Wild Boars' lead charity race near Thai cave

A Thai youth football team and their coach led a charity race yesterday near the Tham Luang cave which they entered exactly one year ago, emerging alive 18 nail-biting days later. The dangerous and unprecedented rescue mission to save the 12 boys and their coach, who got stuck in floodwaters in the cave in northern Thailand on June 23, 2018, captivated the world. The last of the "Wild Boars" -- as their team was known -- emerged alive nearly three weeks later after specialist divers carefully sedated them before extracting them through the narrow, flooded passageways. Yesterday, 11 of the young footballers joined around 5,000 joggers and cyclists wearing sports jerseys or fancy dress for a race near the cave that still remains closed today.

S Arabia launches special residency scheme for expats

Saudi Arabia yesterday launched their new special residency scheme similar to green card systems applicable in other countries, aimed at attracting wealthy and high-skilled expats. The residency scheme offers two types of residencies, a permanent one for 800,000 Saudi riyals (\$213,321.96) and a one year but renewable residency for 100,000 Saudi riyals (\$26,665.24). The scheme was approved by the Saudi cabinet last month, but yesterday the online portal to apply was opened to the public. The residencies would allow foreign expats free movement, ability to own properties and to do business in the kingdom. Currently over 10 million expats work and live in Saudi Arabia.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

Ethiopia army chief, regional chief killed amid 'coup' bid

AFP, Addis Ababa

Ethiopia's army chief and a top local leader have been shot dead during an attempt to overthrow a regional government in northern Ethiopia, underscoring political instability in the country as Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed tries to push through reforms.

The latest unrest in the Horn of Africa nation flared on Saturday afternoon in Amhara, one of nine autonomous regions, when a "hit squad" attacked a meeting of top officials, Abiy's

office said Sunday. Spokeswoman Billene Seyoum told journalists the Amhara "coup attempt" was led by local security chief Asaminew Tsige, and resulted in state president Ambachew Mekonnen and advisor being shot.

The men were "gravely injured in the attack and later died of their wounds," she said, adding that the regional attorney general had been seriously wounded.

"Several hours later in what seems like a co-ordinated attack, the chief of the staff of the national security forces Seare Mekonnen was killed in his home by his bodyguard" in the capital, she added.

Seare and a visiting retired general were shot dead in his home in the upmarket Bole district of Addis Ababa, home to diplomats, aid workers and expats.

The bodyguard has been apprehended while Asaminew is still on the loose, sources said.

According to the statement from Abiy's office, the situation in Amhara region is "currently under full control by the federal government in collaboration with the regional government.

The link between the two attacks and their motives were not immediately clear.

"We don't know what the broader intentions of the attackers were. It is not apparent that there was any organised plan to take over the regional government, but it is possible,' International Crisis

Group analyst William Davison told AFP. The internet has been cut nationwide since Saturday evening, after being severed

for much of the previous week. The United States embassy issued alerts about reported gunfire in the capital Addis Ababa, and violence around Amhara's main city Bahir Dar. Amhara, in Ethiopia's northern highlands, is the homeland of the ethnic group by the same name, and the birthplace of many of its emperors as well

as the national language Amharic.

Sirisena seeks to roll back Lanka political reforms

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's President yesterday called for sweeping reforms to the country's constitution that he introduced in 2015 to be rolled back, saying they are responsible for political instability.

Maithripala Sirisena said the 19th amendment to the constitution -which notably transferred some of the president's powers to the Prime Minister and depoliticised key institutions -- should be scrapped because it has led to a power struggle.

It "has triggered instability. There is no single leader," Sirisena told a meeting in Colombo. "People believe that the president and Prime Minister are pulling in different directions."

Sirisena came to power in 2015 promising constitutional reform

carried out with the 19th amendment, including the reduction of the powers of the executive and giving greater authority to parliament.

The police, public service, election commission and the judiciary were depoliticised -- and term limits of the presidency, which were removed by Sirisena's predecessor, were restored.

Human rights were strengthened and the president was made answerable to parliament and could be challenged in court.

