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DHAKA-SYLHET CORRIDOR ADB approves \$1.78b to help boost trade

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Asian Development Bank has approved a \$1.78-billion multitranchise financing facility (MFF) to help improve mobility, road safety and regional trade along Dhaka-Sylhet trade corridor in Bangladesh.



The corridor will support a new trade route that connects Chattogram port with India's northeastern states through three land ports of Akhaura, Sheola and Tamabil, and from there to Bhutan and Myanmar, according to a press release of the ADB yesterday.

"Bangladesh's export-driven economic growth has shown its unique potential and opportunity of becoming a regional transport and trade hub. To sustain this growth, the country's transport infrastructure needs to be improved," said Satomi Sakaguchi, ADB transport specialist for South Asia.

The funds for the SASEC Dhaka-Sylhet Corridor Road Investment Project will be provided in four tranches. The first tranche of \$400 million will help finance the initial works of the major contracts for the widening of about 210km of the National Highway No 2 along Dhaka-Sylhet corridor from a two-lane to a four-lane road with slow-moving vehicular traffic lanes.

It will include 60km of footpath, 26 footbridges, and 13 overpasses. Its design will have features responsive to the needs of the elderly, women, children, and the differently-abled, as well as disaster and climate risks.



Fear of dengue has gripped many in the capital as the number of patients of the mosquito-borne disease keeps rising. The photo of this homeless child tucked under a mosquito net while taking a nap on a rickshaw van was taken in the city's Khilgaon.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Man's body recovered from rehab centre

Family alleges torture

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Police yesterday recovered the body of a man from Holycare drug rehabilitation centre in Barishal.

The victim is Chandan Sarkar, 27, of the district's Agailjhara upazila. His family alleged that he was tortured to death inside the facility.

Contacted, Holycare authorities denied the allegations and said that Chandan was mentally sick and died by suicide.

The victim was found dead with a towel around his neck.

According to Sarwar, a staff member of the rehabilitation facility, Chandan was locked in a dispute with another patient on Thursday night. Early yesterday, he was found dead.

Sajahan Mallik, sub-inspector of Kotwali Police Station, said they recovered

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Daily Covid cases lowest in 69 days

117 more die; infection rate drops below 13pc

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of daily Covid-19 cases dropped to 3,525, the lowest in the last 69 days though the death toll is still above the 100-mark.

The infection rate has also dropped to 12.78 percent, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

A total of 27,578 samples were tested in the past 24 hours.

So far, 14.86 lakh people have been infected by the deadly coronavirus since the detection of the first cases in the country on March 8, 2020.

Of the daily Covid-19 cases, 1,613 were detected in Dhaka division.

A total of 117 people died from Covid-19 in 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday. With this, the total number of deaths in the country has reached 25,846 and the death rate stands at 1.74 percent.

Among the deceased, 56 were men and 61 women. Of them, one aged between 0 and 10 years old, one between 11 and 20, three between 21 and 30, nine between 31 and 40, 16 between 41 and 50, 19 between

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ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Bangladesh mission at London

AUGUST 27, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZZA SAJEN

LONDON MISSION INAUGURATED

Pakistan was now dead and two countries had been born the dead state, said Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, speaking today at the inaugural function of the Bangladesh Mission in London.

Justice Chowdhury was the overseas representative of the Bangladesh Government. Although Bangladesh Government had not yet received any official international recognition, the Mission in London intended to carry out diplomatic activities there.

Justice Chowdhury described the detention of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by the Pakistani authorities as illegal and called for his immediate release.

LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT CONDEMNS BANGLADESH GENOCIDE

The Latin American Parliament at Caracas, Venezuela today unanimously passed a resolution condemning the brutal suppression of human rights, the massive genocide, the deliberate liquidation of politically conscious elements and of intellectuals and the imposition of a reign of terror in East Pakistan by the Pakistan Army.

They also called upon the Government of Pakistan to desist from committing a further violation of human rights and of law and justice, stop military repression, respect the life of the leader Mujibur Rahman, and enter into immediate negotiations with the already elected representatives of the people with the object

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Covid cases rise again in India

Govt asks 2 states to consider night curfew

AGENCIES

India has asked the states of Kerala and Maharashtra to consider night curfews in areas with high Covid-19 case numbers as the country reported more than 40,000 new infections for two days in a row yesterday.

Cases fell to a five-month-low of 25,166 in the middle of the month but have risen sharply in the last three days, mainly in Kerala that recently celebrated a big festival during which families typically come together.

India reported 44,658 new Covid-19 infections yesterday, taking the total to 32.6 million, the most in the world after the United States. Deaths rose by 496 to 436,861.

Kerala, on India's southern tip, has accounted for nearly 60% of the new cases in the past week and

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Fossil of four-legged whale found in Egypt



REUTERS, Cairo

Scientists said on Wednesday they had discovered the 43 million-year-old fossil of a previously unknown amphibious four-legged whale species in Egypt that helps trace the transition of whales from land to sea.

The newly discovered whale belongs to the Protocetidae, a group of extinct whales that falls in the middle of that transition, the Egyptian-led team of researchers said in a statement.

Its fossil was unearthed from middle Eocene rocks in the Fayum Depression in Egypt's Western Desert -- an area once covered by sea that has

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Ronaldo returns to Man Utd

REUTERS, Manchester

Manchester United have agreed a deal to re-sign Cristiano Ronaldo from Juventus,



the Premier League club announced on Friday, with the transfer subject to the agreement of personal terms, visa and a medical.

The Portugal forward is headed back to the club where he won eight major trophies from 2003-2009. Financial details were not disclosed but British and Italian media said United would buy Ronaldo for 25 million euros on a two-year deal.

Ronaldo, signed by Juve in 2018 for 100 million euros (\$117.90 million) from Real Madrid in the hope of leading them to an elusive Champions League title, will leave the club with 101 goals, two league crowns and a Coppa Italia

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Idol at a Kali temple vandalised in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

An idol of a Kali Temple was vandalised by unidentified criminals at Delduar upazila early yesterday, creating anger among local Hindu community people.

Radhika Chandra Radhu, general secretary of the temple committee, said unidentified criminals vandalised an idol of the Kali Temple at Dheuria Rishipara under Deulee union and threw it away from the temple.

Being informed, a police team from Delduar Police Station along with the local union parishad chairman

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PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 28

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-30 12-45 4-45 6-33 8-00
JAMAAT 5-05 1-15 5-00 6-36 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



In preparation for tomorrow's formal performance test of the country's first metro train, a contractor yesterday operated the train among four metro stations in Uttara. Many residents of the area saw the cars on the elevated tracks for the first time in Bangladesh. Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader will be present at the event on Sunday.

PHOTO: VIDEO GRAB

Star HEALTHLINE

WHAT IS LONG COVID?

STAR HEALTH DESK

Don't panic if you still feel extremely weak, climbing a few flights of stairs, four weeks after recovering from Covid-19. Scientists are becoming more aware of "long Covid" manifestations and how they may impact patients.

Long Covid is generally identified through persistent symptoms lasting more than three to four weeks.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this trend is usually noticed in people

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Hyginex Instant hand sanitizer

