

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cold weather in China kills 21 in ultramarathon

Twenty-one people were killed when extremely cold weather struck during an ultramarathon in rugged Gansu province in northwestern China...

Iran-IAEA nuclear sites monitoring deal expires

Iran's parliament speaker yesterday said that a three-month monitoring deal between Tehran and the UN nuclear watchdog had expired...

Photos appear to show Dubai's Sheikhha Latifa

Two pictures purportedly showing Dubai's Sheikhha Latifa were published on an unverified Instagram account this week...

Bolsonaro fined for breaking Covid curbs

President Jair Bolsonaro must pay a fine for failing to adhere to state health safety regulations at a public event...

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS



Palestinians sit in a makeshift tent amid the rubble of their houses which were destroyed by Israeli air strikes during the Israel-Hamas fighting in Gaza, yesterday. Inset, A anti-Zionist Jewish man carries a poster as people attend a protest in support of Palestine in Queens in New York on Saturday.

PHOTO: REUTERS, AFP

GAZA CEASEFIRE

UNSC calls for 'full adherence'

AFP, United Nations

The UN Security Council has called for "full adherence to the ceasefire" in the conflict between Israel and Palestinians in the Gaza Strip...

Security Council members also stressed "the immediate need for humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian civilian population, particularly in Gaza."

The statement received backing from the US delegation -- which had blocked earlier drafts -- only after the removal of a paragraph condemning the violence...

An earlier draft said that "Security Council members condemned all acts of violence against civilians, including acts of terror, as well as acts of provocation, incitement and destruction."

That draft also "expressed concern about the tensions and violence in east Jerusalem, especially in and around the holy sites, and urged for the respect of the historic status quo at the holy sites."

It supported a call from Secretary-General Antonio Guterres for the international community to work with the UN to develop a "robust package of support for a swift, sustainable reconstruction and recovery."

Several thousand people marched Saturday in Paris and other French cities, London, New York in support of Palestinians after an 11-day conflict with Israel that killed 260 people.

THE CHILDREN OF GAZA

Bombing ends, trauma persists

AFP, Gaza

When an Israeli air strike targeted a security office near her home in Gaza this month, 10-year-old Zeina Dabous frantically scribbled a note and slipped it under her mother's pillow.

"Mummy, my love, I am very very scared. If we all die, put us in the same grave all together so I can stay in your arms," she wrote.

"I want to wear my Eid clothes," she added, of the outfit she never got to wear for the Muslim celebration after Israeli air strikes on the Palestinian enclave started on May 10.

Though a ceasefire has since Friday halted the 11-day air raids, experts warn that children in the besieged coastal strip will likely carry the mental scars for years to come.

Psychologists say many are showing signs of depression, anxiety, behavioural disorders or irritability, and many are wetting their bed.

At home in Gaza city just before the bombing stopped, Zeina said she was constantly petrified and barely sleeping.

"They're always bombing," she told AFP. Zeina is one of around a million children living in Gaza, according to the UN's children agency UNICEF.

Israeli strikes on Gaza killed 248 Palestinians, including 66 children, and have wounded another 1,900 people, the Gaza health ministry says.

Israeli air strikes also pounded the densely populated enclave in 2008-2009, 2012 and 2014.

When the last war raged, Zeina was no older than four.

"A whole generation of children has been ravaged by repeated conflicts," said Zeina's grandfather, Saeed Dabous.

The charity Save the Children on Friday warned that children in Gaza would suffer for years to come.

They "are suffering from fear and anxiety, a lack of sleep, and are displaying worrying signs of distress, such as constant shaking and bedwetting," it said.

There is no overall tally of how many children are suffering from mental health issues in Gaza due to repeated conflict, Gaza Community Mental Health Programme (GCMHP) says.

Psychologist Mohammed Abu Sabeh said children exposed to "great trauma" often then exhibit "violent behavioural disorders."

"The wars are sowing violence in schools and homes," he said.

Most children in the Gaza Strip suffer from "depression, anxiety or a behavioural disorder", and "a catastrophic number" of them need treatment.

"I'm not optimistic," Abu Sabeh said. "This war will create an aggressive, violent and hateful generation."

SECOND COVID WAVE IN INDIA

Child cases fuel concerns

THE STRAITS TIMES, Bangalore

As India's second wave of Covid-19 continues its devastation, doctors and health experts have noted a rise in infections among children, fuelling concerns that children are more vulnerable to catching the disease.

Claims that the B1617 variant first detected in India disproportionately affects children, the only segment of the population ineligible for vaccination, have further fed the fears.

Daily infections are also shooting up in the Indian countryside, where public health services are scarce and already overstretched, in comparison to big towns, experts say.

"There is no scientific evidence and epidemiological data to say that a third wave of Covid-19 in India will affect mainly the children. All susceptible age groups are likely to be equally affected," said Dr Chandrakant Lahariya, an epidemiologist formerly with the World Health Organisation.

