

NEWS
IN brief

US sanctions Cuba for repressing protests

The United States imposed sanctions on Cuba's defense minister and a special forces unit Thursday for repressing peaceful protests, a step President Joe Biden warned is "just the beginning" of punitive measures against Havana. The US Treasury Department said its Office of Foreign Assets Control froze the assets of minister Alvaro Lopez Miera and the Special National Brigade (SNB), a division of Cuba's interior ministry, in relation to human rights abuses committed during a crackdown on protests on the island earlier in July. The sanctions were imposed under the Magnitsky act, which allows a US president to take action against human rights abuses and corruption.

Taliban claim of controlling 90pc of Afghan border is 'lie'

The Taliban's claim to hold 90 percent of Afghanistan's borders is an "absolute lie", the defence ministry said yesterday, insisting government forces were in control of the country's frontiers. The Taliban's claim on Thursday came after the group captured key border crossings with Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Pakistan in recent weeks in a staggering offensive launched as US-led foreign forces began their final troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. According to an AFP report, the Afghan ministry insisted government forces were in control of the country's borders and all "main cities and highways".

Russia disconnects from internet in tests: report

Russia managed to disconnect itself from the global internet during tests in June and July, the RBC daily reported on Thursday, citing documents from the working group tasked with improving Russia's internet security. Russia adopted legislation, known as the "sovereign internet" law, in late 2019 that seeks to shield the country from being cut off from foreign infrastructure, in answer to what Russia called the "aggressive nature" of the United States' national cyber security strategy. The legislation caused consternation among free speech activists, who feared the move would strengthen government oversight of cyberspace. Tests involving all Russia's major telecoms firms were held from June 15 to July 15 and were successful, according to RBC.

Ex-rights chief to lead UN Israel-Palestinian inquiry

Former UN rights chief Navi Pillay will lead the United Nations' open-ended inquiry into "systematic" abuses in Israel and the Palestinian territories, it was announced on Thursday. The UN Human Rights Council's president said Pillay would lead a three-person investigation into abuses and their "root causes" in the decades-long conflict. A commission of inquiry (COI) is the highest-level investigation that can be ordered by the council. The probe was triggered during a special session of the council held on May 27 to discuss the surge in deadly violence between Israelis and Palestinians earlier in the month. The conflict killed 260 Palestinians including some fighters, according to Gaza authorities. In Israel, 13 people were killed, including a soldier, the police and army said.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS



A family mourn by their relative's grave, who died from Covid-19, in Jakarta, Indonesia, July 23, 2021. Despite a warning from the WHO amid record deaths and infections, Indonesia has taken decision to relax social curbs enacted earlier this month - a move analysts say is largely led by economic considerations. Indonesia has become one of the epicentres of the global pandemic in recent weeks, with positive Covid-19 cases leaping fivefold in the past five weeks. The country's death toll has broken records four times this week, the latest yesterday with 1,566 deaths.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Quote of the day



"We will probably have another winter. ... The big challenge for the next couple of years will be how are we going to co-exist, with two worlds: countries that are vaccinated and those that are not."

JEAN-FRANCOIS DELFRAISSY, HEAD OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL, URGES ALL TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES AS HE PREDICTS PANDEMIC MAY NOT END UNTILL 2023

PEGASUS SPYWARE SCANDAL

'This is treason'

Indian opposition demands probe amid growing uproar

AGENCIES

Indian PM Narendra Modi's main political rival Rahul Gandhi yesterday demanded an inquiry into the Pegasus spyware scandal, accusing the government of "treason", according to an AFP report.

Gandhi is one of dozens of Indian politicians, journalists and government critics on an alleged global database of 50,000 possible Pegasus spying targets that was revealed by an international group of media outlets.

The Indian government has rejected spying claims although critics note it has not said whether it is a client of NSO Group, the Israeli maker of the Pegasus spyware which effectively captures a target's cellphone.

