

Quotes of the day



“This year has seen fossil fuel emissions bounce back, greenhouse gas concentrations continuing to rise... Unless there are immediate, rapid and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, limiting warming to 1.5 C will be impossible, with catastrophic consequences for people and the planet.”

UN CHIEF ANTONIO GUTERRES



Rescuers clean up debris after a 5.4 earthquake that killed three and injured a dozen in Luzhou, in China's southwestern Sichuan province yesterday. Inset, a resident receives treatment after getting injured by the earthquake.

PHOTO: AFP

MORE NEWS

Head of IS in Greater Sahara killed by French forces

France said yesterday its troops deployed in the Sahel region of Africa had killed the head of Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS) extremist group who was wanted for deadly attacks on US soldiers and foreign aid workers. Adnan Abu Walid al-Sahrawi formed ISGS in 2015 after splitting with Al-Qaeda linked jihadists and pledging allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) group, which at that time controlled swathes of Iraq and Syria. Sahrawi was "neutralised by French forces," President Emmanuel Macron tweeted early yesterday. "This is another major success in our fight against terrorist groups in the Sahel," Macron said.

Indonesia court finds Widodo negligent in pollution lawsuit

In a landmark victory for Indonesian environment campaigners, a court yesterday ordered President Joko Widodo to clean up Jakarta's notorious air pollution, ruling that the leader and other top officials had been negligent in protecting citizens. The capital and its surroundings form a megacity of about 30 million people, which routinely ranks among the most polluted cities in the world. Experts have warned for years about the threat posed by Jakarta's smog to the health of residents, especially children. A group of 32 activists and citizens impacted by pollution had filed the lawsuit two years ago, accusing Widodo, as well as his ministers for health, home and environment, and the governor of Jakarta, of negligence over the state of the city's environment.



50 killed in Yemen clashes

At least 50 rebels and pro-government troops, including a high-ranking officer, have been killed in clashes in Yemen's central province of Al-Bayda, military sources told AFP yesterday. "A colonel and 19 other loyalists were killed in the past 24 hours in fighting with the Huthi insurgents in Al-Bayda district," a government military official said. "Thirty rebels also met their fate in battlefield clashes and air strikes." The Huthis rarely report casualty numbers but the figures were confirmed by other military sources. The Iran-backed rebels have made advances in Al-Bayda province in recent weeks as they also fight for control of the strategic city of Marib in the north. In February, the Huthis escalated their efforts to seize Marib, the government's last stronghold in the north, and the fighting has killed hundreds on both sides.

Thai lawmakers vote on law against disappearances

Thai lawmakers yesterday gave initial approval to a law against torture and forced disappearances, after years of delay and criticism from rights groups. Activists have long accused authorities of state-sanctioned abductions and torture, and the UN says there have been more than 80 disappearances since 1980. The kingdom's criminal code does not currently recognise the offences, but rogue state officials convicted under the new legislation will face long prison terms.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

Deny Taliban recognition

Afghan diplomats call on world, chide allies

AGENCIES

A group of Afghan diplomats from the deposed government in Kabul has issued a first-of-its-kind joint statement calling on world leaders to deny the Taliban formal recognition and chiding them for "leaving our people at the mercy of a terrorist group."

The statement, which was provided to Reuters ahead of its public release, was signed by two dozen officials operating in a kind of diplomatic twilight, with no government to represent but still working from missions in the United States, Britain, France, Turkey and elsewhere.

The diplomats who signed the strongly worded letter were all below the rank of ambassador.

"We are disheartened that after twenty years of engagement, our allies are abandoning Afghanistan and leaving our people at the mercy of a terrorist group," the diplomats wrote.

The letter also asked world leaders to use all available means to halt Taliban violence against women, civil society activists and journalists.

It included warnings about the global implications of the Taliban's overthrow of the Afghan government.

"Taliban's success in capturing power through illegal and violent means ... emboldens terrorist and violent extremist

groups around the world," they wrote, adding the violent takeover "normalizes violence."

Afghanistan needs urgent and sustained support from the international community to prevent a larger humanitarian crisis, the head of the UN refugee agency said, warning of global implications if that were to happen.

AFGHANISTAN CRISIS

UN refugee chief warns 'greater suffering' likely in the country

Baradar on Time's list of 100 most influential people

Meanwhile, Taliban co-founder and presently the deputy prime minister of the cabinet recently announced by the Taliban in Afghanistan, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, has been named in the list of the 100 most influential people of 2021 by Time magazine.

