

## Russian advance towards Donetsk thwarted so far Claims Kyiv; EU backs green label for gas, nuclear power

AGENCIES

Ukraine has so far thwarted an attempted Russian advance into the north of its Donetsk region, but the city of Sloviansk and other civilian areas there were being heavily shelled, Ukrainian officials said yesterday.

Russia has increased its focus on Donetsk, the southern part of which it and its proxies already control, after completing its seizure of the neighbouring Luhansk region on Sunday with the capture of Lysychansk, much of which now lies in ruins.

Donetsk and Luhansk comprise the Donbas, the eastern part of Ukraine that has witnessed the biggest battle in Europe for generations and which Russia wants to wrest control of for separatists it backs.

"We are holding back the enemy on the (Luhansk/Donetsk) border," Luhansk governor Serhiy Gaidai told Ukrainian television.

He said Russian regular and reserve forces had been sent there in an apparent effort to cross the Siverskiy Donets river and that two small settlements just inside Luhansk's borders were the scene of fierce fighting. Gaidai and other Ukrainian officials have said Russian forces are pounding targets inside Donetsk with missile strikes.

Russia's defence ministry said it had destroyed two advanced US-made HIMARS rocket systems and their ammo depots in the Donetsk region.

The European Parliament yesterday approved a contentious EU proposal giving a sustainable finance label to investments in gas and nuclear power, sparking claims of "greenwashing" by environmental lobbyists. There were 278 votes to stop it while 328 voted for a green light. There were 33 abstentions.



Police use water canon to disperse farmers taking part in an anti-government protest demanding the resignation of Sri Lanka's President Gotabaya Rajapaksa over the country's ongoing economic crisis in Colombo yesterday. Sri Lanka has asked Russia to provide fuel and resume tourist flights to help the country weather its economic crisis, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said.

PHOTO: AFP



## World hunger levels rising

Nearly 10pc of the world's population were affected by hunger last year

REUTERS, London

World hunger levels rose again last year after soaring in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with the Ukraine war and climate change threatening starvation and mass migration on an "unprecedented scale" this year, according to UN agencies.

Up to 828 million people, or nearly 10 percent of the world's population, were affected by hunger last year, 46 million more than in 2020 and 150 million more than in 2019, agencies including the Food and Agriculture Organization, World Food Programme and World Health Organisation said in the 2022 edition of the UN food security and nutrition report.

World hunger levels remained relatively unchanged between 2015 and 2019.

"There is a real danger these

numbers will climb even higher in the months ahead," said WFP executive director David Beasley, adding price spikes in food, fuel and fertilisers stemming from the Russia-Ukraine war threaten to push countries into famine.

"The result will be global destabilisation, starvation, and mass migration on an unprecedented scale. We have to act today to avert this looming catastrophe," he added.

Russia and Ukraine are the world's third and fourth largest grains exporters, respectively, while Russia is also a key fuel and fertiliser exporter.

The war has disrupted their

exports, pushed world food prices to record levels and triggered protests in developing countries already contending with elevated food prices due to Covid-19 related supply chain disruptions.

The UN report released yesterday warned of "potentially sobering" implications for food security and nutrition as conflict, climate extremes, economic shocks and inequalities keep intensifying.

It estimated that globally in 2020, 22 percent of children under 5 were stunted while 6.7 percent or 45 million suffered from wasting, a deadly form of malnutrition that increases the risk of death by up to 12 times.



## Owners

FROM PAGE 12  
Chittagong Port Authority, Chittagong Customs, and the DoF, asking them to inform the probe body about their roles in maintaining compliance with related rules in the last one year.

Mizanur said, "We have recommended updating some laws and rules of different departments, including the Chittagong Port Authority."

He hoped that the risk of such a deadly blast would reduce if the committee's recommendations were implemented.

**HUMAN REMAINS FOUND**  
More human remains, including a skull and bones, were found in the debris at BM Container Depot yesterday.

With this, the death toll from the incident increased by one and rose to 51, police said.

"A human skull and bones were found in the warehouse shed area around 10:15am when staffers of the depot were cleaning the area," Ashraf Karim, additional superintendent (Sitakunda Circle) of Chattogram police, told The Daily Star.

Police later sent the remains to Chattogram Medical College morgue.

Eight officials of the container depot were sued by Sitakunda police for negligence, but no charges were brought against the owners.

## €2b underground

FROM PAGE 12  
canton of Valais.

Six pump turbines send water from the lower reservoir of Emosson to the upper reservoir of Emosson Vieux during times of overproduction.

With a capacity of 25 million m<sup>3</sup>, the water battery has a power output large enough to power as many as 900,000 homes.

Water batteries have become a popular way to store energy, with figures from the US Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy revealing that 93 percent of energy storage in the country coming from pumped storage hydropower.

## Condemned killer held in India

FROM PAGE 12  
yesterday. Based on the information, Kolkata police arrested Faisal from Bommanahalli in Bengaluru on July 1. He was brought to Kolkata on July 3, said the ATU official, quoting Kolkata police.

M o h a m m a d Aslam Khan, special superintendent (media and awareness) of ATU, said, "We have talked to Kolkata police about the arrest of Faisal, and steps will be taken to bring him

back following official procedures."

Sources said Faisal was using a passport with a fake name -- Shahid Majumdar -- with an address in Mizoram. He also obtained a driving licence from Bengaluru, they said.

About bringing back Faisal, Mohiul Islam, assistant inspector general (NCB) of Police Headquarters, told this paper that they have already written to their Indian counterpart asking

the latest status of Faisal.

