

Israeli police arrest Palestinian officials in Jerusalem

AFP, Jérusalem

Israeli police arrested the Palestinian governor of Jerusalem and a local official of the mainstream Fatah party in dawn raids in the disputed city yesterday, their lawyer said.

Police arrested governor Adnan Ghaith and the Fatah general secretary for Jerusalem, Shadi Mutour, in raids on their homes in Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem, lawyer Mohammed Mahmud told AFP.

He said they were accused of engaging in activity on behalf of the Palestinian Authority in the city.

Israeli police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld told AFP that “two representatives were arrested by police and are being questioned”, but did not confirm their names or give any further detail.

PA activities in Jerusalem are barred by Israel, which occupied east Jerusalem in the 1967 Six-Day War and later annexed it in a move never recognised by the international community.

It considers the entire city its capital, while the Palestinians see the eastern sector as the capital of their future state.

About 320,000 Palestinians live in east Jerusalem.

Senior Palestinian official Hanan Ashrawi condemned Ghaith’s arrest in a strongly-worded statement.

Russia

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Russia’s State Atomic Energy Corporation Rosatom is constructing a 2,400 megawatt nuclear power plant at Rooppur in Pabna and the first two units of the plant are expected to be operational in 2023.

“The meeting has approved the draft of the policy on radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel management in line with the guidelines set by the International Atomic Energy Agency,” the cabinet secretary said.

He said that a company by the name of Radioactive Waste Management Company would be established under Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission to oversee the process of radioactive waste disposal.

The policy was formulated to prevent possible harm from radioactive wastes and nuclear energy, he said.

The cabinet also gave the final approval to the draft of the Bangladesh Engineering Research Council Bill 2019 to promote engineering research and ensure the standard of technology for their pragmatic uses in the country.

A 10-member governing body headed by a chairman will run the council, he said.

Besides, the Cabinet gave approval to the draft of the Bangladesh Lighthouse Bill, 2019, an updated version of the existing Lighthouse Act, 1927, said Shafuil.

Violence

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during the clash. He was rushed to Ukhia upazila health complex at Cox’s Bazar where on-duty doctors declared him dead around 4:30pm, he added.

Contacted, BGB Cox’s Bazar region commander Brigadier General Shazedur Rahman said the BGB men opened fire to defend themselves as the agitators attacked them.

Two BGB were also injured during the clash, he added.

Mohammed Rezaul Karim, the district election officer, confirmed the incident, saying they continued the election despite the unexpected events.

Meanwhile, BNP-backed candidates boycotted upazila polls over allegations of irregularities in Chattogram and Jhenaidah.

During Satkania upazila polls in Chattogram, the presence of voters was poor in most of the polling centres while Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury, the aspirant from BNP, boycotted the polls over allegations of irregularities by AL men.

However, AL backed candidate MA Motaleb denied the allegations.

The Daily Star correspondent visited 14 polling centres in the upazila and found only one centre with the queue of voters outside it. Some 50 voters were seen in front of the polling centre at Chibbari Government Primary School around 11:50am.

No polling agent of BNP was seen at any of the polling stations.

While asked, Shariful Alam, a presiding officer at Chibbari Primary School Polling centre, said no polling agent for BNP candidate came to him to report in the morning.

He, however, said presence of voters was very little as only 10 percent votes were cast in 125 polling centres till 12.00 noon.

In Jhenidah, BNP’s chairman aspirants at Kotchandpur and Moheshpur upazila boycotted the election over allegations of irregularities by AL men.

Abdur Razzak of Kotchandpur upazila and Sahjaman Mohon of Moheshpur upazila said this during a joint press conference at Kotchandpur press club.

They alleged that the ruling AL men were resisting voters and BNP men to go to polling centres.



Fishermen catching brood hilsha in the Meghna in Munshiganj despite an ongoing ban against it.

PHOTO: STAR

Syria steps in to contain assault

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The United States and its partners, who spent years fighting alongside the Kurds against the Islamic State group in Syria before deserting them, have condemned the Turkish invasion, but their threats of sanctions have failed to stop it.

Washington yesterday ordered 1,000 troops -- almost the entire ground force -- to leave Syria’s north.

The chaos in the areas targeted in the six-day-old Turkish assault has already led to the escape of around 800 foreign women and children linked to IS from a Kurdish-run camp, Kurdish authorities said.

The Kurds had repeatedly warned of that scenario when Western countries refused to repatriate their IS-linked nationals and when Trump made it clear he wanted to end the US military presence.

But Trump yesterday said the Kurds “may be releasing” IS prisoners to keep the US involved in Syria.

Wasting no time to fill the void, Moscow -- already the top broker in Syria -- clinched a deal between the Kurds and Damascus, whose ties had been icy since the minority threw its lot with Washington and unilaterally declared self-rule.