The claims have sparked uproar in the Indian parliament, with one opposition MP on Thursday snatched and ripped up the text of a statement on the subject being delivered by IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

TMC MP Santanu Sen has been suspended from Rajya Sabha for the remaining period of the monsoon session after a motion moved by the government was passed by the House.

"Pegasus is classified by the Israeli state as a weapon and that weapon is supposed to be used

against terrorists," Rahul Gandhi, 51, told reporters in New Delhi.

"The prime minister and the home minister have used this weapon against the Indian state and against our institutions. The only word for this is treason.... and this has to be investigated."

The alleged database of phone numbers included more than 1,000 in India, with the owners of 300 of them identified in the media reports, reports AFP.

It is not known how many of the phones on the list were actually targeted for surveillance or how many attempts were successful.

But according to Indian news website The Wire -- one of the media outlets given access to the database by two rights groups -- mounting forensic evidence suggests one or more official agency has been using the spyware.

Other possible targets revealed in the reports on Thursday include aides to the Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama, who lives in exile in India, businessman Anil Ambani, and former CBI Director Alok Verma and two other senior officers at the agency.

The numbers of Ambani and his employee Tony Jesudan entered the list in 2018, when a legal challenge had been mounted in the Supreme Court about the Indian government's deal with Dassault to purchase the Rafale jets, reports TOI.



TMC MP suspended from Rajya Sabha after protest

Anil Ambani, ex-CBI chief on list of targets

Great Barrier Reef avoids Unesco 'in danger' listing

AFP, Brisbane

Australia yesterday avoided having the Great Barrier Reef listed as an endangered world heritage site by UNESCO, despite extensive climate change-fueled damage to the ecosystem's corals.

After a concerted lobbying effort by Canberra, members of the World Heritage Committee voted to give Australian conservation efforts more time. The group brushed aside Unesco experts' recommendation that the reef's World Heritage status be downgraded because of dramatic coral decline, instead telling Australia to report on the reef's status by 2022.

The 2,300-kilometre-long ecosystem has suffered three mass coral bleaching events since 2016, caused by rising ocean temperatures due to global warming.

Despite the damage, the reef remains a vital tourist draw for Australia, which had feared an "in danger" label could deter post-pandemic visitors.

CRITICISM OVER HANDLING OF PANDEMIC
Indian tax officials raid media outlets

AFP, New Delhi

Indian tax authorities have raided a prominent newspaper and a TV channel that have been critical of the government's handling of the coronavirus pandemic, triggering accusations of intimidation.

There was no official comment from authorities on the raids against Hindi-language daily Dainik Bhaskar and the Bharat Samachar channel but local media quoted unnamed tax officials as saying they had "conclusive evidence of fraud". Bhaskar has carried a series of reports on the devastation caused by the pandemic in April and May and criticised the government's management of the crisis.

The daily said on its website Thursday in response to the raids that in the last six months it had sought to "put the real situation in front of the country".

At the height of the Covid-19 outbreak, families in India's north and east gave up the bodies of their loved ones to the river or buried them in shallow graves on its banks, likely unable to afford the cost of funeral pyres.

Last month, the daily's editor Om Gaur wrote an op-ed in the New York Times saying the bodies in the Ganges were symbolic of the "failures and deceptions" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration.

Brijesh Mishra, editor in chief of Bharat Samachar, said the raids were harassment.

Modi's government has long been accused of attempting to stifle critical reporting in the world's biggest democracy, something it denies.

On Reporters Without Borders' 2021 press freedom index, India ranks 142nd out of 180 countries.

Ashok Gehlot, chief minister of Rajasthan, said the raids were a brazen attempt to suppress the media. "Modi government cannot tolerate even an iota of its criticism," Gehlot, who is from the Congress party, wrote on Twitter.

New Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted that the raids were "an attempt to scare the media".

