City

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

'Media must report fully': Indian SC on EC's protest

The media cannot be stopped from reporting any court hearing and "must report fully"

what happens in court, India's Supreme Court said yesterday as the Election Commission

complained about being "castigated without

any evidence" on political rallies during the

campaign for state elections. "The media is

powerful and communicating what happens in

court. Not only our judgements, but raising of

questions, answers and dialogues is a concern

for citizens. Media not reporting observations

is far-fetched," the Supreme Court told the

Election Commission. The Election Commission

last week approached the Supreme Court

against what it called "blatantly disparaging

remarks" by the Madras High Court over holding polls amid the deadly second wave of the

Covid-19 pandemic.

2 rockets target Baghdad

base housing US troops

Two rockets targeted an airbase at Iraq's

Baghdad airport housing US-led coalition

troops on Sunday, in the second such attack

in 10 days, the Iraqi army said. One of the

projectiles was intercepted by the C-RAM counter rocket, artillery and mortar system

deployed to protect US troops in Iraq, a security

source told AFP. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack which the army said caused no casualties. Washington

routinely blames Iran-linked Iraqi factions for such attacks on its troops and diplomats.

Sworn foes Tehran and Washington have both

had a presence since 2003 in Iraq, where 2,500 US troops are still deployed. Last week,

three rockets crashed into the sector of the

Baghdad airport base occupied by Iraqi troops,

wounding one soldier.

Saudi Arabia to lift travel

curbs on 'immunised' citizens

Saudi Arabia will permit citizens immunised

against Covid-19 to travel abroad from May 17,

the interior ministry said Sunday, more than

a year after Saudis were barred from external

trips. The ministry said three categories of

people would be considered immunised

-- those who have received two doses of the

coronavirus vaccine, those administered a

single dose at least 14 days prior to travel, and

people who have recovered from the infection

within the last six months. Saudis under the

age of 18 -- an age group that is not receiving

vaccines -- would also be allowed to travel

from May 17, provided they carry an insurance

policy approved by the central bank, the

ministry said in a statement published by the

official Saudi Press Agency.



A family member (L) mourns a Covid-19 victim, as the number of deaths increases, amid the spread of the coronavirus disease in Kathmandu, Nepal yesterday.

РНОТО:

### PANDEMIC DISRUPTIONS

# 1 in 2 people globally lost income: Gallup

THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION, Nairobi

One in two people worldwide saw their earnings drop due to the coronavirus, with people in low-income countries particularly hard hit by job losses or cuts to their working hours, research showed yesterday.

US-based polling company Gallup, which surveyed 300,000 people across 117 countries, found that half of those with jobs earned less because of Covid-19 pandemic disruptions. This translated to 1.6 billion adults globally, it said.

"Worldwide, these percentages ranged from a high of 76% in Thailand to a low of 10% in Switzerland," said researchers in a statement.

In Bolivia, Myanmar, Kenya, Uganda, Indonesia, Honduras and Ecuador, more than 70% people polled said they took home less than before global health crisis. In the United States, this figure dropped to

The Covid-19 crisis has hit workers across the world, particularly women, who are over-represented in low-paid precarious sectors such as retail, tourism and food services.

A study by the international charity Oxfam on Thursday said the pandemic had cost women around the world \$800 billion in lost income. The Gallup poll found that more than half of those surveyed said they temporarily stopped working at their job or business - translating to about 1.7 billion adults globally.

In 57 countries including India, Zimbabwe, the Philippines, Kenya, Bangladesh, El Salvador, more than 65% of respondents said they stopped

Countries where people were least likely to say they stopped working were predominantly developed, high-income countries.

Mamata Banerjee on West Bengal voters after polls victory AGENCIES

West Bengal's soon-to-be three-time Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who pulled off a stupendous victory after an all-out fight by the BJP, yesterday declared that the BJP is "not all in all" and the people have put them in their place.



"The people have stopped the ruination... the spine is straight," added the chief minister, who ahead of the election had repeatedly told the people about the BJP will use money power to buy their votes.