“In order to prevent and confront this aggression, an agreement has been reached with the Syrian government,” the Kurdish administration said in a statement late Sunday.

By yesterday morning, Syrian

government forces were already moving to within several kilometres (miles) of the border, AFP correspondents on the ground said.

Residents around the town of Tall Tamr welcomed regime forces with cheers and Syrian state television showed some of them waving national flags and portraits of President Bashar al-Assad.

Syrian troops also deployed in the areas of Tabqa and Ain Issa in the northern province of Raqa, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitor.

According to a newspaper close to the Damascus regime, Syrian forces were also expected to deploy in the areas of Manbij and the border town of Kobane.

The main remaining flashpoint along the border was the town of Ras al-Ain, where Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces have put up stiff resistance against Turkish air strikes and shelling for almost a week.

According to Observatory, the Turkish attack -- which uses Syrian proxies on the ground -- has already left 128 SDF fighters and 69 civilians dead. On the Turkish side, four soldiers and 18 civilians have been confirmed killed in six days, either in fighting or from Kurdish cross-border fire, according to Turkish sources. The Observatory put the number of pro-Turkish Syrian forces killed in the offensive at 94.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres yesterday said the offensive

in Syria has displaced at least 160,000 civilians.

An internal document circulated by the Kurdish administration yesterday, a copy of which was obtained by AFP, stressed the deal with Damascus was purely of a military nature and did not affect the work of the semi-autonomous institutions.

But the de-facto statelet the Kurdish administration had set up in northeastern Syria has fast unravelled in recent days, with its forces losing control of a 120-kilometre-long segment of the border.

The area that is now under the control of Turkey and its proxies is ethnically Arab-dominated and some residents welcomed Turkish-backed forces.

Kurdish officials and residents alike in northeastern Syria have expressed outrage at what they call a US betrayal that shortchanges the sacrifices made in the fight against IS.

Since 2014, the SDF have been the US-led anti-IS coalition’s main partner on the ground in Syria, spearheading some key battles on the way to eliminating the jihadists’ self-proclaimed “caliphate” earlier this year.

“The United States has lost its defeat mechanism against the Islamic State,” the Institute for the Study of War wrote in a brief.

“It took years for the US to realise that the SDF were the only capable partners. They will not partner with us again,” it said.

2 ‘Neo JMB’ men held

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Islamic State and set up communication,” he told the press at DMP Media Centre yesterday.

On April 29, two traffic police constables and a community traffic policeman were injured in an IED blast in Gulistan while two policemen were injured in a similar attack at Science Lab intersection on August 31.

Besides, on May 26, two people, including a female police officer, suffered injuries when a bomb went off near a police pickup in Malibagh intersection area. On July 24, IEDs were recovered from near police boxes in Paltan and Khamarbari areas.

Police suspected that the arrestees were also connected to these three incidents.

Monirul Islam said this group planned a similar attack on police in September but police foiled it by raiding a Narayanganj den and arresting two members on September 23.

The arrestees were Farid Uddin Rume, 27, a teacher of mechanical and production engineering at Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology in Dhaka, and Mishuk Khan Mizan, 24, a final-year engineering student of Narayanganj Polytechnic Institute.

Rume’s younger brother Rafiq, 25, who formed the five-member military wing of the group, is on the run.

CITC officials said Azmir was among the four youths seen in the so-called IS footage circulated recently. The video was actually captured in the Narayanganj den and three of the youths except for Rafiq were detained.

According to CITC officials, Rafiq, Tamim and Azmir were friends and graduated in mechanical engineering from Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet) in 2014. They were radicalised online during university study.

Initially, they used to write for the blogs of banned outfit Ansar al Islam.

Trudeau continues campaign after threats to his safety

AFP, Montreal

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Sunday he plans to continue campaigning as normal after wearing body armour the night before, a move the CBC reported was due to threats to his security.

“This will not change at all how I campaign,” Trudeau said, on the sidelines of a campaign event in York, a week ahead of Canadian legislative elections.

Trudeau was in his shirtsleeves, as he normally is when campaigning, after wearing body armor under a shirt and jacket on Saturday.

When asked to answer journalists’ questions about the threats against him, Trudeau explained, “My first concern was for my family and for all the Canadians in the room,” but refused to comment further.

Trudeau’s main rival, Conservative Andrew Scheer, took to Twitter Saturday evening to stress that “threats against political leaders have absolutely no place in our democracy.”

Jagmeet Singh, the leader of the New Democratic Party (NPD), called the threats against Trudeau “troubling” in a Saturday night tweet.

The liberal leader was more than an hour and a half late to an event Saturday in Mississauga, a city in the suburbs of Toronto, where about 2,000 supporters were waiting for him.

Eight-yr-old reels in 692-pound shark

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“I was trying to hold myself by pushing off the wall in the boat,” Jayden told Nine News.

