

Taiwan detects 43 Chinese warplanes around island

AFP, Taipei

More than 40 Chinese warplanes were detected around Taiwan in a day, the self-ruled island's defence ministry said yesterday.

Beijing claims democratic Taiwan as its own territory to be seized one day, by force if necessary, and has ratcheted up military and diplomatic pressures on the island this year.

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence said in a daily statement that 43 Chinese aircraft and 7 naval vessels were detected around the island in a 24-hour period leading up to 6:00 am yesterday (2200 GMT Tuesday).

The ministry said "37 of the detected aircraft had crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait and entered Taiwan's southwest and southeast (air identification zone) ADIZ".

The median line bisects the 180-kilometre (110-mile) waterway separating the island from China.

Plastic waste in rivers may carry dangerous microbes

Study says

AFP, Paris

Plastic litter in rivers might be allowing dangerous pathogens to hitch-hike downstream, a new study published yesterday found.

The research, which focused on one UK river, found that dumped plastic, wooden sticks and the water itself were a breeding ground for communities of microorganisms, potentially providing a reservoir for bacteria and viruses known to cause human diseases and antibiotic resistance.

"Our findings indicate that plastics in freshwater bodies may contribute to the transport of potential pathogens and antibiotic resistance genes," said lead author Vinko Zadjelovic of the University of Antofagasta in Chile. "This could have indirect but significant implications for human health," he told AFP. Antibiotic resistance is a growing public health threat. In 2019, infections related to antibiotic resistance are estimated to have killed 2.7 million people worldwide. By 2050 they are predicted to cause 10 million deaths worldwide, according to the study, published in the journal Microbiome.



A man gestures as Palestinians search for casualties a day after Israeli strikes on houses in Jabalia refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

MIDEAST WAR INTENSIFIES UN alarmed

AFP, United Nations

The United Nations chief said Tuesday he was "deeply alarmed" by the intensifying conflict between Israel and Hamas, while the UN refugee agency appealed for the divided Security Council to act.

The 15-member Council has not adopted any resolution on the three-week-long war in the Middle East, rejecting four drafts.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that the escalating fighting included "ground operations by the Israel Defense Forces accompanied by intense air strikes, and the continued rocket fire towards Israel from Gaza."

"Civilians have borne the brunt of the current fighting from the outset," he said in his statement.

"I repeat my utter condemnation of the acts of terror perpetrated by Hamas on 7 October. There is never any justification for the killing, injuring and abduction of civilians. I appeal for the immediate and unconditional release of those civilians held hostage by Hamas."

"I condemn the killing of civilians in Gaza and I am dismayed by reports that two-thirds of those who have been killed are women and children."

Guterres also underlined his fears "about the risk of a dangerous escalation beyond Gaza."

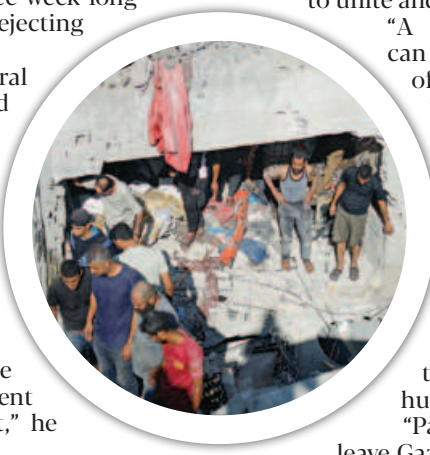
The United Nations high commissioner for refugees urged the UN Security Council to unite and back a ceasefire.

"A humanitarian ceasefire can at least stop this spiral of death and I hope that you will overcome your divisions and exercise your authority in demanding one," Filippo Grandi told the Security Council in New York.

Grandi later told reporters that bringing help into Gaza was the most important humanitarian goal.

"Palestinians do not want to leave Gaza. They want aid to come into Gaza and that should be the priority," he said.

Some Security Council draft texts have been blocked by the United States because they did not mention Israel's right to defend itself, while one was stymied by Russia and China in particular because it did not clearly call for a ceasefire.



N Korea closes multiple embassies worldwide

REUTERS, Seoul

North Korea is poised to close as many as a dozen embassies including in Spain, Hong Kong, and multiple countries in Africa, according to media reports and analysts, in a move that could see nearly 25 percent of Pyongyang's missions close worldwide.

North Korea's recent closing of its diplomatic missions was a sign that the reclusive country is struggling to make money overseas because of international sanctions, South Korea's unification ministry said on Tuesday.

On Monday, North Korean state media outlet KCNA said the country's ambassadors paid "farewell" visits to Angolan and Ugandan leaders last week, and local media in both African countries reported the shutdown of the North's embassies there.

