MYANMAR MILITARY-BACKED BUSINESSES

Meta to ban all firms from its platforms

Facebook parent Meta will ban all pages and accounts belonging to Myanmar military-backed businesses, it said, expanding its restraints on the country's armed forces.

Myanmar's secretive military has extensive business interests, with tentacles in industries as diverse as beer, tobacco, transportation, textiles, tourism and banking.

Activists and rights groups say they funded crackdowns and abuses even before the February coup that ousted Aung San Suu Kyi and launched a bloody crackdown on dissent. In late February Facebook removed all accounts linked

to the military, also known as the Tatmadaw, citing the junta's use of deadly force against anti-coup demonstrators. It also banned military-linked firms from advertising on

Meta "will now also remove Pages, Groups and Accounts representing military-controlled businesses", it said in a

statement on Tuesday. The decision was "based on extensive documentation by the international community of these businesses' direct role in funding the Tatmadaw's ongoing violence and human rights abuses in Myanmar", it said.

It would use the report from a 2019 UN fact-finding mission into the military's economic interests "as the basis" for its actions, it added.

The pages of Myawaddy Trading Ltd, Myawaddy Bank and Myanma Beer -- all included in the 2019 report -- were inaccessible as of yesterday.

A page for a film production company allegedly run by the daughter of junta chief Min Aung Hlaing was also



Omicron spreads to 57 nations | India among top nations

WHO warns hospitalisations set to rise, says existing vaccines should work against the new Covid variant

AGENCIES

The Omicron variant has been reported in 57 nations and the number of patients needing hospitalisation is likely to rise as it spreads, the World Health Organization said yesterday.

The WHO, in its weekly epidemiological report, said more data was needed to assess the severity of disease caused by the Omicron variant and whether its mutations might reduce protection from vaccine-derived immunity.

"Even if the severity is equal or potentially even lower than for Delta variant, it is expected that hospitalisations will increase if more people become infected and that there will be a time lag between an increase in the incidence of cases and an increase in the incidence of deaths," it said.

On November 26, the WHO



declared the Omicron variant, which was first detected in southern Africa, a variant of concern. It is the fifth SARS-CoV-2 strain to carry such a designation, reports Reuters.

The number of reported Covid-19 cases in South Africa doubled in the week to December 5 to more than 62,000 and "very large" increases in incidence have been seen in Eswatini, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Namibia and Lesotho, it said.

The spread of Omicron, coupled with enhanced testing and low vaccination rates may have played a role, it added.

Referring to the risk of reinfection, the WHO said: "Preliminary analysis suggests that the mutations present in the Omicron variant may reduce neutralising activity of antibodies resulting in reduced protection from natural immunity."

Meanwhile, WHO emergencies

director Michael Ryan said in an interview on Tuesday: "We have highly effective vaccines that have proved effective against all the variants so far, in terms of severe disease and hospitalisation... There's no reason to expect that it wouldn't be so" for Omicron.

However, Ryan acknowledged that it was possible that existing vaccines might prove less effective against Omicron.

in inequality: report

India stands out as a "poor and very unequal" country, with the top 1 percent of the population holding more than one-fifth of the total national income in 2021 and the bottom half just 13 per cent, according to a report.

The report, titled "World Inequality Report 2022", has been authored by Lucas Chancel, co-director of the World Inequality Lab, and coordinated by several experts, including French economist Thomas Piketty.

It further said India is now among the most unequal countries in the

The report pointed out that the average national income of the Indian adult population is Rs 204,200. While the bottom 50 percent earns Rs 53,610, the top 10 percent earns more than 20 times (Rs 1,166,520).

"While the top 10 percent and top 1 percent hold respectively 57 percent and 22 percent of total national income, the bottom 50 percent share has gone down to 13 percent.

"India stands out as a poor and very unequal country, with an affluent

According to the report, average household wealth in India stands at Rs 9,83,010. It observed that the deregulation and liberalisation policies implemented since the mid-1980s have led to "one of the most extreme increases in income and wealth inequality observed in the world". It also said gender inequalities in India are very high.

"The female labor income share is equal to 18 percent. This is significantly lower than the average in Asia," the report said.

