

ROW OVER SPYING

# Russia suspends its mission to Nato

AFP, Moscow

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said yesterday that Moscow was suspending its mission to Nato and closing the Western military bloc's liaison mission in Russia, in a row over spying.

"We are suspending the work of our official mission to Nato, including the work of our military representative from November 1 or it could take a few more days," Lavrov told reporters.

Lavrov said that Russia would also be ending the alliance's liaison mission -- established in 2002 and hosted at the Belgian embassy -- and information office in Moscow.

The bloc's information office was established in Moscow in 2001 to improve understanding between Nato and Russia. The latest row comes after Nato earlier this month stripped accreditations of eight members of the Russian mission to the alliance, describing them as "undeclared Russian intelligence officers".

Nato Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said at the time that the "decision to kick out the Russian representatives was not 'linked to any particular event' -- but gave no more details over the move.

Yesterday, Lavrov cited "recent moves" by Nato, saying there were no longer "basic conditions for common work."

He said that in case of urgent matters, Nato could liaise via the Russian ambassador in Belgium.

Russia has long had an observer mission to Nato as part of a two-decade-old Nato-Russia Council meant to promote cooperation in common security areas.



Migrants on a rubber dinghy are seen being rescued by Libyan Coast Guards in the Mediterranean Sea, off the coast of Libya yesterday. Libya is home to nearly 600,000 migrants, according to UN figures. Most are from sub-Saharan Africa, some attracted by the prospect of work in the oil-rich country despite years of conflict and chaos, while others see it as a jumping-off point for travel on to Europe. PHOTO: REUTERS

## 150 Yemen rebels killed in strikes Says Saudi-led coalition

AFP, Riyadh

The Saudi-led coalition in Yemen said yesterday it had killed 150 Huthi rebels near the strategic city of Marib, which would raise the rebel death toll to over 1,100 in a week.

Air strikes "destroyed 13 military vehicles and killed 150 terrorist elements" in Abdiya within the past 24 hours, the coalition said in a statement carried by the official SPA agency.

The Iran-backed Huthis rarely comment on losses, and the tolls could not be independently verified by AFP.

In a televised speech yesterday, rebel leader Abdelmalek al-Huthi called for continued fighting, as tens of thousands of supporters marched in towns held by the insurgents.

## ASEAN'S JUNTA SNUB Myanmar shadow govt praises the move Wants summit invite

REUTERS

Myanmar's shadow government, formed by opponents of ruling military, yesterday welcomed the exclusion of junta leader Min Aung Hlaing from an upcoming regional summit, but said it should be the legitimate representative.

However, the opposition said it would accept inviting a truly neutral alternative Myanmar representative, as decided over the weekend by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

Asean will invite a non-political representative from Myanmar to its October 26-28 summit, in an unprecedented snub to the military leaders behind a February 1 coup against Aung San Suu Kyi's elected government.

The opposition National Unity Government (NUG), which has been outlawed by the military, said the non-political figure who attends the summit must not be a representative of the junta in disguise.

"Asean excluding Min Aung Hlaing is an important step, but we request that they recognize us as the proper representative," said its spokesman Dr. Sasa.

The decision was an unusually bold step for the consensus-driven bloc, which traditionally favors a policy of engagement and non-interference.

Meanwhile, Myanmar's junta chief yesterday announced the release of more than 5,000 people jailed for protesting against the coup.

There has been chaos in Myanmar since the coup, with more than 1,100 civilians killed in a bloody crackdown on dissent and more than 8,000 arrested, according to a local monitoring group.

## Pakistani commandos' hand suspected in J&K encounter

Say sources in Indian army, police; thousands of migrant workers in Kashmir moved to secure locations

AGENCIES

The ferocity of the fighting between security forces and the group of terrorists holed up in the jungles of Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district for at least eight days suggests the infiltrators were trained by Pakistani commandos, sources in the army and police have said.

Nine soldiers including two Junior Commissioned Officers or JCOs have been killed in the line of duty, fighting these terrorists since yesterday, in what has become the deadliest encounter for India's military in Jammu and Kashmir in recent years.

It is also unclear if any of the terrorists have been killed since no bodies have been found yet. The fighting in the 8-9 km stretch of thick forest has continued despite a massive combing operation, a tight cordon and intense shelling.

