

KABUL EVACUATION Whistleblower condemns UK Foreign Office

AGENCIES

Tens of thousands were unable to access help from the United Kingdom amid the Taliban-takeover of Kabul due to turmoil and confusion in the Foreign Office, according to a whistleblower's account.

Raphael Marshall, a former diplomat, claimed that bureaucratic chaos, ministerial intervention, and lack of planning led to "people being left to die at the hands of the Taliban."

Marshall also reveals the uproar inside the Ministry of Defence when Boris Johnson ordered an Afghan animal charity to be given priority for evacuation.

However, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said yesterday the suggestion he intervened in the evacuation of Kabul, Afghanistan, in August to prioritise the passage of animals was "complete nonsense", reports Reuters.



This handout photo taken and released by the Indonesian Presidential Palace yesterday shows President Joko Widodo (C) talking to people at a makeshift evacuation centre in Sumber Wuluh village in Lumajang, following the Mount Semeru eruption that killed at least 34 people.

DIPLOMATIC BOYCOTT OF OLYMPICS US will 'pay the price': China

REUTERS, BEIJING

The United States will have to "pay a price" for its diplomatic boycott of the Winter Olympics in Beijing, China said yesterday, just weeks after talks aimed at easing tense relations between the two sides.

The White House said on Monday US government officials would boycott the Winter Olympics because of China's human rights "atrocities", although US athletes were free to travel there to compete.

The US boycott, encouraged for months by some members of Congress and rights advocacy groups, comes despite an effort to stabilise ties, with a video meeting last month between US President Joe Biden and China's Xi Jinping.

China opposes the boycott and would take "resolute countermeasures", foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told a regular media briefing in Beijing, host city of the 2008 Summer Olympics, yesterday.

"The United States will pay a price for its mistaken act," he said, without giving details. "Let's all wait and see."

The United States is set to host the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles and is preparing a bid to host the 2030 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

Asked if China would consider a diplomatic boycott of Olympic Games in the United States, Zhao said the US boycott had "damaged the foundation and atmosphere" of sports exchange and co-operation on the Games, which he likened to "lifting a stone to crush one's own foot".

He called on the United States to keep politics out of sports, saying the boycott went against Olympic principles. Chinese media and scholars criticised the US decision.

There will be a 'bloody massacre' Change yourself or there could be changes

CNN ONLINE

Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov has told CNN there will be a "really bloody massacre" if Russia decides to invade Ukraine, and warned that "Russian guys also will come back in the coffins," amid heightened alarm about troop movements on the nations' border.

Reznikov urged US President Joe Biden -- who was set to speak with Vladimir Putin of Russia in a video conference call yesterday -- to stand firm against Moscow.

"If I can advise President Biden, I would like him to articulate to Mr. Putin that no red lines from the Kremlin side should be here. The red line is here in Ukraine and the civilized world will react without hesitation," Reznikov told CNN in an



exclusive interview Monday.

"The idea of not provoking Russia will not work," he added.

US and Western officials have expressed concern over the buildup of Russian forces on the Ukrainian border, with Secretary of State Antony Blinken saying last week that the US "must prepare for all contingencies."

Russia has capabilities in place along the Ukraine border to carry

out a swift and immediate invasion, including erecting supply lines such as medical units and fuel that could sustain a drawn-out conflict, should Moscow choose to invade, two sources familiar with American intelligence assessments told CNN last week.

Reznikov told CNN that Ukraine assesses that Russia currently has 95,000 troops within striking distance of Ukraine. He also added that, due to the strength of battle-hardened Ukrainian forces, current US estimates that Russia could assemble 175,000 troops to invade Ukraine were an underestimate.

"So, we have 250,000 official ... members of our army. Plus, I said 400,000 veterans and 200,000 reservists. 175,000 (is) not enough to go to Ukraine," said Reznikov.

Modi warns BJP MPs on House attendance

NDTV ONLINE

BJP MPs absent from, or irregular in attending, Parliament were pulled up yesterday, with sources saying Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi warned them to "change yourself or there will be changes".

In a strong warning, the Prime Minister - who has repeatedly advised his party MPs and ministers to be disciplined, punctual and not speak out of turn - chided BJP leaders for behaving "like children".

"Please be regular in attending Parliament and meetings. It is not good for me to continuously stress about this (and treat you) like children. If you don't change yourself, there will be changes in due course," the Prime Minister said at a meeting of the BJP's parliamentary party in Delhi yesterday.

Senior ministers, including Home Minister Amit Shah, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi were present.

The BJP's National President, JP Nadda, was also present.

