

## More than 2,000 buried in landslide

Says Papua New Guinea govt

REUTERS, Sydney

Papua New Guinea's massive landslide three days ago buried more than 2,000 people, the government said yesterday, as treacherous terrain and difficulties transporting aid lowered hopes of finding survivors.

The National Disaster Centre gave the new number in a letter to the UN released yesterday but dated Sunday. A separate UN agency put the possible death toll at more than 670 people.

The variance reflects the remote site and the difficulty getting an accurate population estimate. PNG's last credible census was in 2000 and many people live in isolated mountainous villages on the Pacific island nation.



Palestinians mourn in a vehicle next to the bodies of their relatives killed in an Israeli strike on an area designated for displaced people in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Weapons Taiwan ordered are on their way

Says senior US lawmaker

REUTERS, Taipei

A senior US lawmaker visiting Taipei said yesterday that weapons Taiwan had ordered are finally on their way, and that China's "intimidating" war games last week underscored the need to boost the island's deterrence abilities.

China claims democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory and has never renounced the use of force to bring the island under its control. Taiwan's government rejects Beijing's sovereignty claims.

Taiwan has for the last two years complained of delays to deliveries of US weapons, such as Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, as manufacturers supply Ukraine to support its defence against Russia.

Michael McCaul, the Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, who promised those weapons would be delivered when he visited Taiwan last year, said the Chinese military's "armada" last week had sent a very strong message to the United States.

"We are moving forward on those weapons systems. I'd like to see it faster, but they are forthcoming," McCaul told reporters after meeting Taiwan President Lai Ching-te as head of a bipartisan delegation of five other US lawmakers.

## RSF files ICC case over journalists' deaths in Gaza

CPJ says at least 107 journalists, media workers killed during Israel's offensive in Palestinian enclave

AFP, The Hague

Media watchdog Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said yesterday it had filed a complaint with the International Criminal Court (ICC) over Palestinian journalists killed or injured in Gaza.

RSF said it was asking the ICC's prosecutor to investigate alleged war crimes committed by the Israeli army against at least nine Palestinian reporters since December 15.

The ICC said in January it was probing potential crimes against journalists since the outbreak of offensive in Gaza, which has cost the lives of more than 100 reporters. RSF said it had "reasonable



"All concerned journalists were killed (or injured) in the course of their work," RSF said in a statement. Antoine Bernard, RSF advocacy and assistance director, said: "Those who kill journalists are attacking the public's right to information, which is even more essential in times of conflict."

ICC prosecutor Karim Khan last week asked the court to issue arrest warrants for top Israeli and Hamas leaders, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Israel has strongly denied the allegation and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said that to draw a parallel between Hamas and Israeli leaders was "despicable".

The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) says at least 107 journalists and media

workers have been killed during the offensive, the "deadliest period for journalists since CPJ began gathering data in 1992".

The RSF complaint includes the case of two Palestinian journalists killed in January while working for Al Jazeera.

Hamza Wael Dahdoudh and Mustafa Thuria, who also worked as a video stringer for AFP and other news organisations, were killed while they were "on their way to carry out their duty" for the channel in the Gaza Strip, the network said.

The Israeli army told AFP at the time it had "struck a terrorist who operated an aircraft that posed a threat to IDF troops".

It added it was "aware of the reports that during the strike, two other suspects who were in the same vehicle as the terrorist were also hit".

## 5 Pak soldiers killed in gunbattles with militants

REUTERS, Islamabad

Five Pakistani soldiers were killed in gunbattles with Islamist militants in the country's northwest bordering Afghanistan yesterday, the Pakistan Army said.

The statement said the deaths were in addition to two other soldiers, including an officer, who were killed the previous day in an operation against the militants on the outskirts of the northwestern city of Peshawar.

It said a total of 23 militants had also been killed in the last two days in what it described as three intelligence-based operations on their hideouts in northwest Pakistan close to the Afghan border.

The militants were "involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as the innocent civilians," the army said.

The five soldiers were killed in Khyber district, it said. The military didn't identify what group the militants belonged to.

The lawless tribal regions along the Afghan border have long been a safe haven for the Islamist and sectarian militants who operate under an umbrella group called Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP).