Thousands in Gaza need medical aid

WHO says

AFP, Geneva

The World Health Organization welcomed yesterday's first evacuations of wounded patients out of the Gaza Strip, but stressed that thousands of injured civilians and people with chronic illnesses also needed treatment. WHO said that within the Gaza Strip, "thousands of seriously injured civilians" were in need of treatment. More than 1,000 patients need kidney dialysis to stay alive; more than 2,000 patients are on cancer therapy; 45,000 people have cardiovascular diseases; and more than 60,000 have diabetes, WHO's Eastern Mediterranean regional branch said in a statement. "These patients must be able to have sustained access to health care inside Gaza. Hospitals and other health facilities must be protected from bombardment and military use," the UN health agency said. Before October 7, around 100 patients a day needed specialised health treatment outside the Gaza Strip due to the lack of such services within the territory. The WHO maintained its call for urgent, accelerated access for humanitarian aid into and throughout the Gaza Strip, and access for patients to referral services outside Gaza.

COLLINS DICTIONARY 'AI' named Word of the Year

AFP, London

The abbreviation of artificial intelligence (AI) has been named the Collins Word of the Year for 2023, the dictionary publisher said on Tuesday. Lexicographers at Collins Dictionary said use of the term had "accelerated" and that it had become the dominant conversation of 2023. "We know that AI has been a big focus this year in the way that it has developed and has quickly become as ubiquitous and embedded in our lives as email, streaming or any other once futuristic, now everyday technology," Collins managing director Alex Beecroft said. "Use of the word as monitored through our Collins Corpus is always interesting and there was no question that this has also been the talking point of 2023," Beecroft said.

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute

সংগ্রহ ও ভান্ডার শাখা

গাজীপুর

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Memo No. 12.21.0000.007.14.34.23.1941

Date: 26 October 2023

e-GP: Tender Notice No. 08 (2023-2024)

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following goods. Details are given below:

SI No.	Packa ge No.	Tender ID & Ref No.	Description of goods	Tender documents last selling (date & time)	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
1.	PN: GD-25	892559 & IRN: 34	Office Equipment 11 (Eleven Items)	15.11.2023 16:00	16.11.2023 12:00	16.11.2023 12:00

The interested persons/firm may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Project Name: Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition Entrepreneurship and Resilience in Bangladesh (BARI Component).

Md. Younus Ali
(BARI0663)
Deputy Director (In-Charge)
On behalf of Director General

GD-1683

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Mohammadi smuggles out letter of thanks from jail

AFP, Oslo

"Victory is not easy, but it is certain," imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize winner and women's rights activist Narges Mohammadi, said in a message smuggled out of her Tehran cell and published late Tuesday.

In the message, read out in French by her daughter, Kiana Rahmani, and posted on the official Nobel website, the 51-year-old activist and journalist expressed "sincere gratitude" to the Norwegian Nobel committee.

Mohammadi -- who was awarded the prize in early October "for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran" -- once again criticised the requirement for women in Iran to wear a headscarf, and denounced Iranian authorities.

SAVAR ASHULIA LAND SALE

About 12 acres or 1190 decimals of completely unencumbered walled highland on C&B Road now known as Anwarjong Road at Savar Ashulia Gauripur Mouza. Approachable from Dhaka-Aricha Rd or Tongi. Now contains trees and garden with electricity water connections. Ideal for Hospital, University Residential Project, Industry etc. Actual buyer may please contact: **01711-521970**

Trust Bank

Head Office, Shadhinata Tower, Bir Srestha Shaheed Jahangir Gate, Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka-1206

TENDER NOTICE

1. Sealed tenders are hereby invited by Trust Bank Limited from bonafide tenderers/suppliers/firms for following tenders:

a. Construction and Supply of fit-out items of CSD Tower (2nd Floor), Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka to relocate Digital Salary Department & Card Division of TBL.

b. Construction and Supply of fit-out items of Trust Bank Limited, Narail Lohagara Branch, Narail (proposed).

c. Procurement of VRF Air Conditioning System for CSD Tower (2nd Floor), Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka to relocate Digital Salary Department & Card Division of TBL.

d. Procurement of 06 Units, 15.5 Ton (1 X 1.5 Ton, 1 X 2.0 Ton & 4 X 3.0 Ton) Split Cassette Type Air Condition for Trust Bank Limited, Anowara Branch, Chattogram (proposed).

2. The intending bidders may collect the tender schedule on the TBL website <https://www.tbld.com/tender>

Note: TBL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders, in part or full.