MORE NEWS

UK, Australia join US diplomatic **boycott of Beijing Olympics**

Australia and Britain will join the United States in a diplomatic boycott of the Winter Olympic Games in Beijing, their prime ministers said yesterday, as other allies weighed similar moves to protest at China's human rights record in Xinjiang. The United States has said its government officials would boycott February's Beijing Olympics because of China's human rights "atrocities", just weeks after talks aimed at easing tense relations between the world's two largest economies. China said the US would "pay a price" for its decision and warned of countermeasures in response. It also has denied any wrongdoing in Xinjiang and said allegations are fabricated.

KSA rejects French claim of Khashoggi suspect arrest

French authorities were yesterday seeking to confirm the identity of a man arrested on suspicion of playing a key role in the 2018 murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi after Saudi Arabia insisted the suspect was a victim of mistaken identity. The man, bearing a passport in the name of Khaled Alotaibi was arrested by French border police at Paris's main airport on Tuesday as he prepared to board a flight to Riyadh, police and judicial sources said. A man named Khaled Alotaibi is one of the 26 on trial in absentia by Turkey for being part of the hit squad that carried out the murder of Khashoggi at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. He has also been sanctioned by the



US hits Iran with new sanctions for rights abuses

The United States slapped fresh sanctions on a dozen Iranian officials and entities for "serious" human rights abuses Tuesday, ahead of the expected resumption of nuclear talks with Tehran after they halted last week without any concrete progress. The sanctions announced by the Treasury and State Department targeted government officials and organizations involved in the repression of protesters and political activists, and prisons where activists have been held in brutal conditions. The Treasury also placed several Syrian officials on its sanctions blacklist for their roles in political repression and chemical gas attacks, and Uganda's military intelligence chief was hit with sanctions for extreme abuse of people arrested for their nationality or political beliefs.



Israeli security forces arrest a young woman from a school in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood in Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem, yesterday, following a reported stabbing attack.

DECEMBER 9

1961 - Tanganyika

became independent within the Commonwealth, with Julius Nyerere as PM; the following year it became a republic. **1987** - The first riots of the intifada, or Palestinian uprising, erupted on the Gaza Strip.

2016 - South Korea's President Park impeached in parliamentary vote.

SOURCE: REUTERS

Biden-Putin talks 'positive'

Says Ukraine amid military buildup on border

AGENCIES

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky said yesterday that a video call between US President Joe Biden and Russian leadei Vladimir Putin was "positive".

"I think it is positive that the president of the United States spoke with the president of Russia," Zelensky said, a day after Biden warned Putin of "strong" Western economic retaliation for any Russian attack on ex-Soviet Ukraine. Speaking at a news conference, Zelenskiy

could agree a new ceasefire and prisoner exchanges when their representatives held talks on the conflict in Ukraine's easterly Donbass region yesterday. "In general, I think it is positive that the president of the United States spoke with

also hoped that Ukraine and Russia

the president of the Russian Federation," Zelenskiy said.

"The most important thing that we see now is that there is a personal real reaction

Memo No. 46.02.1823.000.14.001.21-750

and personal role of President Biden in resolving this conflict, the war in the east of our state."

Meanwhile, British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss warned yesterday it would be "a strategic mistake" by Moscow to invade Ukraine, amid concern at a Russian troop build-up on the border. The message, delivered during a wide-

ranging speech and question-and-answer session in London, follows similar warnings from Western capitals as tensions on the Ukrainian frontier. Moscow has deployed up to 100,000 troops there in recent weeks, sparking fears of a major war in eastern Europe, reports AFP. On Tuesday, President Ioe Biden warned

Russian President Vladimir Putin in a video link call of "strong" Western economic blowback against any attack on Ukraine.

The Kremlin leader demanded guarantees that the Nato alliance keep clear

ATTACK IN NIGERIA

23 people burn to death

AFP, Abuja

Gunmen in Nigeria attacked a bus in the country's northwestern Sokoto state, causing a fire that killed 23 people, police and the governor's spokesman said yesterday.

It was unclear why the ous was attacked but heavily armed criminals, known locally as bandits, have for years terrorised northwest and central states in Africa's most populous nation.

