

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cyclone may hit West Bengal, Odisha around May 26

A major new storm was brewing in the Bay of Bengal off India's east coast on Thursday, forecasters warned just days after the biggest cyclone to hit the west of the country in decades, Cyclone Tauktae, left at least 110 people confirmed dead. In its latest warning, the Indian Meteorological Department said that a cyclonic storm was on course to hit the eastern states of West Bengal and Odisha on around May 26. Last May, more than 110 people died after "super cyclone" Amphan ravaged eastern India and Bangladesh, flattening villages, destroying farms and leaving millions without electricity. Scientists say cyclones in the densely-populated region are becoming both more frequent and stronger as climate change leads to warmer sea temperatures.

Nigeria's Boko Haram leader 'badly wounded': sources

Nigerian Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau has been seriously wounded after trying to kill himself to avoid capture during clashes with rival Islamic State-allied jihadists in the north of the country, two intelligence sources said yesterday. Shekau's Boko Haram faction and fighters from the Islamic State West Africa Province had been battling in northeastern Borno state, where ISWAP militants have become the dominant force in Nigeria's more than decade-long jihadist insurgency. Shekau, who made international headlines when his men kidnapped nearly 300 schoolgirls in Chibok in 2014, has been reported dead several times since Boko Haram first began its insurgency in 2009. Military said an investigations has been launched.

Erdogan sues rival for comparing him to Netanyahu

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday sued a nationalist rival for comparing him to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, official media reported. Iyi Party (Good Party) leader Meral Aksener said in parliament on Tuesday that Netanyahu and Erdogan used similar tactics to hold on to power. She said Netanyahu's recent campaign against in Gaza was driven by politics and a desire to gain public support after four inconclusive elections in two years. Erdogan has called Israel murderers of children and old and said crime is in their blood. It drew strong criticism from the White House.

Cecil Rhodes statue to remain: Oxford college

An Oxford University college yesterday said it will not take down a controversial statue of the 19th-century colonialist Cecil Rhodes, despite having backed its removal. Oriel College voted last year in favour of removing the statue but said it would now not do so due to "regulatory and financial challenges". The four-year campaign to remove the statue was reignited by the global explosion of Black Lives Matter demonstrations last year, following the killing in the United States of African-American George Floyd by a police officer. It followed a similar protest - "Rhodes Must Fall" - against a statue of the colonialist at the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS



Flames rise as firefighters and volunteers try to extinguish a fire burning in the village of Schinos, near Corinth, Greece, May 19, 2021. Picture taken May 19, 2021. Several Greek villages were evacuated Thursday as firefighters battled the country's first major blaze of the year on a mountain range overlooking the Gulf of Corinth. No injuries were reported. PHOTO: REUTERS

BLINKEN-LAVROV MEET IN ICELAND
Kremlin hails 'positive signals' in US-Russia ties

AFP, Moscow

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov yesterday hailed "positive signals" for ties with Washington, after a meeting of the top Russian and US diplomats and Washington's waiving of some sanctions.

The comments came after a spike in tensions between the rival powers that has recalled the Cold War, and with Russian President Vladimir Putin and US counterpart Joe Biden preparing for their first summit.

On Wednesday, in the first high-level discussions between Moscow and Washington since Biden took office, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov held nearly two-hour talks in Reykjavik with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

Lavrov described the talks as "constructive" and "useful", saying both sides understand the need to mend ties.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Peskov said the fact it had taken place was itself "a positive signal".

He cautioned however that repairing ties "will not be easy". "A lot of problems have accumulated," he said.

Also on Wednesday, Biden's administration waived sanctions against Nord Stream 2, the Russian-controlled builder of a Russia-Germany gas pipeline, which Washington has called a geopolitical security risk.

The move was aimed at defusing tensions with Berlin over the \$12-billion project.

The State Department imposed sanctions on four Russian ships, including the Akademik Cherskiy, which began pipe-laying for the project in Danish waters in April. It also imposed the measures on five other Russian entities, including the Russian Marine Rescue Service.

