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# Hackers steal vaccine data in Europe

US tops 3,000 daily death mark; Japan Covid cases hit daily record

AGENCIES

US drugmaker Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech said on Wednesday that documents related to development of their Covid-19 vaccine had been "unlawfully accessed" in a cyberattack on Europe's medicines regulator.

The European Medicines Agency (EMA), which assesses medicines and vaccines for the European Union, said hours earlier it had been targeted in a cyberattack. It gave no further details.

Pfizer and BioNTech said they did not believe any personal data of trial participants had been compromised and EMA "has assured us that the cyber attack will have no impact on the timeline for its review."

It was not immediately clear when or how the attack took place, who was responsible or what other information may have been compromised.

The two companies said they had been informed by the EMA "that the agency has been subject to a cyber attack and that some documents relating to the regulatory submission for Pfizer and BioNTech's Covid-19 vaccine candidate" had been viewed.

Such documents could be extremely valuable to other countries and companies rushing to develop vaccines, experts said.

"When it comes to the data submitted to these kinds of

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Long queues of voters are seen at Moraridaha Government Primary School polling centre. Slow voting through EVMs caused people to wait for hours to cast their votes in the Faridpur municipality election. This photo was taken around 12:15pm yesterday.

PHOTO: SUZIT KUMAR DAS

## Ex-Ducusu VP Noor alleges attempt on his life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Ducusu VP Nurul Haque Nur yesterday alleged that an attempt was made on his life by running him over with a car in the capital's Malibagh area on Wednesday night when he was on his way home.

He further alleged that the vehicle was owned by a secretary. It had a sticker of the Parliament Secretariat on its windshield and a pass sticker from the home ministry.

Speaking at a press conference at Zaman Tower in the city's Paltan yesterday, Nur said a car (Dhaka Metro GA-31-6508) was following him and his party men around 11:00pm on Wednesday when they were coming down the Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover on their way home to Badda.

"I always ride a motorcycle driven by my younger brother. As it was late on Wednesday night and the lights were off on the flyover, I didn't feel safe. I called an Uber while my brother and a few members of my party [Gono Odhikar Parishad] were on motorbikes," Nur said.

The former student leader said the car tried twice to hit his brother Aminul Islam's motorcycle, but the latter somehow managed to avoid a collision with the vehicle.

After a while, the car rear-ended a bus in front of Abul Hotel on DIT Road. Two men, who seemed to be tense at that time, were in the car, Nur said.

The car driver then put the

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## Tk 148.41Cr GRAFT CASE HC rejects bail to MP Shahid's wife, daughter

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected the bail petition of lawmaker Mohammad Shahid Islam's wife Selina Islam MP and their daughter Wafa Islam in a corruption case involving Tk 148.41 crore.

The court also ordered Selina, a lawmaker from reserved seats, and Wafa to surrender before the trial court concerned within 10 days in connection with the case.

The HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Ahmed Sohel came up with the order after virtually hearing their petition.

Lawyers Abdul Baset Majumdar and Sayeed Ahmed Raza appeared for the accused petitioners, while lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan argued for the Anti-Corruption Commission and Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin Manik

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## FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

### 5-yr plan draft outline in June

December 11, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

#### SELF-RELIANCE MAIN OBJECTIVE

Dr Nurul Islam, deputy chairman of the planning commission, discloses today that the draft outline of the first five-year plan would be announced by the middle of 1973 and different working groups are now working to prepare the outline. He shares that the main objective of the first five-year plan would be to attain self-reliance and to reduce the dependence on foreign aid. The plan would be formulated keeping in mind the economic condition of the lower-income group, who constitute the vast majority of the population, and to ensure food, clothing and medicine for them, he adds. He further says that this plan would be a departure from those of the Pakistani days because Pakistani planners never placed emphasis on the welfare of the vast majority of the people who live in the rural areas.

#### INDO-BANGLADESH RIVERS BODY TALKS FLOODS

The third meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Rivers Commission

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## HC grants 1-yr bail to rape convict

He married victim in jail as per court-set term for getting bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted one-year conditional bail to a rape convict after eight years of his imprisonment as he married the victim in line with the court's directive.

The verdict read that the bail shall stand cancelled if convict Dilip Khalko denies the victim as wife during their conjugal and family life in this one year, said Deputy Attorney General Sarwar Hossain Bappi.

Dilip married the victim at the jail gate in Rajshahi following the court's directives.

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## Self-driving robotaxis taking off in China



CNN ONLINE

The world has been inching toward fully autonomous cars for years. In China, one company just got even closer to making it a reality.

AutoX, an Alibaba (BABA)-backed startup, announced it had rolled out fully driverless robotaxis on public roads in Shenzhen. The company said it had become the first player in China to do so, notching an important industry milestone.

Previously, companies operating autonomous

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#### PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 11

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5:15 12:30 3:45 5:19 7:00  
JAMAAT 5:50 1:15 4:00 5:22 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A grey-headed lapwing flying over a wetland in Bogura's Sherpur upazila. This bird, which lives in wetlands and marshy areas, eats insects and earthworms. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUJ

## BATTLEGROUND STATES

# Trump asks SC to invalidate millions of votes

CNN ONLINE

President Donald Trump asked the Supreme Court on Wednesday to block millions of votes from four battleground states that voted for President-elect Joe Biden.

Trump's request came in a filing with the court asking to intervene in a lawsuit brought by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton seeking to invalidate millions of votes cast in Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

The President is being represented by a new attorney, John Eastman, who is known for recently pushing a racist conspiracy theory questioning whether Vice President-elect Kamala Harris was eligible for the role because her parents were immigrants.

The move from Trump comes just a day after the high court denied a request from Pennsylvania Republicans to block certification of the commonwealth's election results. The one-line order was issued with no noted dissents or comment

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## TV journalist shot dead in Afghanistan

AFP, Jalalabad

A female Afghan news anchor and activist was shot dead by assailants yesterday, her employer said, the second journalist killed in a month in Afghanistan.

Malalai Maiwand, in her 20s, was killed along with her driver Mohammad Tahir in the eastern city of Jalalabad as they travelled to work, said Enekaas TV, the private television channel she worked for.

The journalist, whose activist mother was also killed by unknown gunmen five years ago, had previously spoken out about the difficulties of being a female reporter under



Malalai Maiwand

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