

12 drown in India in religious ceremony

AFP, New Delhi

Twelve people drowned in a lake in central India yesterday morning when their boats capsized during a religious ceremony, authorities said. The boats carrying 20-25 people tipped over in the early hours in Bhopal as they were about to immerse an idol of the Hindu elephant god Ganesha. "Twelve bodies have been retrieved so far and (the) search is on for one more person," the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) said in a statement.

Philippine capital jolted by quake

AFP, Manila

An earthquake that struck east of the Philippine capital Manila yesterday set buildings swaying and sent scores into the streets, but authorities said they did not expect any damage. The 5.2-magnitude jolt hit offshore near sparsely populated Polillo Island, about 130 kilometres (80 miles) from Manila, according to the US Geological Survey. Buildings in the capital were briefly evacuated as several smaller aftershocks rumbled through the ground.

Pope to visit Thailand, Japan in November

AFP, Bangkok

Pope Francis will travel to Thailand in November, the Vatican said yesterday, in a visit to Asia that will sweep in the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki which were both decimated by atomic bombs in 1945. It has been nearly four decades since a pontiff visited Thailand and Japan, both Buddhist-majority countries. The late Pope John Paul II went to Japan in 1981, and he travelled to Thailand three years later.



Kashmiris take cover behind tin sheets during clashes with Indian security forces after Friday prayers following scrapping of the special constitutional status for Kashmir by the Indian government, in Srinagar, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

HK chief to focus on job, housing to woo protesters

Event cancellations mount amid protests

AGENCIES

Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters took to the hills to form flashlight-carrying human chains yesterday, using the Mid-Autumn Festival as a backdrop for the latest in more than three months of demonstrations that have sometimes flared into violence.

The peaceful protests, on a day when families traditionally gather to gaze at the moon and eat mooncakes while children swing colourful lanterns from the end of sticks, came after Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam promised to focus on housing and jobs to try to end the unrest.

Lam, who said she caused "unforgivable havoc" by igniting the crisis and would quit if she had the choice, said in a Facebook post her government would increase the supply of housing in the Chinese-ruled city. "Housing and people's livelihoods are the main priorities," Lam said. "The

government will add to housing supply measures which will be continuously put in place and not missed."

As darkness fell last night, protesters armed with flashlights, mobile phones and flashing lanterns, gathered at Victoria Peak, overlooking the city's harbour, and Lion Rock, separating the New Territories from the Kowloon peninsula.

They were also climbing to the top of Tai Tung Shan on the offshore island of Lantau, reported Reuters.

Meanwhile, one of Hong Kong's most prestigious sporting tournaments yesterday became the latest victim of the huge protests, reported AFP.

Organisers of the WTA Hong Kong Open women's tennis tournament said they were postponing next month's competition because of the "present situation" after months of sometimes violent pro-democracy protests.



India's crackdown will spur global extremism: Pak PM

REUTERS, DAWN ONLINE

India's crackdown on protests and dissent in Kashmir will drive more of the world's Muslims into extremism, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan said during a fiery speech yesterday, in the part of the disputed territory administered by Pakistan.

India revoked the special status of its portion of Kashmir, known as Jammu and Kashmir, on August 5 and moved to quell unrest by clamping down on communications and freedom of movement. Authorities in Indian Kashmir have arrested nearly 4,000 people since then, government data seen by Reuters showed.

"When atrocities get to their peak, people would prefer that death is better than this insulting life," Khan said at a rally of several thousand people in Muzaffarabad, the capital of Azad Kashmir.

"I want to tell India that, by detaining thousands of people, you are pushing

people into extremism," he said.

"People will rise against India, and it is not just about Indian Muslims, there are 1.25 billion Muslims around the world. They all are watching this."

Khan said he would attend the United Nations General Assembly



in New York next week to defend Kashmiris' cause.

He urged people in Azad Kashmir not to approach the Line of Control that separates it from Indian-controlled Kashmir, but to wait for him to press their case in New York.

Addressing Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said: "Only a coward man can commit such cruelty against human beings; today 900,000 Indian soldiers are committing atrocities against the people of occupied Kashmir. A brave man can never do this. No matter how much injustice you commit, you will never succeed."

"Because the people of Kashmir, be it women, children or the elderly, are not scared of death anymore."

On Tuesday, Pakistan's foreign minister told the United Nations human rights forum that India's military presence in Kashmir raised the spectre of genocide.

The Delhi government has said its abolition of Kashmir's special status, which had allowed it to write many of its own laws, is meant to help to combat terrorism and to boost the region's economic development.

About two-thirds of the population of Jammu and Kashmir is Muslim, while India has an overall Hindu majority.

Book The Daily Star state-of-the-art CONFERENCE HALLS with modern amenities

Avail the unique facilities at The Daily Star Centre to host your:

- Board Meetings
- Seminars
- Discussions
- Roundtables
- Press Conferences
- Launching Ceremonies
- Training Programmes

AZIMUR RAHMAN CONFERENCE HALL:

TK 25,000/- for half day; Plus TK 5,000/- service charge [Approximate seating capacity: 70]

A S MAHMUD SEMINAR HALL:

TK 25,000/- for half day; Plus TK 5,000/- service charge [Approximate seating capacity: 120]

TAWFIQ AZIZ KHAN SEMINAR HALL:

TK 18,000/- for half day; Plus TK 3,000/- service charge [Approximate seating capacity: 60]

PLUS: 15% VAT & other charges, where applicable, will be added

Facilities include:

- 4 high speed elevators.
- Automatic backup generators.
- Centrally air conditioned.
- PA System (including recording).
- Multimedia projector.
- 3 basement car parking facilities accommodating approximately 60 cars.
- Lunch and snacks catering service from our own cafeteria.
- Separate washrooms for gents, ladies and physically challenged.

