

NEWS IN
briefTrump to meet Xi,
Putin, Modi at G20

AFP, Washington

President Donald Trump will meet an array of world leaders on the sidelines of this week's G20 summit in Japan, including China's Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin, a US official said Monday. Also on the list are Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

Heat kills 7 migrants
at US-Mexico border

REUTERS, Texas

Authorities in Texas reported seven migrant deaths on Monday, including those of a woman, two babies and a toddler, showing the danger of extreme summer heat as Central American families surge across the US-Mexico border. US Border Patrol reported 283 migrant fatalities on the border in 2018. Meanwhile, Mexico has deployed nearly 15,000 soldiers and National Guardsmen to its border with the United States.

Pompeo starts
India visit

REUTERS, New Delhi

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will tackle a host of delicate issues when he gets into New Delhi yesterday for talks with Indian leaders, from trade to India's long standing defence and energy ties to Russia and Iran. Relations between US and India have dramatically improved since the days of the Cold War but they have still fallen short of their promise and now have run into serious problems over tariffs in one of the world's fastest growing large markets.



People cool off in the Trocadero fountains across from the Eiffel Tower in Paris as a heatwave hit much of the country, France, June 25, 2019. A potentially dangerous heatwave set to shatter records spreads across Europe as temperatures are expected to climb above 40C in the hottest parts of France, Germany, Spain and Italy from today.

PHOTO: REUTERS

World faces 'climate apartheid'

UN Human Rights Council report says rich will save themselves while poor will suffer

REUTERS, Geneva

The world is on course for "climate apartheid", where the rich buy their way out of the worst effects of global warming while the poor bear the brunt, a UN human rights report said yesterday.

The report, submitted to the UN Human Rights Council by its special rapporteur on extreme poverty, Philip Alston, said business was supposed to play a vital role in coping with climate change, but could not be relied on to look after the poor.

An over-reliance on the private sector could lead to a climate apartheid scenario in which the wealthy pay to escape overheating, hunger, and conflict, while the rest of the world is left to suffer," he wrote.

He cited vulnerable New Yorkers being stranded without power or healthcare when Hurricane Sandy hit in 2012, while "the Goldman Sachs headquarters was protected by tens of thousands of its own sandbags and power from its generator".

Relying exclusively on the private sector to protect against extreme weather and rising seas "would almost guarantee massive human rights

violations, with the wealthy catered to and the poorest left behind", he wrote.

"Even under the best-case scenario, hundreds of millions will face food insecurity, forced migration, disease, and death."

His report criticised governments for doing little more than sending officials to conferences



Philip Alston

"Even under the best-case scenario, hundreds of millions will face food insecurity, forced migration, disease, and death."

to make "sombre speeches", even though scientists and climate activists have been ringing alarm bells since the 1970s.

"Thirty years of conventions appear to have done very little. From Toronto to Noordwijk to Rio to Kyoto to Paris, the language has been remarkably similar as States continue to kick the

can down the road," Alston wrote.

"States have marched past every scientific warning and threshold, and what was once considered catastrophic warming now seems like a best-case scenario."

There had been some positive developments, with renewable energy prices falling, coal becoming uncompetitive, emissions declining in 49 countries, and 7,000 cities, 245 regions, and 6,000 companies committing to climate mitigation.

However, despite ending its reliance on coal, China was still exporting coal-fired power plants and failing to crack down on its own methane emissions; and Brazil's Jair Bolsonaro planned to open up the Amazon rainforest for mining, end demarcation of indigenous lands, and weaken environmental protection.

"In the United States, until recently the world's biggest producer of global emissions, President (Donald) Trump has placed former lobbyists in oversight roles, adopted industry talking points, presided over an aggressive rollback of environmental regulations, and is actively silencing and obfuscating climate science," Alston wrote.

Trump threatens 'obliteration'

Warns Iran against 'any attack' after US imposes new sanctions

REUTERS, Washington, Dubai

US President Donald Trump yesterday threatened to obliterate parts of Iran if it attacked "anything American" after Tehran said the latest US sanctions had scuttled any chance of diplomacy, calling White House actions "mentally retarded".

Trump on Monday signed an executive order imposing sanctions against Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and other senior figures, with punitive measures against Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif expected later this week.

The moves came after Iran shot down a US drone on June 20 and Trump called off a retaliatory air strike minutes before impact, saying too many people would have been killed. It would have been the first time the United States had bombed the Islamic Republic in four decades of mutual hostility.

Yesterday, however, Trump tweeted: "Any attack by Iran on anything American will be met with great and overwhelming force. In some areas, overwhelming will mean obliteration."

Shortly before, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said imposing "useless sanctions" on Khamenei and Zarif would mark "the permanent closure of the path of diplomacy ...".



Rouhani says White House is 'mentally retarded'

Iran to further reduce commitment to nuclear deal

In a televised address yesterday, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani slammed "mentally retarded" White House actions.

"Tehran's strategic patience does not mean we have fear," said Rouhani.

The United States has imposed crippling financial sanctions against Iran since last year when Trump withdrew from a 2015 deal between Tehran and world powers under which it curbed its nuclear programme and won a removal of sanctions in return.

The crisis has escalated sharply since last month when the Trump administration tightened its sanctions noose, ordering all countries to halt purchases of Iranian oil.

Tehran has given European signatories until July 8 to find a way to shield its economy from US sanctions, or else it will enrich uranium to higher levels banned under the deal to help ensure no development of a nuclear weapon results.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian yesterday warned Iran that violating the accord would be a serious mistake and that France, Britain and Germany were making it clear to Tehran that it was not in its interest to do so.



