Geo-bags were dumped when the effects of erosion began to reduce, said Harif Ahmed, BIWTA assistant engineer at Shimulia.

Its Chairman Commodore Golam Sadeq visited the spot.

"This is a natural disaster and two other ferry terminals are also under threat. We are dumping geo-bags to prevent the erosion," he told journalists.

"We are planning to build a new ferry terminal," he said.

Harif said around seven acres of land of the two ferry pontoons went

He could not say when the operations of the pontoons would

Sirajul Kabir, in-charge of naval police at Shimulia, said ferry services were disrupted due to strong currents in the river. The remaining two inservice ferry pontoons were also at risk.

Five small ferries were operating on the route till yesterday evening, he

Injured forest

FROM PAGE 12

plantation in order to make space to grow betel leaf. Once they reached the spot, the

team was attacked by the grabbers. Three members were injured, including Yousuf, whose condition was critical, said Sultanul.

"Yousuf fought for his life for the last five days, but died yesterday morning," he added.

7 more die

FROM PAGE 12 The dead are Rafiqul Islam, 60, Abdul Khalek, 85, and Inun Nahar, 60, of Burichang upazila; Lalu Mia, 70, and Shahina Akter, 51, of Debidwar upazila; Maruf Akter, 38, of Muradnagar upazila; Abdul Halim, 68, of Sadar upazila.

With them, 26 people died with Covid-19 symptoms in the last week. The total death toll is now above 300

China sentences Canadian to death over drug charge

AFP, Beijing

A Chinese court sentenced a Canadian national to death yesterday in a ruling that could further inflame tensions between China and Canada. The Guangzhou Intermediate

Court said in a statement it had handed Xu Weihong a death sentence for manufacturing drugs, and said all his personal property would be

According to China's state-run Global Times, Xu had bought raw materials and tools for drug production in October 2016 and worked with an accomplice, Wen Guanxiong, to make ketamine.

The drugs were made in Wen's home and stored in Xu's residence in Guangzhou, with public security officers seizing over 120 kilogrammes of ketamine from the pair, the report

The ruling comes after China sentenced two other Canadians to death on drug trafficking charges last vear, and as tensions soar between the two countries on a number of fronts including the arrest of top Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou.

Beijing has also detained two Canadian nationals, including a former diplomat, on spying charges, in a move widely considered retaliation for Meng's arrest in Canada.

The United States wants Meng extradited to face trial on charges related to the Chinese telecom equipment maker's alleged violations of US sanctions against Iran.

Yesterday, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a regular briefing that "Chinese judicial organs handle all criminals of different nationalities according to law"

Referring to the latest case involving Xu, Wang added: "I don't think this should have any impact on China-Canada relations.

Diplomatic relations between Canada and China have deteriorated over China's arrests and Meng's case, damaging trade between both

Canadian pleas for clemency for its citizens previously sentenced on drug charges, Robert Lloyd Schellenberg and Fan Wei, have so far not been successful.

Meanwhile, in June Beijing formally charged the other pair of detained Canadians -- ex-diplomat Michael Kovrig and businessman Michael Spavor -- for spying, in a move that came just weeks after a key ruling in the Meng case.

A Canadian judge had ruled that proceedings to extradite her to the United States will go ahead.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expressed disappointment with the formal charges in June, renewing calls

for their release. Monthly consular visits for Kovrig and Spavor have been suspended since the coronavirus outbreak started in China as well, sparking concerns over their health.

Pompeo urges no vote for Cuba on Human **Rights Council**

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has urged UN members not to support Cuba's bid to join the organization's Human Rights Council.

"It's outrageous that the Human Rights Council would offer to seat Cuba, a brutal dictatorship that traffic its own doctors under the guise of humanitarian missions," the top US diplomat said on Wednesday.

Pompeo has described Cuba's sale of medical services, Havana's main source of foreign exchange, as a form of human trafficking.

"No country should vote Cuba

onto the council," he said. Under President Donald Trump, Washington has reversed an opening with Cuba initiated by former president Barack Obama, hardening a trade embargo in effect since 1962.

