

### Libya's GNA seizes last LNA stronghold near capital

Forces loyal to Libya's internationally recognised government captured the last major stronghold of eastern commander Khalifa Haftar near Tripoli yesterday, capping the sudden collapse of his 14-month offensive on the capital. Military sources in Haftar's Libyan National Army (LNA) said their forces had withdrawn from the town of Tarhouna. They headed towards Sirte, far along the coast, and the airbase of al-Jufra in central Libya. The advance extends the control of the Government of National Accord (GNA) and allied forces across most of northwest Libya, reversing many of Haftar's gains from last year when he raced towards Tripoli. The GNA has been backed by Turkey, while Haftar, whose LNA still controls the east and oil fields in the south, has been supported by Russia, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates.

### Three dead, 7 wounded in China market stabbing

Three people were killed and seven wounded in a stabbing spree at a supermarket in rural southeast China, police said yesterday. The suspected attacker, a 35-year-old man, was arrested shortly after the incident late Thursday in Fujian province, they said in a statement, without specifying the kind of weapon used. The injured were in stable condition in hospital, they added. The attack came hours after 39 pupils and staff were wounded in a knife attack at a rural primary school in south China's Guangxi region. The attacker, reportedly a 50-year-old security guard at the school, was apprehended. Violent knife crime is not uncommon in China, where firearms are strictly controlled, with a number of similar attacks at schools in recent years.

### Trump shares letter that calls protesters 'terrorists'



President Donald Trump on Thursday shared a letter on Twitter that referred to the peaceful protesters who were forcibly dispersed from a park near the White House on Monday evening as "terrorists." The letter from veteran attorney and former Trump lawyer John Dowd appears to be addressed to former Secretary of Defense James Mattis and rebuts Mattis' Wednesday statement castigating Trump's response to the nationwide protests after the death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer. "The phony protesters near Lafayette were not peaceful and are not real," Dowd's letter claimed, without citing any evidence. "They are terrorists using idle hate filled students to burn and destroy." CNN has reached out to the White House for comment on the description of the protesters as "terrorists."

### US conducts first air strikes against Taliban since truce

The US conducted its first air strikes against the Taliban since a rare ceasefire between the insurgents and Afghan forces ended more than a week ago, the US military said yesterday. The two assaults took place on Thursday and Friday in separate provinces in Afghanistan, spokesman Sonny Leggett said on his Twitter account.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS



A young Palestinian woman runs from tear gas fired by Israeli forces and a Palestinian man wave a national flag on face of Israeli forces during a protest near the town of Tulkarm, West Bank, yesterday. Palestinians in the West Bank rallied to mark 53 years of Israeli occupation and protest against the Jewish state's plans to annex part of the territory. PHOTO: AFP

## IMMUNISATION PLANS FOR POOR COUNTRIES Vaccines alliance raises \$8.8 billion

Gets \$567m for Covid-19 vaccine for all

REUTERS, London

The GAVI vaccines alliance has raised \$8.8 billion from international donor governments, companies and philanthropic foundations to fund its immunisation programmes through to 2025.

At a funding summit in London, GAVI said the pledges had exceeded its target of \$7.4 billion, and would "help immunise 300 million more children in the world's poorest countries against diseases like measles, polio and diphtheria."

The vaccines alliance also said it had raised \$567 million towards an initial goal of \$2 billion from international donors for an Advanced Market Commitment to buy future COVID-19 vaccines for poor countries.

The deal would help secure enough COVID-19 vaccine doses - when the shots have been developed - for poor countries to immunise healthcare workers and those at high risk, it said.

GAVI, the World Health Organisation and UNICEF have warned that 80 million children under the age of one are at risk of disease due to disruptions to vital immunisation programmes because of the COVID-19 pandemic caused by the new coronavirus.

Britain, which hosted the summit, was among the largest donor to GAVI's core \$8.8 billion funding, pledging the equivalent of 330 million pounds (\$416 million) per year over the next five years, GAVI said. Other top donors included the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which gave \$1.6 billion for the period up to 2025, and the governments of Norway, Germany and the United States.



### Kerala makes first arrest in elephant death case

AGENCIES

A man has been arrested in India's Kerala state for his alleged involvement in the death of a pregnant elephant and others are being questioned, the state's Forest Minister K Raju has said.

He said more arrest likely to follow and vowed to take exemplary actions to prevent similar incidents.

The government previously said they have identified 3 suspects.

The death of the elephant, which reportedly ate a pineapple filled with explosives, led to widespread outrage and triggered a political controversy involving federal ministers.

A preliminary post mortem report indicated the elephant suffered injuries in its mouth and was not able to eat for days. The pregnant animal eventually died standing in a river on May 27.

### CO2 hits record high amid pandemic

A key measure of carbon dioxide emissions in the Earth's atmosphere hit a record in May even as a global pandemic brought the world's economies to a virtual standstill this year, according to US government data published on Thursday. Carbon dioxide recorded at the Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii reached 417 parts per million (ppm) in May, higher than the record of 414.8 ppm set last year, according to the report.

The drop in worldwide emissions due to the coronavirus outbreak -- estimated to be as much as 26 percent in some countries during the peak of government confinement orders -- fails to cancel out the large natural variations in carbon emissions caused by how plants and soils react to temperature, humidity and other factors,

scientists said. It would take carbon dioxide reductions of 20% to 30% for six to 12 months to slow the rate of increase in the measurements at Mauna Loa, Scripps said in a statement. Last month, research published in the journal Nature Climate Change predicted that global emissions could fall by up to 7% this year.