CLIMATE CHANGE

WHEN PREDICTIONS BECOME REALITY

Climate scientists have long warned of severe impacts on the near horizon, and the 21st century has seen more than a few natural disasters made worse or more likely by global warming. But a cascade of deadly extreme weather this summer could make 2021 the year when climate predictions became a reality that can no longer be ignored.

CANADA'S HEAT DOME

In late June, western Canada was caught under a "heat dome", a phenomenon causing scorching temperatures when hot air is trapped by high pressure fronts, and heats up even more as it is pushed back down. The country broke its record high temperature several times, finally capping at 49.6 degrees Celsius (121 degrees Fahrenheit) in the village of Lytton on June 30. The US states of Washington and Oregon were also affected. The exact human toll is not yet known but amounts to at least several hundred deaths. A study by a group of leading climate scientists found that the weather conditions would have been "virtually impossible" without human-caused climate change.



DEADLY FLOODS IN EUROPE

In mid-July western Europe was hit by devastating floods after torrential rains that ravaged entire villages and left at least 209 people dead in Germany and Belgium, as well as dozens missing. The flooding also caused damage in Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland. Up to two months' worth of rainfall came down in two days in some parts of the region, waterlogging soil that was already near saturation.

LANDSLIDES KILL 36 IN INDIA

Thirty-six people have been killed in landslides caused by monsoon rains in India, authorities said yesterday. As many as 40 other people were missing after the three separate landslides on Thursday in the Raigad district of the western state of Maharashtra. The Navy and Air Force meanwhile joined rescue efforts after the heavy rains caused floods that left thousands stranded. Rescue efforts were being hampered by landslides blocking roads, including the main highway between Mumbai and Goa. India's meteorological department has issued red alerts for several regions in the state, indicating that heavy rainfall will continue for the next few days. Climate change is making India's monsoons stronger, according to a report from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) published in April.



CALIFORNIA'S RAGING WILDFIRES

Triggered by an alarming drought, the wildfire season is just starting in the American West where thousands of firefighters are already dealing with 80 large blazes. By the beginning of the week the fires had ravaged more than 4,700 square kilometres (1,800 square miles) of vegetation. The most spectacular blaze is the "Bootleg Fire" in Oregon, which in the space of two weeks has burned the equivalent of the city of Los Angeles in vegetation and forests. In neighbouring California, several villages were evacuated in the face of the advancing "Dixie Fire", which is suspected to have been caused by a tree falling on power cables.

DEADLY DELUGE IN CHINA

As the flood water receded in Europe, catastrophic flooding hit China this month killing at least 51 people. An unprecedented downpour dumped a year's worth of rain in just three days on the city of Zhengzhou, instantly overwhelming drains and sending torrents of muddy water through streets, road tunnels and the subway system. The troubles are far from over as China yesterday had to evacuate tens of thousands as floods submerged swathes of central China -- while an approaching typhoon threatened to dump more rain on the stricken area. In the worst-hit city of Zhengzhou, firefighters yesterday continued to pump muddy



