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A decorated tank of a Harley Davidson motorbike is pictured at the funeral of a Hell



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

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President: Catherine Lee
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Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
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Thursday, June 20, 2019 | www.today-america.com | Southern News Group

U.S. tells India it is mulling caps on H-1B visas to deter data rules

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - The United States has told India it is considering caps on H-1B work visas for nations that force foreign companies to store data locally, three sources with knowledge of the matter told Reuters, widening the two countries' row over tariffs and trade.

The plan to restrict the popular H-1B visa program, under which skilled foreign workers are brought to the United States each year, comes days ahead of U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's visit to New Delhi.

India, which has upset firms such as Mastercard and irked the U.S. government with stringent new rules on data storage, is the largest recipient of these temporary visas, most of them to workers at big Indian technology firms.

The warning comes as trade tensions between the United States and India have resulted in tit-for-tat tariff actions in recent weeks. From Sunday, India imposed higher tariffs on some U.S. goods, days after Washington withdrew a key trade privilege for New Delhi.

Two senior Indian government officials said on Wednesday they were briefed last week on a U.S. government plan to cap H-1B visas issued each year to Indians at between 10% and 15% of the annual quota.

There is no current country-specific limit on the 85,000 H-1B work visas granted each year and an estimated 70% go to Indians.

Both officials said they were told the plan was linked to the global push for "data localization", in which a country places restrictions on data as a way to gain better control over it and potentially curb the power of international companies. U.S. firms have lobbied hard against data localization rules around the world.

A Washington-based industry source aware of India-U.S. negotiations also said the United States was deliberating capping the number of H-1B visas in response to global data storage rules. The move, however, was not solely targeted at India, the source said.



FILE PHOTO: A man holds the flags of India and the U.S. while people take part in the 35th India Day Parade in New York August 16, 2015. REUTERS/Eduardo Munoz/File Photo

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Harley-Davidson strikes deal to build smaller bike in China

(Reuters) - Harley-Davidson Inc will partner with China's Qianjiang Motorcycle Co to build a new smaller motorcycle than its trademark "big hogs", making good on promises to move more production outside the United States that have angered President Donald Trump.

Trump last year threatened to impose higher taxes on Harley after it made plans to move production for European customers overseas, part of a longer-term strategy for dealing with lower sales in the U.S. and higher costs because of trade tariffs.

The partnership Harley outlined on Wednesday is aimed both at taking a bigger chunk of China's huge bike and moped market, while also fitting in with a plan to cut costs and source half of all sales outside the United States by 2027.

The new bike would have an engine displacement of 338 cubic centimeters, one of the smallest in the company's 116-year old history, and would be sold in China from the end of 2020.

Harley's existing range of motorcycles are generally far larger and come with high price tags and engine capacities of more than 601 cubic centimeters.

That has made the company a niche seller in Asia's big markets, where lightweight bikes and scooters dominate, and left it struggling to win over consumers globally to replace a traditional U.S. customer base which is aging.

Harley declined to reveal a price range for the new motorbike, but Qianjiang said it would be "affordable" and Harley said it would be introduced elsewhere in Asia after the initial launch in China.

