

Protect minorities in Manipur

EU parliament urges India as Modi visits France

AFP, Strasbourg

The EU parliament yesterday urged India to end violence and protect minorities in the country's northeastern Manipur state, criticising "nationalistic rhetoric" it said was adding to tensions.

It came as Indian PM Narendra Modi began a two-day visit to France, where he will attend the traditional Bastille Day military parade as guest of honour.

MEPs expressed concern over clashes between Manipur's majority Meitei, who are mostly Hindus, and the mainly Christian Kuki tribe in the surrounding hills. The EU parliament said that the violence has "left at least 120 people dead, 50,000 displaced and over 1,700 houses and 250 churches destroyed".



Kosovo opposition lawmakers clash with ruling members in the Kosovo parliament yesterday during a heated debate over measures aimed at defusing tensions in restive Serb enclaves in the north. The melee kicked off as Prime Minister Albin Kurti addressed the house and was doused with water by a rival lawmaker.

PHOTO: AFP

Will hand over govt to caretaker set-up in August

Says Pakistan PM

DAWN ONLINE

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, in an address to the nation yesterday, said the incumbent government would hand over the reins to the caretaker set-up in August.

The premier's address comes a day after Pakistan reached a \$3 billion Standby Agreement with the International Monetary Fund. The cash-starved nation received the first tranche of \$1.2bn earlier yesterday.

PM Shehbaz had made a similar announcement on Wednesday as well, in which declared that the term of his government would end next month.

He, however, did not clear the confusion about whether the coalition partners would go for the normal dissolution of the National Assembly on completion of its term on August 12, or he would advise the president for an early dissolution. At the outset of an address — broadcast on television — yesterday, prime minister recalled that he was given the "sacred responsibility" of running the country and working for its welfare in April last year.

Top US, Chinese diplomats meet at Asean talks

US State Dept says 'candid discussions' cover both areas of difference and potential cooperation

REUTERS, Jakarta

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken held "candid and constructive" talks with top Chinese diplomat Wang Yi yesterday in Indonesia's capital, an official said, the latest in a series of interactions Washington says are aimed at managing competition between the rival superpowers.

Wang is representing China at the Jakarta meetings of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and partner countries after Beijing said Foreign Minister Qin Gang would not attend due to health reasons.

He and Blinken were seen seated across from each other in a meeting room in a hotel in central Jakarta and did not speak to the press, reports Reuters.

The "candid and constructive discussions" covered both areas of difference and potential cooperation, State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a statement.

"The meeting was part of ongoing efforts to maintain open channels of communication to clarify US interests across a wide range of issues and to responsibly manage competition by reducing the risk of misperception and miscalculation," Miller said.

The US top diplomat emphasised the importance of "maintaining peace and stability across the



Taiwan Strait, Miller said.

Blinken also told China's top diplomat that Washington will hold hackers accountable after he raised alleged breaches of US government agencies, a senior US official said.

Blinken met Qin and Wang in Beijing last month, marking the first visit to China by a US secretary of state in five years. It was aimed at easing the intense rivalry between the superpowers, which are also the world's two largest economies.

US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen visited China earlier this month and climate envoy John Kerry is to visit next week.

Wang, who is the foreign policy chief for the Chinese Communist Party, ranks above Qin, who as the foreign minister is the

HEALTH CARE

Black women in Americas face 'systemic racism': UN

AFP, United Nations

Black women throughout the Americas — and in particular the United States — face health care mistreatment due to "systemic racism," leading to high death rates during childbirth, the United Nations warned Wednesday.

Maternal mortality among women of African origin is "alarmingly high," both in absolute terms and when compared to non-Black and non-Indigenous women in the region, according to a damning new report by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reviewing nine countries in the Americas.

The study drew on data from Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Panama, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the US and Uruguay.

"Structural racism and sexism are evident in maternal health disparities that exist across income levels..." the report said.

The disparities are sharpest in US, where African American women are three times more likely to die while pregnant or within six weeks of giving birth than the country's non-Hispanic white women.

87 bodies found in Sudan mass grave: UN

Paramilitary force RSF denies any involvement

REUTERS, Geneva

The UN human rights office said yesterday at least 87 people including ethnic Masalit were buried in what it described as a mass grave in Sudan's West Darfur, saying it had credible information that the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) were responsible.

RSF officials denied any involvement, saying paramilitary group was not a party to conflict in West Darfur.

Ethnically motivated bloodshed has escalated in recent weeks in step with fighting between rival military factions that erupted in April and has brought the country to the brink of civil war. In El Geneina, witnesses and rights groups have reported waves of attacks by the RSF and Arab militias against the non-Arab Masalit people, including shootings at close range.

