

New El Nino could set heat records: WMO

AFP, Geneva
The United Nations yesterday warned of a growing likelihood the weather phenomenon El Nino will develop in coming months, fuelling higher global temperatures and possibly new heat records.

The UN's World Meteorological Organization said it now estimated there was a 60-percent chance that El Nino would develop by the end of July, and an 80 percent chance it would do so by the end of September.

"This will change the weather and climate patterns worldwide," Willfran Moulouma Okia, head of WMO's regional climate prediction services division, told reporters in Geneva.

El Nino, which is a naturally occurring climate pattern typically associated with increased heat worldwide, as well as drought in some parts of the world and heavy rains elsewhere, last occurred in 2018-19.

Since 2020 though, the world has been hit with an exceptionally long La Nina - El Nino's cooling opposite - which ended earlier this year, ceding way to the current neutral conditions.

And yet, the UN has said the last eight

years were the warmest ever recorded, despite La Nina's cooling effect stretching over nearly half that period.

Without that weather phenomenon, the warming situation could have been even worse.

La Nina "acted as a temporary brake on global temperature increase", WMO chief Petteri Taalas said in a statement.

Now, he said, "the world should prepare for the development of El Nino."

The expected arrival of the warming climate pattern, he said, "will most likely lead to a new spike in global heating and increase the chance of breaking temperature records."

At this stage, there is no indication of the strength or duration of the looming El Nino. The last one was considered very weak, but the one before that, between 2014 and 2016, was considered among the strongest ever, with dire consequences.

WMO pointed out that 2016 was "the warmest year on record because of the 'double whammy' of a very powerful El Nino event and human-induced warming".

Since the El Nino effect on global temperatures usually plays out the year after it emerges, the impact will likely be most apparent in 2024, it said.

"This will change the weather and climate patterns worldwide."

Willfran Moulouma Okia, head of WMO's regional climate prediction services division



A local resident pushes his bicycle next to a car burning after a shelling in a street of Kostyantynivka, Donetsk region yesterday, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

PHOTO: AFP

Tech industry allowing 'deluge' of misinfo: RSF

AFP, Paris

Journalism is being battered by propaganda and increasingly sophisticated fakes, aided by AI software and a failure of oversight from tech companies, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said yesterday.

Overall, the environment for journalists was rated as "bad" in 70 percent of the 180 countries in the NGO's annual ranking, and "good" in just eight countries.

Norway and North Korea remain best and worst, respectively, for press freedom, according to the 21st annual report, which was published on World Press Freedom Day.

This year, RSF put a spotlight on the myriad forms of misinformation that are "drowning out" trustworthy news - a problem compounded by rapid evolution of AI.

"It is the tech industry that allows disinformation to be produced, distributed and amplified," RSF secretary-general Christophe Deloire told AFP.

"Reliable information is drowned in a deluge of disinformation," Deloire added. "We are less and less able to perceive the differences between the real and the artificial, the true and the false."

He said a prime example was Elon Musk. The report criticises his new paid-for verification system, saying Musk was pushing "an arbitrary, payment-based approach to information to the extreme".

Ukraine tried to kill Putin with drone attack

Says Kremlin; huge fires at oil depots in Russia, Ukraine as both sides press drone war

REUTERS, Kyiv

Russia yesterday accused Ukraine of attacking the Kremlin with drones overnight in a failed bid to kill President Vladimir Putin, as Ukraine announced it had "nothing to do" with the attack on the Kremlin.

"Ukraine has nothing to do with drone attacks on the Kremlin," presidential spokesman Mikheylo Podolyak said. "Ukraine does not attack the Kremlin because, firstly, that does not solve any military aims."

The Kremlin said two drones had been used in the alleged attack on Putin's residence in the walled Kremlin citadel, but had been disabled by electronic defences.

It said Russia reserved the right to retaliate - a comment that suggested that Moscow might use the alleged incident to justify a further escalation in its war with Ukraine.

"Two unmanned aerial vehicles were aimed at the Kremlin. As a result of timely actions taken by the military and special services with the use of radar warfare systems, the devices were put out of action," the Kremlin said in a statement.

"We regard these actions as a planned terrorist act and an attempt on the president's life, carried out on the eve of Victory Day, the May 9 Parade, at which the presence of foreign guests is also planned..."

"The Russian side reserves the right to take retaliatory measures where and



when it sees fit."

Baza, a Telegram channel with links to Russia's law enforcement agencies, posted a video showing a flying object approaching the dome of the Kremlin Senate building overlooking Red Square and exploding in an intense burst of light just before reaching it. Reuters could not immediately verify the video's authenticity.

The statement from the presidential administration said fragments of the drones had been scattered on the territory of the Kremlin complex but there were no casualties or material damage.

RIA news agency said Putin had not been in the Kremlin at the time, and was working yesterday at his Novo Ogoryovo residence outside Moscow.