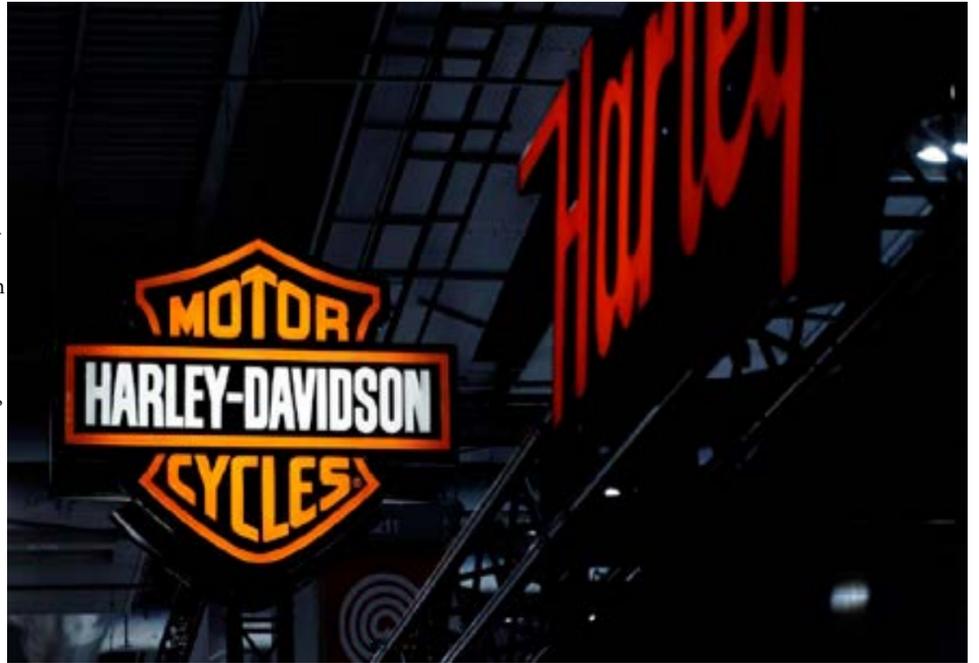
"The international motorcycle market is huge, but Harley-Davidson has not been able to penetrate it with large/expensive bikes," said Craig Kennison, an analyst with brokerage Baird.

"Our recent dealer survey work reinforces the need for Harley-Davidson to add more first-time riders. For many, affordability is an issue."

Harley's sales in China grew 27 percent in 2018 compared to 2017, and the company has already boosted investment at its Thailand plant to serve that market and avoid additional import duty.

Harley said it had picked Qianjiang, owned by Chinese Volvo brand operator Geely, based on its experience developing upscale smaller motorcycles, supply base and knowledge of emerging markets. The company said in 2018 that it planned to launch lightweight motorcycles in Asia and electric bikes globally. It expects to launch its first electric motorcycle without the traditional clutch and gear-shift controls later this year.

As part of a plan it calls "More Roads to Harley-Davidson", the company expects to spend \$675 million-\$825 million over the next four years, cutting costs and generating \$5.9 billion-\$6.4 billion in revenue in 2022.



FILE PHOTO: A Harley-Davidson Inc. logo is seen at the Paris auto show in Paris, France, October 4, 2018. REUTERS/Benoit Tessier/File Photo



FILE PHOTO: A decorated tank of a Harley Davidson motorbike is pictured at the funeral of a Hell Angels chapter president in Giessen, Germany

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Editor's Choice



Supporters of Turkish President Erdogan wave Turkish flags during a ceremony in Istanbul



A supporter of Myanmar's State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi attends her 74th birthday celebration in Yangon, Myanmar, June 19, 2019. REUTERS/Ann Wang TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



U.S. President Donald Trump and press secretary Sarah Sanders hug at a campaign kick off rally at the Amway Center in Orlando



A model presents a creation by designer Virgil Abloh as part of his Spring/Summer 2020 collection show for his label Off-White during Men's Fashion Week in Paris, France, June 19, 2019. REUTERS



People protest Quebec's new Bill 21, which will ban teachers, police, government lawyers and others in positions of authority from wearing religious symbols such as Muslim head coverings and Sikh turbans, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, June 17, 2019. REUTERS/Chris-



Belgian firefighters shake hands with police officers as they protest for better work conditions in central Brussels



Soccer Football - Women's World Cup - Group C - Italy v Brazil - Stade du Hainaut, Valenciennes, France - June 18, 2019 Italy's Sara Gama is thrown in the air by her team mates as they celebrate after the match REUTERS/Phil Noble

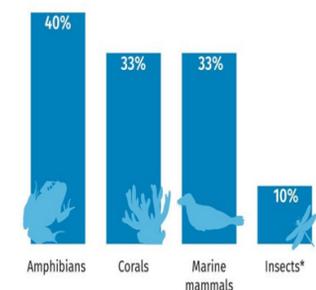


Actor Rob Lowe and his wife Sheryl Berkoff arrive for the closing ceremony of the 59th Monte-Carlo Television Festival in Monaco, June 18, 2019. REUTERS/Eric Gaillard TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY

Wildlife and habitats are declining at an “unprecedented” rate worldwide which directly threatens human beings, a major new study has warned.