SOURCE: AFP

ফেনী পৌরসভা কার্যালয়, ফেনী			
স্মারক নং-৪৬.৫০৩০২৯.২৫০.০২.০০১.২১-১৮৫		তারিখঃ ১৮/০৭/২০২১খ্রিঃ	
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি			
বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০১/২০২১-২০২২			
এতদ্বারা ফেনী পৌরসভার নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজ বাস্তবায়নকল্পে "The Public Procurement Rules-2008" অনুযায়ী উপযুক্ত যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরযুক্ত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।			
ক্রম নং	কাজের নাম	দরপত্র জামানত	কাজ সমাপ্তির সময়
১	২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ বছরে কঞ্জারভেঞ্জি মালামাল সরবরাহ	৩০,০০০/-	কার্যাদেশ প্রদানের তারিখ থেকে
২	২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ বছরে মনোহারী মালামাল সরবরাহ	১০,০০০/-	২৮/০৬/২০২২ খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত
৩	২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ বছরে বিভিন্ন রশিদ বই, ফরম, নোটিশ ও রেজিস্ট্রারসহ বিবিধ ছাপানো কাজ।	১০,০০০/-	৫০০/-
৪	২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ বছরে বৈদ্যুতিক মালামাল সরবরাহ	৫৫,০০০/-	২০০০/-
৫	ক. ২০২১-২০২২ অর্থবছরের রিজার্ভ/ভ্যান লাইসেন্স বারকোডযুক্ত প্রোট, নাথার প্রোট সাইজ ৮"X৫" নাথারিং সহ চার রং এর বর্ডারসহ সরবরাহ। খ. ২০২১-২০২২ অর্থবছরের রিজার্ভ/ভ্যান মালিকানা লাইসেন্স উন্নয়নের ইউবি সিবিউরিটি পিন সফলিত পিভিসি কার্ড আন্তর্জাতিক মানের ফেনী পৌরসভার হলেগ্রাম ইন্টিকারড এক পার্সে চার কালারযুক্ত (লাইসেন্স এর বিবরণী, মেয়াদকাল, খবিসহ মালিকানা বিবরণী) অফিসের নমুনায়ুযায়ী সরবরাহ। গ. সফটওয়্যার তৈরী ঘ. ভাড়ার তালিকা তৈরী ঙ. রিকসা মালিক ও চালকের পরিচয়পত্র তৈরী।	২০,০০০/-	কার্যাদেশ প্রদানের তারিখ থেকে ৩০ দিন।
১.	সংগ্রহের তহবিল	৪	পৌর রাজস্ব তহবিল
২.	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের স্থান, তারিখ ও সর্বশেষ সময়	৪	স্থানঃ ক) জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, স্থায়ী সরকার শাখা। খ) পুলিশ সুপার, ফেনী। গ) ফেনী পৌরসভা কার্যালয়ের হিসাব শাখা। তারিখঃ ১০.০৮.২০২১ খ্রিঃ, সময়ঃ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
৩.	দরপত্র গ্রহণের স্থান, তারিখ ও সর্বশেষ সময়	৪	স্থানঃ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কক্ষ, ফেনী পৌরসভা কার্যালয়, ফেনী। তারিখঃ ১১.০৮.২০২১ খ্রিঃ সময়ঃ ১:০০ ঘটিকা.
৪.	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	৪	স্থানঃ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কক্ষ, ফেনী পৌরসভা-এর কার্যালয়, ফেনী। তারিখঃ ১১.০৮.২০২১ খ্রিঃ সময়ঃ ৩:০০ ঘটিকা.
৬.	অগ্রাধী দরদাতাগণ নির্ধারিত মূল্যে বর্ণিত দপ্তর হতে নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ের মধ্যে দরপত্র সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন।		
৭.	দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য তথ্য প্রকৌশল বিভাগ হতে জানতে পারবেন।		
৮.	দরপত্র খোলার সময় দরদাতা/ভীর অনুমোদিত প্রতিনিধি উপস্থিত থাকতে পারবেন।		
৯.	দরপত্রের সাথে দরদাতার হালসনের বৈধ ক্রেড লাইসেন্স, ভাট ও আয়কর সনদপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।		
১০.	দরপত্র জামানত পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে মেয়র, ফেনী পৌরসভার অনুকূলে দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।		
১১.	অগ্রাধিসের নমুনা ও প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী যথাসময়ে মালামাল সরবরাহ করতে হবে।		
১২.	বিধি মোতাবেক বিল হতে আয়কর ও মূল্য সংযোজন কর কর্তন করা হবে।		
১৩.	পৌর কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করে পুনঃ দরপত্র আহবানের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।		
(মোঃ নজরুল ইসলাম স্বপন) মেয়র ফেনী পৌরসভা, ফেনী।			
জিডি-১৩৬৫			