Rights Council in 2014-2016 and 2017-2019, has applied to fill one of the regional vacancies for 2021-2023.

Cuba, which sat on the UN Human

The Geneva-based Council was

created in 2006 to replace the Commission on Human Rights and is made up of 47 member states chosen by direct and secret ballot.

seats are distributed geographically and are awarded for a period of three years. Members are not eligible for immediate reelection after serving two consecutive terms.

Washington withdrew from the council in 2018, with ambassador Nikki Haley calling it a "cesspool of political bias" and a "hypocritical and self-serving organization that makes a mockery of human rights.

In particular, Haley had slammed the council for adopting resolutions condemning Israel, which has come under scrutiny by the council for its treatment of Palestinians.

Venezuela in 2019 won a seat on the council for 2020-2022 despite criticism of its human rights record, with Washington criticizing the move as "a farce that further undermines the council's already frail credibility.

Malaysian court puts

On Wednesday, Immigration Director-General Datuk Khairul Dzaimee Daud said Rayhan Kabir will be deported

once the Attorney General's Chambers has completed looking into the investigation papers of the case. He said the department was made to understand that the investigation papers regarding Rayhan's case had been handed to the AGC. "Once the AGC is done, we will

deport him back to Bangladesh. And he will never step foot in Malaysia again as he will be blacklisted," he said at a press conference on Wednesday. Asked how long it would take to send

Rayhan back to Bangladesh, Khairul said the immigration department was informed that the earliest flight available from Kuala Lumpur to Dhaka was at the end of August. However, several Bangladeshis in

Malaysia have informed this writer that there are multiple flights from Dhaka to Kuala Lumpur before August 31. Even so, he is being sent late. Lawyers have raised the issue in On July 3, Al Jazeera published

an investigative documentary titled "Locked Up in Malaysia's Lockdown". The report raised the issue of the government's repressive treatment of migrant workers in Malaysia during the lockdown. In that report, along

with the citizens of many other countries, Rayhan Kabir also gave an interview, which angered the Malaysian authorities.

An arrest warrant was issued against Rayhan Kabir and he was arrested by Malaysian police on the evening of

Before the arrest, Rayhan Kabir sent a WhatsApp message, in which he said, "I did not commit any crime. I did not lie. I have only talked about discrimination against the migrants. I want the dignity of migrants and my country ensured. I believe all migrants and Bangladesh will stand with me."

Different international Bangladeshi organisations, including Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, have condemned the arrest and demanded Rayhan's immediate release.

Expressing grave concern over the arrest of the Bangladeshi national by the immigration department, Malaysian rights group Lawyers for Liberty said that the authorities must stop their unlawful harassment of him.

A statement issued by LFL, signed by Zaid Malek, its coordinator, said, "We have scrutinised the statement made by Rayhan in the documentary and firmly restate that he has not said anything even remotely in breach of the country's laws."

[The writer is a freelance journalist]

Sudan floods kill 10, wreck 3,300 homes

AFP, Khartoum

DHAKA FRIDAY AUGUST 7, 2020, SRABAN 23, 1427 BS

At least 10 people were killed and more than 3,300 homes ruined by flooding triggered by torrential rains across much of Sudan this week, the country's civil defence organisation said yesterday.

1,800 homes were Some completely destroyed while just over 1,500 were partially ruined, it said, while 21 schools and eight mosques were swept away.

The UN said on Wednesday that more than 50,000 people had been affected by the flooding.

"Torrential rains continued in several oarts of Sudan... leading to flooding, landslides, damages to houses and infrastructure" in at least 14 of the nation's 18 states, the UN Organisation for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in a statement.

Downpours in Blue Nile state caused a dam to collapse on July 29, destroying or damaging 800 homes and potentially compromising access to water for over 84,000 people, OCHA added.

Heavy rains typically hit Sudan between June and October each year, resulting in frequent flooding.

Diseases break out

Asked about the shortage of medical facilities, Civil Surgeon (Kurigram) Habibur Rahma said medical teams were working in the flood-hit areas to provide treatment.

