

Quote of the day



It is of course correct that COP26 is both unbelievably important for our planet but also very difficult, and it's in the balance. And every day as I talk to international leaders, we hear further commitments. ... Whether it is enough, I'm afraid it is too early to say.

BRITISH PRIME MINISTER BORIS JOHNSON

African Union suspends Sudan

World Bank freezes aid; security forces launch sweeping arrests of anti-coup protesters

AFP, Khartoum

Sudanese security forces launched sweeping arrests of anti-coup protesters yesterday, tightening the regime's grip while the international community ramped up punitive measures.

The World Bank froze aid and the African Union suspended the East African country over this week's military takeover.

Armed forces deployed in large numbers after overnight protests saw clashes in the capital Khartoum, when officers fired tear gas and arrested several leading pro-democracy activists, including from Sudan's largest political party, the Umma Party.

"Police forces have removed all the barricades since Wednesday [yesterday] morning and arrested all the people who stood near them," said Hady Bashir, a protester, after AFP correspondents saw security forces clear rocks and tyres blocking major streets in Khartoum.

Beyond the capital, protesters have stood their ground to decry the country's latest military coup, setting up blockades in Port Sudan in the east, Wad Madani to the south, and Atbara to the north.

"Sporadic protests erupt every now



and then demanding the government's return," said Osama Ahmed, a witness from Wad Madani, about 186 kilometres (115 miles) south of Khartoum.

Since top General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan on Monday announced the dissolution of the government and declared a state of emergency, thousands of citizens have maintained protests, chanting "No to military rule".

Shops have remained closed following calls for a campaign of civil disobedience, and pro-democracy movements ratcheted up calls for

"million-strong protests" on Saturday. Yesterday, the AU called the military takeover in Sudan "unconstitutional" and suspended its membership within the continent wide bloc.

The World Bank later suspended aid to the East African country over the coup.

Analysts had warned that the putsch could put at risk much-needed international assistance unlocked under Hamdok's government to rescue Sudan's economy, battered by decades of US sanctions and by mismanagement.

MORE NEWS

Brazil senators back criminal charges against Bolsonaro

A Brazilian Senate commission approved a damning report on Tuesday that recommends criminal charges be brought against President Jair Bolsonaro, including crimes against humanity, for his Covid policies. Seven of the panel's 11 senators voted to endorse the text -- presented last week after a six-month investigation into Brazil's pandemic response -- which also calls for the indictment of 77 other people, including several ministers and three of Bolsonaro's children. The nearly 1,200-page report also urges Brazil's Supreme Court to suspend the far-right leader's access to his accounts on social media platforms YouTube, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for falsely alleging that Covid-19 vaccines were linked to AIDS.

US criticizes Israel on settlements

The United States on Tuesday voiced concern about Israel's decision to build settlements in the West Bank, saying it will "strongly oppose" such expansion on occupied Palestinian land. The criticism by President Joe Biden's administration was some of the strongest in years on Israel. The housing and construction ministry under Prime Minister Naftali Bennett on Sunday announced tenders for 1,355 homes in the West Bank, which has been occupied by Israel since the 1967 Six-Day War.

Asean announces new strategic pact with Australia

Australia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) agreed at a summit yesterday to establish a "comprehensive strategic partnership", a sign of Canberra's ambition to play a bigger role in the region. The has become a strategic battleground between the United States and China. While concrete strategic objectives of the partnership were not immediately announced, Prime Minister Scott Morrison promised Australia would "back it with substance". After the announcement, Australia said it would invest \$154 million in projects in Southeast Asia on health and energy security, counter-terrorism, fighting and transnational crime, plus hundreds of scholarships.

Less than 1pc fund assets Paris climate goal compliant

Only 158 investment funds with just 0.5 percent of assets under management are currently in line with Paris accord goals of limiting the increase in global temperatures, according to a study released yesterday. The non-profit Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) analysed over 16,500 investment funds with \$27 trillion in assets, but found that over 60 percent of assets are aligned with global warming of 2.75 degrees Celsius.

India's SC orders probe

AFP, New Delhi

India's Supreme Court yesterday ordered an independent investigation into the alleged government use of Pegasus spyware on journalists, opposition politicians and activists with the chief justice calling the implications "Orwellian".

India was one of 45 countries where tens of thousands of numbers were targeted by the spyware made by Israeli firm NSO, according to leaked documents released this year.

More than 1,000 of the numbers were Indian and the Supreme Court order followed petitions from individuals that the chief justice NV Ramana said "raise an Orwellian concern".

He added that the court had accepted the petitions because "there has been no

specific denial" by the government. The state cannot be given a "free pass every time the spectre of national security is raised," the court said as it named cyber and computer science experts to look into the allegations.

Phones infected with Pegasus software, which is normally only sold to governments or security agencies, give the user access to the target's messages and photos, and track their location.

Critics say that in India it is part of a growing assault on dissent and civil liberties under the Hindu nationalist government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Indian phone numbers put under surveillance reportedly included senior opposition leader Rahul Gandhi, journalists, activists, government critics and former judges.

