

HUMANITARIAN, REFUGEE CRISIS

Pak PM warns of Afghan 'civil war'

AGENCIES

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan has warned of the risk of a "civil war" in Afghanistan if the Taliban is unable to form an inclusive government there.

"If they do not have an inclusive government, and gradually it descends into a civil war, which if they do not include all the factions sooner or later [will happen], that too will impact Pakistan," Khan told the BBC network during an interview aired on Tuesday.

Khan said his country was primarily concerned about the possibility of a humanitarian and refugee crisis if a civil war breaks out, as well as the possibility of Afghan soil being used by armed groups that are fighting the Pakistani government.

"It will mean an unstable, a chaotic Afghanistan," he said. "[That is an] ideal place for terrorists, because if there is no control or if there is fighting going on. And that is our worry. So terrorism from Afghan soil, and secondly if there is a humanitarian crisis or a civil war, a refugee issue for us."

The Taliban has previously rejected Khan's calls for changes to the current interim Afghan government, with Mohammad Mobeen, a Taliban leader, saying the group does not "give anyone the right to call for an inclusive government".

"We have got freedom. Like Pakistan, we reserve the right to have our own system," Mobeen told Afghanistan's Ariana TV, adding the current system was "inclusive". The Taliban's deputy information minister Zabihullah Mujahid said the group would address international human rights concerns only after formal recognition by those countries.



Burqa-clad women look at secondhand household items at a stall in a market in Kandahar, Afghanistan yesterday. As Afghanistan faces an economic crisis after the Taliban's takeover, some cash-strapped residents have resorted to selling their household items. Across Kandahar, people have been selling off anything they can, including bedding, furniture and cooking appliances, to buy food and other basic goods.

PHOTO: AFP

MORE NEWS

Bats with Covid-like viruses found in Laos: study

Scientists have discovered another clue to the origins of the virus that causes Covid-19, with bats living in caves in Laos found to be carrying a similar pathogen that experts suggest could potentially infect humans directly. The virus has killed millions since it emerged in China in late 2019, and controversy continues to swirl around where it came from. Some experts say it is animal-driven but others have pointed to the possibility the pathogen leaked from a lab. Researchers from France's Pasteur Institute and the National University of Laos said their findings showed that viruses genetically close to the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Zelensky vows 'strong response' after attack on aide

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky yesterday promised a "strong response" after gunmen opened fire on a car carrying his senior aide, in what officials said was retaliation for a push to rein in oligarchs. Sergiy Shefir, a 57-year-old former scriptwriter and longtime associate of comedian-turned-politician Zelensky, was reported to have escaped without serious injury. "Saying 'hello' to me by shooting out of the forest at my friend's car is weak," Zelensky said in a video statement from New York. "The response will be strong." Zelensky, who is in New York for the UN General Assembly, said it was not yet known who was behind the attack.



Bodies of 7 migrants and child found off Spain coast

The bodies of eight migrants, including three women and a child, have washed up on the shores of southern Spain over the past two days, local authorities said Tuesday. "Between Sunday and Tuesday morning, eight bodies were found along the shore... who came from one or more boats," the Almeria authorities said, indicating they were found along a 20-kilometre stretch of coastline. The Guardia Civil police were investigating, they added. The boats had likely set off from Morocco or Algeria, a journey of at least 200 kilometres (130 miles) across the western Mediterranean, in the hope of reaching Europe. So far this year, a total of 10,701 migrants have managed to reach the southern coast of mainland Spain or the Balearic Islands by sea, an increase of 1,680 on the same period last year.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

Iran's Raisi berates US

Voices support for reviving nuclear accord as sanctions bite

AFP, United Nations

Iran's new ultraconservative president voiced support Tuesday in his international debut for reviving a nuclear accord even as he berated the United States, hailing what he described as its failures.

President Ebrahim Raisi, a hardline cleric who succeeded a government that sought better relations with the West, called on the United States to fulfill its promises to end sanctions under the 2015 nuclear accord.

"The Islamic Republic considers useful talks whose ultimate outcome is the lifting of all oppressive sanctions," Raisi said in a recorded speech to the UN General Assembly.

Indirect talks brokered by the European Union have been on hiatus since June after months of negotiations with the previous government failed to secure a path forward.

Raisi repeated the clerical state's stance that nuclear weapons are religiously prohibited, a position that

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Nuclear weapons have no place in our defense doctrine: Raisi

Iran expects a resumption of indirect talks 'in the coming weeks'

Biden renewed his willingness to return US to nuke accord, lift sanctions

has been met with skepticism notably by Israel, which has carried out a sabotage campaign to delay Iran's nuclear work.