But public concern is pushing many states and the Indian government to set up task forces and exclusive Covid-19 care centres for children, and to issue advisories on preventing transmission from children.

More children have indeed been infected in India's second wave of Covid-19. The country does not keep national-level data on the ages of those who are infected. But some states do.

In Karnataka state, the number of children aged up to nine testing positive in the past two months has been 1.4 times the total number of infections from January to March 18. It was 1.6 times for the 10-19 age group.

The increase in deaths is less pronounced.

While 28 children have died of the virus as at March 18, 15 have died in the two months since. Among adolescents, 46 had died as at March 18, and there have been 16 more since.

In Maharashtra, the worst-hit state in India, 75,387 children were infected in the past month - an almost 51 per cent increase.

But they form a small percentage of overall infections: Those aged under 10 made up only 3 per cent of infections, while those aged between 10 and 19 made up 6.8 per cent.

To dispel fears, the Indian authorities clarified on Tuesday (May 18) that a majority of children are asymptomatic and only a small proportion needed hospitalisation. Many states are testing more children, especially if they have been exposed to a family member with Covid-19. Doctors warn that children can catch and spread the virus more easily.

Most children with Covid-19 get only mild diarrhoea or a cold, so adults tend to let their guard down when it comes to the young ones.



CONTROVERSIAL DIANA INTERVIEW

BBC journo apologises to William, Harry

AFP, London

Martin Bashir, the BBC journalist who tricked princess Diana into giving an explosive interview, yesterday apologised to Princes William and Harry, but said claims linking his actions to her death were "unreasonable".

A report by retired senior judge John Dyson published on Thursday found that Bashir commissioned faked bank statements that falsely suggested some of Diana's closest aides were being paid by the security services to keep tabs on her.

Bashir, 58, then showed them to Diana's brother Charles Spencer in a successful bid to convince him to arrange a meeting between himself and Diana and earn her trust.

Bashir told the Sunday Times he was "deeply sorry" to Diana's sons Prince William and Prince Harry.

"I never wanted to harm Diana in any way and I don't believe we did," he told the paper. But William said Bashir's actions and the



interview had made "a major contribution" to the demise of his parents' relationship and "contributed significantly to her fear, paranoia and isolation" in her final years.

In his own release, Harry said that the deceptive practices had played a part in his mother's death. "The ripple effect of a culture of exploitation and unethical practices ultimately took her life," he said.

Diana died in a Paris car crash in 1997, aged 36.

Bashir disputed the accusations, saying "I don't feel I can be held responsible for many of the other things that were going on in her

life, and the complex issues surrounding those decisions.

He argued that the 1995 interview had been conducted on Diana's terms, and that they remained firm friends after it aired to an audience of 22.8 million people.

Bashir has said that he regretted showing Diana's brother forged documents, but that it had "no bearing" on the revelations aired during the interview.

In it, Diana famously said "there were three people" in her marriage -- her, Charles and his long-time mistress and now wife, Camilla Parker-Bowles -- and also admitted adultery.

Bashir worked for the BBC as religion editor until he stepped down just last week, citing ill health, hours before Dyson's report was submitted to BBC bosses.

Former BBC chief Tony Hall, whom Dyson criticised for his "woefully ineffective" 1996 probe into Bashir's deception, resigned as chair of Britain's National Gallery on Saturday.

POST-COUP CRISIS IN MYANMAR

More than 125,000 teachers suspended

Rebels seize police post, kill 13

REUTERS

More than 125,000 school teachers in Myanmar have been suspended by the military authorities for joining a civil disobedience movement to oppose the coup in February, an official of the Myanmar Teachers' Federation said.

The suspensions have come days before the start of a new school year, which some teachers and parents are boycotting as part of the campaign that has paralysed the country.

A total of 125,900 school teachers had been suspended as of Saturday, said the official. Myanmar has 430,000 school teachers according to the most recent data.

"These are just statements to threaten people to come back to work. If they actually fire this many people, the whole system will stop," said the official, who is also a teacher. He said he had been told that the charges he faces would be dropped if he returns.

The disruption at schools echoes that in the health sector and across government and private business. Around 19,500 university staff have also been suspended.

Meanwhile, fighters opposed to Myanmar's military junta seized a police station in the eastern town of Mobe yesterday and claimed to have killed at least 13 members of the security forces and captured four, local media said.

