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Water crisis risks India's growth

21 major cities to run out of groundwater by 2020

AGENCIES

The world's second-most populous country is running out of water.

About 100 million people across India are on the front lines of a nationwide water crisis. A total of 21 major cities are poised to run out of groundwater next year, according to a 2018 report by government-run think tank NITI Aayog.

Much-needed monsoon rains have only just arrived in some places, running weeks late, amid a heatwave that has killed at least 137 people this summer.

Groundwater, which has been steadily depleting for years, makes up 40% of the country's water supply. But other sources are also running dry -- almost two-thirds of India's reservoirs are running below normal water levels, the country's Central Water Commission said in June.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently created the Ministry of Jal Shakti (water power) to oversee water resource management, and reiterated his election campaign promise to provide piped water to every rural home by 2024.

But many fear it won't be enough. According to a UN human rights report, the world is fast approaching a "climate apartheid" where only the wealthy can afford basic resources in the face of fatal droughts, famine and heatwaves.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 2



Villagers block the Dhaka-Mawa highway in Keraniganj's Rajendrapur area yesterday demanding withdrawal of a Highway Police unit from there. They complained that policemen obstruct movement of three-wheelers on the highway, causing difficulties for them to travel short distances. Hundreds of vehicles were stranded on the highway during the hour-long protest from 11:00am. Inset, protesters attacking a policeman.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

41 hurt as BCL factions clash in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

At least 41 students of Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University in Dinajpur were injured in a clash between two groups of Bangladesh Chhatra League on Thursday.

The clash broke out around 11:30pm as a former member of the university's BCL unit, along with 20 to 25 of his men, tried to occupy eight seats in Sheikh Russell dormitory, witnesses alleged seeking anonymity.

The injured students were sent to M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital. According to the register book of the hospital's emergency ward, 41 students went there and received treatment after the clash.

Of them, two students -- Mamunur Rashid, of food engineering department, and Rabbi Sheikh, of fisheries department -- have been admitted to the hospital with critical injuries.

Contacted, Khalid

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1

5 killed in lightning strikes in Satkhira

STAR REPORT

Five people, including three of a family, were killed in lightning strikes in Satkhira yesterday.

Almost all parts of the country experienced moderate to heavy rainfall.

The Met office said the active monsoon caused downpours in several parts of the country, including the capital, and it would be raining in different places today.

It forecasts that some regions, including Mymensingh, Rangpur and Sylhet, would be experiencing downpours while Dhaka, Khulna, Barishal, Rajshahi and Chattogram divisions would have a moderately heavy rainfall.

The country's highest rainfall was recorded at 72mm in Sylhet in the last 24 hours as of 9:00am

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Trump, Xi urged to reach a trade deal

World leaders urge them in the opening of two-day G20 meeting, warn of risk setting the global economy on a downward trend

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping have been urged to reach a trade deal or risk setting the global economy on a downward path as world leaders gathered in Japan for the G20 summit.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European President Jean-Claude Juncker piled pressure on the two superpowers yesterday to settle their differences when they meet on the sidelines of the Osaka summit today.

Many other leaders of the world's top 20 economies also voiced concern over trade tensions and the risk they pose to global growth, but were at loggerheads on key issues such as World Trade Organization (WTO) reform, Japanese and Russian delegates said.

Host Shinzo Abe, the Japanese prime minister, appealed for unity among the bickering world leaders.

"A free and open economy is the basis

for peace and prosperity," Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told his counterparts in the opening of the two-day meeting.

Trump has adopted a belligerent position ahead of the meeting, saying that China was desperate to reach a deal because its economy was "going down the tubes".

Xi hit back yesterday by saying that some developed countries were taking protectionist measures that are leading to trade conflicts and economic blockade - calling them the biggest risk of the increase in instability in the global economy.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she hoped the US and China would make some progress towards defusing their trade dispute at the meeting.

PUTIN SUPPORTS XI
Putin echoed Xi's concerns at the same meeting, saying in a thinly veiled attack on the US that attempts to weaken the role of the World Trade Organisation - as Trump has suggested he wants to do - were "counter-productive".

The current situation in the global

SEE PAGE 9 COL 2

Sexual assault accused stabs police officer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

A man accused of sexually assaulting his neighbour stabbed a police inspector in Pirojpur yesterday.

Haider Howlader, 33, attacked Rafiqul Islam, assistant sub-inspector at Kawkhali Police Station, in Joykul village of Kawkhali upazila, said Kawkhali police OC Kamruzzaman Talukder.

"Around 11:00am, the ASI, along with a constable, reached Haider's house to investigate a complaint of sexual assault. A woman of the same neighbourhood had filed the complaint. As soon as Rafiqul entered the house, Haider swooped on him with sharp weapons," he said.

