



Palestinians shop in an open-air market near the ruins of houses and buildings destroyed in Israeli strikes during the conflict, amid a temporary truce between Hamas and Israel, in Nuseirat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Israel-Hamas truce ‘producing results’

Says Blinken; China seeks ‘concrete’ roadmap for two-state solution

REUTERS, Tel Aviv

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken yesterday said a temporary truce between Israel and Palestinian group Hamas had produced results and the United States hoped it would continue.

Sitting beside Israeli President Isaac Herzog, Blinken said Washington was focused on helping to secure freedom for hostages taken to Gaza.

“We have seen over the last week the very positive development of hostages coming home, being reunited with their families. And that should continue today. It’s also enabled an increase in humanitarian assistance to go to innocent civilians in Gaza who need it desperately,” Blinken said.

“So this process is producing results. It’s important, and we hope that it can continue,” Blinken said.

Their meeting in Tel Aviv took place on a morning when two Palestinian attackers opened fire at a bus stop during rush hour at the entrance to Jerusalem, killing at least three people and wounding eight others, Israeli police said. Both Blinken and Herzog condemned the attack.

Meanwhile, China yesterday called on the United Nations Security Council to formulate a “concrete” timetable and roadmap for a two-state solution to achieve a “comprehensive, just and lasting” settlement of the Palestinian

issue.

The proposal was laid out in a paper stating China’s position on resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict released by the Chinese foreign ministry, and as China took over the rotating presidency of the Security Council for November.

The 15-member council needs to intensify its diplomatic mediation, relaunch the two-state solution and convene a “more authoritative and effective” international peace conference as soon as possible, the paper said.

It urged the council to heed the general call of the international community for a “comprehensive ceasefire” to stop the fighting.

Since the start of hostilities in October, Beijing has refrained from condemning Hamas, but instead said it opposed acts that harm civilians and sought for de-escalation and a two-state solution.

China’s foreign minister Wang Yi, who chaired a high-level Security Council meeting on the Gaza conflict on Wednesday in New York, urged for a lasting truce in the embattled territory and warned against the conflict from spilling over to the entire Middle East region.

“Peace cannot be limited and the ceasefire cannot have an expiration date,” China’s official Xinhua news agency cited Wang as saying.

INDIA STATE ELECTIONS

BJP edge in Rajasthan, close fight in MP, Telangana

Exit poll results predict

NDTV ONLINE

Exit polls are predicting a BJP edge in Rajasthan, the Congress ahead in Chhattisgarh and a fight that could be too close to call in Madhya Pradesh.

For Mizoram, a hung house could be in the cards. The biggest upset could be reserved for Telangana, where K Chandrasekhar Rao’s Bharat Rashttra Samithi (BRS) has been in power since the inception of the state since 2014.

Two exit polls indicate that the BRS could be replaced by the Congress in this election. Six exit polls on Chhattisgarh by and large, predict a second term for Bhupesh Baghel, with the number of seats allotted to the party staying within the margin of early 40s to mid-50s. The majority mark in the 90-seat state is 46.

India Today- Axis My India is predicting that Congress could win 40-50 of the state’s 90 seats. Jan Ki Baat is predicting 34-45 seats for the BJP and 42-53 seats for the Congress. The seventh -- News 24-Today’s Chanakya, is predicting 33 seats for the BJP and 57 for the Congress.

Neighbouring Madhya Pradesh, though, could have bad news for the Congress, which might not be able to unseat Shivraj Singh Chouhan. The BJP’s three-time Chief Minister came to power yet again in 2020 despite a defeat in 2018, with the crossing over of Congress’s Jyotiraditya Scindia and his 20-plus loyalists.

The most definitive verdict is from News24-Today’s Chanakya, which gives BJP 151 of the state’s 230 seats, and the Congress 74. Others predict a tight race.

The election was, held amid much speculation of anti-incumbency against the BJP, which has largely ruled the state since 2004. With four terms under his belt, Chouhan is one of the BJP’s longest-ruling Chief Ministers.

Rajasthan, which routinely votes out the incumbent since early ‘90s, is apparently sticking to the custom, overturning Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot’s high hope of bucking the trend.

‘Contrary to policy’

Says India on US alleging official’s role in murder plot

REUTERS, New York

An Indian government official directed an unsuccessful plot to assassinate a Sikh separatist on US soil, the US Justice Department said on Wednesday, in announcing charges against a man accused of orchestrating the attempted murder.

Federal prosecutors in Manhattan said Nikhil Gupta, 52, worked with the Indian government employee, whose responsibilities included security and intelligence, on the plot to assassinate the New York City resident Gurnpatwant Singh Pannun, who advocated for a sovereign Sikh state in northern India.

It was a “matter of concern” that an Indian government official was linked to the plot, India’s foreign ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said yesterday. “This is also contrary to government policy,” he added. On Wednesday, India said it would probe concerns aired by the US.