Mobe is around 100 km east of the capital Naypyidaw, but lies near territory held by some of the ethnic armed groups that have fought for greater autonomy for decades.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Sylhet Civil Surgeon Office Sylhet E-mail: sylhet@cs.dghs.gov.bd Memo No. CSS/DRS/Songroho/Re-Tender/2020-2021/1328 Date: 16/05/2021 e-Tender Notice (Re-Tender) (Open Tendering Method) 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 (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd). For more details, please contact support desk contract numbers. Re-Tender are invited in e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) by Dr. Premananda Mondol, Sylhet Civil Surgeon Office, Sylhet, for the Procurement of: Tender ID Name of goods Tender/proposal publication date & time Last date of tender submission 579189 Supply of Linen for the FY 20-21 in Civil Surgeon Office Sylhet. 19-May-2021 23:50 31-May-2021 12:00 Re-Tender details can be downloaded on e-GP System Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for pursuer. Re-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list; accepted tenders will be opened online immediate as stated in above list. Dr. Premananda Mondol Sylhet Civil Surgeon Office Sylhet GD-1032

বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন আইইবি ভবন, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০, বাংলাদেশ স্মারক নং-১৪.৩২.০০০০.৯০০.০১.০৬৯.২০.১৯৫ তারিখঃ ২০/০৫/২০২১খ্রিঃ অডিট ফর্ম নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশনের ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থবছরের বার্ষিক হিসাব বিবরণী, আর্থিক বিবরণী, সামাজিক দায়বদ্ধতা তহবিল, প্রদেয় ভবিষ্যৎ তহবিল (CPF) হিসাব, ব্যাংক সমন্বয় হিসাব বিবরণী (Bank Reconciliation Statement) প্রস্তুতকরণ এবং ম্যানেজমেন্ট রিপোর্ট দাখিলসহ যাবতীয় হিসাব নিরীক্ষা ও হিসাব সংক্রান্ত আনুষঙ্গিক কার্যক্রমের জন্য Bangladesh Chartered Accounts Order 1973 (P.O No-2 of 1973) এর অধীনে নিবন্ধিত চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্টস (অংশীদারি ফার্ম) ফার্মসমূহের নিকট হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। আগ্রহী চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্টস ফার্মসমূহকে দরপত্রের সাথে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্র/তথ্যাবলী সন্নিবেশ করতে হবে: ১। চার্টার্ড একাউন্ট্যান্টস ফার্মটি অংশীদারি ফার্ম হতে হবে। যে সকল সিএ ফার্ম এবং পার্টনারদের বিরুদ্ধে আদালত কিংবা আইসিএবি'র নিষেধাজ্ঞা বহাল রয়েছে সে সকল ফার্ম এ নিরীক্ষা কাজে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবে না। ২। ফার্ম রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট, প্রতিষ্ঠানের হালনাগাদকৃত TIN সার্টিফিকেট ও ট্রেড লাইসেন্স। ৩। ফার্ম কর্মরত অংশীদারদের Deed of Agreement ও প্রযুক্তিসিং সার্টিফিকেট। ৪। উক্ত নিরীক্ষা কাজে ০১ জন FCA, ০১ জন ACA/ACCA, ০২ জন সিএ (সি) কোর্স সম্পন্ন সদস্য, সিএ কোর্সের ন্যূনতম ০২ বছর সম্পন্নকৃত ০৩ জন সদস্যসহ কমপক্ষে ১২ জন অভিজ্ঞ সদস্য সার্বক্ষণিকভাবে নিয়োগ করতে হবে। এ নিরীক্ষা কাজে নিয়োজিত সকল সদস্যের ছবিসহ জীবন বৃত্তান্ত দাখিল করতে হবে। ৫। নিরীক্ষা কাজে ফার্মের ১০ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। অভিজ্ঞতা সংক্রান্ত প্রত্যয়নপত্র দরপত্রের সহিত দাখিল করতে হবে। ৬। দরপত্রে নিরীক্ষা ফি সুস্পষ্টভাবে উল্লেখ করতে হবে। নিরীক্ষা ফি উল্লেখ করা না হলে দরপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। ৭। নিরীক্ষা ফি'র উপর বিধি মোতাবেক ভ্যাট ও এআইটি প্রযোজ্য হবে। উল্লিখিত তথ্যাবলী দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করা আবশ্যিক। দরপত্র দাখিলের ক্ষেত্রে আইসিএবি কর্তৃক প্রণীত নিয়মাবলী অনুসরণ করা বাধ্যনীয়। কার্য সম্পাদনের বিস্তারিত শর্ত কার্যদেশে উল্লেখ থাকবে। কার্যদেশে প্রাপ্তির ৩০ (ত্রিশ) কার্যদিবসের মধ্যে নিরীক্ষা কার্যক্রম সম্পাদন করে চূড়ান্ত প্রতিবেদন বিটিআরসি'র চেয়ারম্যান বরাবরে দাখিল করতে হবে। উপর্যুক্ত তথ্য সম্বলিত দরপত্র আগামী ০৯/০৬/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ বেলা ১০.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে পরিচালক (অর্থ, হিসাব ও রাজস্ব) বরাবর দাখিল করতে হবে এবং একই দিন বেলা ১০.০১ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতা/প্রতিনিধিদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র উন্মুক্ত করা হবে। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা বিটিআরসি সংরক্ষণ করে। আফতাব মোঃ রাশেদুল গণাদান পরিচালক (অর্থ, হিসাব ও রাজস্ব) বিটিআরসি জিডি-১০২০