Surgeon (Lalmonirhat) Nirmalendu Roy said health workers were distributing water purifying tablets in the flood-hit areas to ensure sufficient drinking water.

In Sirajganj, at least 20 people died and 750 were affected by waterborne diseases in this year's prolonged flood, according to district health office.

As flood water has started receding, different types of waterborne diseases are rapidly spreading in the flood-hit areas, said Humayun Kabir, statistic officer of the district civil surgeon

A total of 95 medical teams have been formed to ensure medical care for the flood victim people, he added.

In Nilhamari, floodwater has been slowly receding for the last two weeks, but many houses were still waterlogged. People, particularly children, were being infected with waterborne diseases in the district.

Jobeda Begum, 45, of Jhar Sinheswar village in Dimla upazila, said, "All the members of our family are affected with sores in their bodies as they wade through stagnant dirty

visited hospital in last three days with

Other members of the committee --

Bagharpara Hospital, Zahid Hasan,

medical officer at the civil surgeon's

office, and Habiba Siddika of

Suraiva's husband Mohammad

Sajjad Hossain, from Churipatti

area in the town, said after his wife

had a caesarean under Dr Nilufar

Islam Emily of Labzone Hospital

on July 29, her condition kept

deteriorating. But their repeated call

for urgent attention went ignored

by the authorities and the caregivers

Nilufar paid a visit to see her patient.

afar and without carrying any physical

diagnostics, the doctor assured them

At midnight, when Suraiya's

condition worsened and she began

having shortness of breath and

convulsions, her family members

pleaded the staffers and the hospital

Organization of 6 million infections

between February 24 and July 12

found that the share of children aged

The White House did not

immediately respond to a request for

comment. During a briefing at the

White House, Trump repeated his

claim that the virus had little impact

he told reporters. "If you look at the

numbers, in terms of mortality, fatalities

.. for children under a certain age ...

their immune systems are very very

strong and very powerful. They seem to

be able to handle it very well and that's

It was the first time Facebook had

removed a Trump post for coronavirus

misinformation, the company's

It also appeared to be the first

reported instance of the social

media company taking down a post

from the president for breaching its

according to every statistical claim."

spokesman said.

misinformation rules.

"Children handle it very well,"

5-14 years was about 4.6%.

authorities to give her urgent care.

that "everything was fine".

Finally, on the night of July 31, Dr

But after looking at the patient from

Chougachha Hospital.

therein.

all physicians -- are Shariful Islam of Sajjad.

soft tissue infection like scabies, shore,

itching and also conjunctivitis. Purbo Satnai Union Parishad Chairman Abdul Latif Khan said most of the tube-wells in his area have been submerged. So, people are compelled to drink polluted water.

Civil Surgeon (Nilphamari) Ranjit Kumar Barman said 20 medical teams were working to provide treatment and distributing water purifying tablets among the flood-hit people.

Our Pabna, Lalmonirhat and Nilphamari correspondents contributed to this report.

Virus vaccine possible before Nov 3: Trump

REUTERS, Washington

US President Donald Trump yesterday said it was possible the United States would have a coronavirus vaccine before the Nov 3 election, a more optimistic forecast than timing put forth by his own White House health experts.

Asked on the Geraldo Rivera radio program when a vaccine might be ready, Trump said, "Sooner than the end of the year, could be much sooner.

"Sooner than November 3?" he was

"I think in some cases, yes possible Trump said

Scientists

FROM PAGE 12 Using lasers, it is possible to detect the debris from the ground. But until now this method only worked for a few hours around twilight, when the detection station on debris still illuminated by

A team of researchers based in Austria now think they've extended the window in which the space junk is visible using a combination of a telescopic detector and filter to increase the contrast of objects as they appear against the sky during the

The team also developed a real-time target detection software system that predicts when certain objects could be observable and used sightings to hone

technique could increase observation times of space iunk from Earth from six to

from the Austrian Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute, said the technique, while experimental, should drastically reduce the fraction of sky teams need to search with lasers in order to locate the debris.