Up to a million species of plants and animals are at risk of extinction, a greater number than ever before in human history.

Species threatened with extinction



Source: ipbes
*estimate

Many could vanish within decades, the UN-backed global assessment reveals. Scientists warn that the natural world is deteriorating faster than ever as a direct result of human activity, eroding “the very foundations” of economies, livelihoods, food, health and quality of life worldwide.

A huge transformation is needed across the economy and society to protect and restore nature, which provides people with food, medicines and other materials, crop pollination, fresh water, and quality of life.

Without such “transformational change”, the damage will continue or worsen up to 2050 and beyond, posing a direct threat to human well-being around the world, the study said.

It will also undermine existing global efforts to tackle poverty and hunger, improve health and curb climate change.

The experts warned that “vested interests” would oppose changes to the status quo, from which they benefit through things such as subsidies or a lack of regulation, but this opposition could be overcome for the public good.

The three-year global assessment on the state of nature from the Intergovernmental



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) has involved more than 450 experts from 50 countries.



Loss of pollinators such as bees is putting billions of pounds of crops at risk (Owen Humphreys/PA)

It looked at changes to the natural world over the past five decades, during which time the human population has doubled and demand for energy and materials has increased significantly, and sets out scenarios for the future.

Habitats, wild animals and plants and even domesticated breeds are in decline or vanishing as a direct result of human activity, and the rate at which species are becoming extinct is accelerating.

The biggest cause of wildlife losses is change to the way land or marine environments are used, followed by direct exploitation of animals and plants, climate change, pollution and invasive species.

Three-quarters of the world’s land has been “significantly altered” by human activity, with forests cut down and grassland ploughed up for crops or livestock and the spread of cities, industry and infrastructure such as roads.



Habitat is being destroyed by human activity (Emily Beament/PA)

The study, which drew on thousands of pieces of evidence, also found that rising global temperatures were already having an impact on nature and the effects would increase in the coming decades. Habitat is being destroyed by human activity (Emily Beament/PA)

The study, which drew on thousands of pieces of evidence, also found that rising global temperatures were already having an impact on nature and the effects would increase in the coming decades.

The assessment outlines a series of scenarios for the future, and found that major changes are required to protect nature and benefit people.

These include a shift away from concentrating on economic growth, bringing in wildlife-friendly farming, restoring habitats such as native forests, cutting food waste, creating marine protected areas and effective quotas for fishing, reducing

pollution and creating more green space in cities.

It is hoped the evidence in the report will help form policies and action and provide the basis for new global targets to protect nature which will be negotiated at a UN meeting in China in 2020. (Courtesy https://www.irishexaminer.com/)

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5,200 People In ICE Custody Quarantined For Exposure To Mumps Or Chicken Pox



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Washington (CNN) US Immigration and Customs Enforcement has placed 5,200 adult immigrants in quarantine after being exposed to mumps or chicken pox, a dramatic jump from just a few months ago, the agency says.

ICE has recorded cases of either mumps or chicken pox in 39 immigrant detention centers nationwide, an ICE official tells CNN. Of the 5,200 detainees in quarantine across those centers, around 4,200 are for exposure to mumps. Around 800 were exposed to chicken pox and 100 have been exposed to both.

The Department of Homeland Security has repeatedly warned of the toll the increasing number of migrants at the border has taken on the department. This week, Acting DHS Secretary Kevin McAleenan urged lawmakers for additional funding to assist operations, calling the crisis "unlike anything our country has ever faced."

In May, nearly 133,000 migrants were apprehended by Customs and Border Protection -- the majority of whom were families and unaccompanied children. Many of them turn themselves in to Border Patrol.

Just because individuals are quarantined doesn't mean they have the mumps, but they've at least been exposed to it. From September 2018 to June 13, 297 people

in ICE custody had confirmed cases of mumps, proven by blood test. There are around 52,000 single adults in ICE custody overall.