At the time, Sirisena was hailed internationally for the sweeping reforms.

However, in October, he sacked Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and tried to bring his former nemesis Rajapakse back to power. The Supreme Court held his actions were illegal and restored the status quo. Sirisena's attempts to extend his presidential term by a further year was

also shot down by the top court. The president does not have the two-thirds parliamentary majority in

the current parliament that he needs to change the constitution.

The independent elections commission is due to conduct the next presidential poll between November 9 and December 9.

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট-২ (সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং সেকশন) প্রধান কার্যালয়

ওয়েবসাইটঃ www.bangladeshbank.org.bd or www.bb.org.bd

পুনঃ নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিলাম দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং সিএসডি-২(সিইএস)ঃ ০২/০২/০৩/২০১৯-৫১ তারিখঃ ১৭/০৬/২০১৯ মতিঝিলস্থ বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারী নিবাসে বিদ্যমান চারতলা বিশিষ্ট তিনটি ভবনের (ভবন নং খ-৪, গ-৫ ও গ-৮) পুরাতন ইট, রড, দরজা, জানালা, গ্রীল, স্যানিটারী ও বৈদ্যুতিক মালামাল (যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে) নিলামের মাধ্যমে বিক্রয় করার নিমিত্তে আগ্রহী দরদাতা/ক্রেতাগণের নিকট হতে অনলাইনে (e-Tender) দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছেঃ (১) আগ্রহী প্রদিষ্ঠান/দরদাতাকে উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ১০% (দশ শতাংশ) হারে জামানতের টাকা বাংলাদেশে অবস্থিত

যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক হতে মহাব্যবস্থাপক (প্রকৌশল), কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট-২, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা এর অনুকূলে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার দরপত্রের সাথে এবং স্ক্যানকপি অনলাইনে (e-Tender) দাখিল করতে হবে। জামানতবিহীন দরপত্র বাতিল হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে। (২) দরদাতাগণের বিগত ০৫ (পাঁচ) বছরের মধ্যে কোন সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়ত্তশাসিত/ ডেভেলপার/

ব্যক্তিগত মালিকের অধীনে ভবন ভাঙ্গা এবং রাবিশসহ যাবতীয় মালামাল সন্তোষজনকভাবে অপসারণের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। (৩) দরদাতাগণের হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট, হালনাগাদ আয়কর পরিশোধ সনদপত্র ও অভিজ্ঞতার প্রমাণপত্র থাকতে হবে এবং দরপত্রের সাথে ঐ সকল কাগজপত্রের সত্যায়নসহ স্ক্যানকপি

অনলাইনে (e-Tender) দাখিল করতে হবে। (৪) দরদাতাগণকে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের ওয়েবসাইট www.bangladeshbank.org.bd, www.bb.org.bd (e-Tender)-এর মাধ্যমে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে এবং অনলাইনে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য তাদের বৈধ ই-মেইল

ঠিকানা থাকতে হবে। (৫) দরপত্র জামানতের মূল ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার ও দরপত্র দাখিলপত্র (প্রতিষ্ঠান/ব্যক্তির প্যাডে) ০৩/০৭/২০১৯ তারিখ বেলা ২:৩০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট-২ (৩০ তলা ভবনের ৭ম তলায়), বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা-তে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাক্সে জমা দিতে হবে। তবে দরদাতাগণ উক্ত সময়ের পূর্বে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে যে কোন দিন যাচিত জামানতের টাকাসহ দলিলাদি কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট-২ (৩০ তলা ভবনের ৭ম তলায়), বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা বরাবরে ডাক্যোগের/কুরিয়ার সার্ভিসের

কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে দরপত্রসমূহ খোলা হবে। (৬) এ্যাওয়ার্ড অব কন্ট্রাক্ট দেয়ার পর হতে ০৪ (চার) মাসের মধ্যে ভবন ৩টি ভেঙ্গে অপসারণ কাজ সম্ভোষজনকভাবে সম্পন্ন করতে হবে।