"We see our results as a starting point towards increasing the output of the space debris laser ranging community in the near future," said Steindorfer, lead author of the study published Tuesday in Nature Communications.

He told AFP the technique "could significantly contribute to improving orbital predictions in case of (collision) warnings or for future space debris removal missions.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director (ACE, RHD) Study for Identification, Prioritization and Prefeasibility of PPP Projects Roads and Highways Department

Unit # 101, 132/4, New Bailey Road, Dhaka (02) 58315215-7

pfsppp.rhd@gmail.com

Memo No. 35.RHD.0000.PM-SIP-268

Date: 06.08.2020

Invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

and Prefeasibility of Potential PPP Projects under Roads and Highways Department

of the proceeds of the fund intended to be used as payments under the contract for Consultancy Services for which the EOI is issued. The project comprises the following components: i) to identify potential PPP projects in the Road Network of Roads and Highways Department; ii) to

prepare a list of candidate PPP projects in order of their priority along with an implementation schedule: iii) to conduct preliminary technical and commercial appraisals of the candidate projects. The Roads and Highways Department (RHD), Road Transport and Highways Division (RTHD)

services. The Consulting Firm(s) may submit the EOI in association with other consulting firms. RHD will select and employ consultant for rendering consulting services of the project and cost of the aforementioned services will be made in local currency only.

As part of the services the consultant will conduct the following works: Preliminary Identification of Potential PPP Projects;

Preliminary Scoping of the Identified Projects;

Option Analysis and Selection Techniques: Incorporating Risk and Uncertainty into the Analysis:

Scoping the PPP Project and identification of Challenges;

Preliminary Identification of Potential PPP Projects:

study the RHD Road Network; identify candidate PPP projects by Multicriteria Analysis (MCA) and Value for Money (VfM)

the physical condition of the network/road/site:

existing Road Geometry, Pavement Condition; existing Traffic Volume, Level of Service and Traffic pattern;

c) Preliminary Scoping of the Identified Projects:

Determination of land area requirement: Social and environmental considerations;

tentative cost estimate (capital expenditure)

also conduct cost effectiveness analysis or Multicriteria analysis. e) Incorporating Risk and Uncertainty into the Analysis:

assessment of the inherent risks, their likelihood and frequency;

defining the work that must be done by the future private partner to deliver the project

g) Testing PPP Suitability and Affordability.

The Consultants will be selected under Fixed Budget Selection Method (FBS) in accordance with the procedures set out in the Policy and Instruction of Public Procurement Rules

The interested consultant must have following previous experiences of rendering consulting services

Satisfactory completion of Feasibility Study of a road project having 100 kilometers of road

Experience in Prefeasibility/Feasibility Study of PPP Road project(s) is preferred. The EOI should specially include

Company profile: including management, personnel, firm's specialty, performance; The latest annual report;

The firm's registration certificate;

the service with commencement and completion date; Summary of permanent professional employees with key qualifications;

Audited financial statement (Balance sheet, Profit & Loss Account and Cash Flow Statement) for last 3 (three) years;

Average annual turnover in last 3 (three) years; and History of litigation in courts or any arbitration proceedings (if any).

With all supporting documents, the EOI must be delivered at or before 12.00pm on 31 August 2020 in

of PPP Projects under Roads and Highways Department" to the signatory address. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is expected to be issued to the short-listed Firms by September 2020. The Client will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the Firm(s) in connection with the preparation or delivery of the EOI. The procuring entity reserves the right to

Project Director (ACE, RHD) Study for Identification, Prioritization and Prefeasibility of PPP Projects Unit # 101, 132/4, New Bailey Road, Dhaka

Bangabandhu

government to provide for a minimum punishment of five years for those who may be found guilty of charges of collaboration with the Pakistan army during the Liberation War. Most of the members of the Awami League organising committee in its recent meeting urged the government to prescribe a minimum punishment of five years for those found guilty of charges of collaboration. They have also demanded that the collaborators sentenced to

firing squad. 2 LAKH TONNES OF FOOD GRAINS FROM

India will supply 2 lakh

Dainik Ittefaq.

its accuracy. Overall, the new

Michael Steindorfer,

Echoing his statement, Civil

water in house yard Dimla Upazila Health and Family asked. Planning Officer Sarwar Alam said about 150 people of different ages before, but right around that time,"

Private clinic sealed The only response they received

> They then rushed Suraiya -- the first of all female coaches who graduated from six cricket academies in the country -- to Jashore General Hospital where she passed away at the hospital's isolation ward.