"When we get a response, we may be able to say further about the repatriation," said Mohiul. On May 12, 2015, Ananta was hacked to death in Sylhet by a group of assailants.

A murder case was filed with Jalalabad Police Station against four unidentified people.

After investigation, the involvement of militant outfit Ansarullah Bangla Team was found. Shafiqur Rahman Farabi,

Mannan Yeahia alias Mannan Rahi, Abul Khayer Rashid Ahmed, Abul Hossain, Harun Ur Rashid and Faisal were charged.

Mannan, who gave confessional statement before the court, died in Dhaka Central Jail on November 2, 2017.

On March 30 this year, a Sylhet court sentenced four -- Faisal, Khayer, Harun and Abul -- to death for the murder.

Harun and Abul are on the run and Farabi was acquitted.

## Jitu admits to hitting teacher

FROM PAGE 12  
he was standing at a corner of the playground during a cricket match.

Meanwhile, Jitu's father Mohammad Uzzal on Tuesday told another Dhaka magistrate that his son beat the teacher to death as he was aggrieved over "disciplinary actions against him".

Uzzal added that he

hid his son in one of his houses in Ahsulia after police started searching for him. Later, he sent his son to Pabna and he went into hiding in Kushiua to avoid arrest.

Jitu, who beat up Utpal on June 25, was placed on a five-day remand on June 30 after his arrest from Gazipur's Sreepur.

On June 27, Utpal,

lecturer and also chairman of the disciplinary committee of Haji Yunus Ali School and College, died at Enam Medical College Hospital while undergoing treatment.

Later, Aseem Kumar Sarkar, the victim's brother, filed a murder case with Ahsulia Police Station accusing Jitu and several unnamed people.

## Pilgrims flock to Makkah

FROM PAGE 12  
cloth that Muslims around the world turn towards to pray.

Authorities said last month that masks would be required at the site, but that has been largely

ignored so far this week.

Many pilgrims held umbrellas to block the hot sun as the temperature climbed to 42 degrees Celsius (108 Fahrenheit).

The Saudi health

ministry has prepared 23 hospitals and 147 health centres in Makkah and Madinah, the second-holiest city in Islam, to accommodate pilgrims, state media reported this week.

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23.02.1565.341.53.006.22.219 Date: 05 July 2022

**Invitation for Re Tender**

1. Procuring entity name	Chittagong Dry Dock Limited (CDDL)
2. Invitation Reference No.	23.02.1565.341.53.006.21.219 Date: 05 July 2022
3. Invitation for	Purchase of Power Cable 110 Meter for 50 Ton Portal Jib Crane & 90 Meter for 40 Ton Portal Jib Crane. Note: Detail Technical Specifications Mentioned on Schedule.
4. Procuring method	Open Tender.
5. Submission of tender documents	02 (two) envelopes submission to be followed. Financial documents in 01 (one) envelope and technical documents in another envelope. Both the envelopes to be sealed in covering envelope.
6. Source of funds	Own finance of Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd.
7. Tender last selling date (office time only)	04 August 2022 at 12.00pm.
8. Tender closing date and time	04 August 2022 at 12.15pm.
9. Tender opening date & time	04 August 2022 at 12.30pm.
10. Name and address of the office(s) for selling, receiving and opening of tender documents	Cash Section, Accounts Department, Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram.
a. Selling tender document	
b. Receiving tender document	Purchase & Commerce Department, Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd.
c. Opening tender document	(1) Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd, Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram. (2) Tenderers and their authorized representatives are allowed to attend.
11. Price of each tender document	1,000 (one thousand) Tk (non-refundable)
12. Contact details	Phone: +880 2333301117, Fax: +88 02333301123 Mobile: +8801769744452, E-mail: <a href="mailto:commerce@odd.gov.bd">commerce@odd.gov.bd</a>
13. Special instructions	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all or any tenders prior to acceptance without showing any reason.

**Head of Commerce Department**  
  
For Managing Director

GD-1355

## Nepal's finance minister quits

REUTERS, Kathmandu

Nepal's Finance Minister Janardan Sharma resigned yesterday after the Speaker ordered an investigation into allegations of unauthorised changes in the budget. Opposition parties and some lawmakers of the ruling centre-left alliance have accused Sharma of inviting "unauthorised persons" to make changes in the rate of some taxes in the federal budget just a day before he presented the spending plan for the fiscal year 2022-23. He has denied any wrongdoing. "I am resigning to help the investigation," said Sharma while addressing lawmakers, adding that he was ready to face the investigation as he had not done anything wrong. Pressure on Sharma has also mounted after the finance ministry said CCTV footage from the day when the alleged changes in the budget were made was not available. Parliamentary Speaker Agni Prasad Sapkota gave the multi-party 11-member investigating panel 10 days to examine the opposition's accusations.



## BLOCKING CONTENT ON SITE Twitter challenges Indian orders

AFP, New Delhi

Twitter is challenging the Indian government's orders to block content on its social media site in court, local media reported yesterday citing legal documents. The suit is the latest showdown between Twitter and Indian authorities, which have been accused of muzzling criticism both on and offline. In the case filed with a court in Bangalore, the social media giant alleged that the basis on which multiple accounts and content flagged by the government was either "overbroad and arbitrary" and "disproportionate", the Indian Express daily reported. The social media giant submitted to the Karnataka state High Court that the ministry had failed to prove how some of the content it wanted taken down violated IT rules, the newspaper quoted sources as saying. Last week Twitter confirmed that India had directed it to locally censor accounts and dozens of posts, including some talking about declining internet freedom in the world's biggest democracy.