



This aerial view shows a flood-hit area in La Gasca neighborhood, northern Quito, Ecuador. The heaviest flooding to hit Ecuador in two decades has killed at least 24 people in Quito, washing away cars, damaging homes and sweeping away volleyball players and spectators on a sports field. The photo was taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

MACHETE ATTACK
At least 40
civilians killed
in DR Congo

AFP, Bunia

At least 40 people were killed when machete-wielding militiamen attacked a site for displaced people in strife-torn eastern DR Congo, a monitoring group and local sources said yesterday.

“At least 40 civilians were killed with edged weapons last night in Plaine Savo” in Djugu territory, the US-based Kivu Security Tracker (KST) said on Twitter.

Desire Malo Dra, a representative of civil society groups in Bahema Badjere, said most of the casualties of the attack, which occurred at around 9pm, 10pm” on Tuesday, were women and children.

The KST said the suspected attackers were from a notorious armed group called CODECO, blamed for a string of ethnic massacres in the area.

Female students return
to Afghan universities

UN hails move; journos released after Taliban detention

AGENCIES

Afghanistan’s public universities opened yesterday for the first time since the Taliban took over the country last year, with female students joining their male counterparts heading back to campus.

The Taliban administration has not officially announced its plan for female university students, but education officials told Reuters women were permitted to attend classes on the condition that they were separated from male students.

A Reuters witness in the eastern city of Jalalabad saw female students entering via a separate door at Nangarhar University, one of the large government universities opening this week.

Under their previous rule from 1996 to 2001, the hardline Islamist Taliban barred women and girls from education. The group says it has changed since resuming power on Aug. 15 as foreign forces withdrew. But it has been vague on its plans and high school-aged girls in many provinces have still not been allowed to return to school.

Some private universities have reopened, but in many cases female students have not been able to return to class.

A female medical student at Nangarhar University who asked not be named for security

reasons said that classes had already been separated by gender, but it was not clear if they were still able to be taught by male lecturers or interact outside the classroom with male students.

The international community has made education of girls and women a key part of its demands as the Taliban seek more foreign aid and the unfreezing of overseas assets.

The United Nations late on Tuesday praised the inclusion of female students at public universities, appearing to indicate official confirmation.

“Let’s all support the return of Afghan young female and male students to the universities across Afghanistan,” the UN’s Secretary General’s Special Envoy for Afghanistan, Deborah Lyons, added in a Tweet.

“Supporters can consider a range of scholarship programs and ongoing support to female and male professors,” she said.

Only universities in warmer provinces opened yesterday. Tertiary institutions in colder areas, including Kabul, are due to resume on Feb. 26.

Meanwhile, two Afghan journalists detained by the Taliban earlier this week were released yesterday, the news editor of their media organisation said. On Monday Ariana TV reporters Waris Hasrat and Aslam Hijab were detained by the Taliban, according to the Afghan Media Association.

Gas, nuclear
get EU nod as
green power

AFP, Brussels

The European Commission yesterday defied protests from green campaigners and dissent in its own ranks to give a sustainable finance label to investments in both gas and nuclear power.

Opponents of gas want to discourage investment in a fossil fuel technology they say only fuels the climate change crisis, while critics of nuclear energy point to the threat posed by accidents and nuclear waste. But the EU executive, under pressure from nuclear-powered France and gas-reliant Germany, argues that both have a role to play as cleaner power sources during the transition to a net-zero carbon future.

“The end is a low-carbon future powered by renewable energy. We do not have the capacity for that yet, but we still need to act urgently with all the means at our disposal,” EU commissioner Mairead McGuinness said.

Mamata reelected
as TMC chief

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was re-elected Chairperson of Trinamool Congress party and urged all regional parties to put up a united front against the BJP in the 2024 general elections. Amidst differences within the party, she urged TMC leaders and workers to be united. She said TMC has to fight hard to win all the 42 Lok Sabha seats in the next polls in West Bengal. According to TMC Secretary General Partha Chatterjee, Banerjee was declared elected without a contest as no other leader entered the fray.

US to send warship,
fighter jets to UAE

AFP, Dubai

The United States will send a warship and fighter jets to help defend the United Arab Emirates, officials said on Wednesday, after a series of missile attacks by Yemeni rebels left three dead in the wealthy Gulf state. The deployment, to “assist the UAE against the current threat”, follows a phone call between Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the US embassy in the UAE said. The UAE, part of the Saudi-led coalition fighting Yemen’s Iran-backed Huthi rebels and a major financial hub, suffered its third missile attack in consecutive weeks on Monday.



Shootings at US
schools kill 3

AFP, Washington

Two campus police officers were shot and killed at a college in the US state of Virginia Tuesday, while one student was killed and another wounded in a shooting at a school in Minnesota the same day. The two officials were shot and killed around 1:30 pm at the Bridgewater College in Virginia. The suspect, a 27-year-old man named Alexander Wyatt Campbell, was later apprehended. He has already been charged with murder, police said. The motive behind the killing was not immediately known. The shooting in Minnesota occurred in the town of Richfield just outside of Minneapolis around noon, officials said, leaving one student dead and another wounded. The attackers opened fire on the students on a sidewalk outside the South Education Center before speeding away in a car. Two suspects were later arrested. President Joe Biden, who has called on Congress to enact tougher gun control laws, tweeted about the shooting, saying he and his wife “are praying for the families of those lost.”

