

China building second aircraft carrier

AFP, Beijing

China is building its second aircraft carrier, the defence ministry said yesterday, as Beijing expands its naval capabilities amid maritime disputes with neighbours in the East and South China Seas.

"This aircraft carrier is being developed according to entirely domestic designs," defence ministry spokesman Yang Yujun told a regular briefing, adding it was under construction in Dalian, a northeastern port.

The official confirmation comes after months of rumours and hints from military officials.

Beijing has rapidly expanded its military in recent years, rattling its neighbours and attracting the attention of the United States, which is making a foreign policy "pivot" towards Asia.

China's first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, is a secondhand Soviet ship built more than 25 years ago. It was commissioned in 2012 after extensive refits.

The new vessel will have a displacement of 50,000 tonnes and use "conventional power", Yang said, as opposed to being nuclear-driven. It will carry China's indigenous J-15 aircraft along with other planes, he added.

Beijing's forces have been involved in sometimes tense confrontations with Japanese and Philippine units over maritime disputes in the East China Sea and South China Sea respectively, prompting fears that the disputes could result in armed clashes.

Beijing claims almost all the strategically vital South China Sea, even waters close to the coasts of other states, and has turned a series of reefs and outcrops in disputed waters into artificial islands capable of hosting military facilities.

In recent months, US ships and planes have approached the new islands to assert international rights to freedom of navigation, with a B-52 bomber on one occasion unintentionally flying within two nautical miles of one of them.



Israeli security forces gather at the site of a car ramming attack next to the Huwara checkpoint near the West Bank city of Nablus, yesterday. Inset, Relatives mourn a dead during his funeral. A Palestinian drove his car into Israeli forces before being shot dead, the Israeli army said yesterday. According to UN, 170 Palestinians and 26 Israelis have been killed since the start of the year and until December 28 in attacks and clashes.

PHOTO: AFP

IRAN BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAMME US eyes new sanctions

Says report as Tehran denies rocket fire near US carrier

REUTERS, Dubai

Iran denied on Thursday that its Revolutionary Guards launched rockets near a U.S. aircraft carrier in the Gulf on Saturday and condemned U.S. plans for new sanctions over its ballistic missile programme.



The dispute comes after Iran and six world powers, including the United States, reached a deal in July that will remove certain US, European Union and US sanctions on Tehran in exchange for Iran accepting curbs on its nuclear programme.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Hossein Jaber Ansari yesterday

condemned as "arbitrary and illegal" US plans for new sanctions on international companies and individuals over Iran's ballistic missile programme.

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has said such new penalties would nullify the nuclear accord.

In Washington, sources familiar with the situation said on Wednesday the US government was preparing the sanctions, which the Wall Street Journal said would target about 12 companies and individuals in Iran, Hong Kong and the United Arab Emirates for their suspected role in developing Iran's missile programme.

A team of UN sanctions monitors said in a confidential report seen by Reuters on Dec 15 that Iran tested a rocket on Oct 10 capable of delivering a nuclear warhead, which Iran maintains was a convention missile.

On the missile fire near the US aircraft-carrier Harry S Truman, the Revolutionary Guards website claimed Iran had not had any exercises in the Strait of Hormuz during the past.

NBC News, citing unnamed US military officials, said the Guards were conducting a live-fire exercise and the US aircraft-carrier Harry S Truman came within about 1,500 yards (metres) of a rocket as it entered the Gulf with other warships.

In Washington, Commander Kyle Raines said the action was "highly provocative, unsafe and unprofessional."

Iranian and US forces have clashed in the Gulf in the past, especially during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s after the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Diplomats have held out hope that the deal over Iran's disputed nuclear programme could ease decades of mistrust and reduce tensions in the Middle East.

'I am not anti-India'

Nepal PM tells Modi as relations take a dip

HINDUSTAN TIMES ONLINE

Nepal's prime minister KP Sharma Oli told his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi that he was "not anti-India" against the backdrop of speculation that a crisis created by Nepal's new constitution has affected relations between the two countries.

Oli and Modi discussed a range of bilateral issues on phone. The call, made by Oli, lasted 20 minutes and the conversation centred round the blockade of border points, the scarcity of petroleum products and medicines, and a proposed amendment of the Constitution to address demands of parties representing the Madhesi people.

"Our prime minister said that contrary to the image portrayed in some sections of the media, he is not anti-India and wants to strengthen ties with the southern neighbour," Gopal Khanal, Oli's foreign affairs advisor, told Hindustan Times.

