

30 Afghans died in May US strikes: UN

US military disputes the findings

At least 30 civilians were killed when the US bombed several drug-making facilities in western Afghanistan in May, a UN agency said in a report yesterday, though the US military immediately disputed the findings.

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) conducted an investigation over four months looking into what happened May 5 when the US military bombed dozens of sites it had identified as Taliban methamphetamine labs.

Soon after the strikes in Bakwa district of Farah province, and parts of the bordering Delaram district in Nimroz province, UNAMA said it began to receive reports of "significant civilian harm".

After a fact-finding mission to some of the impact sites and face-to-face interviews with 21 people impacted by the strikes, UNAMA said it had "verified 39 civilian casualties (30 deaths, five injured and four undetermined), including 14 children and one woman, due to the 5 May air strikes".

The agency went on to say that it had also received "credible information" about an additional 30 deaths -- mostly women and children -- and was working to further verify these claims.

US Forces-Afghanistan (USFOR-A) blasted the UNAMA findings, questioned the agency's methodology and insisted its "precision" strikes had accurately targeted meth labs.

"In addition to imagery collection during the precision strikes, USFOR-A conducted exhaustive assessments of the facilities and surrounding areas after the strikes," the command said in a statement.



A local resident is seen near a bushfire burning next to Busbys Flat Road in Busbys Flat, northern NSW, Australia, yesterday. More than 20 homes have been destroyed by spring fires in Australia, officials said, straining communities already suffering under the region's worst drought conditions in living memory.

PHOTO: REUTERS

NEWS IN brief

US detained nearly 1m migrants in 12 months

US border agents arrested or stopped nearly one million undocumented migrants at the southern border with Mexico in the last 12 months, the most in more than a decade, a top official said Tuesday. The surge came amid President Donald Trump's tough efforts to halt illegal immigration, which began to show results only in the last three months, when border arrests plummeted. The surge came mainly from Central American migrants fleeing poverty and violence, crossing in large groups and family units into the US from Mexico and turning themselves in to ask for asylum.

Kremlin critic's group declared 'foreign agent'

AFP, Moscow

Russian authorities yesterday declared the organisation run by opposition leader Alexei Navalny a "foreign agent", the justice ministry said on its website. Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation, which often publishes investigations into state officials, will now be subject to increased oversight and will have to present itself as a "foreign agent" on official documents. Russia started a controversial list of foreign agent organisations, which in Russian implies spying for a foreign government, in 2012. This has led to many of the groups closing down.

Ecuador protesters break into Congress

AFP, Quito

Ecuadoran protesters broke into the country's Congress building on Monday as demonstrations over a fuel hike introduced by President Lenin Moreno's government intensified. Demonstrators, many of them indigenous men armed with sticks and whips, surged through a security cordon. They rushed into the meeting room and occupied the podium, but were soon evicted by security forces. Moreno subsequently ordered an overnight curfew to protect public buildings.

Modi to host Xi tomorrow

Leaders aim to stabilise ties strained by Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh; Xi tells Imran he is watching J&K

REUTERS, New Delhi

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi will welcome Chinese President Xi Jinping at an informal summit this week, the Indian foreign ministry said yesterday, their talks coming at a time of strained ties over the disputed region of Kashmir.

The meeting in the southern Indian city of Chennai on October 11-12 is aimed at enhancing the rapport the leaders built when they met in the Chinese city of Wuhan last year to help stabilise ties after a standoff in another contested section of their long border in Arunachal Pradesh, far removed from Kashmir.

But India's decision in August to withdraw special status for Kashmir drew sharp condemnation from Pakistan and its old ally, China, which took the matter to the UN Security Council.

During a meeting with Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in Beijing yesterday, Xi said that he was watching the situation in Kashmir closely, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Xi said that the right and wrong of the situation was clear and India and Pakistan should resolve the dispute via peaceful dialogue, according to Xinhua.