The youngest member of the local Port Hacking Game Fishing Club, Jayden first learned how to fish at 18 months old, according to Nine News

-- and the shark was his biggest catch by far. But they didn’t realise quite how big until they returned to shore and weighed it.

The record for the International Game Fish Association’s junior and small fry category is a 312-kilogramme (687 pounds) tiger shark

caught by Ian Hissey in 1997. Jayden now needs to get his catch officially verified to set a new mark.

Tiger sharks -- among the largest sharks in the ocean, weighing up to 680 kilogrammes (1,500 pounds) -- are not a protected species in Australia.

Buet students welcome

FROM PAGE 2

to death allegedly by some Bangladesh Chhatra League men. The protests were relaxed on Saturday to ensure the entrance exams went smoothly.

The Daily Star correspondent yesterday went to the campus and found hundreds of students assisting the admission-seekers and their guardians.

“Many students come from outside Dhaka and the guardians have to stay outside the exam halls till the tests end. During this time, they need water. That’s why we arranged this for them as a gesture of goodwill,” said a student.

Some of the current students also helped candidates who had forgotten to bring their calculators, by giving those to them.

Md Shamsul Hossain, a student of Buet, said they collected more than 100 calculators from different students and kept those in different makeshift booths. Earlier, the general students of the Buet collected a fund for the reception.

This year all the students spontaneously volunteered in it and worked there to support the students.

They also distributed newspapers among the students.

Rashik Ahnaf, a student of the industrial and production engineering department of the

15th batch, said all the students created a fund to help the examinees and there were also volunteers to provide any sort of support the candidates might need.

“We have decided to provide water and biscuit for all the students because they may face problem inside the campus and will get a negative impression about the campus. So, we are trying our best to reduce the sufferings of the students and guardians as much as possible,” he told The Daily Star yesterday.

Apart from this, they also helped the candidates find their exam halls and kept their belongings, as many items were not allowed inside the venue.

Around 12,000 admission seekers sat for the three-hour long exam, while around the same number of guardians thronged the exam venue.

Different groups like Chittagong Students’ Union (CSU), Greater Khulna Association of BUET Students (CKABS) and some other organisations shared their phone numbers to provide assistance to the guardians of those particular areas.

Shahinoor Miah, a government employee, came to the campus along with his younger son who sat for the test.

“This is a very good initiative. Students of Buet are not only

meritorious but also gentle and polite,” he said.

Last year, Bangladesh Chhatra League received Buet admission seekers in a similar manner.

EU approves sanctions framework for Nicaragua

AFP, Luxembourg

The European Union yesterday adopted a sanctions framework for Nicaragua over human rights abuses and repression in the Central American country under leftist President Daniel Ortega.


The move, validated in a meeting of EU foreign ministers, does not immediately enact punishment on Nicaragua but allows targeted travel bans and asset freezes to be quickly imposed at a later stage.

Rohingya man

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The OC said that earlier there was a feud between the victim and the suspect and this may be why Yunus was murdered.

A case will be filed in this regard, he added.

বাংলাদেশ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ড Bangladesh Water Development Board					
Office of the Executive Engineer Rangamati O&M Division BWDB, Kaptai, Rangamati Tel No. 03529-56237			<div>  </div> <div> <p>নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর রাঙ্গামাটি প ও ম বিভাগ বাপাউলো, কাপ্তাই, রাঙ্গামাটি ফোন: অফিস ৩৫২৯/৫৬২৩৭ E-mail: xen.bwdb.rangamati@gmail.com Date: 13.10.2019</p> </div>		
Memo No. EX-EN/RANG/T/6/2581					
e-Re-Tender Notice [Notice No. 23]					
An e-Tender has been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following works:					
Sl No.	Tender ID	Package No. & description	Location of the work	Tender document last selling date & time	Tender closing & opening date & time
1	368141	Bank protective work along the right bank of Ichamati River at Sakurtala area from km 0.000 to km 0.050=50.00m, right bank of Bogabli area km 0.000 to km 0.200=200.00m, left bank of Bagichagaon area km 0.000 to km 0.250=250.00m, Rajarhat Bazar area km 0.000 to km 0.200=200.00m, Khilmogol area km 0.000 to km 0.200 = 200.00m, Total = 900.00m in Upazila-Rangunia, Dist- Chittagong under ADP under Rangamati O & M Division BWDB Kaptai during the year 2018-19 (PR-10/ADP/2018-19)	Upazila-Rangunia, Dist- Chittagong	28-Oct-2019 16.00	29-Oct-2019 12.00
<p>This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to banking hour on 28 October 2019 up to 16.00 hours.</p> <p>Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) (01762625528-31) (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd).</p>					
<p>পানি-১৬৬/২০১৯-২০২০ ৬'খ৩ GD-1687</p>					
<p>K.M. Julfikar Tareq Executive Engineer (A.C) Rangamati O & M Division BWDB, Kaptai</p>					