

NEWS IN brief

Russia fires warning shots at British ship in Black Sea

Russia yesterday fired warning shots at a British Navy destroyer in the Black Sea after it violated the country's territorial waters...



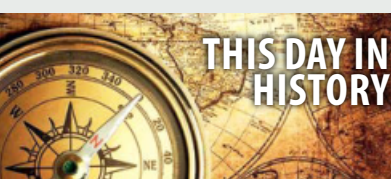
No Scotland independence vote before 2024: minister

Scotland will not be given a new referendum on independence before 2024, a senior UK cabinet minister said in an interview published yesterday...

Pandemic has increased trust in media: report

The pandemic has helped rebuild a little of the confidence lost in the media, and pushed news companies even more towards digital, according to the annual Reuters Institute report...

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS



June 24

- 1901 - The first exhibition by the 19-year-old painter Pablo Picasso opened in Paris to critical acclaim. 1916 - The first Battle of the Somme began in World War One. 1948 - The Soviet Union began a blockade of Berlin...

SOURCE: REUTERS

'Life can recover, humans cannot'

Draft UN report warns crushing climate impacts to hit sooner than feared, tells us to get ready for impact

Climate change will fundamentally reshape life on Earth in the coming decades, even if humans can tame planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions, according to a landmark draft report from the UN's climate science advisors obtained by AFP...



But dangerous thresholds are closer than once thought, and dire consequences stemming from decades of unbridled carbon pollution are unavoidable in the short term.

- Devastating Climate impacts to become obvious before a child born today turns 30 By 2050, 410m more city dwellers to face severe water scarcity Up to 80m more risk hunger by 2050 420m more will be exposed to extreme and potentially lethal heatwaves

There are at least four main takeaways in the draft report. Earlier models predicted we were not likely to see Earth-altering climate change before 2100. But the UN draft report says that prolonged warming even beyond 1.5 degrees Celsius could produce 'progressively serious, centuries' long and, in some cases, irreversible consequences.'

Other tipping points could see the Amazon basin morph from tropical forest to savannah, and billions of tonnes of carbon leech from Siberia's permafrost, fuelling further warming. There is very little good news in the report, but the IPCC stresses that much can be done to avoid worst-case scenarios and prepare for impacts that can no longer be averted, the final take away.

"The worst is yet to come, affecting our children's and grandchildren's lives much more than our own," the report says. "Life on Earth can recover from a drastic climate shift by evolving into new species and creating new ecosystems," it says. "Humans cannot."

Quotes of the day



We are not considering even the possibility of any contact with the US, let alone having it, which would get us nowhere.

NORTH KOREA FOREIGN MINISTER RI SON GWON



We can of course not face this (climate) crisis unless... we are adult enough to tell the truth, and to face the reality.

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIVIST GRETA THUNBERG

ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY BUILDING

Iran foils sabotage attack: state media

Says US websites seizure won't help nuke talks

AFP, Tehran

Iran said it foiled a sabotage attack yesterday on an atomic energy agency building in a mysterious incident that comes as the US blocked Iran-linked websites and as talks to revive a nuclear deal progressed.

State television said a "sabotage operation against one of the buildings (of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran) was foiled" without causing any casualties or damage.

"The saboteurs failed to carry out their plan," the broadcaster added, without identifying the building or the nature of the attack that had been averted.

The news of the attack came a day after the US Justice Department said it seized 33 Iranian government-controlled media websites which it alleged were hosted on US-owned domains in violation of sanctions.

Tehran warned yesterday that Washington's decision to block the sites was "not constructive" for ongoing talks aimed at bringing the United States back to the landmark 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers.

Iran accuses the Jewish state of being behind a sabotage attack on its Natanz uranium enrichment plant in April and the assassination of its top nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhri-Zadeh last November.

Israel neither confirmed nor denied involvement in the "small explosion" at Natanz, but public radio said it was a sabotage operation by the Mossad spy agency, citing unnamed intelligence sources.

The New York Times, quoting unnamed US and Israeli intelligence officials, said there had been "an Israeli role" in that attack.