Nuclear weapons "have no place in our defense doctrine and deterrence policy," Raisi said.

Raisi is notorious among human rights advocates for his role as a judge during mass executions in 1988 when the Islamic republic was solidifying control, with some activists encouraging the West to shun him.

But Western powers, as well as

China and Russia, say they see the value in restricting Iran's nuclear program peacefully under the 2015 agreement, from which US President Joe Biden's predecessor Donald Trump withdrew the United States.

Foreign Minister Heiko Maas of Germany, which remains in the nuclear accord, said it was urgent to resume negotiations, amid Western concerns that Iran could advance nuclear work.

"We're not going to wait two or three months for the Iranian delegation to return to Vienna. It has to be quicker," Maas told reporters.

Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh, traveling with Raisi, said he expected a resumption of the indirect talks "in the coming weeks," without giving an exact date.

President Biden, appearing in person in his own maiden UN speech, renewed his willingness to return the United States to the nuclear accord and lift sanctions.

China won't build more coal plants abroad: Xi

AFP, United Nations

China will stop funding coal projects overseas, President Xi Jinping announced Tuesday, all but ending the flow of public aid for the dirty energy contributing to the climate crisis.

Xi made his announcement at the UN General Assembly where US President Joe Biden, seeking to show leadership in a growing competition with China, promised to double Washington's contribution to countries hardest hit by climate change.

China is still investing in coal, reducing the impact of Xi's commitment, but it is by far the largest funder of coal projects in developing countries such as Indonesia, Vietnam and Bangladesh as it goes on a global infrastructure-building blitz with its Belt and Road Initiative.

Xi vowed to accelerate efforts for China, the world's largest emitter, to go carbon neutral by 2060.

"This requires tremendous hard work and we will make every effort to meet these goals," Xi said in a recorded address.

"China will step up support for other developing countries in developing green and low carbon energy and will not build new coal-fired power projects abroad," he said.

China's announcement follows similar moves by South Korea and Japan, the only other nations that offered significant funds for coal projects.

The climate advocacy movement 350.org called Xi's announcement "huge," saying it could be a "real game-changer" depending on when it takes effect.

Quote of the day



We plan to present the Paris climate agreement to our parliament's approval next month... Unlike the past, this time no one has the right to say: I am powerful, I do not pay the bill. Because climate change treats mankind quite fairly.

TURKISH PRESIDENT RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN

Biden pledges 500m more doses to developing world

REUTERS, Washington

President Joe Biden was set to push world leaders yesterday to do more to curb the Covid-19 pandemic, and announce a US pledge to buy 500 million more vaccine doses to donate to other countries.

Holding a virtual summit to boost global vaccination rates, Biden hopes to show he is leading by example with the pledge, which will bring US donations to the rest of the world up to more than 1.1 billion doses.

The vaccines from Pfizer Inc and BioNTech SE will be made in the United States and shipped to low and lower middle-income countries starting in January, a US senior administration official said ahead of the announcement.

"This is a huge commitment by the US. In fact, for every one shot we have administered in this country to date, we are now donating three shots to other countries," the official told reporters.

A source familiar with the issue said the government would pay some \$7 per dose.

In June, the Biden administration agreed to buy and donate 500 million doses of the vaccine. Under the terms of that contract, the United States will pay Pfizer and

BioNTech around \$3.5 billion or \$7 a dose for the shots.

The United States has come under criticism for planning booster shots to fully vaccinated Americans while millions of people around the world still do not have access to the life-saving vaccines.

Deliveries of the initial 500 million doses began in August, and the total one billion doses are expected to be delivered by the end of September 2022, according to a statement from Pfizer and BioNTech. The dose will be made in Pfizer's US facilities, and delivered to 92 low- and lower-middle-income countries and the 55 member states of the African Union.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres reprimanded world leaders on Tuesday for the inequitable distribution of Covid-19 vaccines, describing it as an "obscenity" and giving the globe an "F in Ethics."

The virtual summit will focus on vaccinating the world, saving lives by tackling an oxygen shortage and making medicines more available, and preparing for another pandemic in the future, another administration official said.

Targets include getting 70% of countries' populations vaccinated by this time next year.

FIGHTING BETWEEN ANTI-JUNTA DISSIDENTS AND MILITARY

Thousands flee Myanmar town

AFP, Yangon

Thousands have fled a town in west Myanmar after days of fighting between anti-junta dissidents and the military, during which soldiers bombed civilian homes, residents and local media said yesterday.