For details please contact:

Our Hotline No: 01707372233

The Daily Star

64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215.

Phone: 9144330 (Hunting), between 11am-5pm (except Friday)



TACKLING AIR POLLUTION New Delhi to slash use of cars in Nov

AFP, New Delhi

A plan to combat air pollution in New Delhi was announced yesterday, as the Indian capital looks to lighten the toxic smog blanket that chokes the city, especially in winter.

An alternating ban on cars with odd and even number plates, free pollution masks and a dedicated government "war room" to handle complaints about dirty air are among the measures to be implemented this year.

Delhi is one of the world's most polluted cities and each winter, seasonal crop stubble burning, dense cloud cover and smoke from millions of Diwali firecrackers turn its skies a putrid yellow.

So far, government-led efforts have failed to tackle the country's air quality problem, which a 2017 US study found kills one million people prematurely in India every year.

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said yesterday that the road-rationing scheme would be in place between November 4-15, meaning cars with odd and even plates would be allowed on alternate days in that period.

It is not the first time the scheme has been tried in the capital -- it was put into action twice in 2016, only for a few days each time.

However, a 2018 study by Indian government scientists found that the odd-even rule did not succeed in reducing emissions, and may even have increased them due to disruption to normal traffic patterns.

Kejriwal said face masks that filter lung-damaging pollution particles would be made available to city residents for free.

The government also intends to use water sprinklers to control dust levels, he said.

NZ tightens gun laws again after mosque massacre

New bill aims to maintain registry of arms owners

AFP, Wellington

New Zealand yesterday unveiled new legislation aimed at ensuring only "fit and proper" people can own guns in the wake of the Christchurch mosque attacks that killed 51 Muslim worshippers.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern had immediately banned military style semi-automatic rifles after the shootings in March but said further restrictions were needed to target the black market.

"Owning a firearm is a privilege not a right," she told reporters in Christchurch yesterday.

"That means we need to do all we can to ensure that only honest, law-abiding citizens are able to obtain firearms licences and use firearms."

Under the new legislation, a registry will be set up that is designed to track ownership of every legally owned firearm in the country.

The measure also increases the jail term for supplying firearms to an unlicensed person from three months to two years, as

well as tightening gun importation and sales.

Police will determine if someone is "fit and proper" to hold a licence, with power to exclude anyone promoting extremism, convicted of violent crime or with mental health issues, including attempted suicide.

The register, expected to take five years to complete, will contain details of the estimated 1.2 million firearms in New Zealand, for a population of around five million.

Police Minister Stuart Nash said the existing gun legislation was introduced in 1983 and needed updating.

The alleged Christchurch gunman Brenton Tarrant legally obtained an arsenal of rifles before embarking on the worst mass shooting in New Zealand's modern history.

The self-avowed white supremacist is accused of opening fire at two mosques while livestreaming his actions on social media.

He has pleaded not guilty to 51 counts of murder, 40 of attempted murder and engaging in a terrorist act.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh				
Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Upazila Engineer Barishal Sadar, Barishal www.lged.gov.bd			উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র	
Memo No. 46.02.0694.0000.18.24.19-565			Date: 12/9/19	
Invitation for Tender				
Tender Notice No. 01/2019-20				
Sealed tenders are hereby invited as per Public Procurement Regulations 2008 from eligible contractor as defined in the tender documents for following package of as per terms and conditions stated below:				
Package No.	Name of works	Tender security (Tk)	Price of tender document (Tk)	Time for competition (days)
INF-2017-18-100651-01	Supply of Projector & Screen: (1) Charkawa Nayani High School, (2) Shaluka High School, (3) Churamon Alhaj Adam Ali Dakhlil Madrasa, (4) Dhopekathi High School, (5) Durgapur High School, (6) Alhaj Abdul Majid Khan High School, (7) Sholha High School, (8) Chamonali Union High School, (9) Tofail Ahmed High School & (10) Bukhainagor Dingamanik Dakhlil Madrasa, (Re-Tender)	35,000.00	750.00	60 days
1.	Name of Ministry	Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Cooperative (Local Government Division).		
02.	Procuring entity	Upazila Engineer, LGED, Barishal Sadar, Barishal.		
03.	Invitation for	Goods.		
04.	Invitation Ref. No. and date	46.600.002.00.00.035.2019-1581 Date: 25.04.2019		
05.	Procurement method	National Open Tendering Method (NOTM).		
06.	Name of project	Upazila Governance and Development Project (UGDP).		
07.	Source of fund	GOB.		
08.	Date, time and place of pre-tender meeting	22.09.2019; 11.00am; Office of the undersigned.		
09.	Last date, time, places of selling tender documents	29.09.2019; 5:00pm. a) The Executive Engineer, LGED, Barishal. b) The Upazila Engineer, LGED, Barishal Sadar, Barishal. c) Office of the undersigned.		
10.	Last date, time, places of receiving tender	30.09.2019; 01:00pm; Office of the undersigned.		
11.	Last date, time, places of opening tender	30.09.2019; 01:00pm; Office of the undersigned.		
12.	Tender shall be valid for a period of 60 days after tender opening and must be accompanied by the tender security specified above. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. Interested tenderers may obtain further information from the undersigned and purchase the tender documents in Cash/Treasury Chalan/Bank Draft from the places mentioned above. The tenderer or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend the opening of tenders. Tender security must be submitted in favour of Upazila Engineer, LGED, Barishal Sadar, Barishal.			
13.	The tender submitted quoted price by the tenderers more than 10% (ten percent) above or less of the official estimated cost shall be directly rejected.			
Md. Waliul Islam Upazila Engineer Barishal Sadar, Barishal E-mail: ue.barishal-s@lged.gov.bd Phone: 043121-75573 Office				
GD-1499				