Time on Wednesday released its annual list of 'The 100 Most Influential People of 2021', a global list of leaders that includes US President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, Chinese President Xi Jinping, and former US President Donald Trump.

Covid jab protection wanes

Says Moderna, makes case for booster

REUTERS, Chicago

New data from Moderna Inc's large Covid-19 vaccine trial shows that the protection it offers wanes over time, supporting the case for booster doses, the company said in a news release on Wednesday.

"This is only one estimate, but we do believe this means as you look toward the fall and winter, at minimum we expect the estimated impact of waning immunity would be 600,000 additional cases of Covid-19," Moderna President Stephen Hoge said on a conference call with investors.

The data stands in stark contrast with data from several recent studies that suggested Moderna's vaccine protection lasts longer than a similar shot from Pfizer Inc and German partner BioNTech SE.

AUSTRALIA-US NUCLEAR SUBMARINE DEAL

China warns pact could 'hurt their own interests'

AGENCIES

China yesterday denounced a new Indo-Pacific security alliance between the United States, Britain and Australia, saying such partnerships should not target third countries and warning of an intensified arms race in the region.

Under the arrangement, dubbed AUKUS, the United States and Britain will provide Australia with the technology and capability to deploy nuclear-powered submarines.

The United States and its allies are looking for ways to push back against China's growing power and influence, particularly its military buildup, pressure on Taiwan and deployments in the contested South China Sea, reports Reuters.

US President Joe Biden, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison did not mention China by name in the joint announcement and senior Biden administration officials, who briefed reporters ahead of time, said the partnership was not aimed at countering Beijing.

But Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said the three countries were "severely damaging regional peace and stability, intensifying an arms race, and damaging international nuclear non-proliferation efforts."

"China always believes that any regional mechanism should conform to the trend of peace and development of the times and help enhance mutual trust and cooperation... It should not target any third party or undermine its interests," he told a regular briefing in Beijing.

France yesterday accused Australia of backstabbing and Washington of Donald Trump-era behaviour after Canberra scrapped a huge submarine deal with Paris for the US-made nuclear subs, reports AFP.

"It's really a stab in the back. We had established a relationship of trust with Australia, this trust has been betrayed," Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian told France Info radio.

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Superintending Engineer, RHD
Chattogram Road Circle, Rahamatgonj, Chattogram,
Phone No. 031-611163, Mobile No. 01730-782678
e-mail: sechic@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.01.1541.173.01.078.21.2080 Date: 15-09-2021

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify for all concerns that e-Tenders are invited and published on 15/09/2021 in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of works for the following tenders. Interested persons/firms can see details by visiting the web site www.eprocure.gov.bd.

Sl.	Tender ID	Tender Reference No.	Name of work	Date & time
01	608754	e-GP/SE/CTG/CRD/PMP Road/01/2021-2022	Rehabilitation work under Periodic Maintenance Program Providing Dense Bituminous Surfacing Works at 1 st , 2 nd , 6 th , 9 th (p), 10 th , 11 th , 12 th and 13 th (p) Km, of Chattogram-Rangamati National Highway (N-106) (Oxygen Moor-Hathazari Portion) under Chattogram Road Division during the year 2021-2022.	Last selling: 17.10.2021, 16:00 Closing: 18.10.2021, 12:15
02	608763	e-GP/SE/CTG/DRD/PMP Road/02/2021-2022	Rehabilitation of existing pavement by strengthening and DBS Wearing Course at 1 st to 17 th Km. Ch: 00+000m (Patya) to Ch: 16+732m (Chandanaish Yunus Market) of Patiya-Chandanaish (Boitolli) Road (Z-1039) under Dohazari Road Division during the year 2021-2022.	Last selling: 17.10.2021, 16:00 Closing: 18.10.2021, 12:00
03	608764	e-GP/SE/CTG/CRD-COX/PMP Road/03/2021-2022	Rehabilitation work under Periodic Maintenance (PMP-Roads) by DBSW and Ancillary work at Ch: 00+000 (Taltola) to Ch: 14+802 Km. (Doshmail) of Rangunia-Bangalhalia (Sukhbilash)-Kalindirani Road (Z-1636) under Chattogram Road Division and Surfacing work by DBS Wearing Course at Ch: 328+380 to 329+380 (Boritolli), 333+380 to 334+380, 334+380 to 336+380, 342+000 to 342+380, 344+380 to 346+000 Km (Paglir Bill) at Dhaka (Jatrabari)-Cumilla (Moinamoti)-Chattogram-Cox's Bazar-Teknaf National Highway (N-1) under Cox's Bazar Road Division during the year 2021-2022.	Last selling: 17.10.2021, 16:00 Closing: 18.10.2021, 12:20

