

## KIM JONG-NAM KILLING Interpol warrant issued for four N Koreans

Interpol has issued an international arrest warrant for four North Koreans wanted by Malaysian investigators in connection with the assassination of Kim Jong-Nam, the country's police chief said yesterday.

The estranged half-brother of North Korea's leader Kim Jong-Un was poisoned with the lethal nerve agent VX in a brazen Cold War-style killing on February 13 at Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Two women -- one Vietnamese and one Indonesian -- have been arrested and charged with the murder.

Investigators are also seeking seven North Korean suspects, four of whom left Malaysia on the day of the murder. The police chief has said he believes they fled to Pyongyang while the other three are hiding in North Korea's embassy in Kuala Lumpur.



Indian farmers from the southern state of Tamil Nadu wear tree leaves as they take part in a protest in New Delhi yesterday. The farmers protested to demand a profitable price for their agricultural products, and called for the formation of a management committee for solving Cauvery River water dispute between Tamil Nadu and neighbouring Karnataka. More than 200 farmers have committed suicide in Tamil Nadu in recent months following crop failure due to poor rainfall and inadequate water for irrigation.

PHOTO: AFP

## Nepal in fresh political crisis

Madhesi withdraw support from govt

AFP, Kathmandu

Political parties from southern Nepal withdrew support from the government yesterday, weakening an already fragile administration and throwing long overdue elections further into doubt.

An alliance of ethnic Madhesi parties joined the government when it formed last August on the proviso that the constitution be amended to grant the indigenous plains people greater political representation.

But the legislation has been deadlocked in parliament for months, angering the Madhesi who had warned the government they would not remain idle.

"We had given the government a seven-day ultimatum to address our demands, but they did nothing," Laxman I. Karna, a leader of the United Democratic Madhesi Front (UDMF), told AFP.

The office of the speaker of the parliament confirmed they had received a notice of withdrawal from the Madhesi alliance.

The government had anticipated a rebellion by the Madhesi, and last week managed to cobble together enough extra support to ensure its brittle coalition retained a majority in parliament.

"The government still has the numbers, but when it was formed it was to amend the constitution with the Madhesi," said Kathmandu-based political analyst Vijay Kant Karna.

"Now a new kind of conflict arises."

The Madhesi have vowed to disrupt local elections slated for May -- the first in nearly two decades -- by striking across the lowlands that border India where around half of Nepal's population lives.

## US promises new North Korea plan

Tillerson says two decades of efforts to disarm  
Pyongyang 'have failed'; China challenges US move

AFP, Tokyo

The United States yesterday vowed a fresh strategy to counter the North Korean nuclear threat, admitting that all previous efforts had failed.

During a visit to Japan at the start of an Asian tour, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said he would urge China to play its part in reining in its neighbour.

In his first foray into crisis diplomacy, the new US envoy wants to reassure key Asian allies that Washington stands with them in the face of the accelerating nuclear and missile threats.

But he warned that past policies and punishments have had virtually no effect on Pyongyang's ambitions.

"I think it's important to recognise that the diplomatic and other efforts of the past 20 years to bring North Korea to a point of denuclearisation have failed," he told a press conference with Japan's Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida.

North Korea has a long-standing ambition to become a nuclear power and conducted its first underground atomic test in 2006, in the teeth of global opposition. Four more test blasts have followed, two of them last year.

It has continued to defy the international community, even after two rounds of UN-backed international sanctions, and last

week test fired a salvo of ballistic missiles that fell in waters off Japan.

"In the face of the ever-escalating threat it is clear that a new approach is required," Tillerson said, offering no details.

But he reiterated Washington's vow to face down the North Korean threat and back regional friends Japan and South Korea.

After Tokyo, Tillerson flies to Seoul for talks with South Korea's acting leader and at the weekend heads to Beijing to finalise plans for Chinese leader Xi Jinping to visit Trump in April.



US officials have been spooked by North Korea's accelerating progress towards building an intercontinental ballistic missile that could threaten US mainland cities.

Beijing shares US concerns over Pyongyang's attempts to build an arsenal of nuclear devices, but has also blamed Washington for escalating tensions.

It called last week for North Korea to suspend its nuclear and missile activities in exchange for the US and South Korea halting military exercises to avert a dangerous confrontation -- the latter rejected by the US.

Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said at a briefing Thursday that Beijing stood by the idea.

"If the US or another country has a better plan, a better proposal, they can bring it out," she said.

## Israelis imposing 'apartheid regime'

Says UN; US 'outraged', demands  
withdrawal of report

AFP, United Nations

The United States on Wednesday demanded that UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres withdraw a report by a UN body accusing Israel of imposing apartheid on the Palestinians.