"Take their money but vote as you please," she had declared in rally after rally.

She yesterday appealed to everyone to maintain peace and not indulge in any violence. "We know BJP and central forces have tortured us a lot but we have to maintain peace. At present, we have to fight Covid-19," Mamata said.

Violence broke out in parts of West Bengal on Sunday night. Houses and vehicles of some Bharatiya Janata Party candidates were allegedly attacked and a party office at Arambagh was set on fire. The vehicle of Suvendu Adhikari, who defeated chief minister Mamata Banerjee in Nandigram, was also attacked. The Union ministry of home affairs yesterday asked Bengal government for report over post-poll violence in state.

Meanwhile, party secretary general Partha Chatterjee said yesterday TMC chief will be sworn in Chief Minister for a third straight term tomorrow.

The decision was taken at a meeting Mamata had with TMC newly-elected lawmakers in the state in Kolkata.

### 'Spine is straight' Myanmar rebels 'down military copter' 4 people die in hospital after junta's artillery shells hit monastery in Kachin

The Kachin Independence Army (KIA), one of Myanmar's most powerful rebel groups, said yesterday it had shot down a helicopter after returning fire following air strikes by the military, an official at the group said.

The United Nations estimates that tens of thousands of civilians have fled their homes as a result of the fighting between the military and ethnic minority insurgents in remote northern and eastern frontier

The conflict intensified after Myanmar's generals seized power on February 1, ousting the elected government led by Aung San Suu Kyi.

The KIA's information department head, Naw Bu, said the helicopter was shot down around 10:20 am at a village near the town of Moemauk in Kachin province.

"The military council launched air strikes in that area since around 8 or 9 this

Asked whether Beximco could import the

doses in bulk and put them in ampules here, Papon said, "This will not be a viable

Serum CEO Adar Poonawalla recently

said he was planning to launch production

in other countries to keep up with the

alliance, was supposed to receive from

Serum a total of 1.1 billion doses of the

AstraZeneca or Novavax, with 200 million

committed, and the rest on option, reports

It had expected a total of more than

100 million doses from Serum between

February and May, excluding supplies for

India, but has so far received only about

18.2 million. Bangladesh is supposed to

receive 6.8 crore vaccine shots from Covax

Bangladesh started the mass inoculation

campaign with the AstraZeneca vaccine it

purchased from Serum. But the campaign

stumbled as Serum failed to fulfil its

Date: 03/05/2021

option for us.

interview on Friday.

by the end of 2021.

morning ... using jet fighters and also fired shots using a helicopter so we shot back at them," he said by telephone. He declined to say what weapons were used. News

to be named, said by telephone that four people had died in hospital after artillery

each month for six months in a row.

Bangladesh purchased 3 crore doses of

Serum delivered the first shipment of

AstraZeneca vaccine from Serum. But the

country has so far received only 70 lakh in

50 lakh doses properly but the second

shipment contained only 20 lakh. Serum

has not provided Bangladesh any doses

The Indian government restricted export

Serum has the capacity to produce 65

The Bangladesh government has recently

Contacted, Md Sayedur Rahman,

given China's Sinopharm and Russia's

Sputnik V emergency use authorisation and

chairman of pharmacology at Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujib Medical University, said, "We

welcome such initiatives. But the more the

state and academia will be engaged in such

initiatives, the more welfare of the people

The government has already requested

AstraZeneca to authorise production of its

there are talks of local co-production.

million doses of the vaccine each month.

and the dearth of raw materials.

shells hit a monastery in the village. Reuters could not independently verify

the reports and a military spokesman did not answer a phone call seeking comment. Myanmar has been in turmoil since the

coup, with protests almost daily against

military rule across the country. On Sunday, Myanmar security forces opened fire on some of the biggest protests in days, killing eight people, media

The protests, after a spell of dwindling crowds and what appeared to be more restraint by the security forces, were coordinated with demonstrations in Myanmar communities around the world to mark what organisers called "the global Myanmar spring revolution".