PEGASUS SNOOPING



Supporters of Wikileaks founder Julian Assange protest outside the Royal Courts of Justice in London, Britain, yesterday. The United States sought to assure a British court yesterday that Assange would not be held at a federal supermax prison, as it appealed a decision to block his extradition on the grounds he is a serious suicide threat.

PHOTO: REUTERS

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Public Works Department Office of the Executive Engineer PWD E/M Division-6, Dhaka Memo No. 5-16/961 Date: 27/10/2021 e-Tender Notice (OTM) This is to notify all concern that the following tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal: Table with 5 columns: Sl. No., Brief description of work, Tender ID, Publishing date & time, Closing date & time. Includes details for BPATC at Savar, Dhaka.

Taiwan has no right to join UN: China

AFP, Beijing

China yesterday insisted that Taiwan had no right to join the United Nations, after the United States ratcheted up tensions with a call for the democratic island to have greater involvement in the world body.

In a statement marking 50 years since the UN General Assembly voted to seat Beijing and boot out Taipei, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Tuesday he regretted that Taiwan had been increasingly excluded on the world stage.

"As the international community faces an unprecedented number of complex and global issues, it is critical for all stakeholders to help address these problems. This includes the 24 million people who live in Taiwan," Blinken said.

"Taiwan's meaningful participation in the UN system is not a political issue, but a pragmatic one," he said.

China considers Taiwan -- where nationalist forces fled in 1949 after losing a civil war to the communists -- to be a province awaiting reunification, by force if necessary.

It responded to Blinken's statement with strident, albeit familiar, statements emphasising its position that Taiwan's government had no place on the global diplomatic stage.

"Taiwan has no right to join the United Nations," Ma Xiaoguang, spokesman for the Taiwan Affairs Office in Beijing, told reporters.

"The United Nations is an international governmental organisation composed of sovereign states... Taiwan is a part of China."

The United States has long called for Taiwan's inclusion in UN activities.

CLASHES WITH ISLAMISTS IN PAKISTAN

Several cops killed

REUTERS, Lahore

Thousands of demonstrators from a banned Pakistani Islamist group clashed with police yesterday, killing and wounding several people from both sides, police and the group said.

The clash broke out at a rally of the banned Tehrik-e-Labaik Pakistan (TLP) on a highway in Sheikhpura district just outside the eastern city of Lahore, a spokesman for the Punjab police said yesterday.

"TLP activists used SMG, AK 47 and pistols to target police officials as the result of which several officials were martyred," the spokesman said.

The group said several of their activists had also been killed or wounded.

Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry said the government will use force to block the Islamists from entering the capital Islamabad.

He told reporters that three police officers had been killed and 70 wounded, adding that the government had deployed paramilitary troops in the Pakistani province of Punjab to help manage the situation.

Thousands of TLP activists have blocked Pakistan's busiest highway since Friday, demanding the release of their leader and the expulsion of France's ambassador over the publication by a satirical magazine of cartoons considered deeply insulting by Muslims.

This is the group's third countrywide protest campaign since 2017 over the controversial cartoons.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Upazila Engineer Harirampur, Manikganj Web: www.lged.gov.bd Memo No. 46.02.5628.14.157.19-612 Date: 27/10/2021 e-Tender Notice Number 01/2021-22 (Corrigendum) e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following tender ID & Schemes (OSTEM). Table with 3 columns: Tender ID No., Name of Scheme & Package No., Description of tender/proposal documents.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, Barishal Tel: 0431-64185, Fax: 0431-61844 E-mail: eebar@rhd.gov.bd Memo No. 35.01.0651.403.07.19.19.3009 Date: 24/10/2021

Invitation for e-Tender Invitation Reference No. 13/e-GPBRD/2021-2022 Tender ID 620396 Name of works Construction of Main Gate, Guard Room & Boundary Wall at Barishal RHD Zone Office under Barishal Road Division during the year 2021-2022 Qualification criteria As stated in Tender Notice & Tender Data Sheet (TDS) of the Tender Document. Tender document price Tk. 1,000.00 (one thousand) only. Tender security amount Tk. 1,15,000.00 (one lakh fifteen thousand) only. Tender document last selling Date: 08 November 2021, Time 17:00 Last date and time for tender security submission Date: 09 November 2021, Time: 11:15 Tender closing date and time Date: 09 November 2021, Time: 12:15 Tender opening date and time Date: 09 November 2021, Time: 12:15 01. This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline and hard copy will be accepted. 02. To submit e-Tender, visit to the National e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd). Masud Mahmud Sumon ID No. 602165 Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, Barishal GD-1924

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার জেল সুপারের কার্যালয় কুড়িগ্রাম জেলা কারাগার দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি পত্র নং-৫৮.০৪.৪৯০০.১৬৭.০৪.০০২.২১-৩২৮৬ তারিখঃ ১০ কার্তিক ১৪২৮ ২৬ অক্টোবর ২০২১ Table with 2 columns: Sl. No., Description of work. Includes details for BPATC at Savar, Dhaka.