Guterres distanced himself from the report by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) but US Ambassador Nikki Haley said it should be scrapped altogether.

"The United States is outraged by the report," said Haley in a statement.

"The United Nations secretariat was right to distance itself from this report, but it must go further and withdraw the report altogether."

The study concluded that "available evidence established beyond a reasonable doubt that Israel is guilty of policies and practices that constitute the crime of apartheid."

Based in Beirut, ESCWA is comprised of 18 Arab countries, according to its website, which lists the state of Palestine as a full member, and works to strengthen cooperation and promote development.

UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said "the report as it stands does not reflect the views of the secretary-general" and was done without consultations with the UN secretariat.

One of the authors is Richard Falk, a former special UN rapporteur on Palestinian human rights.

"That such anti-Israel propaganda would come from a body whose membership nearly universally does not recognize Israel is unsurprising," said Haley.

She described Falk as "a man who has repeatedly made biased and deeply offensive comments about Israel and espoused ridiculous conspiracy theories".

Haley has accused the United Nations of being biased against Israel and has vowed as President Donald Trump's envoy to staunchly defend Israel at the world body.

## India fast-tracks hydropower projects in disputed Kashmir

Clears six projects; Pakistan wary about future water security

REUTERS, New Delhi

India has fast-tracked hydropower projects worth \$15 billion in Kashmir in recent months, three federal and state officials said, ignoring warnings from Islamabad that power stations on rivers flowing into Pakistan will disrupt water supplies.

The swift approval of projects that had languished for years came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi suggested last year that sharing the waterways could be conditional on Pakistan clamping down on anti-India militants that New Delhi says it shelters.

Pakistan has opposed some of these projects before, saying they violate a World Bank-mediated treaty on the sharing of the Indus river and its tributaries upon which 80 per cent of its irrigated agriculture depends.

The schemes, the largest of which is the 1,856 MW Sawalkote plant, will take years to complete, but their approval could prove a flashpoint between the nuclear-armed neighbours at a time when relations are at a low ebb.

"I say the way you look at these projects, it is not purely a hydro project. Broaden it to a strategic water management, border management problem, and then you put in money," said Pradeep Kumar Pujari, the top ranking official in the power ministry.

Pakistan denies any involvement in the 28-year armed insurgency in Indian Kashmir and has repeatedly urged New Delhi to hold talks to decide the future of the region.

Pakistan's foreign ministry spokesman, Nafees Zakaria, said he would confer with the Ministry of Water and Power on the

proposed Indian projects, saying it was a technical matter.

He noted, however, that India would be attending a regular meeting of the Indus Commission later this month in Lahore, even though the broader peace dialogue was on hold.

Environmental groups have questioned whether the government has followed proper procedures in fast-tracking projects located in a highly seismic area.

Modi told a meeting of government officials on the Indus treaty last year that



"blood and water cannot flow together", soon after India blamed Pakistan-based militants for a deadly attack on its troops in Kashmir.

Modi's message was two-fold, Indian foreign ministry spokesman Gopal Baglay said. Terrorism had to stop and India must fully utilise the economic potential available to it within the Indus treaty.

The projects that have won technical approvals in recent months are Sawalkote, Kwar, Pakal Dul, Bursar and Kirthai I and II.

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেরিটাইম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ



