

## 68 Chinese warplanes detected near island: Taiwan

AFP, Taipei

Dozens of Chinese warplanes and 10 navy ships were detected around Taiwan, authorities in Taipei said yesterday after warning that Beijing was conducting air and sea drills in the Western Pacific.

China claims self-ruled Taiwan as its territory and relations have soured since the island's independence-leaving President Tsai Ing-wen came to power in 2016. Beijing has in recent years ratcheted up diplomatic and military pressure on Taiwan and the number of warplane flights around the island increased dramatically following visit by Nancy Pelosi, then-speaker of US House of Representatives.

Taiwan's defence ministry said in a statement that 68 Chinese aircraft and 10 naval vessels were detected near the island between Wednesday morning and yesterday.



An Italian police officer sprays a migrant with fresh water after he has crossed the fence to exit the operational centre called "Hotspot" on the Italian island of Lampedusa yesterday. The number of migrants arriving in Italy after crossing on boats from North Africa has surged this year, at almost 124,000 since January -- up from 65,500 during the same period in 2022, according to government data. PHOTO: AFP

## INDIA'S AYODHYA Ram temple to be opened to devotees in January

REUTERS, New Delhi

The first phase of Ram Temple in India's town of Ayodhya will be completed in December and will open to devotees in January, an official said yesterday.

The site where the temple was built was bitterly contested for years, with both Hindus and Muslims laying claim to it.

Hindus say the site was the birthplace of Lord Ram, and was holy to them long before Muslim Mughals built the Babri mosque there in 1528.

A Hindu mob destroyed the mosque in 1992, triggering riots that killed about 2,000 people across India. Supreme court awarded the site to Hindus in 2019, paving the way for the construction of a Hindu temple.

## Putin, N Korea's Kim send rivals a warning

Say analysts as both leaders vow defence, other cooperation

REUTERS, Seoul

Whatever practical cooperation emerges from this week's summit between Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, their deepening relationship is aimed at sending their rivals a warning, analysts said.

Calling each other "comrade", the men tested their friendship on Wednesday after Putin showed Kim around Russia's most modern space launch facility and they held talks alongside their defence ministers.

The two countries have an interest in demonstrating that, despite their geopolitical isolation, they have partners they can call on. And both seek to weaken US-led sanctions and pressure campaigns, against Russia over the war in Ukraine and against North Korea for its nuclear weapons and missile programs, analysts said.

"Putin and Kim would both gain

from a transactional bargain but they would also gain geopolitically by giving off the impression that their nuclear-armed countries are cooperating militarily and sending a warning about potential consequences to America's allies and like-minded partners that support Ukraine," said Duyeon Kim, of the Center for a New American Security.

"Kim would also be signalling to Washington, Seoul and Tokyo that Russia has his back in Northeast Asia."

Both Russia and North Korea have denied US claims that they plan to provide each other with weapons, but the leaders promised to deepen defence cooperation, and Putin said Russia would help the North build satellites.

If they simply wanted a secret arms deal, the two leaders did not have to meet in person, said Leif-Eric Easley, a professor at Ewha University in Seoul.

"Putin and Kim's diplomatic display is meant to claim success in challenging the US-led international order, avoiding over-reliance on China, and increasing pressure on rivals in Ukraine and South Korea," he said.

Discussions of any open violation of UN Security Council resolutions on North Korea would signal that major international agencies will be paralysed, said Andrei Lankov, a Korea expert at Seoul's Kookmin University.

The summit is an indicator that North Korea-related Security Council resolutions are dead, as are all attempts to stop North Korea or penalise it for having a nuclear program, he said.

"It creates an important precedent that is likely to be used not only by Russia but pretty much every major international player that if you don't like a UNSC resolution you just ignore it," Lankov said.

## Nasa installs new chief of UFO research

REUTERS, Washington

Nasa yesterday said it has named a new director of research into what the government calls "unidentified anomalous phenomenon," or UAP, while the US space agency's chief said an expert panel that urged more fact-finding on the matter found no evidence of an extraterrestrial origin for these objects.

Administrator Bill Nelson made the announcement of the new research chief - though he did not disclose the person's identity - after the independent panel of experts recommended that Nasa increase its efforts to gather information on UAP and play a larger role in helping the Pentagon detect them. UAP are better known to the public as unidentified flying objects, or UFOs.

## Human activity risking Earth's life-support systems

Landmark study warns

REUTERS, Berlin



The Earth's life-support systems are facing greater risks and uncertainties than ever before, with most major safety limits already crossed as a result of planet-wide human interventions, according to a scientific study released on Wednesday.

In a "health check" for the entire planet published in the Science Advances journal, an international team of 29 experts found that the Earth is now "well outside of the safe operating space for humanity" due to human activity.

The study, expanding on a 2015 report, said the world had now crossed six of nine "planetary boundaries" - the safe limits for human life in areas such as the integrity of the biosphere, climate change and the use and availability of fresh water.

In all, it said, eight of the nine boundaries are under more pressure than in the 2015 assessment, with only the sky's ozone layer improving - raising the risk of dramatic changes in the Earth's living conditions.

"We don't know that we can thrive under major, dramatic alterations of our conditions," lead author Katherine Richardson from the University of Copenhagen told a news conference.

The authors said crossing the boundaries did not represent a tipping point where human civilisation would just crash, but could bring irreversible shifts in the Earth's support systems.

"We can think of Earth as a human body, and the planetary boundaries as blood pressure. Over 120/80 does not indicate a certain heart attack but it does raise the risk," Richardson said.

