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‘Life of the planet’ at stake in climate crisis

Biden tells COP27, vows US ‘will meet’ target of slashing carbon emissions by 2030

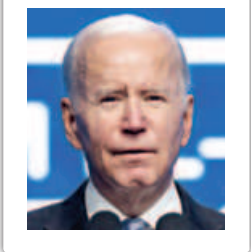
REUTERS, Sharm El Sheikh

US President Joe Biden addressed the COP27 climate conference in Egypt yesterday, saying the global climate crisis posed an existential threat to the planet and promising that the United States was doing its part to combat it.

“The climate crisis is about human security, economic security, environmental security, national security, and the very life of the planet,” Biden said, before outlining steps the United States, the world’s second-biggest greenhouse gas emitter, was taking.

“I can stand here as president of the United States of America and say with confidence, the United States of America will meet our emissions targets by 2030,” he said.

His speech was intended to remind



government representatives gathered in Sharm el-Sheikh to keep alive a goal of keeping the global average temperature rise within 1.5 degrees Celsius to avert the worst impacts of planetary warming. It came even as a slew of crises – from a land war in Europe to rampant inflation – distract international focus.

“Against this backdrop, it’s more urgent than ever that we double down on our climate commitments. Russia’s war only enhances the urgency of the need to transition the world off its dependence on fossil fuels,” he said.

Protesters stood up and held a sign during Biden’s speech at COP27, a Reuters witness in the room where Biden was speaking said.

But his speech was not interrupted and security guards approached the group of protesters to remove their sign.

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As the authorities paid no heed to locals’ sufferings , the villagers volunteered to construct this bridge, made of bamboo, over the Chitra river in Brahmanbaria’s Sarail upazila. An estimated 100,000 people now use it to cross the river. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: MASHUK HRIDOY



FIFA WORLD CUP
Qatar 2022

08 DAYS
TO GO

USA first team to arrive in Qatar

AFP, Doha

US players on Thursday became the first from a World Cup team to arrive in Qatar, ten days before the tournament starts.

The United States are playing in the finals for the first time in eight years and will be in one of the most politically-charged games when they take on Iran on November 29.

An unknown number

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

India SC frees six killers of Rajiv Gandhi

AFP, New Delhi

India’s top court yesterday ordered the release of six people convicted over the assassination of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Gandhi was 46 when he was killed by a woman suicide bomber at an election rally in the southern state of Tamil Nadu in 1991.

The assassination was carried out by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a Sri Lankan armed separatist group.

India’s supreme court said the convicts were being released based on their “satisfactory conduct” in prison and that they had served over three decades of jail time.

The six – three of whom had been condemned to death before their sentences were commuted – are the last still in prison for the assassination, although two were already out on parole.

“I am very happy... I am very thankful to each and everybody,” Nalini Sriharan, one of the two on parole, told broadcaster CNN News18. The “last 32 years have been a struggle”, she added.

She and her husband – another of the convicts ordered released by the court – were both initially condemned to death.

Earlier this year the court freed another convict who

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US MIDTERM POLLS

4 Bangladeshi origin candidates see victory



Nabilah Islam



Sheikh Rahman



Masudur Rahman



Aboul Khan

STAR REPORT

Bangladeshi origin Nabilah Islam, 32, made history in the US midterm elections, becoming the first-ever Muslim and the youngest woman to be elected to the Georgia Senate.

She is one of the four Bangladeshi origin candidates to have been elected in the polls from different states – a victory that Bangladeshi expatriates in the US are rejoicing.

The other three are Georgia State Senator Sheikh Rahman, Connecticut

State Senator Md Masudur Rahman and New Hampshire House of Representative Aboul Khan, reports Noman I Sabit, US-based freelance journalist and photographer.

Sheikh Rahman has been elected for the third time unopposed in the state of Georgia. Nabilah won the Georgia State Senate election for the first time. Masudur also won the Connecticut State Senate polls for the first time. They all ran for Biden’s Democratic Party.

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Pro-BNP org leader shot dead in Bagerhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A local leader of Swechchhasebak Dal was shot dead in Bagerhat town last night.

Nure Alam Tanu Bhuiyan, 37, was the general secretary of the pro-BNP organisation’s Bagerhat unit, police said.

He was shot at Basabati Padmapukur intersection, which is near his home, around 9:15pm, said Inspector SM Ashraful Alam, a spokesperson of police in the district.

He was taken to Bagerhat Sadar Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

Tanu was a BNP leader and “drug dealer” accused in eight criminal cases, said Ashraful.

Police are looking for a suspect named Farid, who

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Drone taxi takes first spin in air traffic near Paris

REUTERS, Paris



An electric helicopter with multiple rotors took its first flight in conventional air traffic near Paris on Thursday as it prepares for commercial flights from 2024.

The Volocopter test aircraft, which resembles a large drone with eight rotors, took off with a passenger on board from the Pontoise-Cormeilles airfield outside Paris and briefly circled around while other aircraft were in the vicinity.

German company Volocopter CEO Dirk Hoke said that in the next 18 months it will prepare its craft for certification and said he hopes to launch short commercial flights by 2024, when Paris holds the Summer Olympic Games.

The company wants its two-seater aircraft to eventually take to the skies fully automated, with

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Rescuers work at a site of a residential building heavily damaged by a Russian missile attack, as Russia’s attack on Ukraine continues, in Mykolaiv, Ukraine yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Ukrainian troops enter Kherson

Hail ‘important victory’ as Russia completes pullout

AFP, Kyiv

Ukraine said yesterday its forces were entering the southern city of Kherson and hailed an “important victory” after Russia announced its troops had retreated from the only regional capital it has captured after nearly nine months fighting.

The announcement that Moscow’s pullout was over came hours after Russian strikes killed seven people in Mykolaiv, a city near Kherson, that Russian troops have

battered for months.

“Kherson is returning to Ukrainian control and units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine are entering the city,” the defence ministry said on social media.

It added that its artillery teams had clear views over Russia’s routes to retreat and warned: “Any attempts to oppose the Armed Forces of Ukraine will be stopped.”

Russia announced earlier that it had finished pulling back its troops. But the Kremlin insisted

that Kherson was still part of Russia and that it did not regret annexing the entire Kherson region at a lavish ceremony in late September.

“The transfer of Russian troops to the left [eastern] bank of the Dnipro River was completed. Not a single piece of military equipment and weapons was left on the right [western] bank,” the Russian defence ministry said.

“Ukraine is gaining another important victory right now and

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