Purchase & Procurement Division

বাংলাদেশ হুপতি ইন্সটিটিউট

প্লট-১১, হুপতিয়ার মাঝহারল ইসলাম সরণী, ব্রক-ই, আয়ারগেট, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭, ফোন-৫৫০০১৯৫-৯৬

বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা বাংলাদেশ হুপতি ইন্সটিটিউট (IAB) এর সকল সদস্যের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২০২৩ সালের বাছাই-র বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভা এবং চট্টগ্রাম শাখা কমিটির বার্ষিক সভা আগামী ১শা ডিসেম্বর ২০২৩ তরবার নিম্নোক্ত স্থানসমূহে ও সময়সূচী অনুযায়ী অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

বাছাই-এর বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভার স্থান, সময় ও আলোচ্যসূচী

স্থান আইএবি সেন্টার, প্লট-১১, হুপতিয়ার মাঝহারল ইসলাম সরণী, ব্রক-ই, আয়ারগেট, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭।

	নিয়মিত ফেলো ও সদস্যদের আগমন, রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও আসন গ্রহণ	বিবেক ৫:০০-৬:৩০ মি
➤	বাছাই সভাপতির স্বাগত ভাষণ	সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০-৬:১০ মি
➤	বাছাই সাধারণ সম্পাদক কর্তৃক বার্ষিক প্রতিবেদন উপস্থাপন	সন্ধ্যা ৬:১০-৬:৩০ মি
➤	বাছাই কোষাধ্যক্ষ কর্তৃক বার্ষিক আর্থিক প্রতিবেদন উপস্থাপন	সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০-৬:৪৫ মি
➤	পরবর্তী নির্বাচন অনুষ্ঠানের জন্য নির্বাচন কমিশনের সদস্যদের নাম ঘোষণা	সন্ধ্যা ৬:৪৫-৭:০০ মি
➤	উপস্থাপিত প্রতিবেদন-এর উপর আলোচনা ও সিদ্ধান্তসমূহ গ্রহণ	সন্ধ্যা ৭:০০-৭:৩০ মি
➤	সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠান ও শৈশু ভোজ	সন্ধ্যা ৭:৩০-৯:০০মি

বাছাই-এর চট্টগ্রাম শাখার বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভার স্থান, সময় ও আলোচ্যসূচী

স্থান বাছাই-৩ট্রাম শাখা, এ্যাপার্টমেন্ট সি-১(৫ম তলা), ১৩ শহীদ সাইফুদ্দীন খালেদ রোড, চট্টগ্রাম, ফোন: ০২-৩৩৩৩৫৪৪১১

	নিয়মিত ফেলো ও সদস্যদের আগমন, রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও আসন গ্রহণ	বিবেক ৫:০০-৬:৩০ মি
➤	শাখা চেয়ারম্যানের স্বাগত ভাষণ	সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০-৬:১০ মি
➤	শাখা সম্পাদক কর্তৃক বার্ষিক প্রতিবেদন উপস্থাপন	সন্ধ্যা ৬:১০-৬:৩০ মি
➤	শাখা কোষাধ্যক্ষ কর্তৃক বার্ষিক আর্থিক প্রতিবেদন উপস্থাপন	সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০-৬:৪৫ মি
➤	পরবর্তী নির্বাচন অনুষ্ঠানের জন্য নির্বাচন কমিশনের সদস্যদের নাম ঘোষণা	সন্ধ্যা ৬:৪৫-৭:০০ মি
➤	উপস্থাপিত প্রতিবেদন-এর উপর আলোচনা ও সিদ্ধান্তসমূহ গ্রহণ	সন্ধ্যা ৭:০০-৭:৩০ মি
➤	আপ্যায়ন	সন্ধ্যা ৭:৩০-৯:০০মি

উল্লেখ্য যে বাংলাদেশ হুপতি ইন্সটিটিউট-এর গঠনতন্ত্রের ৭.৬ ধারা অনুযায়ী কোরাম গঠনের জন্য নিয়মিত সদস্যগণকে সভার নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে উপস্থিত হতে হবে এবং সভা শুরু করার নির্ধারিত সময় থেকে এক ঘণ্টার মধ্যে যদি কোরাম গঠিত না হয় তবে সে সভা মূলতথী বলে গণ্য হবে।

এমতাবস্থায় বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভা সুষ্ঠুভাবে আয়োজনের লক্ষ্যে সকল সদস্য নিয়মিত সদস্যগণকে নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়সূচী অনুযায়ী সভায় উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য বিনীত অনুরোধ জানানো হল।

হুপতি নবী নেওয়াজ খান
সাধারণ সম্পাদক, বাছাই