Although Lavrov on Wednesday did not respond when asked if Russia had formally agreed to the expected Biden-Putin summit, Blinken said he expected it to happen in the next few weeks.

Vaccines work against all variants
Says WHO; vaccine monopoly adds nine to billionaires list

AFP, Copenhagen

Progress against the coronavirus pandemic remains "fragile" and international travel should be avoided, a World Health Organization director warned yesterday, while stressing that authorised vaccines work against variants of concern.

"Right now, in the face of a continued threat and new uncertainty, we need to continue to exercise caution, and rethink or avoid international travel," WHO's European director Hans Kluge said, before adding that "pockets of increasing transmission" on the continent could quickly spread.

The so-called Indian variant, which might be more transmissible, has now been identified in at least 26 of the 53 countries in the WHO Europe region, Kluge said during his weekly press conference.

But he said that authorised vaccines are effective against the new strain.

"All Covid-19 virus variants that



have emerged so far do respond to the available, approved vaccines," Kluge said, adding that all Covid-19 variants can be controlled with the same public health and social measures used until now.

Profits from Covid-19 jabs have helped at least nine people become billionaires, a campaign group said yesterday, calling for an end to pharmaceutical corporations' "monopoly control" on vaccine technology.

"Between them, the nine new

billionaires have a combined net worth of \$19.3 billion, enough to fully vaccinate all people in low-income countries 1.3 times," The People's Vaccine Alliance said in a statement.

"These billionaires are the human face of the huge profits many pharmaceutical corporations are making from the monopoly they hold on these vaccines," said Anna Marriott from charity Oxfam, which is part of the alliance.

In addition to the new mega-rich, eight existing billionaires have seen their combined wealth increase by \$32.2 billion thanks to the vaccine rollout, the alliance said.

Topping the list of new vaccine billionaires were the CEO of Moderna Stephane Bancel, and his BioNTech counterpart Ugur Sahin.

Three other neobillionaires are co-founders of the Chinese vaccine company CanSino Biologics.

রাঙ্গামাটি বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
অস্থায়ী প্রধান কার্যালয়, ভেদভেদী, রাঙ্গামাটি পার্বত্য জেলা
স্মারক নং রাবিপ্রবি/পওউ/রাঙ্গামাটি/লাইব্রেরী শাখা/বই ক্রয়/২০২০-২১/১১০ তারিখঃ ২১/০৫/২০২১খ্রিঃ

Invitation for Tenders (OTM)

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education.
2. Agency	University Grants Commission of Bangladesh/Rangamati Science and Technology University.
3. Procuring entity name	Professor Dr. Pradanendu Bikash Chakma, Vice Chancellor, Rangamati Science and Technology University.
4. Procuring entity district	Rangamati.
5. Invitation for	Supply of Books for University Library.
KEY INFORMATION	
6. Procurement method	Open Tender Method (OTM).
7. Budget and source of fund	GoB.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
8. Project/programme name	Not applicable.
9. Quotation/tender package No.	--
10. Quotation/tender publication date	21/05/2021
11. Quotation/tender last collection date	06/06/2021 (office hours)
12. Quotation/tender closing date and time	07/06/2021, 12:00pm.
13. Quotation/tender opening date and time	07/06/2021, 12:30pm.
14. Name & address of the offices	-Collection of quotation/ tender document Planning & Development Department, 2nd Floor, Admin Building, Rangamati Science and Technology University, Vedvedi, Rangamati-4500. -Receiving quotation/tender document Planning & Development Department, 2nd Floor, Admin Building, Rangamati Science and Technology University, Vedvedi, Rangamati-4500.
15. Place of opening quotation/tender document	Conference Room (2nd Floor), Admin Building, Rangamati Science and Technology University, Vedvedi, Rangamati-4500.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
16. Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	a). Updated trade license, b). TIN certificate, c) VAT registration certificate, d). Bank solvency certificate; and e). Experience in supply of Books in relevant qualifications and other qualifications (as mentioned in tender documents/schedule).
17. Brief description of goods or works	Supply of Books for University Library.
18. Price of tender document	Non-refundable of Taka 1,000/- (Taka one thousand) only.
19. Tender security	Taka: 10,500/- (Taka ten thousand five hundred only) payable in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft of any schedule bank of Bangladesh in favor of "Vice-Chancellor, Rangamati Science and Technology University."
PROCUREMENT ENTITY DETAILS	
20. Name of official inviting tender	Abdul Gafur.
21. Designation of official inviting tender	Assistant Director (P&D).
22. Address of official inviting tender	Rangamati Science and Technology University, Vedvedi, Rangamati-4500.
23. Contact details of official inviting tender	Mobile: 0351-62139.
24. Special instructions	a. Any tender received after deadline for submission of tender, shall be declared late, will be rejected and returned unopened to the tenderer. b. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any tender to annul the tender process or to reject any or all tenders at any time prior to award of contract.
25. The tender will be performed according to	"The Public Procurement Rules". //Signed// Assistant Director (P&D) Rangamati Science and Technology University

