

ANNUAL THREAT ASSESSMENT
US worries China will use supply chains as weapon

AFP, Washington
The United States worries that China will use its power in global supply chains as an additional weapon to advance its political and military might, a report released Wednesday showed.

The "Annual Threat Assessment" issued by the Director of National Intelligence said China is already using its supply chain dominance to force foreign companies and countries to transfer technologies and intellectual property to it.

China hit back against the assessment yesterday, terming the report "slander" and saying it "confuses black with white."

The US intelligence community sees Beijing using its economic power in parallel with military strength to secure regional and global influence.

"The government of China is capable of leveraging its dominant positions in key global supply chains in an attempt to accomplish its goals, although probably not without significant cost to itself," the report said.

That could be a particular danger if China is able to take over Taiwan, another leading contributor to industrial and technology components, it said.

China seizing Taiwan "probably would have wide-ranging effects, including disruption to global supply chains for semiconductor chips because Taiwan dominates production of cutting-edge chips," it said.

The disruptions of the Covid-19 pandemic showed the world the importance of supply chains -- the way components of products make their way from myriad sources around the world through various countries for preliminary and final assembly before products reach the market.

The pandemic demonstrated how the disruption of a single factory in China or elsewhere could halt the work of major industrial operations around the globe.

The "Annual Threat" report singled out China's dominance in technology sectors including semiconductors, critical minerals, batteries, solar panels, and pharmaceuticals.



Gendarmes try to disperse French labour unions' protestors blocking A9 highway at the last toll near the France-Spain border in Le Boulou yesterday, as part of protests against the government's proposed pensions reform.

Russian strikes pound Ukraine
Six killed; Zelensky slams Moscow's 'miserable tactics'

REUTERS, Kyiv
Russia launched a huge wave of missile strikes across Ukraine while people slept yesterday, killing at least six civilians, knocking out electricity and forcing a nuclear power plant off the grid for several hours.

The first big volley of missile strikes since mid-February shattered the longest calm since Moscow began a campaign to

attack Ukraine's civil infrastructure five months ago.

Kyiv said it included an unprecedented six of Russia's small arsenal of kinzhal hypersonic cruise missiles, one of Moscow's most valuable weapons.

"The occupiers can only terrorise civilians. That's all they can do. But it won't help them. They won't avoid responsibility for everything they have done," President Volodymyr Zelensky said in a

statement, describing strikes that hit infrastructure and residential buildings in ten regions.

"The enemy fired 81 missiles in an attempt to intimidate Ukrainians again, returning to their miserable tactics," he said.

Russia's defence ministry said it had carried out a "massive retaliation strike" on Ukrainian infrastructure as payback for a cross-border raid last week on a village in Russia's Bryansk region.

Malaysia's ex-PM Muhyiddin arrested

AFP, Putrajaya
Malaysia's former prime minister Muhyiddin Yassin was arrested yesterday after anti-graft authorities questioned him for alleged misuse of public funds meant to fight Covid-19. Muhyiddin, who was prime minister for 17 months between 2020 and 2021, at the height of Malaysia's battle against the coronavirus, is expected to be slapped with multiple charges in court today, the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) said in a statement. He now leads an opposition coalition against Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim's government.

Nepal elects 3rd president

REUTERS, Kathmandu
Amid a bitter crisis in its ruling coalition, Nepal yesterday elected a social democrat as its third president since the Himalayan nation ended a centuries-old monarchy. The election of Ram Chandra Paudel, 78, comes after a split in the communist-dominated ruling coalition headed by Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal, a former Maoist rebel chief. Last month, Dahal supported Paudel, a candidate of the opposition Nepali Congress party, over one fielded by his key coalition partner, the Communist Unified Marxist-Leninist (UML) party.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Department of Public Health Engineering
Manikganj District
Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)
For the Procurement of 'Supervision Consultant at Manikganj District'
Memo No. 46.03.7000.061.14.216.23-1272 Date: 09/03/2023
The Fourth Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-4) is the continuation of Government's approach after PEDP3 in thriving the excellence of children through the fulfillment of several distinct milestones including construction of need-based infrastructures for sanitation and water supply. The program is supported by the Government of Bangladesh as well as Development Partners (DPs).

AFGHAN BLAST
Taliban governor killed in his office
AFP, Mazar-i-Sharif
The Taliban governor of Afghanistan's Balkh province, known for fighting against Islamic State jihadists, was killed in a suicide attack at his office yesterday, officials said.
The killing, a day after he met top government officials visiting from Kabul, makes Mohammad Dawood Muzammil one of the highest-ranking figures slain since the Taliban stormed back to power in 2021.
Violence across Afghanistan has dramatically dropped since the Taliban seized control, but the security situation has again deteriorated with IS claiming several deadly attacks.
"Two people, including Mohammad Dawood Muzammil, the governor of Balkh, have been killed in an explosion this morning," local police told AFP.

MIGRANT CRISIS
5,000 held in Libya detention centres: IOM
AFP, Geneva
Around 5,000 migrants are being held in official detention centres in Libya and they represent just the tip of the iceberg, the International Organization for Migration chief said Wednesday.
"It remains very unacceptable in terms of the violation of the rights of migrants in the country. We have always made it clear that detention is not a solution," IOM director general Antonio Vitorino said during a press briefing organised by the UN in Geneva.
Under the UN, the IOM collaborates with the refugee agency UNHCR to provide life-saving assistance to migrants in official detention centres.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
অধ্যক্ষ-কাম-অধীক্ষকের কার্যালয়
সরকারি ইউনানী ও আয়ুর্বেদিক মেডিকেল কলেজ ও হাসপাতাল
মিরপুর-১৩, ঢাকা-১২২১।
মেমো নং: সাইআমেসক/টি-১৩(এএমসি)/২০২২-২০২৩/OTM/১২৪
জন্: ০৯/০৩/২০২৩ ইং
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (এএমসি)- ২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থবছর
সরকারি ইউনানী ও আয়ুর্বেদিক মেডিকেল কলেজ ও হাসপাতাল, মিরপুর-১৩, ঢাকা এর ২০২২-২০২৩ অর্থ বৎসরের জন্য স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, মহাশালী, ঢাকার অন্তর্গত মেডিকেল কোয়ার্টার (এএমসি) এর ১২৭-১২৭০২-২২৪০২১০১১০০০০০০ অর্থনৈতিক কোডের আওতায় (জিওবি) বাতে গ্রেপ নং-১, ইউনানী ঔষধ (এএমসি), কোড নং- ঔষধ ও প্রতিষেধক ৩২৫২১০৯, গ্রেপ নং-২, আয়ুর্বেদিক ঔষধ (এএমসি), কোড নং- ঔষধ ও প্রতিষেধক ৩২৫২১০৯, গ্রেপ নং-৩, ল্যাবরেটরী যন্ত্রপাতি এবং পরীক্ষা-নিরীক্ষার কেমিক্যাল ও রি-এজেন্ট (চিকিৎসা ও শল্য চিকিৎসা সরঞ্জামাদি) (এএমসি), কোড নং-৩২৫২১০৫ ক্রমের নিম্নে পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন-২০০৬ ও পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর সর্বশেষ সংশোধনীর বিধিবিধান মোতাবেক প্রকৃত ইউনানী ও আয়ুর্বেদিক ঔষধ প্রস্তুতকারী/টিকাদার/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের দিকট হইতে সীল মোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আবেদন করা যাচ্ছে।