"23 people lost their lives," said the governor's spokesman Muhammad



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Tiger Pass, Chattogram www.ccc.gov.bd



Dated: 07-12-2021

Chattogram City Corporation

Memo No. 46.11.1600.002.14.21.0021 Tender Notice-CCC/ADP-1230Cr./2021-22

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 of following package from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to particular date specified on tender notice

be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to particular date specified on tender notice.								
SI No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender	Last date & time	Last date & time			
			ID	of selling	of submission			
				documents	documents			
1	DRBEL/CCC/	Construction of Bridge at J-Block at 11 No.	634571	30-12-2021	30-12-2021			
	W48/17	Ward.		12:05	14:05			
2	DRBEL/CCC/	Construction of Jheleypara Bridge at 11	634587	30-12-2021	30-12-2021			
	W46/9	No. Ward.		12:05	14:05			
3	DRBEL/CCC/	Construction of Bridge at I Block at 11 No.	634591	30-12-2021	30-12-2021			
	W48/16	Ward		12:05	14:05			
4	DRBEL/CCC/	Construction of Bridge at College Road at	634596	30-12-2021	30-12-2021			
	W48/14	11 No. Ward		12:05	14:05			
5	DRBEL/CCC/	Construction of Bridge at Loharpool over	634600	30-12-2021	30-12-2021			
	W48/15	Goyner Chora Khal at 11 No. Ward		12:05	14:05			
6	CCC/W-29	Construction of Halishair Main Road (Chy	634601	05-01-2022	05-01-2022			
	Lot-5	Para to Chowcala) and G-Block to artillery		12:05	14:05			
		at 26 No. Ward						
7.	DREBL/CCC/	Construction of RCC Girder Bridge on Rubi	635814	30-12-2021	30-12-2021			
	W47/10	Gate over Chasma Khal at 8 No. Ward		12:05	14:05			

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)

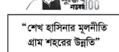
CCC/PRD-62/21-22

সাইজ- ৬ ×8 কঃ GD-2277

Mohammed Abu Saleh PD & Superintending Engineer Chattogram City Corporation

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর উপজেলা প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর চুয়াডাঙ্গা সদর, চুয়াডাঙ্গা www.lged.gov.bd



Date: 08/12/2021

Invitation for Tender (Works) (LTM) Tender Notice Number: 01/2021-2022

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender documents for the undermentioned work as per terms and

Package	Name of work	Estimated cost	Tender security (Tk)	Time of completion	Price of tender	
No.		(Tk)		(days)	documents (Tk)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
	উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসারের বাসভবন ও শারিরীক	\$6,00,000.00	80,000.00	৯০ (নব্বই)	960.00	
	নিরাপত্তার জন্য আনসার সদস্যদের আবাসন ভবন নির্মাণ।					
1	Sources of fund	GOB/Upazila Revenue Fund.				
2	Procurement method	Limited Tendering Method (LTM).				
3	Date, time and place of pre-tender meeting	Date: 19/12/2021 Time:11.00am and Place: Office of the undersigned.				
4	Last date, time and places of selling tender Date: 29/12/2021 Time: Upto office hour.					
	documents	Places a) Office of the undersigned.				
		b) The Executive Engineer, LGED, District: Chuadanga.				
		c) The Upazila Engineer, LGED, Alamdanga, Chuadanga.				
5	Last date, time and places of receiving	Date: 30/12/2021 Time: Upto 1.00pm.				
	tender documents	Places (a) Office of the undersigned.				
		b) The Executive Engineer, LGED, District: Chuadanga.				
		c) The Upazila Engineer, LGED, Alamdanga, District: Chuadanga.				
6	Date, time and place of opening tender Date: 30/12/2021, Time: 2.00pm.					
		Place: Office of the undersigned Unazila: Chuadanga Sadar Chuadanga				

Tender shall be valid for a period of 60 days from tender opening and accompanied by the tender security specified above. Interested tenderer may obtain further information from the office of the undersigned and purchase the tender documents Cash/ Treasury Chalan/Bank Draft from the places mentioned above. The tenderer or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend the opening of tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever

- দরপত্র দর প্রাক্কলিত মূল্যের শতকরা ৫% (পাঁচ) ভাগ অধিক কম বা বেশী দাখিল করিলে দরপত্রটি সরাসরি বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে। দরপত্রের সাথে হালনাগাদ ঠিকাদারী লাইসেন্সের ফটোকপি, ভ্যাট, আয়কর, ও ট্রেড লাইসেন্সের ফটোকপি, এবং লিকুইড এ্যাসেটে (ব্যাংক স্টেটমেন্ট) দরপত্রের সাথে
- দরপত্রের বায়নার টাকা পে-অভার/ডিমান্ড ড্রাফট আকারে দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
- যে কোন দরপত্র বাতিল বা গ্রহণ করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন

GD-2273

Md. Arifuddoula Upazila Engineer Chuadanga Sadar, Chuadanga Phone: 0761-63397