36 more die

FROM PAGE 2
Meanwhile, the positivity rate yesterday also decreased slightly -- to 7.5 percent from the previous day's 7.83 percent.

From Saturday's 6.95 percent, the positivity rate started rising again compared to a steep rise during the ongoing second wave of Covid-19.

With the latest count, the overall positivity rate stands at 13.60 percent.

In 24 hours ending at 8:00am yesterday, 36 people died from coronavirus, taking the death toll to 12,284.

The death rate is now 1.56 percent.

At least 1,378 Covid-19 patients recovered during the same 24 hours.

The total number of recoveries was 7,27,510 and the recovery rate stands at 92.65 percent.

Among yesterday's 36 deceased, 26 were men and 10 women. Two of them were aged between 21 and 30, five between 41 and 50, one was between 31 and 40, nine were within 51-60 and 19 above 60 years old, added the DGHS release.

Meanwhile, the three Bangladeshis, who tested positive for Covid-19 in Jashore, were among the total 22 positive cases in Jashore yesterday, reports our Benapole correspondent.

They were admitted to the corona unit at Jashore Medical College Hospital yesterday, said Rehnewaz Rony, medical officer of civil surgeon's office in the district.

In another development, the Indian returnee who died from Covid-19 in Chuadanga was a female cancer patient, reports our Kushtia correspondent.

On Wednesday, she returned home through Darshana border and was sent to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital isolation ward, said SSM Fateh Akram, resident medical officer of the hospital.

Nasal swab of the deceased was collected to know whether she carried the Indian variant, said the physician.

The deceased was from Chattogram's Sitakunda.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Govt. Shah Sultan College
Sherpur Road, Banani, Bogura
Website: www.govssc.edu.bd

Memo No. gssc/bog/idgsp/cedp/2021/129 Date: 20/05/2021

e-Tender Notice 02/2020-2021

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	580096	Procurement of Air Conditioner	07-Jun-2021 13:00	07-Jun-2021 14:00

This is an online tender, where 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 in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 07-Jun-2021, 1:00pm.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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NIPORT

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Medical Education & Family Welfare Division
National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT)
13/1 Sheikh Shaheb Bazar, Azimpur
Dhaka-1205.

Ref. No.: 59.12.0000.002.41.021.21-417(1) Date: ০৫ জুইন ২০২১ বঙ্গাব্দ
১৯ মে ২০২১ খ্রিঃাব্দ

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by the Director General, National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT) for the procurement of the following work described below:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Tender ID	Scheduled Tender/Proposal Publication/selling/downloading Date and Time	Tender/Proposal/closing/Opening Date and Time
1.	Typing, Editing, Printing, binding and supply of training curriculum for NIPORT Head office, RPTI and RTC	580149	19 May 2021 11:55 pm	06 Jun 2021 02:00 pm

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

2. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

3. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal to be deposited through any branch of the registered bank.

(Md. Mijanur Rahaman)
Deputy Director (Administration)
& Deputy Secretary
NIPORT Head Office
Phone: 58617313
E-mail: mijan15883@gmail.com