

RU teacher

FROM PAGE 12
his family members, the complaint said, adding that the plaintiff wanted justice.

Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Mohammad Golzar Hossain ordered the company commander of Rab in Natore to investigate the case, said Inspector Aminul Islam of the court.

Inoculation

FROM PAGE 12
The vaccination programme will start at 9:00am and end at 3:00pm every day and it will continue for a week, Titu Chandra Shil, Teknaf upazila health and family planning officer, told The Daily Star.

Meanwhile, the vaccination programme has drawn a good response from the Rohingyas.

"We are very much interested in taking the vaccines," said Hafez Jalal Ahmed, a Rohingya community leader in Kutupalong camp.

This correspondent talked to around a dozen Rohingyas, who got vaccines yesterday at Hilna Nayapara camp of Teknaf upazila. All of them expressed their happiness and gratitude to the government for arranging vaccines for them.

RMP ASI closed

FROM PAGE 12
However, the victim's family denied settling the matter and met the police commissioner in Rajshahi to report about the incident on Monday.

According to the OC, once informed, he shared the incident with the senior officers.

"The police commissioner then withdrew the accused. We have already started an investigation. The accused was withdrawn so that he could not influence the investigation," he said.

Police would take further steps after investigation, he added.

Starts taking

FROM PAGE 12
The Bangladesh government lately approached the Indian authorities to resume an air bubble, which was in operation before a lockdown in April.

"The governments of the two countries are in talks about starting the air bubble again," an official concerned said.

Asked whether the land borders would open for people's movement, the official said the governments would consider it in consultation with the health authorities.

China demands recall of Lithuanian envoy over Taiwan recognition

AFP, Beijing

China yesterday demanded Lithuania recall its envoy to Beijing, after Vilnius allowed Taiwan to set up an office under its own name in a move seen as provocative by the Chinese government.

The self-ruled island, which China considers part of its territory, last month said it was setting up a representative office in Vilnius under the name "Taiwan" as opposed to "Taipei", an act interpreted by Beijing as a diplomatic insult.

An outraged Chinese foreign ministry yesterday said it had "demanded the Lithuanian Government recall its Ambassador to China" and would also withdraw the Chinese envoy to Lithuania.

The decision by Vilnius to allow a Taiwanese Representative Office "severely undermines China's sovereignty and territorial integrity" and "brazenly violates" the ground rules of diplomatic relations between China and Lithuania, the ministry said in a statement.

Beijing claims Taiwan as its own and has vowed to one day retake it -- by force if needed.

China tries to keep Taipei isolated on the world stage and refutes any official use of the word "Taiwan" in case it lends the island a sense of international legitimacy.

The Chinese foreign ministry yesterday urged Lithuania to "immediately rectify its wrong decision" and "not to move further down the wrong path".

Lithuania's foreign ministry responded by saying it "regrets this move by China".

"While respecting the principle of one China, (Lithuania) is determined to develop mutually beneficial relations with Taiwan," the ministry said in a statement.

The opening of the Vilnius office is the latest sign that some Baltic and central European countries are seeking closer relations with Taiwan, even if that angers China.

In May, Lithuania announced it was quitting China's 17+1 cooperation forum with central and eastern European states, calling it "divisive".

It has since pledged to donate 20,000 coronavirus vaccine doses to Taiwan.

And in 2019, Prague cancelled a sister-city agreement with Beijing and signed one with Taipei, while a high-profile visit to Taiwan last year by Czech senate leader Milos Vyskril infuriated China.



Mortuary workers remove unidentified bodies from a freezer container to be taken for a Covid-19 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test at the Judicial Medical Officer's premises in Colombo, Sri Lanka yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

DGHS starts training docs tomorrow

FROM PAGE 12
current month, while 2,286 were hospitalised in July, 272 in June and 43 were infected in May, according to the DGHS data.

There is a national guideline on dengue treatment, updated in 2021, which all the doctors and nurses of public and private hospitals follow. But there is no guideline about the treatment for a patient carrying both the viruses, said Afsana.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque is expected to inaugurate the training at Hotel InterContinental Dhaka around 11:00am tomorrow, she added.

Doctors from 137 public and private medical college hospitals, over 100 Sadar hospitals and 492 upazila health complexes will join the training from their institutes virtually, she said.

