

'Not safe' West Bengal CM Mamata claims BJP conspiracy against her

TOL, Kumarganj

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee yesterday alleged that the BJP is targeting her and her nephew and TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and they do not feel safe.

Her allegation came a day after the leader of opposition in the assembly, Suwendu Adhikari, said that there would be a "big explosion on Monday which will shake the TMC and its top brass".

"The BJP is targeting me and Abhishek, we are not safe, but we are also not afraid of the saffron party's conspiracy."

"We urge everyone to be on guard against a conspiracy against TMC leaders and the people of West Bengal," she said, while addressing an election rally in Kumarganj in Balurghat Lok Sabha seat in favour of party candidate and state minister Biplab Mitra.

Responding to Adhikari's remark, the TMC supremo said, "There is a traitor who joined the BJP to protect his family and ill-gotten wealth. Let me tell him, his threat to trigger a chocolate bomb explosion is treated with contempt by us."



A Palestinian man waits for news of his daughter as rescue workers search for survivors under the rubble of a building hit in an overnight Israeli bombing in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

MANIPUR VIOLENCE India to re-run election at 11 places

REUTERS, New Delhi

India, staging the world's biggest election, will re-run voting at 11 polling stations in the northeastern state of Manipur today after reports of violence and damage to voting machines in the state torn by months of ethnic clashes.

The election authorities declared the voting void at the 11 locations and ordered the fresh poll, the chief electoral officer of Manipur said in a statement late on Saturday.

The main opposition Congress party had demanded a re-run at 47 Manipur polling stations, alleging that booths were captured and elections were rigged.

Israel holds Palestinian economy captive: analysts

AFP, Jerusalem

The Gaza offensive is speeding up Israel's "annexation" of the Palestinian economy, say analysts, who argue it has been hobbled for decades by agreements that followed the Oslo peace accords.

While the Israel's offensive raging since October 7 has devastated swathes of Gaza, it has also hit the public finances and wider economy of the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Israel is tightening the noose on the Palestinian Authority, which rules parts of the West Bank, by withholding tax revenues it collects on its behalf, economist Adel Samara told AFP.

Palestinian livelihoods have also been hurt by bans on labourers crossing into Israel, and by a sharp downturn

in tourism in the violence-plagued territory, including a quiet Christmas season in Bethlehem.

Samara said that "technically speaking, there is no Palestinian economy under Israeli occupation — our economy has been effectively annexed by Israel's".

The Palestinian economy is largely governed by the 1994 Paris Protocol, which granted sole control over the territories' borders to Israel, and with it the right to collect import duties and value-added tax for the Palestinian Authority.

Israel has repeatedly leveraged this power to deprive the authority of much-needed revenues.

But the Gaza offensive has further tightened Israel's grip, Samara said, with the bulk of customs duties withheld.

"Without these funds, the Palestinian Authority struggles to pay the salaries of its civil servants and its running costs," said Taher al-Labadi, a researcher at the French Institute for the Near East.

In February, Norway reportedly transferred to the Palestinian Authority about \$115 million from Israel following a deal to release some of the frozen taxes.

Almost all Palestinian workers have also been forbidden from entering Israel for work, driving up unemployment across the territories.

The Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Mustafa bemoaned an "unprecedented financial crisis" during which his government's deficit had soared to \$7 billion, more than a third of the territories' GDP according to the latest budgetary figures.

Ukraine aid sends Kremlin powerful message

Says Zelensky, urges quick
US Senate passage

REUTERS, Washington

The passage of \$60 billion aid by the US House of Representatives will send a powerful message to the Kremlin that the United States will stay with Kyiv, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky said yesterday. In an interview with NBC's "Meet the Press", Zelensky repeatedly urged Washington to quickly pass the bill in Senate and proceed with actual transfer of weapons, particularly air defense systems which he described as priorities. Russia said yesterday that US lawmakers' approval of more aid for Ukraine showed that Washington was wading deeper into a hybrid war with Russia that would end in a humiliation on a par with Vietnam or Afghanistan. Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said that it was clear that the United States wanted Ukraine "to fight to the last Ukrainian" including with attacks on Russian sovereign territory. She said that ordinary Ukrainians were being "forcibly driven to slaughter as 'cannon fodder'" but that the US was now no longer betting on a Ukrainian victory against Russia.

ISRAEL ATTACK Iran's Khamenei praises 'success' of military

AFP, Tehran

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei praised the country's armed forces for their "success" in his first public comments since Tehran launched an unprecedented direct attack on Israel last week. In a meeting with Iranian military commanders yesterday, Khamenei praised the armed forces for their "success in recent events", a week after the country's first-ever direct attack on Israel from its own territory. "The armed forces showed a good image of their abilities and power and an admirable image of the Iranian nation," Khamenei said. The remarks from Iran's supreme leader are the first since Iran attacked Israel and since a reported Israeli attack on a military airbase in central Isfahan province on Friday.



Smoke billows from the site of an Israeli airstrike on the village of Majdel Zoun near Lebanon's southern border yesterday, amid ongoing cross-border tensions. PHOTO: AFP

শিক্ষা নিয়ে গড়ব দেশ
শেখ হাসিনার বাংলাদেশ

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh
 Office of the Project Director
 Establishment of 100 Technical School and College (TSC) in Upazilla
 Directorate of Technical Education
 Agargaon, Dhaka 1207.
 Web: www.techedu.gov.bd

Memo No: 57.03.0000.070.007.203.023.124 Date: 18 Apr. 2024

e-GP Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods details belows in the table.

Sl. No.	Tender Ref.	Tender ID No. (From e-GP Portal)	Tender Description	Publication Date and Time	Opening Date and Time
01.	57.03.0000.070.007.203.20-110 Date: 02.04.2024	969858	Computer Lab 06-A - Supply and Installation of Equipment for Computer Lab for 10(TEN) TSC's	22-Apr-2024 10:00	27-May-2024 12:00
02.	57.03.0000.070.007.203.20-111 Date: 02.04.2024	969857	Computer Lab 01-A - Supply and Installation of Equipment for Computer Lab for 25 (Twenty Five) TSC's	22-Apr-2024 10:00	27-May-2024 12:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
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Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).
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Dr. Abul Kashem Mohammad Jahangir Hossain
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WEST PAKISTAN Gunmen kill 7 customs officials in two attacks

REUTERS, DERA ISMAIL

Unknown gunmen killed two customs officers in western Pakistan, officials said yesterday, following the killing of five other customs officials in the area in recent days.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attacks since Thursday, which police said they were investigating. Security in areas of Pakistan bordering Afghanistan has deteriorated in recent years.

Attacks, some claimed by the Pakistani Taliban (TTP) Islamist militant group, have risen, mostly targeting police and security officials.

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