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners advocacy group said security forces have killed at least 765 protesters since the coup. Reuters is unable to confirm the toll.

#### portals MizzimaDaily and Kachinwaves also reported the downing of the helicopter next to photographs showing a plume of smoke coming from the ground. A resident in the area, who declined

Talks on to make Oxford vaccines here

"There's going to be an announcement since. Bangladesh also received 33 lakh

The Covax Facility, a global vaccine of vaccines amid rising demands at home

in the next few days," Adar Poonawalla doses of the vaccine from the India

was quoted as saying by The Times in an government as a present.

two shipments.

#### Palestinian woman killed, 2 **Israelis hurt in West Bank** A proposal was sent last month A Palestinian woman was killed and two to the British-Swedish multinational

technology to produce the vaccine from on Sunday evening, Israeli and Palestinian seed or the vaccine in bulk. officials said. An Israeli soldier shot a Palestinian AstraZeneca has yet to respond. The woman who tried to carry out a stabbing company has over 20 supply partners in attack, the military said. Palestinian officials 15 countries and more than 20 analytical

the UK and over five in the EU. In South Asia, Serum is its sole manufacturing partner. Meanwhile, Bangladeshi pharmaceutical company Renata Limited has sought permission from the government to bring

testing sites -- three manufacturing sites in

Moderna's Covid-19 vaccine. Dr Abul Bashar Mohammad Khurshid Alam, director general of the Directorate General of Health Services, said, "If brought to Bangladesh, the Moderna vaccine, that needs to be stored in sub-zero temperature, can be stored in Dhaka. We still do not have the resources to store them outside

Israelis were seriously wounded in two separate pharmaceutical company seeking its shooting incidents in the occupied West Bank

> said the woman, aged 60, died of her wounds. Later in the day Palestinian gunmen opened fire at a busy intersection, seriously wounding two Israelis. Israeli soldiers were searching for the gunmen, who fired from a car near a Jewish settlement before driving off, the military said. Tensions have been high in the West Bank and Jerusalem during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, peaking with several days of clashes near Jerusalem's Old City between Israeli police and Palestinians over access to a popular nighttime meeting spot. The Israeli army said it would be sending additional troops to the West Bank following a "situational assessment."

> > SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS, NDTV

#### SAMYA ROSE STUMO FELLOWSHIP FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

ThinkWell is launching the Samya Rose Stumo Fellowship for Global Health. The fellowship is for extraordinary young women change-makers who have inventive ideas that look to revolutionize global health. The fellowship will support the entrepreneurial ideas of young women who may otherwise have never had the opportunity. We are honored to offer a platform to inspire fellows, incubate their ideas, and launch their careers. This first year, we plan to source fellows from Kenya, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and the Philippines. Fellows will be part of an inaugural 12-month cohort where they will be mentored by leading ThinkWell global health experts, experience health systems challenges first-hand, and have support to build their own professional networks.

MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

Please find the fellowship application here https://apply.workable.com/thinkwell/j/5BC41A1F42/

To learn more about the fellowship, please visit our website https://thinkwell.institute/samyastumo/ The deadline for the 2021 applications is May 14th.



Bangladesh Development Bank Ltd. Head Office, 8, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka-1000

Website: www.bdbl.com.bd **Real Estate Department** 

No. 06.3/247/396

### e-GP Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/)

0 10	or tender is invited in the National e-or Cystem Fortal (https://www.eprocare.gov.bar)										
for procurement of the following goods described below:											
SI.	Tender	Tender	Name of work		Last date of	Date of					
No.	Notice No.	ID			tender document	tender					
					selling &	closing &					
					downloading	opening					
01.	BDBL/RED	574404	Supply,	Installation,	19/05/2021 up to	20/05/2021					
	/OTM/2021		Testing	&	02:00pm	at 12:00pm					
	/01		Commission	oning of Air							
			Cooler fo	or Different							
			Branches	& Khulna							
			Zonal Office	e of BDBL.							

1. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

2. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

3. The fees of downloading e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited through any branches of any registered bank.

4. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal

and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). Engr. Md. Reazul Islam **Deputy General Manager** 

Real Estate Department BDBL, Head Office 8, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka ©: 02-9555582

### No homegoing for Eid

will be ensured."

"If any of the markets or malls is found flouting the guidelines, it will be shut if necessary."

Covid-19 vaccine in Bangladesh.

He also said the Shop Owners Association has assured the government that it will cooperate with the administration in this regard and also see that the health safety guidelines are properly followed at markets.

Anwarul warned that action will be taken if anyone is found outside without a mask.

About inter-district transport, he said public transport operators will have to ensure that the health safety guidelines are followed properly.

"Transport operators have given us assurance in this regard... But if there is any violation of the guidelines, we will shut the transport service.'

He also mentioned that no organisations -- public or private -- will be allowed to grant extra holidays to their employees for the Eid.

The cabinet secretary said this when it was pointed out that a large number of factory workers leave the capital en masse during the Eid holiday.

"The government has decided not to extend the holiday. The three-day holiday will start on Thursday, and the remaining two days are weekends -- Friday and Saturday," he added. Following the meeting, Health Minister Zahid Maleque

said, "Once the infection rate shoots up, it takes a long time to bring it down... Now if we lift the lockdown, all our achievements will go in vain."

He referred to high infection and death rates in cities, including Dhaka, Chattogram and Khulna, and said these city

corporation areas will be monitored strictly

In reply to a query, he said around five lakh doses of Covid vaccine will arrive from China by May 10. "We've sent a proposal to China for procuring more

vaccines," he said, adding that the government has a plan to buy 5-6 crore doses. Last week, Bangladesh government approved emergency use of China's Sinopharm vaccine.

Earlier in the day, Road Transport and Bridges Minister

Obaidul Quader said public transports cannot cross the boundaries of cities and districts by any means. "Transport owners must keep half of the seats in vehicles vacant...," he said, adding that transport workers and

passengers must wear masks and use hand sanitizers. The buses must be disinfected after every trip, he mentioned.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, Natore

**2** 0771-66870 Fax: 0771-66810 E-mail: eenat@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.01.6900.453.07.001.21-949

Date: 03/05/2021

### e-Tender Notice

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd). e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division,

Transfer.							
e-GP Tender ID	Name of work	Tender document last selling/ downloading date and time	Last date and time for tender security submission	Tender closing date and time			
575649	Protective work at 16th(P) & 17th(P) km of Natore (Dalsorok)-Bildahore-Gurudaspur Road (Z-5211) under Road Division Natore, during the year 2020-2021.	17-May-2021 16:00	18-May-2021 11:00	18-May-2021 11:30			
575650	Repair of culvert's damaged wheel guard, railing, parapet wall at 40th km, 42th Km, 44th Km, 45th Km, 47th Km, 52th Km, 53rd Km of Naogaon-Atrai-Natore Road (R-548) & at 3rd km, 6th km of Natore (Dalsorok)-Bidhahore-Gurudaspur Road (Z-5211) under Road Division Natore during the year 2020-2021.	17-May-2021 16:00	18-May-2021 11:00	18-May-2021 11:35			
575651	Supply and installation of guard rail at 91st(p) km (Ahmedpur Bridge) and 76th(p) km (Dhanaidoho Bridge) of Kashinathpur-Pabna-Dashuria-Natore-Rajshahi (N-6) road and Cantilever traffic sign at different location of Kashinathpur-Pabna-Dashuria-Natore-Rajshahi (N-6), Natore Town Portion (N-602) road and Bonpara-Gopalpur-Lalpur (Z-6014) under Natore Road Division during the year 2020-2021.	17-May-2021 16:00	18-May-2021 11:00	18-May-2021 11:40			
Accepted tenders will be opened online immediately after closing time							

Accepted tenders will be opened online immediately after closing time

Md. Rayhan Imtiuj ID No. 602418 Assistant Engineer, RHD Road Division, Natore

Abdur Rahim ID No. 602227 Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD Road Division, Natore

GD-879