Arif Ahmed, resident medical

officer of Jashore General Hospital,

said the patient, brought to the

were annoyed faces, said a frustrated

emergency unit with shortness of breath and convulsions, died soon after she was taken to the ward. Nilufar Islam Emily of Labzone Hospital refuted the allegations of professional malpractice and negligence against her and the clinic and said that both Suraiya and

her new born were in good health following the surgery. But the mother's condition deteriorated suddenly as she had a "critical disease". They provided her with all sorts of medical services that were deemed necessary and there had been no incident of negligence at the

Facebook, Twitter Twitter has taken down a post An analysis by the World Health retweeted by Trump pointing to a misleading viral video about the

clinic, she claimed.

on patients.

Twitter said those remarks expressed a wish for treatment, rather than a literal call for action. It also left up a March post from Tesla Inc's outspoken CEO Elon

coronavirus, but left up clips of the

president suggesting scientists should

investigate using light or disinfectant

Musk stating that "kids are essentially immune" from the virus. Facebook has taken heat from lawmakers and its own employees in recent months for not taking action on inflammatory posts by Trump.

The company has previously

election campaign for breaking

removed ads from

misinformation rules, in that case around a national census. It also took down both Trump posts and campaign ads that showed a red inverted triangle, a symbol the Nazis used to identify political prisoners, for violating its policy against organized

death should be shot by

INDIA

tonnes of food grains to meet immediate requirements in the flood-affected areas of Bangladesh, says Indian Minister for Relief and Labour RK Khadilkar in Dhaka today. India has already collected materials for construction of low-cost houses worth Rs 1 crore 36 lakh from West Bengal for Bangladesh, adds the

Indian minister. SOURCES: August 8, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and

Earth is in the dark and the

22 hours a day.

Consultancy Service for Identification, Prioritization

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) has allocated fund for Identification Prioritization and Prefeasibility of PPP Projects under Roads and Highways Department. The portion

Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges (MRTB), (hereinafter referred to as 'the Client') now invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) in English from reputed consulting firm(s), individual or in Joint Venture

(hereinafter referred to as 'the Interested Consultant') for short listing of firm/firms for the captioned

Collection of Information of the existing Conditions related to the identified projects;

Lesting PPP Suitability and Affordability Submission of Report; The above work includes the following tasks:

b) Collection of Information of the existing Conditions related to the identified projects.

Identification of existing Right of Way and Land ownership due diligence; Other relevant information.

d) Option Analysis and Selection Techniques: carry out economic analysis for identifying the best technical solution for a project;

analysis of sensitivities/future movements or the deviations on critical factors and variables. f) Scoping the PPP Project and identification of Challenges: definition of the scope of the service and/or the scope of the business to be handled by the

Testing the identified projects for economic soundness and sensibility; Testing against uncertainties and risks, legal framework and sustainability

(http://www.cptu.gov.bd).
RHD will conduct the short-listing of the interested consulting firms for the abovementioned consulting

List of rendered services in last 5 years for: Feasibility Study of road projects including structures. Prefeasibility/Feasibility Study of PPP road projects. In the list following information should be provided:

Client's name, nature of services, contract amount, man-months the firm extended, duration of

Interested applicants may obtain further information by applying to the undersigned during normal sealed envelopes marked with "Consultancy Service for Identification, Prioritization and Prefeasibility

accept or reject any proposal without assigning any reason. A. K. Mohammad Fazlul Karim

② (02)58315215-7 ③ pfsppp.rhd@gmail.com

GD-1230