

Israel not 'akin' to Hamas

Says ICC prosecutor

AFP, London

International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutor Karim Khan justified his decision to request arrest warrants for Israel's prime minister and defence minister in an interview with a British newspaper published yesterday.

Khan said on Monday that he was seeking warrants for Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant, as well as top Hamas leaders Yahya Sinwar, Ismail Haniyeh and Mohamed Deif, on suspicions of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

His announcement sparked the ire of Israel and its allies the United States and United Kingdom, all of which criticised Khan for putting together



Hamas and Israel, which has carried out a relentless military campaign in Gaza since October 7.

"It's a precarious moment internationally and if we don't hold on to the law, we have nothing to cling onto," Khan, who rarely speaks publicly, told the Sunday Times newspaper.

"I am not saying that Israel with its democracy and its supreme court is akin to Hamas, of course not," Khan said in his interview.

"I couldn't be clearer, Israel has every right to protect its population and to get the hostages back. But nobody has a licence to commit war crimes or crimes against humanity. The means define us," Khan added.



A Palestinian man walks past a destroyed building in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday, amid the ongoing Israeli offensive in the Palestinian enclave. Israel prepared to allow around 200 aid trucks into Gaza through Kerem Shalom at the southeastern edge of the Palestinian enclave, bypassing the main Rafah crossing that has been blocked for weeks.

PHOTO: AFP

Famine should be declared in Gaza Strip

Say rights organisations as Israel using starvation as a 'weapon of war' against Palestinian people

AGENCIES

At least 70 organisations are calling on relevant authorities and international institutions to officially declare a famine in the Gaza Strip, where there is a rapid spread of famine, according to the Geneva-based Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor yesterday.

It said that food insecurity is increasing across the enclave because of Israel's use of starvation as a "weapon of war" against the Palestinian people - something the organisations say is part of a genocide, a charge Israel has denied.

"The organisations stated that food security levels have significantly declined as a result of

Health authorities officially recorded 30 deaths due to famine: Euro-Med

the Israeli army's ground operation in Rafah City, south of the Gaza Strip, which began on May 7 and was preceded the day before by blocking the entry of humanitarian aid trucks through the Rafah crossing" the statement read.

"Thousands of trucks on the other side of the Rafah crossing have been at a standstill for weeks and are inaccessible to the residents whose lives depend on

them due to Israel's decision to starve the people of the Gaza Strip, close the crossings and prevent the entry of aid."

Euro-Med said health authorities have officially recorded 30 deaths due to famine, and that famine-related deaths occur nearly daily, compounded by Israeli bombings and inadequate medical treatment, reports The Guardian.

About 200 aid trucks were expected to enter Gaza yesterday through the Kerem Shalom border crossing, Khaled Zayed, the head of the Egyptian Red Crescent Society in North Sinai, told Reuters earlier.

The Rafah border crossing has been shut for almost three weeks, since Israel took control of the Palestinian side of the crossing.

Death toll rises to 33 in India game zone fire

THE HINDU ONLINE

The death toll from a game zone fire in India's Rajkot rose to 33, a top local official said yesterday, as rescuers scoured the site the morning after the blaze.

The fire was reportedly caused when some welding work was being carried out. The four-year-old sprawling amusement park was built in temporary structures that had tin roofs and two floors.

Members of the Special Investigation Team held a meeting with local administration in Gujarat's Rajkot city. The bodies were charred beyond recognition. The DNA samples of bodies have been collected for identification of the deceased, they said.

JULY 4 ELECTION

UK Tories pitch national service for 18-year-olds

REUTERS

Britain's Conservative Party will introduce mandatory national service for 18-year-olds if it wins the national election on July 4, comprising military or community participation, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said yesterday.

Young adults will be able to choose between spending one weekend a month volunteering over the course of a year, or take up one of 30,000 spaces to spend a year in the armed forces, Sunak said. The announcement followed Labour Party leader Keir Starmer's comments on Saturday that he was in favour of allowing 16 and 17-year-olds to vote.

Sunak's Conservatives lag Labour by a wide margin in opinion polls, which have shown little change in fortunes for the prime minister since his surprise election call last Wednesday.

"Britain today faces a future that is more dangerous and more divided. There's no doubt that our democratic values are under threat. That is why we will introduce a bold new model of national service for 18-year-olds," Sunak said in a statement. The Conservative Party said the proposal would be funded by cracking down on tax avoidance and evasion.

MASSIVE LANDSLIDE

670 feared dead in Papua New Guinea village: UN agency

REUTERS, Sydney



More than 670 people have died in Papua New Guinea's massive landslide, the UN migration agency estimated yesterday as rescue efforts continued.

Media in the South Pacific nation north of Australia had previously estimated Friday's landslide had buried more than 300 people. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) said earlier yesterday that only five bodies had been retrieved from the rubble.

The agency based its death toll estimates on information provided by officials at Yambali Village in the Enga province, who say more than 150 houses were buried in Friday's landslide.



Employees of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine sort out the debris in a hardware supermarket destroyed by the Russian strike in Kharkiv, Ukraine yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Trump booed, heckled by raucous crowd at convention

REUTERS, Washington

US Presidential candidate Donald Trump was booed and heckled by many in a raucous audience at the Libertarian National Convention on Saturday night, a marked change from the adulation he receives at rallies from his fervently loyal supporters.

Libertarians, who believe in limited government and individual freedom, blame Trump, a Republican, for rushing through the creation of a Covid-19 vaccine when he was president and for not doing more to stop public health restrictions on the unvaccinated during the pandemic.

When Trump took to the stage in Washington, there were loud boos and

jeers. A smaller section of the crowd, Trump supporters, cheered him.

Shortly before he appeared, one Libertarian Party member shouted: "Donald Trump should have taken a bullet!"

Trump's campaign did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the hostile reception.

Trump, who was president between 2017 and 2021, immediately mentioned the total 88 felony charges he faces in four federal and state prosecutions.

"If I wasn't a libertarian I am now," he said. He denounced the administration of President Joe Biden, his challenger in the November 5 election rematch, and Biden's fellow

Democrats as being part of a "rise in left-wing fascism".

Trump was trying to appeal to libertarians, who have more in common with Republican policy positions than Democrats on issues including taxes and the size of government, in what is expected to be a closely fought election.

He added: "We should not be fighting each other." He asked libertarians to work with him to defeat Biden, an appeal which was greeted by many boos, although the vast majority in the crowd were fiercely opposed to Biden and his administration.

Libertarians garnered only 1.2 percent of the national vote in 2020, or about 1.8 million votes, but November's election could be decided by just tens of thousands of votes in a handful of battleground states, so Trump is seeking to peel away some libertarian support.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department

Office of the Executive Engineer

District: Dinajpur

www.lged.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.02.2700.000.07.59.01.23-1839

Date: 26/05/2024

e-Tender Notice No. 85/2023-2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (OTM) (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for 01 No. Package of CBU-100 Protect. FY 2023-2024 for this District

Sl No.	Name of package	Name of work	Tender ID
1	CBU-100/Purto 146	Construction of 60.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on Pakerhat R&H RD-Kayempur H/S at Ch. 146m (Road ID: 127603002) under upazila: Khansama, District: Dinajpur. (Salvage cost Tk. 286020.00)	991503

Last selling date & time 26-06-2024, 15:00. Closing & opening date & time 27-06-2024, 11:00.

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. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 26 June 2024, 16:00.

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

(Signature)

Md. Masudur Rahman
Executive Engineer
LGED, Dinajpur
Phone: 02589923381
xen.dinajpur@lged.gov.bd