Subama Sarkar ID No. 700146 Sub-Assistant Engineer, RHD Chattogram Road Circle, Chattogram.

Md. Quraishin ID No. 602059 Assistant Engineer (C.C.) RHD Chattogram Road Circle, Chattogram.

Md. Hafizur Rahman ID No. 005059 Superintending Engineer (C.C.) RHD Chattogram Road Circle, Chattogram.

GD-1665

'WAR ON DRUGS' PROBE

Philippines refuses to work with ICC

REUTERS, Manila

The government of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte yesterday said it will not cooperate with an International Criminal Court (ICC) probe into his notorious war on drugs, or allow any investigators into the country.

Judges at the ICC on Wednesday approved a formal probe into Duterte's bloody campaign, in which thousands of suspected drug peddlers have died, many executed by police, according to activists, who say law enforcement agencies have killed with tacit backing of the president.

Duterte and his police chiefs say killings were in self-defence, while his government insists the ICC has no right to meddle in the country's affairs.

"If there are complaints, it should be filed in the Philippines because our courts are working. The ICC has no jurisdiction," presidential spokesperson Harry Roque told a news briefing.

"When we became a party in the (ICC's) Rome statute, we did not surrender our sovereignty and jurisdiction."

Government data shows 6,100 suspected drug dealers have been killed by security forces in anti-drug operations since Duterte took office in mid-2016.

Rights groups say many thousands more were assassinated in slum communities, mostly users killed by mystery gunmen who were never caught, and accuse police of involvement. Police reject that.

The judges in The Hague on Wednesday said prosecutors' materials showed the anti-drug campaign "cannot be seen as a legitimate law enforcement operation", but rather a systematic attack on civilians.

Presidential legal counsel Salvador Panelo yesterday said ICC investigators would not be permitted to enter the country. Victims' lawyers, however, say interviews can be conducted virtually.

The ICC was set up to prosecute war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity and has jurisdiction if a member state is unable or unwilling to do so itself.

The popular Duterte, 76, has dared the ICC to put him on trial and publicly said he would happily "rot in jail" for killing people intent on destroying his country. But in March 2018 he unilaterally cancelled the Philippines' ICC membership, a month after its prosecutor said a preliminary examination over the drugs war was underway.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
Barisal.

Memo No- 46.02.0600.000.07.068.17.3384 Dated: 15.09.2021

e-Tender Notice-91-93/2021-2022

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of

e-Tender no	Package no	Name of work	Last Receiving date & time
91/2021-22	e-Tender/LGED/Bari/GOBM/21-22/W-14	Periodic Maintenance of Sarikal GC to Shaheber char Bazar via Nalchira Bazar Road from Ch. 3139m-4046m under Gournadi Upazila., District: Barishal [Road ID: 506323013] [Gouranadi] e-ID No-609848	04-10-2021 Time: 12.00
92/2021-22	e-Tender/LGED/Bari/GOBM/21-22/W-34	Periodic Maintenance of Barhi Bazar (NHW) to Burghata bus Stand (NHW) via Amanatgonj hat Road Ch. 450m-2560m under Gouranadi Upazila., District: Barishal [Road ID: 506322017] [Gouranadi] e-ID No-609883	04-10-2021 Time: 12.00
93/2021-22	e-Tender/LGED/Bari/GOBM/21-22/W-41	Rehabilitation of Illah Bus stand (NHW) to Agailjhara H/Q via Bakai Bazar and Rajjihar Bazar Road (including Notun Bazar connecting road) from Ch. 3832m-5332m under Gouranadi Upazila., District: Barishal [Road ID: 506322006] [Gouranadi] e-ID No-609885	14-10-2021 Time: 12.00

National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 17.00 on previous day of receiving tender.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Executive Engineer LGED, Barisal.

GD-1662