The TTP aims to overthrow the government and replace it with a harsh brand of Islamic law.

## 'I can't join'

Mamata says she will be skipping INDIA bloc meet on June 1

TOI, New Delhi

The top leaders of the opposition Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc are scheduled to convene in New Delhi on June 1 to assess their performance in the recently held Lok Sabha elections and strategize for the future.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, a prominent figure in the opposition bloc, is set to convene the meeting, which will coincide with last phase of polling on June 1. However, Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo Mamata Banerjee said that she can't join the meeting as voting is scheduled for nine seats in West Bengal on the same day.

Mamata Banerjee said, "The INDIA team

is holding a meeting on June 1. I have told them I can't join as we have election on 9 seats in West Bengal on the same day. Punjab, Bihar & UP also have elections on June 1. On one side is the cyclone, and on the other side, it is elections... Cyclone relief is my priority right now."

Few days back, Mamata said her party would provide "outside support" to the opposition alliance in case it manages to form a government at the centre.

"We (TMC) will support the INDIA bloc from outside to form a government at the centre. We will extend our support so that in Bengal, our mothers and sisters never face a problem... and those who work in the 100 days' job scheme, also do not face problems," she said.

**RSF said it had "reasonable grounds for thinking that some of these journalists were deliberately killed."**

grounds for thinking that some of these journalists were deliberately killed and that the others were the victims of deliberate IDF (Israel Defence Force) attacks against civilians."

This specific complaint -- the third the RSF has made -- concerns eight Palestinian journalists killed between December 20 and May 20, and one other who sustained injuries.

## Support us as we make strides

FROM PAGE 2

"Our shared aim is to achieve mutual benefit and prosperity for our people. This is manifested in our growing bilateral trade and people-to-people interaction."

She said she is optimistic that the economic engagement will be further enhanced in the coming days.

The US would become

Bangladesh's long term partner in achieving its development goals through trade, investment, and technology transfer and by creating a smooth and predictable supply chain for mutual benefits, she hoped.

"I, therefore, invite you to invest in our many vibrant and high-potential sectors, such as renewable energy, shipbuilding, automobiles,

pharmaceuticals, light and heavy machinery, chemical fertilisers, ICT, marine resources, and medical equipment, among others."

Hasina also hopes the US-Bangladesh Business Council will continue to play a significant role in advancing trade and investment cooperation between the two countries.

"Finally, I urge all US business leaders to explore

business opportunities and invest in Bangladesh," she continued.

The PM further said her government has been establishing 100 "Special Economic Zones" and 28 hi-tech parks and some are already in operation.

With over a million freelancing IT professionals, Bangladesh is the right destination for IT investments, she said.

She further said that the availability of a young, skilled, and vibrant workforce at a competitive wage is a huge advantage.

"Here, I remind you that Bangladesh has the most liberal investment policy status in the region. Also, be assured that we are giving top priority to improving our investment environment."

## Army personnel upholding human rights across globe

FROM PAGE 2

where we violated human rights or we failed to maintain discipline?" said General Shafiuddin.

He also said, "In many regions of the world; not only in Africa, but outside Africa, we have also served in Asia and Europe. Have you ever got any allegations of human rights violation against us?"

Referring to a recent documentary aired by

German-based media Deutsche Welle (DW) on sending Bangladeshi troops to peacekeeping missions, the army chief said, "Today, someone [DW] is trying to say through a report that somebody violated human rights while serving in such and such organisation. It's hearsay. If it had happened, were we informed about it?"

"What is real and what they [DW] are trying to say

are completely different," he opined.

"Many of our officers and soldiers work on deputation at other organisations. But if they get involved in any crime there and if we get allegations, we take necessary action after investigation. We investigated all the allegations we receive and punished those found guilty," the army chief said.

General Shafiuddin


said, "In the documentary, they expressed their disappointment that they repeatedly mentioned this [violation of human rights], but the United Nations headquarters did not take any action. The UN headquarters will take action only when it finds people guilty," added.

Stating that such a report is being made with an intention, he said, "We have strongly protested the

one-sided and motivated report."

On May 25, the Inter-Services Public Relations Directorate said the DW documentary titled "Torturers deployed as UN peacekeepers" is "false and fallacious".

