



Musicians and artists take part in a rally in Athens, Greece yesterday, as they protest against the new Covid-19 health measures banning the music from bars, nightclubs and restaurants.

PHOTO: AFP

Defeated 'coup' Says Kazakhstan leader, vows Russian troops will leave

AFP, Almaty
Kazakhstan's President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev said yesterday that his country had defeated an attempted coup d'etat during violence last week, and insisted that Russian-led troops called in to help quell the unrest would go home "soon".

US-RUSSIA TALKS OVER UKRAINE CRISIS Expectations low

Nato chief warns Moscow of 'severe costs' if Kyiv attacked

AGENCIES

With diplomats publicly pessimistic, the United States and Russia began difficult negotiations in Geneva yesterday that Washington hopes can avert the danger of a new Russian invasion of Ukraine without conceding to the Kremlin's far-reaching security demands.
Russia Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov has said the diplomacy could end after a single meeting, and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken played down expectations for the high-stakes talks.

end to the alliance's activity in central and eastern European countries that joined it after 1997.
The United States and Nato say large parts of the Russian proposals are non-starters.
Meanwhile, Nato chief Jens Stoltenberg yesterday warned Russia of "severe costs" if it launches a further attack on Ukraine, saying he hoped crunch talks could chart a way towards a diplomatic solution, reports AFP.
"We are working hard for a peaceful political path and we are ready to continue to work with Russia to try to find that path towards a peaceful solution," Stoltenberg said before meeting Ukraine's deputy prime minister.
Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister Olga Stefanishyna, appearing alongside him, said Russia's demands "cannot be considered as a negotiating position".

Quote box: We are close to a good deal, but to reach this...it must be pursued by the other side. Iran's FM Abdollahian on reviving 2015 nuke accord

HINDUTVA SUMMIT Pak PM blasts Modi for 'silence'

DAWN ONLINE

Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan yesterday said the Narendra Modi-led government was "a real and present threat to peace" in the region, adding that all minorities in India were at the target of extremist groups operating under the patronage of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
Last month, leaders from several far-right groups in India had issued calls for the ethnic cleansing of minorities in the country, especially targeting its 200 million-strong Muslim population. A report by The Quint had said that the "hate speech conclave" was organised by Hindutva leader Yati Narsinghanand from Dec 17 to 19 in Uttarakhand's pilgrimage city of Haridwar, where multiple calls to kill minorities and attack their religious spaces were made.
PM Imran, in a series of tweets yesterday, blasted Modi for his "continuing silence" and inaction against extremist Hindutva groups calling for genocide of minorities in the country.

Suu Kyi jailed for another 4yrs

AFP, Yangon

A Myanmar junta court yesterday convicted Aung San Suu Kyi of three criminal charges, sentencing her to four years in prison in the latest in a slew of cases against the ousted civilian leader, a source familiar with the proceedings said.
The Nobel laureate has been detained since February 1 when her government was forced out in an early morning coup, ending Myanmar's short-lived experiment with democracy.
The generals' power grab triggered widespread dissent, which security forces sought to quell with mass detentions and bloody crackdowns in which more than 1,400 civilians have been killed, according to a local monitoring group.
A source with knowledge of the case told AFP the 76-year-old was found guilty of two charges related to illegally importing and owning walkie-talkies and one of breaking coronavirus rules.
Junta spokesman Major General Zaw Min Tun confirmed the verdicts and sentences and told AFP Suu Kyi would remain under house arrest while other cases against her proceed.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Port Authority (BPA) regarding a tender for cargo handling services. Includes contact info and terms.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA) regarding a corrigendum to a tender for cargo handling services. Includes contact info and terms.

Advertisement for Khulna Shipyard Limited regarding a tender for ship repair and maintenance services. Includes contact info and terms.

Advertisement for Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) regarding a tender for procurement of books. Includes contact info and terms.

Advertisement for Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh regarding an e-Tender notice for air conditioning and interior design services. Includes contact info and terms.