Madhesi residing in the Terai plains bordering India have been protesting

against the Constitution for four months. They have blocked key border points, including the one at Birganj that accounts for nearly 70% of bilateral trade. Nepali accused India of backing the blockade, a charge denied by New Delhi.

Modi first called Oli to congratulate him on his election to the prime minister's post in October. The two leaders talked again on November 2, when they discussed the blockade. Since then, there has been a chill.

Officials said Modi also asked Oli to visit India soon, and Oli responded positively. There has been speculation that Oli might make his first foreign trip to China and not to India, like most of his predecessors.

Modi reportedly told Oli that petroleum products, medicines and other essential goods are being supplied through other border points and instructions have been issued to Indian authorities to airlift medicines to Nepal as and when required.



Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) Invitation for Tender (IFT)

Invitation Reference Memo No. CVASU/ED/DU/IFT/05 Date: 30-12-2015

No	Name of Ministry	Ministry of Education.				
1	Agency & procuring entity name	Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU).				
2	Procuring entity district	Chittagong				
3	Invitation for	Works				
4	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (NCB).				
5	Budget & fund source	GOB (Development)/Revenue.				
6	Project name	Development of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Project & Revenue.				
7	Tender package No.	PWD-3 (Phase-II), PWD-14 (Phase-I) & PGD-6 (Phase-II)				
8	Tender publication date	30-12-2015				
9	Tender last selling date	18-01-2016				
10	Last date & time of submission of tender	19-01-2016 up to 3:00pm				
11	Tender opening date and time	19-01-2016 at 3:15pm				
12	Name and address of the office selling tender documents	Office of the Director (Finance & Accounts), Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4225, Bangladesh.				
13	Receiving tender document	Office of the Chief Engineer, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4225.				
14	Place of tender opening	Conference Room (new), Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4225.				
15	Brief description of work	GI pipe line work, RCC road, 3 ton & 2 ton AC etc.				
16	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderers enlisted in any government, semi-government or autonomous organization having similar work experience of (i) Tk. 8.00 lakh for package No. PWD-3 (phase-II); (ii) Tk. 20.00 lakh for package No. PWD-14 (phase-I) & (iii) Tk. 4.50 lakh for package No. PG-3 in a single work order during last five years.				
17	Name, description, location and price etc. of tender document					
Package No.		Name of work	Location	Price of tender document in Taka	Tender security in Taka	Completion time (days)
PWD-3 (Phase-II),		Installation of GI water supply line at CVASU	Pahartali, Chittagong	1500.00	30,000.00	40
PWD-14 (Phase-I)		Construction of Internal road at CVASU	Pahartali, Chittagong	2000.00	65,000.00	70
PG-3		Supply and Installation of AC at Histology and Cell Biology Lab of Anatomy and Histology Department at CVASU	Pahartali, Chittagong	1000.00	10,000.00	20

19 Name, designation and address of the official inviting tender: Shah Md. Zillur Rahman, Chief Engineer, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4225, Phone No-031-2566625, Fax No. 031-659620

20 Tender security is to be submitted in the form of Pay Order of any scheduled bank in favour of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University.

21 The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Shah Md. Zillur Rahman Chief Engineer & Project Director

POST-POLL CRISIS IN VENEZUELA Opposition warns of 'judicial coup'

AFP, Caracas

Venezuela's highest court on Wednesday effectively blocked the two-thirds majority that the opposition won in this month's landmark legislative elections by suspending the inauguration of three incoming lawmakers.

The country's opposition, however, defiantly insisted its legislators will all present themselves be sworn in on January 5, setting the stage for a tense political standoff.

Before the court's decision, the opposition had denounced the PSUV's court challenge as a "judicial coup" and asked the international community to stop it.

In an open letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and senior international officials, the MUD condemned the legal threat to its two-thirds majority.

The letter was also addressed to European Union foreign affairs chief Federica Mogherini and senior officials of the Organization of American States, the Union of South American Nations and regional bloc MERCOSUR.

"With the strength of the Constitution, with the strength of the law and the strength of the people, the 112 MUD lawmakers will be sworn in," the Democratic Unity Roundtable (MUD) coalition declared, in a statement.

It was released shortly after the Supreme Court of Justice granted a request from embattled President Nicolas Maduro's party to stop the three incoming National Assembly members from taking office Tuesday, pending a legal challenge against alleged vote irregularities.