Myanmar has been in turmoil since Aung San Suu Kyi's government was ousted by the military in February, sparking a nationwide uprising that the junta has tried to crush with a bloody crackdown.

Attacks on junta troops and assets have increased after lawmakers ousted by the generals called for a "people's defensive war" earlier this month.

Soldiers fought a gun battle with around 100 members of a local defence group after being "ambushed" in Thantlang in remote Chin state near the India border on September 18, junta spokesman Zaw Min Thun said Tuesday.

He did not give any casualty figures. Residents began to flee en masse



her house and fighting escalated around the town.

"I never thought of running from my own house even after the military bombed it... but as things got worse... I finally had to flee," she told AFP on condition of anonymity.

Videos and pictures published by local media showed buildings in Thantlang they said had been destroyed by the military, and domestic animals roaming deserted streets.

Military spokesman Zaw Min Thun said 20 homes and a government building had been destroyed in a fire after the September 18 clash, without specifying a cause.

In recent weeks anti-junta fighters have attacked communications towers belonging to the military-owned Mytel across the country, including in Chin state.

The UN warned renewed fighting in the region was sending more people fleeing into India, where they urgently required food and shelter.

Government of Peoples republic of Bangladesh
Farmers Training at the Upazila level for
Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project
Department of Agricultural Extension
Khamarbari, Dhaka-1205

Memo no. 12.01.0000.000.43.077.20-237

Date: 22.09.2021

e-Tender Notice

E-Tender is invited through national e-GP portal for the procurement of works as stated below:

Sl.	Package No.	Brief Description of Works	Tender ID	Tender Publishing & Closing Date
1	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-8	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Pabna Sadar, Dist : Pabna, (ii) Upazila : Bangura, Dist : Pabna, (iii) Upazila : Chatmohor, Dist : Pabna, (iv) Upazila : Bera, Dist : Pabna under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	606267	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 14:00
2	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-7	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Fulbari, Dist : Kurigram, (ii) Upazila : Aditmari, Dist : Lalminirhat, (iii) Upazila : Kaligonj, Dist : Lalminirhat, (iv) Upazila : Kishoregonj, Dist : Nilphamary, (v) Upazila : Nilphamari Sadar, Dist : Nilphamary under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	606266	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 14:00
3	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-6	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Badalgachi, Dist : Naogaon, (ii) Upazila : Shapahar, Dist : Naogaon, (iii) Upazila : Atrai, Dist : Naogaon, (iv) Upazila : Mahadevpur, Dist : Naogaon under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	606260	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 14:00
4	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-5	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Parbatipur, Dist : Dinajpur, (ii) Upazila : Birgonj, Dist : Dinajpur, (iii) Upazila : Bhurungamari, Dist : Kurigram, (iv) Upazila : Chilmari, Dist : Kurigram under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	606259	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 14:00
5	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-4	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Anwara, Dist : Chattogram, (ii) Upazila : Hathazari, Dist : Chattogram, (iii) Upazila : Lohagora, Dist : Chattogram, (iv) Upazila : Teknaf, Dist : Cox's Bazar under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	606257	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 12:00
6	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-3	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Begumganj, Dist : Noakhali, (ii) Upazila : Subarnachar, Dist : Noakhali, (iii) Upazila : Sonaimuri, Dist : Noakhali under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	606249	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 12:00
7	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-2	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Bholahat, Dist : Chapai Nawabgonj, (ii) Upazila : Shibgonj, Dist : Chapai Nawabgonj, (iii) Upazila : Gurudaspur, Dist : Natore, (iv) Upazila : Singra, Dist : Natore under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	606243	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 12:00
8	DAE/FTUT TP/21-22/02/WD-1	Repair and Renovation for Upazila Farmers' Training Centres at (i) Upazila : Shibgonj, Dist : Bogura (ii) Upazila : Nandigram, Dist : Bogura, (iii) Upazila : Dhunat, Dist : Bogura, (iv) Upazila : Akkelpur, Dist : Joypurhat, (v) Upazila : Panchbibi, Dist : Joypurhat under Farmers' Training at the Upazila level for Transfer of Technology (3rd Phase) Project.	605837	22/09/21 17:00 11/10/21 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Registration in National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required to submit the tender. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the national e-GP portal have to be deposited through online at any branch of registered schedule bank. For further information and guidelines are available in national e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

GD- 1704

(Md. Tajul Islam Patwary)
Project Director
Phone: 55028306