

ANTI-ISRAEL RIOT
Russia blames
‘external
interference’

AFP, Moscow

Russia yesterday blamed “external interference” for an anti-Israel riot that closed an airport in the Muslim-majority region of Dagestan the previous day.

“Yesterday’s events at Makhachkala airport are, to a large extent, the result of external interference,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

Russian police yesterday said they arrested 60 people suspected of storming the airport, seeking to attack Jewish passengers coming from Israel.

Dozens of protesters broke through doors and barriers at Makhachkala airport on Sunday, with some charging onto runway.

“Against the backdrop of TV footage showing the horrors of what is happening in the Gaza Strip... it is very easy for enemies to take advantage of and provoke the situation,” Peskov said.

SOUTH LEBANON
Deadly strike
on journos
was ‘targeted’
Says RSF

AFP, Paris

A Reuters journalist killed in southern Lebanon two weeks ago and others wounded in the same incident were deliberately targeted, a Reporters Without Borders investigation released on Sunday said.

Video journalist Issam Abdallah died and six other journalists were wounded – including two from AFP – in strikes the village of Alma al-Shaab in southern Lebanon on October 13.

“The initial findings of the investigation show that the reporters were not collateral victims of the shooting,” the media watchdog Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said.

“One of their vehicles, marked ‘press’, was targeted, and it was also clear that the group stationed next to it was journalists.”

The journalists believe they were hit by fire coming from the Israeli side of the border.



A Palestinian casualty is assisted at the site of an Israeli strike on a house in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday. Israeli troops and tanks attacked Gaza’s main northern city from both sides yesterday, three days after they began a major ground offensive in the Palestinian enclave.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Israel hits military
infrastructure in Syria

Concerns growing about regional fallout from Israel’s war on Hamas in Gaza

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel’s army said yesterday it carried out air strikes on military infrastructure inside Syria as fears grow that its war against Hamas could spur a broader regional conflict.

“A short time ago, an IDF fighter jet attacked the launchers” from where overnight attacks originated towards Israeli territory, the military said, indicating it hit “military infrastructure in Syrian territory”.

The army did not provide more details, but public broadcaster Kan News said the strikes hit near the southern city of Daraa.

Syria’s defence ministry said yesterday Israel struck at around 1:35 am (2235 GMT) “from the direction of the occupied Syrian Golan, targeting two positions of our armed forces in the Daraa countryside, causing some material losses”.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor said Israel targeted “an artillery battalion” in Daraa province, in response to shelling on the nearby occupied Golan Heights.



The Britain-based Observatory, which has a vast network of sources in Syria, said Hezbollah-linked Syrian and Palestinian groups were behind rocket attacks from the Daraa area.

Concerns are growing about the regional fallout from Israel’s war on Gaza’s Hamas rulers.

Since the fighting began, there has been a string of attacks on US forces in Iraq and Syria as well as increasing exchanges of fire along the Israel-Lebanon border between the Iran-backed Hezbollah militia and Israeli forces.

Late Sunday, the Israeli military

said it was striking “Hezbollah terrorist targets in Lebanon” in response to rocket fire.

Cross-border exchanges with Hezbollah have become an almost daily occurrence since October 7, when Hamas members stormed over the Gaza border into southern Israel, killing some 1,400 people, mostly civilians, and seizing nearly 240 hostages.

Since then, Israel has responded with an unrelenting bombardment of Gaza, which the Hamas-run health ministry says has killed more than 8,000 people, nearly half of them children.

S Africa calls
for UN force
to protect
Gazans

REUTERS, Johannesburg

South Africa yesterday called for the United Nations to deploy a rapid protection force to protect civilians in the Palestinian enclave of Gaza from further bombardment.

South Africa has long been an advocate for peace in the region, likening the plight of Palestinians to its own under the apartheid regime that ended in 1994.

In calling for a protection force, South Africa has gone further in its support for the Palestinians than most nations, some of which have called for a ceasefire or the opening of a humanitarian corridor to allow aid into Gaza.

“Entire generations of families have been wiped out in Gaza over the last three weeks,” the foreign ministry said in a statement.

A member of the Palestinian community in Johannesburg had 25 family members killed in an Israeli air strike yesterday morning, the statement said.

QATAR DEATH ROW
India vows to
free its ex-navy
personnel

AFP, New Delhi

India’s foreign minister yesterday said the country would “make all efforts” to secure the release of eight ex-navy personnel sentenced to death by a court in Qatar, reportedly for spying for Israel.

Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said he had met the families of the detained Indians and told them the government “attaches the highest importance” to their case. Indian media report the eight – among them former high-ranking and decorated officers, including captains who once commanded warships – were arrested in Doha in August 2022.

In a post on social media, Jaishankar said that he fully shared “the concerns and pain of the families”, and that the “government will continue to make all efforts to secure their release”. Qatar has not commented on the case and the charges have not been made public.

India’s navy chief told reporters yesterday that “every effort” was being made by the government to “get relief for our personnel”.

The sentences were only revealed last week when India’s foreign ministry said it was “shocked” at the case. The eight men were employees of Al Dahra, a Gulf-based company that offers “complete support solutions” to the aerospace, security and defence sectors. The Hindu reported the men were spying for a “third country”, while Times of India has said that “various reports claimed they were accused of spying for Israel”.