Local people were forced to dispose of the bodies including those of women and children in a shallow grave in an open area near the city between June 20-21, the UN statement said. Some of the people had died from untreated injuries, it said.

"I condemn in the strongest terms the killing of civilians and hors de combat individuals, and I am further appalled by the callous and disrespectful way the dead, along with their families and communities, were treated," said UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk in the same statement.

AI-supercharged neurotech threatens mental privacy: UN

AFP, Paris

The combination of "warp speed" advances in neurotechnology, such as brain implants or scans that can increasingly peek inside minds, and artificial intelligence poses a threat to mental privacy, Unesco warned yesterday. The UN's agency for science and culture has started developing a global "ethical framework" to address human rights concerns posed by neurotechnology, it said at a conference in Paris.

Neurotechnology is a growing field seeking to connect electronic devices to the nervous system, mostly so far to treat neurological disorders and restore movement, communication, vision or hearing. Recently neurotechnology has been supercharged by artificial intelligence algorithms which can process and learn from data in ways never before possible, said Mariagrazia Squicciarini, a Unesco economist specialising in AI. "It's like putting neurotech on steroids," she told AFP.

Gabriela Ramos, Unesco's assistant director-general for social and human sciences, said that this convergence of neurotechnology and AI was "far-reaching and potentially harmful". "We are on a path to a world in which algorithms will enable us to decode people's mental processes and directly manipulate the brain mechanisms underlying their intentions, emotions and decisions," she told the conference.

In May, scientists in the United States revealed they had used brain scans and AI to turn "the gist" of what people were thinking into written words — as long as they had spent long hours inside a large fMRI machine.



Rescue workers transport a visitor from the archaeological site of Acropolis to an ambulance in Athens yesterday, as Greece hits high temperatures. Inset, Hellenic Red Cross workers distribute bottles of water to visitors outside the Acropolis. Greece's national weather service EMY on Monday said a six-day heatwave would grip the country.

PHOTO: AFP

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, এর কার্যালয়,

সড়ক বিভাগ, জয়পুরহাট।

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তারিখ : ২৮ আশ্বিন ১৪৩০
১২ জুলাই ২০২৩

“সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে ঠিকাদার তালিকা ভুক্তি/ লাইসেন্স নবায়ন বিজ্ঞপ্তি”

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সড়ক বিভাগ, জয়পুরহাট কর্তৃক পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর আলোকে সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তরের পরিচালন (রাজস্ব) বাজেটের আওতায় সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি প্রয়োগের মাধ্যমে প্রতিক্ষেত্রে ৫০.০ (পঞ্চাশ) লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত প্রাক্কলিত মূল্যের অভ্যন্তরীণ কার্য (NCT-works) সম্পাদনের লক্ষ্যে ২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্থ বছরের জন্য ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্ত/নবায়ন করা হবে। সিপিটিইউ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরম অত্র দপ্তর হতে আগামী ২০/০৭/২০২৩ খ্রি: হতে ৩০/০৮/২০২৩ খ্রি: পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে সরবরাহ করা হবে। ১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকার অফেরতযোগ্য পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/চালান নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সড়ক বিভাগ, জয়পুরহাট অনুকূলে জমা প্রদান করে অথবা মানি রিসিটের মাধ্যমে ১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা পরিশোধ করে আগ্রহী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান নির্ধারিত আবেদনপত্র (ডকুমেন্ট) সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন। নির্ধারিত আবেদনপত্র (ডকুমেন্ট) সঠিকভাবে পূরণ পূর্বক প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রসহ আগামী ৩০ আগস্ট ২০২৩ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ৩.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে অত্র দপ্তরে জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি প্রয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর বিধি ৬৩ অনুসরণযোগ্য এবং এ তালিকাভুক্তি করণ দরপত্র আহবান/কাজ প্রদানের নিশ্চয়তা বিধান করে না।

উল্লেখ্য যে, ইতোপূর্বে অত্র দপ্তরের তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদারগণ ২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্থ বছরে লাইসেন্স নবায়ন ফি বাবদ টাকা ২,০০০/- (টাকা দুই হাজার মাত্র) + ১৫% ভ্যাটসহ বিনা জরিমানায় আগামী ৩০/০৮/২০২৩ খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে অত্র দপ্তরে জমা পূর্বক লাইসেন্স নবায়ন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

২৮/০৭/২০২৩

(সোম্য তালুকদার)

পরিচিতি নং- ৬০২৩১৬

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (চ:দা:), সওজ

সড়ক বিভাগ, জয়পুরহাট।

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