Meanwhile, oil depots were ablaze in both Russia and Ukraine yesterday as

both sides escalated a drone war targeting infrastructure ahead of Kyiv's planned spring counter-offensive to try to end Moscow's all-out invasion.

Scores of firefighters battled a huge fire that Russian authorities blamed on a Ukrainian drone crashing into an oil terminal on Russia's side of the bridge it built to occupied Crimea.

In Ukraine, a fuel depot was also on fire after a suspected Russian drone strike on the central city of Kropyvnytskyi.

Elsewhere in Ukraine, an administrative building in the southern Dnipropetrovsk region was hit by a drone and set on fire. Ukraine said it had shot down 21 of 26 Iranian-made drones.

Yevgeny Prigozhin, leader of Russia's Wagner Group mercenary force, said yesterday that he believed that Ukraine's counteroffensive had already begun, and that his forces were observing heightened activity along the front.

In a statement published by his press service on Telegram, Prigozhin said that the "active phase" of the counteroffensive would begin in the coming days.

Meanwhile, European Union countries finalised a scheme to jointly buy ammunition for Ukraine after weeks of wrangling that had frustrated leaders in Kyiv.

Ambassadors from the EU's member countries approved the deal at a meeting in Brussels, ending a dispute over how much of the business from the munitions contracts should stay in Europe.

HEAVY RAIN, FLOODS At least 109 killed in Rwanda

REUTERS, Kigali

Heavy rain that triggered flooding and landslides in western and northern Rwanda has killed at least 109 people, the state-run broadcaster said yesterday, as authorities searched for survivors trapped in their homes. Muddy water flowed swiftly down an inundated road and destroyed houses in a video clip posted by the Rwanda Broadcasting Agency. "Our main priority now is to reach every house that has been damaged to ensure we can rescue any person who may be trapped," Francois Habitegeko, governor of Rwanda's Western Province, told Reuters.

Myanmar junta pardons over 2,153 prisoners

AFP, Yangon

Myanmar's junta pardoned more than 2,000 political prisoners to mark a Buddhist holiday yesterday, triggering tearful reunions outside jails but also demands that the many others behind bars be released. The military has arrested thousands of protesters and activists since its February 2021 putsch that ended Myanmar's brief democratic experiment and plunged the country into turmoil. Protesters and journalists were among the 2,153 people freed, AFP reporters said, a tiny fraction of those targeted in the military's brutal and sweeping crackdown on dissent. "There are many prisoners... left in the prison," said Phoe Thar, a student who was jailed in 2021 for taking part in a demonstration. "I want to ask people to stay strong for those prisoners," he told AFP.

Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Dinajpur.
Tel: 0531-65141, FAX: 0531-66359
email: eedin@rhd.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

An e-Tender has been invited for the following work through e-Gp portal, which will be visible from Today. Registered person/organization on e-Gp portal can visit ([http:// www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)).

Tender ID No	Name of Work	Last Selling date & Time	Closing date & Time	Opening date & Time
68/e-GP/RHD/EE/DRD/2022-2023 Tender ID No: 827159	Seal Coat including necessary repair at 18th(P) Km of Panchbibi-Dugdugi Road (Z-5855) Under Road Division, Dinajpur during the FY 2022-2023.	17/05/2023 15.26	18/05/2023 10.30	18/05/2023 10.30

Reference No. 35.01.2764.413.07.003.23-806
Date: 03/05/2023

Sub-Assistant Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Dinajpur.

Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Dinajpur.

GD-778



GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE UPAZILA ENGINEER
SADAR, MYMENSINGH
www.lged.gov.bd



উপাযুক্ত
শেখ হাছিনা বেগম
Date: 02-05-2023

Memo No: 46.02.6152.000.07.001.20-1835

e-Tender Notice No: 19/2022-23(NOTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of following work's details are given below.

Tender ID	Package No & Name of Scheme	Last Selling Date & Time	Last time for Tender Security Submission	Closing & Opening Date & Time
818875	e-Tender/PEDP4/MYM/SAD/2022-2023/W14-01920 Construction of Boundary Wall including Gate of BOYRA NODIRPER NON GPS, CHAR DARI KUSTIA RPS, DAPUNIA GPS & KHANPARA GPS under PEDP4 in Mymensingh Sadar Upazila, Mymensingh (2 nd Call).	24-May-2023 17:00	25-May-2023 13:00	25-May-2023 14:00
821502	e-Tender/PEDP4/MYM/SAD/2022-2023/W14-01925 Construction of Boundary Wall including Gate of BORAR CHAR BONAPARA, MALOTIPROVA, PUTIALI NO-2, RAGHOBPUR & RUPAKHALI GPS under PEDP4 in Mymensingh Sadar Upazila, Mymensingh (2 nd Call).			

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, e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) also from W-mail: uc.mymensingh-s@lged.gov.bd or call to 01708-161443.

Interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

(Abdullah-Al-Mamun)
Upazila Engineer
LGED, Sadar, Mymensingh.
E-mail: uc.mymensingh-s@lged.gov.bd

GD-768