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Issues remain as COP26 set to close

Third draft retains call for phase-out of fossil fuel subsidies; nations at odds over climate financing

AGENCIES

Negotiators yesterday shuttled between delegations at the UN climate talks in Scotland, seeking a deal to give the world a fighting chance of avoiding the worst effects of global warming, as the British host told them they had just hours left.

Alok Sharma delayed a public meeting in the plenary hall, saying negotiators needed more time, but that he still intended to close the two-week COP26 conference, which has already overrun by a day, later in the afternoon.

"This is the moment of truth for our planet," COP26 president Alok Sharma said, beginning his speech to delegates.

"At the end of the day, what is being put forward here is a balanced package, everyone's had a chance to have their say," he told the forum.

The final deal will require the unanimous consent of the almost 200 countries present, ranging from coal- and gas-fuelled superpowers to oil producers and Pacific islands being swallowed by the rise in sea levels.

Like earlier versions, the latest draft of the conference agreement attempted to balance the demands of climate-vulnerable nations, big industrial powers, and those whose consumption or exports of fossil fuels are vital to their

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A bitumen mixing machine discharges black smoke at a construction site in Chattogram city's Halishahar area. Such machines across the country significantly contribute to air pollution. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO:
RAJIB RAIHAN



Trans-Tasman rivals vie for maiden title

MAZHAR UDDIN from Dubai

It may take some time to digest the fact that neither Australia nor New Zealand have ever lifted the ICC T20 World Cup trophy, but the world will witness either Kane Williamson or Aaron Finch walk onto the podium as a winning captain after the final in Dubai today.

The final is scheduled to begin at 8:00pm Bangladesh standard time.

While the Aussies are known for their ruthless approach, especially in finals of global events, it is expected to be a stern test for Finch and Co against a New Zealand side that have played some brilliant cricket throughout the tournament.

Although it will be the

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UP member-elect hacked to death

Post-polls violence leave 75 others injured

STAR REPORT

A newly-elected union parishad member was hacked to death in Gaibandha on Friday night and over 75 people were injured in electoral violence in Lamonirhat and Madaripur since Thursday night.

Meanwhile, AL-nominated chairman aspirant was sued yesterday for attacking a journalist in Barguna. A defeated UP-member aspirant was sued for attacking an election official in Shariatpur.

The dead was identified as Abdur Rauf, 45, from Laxmipur union of Gaibandha's sadar upazila.

He was involved with BNP politics and won Thursday's election as an independent candidate.

Locals and police said Rauf was going home from Laxmipur Bazar around 10:00pm on Friday, when his neighbour Arifur Rahman, 34, attacked him at Bannirpara area with sharp weapons.

Locals rescued and took him to Gaibandha Sadar Hospital, where doctors declared him dead. As the news spread, people protested and set Arifur's house

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ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Indira asks cabinet to give world last chance

NOVEMBER 14, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

WAIT A LITTLE MORE

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said that the international community ought to be given the chance to persuade President Yahya Khan to initiate, within the next week or so, a realistic political solution in East Pakistan. She was addressing the cabinet political affairs committee today, following her return from a protracted tour of the West.

While declaring that India had nothing to lose by waiting for a "little time", Indira said if international leaders fail to provide a solution, India would be justified in taking steps to resolve the crisis to safeguard her national security. She, however, was not optimistic that international initiatives would resolve the crisis.

Meanwhile, United News of India reported that three Pakistani jet fighters violated Indian air space today over the northern state of Kashmir.

On the other hand, the Pakistani radio asserted today that six Indian soldiers who were captured yesterday near Dharmadaha in the Kushtia district of East Pakistan admitted that regular Indian troops had been involved in attacks on East Pakistan's borders. Twenty-four Indian soldiers were killed in the clash with Pakistani soldiers near Dharmadaha, according to a military communiqué.

BRITISH SHIPPING OPERATIONS TO E PAKISTAN STOPPED

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Khaleda admitted to Evercare again

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was readmitted to Evercare Hospital

yesterday for follow-up treatment, nearly a week after she was discharged from the same hospital.

It is for the third time, the BNP chief has been admitted to the hospital this year for various health complications.

The BNP chief along with Sharmila Rahman Sithi, widow of her late son Arafat Rahman Koko, reached the hospital around 5:40pm, said her media wing member Sayrul Kabir Khan.

Later, the BNP chief was admitted to the hospital as per the advice of the medical board formed earlier for her treatment.

On October 12, Khaleda

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Rockfish sheds light on longevity genes



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

The genomes of some species of Pacific Ocean rockfishes, that can live up to 200 years, can help find drug targets to slow down age-related damages in the human body, shows new research.

The findings, published in the journal Science on Thursday, shed light on the characteristics of the genomes of such fishes and on the process of ageing in such vertebrates.

The rockfishes, which are among the longest-living vertebrates on Earth, hold clues to genes that determine lifespans and the advantages and disadvantages of living longer, said scientists, including those from the University of California (UC), Berkeley in the US.

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Bus driver, helper held after child falls, dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab has arrested a bus driver and his helper over the death of a 10-year-old girl near the capital's Bhatara area on Thursday.

The arrestees are: Razu Mia, 25, and Imran Hossain, 33.

A Rab team arrested them in Tongi and Abdullahpur areas on Friday night after analysing over 50 pieces of footage from CCTVs installed

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PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 14

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5:00 12:45 3:45 5:22 7:00
JAMAAT 5:35 1:15 4:00 5:25 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Dr Kamal for reviving Oikyafront

UNB, Dhaka

Renewing the demand for holding the next national election under a non-party government, Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain said there was a possibility to revive Jatiya Oikyafront, an electoral alliance with BNP, to force the government to meet their demand.

"We strongly demand that the next parliamentary election be held under a non-party government as we saw in the past it couldn't be held in a fair and credible manner under a partisan government," he said.

Speaking at a press conference at a city hotel, Dr Kamal said, "We can expect to get a free and fair election if it's held under a non-partisan government."

As his attention was drawn to the constitution that has no provision for impartial government, he said it could be included in the constitution in the face of people's demand.

Replying to a question,

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In a clear violation of traffic rules, a bus is taking passengers on the Mayor Mohammad Hanif flyover in the capital's Sayedabad area. Public transport workers in the capital mostly ignore the risk posed to themselves and others for such acts. The photo was taken around noon Friday.

PHOTO:
PALASH KHAN

COVID SURGE IN EUROPE WHO urges more targeted vaccination

AFP, Geneva

As Covid-19 cases balloon again in Europe, the World Health Organization has called for more targeted vaccination efforts to ensure the most vulnerable worldwide get the jabs.

The UN health agency said Europe, once again at the epicentre of the pandemic, registered nearly two million Covid cases last week.

That is "the most in a single week in the region since the pandemic started," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters on Friday.

But as countries scramble to rein in transmission by reimposing restrictions or rolling out more vaccines and boosters, WHO said it was vital to ensure the jabs were going to those who needed them most, on the continent and beyond.

"It is not just about how many people are vaccinated. It is about who is vaccinated," Tedros said.

"It makes no sense to give boosters to healthy adults, or to vaccinate children, when health workers, older people and other high-risk groups around the world are still waiting for their first dose," he said.

More and more countries have been rolling out additional doses for their already vaccinated populations, despite repeated calls from the WHO for a moratorium on boosters until the end of the year to free up jabs for poorer nations.

"Every day, there are six times more boosters administered globally than primary doses in low-income

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