At the time, the Iranian foreign ministry accused Israel of an act of "nuclear terrorism" aimed at scuttling the Vienna nuclear talks and vowed revenge. The Jewish state has also never commented on Fakhri-Zadeh's assassination.

Israel argues the nuclear agreement could allow the Islamic republic to develop a bomb. Iran has always denied seeking nuclear weapons.

Yair Lapid, foreign minister in Israel's new coalition government, last week pledged the Jewish state "will do whatever it takes to prevent Iran obtaining a nuclear bomb" and said he was opposed to a revival of the 2015 deal.



'Ecocide' redefined

New definition puts environmental destruction on a par with genocide, crimes against humanity

AGENCIES

After six months of deliberation, a team of international lawyers has unveiled a new legal definition of "ecocide" that, if adopted, would put environmental destruction on a par with war crimes - paving the way for the prosecution of world leaders and corporate chiefs for the worst attacks on nature.

The expert panel published the core text of the proposed law on Tuesday, outlining ecocide as "unlawful or wanton acts committed with knowledge that there is a substantial likelihood of severe and either widespread or long-term damage to the environment being caused by those acts".

Its authors want the members of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to endorse it and hold big polluters to account in a bid to halt the unbridled destruction of the world's ecosystems.

The draft legislation requires an ecocidal act to involve "reckless disregard" that leads to "serious adverse changes, disruption or harm to any element of the environment". Another section says such damage would

extend beyond a limited geographic area, cross state boundaries, or [be] suffered by an entire ecosystem or species or a large number of human beings."

This environmental effect would either be "irreversible" or could not be fixed naturally "within a reasonable period of time". Finally, in order for ecocidal suspects to be tried, the proposed law says the crime could be committed anywhere — from the Earth's biosphere to outer space.

Any of the ICC's 123 member states can now propose it as an amendment to the court's charter, known as the Rome Statute. Once that happens, the court's annual assembly will hold a vote on whether the amendment can be considered for future enactment. If this passes, member states must then secure a two-thirds majority to adopt the draft law into the Rome Statute, before each member could then ratify and enforce it in their own national jurisdiction.

At that point, ecocide would join genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crime of aggression as the so-called "fifth crime" that could be prosecuted at the ICC.



Khashoggi killers got training in US: report

AFP, Washington

Four members of the Saudi hit squad that killed US-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018 had received paramilitary training in the United States that had been approved by the State Department, the New York Times reported late Tuesday.

Khashoggi, a Saudi-born US resident who wrote for the Washington Post, was an outspoken critic of the Saudi leadership, with which he had once been close. He was murdered on October 2, 2018 in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul by a team of agents sent from Saudi Arabia.

Four of those operatives, the New York Times said, had received training from a private American security group, Tier 1 Group, a move first authorized by the administration of former president Barack Obama in 2014.

According to a US report released in February, seven members of an elite unit tasked with protecting Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman were part of the hit squad that killed Khashoggi.

The New York Times did not specify whether the four operatives trained in the United States belonged to this unit.

The body of the dissident journalist, dismembered on the spot, has never been found. After denying the assassination, Riyadh claimed the murder had been carried by Saudi agents who acted alone.

After an opaque trial in Saudi Arabia, five Saudis were sentenced to death and three sentenced to prison terms. The death sentences have since been commuted.

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক (সেন্ট্রাল ব্যাংক অব বাংলাদেশ) প্রধান কার্যালয় মতিবিল, ঢাকা-১০০০ বাংলাদেশ. বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ৮৪/২০২১ তারিখঃ ২২/০৬/২০২১. পুনঃ উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি. ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটির সদস্যভুক্ত রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংকে ডিসেম্বর/২০১৯ সাল ভিত্তিক 'সিনিয়র অফিসার (ফিন্যান্সিয়াল এনালিস্ট)' এর ১টি শূন্য পদে নিয়োগের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রার্থীদের লিখিত পরীক্ষা গ্রহণকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান নির্বাচনের জন্য পুনঃ ই-টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি।

শোগগি'র বন্ধুরা (shoggi's friends) - চতুর্থ অধ্যায়।

e-GP Tender Notice. Memo No: 37.03.0000.070.007.203.020.359. Date: 22 JUN 2021. e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of goods details below in the table.