India says its revocation of the special status of Muslim-

majority Kashmir, which was accompanied by a crackdown on dissent by the security forces, is an internal matter aimed at developing the Himalayan territory, which is also claimed by Pakistan, more quickly.

India will make clear that any change to its Jammu and Kashmir state is an internal affair if the Chinese side were to raise the matter in the forthcoming talks, a government source said.

China's close security ties with Pakistan have long been a matter of concern in New Delhi and in recent years India has drawn closer to the United States to help balance China's rising weight across the region.

"The forthcoming Chennai Informal Summit will provide an opportunity for the two leaders to continue their discussions on overarching issues of bilateral, regional and global importance and to exchange views on deepening India-China Closer Development Partnership," the Indian ministry said in a statement.

Srikanth Kondapalli, professor of Chinese studies at New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University, said it was important for the nuclear-armed neighbours to stabilise relations as both dealt with domestic and regional issues.



China destroys burial grounds of Uighur

AFP, Shayar

China is destroying burial grounds where generations of Uighur families have been laid to rest, leaving behind human bones and broken tombs in what activists call an effort to eradicate the ethnic group's identity in Xinjiang.

In just two years, dozens of cemeteries have been destroyed in the northwest region, according to an AFP investigation with satellite imagery analysts Earthrise Alliance.

Some of the graves were cleared with little care -- in Shayar county, AFP journalists saw unearthed human bones left discarded in three sites. In other sites tombs that were reduced to mounds of bricks lay scattered in cleared tracts of land.

While the official explanation ranges from urban development to the "standardisation" of old graves, overseas Uighurs say the destruction is part of a state crackdown to control every element of their lives.

"This is all part of China's campaign to effectively eradicate any evidence of who we are, to effectively make us like the Han Chinese," said Salih Hidayar, who said the graveyard where his great-grandparents were buried was demolished.

"That's why they're destroying all of these historical sites, these cemeteries, to

disconnect us from our history, from our fathers and our ancestors," he said.

According to satellite imagery analysed by AFP and Earthrise Alliance, the Chinese government has, since 2014, exhumed and flattened at least 45 Uighur cemeteries -- including 30 in the past two years.

The Xinjiang government did not respond to a request for comment.

Even sites featuring shrines or the tombs of famous individuals were not spared.

In Aksu, local authorities turned an enormous graveyard where prominent Uighur poet Lutpulla Mutellip was buried into "Happiness Park," with fake pandas, a children's ride, and a man-made lake.

Mutellip's grave was like "a modern day shrine for most nationalist Uighurs, patriotic Uighurs," recalled Ilshat Kokbore, who visited the tomb in the early 90s and now resides in the US.

An estimated one million mostly Muslim ethnic minorities have been rounded up into re-education camps in Xinjiang in the name of combatting religious extremism and separatism.

Those who are free are subject to rigorous surveillance and restrictions -- from home visits from officials to bans on beards and veils.

Satellite images reveal 45 graveyards flattened since 2014

Uighurs say destruction is part of a crackdown to control every element of their lives

Probashi Kallyan Bank
Common Service Department
Head Office, Dhaka

e-Tender Notice No. 01/2019-20

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods as stated below:

Sl. No.	Tender Ref. No.	Name of goods	Publishing & opening date and time	Tender ID No.	Method of tender
1.	PKB/CSD/PS/2019-20/01	Design and printing of Small Envelop; Medium Envelop; A4 Size Envelop; Voucher Preserve Envelop; Yellow Voucher; Security Deposit/Payment Order Issue Book; Deposit Slip; File Folder; Nothi File; Register (various); Cash Safe Register; Signature Card; Loan Application Form; Log Book; Bangla Pad; Board File; Individual Account Opening Form for Probashi Kallyan Bank. [As per specification & sample]	09-Oct-2019 10:00 & 29-Oct-2019 15:00	367232	OTM

Tender must be submitted through National e-GP System and no hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal.