The Prime Minister's words of warning come as the BJP faces a furious opposition in the ongoing winter session of Parliament, with the ruling party cornered on a variety of issues, including 14 civilian deaths after the botched Army op in Nagaland's Mon district on Saturday.

MORE NEWS

India 'disturbed' by verdict against Suu Kyi

India said yesterday it was deeply concerned by Myanmar's conviction of deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi and called for the rule of law and democratic processes to be upheld.

Suu Kyi was sentenced to four-year jail term by a court in Myanmar holding her guilty of inciting dissent in the first of a series of verdicts. Her sentence was later reduced from four years to two years. "We are disturbed at the recent verdicts. As a neighbouring democracy, India has been consistently supportive of the democratic transition in Myanmar," foreign ministry spokesman Arindam Bagchi said in a statement. Myanmar was swept by massive street protests after the military seized power in a coup on February 1.



Instagram tightens teen defences as US hearing looms

Instagram yesterday tightened protections for teens on the eve of a Senate hearing about whether it is "toxic" for young users.

"Every day I see the positive impact that Instagram has for young people everywhere," chief executive Adam Mosseri said in a post. "I want to make sure that it stays that way, which means above all keeping them safe on Instagram." Instagram's parent company Meta, which also oversees Facebook, is battling a serious reputational crisis after a whistleblower leaked reams of internal documents showing executives knew of their sites' risks for teens' well-being, prompting a renewed US push for regulation. Mosseri is to testify today at a Senate committee hearing titled "Protecting Kids Online: Instagram and Reforms for Young Users."

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS



DECEMBER 8

1940 - German bombers staged a heavy overnight raid on London, causing the first serious war damage to House of Commons and Tower of London.

1974 - The Greeks, in a referendum, voted by a huge majority against restoring the monarchy.

1987 - US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev signed a treaty to eliminate all their intermediate-range and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

SOURCE: REUTERS

SYRIAN PORT OF LATAKIA Israel strike targets Iran weapons

AFP, Beirut

An Israeli air strike hit a shipment of Iranian weapons in the Syrian port of Latakia yesterday, in the first such attack on the key facility, a war monitor said.

The Israeli raid "directly targeted an Iranian weapons shipment in the container yard," the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

Syrian state media reported the strike on the container yard at Latakia port without specifying what was targeted.

The Observatory, a UK-based organisation with a wide network of sources on the ground across Syria, said the raid triggered a series of explosions.

It reported "huge material losses" but added there were no immediate reports of casualties.

According to the Syrian state news agency SANA, the strike occurred at 1:23 am (2323 GMT Monday).

"Our air defences repelled the Israeli aggression in Latakia," it said, adding that a number of containers caught fire in the strike.

Latakia is the northernmost of Syria's main ports, and lies around 230 kilometres (140 miles) north of Damascus.

Coral reefs at risk of collapse: study

AFP, Nairobi

Rising sea temperatures and overfishing threaten coral reefs in the western Indian Ocean with complete collapse in the next 50 years, according to a groundbreaking study of these marine ecosystems.

The findings, published in the journal Nature Sustainability on Monday, warned that reefs along the eastern coast of Africa and island nations like Mauritius and Seychelles faced a high risk of extinction unless urgent action was taken.

For the first time, researchers were able to assess the vulnerability of individual reefs across the vast western reaches of the Indian Ocean, and identify the main threats to coral health.

They found that all reefs in this region faced "complete ecosystem collapse and irreversible damage" within decades, and that ocean warming

meant some coral habitats were already critically endangered.

"The findings are quite serious. These reefs are vulnerable to collapse," lead author David Obura, founding director at CORDIO East Africa, a Kenya-based oceans research institute, told AFP.

"There's nowhere in the region where the reefs are in full health. They've all declined somewhat, and that will continue."

The study, co-authored with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, assessed 11,919 square kilometres of reef, representing about five percent of the global total.

Reefs fringing picturesque island nations like Mauritius, Seychelles, the Comoros and Madagascar -- popular ecotourism destinations heavily reliant on their marine environment -- were most at risk, researchers said.

INDIAN OCEAN

Padma Oil Company Limited
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram

e-Tender Notice

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

Tender ID No. & Tender Reference	Name of works	Tender publishing date & time in e-GP	Last date & time of tender selling	Last date & time of tender security submission	Date & time of tender closing
632146, E&P/Capex/F-25/P-112/18-19	Design, Engineering, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Fire Hydrant Engine, Pumps, Motors and Associated works at Chandpur Depot	06-Dec-2021 at 1201 hrs	04-Jan-2022 at 1201 hrs	04-Jan-2022 at 1101 hrs	04-Jan-2022 at 1401 hrs

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 (as above) is required.