"It will decrease the rate of increase of CO2 by a little bit, but it will still be increasing," Pieter Tans, chief scientist at NOAA's greenhouse gas monitoring lab, said in an interview. "So a 10 percent change -- it's even hard for us to measure."

May is the annual peak for the world's carbon dioxide emissions, which are at levels not experienced by the atmosphere in several million years.

SOURCE: REUTERS

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## One million Thai heroes

REUTERS, Saladang

Nearly every day, 77-year-old Surin Makradee goes door-to-door in her village in Thailand, visiting every home to check people's temperatures in a routine repeated in communities across the country during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I consider people in the village my family. If I don't educate them, they will not understand the risk of getting infected," Surin said in her village of Saladang in Ang Thong province, about 90 km north of Bangkok.

She is a member of the Village Health Volunteers, a long-overlooked network of more than 1 million community workers dating back to a Cold War-era hearts-and-minds programme.

The volunteers have been praised by the World Health Organization (WHO) as "unsung heroes" in Thailand's relatively successful efforts to fight the novel coronavirus.

Thailand was the first country outside China to detect a case of the coronavirus, in January, but it has

reported only about 3,000 cases and 58 deaths since then.

"Thailand's village health volunteers are unsung heroes working to support the prevention, detection and reporting of COVID-19," said Daniel Kertesz, WHO representative for Thailand, referring to the disease caused by the coronavirus.



Apart from the temperature checks, the front-line health volunteers help the government collect daily health information and watch for flare-ups in infections.

Surin, who has been a volunteer for 38 years and does her rounds by motorcycle, said she is also

responsible for monitoring people who have returned from other provinces and need to be in quarantine for 14 days.

Created in 1977, the Village Health Volunteers were set up as part of government efforts to help rural communities at a time when communists insurgents roamed through many parts of the country.

With basic health training, the volunteers help provide rudimentary care and initial diagnoses in areas that are often a long way from a clinic or hospital.

Their role, however, had become less prominent over the past 10 years - at least until the coronavirus emerged.

One person under quarantine in Surin's village, Ticompon Kingpet, 60, who recently returned home from the resort island of Phuket, said he was impressed with the volunteers' work.

"They're like a group of small ants working together. They are giving very good advice to the people," he said.

## Locust brings India, Pak closer

AGENCIES

Pakistani and Indian authorities are working together to combat the worst invasion of desert locusts in decades in the region, which is threatening crops in both countries, Pakistan's foreign office has said.

The two countries - also bitter regional rivals - have been coordinating through the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), on controlling the locust activity, sharing data and attending weekly meetings.

During a weekly briefing on Thursday, a spokesman from Pakistan's foreign office said a decision to work together was made at a ministerial-level meeting of Pakistan, India, Afghanistan and Iran in March.

The participants decided to revive communication between the regional countries through the FAO's Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (SWAC).

Pakistan is facing its worst locust infestation in two decades, prompting authorities to declare a national emergency.



Millions of locusts have also engulfed India's seven heartland states, including the western desert of Rajasthan, and threaten vegetable and pulse crops such as lentils and beans.

The last major locust surge was in 1993, when heavy rains created favourable breeding conditions for the insects along the India-Pakistan border.

Locust swarms can fly up to 150km (90 miles) a day, and the adult insects can consume roughly their own weight in fresh food each day. A small swarm can eat enough food to feed 35,000 people in one day, according to the FAO.

## Siberia 10C hotter in May!

AFP, Paris

Temperatures soared 10 degrees Celsius above average last month in Siberia, home to much of Earth's permafrost, as the world experienced its hottest May on record, the European Union's climate monitoring network said yesterday.

It said May 2020 was 0.68C warmer than the average May from 1981 to 2010.

This has accelerated melting of Greenland's kilometres-thick ice sheet, resulting in a net loss of 600 billion tonnes of ice mass for the year -- accounting for about 40 percent of total sea level rise in 2019.



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Dated: 04 June 2020

### INVITATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TENDER

01	Procuring entity name	Dockeyard & Engineering Works Ltd, BN, Narayanganj
02	Materials name and Quantity	All Terrain Mobile Crane with Telescopic Boom and accessories, Capacity: 100 Ton Quantity: One complete crane
03	Procuring method	Open Tender
04	Budget & source of funds	Own finance
05	Tender document last selling date	06 July 2020
06	Tender closing date and time	07 July 2020 time: 12:15 PM
07	Tender opening date and time	07 July 2020 time: 12:30 PM
08	Name & Address of the office:	Cash Section, Account Department, Dockeyard & Engineering Works Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, Sonakanda, Bandar, Narayanganj. Or Account Name: Dockeyard & Engineering Works Ltd, Bank name: Thrust Bank Ltd, Account no: 00350320000056, Branch: Narayanganj, deposit slip submitted by tender document. (If tender schedule document download from website)
	a. Selling tender document	
	b. Receiving tender document	Dockeyard & Engineering Works Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, Sonakanda, Bandar, Narayanganj.
	c. Opening tender document	Dockeyard & Engineering Works Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, Sonakanda, Bandar, Narayanganj. Tenderers and their authorized representative are allowed to attend.
09	Price of tender document	TK 5,000.00 (Taka five thousand only) (Non-refundable)
10	Contact details official	Mobile: 01769719887 Web: www.dewbn.gov.bd E-mail: commercial@dewbn.gov.bd
11	Eligibility and tender	1. Tenderer must be OEM/ distributor / local agent. 2. Experience of supply, supply of goods as mentioned. 3. Document required: a. Trade license b. TIN certificate, c. VAT Registration d. Bank Statement e. Experience certificate if any
12	Special instructions	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all or any part of the tender prior to acceptance without showing any reason.

GD-952

Managing Director