Afsana said they will make the link of the programme available in the DGHS website and Facebook page and if anyone wants to join the training, he or she can.

"We will also record the programme and upload it in DGHS website

and anyone can watch it from there anytime," she said.

Experts opined that the recovery battle for patients infected with both the diseases -- considered life threatening -- could be difficult.

Abdul Rahim, consultant of department of medicine of DNCC Covid-19 dedicated hospital, said he got two patients suffering from both the diseases in the hospital during Eid-ul-Azha. The number of this type of patients are now increasing, he added.

Patients suffering from fever and pain have Covid or dengue test. If they are diagnosed with any of the disease, they do not usually go for the test of the other disease. But the patients should undergo both tests, he added.

HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital, said doctors will struggle to handle patients infected with both dengue and Covid-19.

"A dengue patient faces bleeding while a coronavirus patient faces blood clotting. We use an injection of anti-coagulation for coronavirus

patients when it is needed to prevent blood clots. But we cannot do it when the same patient also carries dengue virus and his platelet counts remain under one lakh," he explained.

DENGUE CORNER

Afsana said dengue corner has already been opened in all public hospitals.

"We are providing free NS1 testing at the dengue corner in all public hospitals and health complexes across the country and a patient will get proper advice after the test. They will be advised where to go for their admission or will be referred to go home with necessary prescription," she said.

Afsana said the government has already started their treatment in six hospitals dedicated for dengue patients and the service has started last week.

The hospitals are: Mitford Hospital, Lalkuthi Maternity Hospital in Mirpur, Kamalapur Railway General Hospital, Kamrangirchar 31-bed hospital, Aminbazar 20-bed hospital and Shaheed Ahsan Ullah Master General Hospital in Tongi.

Thousands flee homes in north

FROM PAGE 12
Envoys from hosts Qatar, Britain, China, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, the United Nations, and European Union were also due to discuss the situation in Afghanistan, a source told AFP.

But even with a new round of talks in the works, Pentagon spokesman John Kirby said it was down to the Afghan government and its forces to turn the tide, and there was "not much" the United States could do to help.

Meanwhile, India has asked its nationals to leave Afghanistan yesterday on a "special flight" from Mazar-i-Sharif - the country's fourth largest city - amid intense fighting with the Taliban.

"A special flight is leaving from Mazar-e-Sharif to New Delhi. Any Indian nationals in and around Mazar-e-Sharif are requested to leave for India in the special flight scheduled to depart late today evening," the Indian consulate in Mazar-e-Sharif tweeted.

POSSIBLE WAR CRIMES
The UN human rights chief yesterday urged an end to the Taliban offensive on Afghan cities and said her office was receiving reports of possible war crimes.

"The Taliban must cease their

military operations in cities. Unless all parties return to the negotiating table and reach a peaceful settlement, the already atrocious situation for so many Afghans will become much worse," Michelle Bachelet said in a statement.

"We know that urban warfare results in scores of civilians being killed. We have seen it before, too many times."

The Taliban have appeared largely indifferent to peace overtures, and seem intent on a military victory to crown a return to power after their ouster 20 years ago in the wake of the September 11 attacks.

As fighting raged, tens of thousands of people were on the move inside the country, with families fleeing newly captured Taliban cities with tales of brutal treatment at the hands of the insurgents.

"The Taliban are beating and looting," said Rahima, now camped out with hundreds of families at a park in the capital, Kabul, after fleeing Sheberghan province.

In the northern city of Kunduz that was captured by the Taliban over the weekend, residents said shops had begun to reopen in the centre as insurgents focused their attention on

government forces who had retreated to the airport.

The UN's International Organization for Migration said yesterday that more than 359,000 people have been displaced by fighting this year alone.

"We urge all parties to the conflict and neighbouring countries to do everything they can to ensure that border crossing-points remain open, and humanitarian workers are able to access vulnerable populations in the border areas," the agency said in a statement.

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'ATROCIOUS SITUATION'
The Taliban earned notoriety during their first stint in power from 1996-2001 for introducing a harsh interpretation of Islamic rule that barred girls from education and women from work.

Crimes were punished by public floggings or executions, while a host of activities -- from playing music to non-religious TV -- were also banned.

Haiti chooses judge to probe president's assassination

AFP, Port-Au-Prince

After weeks of struggling to fill the job, a senior magistrate in Haiti on Monday announced that a judge has been named to lead the probe into the assassination of president Jovenel Moise.