In the first brush with these terrorists, five soldiers, including a JCO, were killed on the night of October 10 in the Dera Wali Gali area of Poonch, which is close to the Line of Control.

Following this, an army group searching for the terrorists were ambushed in the forests of Nar Khas

on Thursday. Two soldiers were killed and two more, including a JCO, went missing. Their bodies were recovered after a tough operation two days later, reports NDTV.

Sources in the army and the local police suggest that the fact that this group of terrorists have been able to inflict such heavy casualties while managing to evade thousands of security forces for eight days suggests they were trained by elite commandos of the Pakistani military.

"The group of terrorists may also include Pakistani commandos. But we will only know for sure once they are shot down," an officer, requesting not to be named, said.

Meanwhile, Indian authorities have moved thousands of migrant workers in Kashmir to safer locations overnight, while hundreds have fled the Himalayan valley after a wave of targeted killings, two security officials said yesterday.

"We moved thousands of workers to secure places and are facilitating their return home," a senior police official told Reuters, declining to be named as he was not authorised to speak to the media.

In other areas, security forces had intensified patrolling to prevent any militant activity, the official added.



Palestinian women with pictures of their relatives held in Israeli prisons commemorate the 10th anniversary of the conclusion of the prisoner exchange agreement between Israel and Hamas, outside the Red cross office in Gaza city yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

OCTOBER 19

**2001** - At least 350 people were killed when an overcrowded boat, on its way to Australia from Lampung in Sumatra carrying mostly Iraqi asylum seekers, sank near Java.

**2003** - Pope John Paul beatified Mother Teresa before a crowd of 300,000, calling her an icon of charity.

**2004** - Khin Nyunt was sacked as prime minister of military-ruled Myanmar amid allegations of corruption and placed under house arrest.

**2005** - Ousted Iraqi president Saddam Hussein went on trial on charges of crimes against humanity.

SOURCE: REUTERS

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Memo No. 25.36.5500.270.35.024.21/312

Dated: 01-07-1428 Bang  
17-10-2021 Eng

#### e-Tender (OTM)

Following e-Tender are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer, Magura PWD Division, Magura for the Procurement of:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of work	Tender last selling date & time	Tender closing/opening date & time
01.	619642	Vertical Extension of 3rd Floor over the 3 (three) storied NSI District Office Building, Magura.	01-Nov-2021 17:00	02-Nov-2021 10:30

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-GP Portal and offline & hard copies will not be accepted. e-Tender may be details obtained from e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

**Mohammad Moniruzzaman**  
Executive Engineer  
Magura PWD Division, Magura

### Civil Aviation Authority, Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer  
E/M Division-1, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229  
File No. 30.31.0000.412.17.001.21/939  
Date: 17/10/2021

#### e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). Package information is available in tender notice under e-GP System Portal.

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.

Tender ID No.	Tender Package No.	Description of goods	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
619289	30.31.0000.411.04.101.20/253	Installation of light at ducting area of TB-2 at HSA.	08/11/21 5:00pm	09/11/21 12:00pm	09/11/21 12:00pm

Further information and guidelines is available in the e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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তারিখঃ ১৭/১০/২০২১খ্রিঃ  
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### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department  
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Raninagar, Naogaon  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

Memo No. 46.02.6485.000.07.001.21-307

#### Invitation for LTM Tender (Works) e-Tender Notice No. 02/2021-22

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Name of works	Estimated cost (Tk)	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time	Time for completion
01	619365	Construction of Boundary Wall & Gate of Bhabwanipur Primary School, under-NBIDGPS, Raninagar, Naogaon (Package No. e-Tender/NBIDGPS/NAO/RAN/2020-21/W2.00215).	447168.42	07/11/2021 17:00	08/11/2021 11:30	08/11/2021 11:30	4 months

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 branch up to 5:00pm on 07/11/2021.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and also from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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### Australian pair survive for days lost in outback

AFP, Sydney

Two people have survived days without water in Australia's hot and dusty outback, police said yesterday, ending a frenzied five-day rescue effort.

Shaun Emija, 21, and Mahesh Patrick, 14, were reported missing on Tuesday in the Harts Range area.

The pair were feared to be in grave danger given a lack of water and the area's extreme temperatures.

But Northern Territory police said yesterday that the two men were found alive and well by an "absolute miracle".