

MACRON REMARKS G7 diplomats seek unity on China

AFP, Karuizawa
The G7's top diplomats began talks in Japan yesterday, looking to project a unified message on concerns about China after controversial remarks by French President Emmanuel Macron.

The foreign ministers are keen to move past the firestorm created by Macron's assertion, following a trip to Beijing, that Europe should avoid "crises that aren't ours", and China was on the agenda even before official talks kicked off yesterday morning.

After arriving at the mountain resort town of Karuizawa on a special bullet train, the group held a working dinner on China and North Korea, with Japan's Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi telling his counterparts that "the unity of the G7 is extremely important".

Yesterday's first session again focused on China and regional challenges, and Hayashi opened the talks by warning the international community was "at history's turning point".



Protesters rally in solidarity with prisoners held in Israeli jails, outside the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) office in Gaza City yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Heatstroke kills 11 at India awards event

AFP, New Delhi
Eleven people died of heatstroke in India after an estimated one million spectators waited for hours in the sun at a government-sponsored awards ceremony, officials said yesterday.

Around 20 people were hospitalised and 300 felt ill at the event near the western city of Mumbai on Sunday, when temperatures hit close to 38 degrees Celsius (100 Fahrenheit) with high levels of humidity, local media reported.

Senior government officials attended the ceremony, including Interior Minister Amit Shah, who praised the crowd for waiting so long in the sun.

The office of Maharashtra state Chief Minister Eknath Shinde described it as a "sad and disturbing incident" and promised compensation for the victims' relatives.

India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party said around a million people attended the event, the Indian Express reported.

CRITICISM OF UKRAINE OFFENSIVE Putin critic Kara-Murza jailed for 25 yrs

London, Washington demand his release

REUTERS, Moscow

Outspoken Kremlin critic Vladimir Kara-Murza was jailed for 25 years by a Moscow court yesterday, the harshest sentence of its kind since Russia invaded Ukraine, after being found guilty of treason and other offences he denied committing.

Kara-Murza, 41, a father of three and an opposition politician who holds Russian and British passports, spent years speaking out against President Vladimir Putin and lobbied Western governments to impose sanctions on Russia and individual Russians for purported human rights violations.

State prosecutors, who had requested a 25-year term, had accused him of treason, among other offences, and of discrediting the Russian military after spreading "knowingly false information" about its conduct in what

Moscow calls its "special military operation" in Ukraine.

In a CNN interview broadcast hours before his arrest, Kara-Murza, whose family home is in Washington, alleged that Russia was run by a "regime of murderers".

After hearing he'd been ordered to spend the next 25 years in a maximum-security penal colony, Kara-Murza, who had calmly listened to proceedings inside a glass courtroom cage, said "Russia will be free", a well-known opposition slogan.

Outside the court in Moscow, British Ambassador Deborah Bronnert told reporters that Kara-Murza had been punished for bravely speaking out against Russia's war in Ukraine and demanded he be immediately released. US Ambassador Lynne Tracy, speaking alongside her, said Kara-Murza's conviction was an attempt to silence dissent.



Iran invites Saudi king to visit Tehran

AFP, Tehran

Iran said yesterday it has formally invited Saudi King Salman to visit Tehran, following an agreement reached last month between the two sides.

Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani said President Ebrahim Raisi had "invited the Saudi King to visit Iran". Kanani said the Iranian president had already received an invitation to visit the Sunni ruled kingdom.

The spokesman expressed hope Iran and Saudi Arabia would reopen their respective missions by May 9, as scheduled in the China brokered deal. The two countries held several rounds of talks in Iraq, Oman before reaching deal to mend ties on March 10 in China.

Putin, Chinese defence minister hail military co-op

REUTERS

Russian President Vladimir Putin met Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu in Moscow on Sunday and both men hailed military cooperation between the two nations, which have declared a "no limits" partnership. Chinese President Xi Jinping met Putin in Moscow last month.