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

Mymensingh PWD Division, Mymensingh

Invitation for Tenders

Phone No. 091-65855, E-mail: ee_mymen@pwd.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

Memo No. 25.36.6100.110.00.000.21-1778

Date: 01/02/2022

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

Sl No.	Tender ID	Name of work	Tender last selling	Tender opening
01	651622	Construction of Three-storied (Malkhana, Laundry and Barber Shop, Store, MI Room with medical center) Building with three-storied foundation, Internal Road, Main Drain, East Side Boundary Wall & Gate, and 40 HP Submersible Pump under the project titled “Construction of 05 Nos. RAB Complex and 01 No. RAB Forces Training School Complex” (2nd Amendment)”	16-Feb-2022 17.00	17-Feb-2022 12.00
02	652232	Remaining Construction of Office building, officers mess, CO Bangle, Barrack Bhaban, 650sft quarter, 800sft quarter, 1000sft quarter, 1250sft quarter, and boundary wall at RAB-14, Mymensingh FY-2021-2022. under the project titled “Construction of 05 (Five) RAB Complexes and One RAB Forces Training School Complex” (2nd Amendment)		

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

Rashed Ahsan

Executive Engineer

Mymensingh PW Division

Mymensingh

facebook

Google

TECH GIANTS & FAKE NEWS

India seeks
tougher action

REUTERS, New Delhi

Indian officials have held heated discussions with Google, Twitter and Facebook for not proactively removing what they described as fake news on their platforms, sources told Reuters, the government’s latest altercation with Big Tech.

The officials, from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B), strongly criticised the companies and said their inaction on fake news was forcing the Indian government to order content takedowns, which in turn drew international criticism that authorities were suppressing free expression, two sources said.

The sources, who were familiar with the proceedings at the virtual meeting on Monday, described the conversation as tense and heated, signalling a new low in ties between American tech giants and Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s administration.

The officials did not issue any ultimatum to the companies at the meeting, the sources said. The government has been tightening tech sector regulations but wants companies to do more on content moderation.

The meeting was a follow-up to the I&B ministry’s use of “emergency powers” in December and January to order the blocking of 55 channels on Google’s YouTube platform, and some Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology

Directorate of Planning and Development

Invitation for International Tender

P&D/PP(S-3)/BEPRC-01/21/CHEM-01 (International Tender)/DR- ২১

Date: ০২.০২.২০২২

1	Ministry/Division	Energy and Mineral Resources Division
2	Agency	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)/UGC
3	Purchaser Name	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) represented by Director, Directorate of Planning and Development.
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka, Bangladesh
5	Invitation Ref. No.	P&D/PP(S-3)/BEPRC-01/21/CHEM-01 (International Tender)
6	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (International Tender)
7	Budget and Source of Funds	Development Budget/ Government Funds
8	Tender Package No.	BUET/Chemistry/EPRC/2021/Procurement/G01
9	Tender Publication Date	03.02.2022
10	Pre bid meeting	27.02.2022 at 11.00 AM
11	Tender Last Selling Date	20.03.2022 (during office hours)
12	Tender Closing Date and Time	22.03.2022 at 11.30 AM (BST)
13	Tender Opening Date and Time	22.03.2022 at 12.00 PM (BST), Tender shall be opened in presence of Tenderers/Tender’s authorized representative (if any).
Name & Address of the office(s) - Selling and opening Tender Document		Directorate of Planning and Development (P&D), BUET.
14	Receiving Tender Document	(i) Directorate of Planning and Development (P&D), BUET or (ii) Principal Investigator, Department of Chemistry, BUET, Dhaka-1000.
15	Eligibility of Tenderer	Tenderers from all countries with minimum of 3 years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services.
16	Amount of Tender Security	Lot-01: BDT 70,000.00 (Seventy Thousand) & Lot-02 : BDT 2,25,000.00 (Two Lac Twenty Five Thousand) only in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft or in favor of “Comptroller, BUET” issued by any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh with full responsibility. If the Pay Order/Bank Draft is issued by a Foreign Bank, it must be duly endorsed by a scheduled Bank in Bangladesh payable in favor of Comptroller, BUET, Dhaka.
17	Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	Lot-01: Glove Box Workstation Taka 1,000/- (BDT One Thousand only)
18	Brief Description of Goods	Lot-01: Glove Box Workstation & Lot-02: Surface Area Analyzer for the Department of Chemistry, BUET, Dhaka.
19	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Prof. Dr. Khan Mahmud Amanat
20	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Director (P&D)
21	Address of Official Inviting Tender	The Directorate of Planning and Development (P&D), BUET, Dhaka
22	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Director, P&D, BUET, Dhaka Tel: 9666413, 55167228-57 Ext. 7350
23	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tendering Meeting	Directorate of Planning & development, BUET on 27.02.2022 at 11.00 AM
24	Special instructions	(i) Intending participants/Bidders or their Local Agent shall have to apply for purchasing tender documents to the undersigned along with Letter of Authorization of Manufacturer. (ii) The Authority reserves the right to accept any Tender to annul the Tender process or to reject any or all Tenders, at any time prior to contract award without assigning any reason thereof.

The Purchaser reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings

27/2/22

Director

Directorate of Planning and Development

BUET, Dhaka

GD-206