

Israeli PM no different from Hitler Says Erdogan

REUTERS, Ankara

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was no different from Adolf Hitler and likened Israel's attacks on Gaza to the treatment of Jewish people by the Nazis.

Nato member Turkey, which supports a two-state solution to the conflict, has criticised Israel's air and ground assault on Gaza.

Sharpening his rhetoric, Erdogan said Turkey would welcome academics facing persecution for their views on Gaza conflict, adding Western countries supporting Israel were complicit in what he called war crimes.

"They used to speak ill of Hitler. What difference do you have from Hitler? They are going to make us miss Hitler. Is what this Netanyahu is doing any less than what Hitler did? It is not," Erdogan said.



People check the rubble of a building in Bint Jbeil in southern Lebanon near the border with Israel following Israeli bombardment yesterday, amid ongoing cross-border tensions as fighting continues between Israel and Hamas in Gaza.

PHOTO: AFP

COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT NY Times sues OpenAI, Microsoft

CNBC ONLINE

The New York Times yesterday filed a lawsuit against Microsoft and OpenAI, the company behind popular AI chatbot ChatGPT, accusing the pair of infringing copyright and abusing the newspaper's intellectual property.

The NYT said in a filing with a US District Court of New York that it seeks to hold Microsoft and OpenAI to account for "billions of dollars in statutory and actual damages" it believes it is owed for "unlawful copying and use of The Times's uniquely valuable works."

The newspaper is one of numerous media organizations pursuing compensation from companies behind some of the most advanced general artificial intelligence models, for the alleged usage of their content to train AI programs.

OpenAI is the creator of GPT, a large language model that can produce humanlike content in response to user prompts. It does this thanks to billions of parameters' worth of data, which is obtained from public web data up until 2021.

This has created a dilemma for media publishers and creators, which are finding their own content being used and reimagined by generative AI models like ChatGPT.

ATTACKS ON US TROOPS, SHIPPING Fears are rising of a widened ME conflict

CNN ONLINE

Escalating attacks on US troops and commercial shipping and incidents often involving Iran and its proxies are causing new concerns that Israel's offensive in Gaza could widen into a regional conflagration with grave political and economic consequences.

With American service personnel increasingly in a dangerous firing line and with US and allied naval assets on high alert after multiple drone attacks, the deteriorating situation is leading to a tense holiday period for the White House.

The rising possibility of US combat deaths and the worsening security situation from the Indian Ocean to the Red Sea and stretching through Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Israel represents an unwelcome new foreign crisis as President Joe Biden's re-election year dawns.

And it is becoming a petri dish for a new geopolitical trend — endless tests of America's will and credibility by its adversaries and their proxies. Warnings by Israel that its offensive against Hamas in Gaza will last for months, despite US pressure for a ratcheting down of the intensity of the conflict, threaten to heighten the chances war could spin out of control and drag the US further in.

Initial anxiety that a regional war could erupt after Israel launched its onslaught on Gaza didn't immediately materialize even amid limited exchanges between Israel and Hezbollah forces in Lebanon on one of the most hair trigger fronts in the area.

But the pace of attacks and escalations in recent days appears to be gaining its own deadly momentum, fuelling fears of further rising tensions.

Biden ordered airstrikes on Monday against facilities used by pro-Iranian Kataib Hezbollah militia fighters in Iraq that the US accused of using a drone to attack Erbil Air Base, critically injuring one American service member.

It was the latest attack by Iranian proxy groups against US forces in Syria or Iraq that are engaged in anti-terror operations.

US forces intercepted a barrage of drones

and missiles on Tuesday over the Red Sea fired by Houthi rebels — an Iranian-backed group in Yemen — US Central Command said.

The US previously said Iranian intelligence has been active in helping plot attacks on commercial shipping, which have prompted some freight lines to reroute their vessels around Africa instead of the more economical passage through the Suez Canal, sparking fears for the global supply chain. Iran has repeatedly denied involvement.

The geographic footprint of instability is now stretching toward India after a chemical tanker operating in the Indian Ocean was



struck by an Iranian attack drone Saturday, 200 nautical miles from the Indian coast, the Pentagon said. Iran repeatedly denied involvement.

Iran and several of its proxies accused Israel of assassinating a senior Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps commander in an airstrike in a suburb of the Syrian capital Damascus. Israel refused to comment on the claims, but the IRGC threatened to avenge the killing of Seyyed Razi Mousavi, saying "the Israeli regime would undoubtedly pay the price for this crime."

The spate of fresh incidents underscores the potential for a dangerous escalation of the conflict, reveal the extent to which US forces are directly exposed and help explain increasingly urgent entreaties from Washington for Israel to scale down the fighting in Gaza.

'Take action with care' India's defence minister tells soldiers after custodial deaths in J&K

TNN, New Delhi

India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh yesterday said the army's primary duty is to protect the nation but it must also win the hearts of Indians and ensure there are "no mistakes made" that end up hurting the citizens, in an apparent reference to the deaths of three men while in army custody.

