

## Iranians anxious as Israel weighs strike response

REUTERS, Dubai

The prospect of Israeli retaliation against Iran for its drone and missile attack on the weekend has alarmed many Iranians already facing economic pain and tighter social and political controls after protests in 2022-23.

Iran's political and military leaders have repeatedly warned that they will respond to any Israeli retaliation by escalating further, potentially triggering yet more attacks.

And that would only be bad news for ordinary people, said 45-year-old teacher Hesam from the northern city of Amol.

"Economic pressure will mount, our safety will be jeopardized... We must avoid conflict at all cost. I don't want a war. How can I protect my two children? Nowhere will be safe."

Housewife Parvaneh fears an Israeli strike could be the final hammer blow to the economy, weakened by years of sanctions.

"We Iranians have endured more than enough for years. War brings only disaster. We do not have even enough money to buy staples let alone stockpiling them," said the 37-year-old mother-of-two in the central city of Yazd.



People walk amid the rubble of buildings destroyed during Israeli bombardment in Khan Yunis, on the southern Gaza Strip yesterday. The UN children's agency (Unicef) called for an increase in medical evacuations from Gaza, saying less than half of applications had been successful.

PHOTO: AFP

## Hezbollah claims drone attack on Israel

AFP, Jerusalem

Lebanon's Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah claimed an attack on Israel using two explosive drones yesterday which Israeli local authorities said wounded three people.

The Israeli military said "two armed" drones entered from Lebanon and exploded near a town in northern Israel, Beit Hillel, adding that "the incident is under review".

Hezbollah fighters launched an "air attack with suicide drones in two phases... striking the Iron Dome platforms and their crew", the group said in a statement. The Israeli local regional council said that three people were hurt in the explosion.

### SCHOOLS IN GAZA STRIP

## UNRWA finds unexploded 1,000-pound bombs

AGENCIES

The UN agency for Palestinian refugees said yesterday it had found unexploded 1,000 pound bombs inside schools after Israel pulled troops out of southern Gaza's main city Khan Yunis.

UN agencies led an "assessment mission" in Khan Yunis after Israeli forces withdrew from the embattled city last week, UNRWA said.

It found "significant challenges in operating safely due to the presence of unexploded ordnance (UXOs), including 1,000-pound bombs inside schools and on roads".

"Thousands of internally displaced

persons (IDPs) require a range of lifesaving assistance, including health, water and sanitation, and food," it said.

Earlier this month, the United Nations said it would take "millions of dollars and many years to decontaminate the (Gaza) Strip from unexploded munitions", reports AFP.

"We work off the rule of thumb that 10 percent of ordnance doesn't function as designed," UN Mine Action Service chief Charles Birch said in a statement earlier this month.

"We estimate that, to begin the clearance of Gaza, we need around \$45 million."

Meanwhile, US State Department

spokesperson Matthew Miller said on Monday that Israel has moved in a "significant way" but Hamas is the barrier to a deal that would see fighting in Gaza paused and hostages released.

Hamas rejected the latest proposal for a deal and has said any new hostage deal must bring about an end to the Gaza offensive and withdrawal of all Israeli forces.

"Israel moved a significant way in submitting that proposal. And there was a deal on the table that would achieve much of what Hamas claims it wants to achieve, and they have not taken that deal," Miller told a press briefing.

## Sydney church stabbing was 'terrorist act'

REUTERS, Sydney

Australian police yesterday said a knife attack on an Assyrian church bishop and some followers in Sydney was a "terrorist act" motivated by suspected religious extremism, as the country reeled from a second stabbing incident in three days. At least four people were wounded in the attack, including Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel of the Assyrian Christ The Good Shepherd Church, when a man lunged at him with a knife during a service live-streamed on Monday. The incident at the western Sydney suburb of Wakeley triggered clashes outside the church between police and an angry crowd of the bishop's followers who demanded the attacker be handed over to them. Police arrested a male teenager at the scene and were forced to hold him at the church for his own safety. "We believe there are elements that are satisfied in terms of religious motivated extremism," New South Wales state Police Commissioner Karen Webb said during a press conference. "After consideration of all the material, I declared that it was a terrorist incident." Police said there was premeditation as the male attacker travelled to the church, far from his home, with a knife. But Webb said police at this early stage of the investigation believe the attacker was acting alone.

## Ukraine 'ran out' of missiles to defend key plant

REUTERS

A lack of air defence missiles prevented Ukraine from thwarting a Russian missile attack last week that destroyed the biggest power plant in the region around the capital Kyiv, President Volodymyr Zelensky said. Zelensky's comments, which follow repeated warnings from his government to its allies about scarce air defences, reflect the dire situation Ukraine finds itself in as Russia scales up strikes on its energy system. "There were 11 missiles flying. We destroyed the first seven, and four (remaining) destroyed Trypillia. Why? Because there were zero missiles. We ran out of missiles to defend Trypillia," he said in the interview with PBS. Zelensky also signed into law a bill overhauling army mobilization rules, according to the parliamentary website.



Smoke billows following a fire at the Old Stock Exchange, Boersen, in Copenhagen, Denmark yesterday. There were no reports of injuries, police said, and it was not immediately clear what caused the blaze.