COP28 CLIMATE SUMMIT

World to hit 1.4C of warming in record hot 2023: WMO

REUTERS, Dubai

With a month to run, 2023 will reach global warming of about 1.4 degrees Celsius (2.5 Fahrenheit) above preindustrial levels, adding to “a deafening cacophony” of broken climate records, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said yesterday.

The WMO’s provisional State of the Global Climate report confirms that 2023 will be the warmest year on record by a large margin, replacing the previous record-holder 2016, when the world was around 1.2C warmer than the preindustrial average.

It adds to the urgency world leaders face as they wrestle with phasing out fossil fuels at the United Nations annual climate summit COP28, which began in Dubai yesterday.

“Greenhouse gas levels are record high. Global temperatures are record high. Sea level rise is record high. Antarctic sea ice record low,” WMO Secretary General


Peterri Taalas said.

The report’s finding, however, does not mean the world is about to cross the long-term warming threshold of 1.5C that scientists say is the ceiling for avoiding catastrophic climate change under the 2015 Paris Agreement.


For that, the level of warming would need to be sustained for longer. Already, a year of 1.4C has provided a frightening preview of what permanently crossing 1.5C might mean.

This year, Antarctic sea ice reached its lowest winter maximum extent on record, some 1 million square kilometres less than the previous record. Swiss glaciers lost about 10 percent of their remaining volume over the last two years, the report said.

Climate change, driven by the burning of fossil fuels, combined with the emergence of the natural El Nino climate pattern in the Eastern Pacific pushed the world into record territory this year.



Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh
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Invitation for Tenders (Goods)
e-Tender Notice 2023

The following e-Tenders (OTM) is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following works, details are given below.

S. No.	Tender/Proposal ID, Reference No.	Procurement Title	Tender/Proposal last selling date & time	Tender/Proposal closing date & time
01	ID- 913524, Reference No. 12.02.0000.002.4 1.144.23/e-tender-01	Procurement of Important Agricultural Commodity Price list Exhibition Board for Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM)	13-Dec-2023 17:00	14-Dec-2023 14:00
02	913451, 12.02.0000.002.0 7.002.23/e-tender-02	Procurement of office stationary items for Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM), Head office, Dhaka	17-Dec-2023 14:30	18-Dec-2023 14:30
03	909709, 12.02.0000.002.0 7.429.23/e-tender-03	Procurement of Office Equipment for Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM), Head office, Dhaka	18-Dec-2023 17:00	19-Dec-2023 14:00
04	909168, 12.02.0000.002 07.456.23/e-tender-04	Procurement of computers and related parts & accessories and related services for the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM)	19-Dec-2023 14:00	20-Dec-2023 14:00
05	907927, 12.02.0000.002 43.448.23/e-tender-05	Procurement of furniture and related services for the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM)	20-Dec-2023 17:00	21-Dec-2023 15:00
06	907922, 12.02.0000.002 07.455.23/e-tender-06	Procurement of electrical machinery, apparatus, equipment & consumables and related services for the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM)	18-Dec-2023 16:00	19-Dec-2023 16:00
07	907920, 12.02.000000.00 2.07.459.23/e-tender-07	Procurement of information technology-related equipment and related services for the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM)	19-Dec-2023 16:00	20-Dec-2023 16:00
08	907918, 12.02.0000.002 07.456.23/e-tender-08	Procurement of Computer equipment and supplies for Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM), Head office, Dhaka	13-Dec-2023 16:30	14-Dec-2023 16:30

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. Registration in the national e-GP portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required to submit e-Tender. Tender security amount has to be deposited online through the bank before the date & time as stated in the **Tender Notice**. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk.