১৪/০৬-১৪/২৩, পল্লবী, মিরপুর-১২, ঢাকা-১২১৬

ওয়েবঃ www.bsrmru.edu.bd

Invitation for Re-Tender

No. BSMRMU/Procurement-343/17/387

Date: 16 March 2017

Ministry/division	Ministry of Education.				
Procuring entity name	Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Maritime University (BSMRMU).				
Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.				
Tender invitation for	Procurement of Car.				
Invitation reference No.	BSMRMU Tender No: 007/2016-2017				
Date	March 2017				
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>					
Procurement method	Open Tender Method (National).				
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>					
Budget and source of funds	Government of Bangladesh.				
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>					
Tender last selling date and time	28 March 2017, 12:00 noon.				
Tender submission date and time	29 March 2017, 12:00 noon.				
Tender opening date and time	29 March 2017, 12:15pm.				
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>					
Eligibility of tenderer	1. Manufacturers or their authorized distributors or agents having office establishment, repairing/servicing workshop, manpower, logistic support, qualification and experience of supplying brand new original and good quality AC Sedan Car in various reputed organization within assigned time. Clone or locally assembled items will not be accepted. 2. The tenderer should have a valid trade license, updated VAT and Tax certificate, bank solvency and other document as per tender schedule.				
Brief description of goods					
Lot No.	Identification of lot	Qty.	Location	Tender security money	Completion time
-	AC Sedan Car	03 in No.	BSMRMU	Tk. 3,12,000/00	60 days from the signature of contract/purchase order
Tender document price		Tk 3000/00 (non-refundable) form of Pay Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of "BSMRMU General Fund".			
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>					
Name, designation of official inviting tender					
Registrar, BSMR Maritime University, Bangladesh.					
Address of official inviting tender					
Registrar Office, BSMRMU, 14/06-14/23, Pallabi, Mirpur-12, Dhaka-1216.					
Contact details of official inviting tender		Tel No: 01769721010 Fax No: 02-58070457 Web: www.bsrmru.edu.bd e-mail: regoffice@bsrmru.edu.bd			
The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason.					
Shapon Kumar Brouya Deputy Registrar (Procurement) BSMR Maritime University For Registrar					

GD-586

## Thai junta lays out 20-year masterplan

AFP, Bangkok

Thailand's junta on Thursday said any future civilian government will be legally bound to follow a 20-year "masterplan" for the country as generals seek to entrench their political influence for decades to come.

Soldiers have run Thailand since a 2014 coup, ushering in the country's most autocratic government in a generation.

The military said the coup was needed to end more than a decade of political instability, instigate reform and root out corruption.

But critics decry severely stifled freedoms, as promised deadlines to return to civilian rule keep slipping.

"Reforming the country needs time and a long-term strategy. So the government decided to have a 20-year national strategy as the master plan, as a strategy plan, for the country," Major General Werachon Sukondhapatipak said at a rare briefing for foreign diplomats and media in Bangkok on Thursday.

In an announcement heavy on aims but light on concrete policies, he said the 20-year plan would help Thailand becomes a high income country by tackling, among other things, corruption, a sclerotic civil service as well as boosting the country's flagging economy.

The masterplan would be "legally binding" within the country's military-drafted constitution and any future administration "has to formulate its policies based on the national strategy", Werachon said.

Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz (C) reviews an honour guard with Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) during a welcoming ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday. Xi welcomed visiting Saudi King as China continues a charm offensive toward the Middle East, a region where it has long kept a low profile.

PHOTO: AFP

মোটরযানের এ্যাস্কেল ও অননুমোদিত বাম্পার এবং ট্রাকের বডিতে সংযুক্ত চোখালো-ধারালো হুকসহ অবৈধভাবে পরিবর্তন করা আকার-আকৃতি বা কাঠামোর বর্ধিত অংশ অপসারণ সংক্রান্ত বিআরটিএ'র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, মোটরযান বিশেষ করে ট্রাক-কভার্ডভ্যান ইত্যাদি পণ্যপরিবহন যানের সামনে ও পেছনে অননুমোদিতভাবে বাম্পার সংযোজন করে, দুপাশে তিনকোণা লোহা/স্টিলের পাত (এ্যাস্কেল) লাগিয়ে, কার্গোবডির প্রস্থ ড্রাইভার কেবিনের প্রস্থের চেয়ে বর্ধিতভাবে তৈরি করে আকার/আকৃতি বা কাঠামো পরিবর্তন এবং ট্রাকের বডিতে চোখালো-ধারালো হুক লাগানো হচ্ছে, যা সম্পূর্ণ অবৈধ এবং সড়ক দুর্ঘটনার একটি অন্যতম প্রধান কারণ। এ্যাস্কেল ও কার্গোবডির বর্ধিত অংশ রাস্তার স্পেস কমিয়ে দেয় এবং পাশ দিয়ে চলাচলকারী অন্যগাড়িকে আঘাত করে মারাত্মক সড়ক দুর্ঘটনার সৃষ্টি করছে। এতে জীবন ও সম্পদের ক্ষতিসাধিত হচ্ছে।

২। এমতাবস্থায়, মোটরযান হতে এ্যাস্কেল, অননুমোদিত বাম্পার এবং ট্রাকের বডিতে সংযুক্ত চোখালো-ধারালো হুকসহ অবৈধভাবে পরিবর্তন করা আকার-আকৃতি বা কাঠামোর বর্ধিত অংশ অপসারণ করতে পুনরায় অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। অন্যথায় এ বিষয়ে প্রয়োজনীয় আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা নেয়া হবে। উল্লেখ্য, এ বিষয়ে ইতিপূর্বে কয়েকবার নির্দেশনা দেয়া হয়েছে।

জিডি-৫৭৮

পরিচালক (রোড সফটি), বিআরটিএ