Jasmin Ara
AVP
Probashi Kallyan Bank
Website: www.pkb.gov.bd; Email: csd@pkb.gov.bd

GD-1656

Malaysian MPs vote to repeal 'fake news' law

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysian lawmakers yesterday voted to repeal a controversial law that punished spreading "fake news" with up to six years behind bars and which critics said was aimed at stifling dissent.

As well as hefty jail terms, under the legislation those who disseminated what authorities deemed false news -- via any medium, from print to social networks -- could be fined up to 500,000 ringgit (\$120,000).

It was the second attempt by the lower house to overturn the law after MPs voted to repeal it last year only for the opposition-controlled upper chamber to block it.

But the upper house is only able to block a bill once, meaning it should still now be repealed even if lawmakers there vote it down again.

The legislation was pushed through last year by the former, scandal-tainted regime in the run-up to a hotly contested general election, sparking a storm of anger.

JAGANNATH UNIVERSITY, DHAKA
9-10, CHITTARANJAN AVENUE, DHAKA-1100

Date: 03/10/2019

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

1	Agency	Jagannath University
2	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka, Bangladesh
3	Expression of Interest for the Selection of	Local Consulting Firm for the work: Stage, Pandle and Decoration of Convocation venue.
4	Works Name	Selection of the Firm for organizing Convocation-2020.
5	Procurement Sub-Method	Competent and experienced firm will be selected on the basis of overall experience, technical and organizational capacity and in consideration of financial proposal; QCBS (Quality and Cost Based Selection) method will be followed for the selection of consulting firm.
6	Budget and Source of Funds	Jagannath University
7	EOI Submission Date and Time	14 days from the date of publication
8	Receiving of EOI Documents	Office of The Director, Planning, Development and Works, Jagannath University, 9-10 Chittaranjan Avenue, Dhaka-1100. PDF copies of all documents may be submitted at the e-mail address convocation.decoration@gmail.com along with hard copies.
9	Experience, Resources and Delivery Capacity Required	a) Background of the firm; b) General and overall experience of the firm in connection with convocation; c) Minimum 10 years' experience of similar works; d) Head of the firm must have 10 years' experience in the field of same nature; e) Summary of qualifications of technical staff; f) Updated Trade License, TIN certificate and VAT Registration; g) Experience certificate.
10	Brief Description of works/Services	Requirement of organizing firm includes providing services for organizing plan showing the location and architectural design of different decoration related works for the 1 st Convocation- 2020 of Jagannath University. The services include drawing, design and construction of different infrastructure including decoration and top supervision of convocation works.
11	Designation of Official Inviting EOI	Director (Planning, Development and Works Office), Jagannath University.
12	Address of Official Inviting EOI	Director, Planning, Development and Works Office, Jagannath University.
13	Contact No. of Official Inviting EOI	Telephone No. 02-9515039 (During office hour from 8 am to 4 pm)

Special Conditions:

- Consultant will be selected in accordance with PPA/2006 and PPR/2008 and Public Procurement Procedures issued by GOB with its update amendment.
- Expression of Interest (EOI) shall be submitted in sealed envelope, delivered to the address given below.
- The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(Md. Salim Khan)
Director
Planning, Development and Works Office
Jagannath University.

GD-1659

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
National Board of Revenue
Rajaswa Bhaban
Segunbagicha, Dhaka-1000
www.nbr.gov.bd

Ref. No. 08.01.0000.003.14.001.15-175 Date: 07 October, 2019

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of **Supply, Installation & Commissioning of IP-CCTV Camera and Recorder. The Tender/Proposal ID Number is 366774** and method of tender is OTM. Only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration is required in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd). The fee for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System Portal has to be deposited online through any registered bank. Tender documents publication date is **07 October, 2019 at 15.00.**

Md. Nurul Amin
Second Secretary (Board Admin-3)
Phone No. 9354324

GD-1655