GD-1862

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার			
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়			
সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তর			
সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট			
স্মারক নং-ওএ.০১.৯১০০.৪৭৩.০৭.০১৭.২৩-৪১৭৪		তারিখঃ ২৮/১১/২০২৩	
সেতুর ইজারা কোটেশন আহবান বিজ্ঞপ্তি			
০১।	ইজারা কোটেশন নং	:	০১(এক)/২০২৩-২০২৪/নিঃপ্রঃ, সওজ, সিলেট।
০২।	ইজারার বিবরণ	:	২০২৪-২০২৫ অর্থ বছর ও পরবর্তী ০২(দুই) অর্থ বছরের (২০২৫-২০২৬ এবং ২০২৬-২০২৭) জন্য সিলেট সড়ক বিভাগাধীন সিলেট-সুনামগঞ্জ সড়কের ১৫তম কিমি-এ রিয়ার এডমিরাল এম.এ খান (লামাকাজী) সেতুর টোল আদায়ের ইজারা কোটেশন।
০৩।	ইজারা চুক্তির মেয়াদ	:	০৩ (তিন) অর্থ বছর (১০৯৫ দিন)।
০৪।	ইজারা কোটেশনের সিডিউল মূল্য	:	টাকা ৫০০০.০০ (পাঁচ হাজার টাকা মাত্র)।
০৫।	বায়নার টাকার পরিমাণ	:	উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ১০% (শতকরা দশ ভাগ) ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার আকারে
০৬।	ইজারা কোটেশন বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	২০/১২/২০২৩ খ্রীষ্টাব্দ তারিখ বিকাল ৪.০০ পর্যন্ত।
০৭।	মুখবন্ধ অবস্থায় ইজারা কোটেশন গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	২১/১২/২০২৩ খ্রীষ্টাব্দ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ পর্যন্ত।
০৮।	ইজারা ডাকে অংশগ্রহণের যোগ্যতা	:	ভাট ও আয়কর সনদধারী প্রতিষ্ঠান/ নাগরিক/সরকারী/বেসরকারী/খায়দুশাসিত সকল প্রতিষ্ঠানের ঠিকাদার।
০৯।	যে সকল কার্যালয়ে ইজারা কোটেশন ক্রয়ের জন্য পাওয়া যাবে	:	বিভাগীয় কমিশনার সিলেট/ জেলা প্রশাসক, সিলেট/নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট/উপবিঃঃ সড়ক উপ-বিভাগ, সিলেট/গোলাপগঞ্জ/বিশ্বনাথ ও যাব্তিক উপ-বিভাগ, সিলেট।
১০।	যে সকল কার্যালয়ে ইজারা কোটেশন মুখবন্ধ অবস্থায় গ্রহণ করা হবে	:	নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট/ তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, সিলেট সড়ক সার্কেল, সিলেট/অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী, সিলেট সড়ক জোন, সিলেট/বিভাগীয় কমিশনার সিলেট/ জেলা প্রশাসক, সিলেট।
১১।	ইজারা কোটেশন খোলার স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	:	স্থানঃ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তর, সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট। তারিখঃ ২১/১২/২০২৩ খ্রীষ্টাব্দ। সময়ঃ দুপুর ০৩.০০ ঘটিকা।
১২।	ইজারা আহবানকারী যে কোন সময় যে কোন কোটেশন/সকল কোটেশন বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।		
আমির হোসেন পরিচিতি নং-৬০২২০৫ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ সিলেট সড়ক বিভাগ, সিলেট টেলিফোনঃ ০২৯৯-৭৭০০৫৭২ ই-মেইলঃ eesyl@rhd.gov.bd			
জিডি-১৮৬৭			



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Vacancy Announcement

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), an apex development organization, was established by the Government of Bangladesh in 1990 for sustainable poverty reduction through employment generation. Since its inception, PKSF has been implementing various poverty-alleviating and employment-generating programs and projects through its Partner Organizations (POs) all over the country.

PKSF has been implementing a 5-year-long project titled 'Sustainable Microenterprise and Resilient Transformation (SMART)' jointly financed by the World Bank and PKSF since August 2023. The objective of the project is to increase resource-efficient and resilient green growth of microenterprises (MEs)

PKSF hereby invites online applications from the eligible candidates for the following posts under the SMART project:

S.N	Name of the Posts	No. of the Post	Consolidated Monthly Salary (BDT)
1	Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) Specialist	1	2,20,000/-
2	Senior Program Manager (Communication and Knowledge Management)	1	1,80,000/-
3	Senior Program Manager (Marketing, Branding & Certification)	1	1,80,000/-
4	Program Manager (Audit & Compliance)	2	1,60,000/-
5	Program Manager (GIS and IOT Traceability)	1	1,60,000/-
6	Program Manager (Monitoring & Evaluation-Data Management)	1	1,60,000/-
7	Program Manager (Enterprise Development-Livestock)	1	1,60,000/-
8	Program Manager (Enterprise Development-Agriculture)	1	1,60,000/-
9	Program Manager (Enterprise Development-Textile and Fashion)	1	1,60,000/-
10	Assistant Program Manager (Monitoring & Evaluation-Data Management)	1	1,20,000/-
11	Assistant Program Manager (Training & Capacity Development)	1	1,20,000/-
12	Assistant Program Manager (Information and Communication Technology)	1	1,20,000/-

The employees will be recruited initially for one year with the opportunity for annual performance-based renewal during the project period. Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements may submit online applications by **31 December 2023**. Please visit the PKSF Website (www.pksf.org.bd) for detailed job descriptions and instructions to apply.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. PKSF is an equal-opportunity employer. Any kind of persuasion will be treated as disqualification of the candidate. PKSF reserves the right to cancel this recruitment process without assigning any reason whatsoever.

****Women are highly encouraged to apply.**

Deputy Managing Director