The agency has previously dealt with contagious diseases, like the measles, the flu and chicken pox, but last September was the first time the agency recorded mumps cases. It's not clear where the disease derived from or how it spread. Seventy-five percent of the immigrants coming into ICE custody come from the border, though immigrants might also interact with inmates at jails, some of which also hold immigrants. "I think there is heightened interest in this situation because it's the mumps, which is a new occurrence in custody, but preventing the spread of communicable disease in ICE custody is something we have demonstrat-

ed success doing," said Nathalie Asher, ICE executive associate director for enforcement and removal operations.

"From an operational perspective, the impact is significant in the short and long term and will result in an increase in cohorted detainees' length of stay in detention, an inability to effect removal of eligible cohorted detainees, and postponing scheduled consular interviews for quarantined detainees," she added.

ICE quarantines individuals for 25 days from the last incubation period.

The official said staff has also been put on alert. "This week, the ICE Health Service Corps issued a reminder to senior field leadership reminding their staff to review vaccination records and take appropriate actions," the official said.

The number of detainees quarantined has jumped dramatically from earlier this year. There were 2,287 detainees in quarantine for "exposure to a detainee with a contagious condition," as of Marc 7, ICE said.



Mumps is a contagious disease

There have been 1,002 cases of the mumps reported in the United States this year as of May 24, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Mumps is a disease that is caused by a virus. It is spread through saliva or mucus by coughing, sneezing or talking, and by sharing eating utensils or cups. It can also spread when an infected person touches items or surfaces that are then touched by someone else who picks up the virus.

The best way to prevent mumps is with a vaccine, and the measles, mumps and ru-

bella (MMR) vaccine is 88% effective for mumps when two doses are given, the CDC says.

Outbreaks usually occur among people who have close contact with an infected person or people, such as on college campuses and among sports teams.

Symptoms can appear 12 to 25 days after a person is infected and can include fever, headache, muscle aches, being tired and loss of appetite. The hallmark, though, is swollen glands under the ears that are tender. But not everyone has symptoms, especially if they are experiencing a mild case of the illness.

When there is a mumps outbreak in a facility where adults are detained, the ICE Health Service Corps recommends the vaccine be given "to detainees with known exposure to at least one laboratory-confirmed person with measles, mumps or rubella." It's also recommended that catch-up vaccinations be given to those younger than 18.



Illegal with an active case of mumps

"Our detention facilities work with local health departments and make sure they're complying with state health code and make sure that their local health department is aware of the existence of mumps in the facilities," said the ICE official.

This week, a mumps outbreak at the Harris County jail in Houston forced staff to isolate 14 symptomatic people and quarantine a few hundred other inmates, according to officials. The news came shortly after officials announced a quarantine at the jail in Bergen County, New Jersey, because of suspected mumps cases there.

Overcrowded border facilities

DHS officials have said the sheer volume

of people coming across the border is overwhelming facilities. McAleenan told lawmakers this week that the increasing number of migrants has hurt the morale of border officials and exposed them to sicknesses.

"Their morale is impacted. They're tired. A lot of them have gotten sick. They've been exposed to flu, chicken pox, measles, mumps -- all kinds of challenges in terms of the medical care," McAleenan said. "They're spending time overnight in hospitals instead of patrolling the border."

Late last month, the Department of Homeland Security inspector general released a report detailing some of the issues facing border patrol facilities amid the swell of migrant arrivals.

In particular, the IG found "dangerous overcrowding" and unsanitary conditions at an El Paso, Texas, Border Patrol processing facility following an unannounced inspection, according to a new report.



The IG found "standing room only conditions" at the El Paso Del Norte Processing Center, which has a maximum capacity of 125 migrants. On May 7 and 8, logs indicated that there were "approximately 750 and 900 detainees, respectively."

"We also observed detainees standing on toilets in the cells to make room and gain breathing space, thus limiting access to the toilets," the report, which was first obtained by CNN, states. (Courtesy cnn.com)

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