She's not my type: Trump

US President Donald Trump on Monday once again vigorously denied allegations by a magazine advice columnist that he sexually assaulted her in the 1990s in a New York department store dressing room, adding: "She's not my type." Trump made the comment in an interview with The Hill, a political news outlet, that touched on the allegations from E Jean Carroll, who says in her new book that the alleged rape occurred in the mid-1990s. "I'll say it with great respect: Number one, she's not my type. Number two, it never happened. It never happened, OK?" Trump said.

Russia must destroy missile: Nato
Nato yesterday urged Russia to destroy its 9M729/SSC-8 nuclear-capable cruise missile system before an August deadline and save a treaty that keeps land-based nuclear warheads out of Europe or face a more determined alliance response in the region. Nato defence ministers will discuss today their next steps if Moscow keeps the missile system that the US says would allow short-notice nuclear attacks on Europe and break the 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF).

J&K newspaper publisher arrested

Police arrested the publisher of one of the most widely read newspapers in Indian-controlled Kashmir in a midnight raid over a decades-old case, the police and his brother said yesterday, highlighting the difficulties facing media in the region. Ghulam Jelani Qadri, 62, a journalist and the publisher of the Urdu-language newspaper Daily Afaaq, was arrested at his home in Srinagar. The case dates from 1990, when Qadri was one of nine journalists to publish a statement by a militant group fighting against Indian rule in Kashmir. Qadri was released on bail after a court appearance yesterday.

New White House press secretary

President Donald Trump yesterday named Stephanie Grisham -- until now the spokeswoman for his wife Melania -- as chief White House press secretary. The appointment, announced by Melania Trump on Twitter, replaces the outgoing Sarah Sanders, who has been sharply criticized for rarely briefing journalists who cover the White House. Grisham will also hold the more strategic post of communications director, the first lady tweeted.



SOURCE: REUTERS, AFP

US launches economic formula for ME peace

Palestinians unhappy as plan avoids political solution

REUTERS, Manama

The Trump administration launched a \$50 billion economic formula for Israeli-Palestinian peace yesterday, saying an investment-driven pathway forward for the Palestinians was a necessary precondition for ending the decades-old conflict.

Opening a two-day international meeting in the Gulf kingdom of Bahrain, US President Donald Trump's son-in-law and senior advisor Jared Kushner said prosperity for Palestinians was not possible without a fair political solution to the conflict.

But he added that by working to develop the Palestinian economy, the result could be "a real peace that leads to prosperity".

"We see tremendous potential," he said. "What we have developed, is the most comprehensive economic plan ever created specifically for the Palestinians, and the broader Middle East."

The meeting has been billed as the first part of Washington's broader political blueprint to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. But the project's political details remain a secret. Neither the Israeli

nor Palestinian governments are attending the curtain-raising event in Manama, which Lebanon and Iraq are staying away from.

"Money is important. The economy is important. But politics are more important. The political solution is more important," said Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Kushner appeared to acknowledge such views, suggesting the politics of the conflict needed more time to address.

Saudi Arabia supported the economic plan. But Riyadh reiterated that any peace deal should be based on the Saudi-led Arab peace initiative that has been the Arab consensus on the necessary elements for a deal since 2002.

That plan calls for a Palestinian state drawn along borders which predate Israel's capture of territory in the 1967 Middle East war, as well as a capital in East Jerusalem and refugees' right of return - points rejected by Israel. The UN and most nations back the two-state solution and it has underpinned every peace plan for decades.



Mamata trying to create West Bangladesh: BJP

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Bharatiya Janata Party's newly-elected Lok Sabha lawmaker from West Bengal Dilip Ghosh yesterday alleged that the Mamata Banerjee government of trying to create "West Bangladesh" by allowing infiltrators from Bangladesh to settle in the state.

"The (West Bengal) chief minister is very interested in becoming Prime Minister..

She is trying to combine Bengal and Bangladesh and create West Bangladesh. There is a conspiracy going on to separate Bengal from India," Ghosh claimed.

The first-time BJP MP said "Jai Bangla is a slogan imported from Bangladesh whereas Jai Shri Ram is our own slogan."

The BJP won 18 out of the total

42 parliamentary seats in recent

parliamentary elections in West Bengal.

"West Bengal is the only state which

witnessed violence during the general

elections. They are saying that you have

to learn Bengali to go to West Bengal. This is the 'Sonar Bangla' we are now

witnessing," Ghosh said.

KILLING OF MUSLIM MAN IN INDIA

Cops arrest 11

AFP, New Delhi

Indian police yesterday arrested 11 people over the killing of a Muslim man who was tortured and forced to chant Hindu slogans in the latest mob violence to shock the nation.

Two police officers have also been suspended over the handling of the lynching of Tabrez Ansari, captured on a video that went viral on Indian social media.

The 24-year-old is seen in the video crying and pleading as a mob in Jharkhand state forces him to chant "Jai Sri Ram" -- hail Lord Ram -- a slogan widely used by Hindu hardliners.

Ansari had been accused by villagers of carrying out a burglary. He was tied to a pole and beaten for up to 12 hours before police first detained him in Seraikela, and then took him to hospital -- where he died Saturday.

"We have arrested 11 people. Two police have also been suspended because they failed to inform seniors about the case and tried to manage it at their level," Seraikela police chief Karthik S told AFP.

Media reports said Ansari's wife has accused police of deliberately taking him to jail first -- instead of a hospital -- despite the critical injuries he suffered.

News of the death emerged as the Indian government rejected a US State Department report that said religious violence against minorities has spiked under the right-wing Hindu Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The US religious freedom report said there had been growing numbers of attacks by groups claiming to protect cows -- considered sacred by Hindus.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়
কুড়িগ্রাম

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-১০২/২০১৯-২০ত্রি

তারিখ: ২৪-০৬-২০১৯

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