The 35-year-old ASI was taken to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in Barishal with serious wounds on hands and head, said the OC.

Haider and his wife had been absconding since the incident, he added.

Lost ancient palace appears in reservoir

CNN ONLINE



A 3,400-year-old palace has emerged from a reservoir in the Kurdistan region of Iraq after water levels dropped due to drought.

The discovery of the ruins in the Mosul Dam reservoir on the banks of the Tigris river inspired a spontaneous archaeological dig that will improve understanding of the Mittani Empire, one of the least-researched empires of the Ancient Near East, the Kurdish-German team of researchers said in a press release.

"The find is one of the most important archaeological discoveries in the region in recent decades," said Kurdish archaeologist Hasan Ahmed Qasim.

The palace would have originally stood just 65 feet from the river on an elevated terrace. A terrace wall of mud bricks was later added to stabilise the building, adding to the imposing architecture.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1

9th grader raped in Jashore

STAR REPORT

A ninth grader girl was allegedly raped by a 40-year-old man in Jashore's Keshabpur upazila on Thursday evening.

Accused Billal Sardar is a father of three and currently on the run, said Sahjahan Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Keshabpur Police Station.

Talking to The Daily Star, victim's uncle said Billal entered the girl's house in the evening when no one else was there and raped her.

A case was filed in connection with the

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING JUNE 29

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-54 8-17
JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-57 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

সন্ত্রাসবাদকে 'না' বলুন

প্রকৃত ধর্ম প্রচারক ও উগ্রবাদী রিক্রুটার এর মধ্যে পার্থক্য

প্রকৃত ধর্ম প্রচারক	উগ্রবাদী রিক্রুটার
১. ধর্ম প্রচারের সকল কার্যক্রম প্রকাশ্যে করে।	১. ঘাপটি মেয়ে থাকে ও গোপনে প্রচারণা চালায়।
২. ব্যক্তির অসহায়ত্ব ও দুর্বলতা লক্ষ্য করে ধর্মের শিক্ষা দেয়।	২. ব্যক্তির অসহায়ত্ব ও দুর্বলতার সুযোগে তার প্রতি অতি-সহমর্মিতা প্রকাশ করে নিজ উদ্দেশ্যে বাস্তবায়ন করে।
৩. ধর্মের মৌলিক ও প্রাথমিক শিক্ষাগুলোর উপর গুরুত্ব আরোপ করে।	৩. ধর্মের রাজনৈতিক ব্যবহারের উপর গুরুত্ব আরোপ করে।
৪. ধর্ম চর্চায় উত্থুক করে সুসাপরিক হওয়ার উপদেশ দেয়।	৪. শটকাট উপায়ে পারলৌকিক প্রাপ্তির লোভ দেখায়।
৫. ধর্মের প্রকৃত ব্যাখ্যা সম্বলিত বই, অডিও-ভিডিও বা আদর্শ মানুষের সন্ধান দেয়।	৫. উগ্রবাদে জড়িত ব্যক্তি বা গোষ্ঠীর অডিও-ভিডিও বা বই এর সন্ধান দেয়। সাধারণত এগুলোর সফট কপি বা লিখে শেয়ার করে।
৬. দেশীয় বা বৈশ্বিক সন্ত্রাসী গোষ্ঠি এবং তাদের কর্মকাণ্ডকে ধর্ম বিরোধী বলে এগুলো থেকে দূরে থাকার উপদেশ দেয়।	৬. সন্ত্রাসী কর্মকাণ্ডকে অবশ্য কর্তব্য বলে প্রচার করে এবং তাদের অনুসরণ ও সমমনা দলে যোগ দিতে উৎসাহ প্রদান করে।

বিঃ দ্রঃ উগ্রবাদের কোন একক কিংবা সুনির্দিষ্ট লক্ষণ নেই। উল্লেখিত লক্ষণ সমূহের কেবল একটি বা দুটি লক্ষণ বিদ্যমান থাকলেই তা উগ্রবাদের সুনির্দিষ্ট প্রমাণ বহন করে না। তবে কারো মধ্যে বেশিরভাগ লক্ষণ বিদ্যমান থাকলে তিনি উগ্রবাদী বিশ্বাস দ্বারা প্রভাবিত বলে ধারণা করা যায়।

উগ্রবাদে জড়িত হওয়ার নির্দেশকসমূহ (Indicators)

সহিংস উগ্রবাদে জড়িত হওয়ার নির্দেশকসমূহ (Indicators)

কাউন্টার টেরোরিজম এন্ড ট্রান্সন্যাশনাল ক্রাইম ইউনিট, ডিএমপি

অর্থায়নে : বাংলাদেশ পুলিশের সন্ত্রাস দমন ও আন্তর্জাতিক অপরাধ প্রতিরোধ কেন্দ্র নির্মাণ প্রকল্প