The scientists sounded the alarm about increasing deforestation, the excessive consumption of plants for fuel, and the proliferation of manmade products like plastic, genetically modified organisms and synthetic chemicals.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

M2K TECHNOLOGY & TRADING CO. - a company that is registered in Bangladesh and which is carrying out business within power, energy, ICT, water, aviation, petrochemicals, mines, defence, transportation movement, housing, urban development and softwares mainly < m2kttc.com>. The company intends to recruit for the following positions immediately:

SL NO.	POSITIONS	QUALIFICATIONS
1.	<b>ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER - Marketing and Sales</b>	B.Sc. in ECE/EEE with MBA (Marketing) from BUET, RUET, KUET, CUET, DUET, NSU, BRAC, MIST, DU. 3 - 5 years of experience in similar corporate, preferably within multinationals.
2.	<b>ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER - Technical</b>	B.Sc. in ECE/EEE from BUET, RUET, KUET, CUET, DUET, NSU, BRAC, MIST. 3 - 5 years of experience in similar corporate, preferably within multinationals.

Handsome remuneration packages and impressive incentives are awaiting for the most deserving professionals. Interested candidates are requested to send an EOI impressive incentives (Expression of Interest) to < info@m2kttc.com> on or before **September 30, 2023**.



This image grab from footage published on social networks by Libyan al-Masar television channel on Wednesday shows a general view of destruction in the wake of floods after the storm "Daniel" hit Libya's eastern city of Derna. A global effort to assist stricken Libya gathered pace yesterday as Derna mayor said deaths in the city could reach 18,000-20,000, based on the extent of the damage. PHOTO: AFP

## Ukraine attacks Russian air defences in western Crimea

REUTERS, KYIV

Ukraine struck Russian air defence systems near the town of Yevpatoriya in the west of occupied Crimea in a long-range attack yesterday, the Ukrainian military said.

Russia's defence ministry said in a statement that its air defences had shot down 11 drones overnight over the peninsula, which Russia seized from Ukraine in 2014. It made no mention of any damage.

A video circulated on social media showed powerful explosions and a plume of smoke rising in the

night sky illuminated by a blaze. A Ukrainian intelligence source told Reuters the attack destroyed a "Triumf" air defence system in a joint operation of the Security Service of Ukraine and navy.

First, the source said, drones blinded the air defence system by attacking its radar and antenna, before two Ukrainian-made Neptune cruise missiles were fired at the system's launchers. Ukraine has modified the Neptune anti-ship missile to attack ground targets, military analysts say.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's prosecutor general said yesterday the International Criminal Court (ICC) had opened a field office in Kyiv, as part of efforts to hold Russian forces accountable for potential war crimes.

Ukraine also said yesterday it downed 17 out of 22 Russian drones attacking its territory overnight, and that a child was killed in the country's south by artillery shelling.

Separately, Ukraine's air force said it had shot down drones in several regions in Ukraine's south and north.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
District: Bhola  
[www.lqed.gov.bd](http://www.lqed.gov.bd)

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি  
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.02.09.00.000.14.014.23.2906 Date: 14/09/2023

e-Tender Notice No. 14/2023-24

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of:

SL No.	Upazila	Package No.	T-ID No.	Name of scheme	Method	Last date of receiving
GOBM						
1.	Bhola Sadar	e-Tender/LGED /Bhola/GOBM /23-24/W-28	866974	(a) Rehabilitation of Doskhali Bridge-Chandraprashad - Janal Bazar Mir-Mir Bazar (Bisso Road) Road from Ch. 00m-2900m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District-Bhola. Road ID No. [509184087] (b) Rehabilitation of Bheduria Bangla Bazar-Char Pata Bheduria via Hazir Hat Road from Ch. 00m-1010m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District: Bhola. Road ID No. [509184012]	OTM	18-Oct-2023, Till 12.00pm
2.	Bhola Sadar	e-Tender/LGED /Bhola/GOBM /23-24/W-29	866975	(a) Rehabilitation of Hatner Hat-Arujan Ali Khayghat Road from Ch. 00m-2050m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District-Bhola. Road ID No. [509184036] (b) Rehabilitation of Utar Beduria High School Jungla Khayghat Road from Ch. 00m-1500m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District: Bhola. Road ID No. [509185016]	OTM	18-Oct-2023, Till 12.00pm
3.	Bhola Sadar	e-Tender/LGED /Bhola/GOBM /23-24/W-31	866977	Rehabilitation of Kheyghat Bridge-Sher-e-Bangla RPS-Nazir Majee Khayghat Road from Ch. 00m-4700m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District-Bhola. Road ID No. [509184044]	OTM	18-Oct-2023, Till 12.00pm
4.	Bhola Sadar	e-Tender/LGED /Bhola/GOBM /23-24/W-32	866978	Rehabilitation of Charkali-Majeer Hat Road from Ch.00m-3080m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District: Bhola. Road ID No. [509184042]	OTM	18-Oct-2023, Till 12.00pm
5.	Bhola Sadar	e-Tender/LGED /Bhola/GOBM /23-24/W-33	866979	Rehabilitation of East side Velumia Bazer-Nazir Mazi Kheya Ghat Road from Ch. 00m-3000m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District: Bhola. Road ID No [509184056]	OTM	18-Oct-2023, Till 12.00pm
6.	Bhola Sadar	e-Tender/LGED /Bhola/GOBM /23-24/W-34	866980	Rehabilitation of Paranganj-Pangashia FRB Road to Talukder Char Bridge via Guptamunshi - Char Algi - Talukder Hat Road from Ch. 00m-4200m under Bhola Sadar Upazila, District: Bhola. Road ID No. [509185108]	OTM	18-Oct-2023, Till 12.00pm

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. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registers bank branches up to Date: 17/10/2023 till 16.00pm. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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