In a press release, it said the documentary presents a misleading portrayal of Bangladesh Army personnel in UN peacekeeping missions.



### সিলেট গ্যাস ফিল্ডস লিমিটেড

(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)

## Sylhet Gas Fields Limited


(A Company of Petrobangla)

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### INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

Ref. no. SGFL/BGF/23-24/FP-13 Date: 27-05-2024

1. Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division.				
2. Agency	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (A company of Petrobangla).				
3. Procuring entity name	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, (SGFL).				
4. Procuring entity district	: Sylhet.				
5. Invitation ref. no.	: SGFL/BGF/23-24/FP-13 dated 27-05-2024				
6. Invitation for	: Tender for Procurement of Spare Parts for Man Gas Generator				
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>					
7. Procurement method	: Open tender method (OTM), Single stage one envelope system.				
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>					
8. Budget and source of funds	: Own source of Sylhet Gas Fields Limited.				
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>					
9. Project name	: N/A.				
10. Tender publication date	: N/A.				
11. Tender last selling date	: 21-07-2024				
12. Place of tender selling	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Dhaka Liaison Office, Petrobangla (13 <sup>th</sup> Floor), 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215.				
13. Date & time of selling of tender document.	: The tender document will be available for sale from 03-06-2024 to 21-07-2024 during office hours on all working days.				
14. Tender closing date & time	: 22-07-2024 and 12-00 hrs (BST).				
15. Tender opening date & time	: 22-07-2024 and 12-15 hrs (BST).				
16. Place of tender receiving & opening	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Procurement Department, P.O. Chiknagool, Sylhet, Bangladesh.				
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>					
17. Eligibility of Tenderer	: Bonafide manufacturers/suppliers or their authorized agents of all countries except the country/countries having no diplomatic relation with Bangladesh.				
18. Brief description of Goods	: Procurement of Spare Parts for Man Gas Generator.				
19. Price of tender document	: Taka 4,000.00 (non-refundable).				
20. Special Instruction:	<p>a) If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstance (Strike, Holiday, Lockdown etc.) the same will be received/ opened on the next working day at the same time and Venue.</p> <p>b) Tender must remain valid for 120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of opening of the tender.</p> <p>c) Tenderer shall furnish with the Tender an acceptable Tender Security in the form of Demand Draft or Pay Order or Bank guarantee (as per format provided in the Tender Document) issued by a scheduled bank in Bangladesh or by any scheduled foreign bank operating in Bangladesh or by any reputed foreign bank duly endorsed with full obligation and liability by a scheduled bank of Bangladesh in the amount as under:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description of Goods</th> <th>Tender security amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Procurement of Spare Parts for Man Gas Generator</td> <td>Taka 2,00,000.00 or USD 1,740.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>d) The Tender Security must remain valid for 148 (one hundred forty eight) days from the date of opening of the tender.</p> <p>e) The scope of supply, terms of supply and information require to be furnished by the Tenderers, etc. are included in the tender document.</p> <p>f) Tender(s) submitted after the deadline for receiving of tender(s) will be rejected and returned unopened to the Tenderer.</p> <p>g) The Tender must not be submitted by Fax or E-mail.</p> <p>h) This tender notice will also be available at Petrobangla Website: www.petrobangla.org.bd and SGFL Website: www.sgfl.org.bd</p>	Description of Goods	Tender security amount	Procurement of Spare Parts for Man Gas Generator	Taka 2,00,000.00 or USD 1,740.00
Description of Goods	Tender security amount				
Procurement of Spare Parts for Man Gas Generator	Taka 2,00,000.00 or USD 1,740.00				
21. Name of Official inviting tender	: Tarak Ahmed.				
22. Designation of Official inviting tender	: Deputy General Manager (Procurement)				
23. Address of Official inviting tender	: Sylhet Gas Fields Ltd, P.O. Chiknagool, Sylhet, Bangladesh.				
24. Sylhet Gas Fields Limited reserves the right to reject any or all tender or annul the tendering process at any stage prior to award of contract without assigning any reason whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected Tenderer(s).					



Deputy General Manager (Procurement)

GD- 873