মাধ্যমে/ব্যক্তিগতভাবে জমা দিতে পারবেন। ০৩/০৭/২০১৯ তারিখ বেলা ৩.০০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্রদাতাদের (যদি

(৭) কৃতকার্য দরদাতাকে উদ্ধৃত মোট দরের উপর সরকারি নিয়মানুযায়ী ভ্যাট ও ট্যাক্স পরিশোধ করতে হবে। (৮) নিলামে অংশগ্রহণকারী ইচ্ছুক ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান নিলাম এর মাধ্যমে অপসারণকৃতব্য ভবনসমূহ দেখতে চাইলে অফিস কর্মদিবসে সকাল ১০.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ৬.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট-২ এর সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং সেকশনের সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রকৌশলীগণের সহযোগিতা নেয়া যেতে পারে

(৯) সব ধরণের নিরাপত্তামূলক ব্যবস্থাদি গ্রহণপূর্বক ভবন ভাঙ্গার কাজ সমাপ্ত করতে হবে; অনাকাংখিত যেকোন দূর্ঘটনার দায়দায়িত্ব নিলামপ্রাপ্ত ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বহন করতে হবে। বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক এ ব্যাপারে কোন দায় বহন করবে না। কাজ চলাকালীন সময়ে ব্যাংক সম্পদ ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত (Mending goods the damages) হলে নিলামকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে নিজ দায়িত্বে তা মেরামত করে দিতে হবে।

(১০) কার্য সমাপনান্তে সাইট ড্রেসিং লেভেলিং সহ সন্তোষজনকভাবে পরিস্কার করতে হবে। ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র সম্পূর্ণ বা আংশিক গ্রহণ অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।



(L-R) Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, Myanmar's State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi, Philippines' President Rodrigo Duterte, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Thailand's Prime Minister Prayut Chan-O-Cha, Vietnam's Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen, Indonesia's President Joko Widodo and Laos Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith join hands to pose for photos during the opening ceremony of the 34th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) summit in Bangkok, yesterday.

Leaders vow co-op on security

changes and uncertainty that will

ASEAN SUMMIT

Asean nations agreed on a common

Emphasise economic strength in face of US-China tensions

REUTERS, Bangkok

Southeast Asian leaders yesterday agreed to work together on regional economy and security to strengthen their positions amid growing US-China tensions, as they wrapped up this year's first summit in Bangkok.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) will need its collective economic strength for bargaining power globally, especially amid the trade tensions between the world's top two economies, Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha told a news conference, as chairman of the 34th Asean Summit.

Prayuth urged Asean nations to complete negotiations this year trade partners. If we can do this, we Comprehensive

for the China-initiated Regional Economic Partnership (RCEP) pact that includes 16 countries.

approach on US-led Indo-Pacific initiative Thai PM makes no mentions of plight of Rohingyas and South

will have the bargaining power and base for negotiation. Because when combined, we are 650 million people, the largest regional bloc in the world,"

China Sea dispute

"This will help Asean handle the the Thai prime minister said. happen in the region going forward,

Asean countries also agreed on a common approach on a US-led Indo-Pacific initiative, at a time when USparticularly the impacts of trade China tensions were rising and forcing tension between Asean's important Asean countries to take sides.

Prayuth hailed the bloc's agreement on the Asean Outlook on the Indo-Pacific as a "significant step" for the region. The endorsed outlook document,

by Reuters, acknowledges "maritime issues such as unresolved maritime disputes that have the potential for open conflict" as existing and emerging geopolitical challenges. It outlines maritime cooperation

It also aims for connectivity in the Indo-Pacific region. Prayuth's speech made no mentions of major issues such as the plight of Myanmar's fleeing Rohingyas and the

South China Sea dispute.

"for peaceful settlement of disputes".

ডিসিপিঃ ৪৮/২০১৯-২১৪৯ তারিখঃ ২৩-০৬-২০১৯ জিডি-১১৩৬

মোঃ তফাজ্জল হোসেন মহাব্যবস্থাপক (প্রকৌশল) কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট-২

ফোনঃ ৮৮-০২-৯৫৩০০৯৯