Speaking to soldiers in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch, Singh yesterday said he had full faith that the army will wipe out terrorism from J&K.

"I believe in your bravery and steadfastness ... Terrorism should be finished from J&K and you need to move forward with this commitment. I have full faith that you will achieve victory," said Singh, who is on a day-long tour in Rajouri district to review the security situation in the wake of a recent terrorist ambush in the border district of Poonch that left four soldiers dead.

In an apparent reference to the deaths of three men who were taken into army custody shortly after the ambush, Singh urged soldiers to take action with care.

"Along with protecting the country, I would like to make a special request to you [soldiers]. It is your responsibility to protect the country. But along with protecting this country, winning the hearts of its citizens is also a very big responsibility ...," he said.

The army has launched an internal investigation into the alleged custodial deaths and the kin of the three deceased have been given Rs 10 lakh in compensation.

After speaking with the soldiers, Singh met the families of the three civilians who allegedly died in army custody.

Singh, accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, met the families of the deceased and also visited the Government Medical College (GMC) to enquire about the health of four other "torture" victims.

MILITARY EQUIPMENT

Russia, India closer to joint production

Says FM Lavrov after talks with his Indian counterpart

REUTERS, Moscow

Russia and India have made tangible progress in talks on plans to jointly produce military equipment, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said yesterday, after talks with his Indian counterpart Subrahmanyam Jaishankar in Moscow. Speaking at a news conference, Lavrov said such cooperation was of a strategic nature and was in both countries' interests and would help ensure security on the Eurasian continent. He said Moscow respected India's desire to diversify its military hardware suppliers and was ready too to support New Delhi's desire to manufacture things needed by India in India. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Russian President Vladimir Putin would meet Jaishankar. The Indian FM said he expected Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to meet next year. Jaishankar said he and Lavrov had discussed the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, as well as bilateral trade and investment. India has become one of Russia's core economic partners since the West in 2022 imposed sweeping sanctions on Moscow over the war in Ukraine.

Migrant caravan in Mexico heads to US border


REUTERS, Villa Comaltitlan



Thousands of migrants and asylum seekers moved slowly north across the southern Mexican state of Chiapas on Tuesday in a caravan hoping to reach the US border, one day before top US officials planned to visit Mexico to discuss migration. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Homeland Security chief Alejandro Mayorkas were to visit Mexico yesterday to meet with Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. The officials will discuss "unprecedented irregular migration in the Western Hemisphere and identify ways Mexico and the United States will address border security challenges," according to a statement from State Department spokesman Matthew Miller. The meeting comes a week after US President Joe Biden spoke with Lopez Obrador by telephone, during which the two leaders said that more enforcement was needed at their shared frontier. Yesterday, migrants and asylum seekers, many carrying small children, walked along the highway near the southern Mexican city of Villa Comaltitlan. Some held a banner reading "Exodus from poverty." Rosa, from El Salvador, said she hoped the officials would ease the suffering of migrants. "We are looking for something better for our children and our families," she said as she walked. "I hope this touches their hearts," she added. Migrants and asylum seekers transit through Mexico to the US to escape violence, economic distress and negative impacts of climate change, according to the United Nations. The number crossing the perilous Darien Gap straddling Colombia and Central America has topped half a million this year, double last year's record. Migrant rights activist Luis Garcia Villagrán criticized the meeting, saying the officials' main concerns are domestic electoral issues, and that more enforcement efforts aimed at stopping migrants from reaching the US border would only hurt the poorest of the poor.

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উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

Date: 27-12-2023


Memo No. Ban/Pau/ED/LGCRRP/2023-2024/75

Re e-Tender Notice (OTM) Notice No. 01/LGCRRP/2022-2023

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


Tender ID No.	Package No.	Procurement method	Tender publication (date & time)	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender closing & opening (date & time)
926729	LGCRRP/Bancharampur/2022-23/W-01	OTM (NCT)	28-12-2023 10:00am	10-01-2024 04:00pm	11-01-2024 01:00pm
927808	LGCRRP/Bancharampur/2022-23/W-02	OTM (NCT)	28-12-2023 10:00am	10-01-2024 04:00pm	11-01-2024 01:00pm
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GD-2020



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ভাড়া অফিস স্পেস আবশ্যিক

ইম্পুডিং কম্পিউটার অ্যান্ড সফটওয়্যার ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং টারশিয়ারি এডুকেশন প্রকল্প (ICSETEP)-এর অফিসের জন্য ঢাকা মহানগরের আগারগাঁও, শেরেবাংলা নগর এলাকায় অবস্থিত ৫০০০ (পাঁচ হাজার) (কম-বেশি) বর্গফুট আয়তনের প্রধান সড়ক সংলগ্ন ও সম্মুখের ইউনিট) প্রাইম লোকেশনে ৩য় থেকে ১০ম তলার মধ্যে ভাড়া স্পেস আবশ্যিক।

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