Russia and China have moved to further strengthen their economic, political and military ties since Moscow sent tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine in February 2022. Footage of the meeting showed Putin shaking hands with Li and then sitting down at a table. Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu was also present. "We are working actively through our military departments, regularly exchange

useful information, work together in the field of military-technical cooperation, and hold joint exercises," Putin said. The exercises, he added, had been held in the Far East as well as Europe and involved ground, naval and air forces. "Undoubtedly, this is another crucial area that strengthens the extremely trusting, strategic nature of our relations," Putin said.



BLASPHEMY ACCUSATION Chinese engineer in Pakistan police protection

AFP, Peshawar

A Chinese supervisor at a dam construction project in Pakistan is under police protection after workers accused him of blasphemy against Islam, officials said yesterday. Blasphemy is a hugely sensitive issue in Muslim-majority Pakistan, where even rumours of sacrilegious remarks can incite lynch mobs and deadly violence. Officials said the engineer at the Dasu hydropower project in northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province was accused of blasphemy after he highlighted the "slow pace of work" during the holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims fast from dawn to sunset. "The labourers said they were fasting but denied that work had slowed down, which led to an exchange of heated words" with the supervisor, a police official told AFP on condition of anonymity. "Later, the labourers accused the engineer of making blasphemous remarks" and locals gathered to protest, he said. A written complaint filed with police identified him only as a transport supervisor by the name of "Mr Tian".



Relatives gather around a bus carrying prisoners being released outside the Insein prison in Yangon, Myanmar yesterday. Inset, a man celebrates with a relative after being released from the prison. Myanmar's junta began releasing more than 3,000 prisoners to mark the Buddhist New Year, without specifying whether those jailed in its bloody crackdown on dissent would be freed. PHOTO: AFP

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Quality Assurance Manager
Quality Control Lab
Department of Fisheries, Dhaka.

Memo No: 33.02.0000.314.22.125.16-677 Date: 17.04.2023

Invitation for Tender (Goods)

e-Tendering Notice No: 02/2022-2023

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods, details are given below.

Sl. #	Tender ID #	Package #	Name of works and location	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender closing (date & time)	Tender Opening (date & time)
1.	819358, 33.02.0000.314.22.123.2 3-669	GTF 01	Procurement of chemicals and standards for quality control lab, Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
2.	819359, 33.02.0000.314.22.123.2 3-670	GTF 02	Procurement of ELISA Kit for quality control lab, Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
3.	819366, 33.02.0000.314.22.121.2 3-671	GTF 03	Procurement of spare parts for LC/MS-MS for Quality control lab, Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
4.	819371, 33.02.0000.314.22.121.2 3-672	GTF 07	Procurement of spare parts of nitrogen generator for quality control lab, Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
5.	819375, 33.02.0000.314.22.121.2 3-673	GTF 08	Procurement of Fume hood for kjeldahl digestion system for quality control lab, Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
6.	819378, 33.02.0000.314.22.123.2 3-674	GTF 016	Procurement of PCR Kits and reagents for quality control lab, Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
7.	819379, 33.02.0000.314.22.121.2 3-675	GTF 017	Procurement of micropipettes and mini spinner for PCR for Quality control lab, Dhaka.	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
8.	819382, 33.02.0000.314.22.122.2 3-676	GTF 018	Procurement of micropipette filter tips, cooler, tips holder and micro centrifuge tips rack for quality control lab, Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
9.	819306, 33.02.0000.314.22.280.2 3-667	GR 22-23/2	Procurement of ELISA Kit for chemical section of Quality control Laboratory Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00
10.	819350, 33.02.0000.314.22.224.2 3-668	GR 22-23/3	Procurement of Equipment for ELISA SECTION of Quality control laboratory Dhaka	02-May-2023, 15:00	03-May-2023, 14:00	03-May-2023, 14:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no off line/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 from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches up to 02-May-2023, 15:00. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd).

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Ministry of Science and Technology

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e-Tender Notice

Tender ID	Description of Supply	Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time
819449	Supply and installation of research item, chemical, raw material and spare parts and others	16-May-2023 15:00

Forantocoin
Md Rezaul Karim
Project Director

GID-708