## 'Don't try to bring down system'

Says India SC on vote cross-check case

NDTV ONLINE

Hearing petitions seeking cross-verification of votes cast on Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) with paper slips generated through the VVPAT system, the Indian Supreme Court yesterday pointed to problems with secret ballot voting method.

"We are in our 60s. We all know what happened when there were ballot papers, you may have, but we have not forgotten," Justice Sanjiv Khanna told Prashant Bhushan, counsel for one of the petitioners.

Bhushan was arguing how most European countries that had opted for voting through EVMs have returned to the paper ballots.

Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh  
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Memo No: 35.01.6900.453.07.003.23.961 Date: 16/04/2024

### Amendment for e-Tender Notice

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Natore.

e-GP Tender ID No	Old Date & Time	Amendment
e-GP ID: 967493	1. Tender Last Selling Date & Time: 16/04/2024 16:00 2. Tender Opening Closing Date and Time: 17/04/2024 11:10 3. Last date & time for Tender Security Submission: 17/04/2024 11:10	1. Tender Last Selling Date & Time: 21/04/2024 16:00 2. Tender Opening Closing Date and Time: 22/04/2024 11:10 3. Last date & time for Tender Security Submission: 22/04/2024 11:10

Accepted tenders will be opened online immediately after closing time.

(Md. Kamrul Hasan Sarkar)  
ID No. 602312  
Executive Engineer (C.C.), RHD  
Road Division, Natore

## Global ocean summit nets \$10bn in pledges

AFP, Athens

An international summit on saving the oceans netted \$10 billion in pledges, the prime minister of host country Greece said yesterday.

The "Our Oceans" summit was launched in 2014 as the first international event of its kind to address all issues related to oceans, with some 122.3 billion euros pledged since then to protect them.

This year's three day conference began Monday with delegates from around 120 countries.

"We're heartened by the commitments that have been made during this gathering -- over 400 pledges exceeding \$10 billion in value," Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said yesterday.

"Our ocean is literally sending us distress signals. Of course, long before we understood climate change, the ocean was already under attack from overexploitation and for pollution."

Last year's conference hosted in Panama saw participants pledge \$19 billion toward projects addressing sustainable fishing, pollution, maritime security and protected areas. "Concrete initiatives are urgently needed on all major issues such as climate change, marine protected areas, sustainable fisheries, sustainable blue economy, maritime safety and marine pollution," said Greek Foreign Minister George Gerapetritis in his speech yesterday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Bangladesh Police  
Central Police Hospital  
Rajarbag, Dhaka

### Invitation for Tender

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the Suppliers in their official pad for the purchase of Medicine, Pathology Re-Agent & Surgical Requisites (MSR) for Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka for the year 2024-2025.

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs.
2	Agency	Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka
3	Procuring entity name	Additional DIG (A & F), CPH, Dhaka.
4	Invitation for	Purchase of Medicine, Pathology Re-Agent & Surgical Requisites (MSR)
5	Invitation Ref No.	C.P.H-Tender-2024-2025/1561
6	Date	15/4/2024.
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
7	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
8	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget (GOB)
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
9	Tender publication date	16/04/2024 & 17/04/2024
10	Tender last selling date	13/05/2024
11	Tender closing date and time	14/05/2024 at 12:00 Noon
12	Tender opening date and time	12.30pm on 14/05/2024.
13	Name & address of the office(s)	
	Selling tender document	Office of the Director (DIG), Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka.
	Receiving tender document	Office of the Director (DIG), Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka.
	Opening tender document	Office of the Director (DIG), Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka. Phone: 48322400 Fax: 9342297
14	Place/date/time of pre-tender Meeting (Bidder must present for avoiding any future hassle of ensure quality product).	Office of the Director (DIG), Central Police Hospital, Rajarbag, Dhaka. Date: 07/5/2024 Time: 11:00 am
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>		
15	Eligibility of tenderer	1. Photocopy of up-to-date trade license. 2. Up-to-date bank solvency certificate. 3. Photocopy of up-to-date income tax certificate. 4. Photocopy of VAT certificate. 5. Original money receipt paid for purchasing tender document. 6. Photocopy of up-to-date bank statement certificate. 7. Experience certificate as per requirement. 8. Authentication of liquid asset. 9. Photocopy of owner's NID. 10. NOC from related origination (as per experience). 11. Court affidavit of ownership. 12. Photocopy of up-to-date membership certificate from Chamber of Commerce. 13. Other documents to be submitted as per schedule requirement
16	<b>Brief description of goods</b>	
17	SL No.	Name
		Price of tender document
		Tender security in Taka
		Completion time in days
	1	Medicine
		Tk 1500.00
		15,00,000.00 Tk (fifteen lac)
		30 days
	2	Pathology Re-Agent
		Tk 1500.00
		15,00,000.00 Tk (fifteen lac)
		30 days
	3	Surgical Requisites (MSR)
		Tk 1500.00
		10,00,000.00 Tk (ten lac)
		30 days

15.04.24  
Dr. Md. Emdadul Haque  
Additional DIG (A & F)  
For-Director (DIG)  
Central Police Hospital  
Bangladesh Police, Rajarbag, Dhaka  
Phone: 48322400 Fax: 9342297