C. M. Ziaul Hassan
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"সবাই মিলে গড়বে দেশ, দুর্নীতিভুক্ত বাংলাদেশ"
GD-2270

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Education
Bhola Govt. College
Bhola Sadar, Bhola
www.bholagovtcollege.edu.bd

e-Tender Notice 03/2021-2022

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of supply	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	632570	Procurement of Furniture & Fixtures for Office and Departments for Bhola Govt. College, Bhola	29 December, 2021 01.00pm	29 December, 2021 02.00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP 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 banks' branches up to 28 December, 2021. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Professor Md. Golam Zakaria
Principal
Bhola Govt. College, Bhola, Phone: 0491-61822
E-mail: bholagovtcollege@yahoo.com

GD-2259

গণিত বিভাগ
এ এফ মুজিবুর রহমান গণিত ভবন
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ঢাকা-১০০০, বাংলাদেশ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের গণিত বিভাগের জন্য হাই পারফরমেন্স ব্র্যান্ড পিসি ক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে উক্ত বিভাগ হতে দরপত্র সিডিউল এ বর্ণিত শর্তে প্রকৃত প্রস্তুতকারী/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা হয়েছে। সিডিউলের জন্য জনতা ব্যাংক, টিএসসি শাখায় ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের দরপত্র ক্রয় বিক্রয় খাতে (হিসাব নং-৩৬০০০৩৯২) মোট ৪,০০০/- (চার হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) জমা দিয়ে জমার রশিদ গণিত বিভাগে প্রদানপূর্বক বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ হতে আগামী ২৭-১২-২০২১ইং পর্যন্ত সকাল ১০.০০টা হতে বিকাল ৫.০০টা বিভাগীয় অফিস থেকে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। এ সংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত তথ্য দরপত্র সিডিউলে পাওয়া যাবে। দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার শেষ তারিখ ২৮-১২-২০২১ তারিখ সকাল ১০.৩০টায় বিভাগীয় অফিসে এবং একই দিন সকাল ১১:০০টায় দরপত্রদাতা বা তাদের বৈধ প্রতিনিধির উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকে) দরপত্রসমূহ অত্র অফিসে খোলা হবে। দরপত্রের সাথে সরবরাহের সিকিউরিটি হিসাবে মোট মূল্যের ৩.০% আর্নেস্টমানির পে-অর্ডার চেয়ারম্যান, গণিত বিভাগ, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের বরাবরে জমা দিতে হবে। যে প্রতিষ্ঠান কাজের জন্য মনোনীত হবেন না তাদের পে-অর্ডার ফেরত দেওয়া হবে এবং যে প্রতিষ্ঠান কাজের জন্য মনোনীত হবেন তাদের পে-অর্ডার মালামাল সরবরাহের পর ফেরত দেওয়া হবে। সংবাদপত্রে টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের পূর্ব তারিখের কোন প্রকারের পে-অর্ডার গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না। দরপত্রের সাথে ব্যবসা সংক্রান্ত হালনাগাদকৃত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ভ্যাট, আয়কর, ব্যাংক গ্যারান্টি ফর টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটি লেন্ডারের সত্যায়িত কপি এবং TDS এ বর্ণিত প্রয়োজনীয় ডকুমেন্টস জমা দিতে হবে। বিভাগীয় টেন্ডার কমিটির যাচাইক্রমে যে বা যারা কাজের জন্য মনোনীত হবেন তাদেরকে অত্র বিভাগ হতে কার্যাদেশ সংগ্রহ করে চুক্তিপত্র জমা দিতে হবে। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই যেকোন দরপত্র/এর অংশ বিশেষ গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

চেয়ারম্যান
গণিত বিভাগ
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

জিডি-২২৬৩

Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Center (BITAC)
Ministry of Industries
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
116(kha), Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208
Website: <http://www.bitac.gov.bd>

Ref. No. 36.06.2692.026.37.002.21/2754

Date: 22 Agrahayan, 1428 Bn. 07 December, 2021 En.

e-Tender Notice (OTM) (2nd Re-Tender)

Following tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods details in the table.

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of goods	Last selling & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
635210	BITAC.PUR. 2021-22 GR-12	Procurement of 3D Printer for polymeric materials (including accessories)	19-12-2021 11:00pm	19-12-2021 12:00am	19-12-2021 12:00am

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 e-GP System Portal (<https://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 branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk: <https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.

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GD-2260