The dean of the Court of First Instance in Port-au-Prince, Bernard Saint-Vil, said that Judge Mathieu Chanlatte was chosen for the job.

Chanlatte "will not be intimidated," said Jean Wilner Morin, president of the National Association of Haitian Magistrates.

"It is an investigation that will take time. We also hope that the authorities will put all the necessary resources at the disposal of magistrate Chanlatte and will also ensure his safety," Morin said.

A hit team burst into the presidential residence on July 7 and shot Moise dead. His wife Martine was wounded but survived.

Human rights defender Pierre Esperance said he hoped that Chanlatte would treat the case "with the law as a compass, without falling into political persecution."

Minister of Justice and Public Security Rockefeller Vincent said that his ministry would take all measures necessary to guarantee the safety of judges as well as courtroom evidence.

Police say they have arrested 44 people in connection with the killing, including 12 Haitian police officers, 18 Colombians who were allegedly part of the commando team, and two Americans of Haitian descent.

The head of Moise's security detail is among those detained in connection with the plot allegedly organized by a group of Haitians with foreign ties.

Moise had been ruling the impoverished and disaster-plagued nation by decree, as gang violence spiked and Covid-19 spread.

Indira calls upon nations

FROM PAGE 12

INDIA, RUSSIA WANT POLITICAL SOLUTION

The Soviet Union and India today called for a political solution of the Bangladesh issue. In a joint statement issued after four days of discussion, both countries demanded that the following actions should be taken to resolve the crisis: 1) stoppage of military atrocities by Pakistani troops, 2) stopping of the exodus of people from East Bengal to India, and 3) creation of conditions for safe return of refugees from India.

KENNEDY VISITS REFUGEE CAMP
Senator Edward M Kennedy today visited Kolkata hospitals jammed with Bangladeshi refugees to see what could be done to treat children suffering from severe malnutrition. The Massachusetts Democrat had planned to end his refugee camp tour today and go to Pakistan for two days, but Pakistan yesterday abruptly cancelled permission for him to visit Dhaka and Rawalpindi.

RUSSIA HAS SIGNED A PACT OF

AGGRESSION: BHUTTO

The Chairman of the Pakistan Peoples' Party ZA Bhutto bitterly criticised the Soviet Union for what he called the signing with India of a "pact of aggression." The pact could embolden New Delhi to launch an aggression against Pakistan and China, he added.

UN SEEKS FUNDS TO SHIP AID TO PAKISTAN

UN Secretary General Threat appealed today for more money to help send relief to East Pakistan. A statement issued by his office said also that the first United Nations aid personnel had reached East Pakistan, with the main object of seeing "that all supplies, reach their destination, the people of East Pakistan". The statement today indicated that the United Nations cash receipts were less than a tenth of the amount estimated as necessary for the first phase of relief work.

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Navalny allies face fresh criminal charges in Russia

AFP, Moscow

Two exiled aides of jailed Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny were slapped with new criminal charges for helping to finance organisations that have recently been labelled "extremist", Russian investigators said yesterday.

Navalny's movement is facing unprecedented pressure in Russia as his main groups have been de-facto banned in the country, while the opposition leader is serving two and a half years in prison on old fraud charges.

President Vladimir Putin's most vocal domestic critic was sent to jail in February after returning to Russia from Germany following a near-fatal poisoning attack that he blames on the Kremlin.

Russia's Investigative Committee said on yesterday that it had launched a criminal case against Navalny allies Leonid Volkov and Ivan Zhdanov over the "collection of funds and provision of financial services deliberately intended to finance an extremist organisation".

The charges carry a maximum penalty of eight years in jail.

Volkov, 40, was in charge of Navalny's disbanded network of

regional offices. Zhdanov, 32, headed the Anti-Corruption Foundation (FBK) that publishes investigations into the wealth of Russia's elites.

The organisations were labelled "extremist" in June for allegedly plotting an uprising with support from the West.

"Knowing that these organisations were recognised as extremist, Volkov and Zhdanov announced the continuation of their illegal activities and organised a fundraiser," investigators said in a statement.

Both Volkov and Zhdanov reside outside Russia and are wanted by Moscow on other criminal charges.

"I've already lost count of the number of criminal cases that have been launched against me," Zhdanov wrote on his Instagram yesterday.