Sonia condemns
India skipping
UN vote on Israel

NDTV ONLINE

The Congress is “strongly opposed” to India’s abstention on the recent UN resolution on the Israel-Hamas conflict, former party chief Sonia Gandhi said yesterday, asserting that while her party had unequivocally condemned Hamas’ attacks, the tragedy is compounded by the Israeli state now focused on exacting revenge from a population that is largely as helpless as it is blameless.

She also said her party’s longstanding position has been to support direct negotiations for a sovereign independent, viable and secure state of Palestine coexisting in peace with Israel.

In an article in The Hindu, Sonia said “humanity is on trial now”, as she called for the loudest and most powerful voices to be for a cessation of military activity. “We were collectively diminished by the brutal attacks on Israel. We are now all diminished by Israel’s disproportionate and equally brutal response. How many more lives will have to be taken before our collective conscience is stirred and awakened?” she said.

“The unprecedented attack was devastating for Israel. The Indian National Congress strongly believes that violence has no place in a decent world...condemned Hamas’s attacks,” she added.



PHOTO: AFP

This handout photograph released yesterday by the Spanish Maritime Rescue and Safety Society SASEMAR shows migrants aboard a “cayuco” wooden boat, off the coast of the Canary island of Tenerife. Two migrants were found dead during the rescue of the boat with 209 people on board, rescuers announced.

Russian missiles hit
Ukraine’s Odesa, 2 hurt

REUTERS, Kyiv

The governor of Ukraine’s southern Odesa region said two people were wounded and buildings damaged in a Russian missile attack on a ship repair yard yesterday.

“In the morning, Russian terrorists attacked Odesa district with rockets. The enemy targeted a shipyard,” Oleh Kiper said on the Telegram messaging app.

“The attack caused a fire, which was quickly extinguished by our rescuers. The administrative building and equipment of the enterprise were damaged.”

The missile attack came after Russia attacked southern, central and northern Ukrainian regions with drones overnight.

The Ukrainian military said on Telegram that air defences destroyed all 12 Russian drones and two missiles launched at Ukraine.

“All 14 enemy air targets were destroyed by air defence, in particular within Mykolaiv, Kherson, Kirovohrad, Cherkasy, Zhytomyr, Khmelnytskyi and Dniipro regions,” military said.

Military and civilian authorities do not report casualties or details of destruction.

NORTH MYANMAR

Thousands of
people feared
displaced in
new clashes

Says UN

AFP, YANGON

Thousands of people are feared to have been displaced by four days of fighting in northern Myanmar, including several hundred who reportedly fled to China, the United Nations said yesterday.


On Friday, three powerful ethnic armed organisations attacked junta troops across a swathe of northern Shan state, home to a planned billion-dollar rail link, part of Beijing’s Belt and Road infrastructure project.

The Ta’ang National Liberation Army, the Arakan Army and the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army have since said they have seized several military posts and key roads.

The three groups have fought regularly with the military over autonomy and control of resources.

“As of 30 October, over 6,200 individuals have reportedly been newly displaced” by the fighting, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said in a statement.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY



NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Center of Excellence in Higher Education

North South University (NSU), the first private university in Bangladesh, seeks applications from candidates with required qualifications and experiences for the following position:

Please read the full job description carefully to see if you have the skills, knowledge and experience that NSU are looking for. Only eligible candidates will be contacted by NSU for written examination and interview.

Research Associate, Department of Biochemistry & Microbiology : 4 (four) position

Job Description:

- Perform experiments involving various biochemical and molecular biological techniques.
- Design and execute laboratory testing according to standard procedures.
- Supervise, train, and guide other staff members where applicable, including overseeing compliance with technical or research standards and protocols.
- Assist faculty members in carrying out experiments under defined conditions and maintain log books.
- Organize and store all chemical substances, fluids, and compressed gases according to safety instructions.
- Maintain equipment and assist in ordering laboratory supplies.
- Ensure that all safety guidelines are followed strictly at all times and maintain a clean and orderly environment.

Experience:

- 2 to 3 years of work experience in a relevant field (experience in mammalian cell culture, real-time PCR, histopathology, fluorescence microscopy, immunoblotting, and zetasizer will be preferred).

Age: Not exceeding 35 years.

Pay Scale: 25,383-2,538-63,456 (as per NSU policy).

Academic Qualification:

- Master's degree in Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology, Analytical Chemistry, or related field.

Other Terms and Conditions:

- Experience in laboratory procedures including isolation of DNA, RNA, or proteins, plasmid extraction, cloning, gel electrophoresis, SDS-PAGE, and western blotting.
- Experience in histopathological techniques (using cryotome/microtome for tissue sectioning and immunohistochemistry).
- Experience in biochemical techniques such as enzyme assays, protein analysis, etc.
- Experience in mammalian cell culture and fluorescence microscopic techniques.
- Experience in using particle homogenizer.
- Willingness to work on holidays and after office hours, if necessary.
- Third division/class/equivalent CGPA of the candidates in any educational level will not be accepted.

NSU reserves the right not to appoint anyone if suitable candidates are not found.

Any prior communication or persuasion to the position will be considered as a disqualification. Interested candidates are requested to apply through jobs.northsouth.edu by 29 November, 2023.

Department of Administration
NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Plot# 15, Block# B, Bashundhara, Dhaka – 1229
NSU Job Portal: jobs.northsouth.edu