The decision leaves the opposition with a still-powerful three-fifths majority, enabling it to remove cabinet ministers from their posts, among other powers.

But it removes, at least temporarily, some powers Maduro's opponents would have had, including the ability to put legislation to a referendum and to call an assembly to draft a new constitution.

Observers have speculated that the opposition could have used those powers to seek to force Maduro from power before the end of his term in 2019.

The opposition won 112 of 167 seats in the December 6 elections, a dramatic blow to Maduro and to the "revolution" launched in 1999 by his late predecessor Hugo Chavez.

Maduro's United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) filed court challenges contesting the election of nine lawmakers.

The court did not grant the ruling party's petitions to suspend the inauguration of the other six lawmakers. One PSUV lawmaker from Amazonas also had his inauguration suspended, as the suit challenges the vote for the entire state.

The court must now hear arguments in the case, for which there is no timetable. If it rules the elections were fraudulent, they will have to be held again in the districts involved.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
সড়ক পরিবহন ও সেতু মন্ত্রণালয়
সেতু বিভাগ
বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষ
সেতু ভবন, নিউ বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২
স্মারক নংঃ ৫০.১০৫.১০৯.০০.০০.১২০.২০১৫-৯২৭ তারিখঃ ১৬ পৌষ ১৪২২
৩০ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৫

বিজ্ঞাপনের জন্য জায়গা ইজারা প্রদান সংক্রান্ত
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষের আওতাধীন বাংলাদেশ-চীন ৬ষ্ঠ মেট্রী সেতু (মুজারপুর সেতুর) মূলগঞ্জ প্রান্তে বিজ্ঞাপনের জন্য জায়গা ইজারা প্রদান করা হবে। ইজারা গ্রহণে আগ্রহী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। এতদসংক্রান্ত দরপত্রের বিষয়ে নিম্নে উল্লেখিত সময়সূচি অনুযায়ী কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করা হবেঃ

ক্রমিক নং	দরপত্র সিডিউল ক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	দরপত্র সিডিউল দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	দরপত্র সিডিউল খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান
১ম বার	তারিখঃ ১৩-০১-২০১৬ সময়ঃ বিকালঃ ৫-০০ ঘটিকা	তারিখঃ ১৪-০১-২০১৬ সময়ঃ বেলা ৩-০০ ঘটিকা	তারিখঃ ১৪-০১-২০১৬ সময়ঃ বেলাঃ ৩-৩০ ঘটিকা
২য় বার	তারিখঃ ২৭-০১-২০১৬ সময়ঃ বিকালঃ ৫-০০ ঘটিকা	তারিখঃ ২৮-০১-২০১৬ সময়ঃ বেলা ৩-০০ ঘটিকা	তারিখঃ ২৮-০১-২০১৬ সময়ঃ বেলাঃ ৩-৩০ ঘটিকা
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স্থানঃ বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষের প্রধান কার্যালয়, অর্থ ও হিসাব শাখা, সেতু ভবন (৪র্থ তলা), বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২।

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শর্তাবলীঃ

- দরপত্র সিডিউল বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষের প্রধান কার্যালয়ের অর্থ ও হিসাব শাখা হতে নগদ ১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) জমা প্রদান করে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে;
- প্রতিটি দরপত্রের সঙ্গে উদ্ধৃত দরের ২০% অর্থ নিরাপত্তা জামানত বাবদ "বাংলাদেশ সেতু কর্তৃপক্ষ"-এর অনুকূলে সরকার অনুমোদিত যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক হতে পে-অর্ডার (MICR)/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট (MICR) আকারে জমা দিতে হবে। পে-অর্ডার (MICR)/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট (MICR) ছাড়া অন্য কোন চেক গ্রহণ করা হবে না;
- দরপত্র পূর্ণ ও দাখিল সংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত নিয়মাবলী/শর্তাদি দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ আছে। দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখিত শর্তাবলী দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির অংশ হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে; এবং
- কর্তৃপক্ষ সর্বোচ্চ দরদাতার দর গ্রহণে বাধ্য নহে। এছাড়া কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে সকল বা যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে।

যোগাযোগের জন্য
উপ-পরিচালক (এস্টেট)
ফোনঃ ৫৫০৪০৩২৬

জিডি-০১