Navalny's close allies still in Russia are under close law enforcement supervision, some under house arrest.

Last week, Navalny's brother Oleg was handed a one-year suspended sentence for breaching coronavirus rules by calling on Russians to attend an unsanctioned rally. Key ally Lyubov Sobol was sentenced to a year and a half of restricted movement in the same case.

Delta variant fuels Covid

FROM PAGE 12
Nationwide, Covid-19 cases have averaged 100,000 for three days in a row, up 35% over the past week, according to a Reuters tally of public health data. Louisiana, Florida and Arkansas reported the most new cases in the past week, based on population.

Hospitalizations rose 40% and deaths, a lagging indicator, registered an 18% rise nationwide in the past week.

"We saw the largest single-day increase in hospitalizations and have eclipsed our previous high of Covid hospitalizations," Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson said on Twitter. "There are currently only eight ICU beds available in the state."

Hutchinson, a Republican, urged Arkansans to be vaccinated against the pandemic, which many of his constituents have been hesitant to do in part because of widespread disinformation about Covid-19 vaccines.

Abbott, who in May issued an order banning local governments from requiring masks to help prevent the spread of the virus, said on Monday he would increase the number of clinics in Texas where Covid patients can receive infusions of antibodies.

Florida set a new single-day record with 28,317 cases on Sunday, according to data from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Hospitalizations in Florida have been at record highs for eight days in a

row, according to the Reuters analysis. Most Florida students are due back in the classroom this week as some school districts debate whether to require masks for pupils.

VACCINATIONS FOR TEACHERS

Holding signs, mask proponents and opponents gathered at the Pinellas County Schools building near St. Petersburg on Monday where the school board called a special session to discuss mask protocols.

The head of the nation's second-largest teachers' union on Sunday announced a shift in course by backing mandated vaccinations for US teachers in an effort to protect students who are too young to be inoculated.

The number of children hospitalized with Covid-19 is rising across the country, a trend health experts attribute to the Delta variant being more likely to infect children than the original Alpha strain.

Meanwhile, the US State Department has advised Americans to avoid all travel to France over rising coronavirus cases in the country.

France is battling a fourth wave of the virus even though Covid-19 hospitalizations are still way off previous highs.

American visitors trickled across the Canada-US border on Monday, cheering the reopening of the world's longest land boundary 17 months after all non-essential travel was halted to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Plant that

FROM PAGE 12
that cannot die". The naming is apt: Welwitschia grows only two leaves -- and continuously -- in a lifetime that can last millenniums.

"Most plants develop a leaf, and that's it," says Andrew Leitch, a plant geneticist at Queen Mary University of London. "This plant can live thousands of years, and it never stops growing. When it does stop growing, it's dead."

Some of the largest plants are believed to be more than 3,000 years old, with two leaves steadily growing since the beginning of the Iron Age, when the Phoenician alphabet was invented and David was crowned King of Israel.

By some accounts, Welwitschia is not much to look at. Its two fibrous leaves, buffeted by dry desert winds and fed on by thirsty animals, become shredded and curled over time, giving Welwitschia a distinctly octopus-like look. One 19th-century director of Kew Gardens remarked, "It is out of the question the most wonderful plant ever brought to this country and one of the ugliest."

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Memo No. 35.01.5800.07.07.86.21-1333

Date: 10/08/2021

3rd Addendum of Tender Document

This is for the information of all concerned tenderers that due to unavoidable situation the following amendment has been made of the tender document for "Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of a Real-Time Web-Based Toll Collection System of Rustompur Toll Plaza at 193rd KM of Dhaka (Katchpur)-Bhairab-Jogodishpur-Shaistaganj-Sylhet-Tamabil-Jaflong Road (N-2) Road under Haganj Road Division during the year 2021-22", vide Issue No. 35.01.5800.07.07.86.21-1199; Date: 06/07/2021. **This addendum shall be an integral part of the tender document.**

Reference	As in 2nd Addendum	Amended (3rd)
Tender last selling date and time	11/08/2021	22/08/2021 and 5:00pm
Tender closing date and time	12/08/2021 and 12:00pm	23/08/2021 and 12:00pm
Tender opening date and time	12/08/2021 and 12:15pm	23/08/2021 and 12:15pm

A. K. Shamsuddin Ahmed
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GD-1447