INTERNATIONAL

GAZA OFFENSIVE Int'l probe highlights 'attack on press freedom'

AFP, Paris

A collaborative investigation by international media outlets yesterday shed light on the circumstances behind more than 100 Palestinian journalists and media workers being killed in the Gaza offensive, some while wearing a press vest. consortium led А by investigative outlet Forbidden Stories and around 50 involving iournalists from 13 organisations including AFP and The Guardian took part in the probe.

It looked into strikes involving journalists and media infrastructure since Israel launched a devastating offensive in the Gaza Strip on October 7.

than 100 "More journalists and media workers have been killed,' Forbidden Stories' Laurent Richard said in an editorial accompanying the Gaza Project's publication.



People gather to fill up their water containers from a truck loaded with water cisterns in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday. Ten children on average per day in Gaza are losing one or both of their legs in the offensive raging in the besieged territory, the head of the UN agency supporting Palestinian refugees said. PHOTO: AFP

'RETALIATORY' MOVE Moscow to block access to 81 EU media outlets

AFP, Moscow

Russia said that vesterday it would block access to 81 EU media outlets, including AFP's websites, as a "retaliatory measure" after Brussels imposed broadcasting bans on several Russian state media outlets

The European Union in May said it had decided to block access to four Kremlin-controlled media for being "instrumental in bringing forward and supporting" Moscow's Ukraine offensive.

Moscow said it was responding to that move. "Counter-restrictions are being introduced on the access from Russian territory of broadcast resources of media outlets from EU member states," Moscow's foreign ministry said in a statement, publishing a list of media outlets and blaming Brussels for the restrictions.

The list included AFP's homepage afp.com and its client portal afpforum.com. France's Le Monde, Germany's Der Spiegel and Spain's El Mundo were also among the media outlets named on the list.

Russia denounced the EU sanctions as "politically motivated" and said the bloc's decisions were "forcing Moscow to take mirror and proportionate countermeasures".

It said it would "revise" the restrictions if sanctions on Russian media were lifted. Russia has already blocked access to much of the Western media since sending troops to Ukraine.

High risk of famine persists across Gaza

Says global hunger monitor as Israeli offensive in the Palestinian enclave continues

AGENCIES

A high risk of famine persists across the whole of the Gaza Strip as long as Israeli offensive in the Palestinian enclave continues and humanitarian access is restricted, according to an assessment by a global hunger monitor.

More than 495,000 people, or more than one fifth of Gaza's population, are facing the most severe, catastrophic level of food insecurity, an update from the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) said, a copy of which was seen by Reuters ahead of its release yesterday.

The IPC said increased deliveries of food and nutrition services to northern Gaza in March and April appeared to have reduced the severity of hunger in the area, where the UN-backed body had previously projected that famine was likely, reports Reuters.

April could rapidly be reversed.

seized the Palestinian side in early May.

Over lunch at the Elysee Palace, Macron and Abdullah II reiterated the need for an "immediate and lasting ceasefire in Gaza" and called for the release of all hostages including two French nationals.

The leaders also "expressed their deep concern about the situation in the West Bank and strongly condemned the violence committed by settlers", the Elysee Palace said in a statement.

Over 495,000 Palestinians are facing the most severe, catastrophic level of food insecurity.

They agreed to continue to work But it also said improvements seen in together on a "lasting and credible solution" to the offensive based on the "two-state solution" and welcomed reforms undertaken by the Palestinian government and called for them to be continued, reports AFP. Referring to the intensification of tensions on the Israeli-Lebanese border, Macron and Abdullah II warned against a "conflagration that would be catastrophic for the region", and reiterated their calls to all parties for "responsibility and restraint". Meanwhile, the US State Department on Mondav said a video of a wounded Palestinian man strapped on a military jeep by Israeli forces was "shocking" and urged a swift investigation to hold those responsible to account.

GAMBLING PROBE UK Conservatives drop support for candidates

REUTERS, London

Britain's Conservative Party said yesterday it had withdrawn support from two parliamentary candidates who are being investigated over alleged bets placed on the timing of next month's national election.

The escalating scandal, a blow to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak in the run up to a July 4 vote his Conservatives are forecast to lose, has also embroiled party's campaign director and a London police officer.

"As a result of ongoing internal enquiries, we have concluded that we can no longer support Craig Williams or Laura Saunders as parliamentary candidates at the forthcoming general election," a spokesperson for the party said.

Earlier this month Williams, a close aide to Sunak, apologised for a "huge error of judgment" in placing a bet on when the election would happen.

Media then reported last week the country's betting regulator, the Gambling Commission, was looking into allegations of improper betting by a second candidate, Saunders, and her husband Tony Lee, the party's campaign director.

POST-COUP CRISIS IN MYANMAR Ethnic armed groups battle junta in west, north

AFP, Yangon

Myanmar ethnic armed groups seized a popular beach resort town in the west of the country and launched dawn attacks on junta positions in the north, a military source and residents told AFP yesterday.

Fighting is raging across swathes of the Southeast Asian nation as ethnic armed groups and pro-democracy "People's Defence Forces" battle the military, which seized power

in a 2021 coup.

In western Rakhine state, Arakan Army (AA) fighters have battled security forces for days around Ngapali beach, home to upmarket and resorts hotels military owned by backed businesses.

Junta troops and police had retreated to an airport in the town of Thandwe, around

two kilometres (more than a mile) away, a but both sides have recently accused each

heard artillery and gunfire around the own since the morning.

"Most people from the town are hiding inside their houses," another Kyaukme resident who works for a volunteer rescue team told AFP.

The TNLA had restricted travel around Kyaukme, they said, requesting anonymity for security reasons.

The AA and TNLA are members of the so-called "Three Brotherhood Alliance" that launched a surprise offensive against the junta last October across northern Shan state.

Their fighters seized swathes of territory and several lucrative trade crossings with China. dealing the junta its biggest blow since it seized power.

In January, China brokered a ceasefire that allowed the alliance

to hold on to territory it had captured,

"The humanitarian space in the Gaza Strip continues to shrink and the ability to safely deliver assistance to populations is dwindling. The recent trajectory is negative and highly unstable," the IPC update said.

French President Emmanuel Macron and King Abdullah II of Jordan Monday called on Israel to lift all land-based "restrictions" on the delivery of aid to Gaza, the presidency said.

UN agencies have repeatedly warned of severe shortages of vital supplies in Gaza, exacerbated by restrictions on access by land and the closure of the key Rafah crossing with Egypt since Israeli forces

Reuters was unable to reach Saunders or Lee to seek comment. The party said at the time it had been contacted by the Commission "about a small number of individuals". It also said Lee had taken a leave of absence from his role.

The Conservative spokesperson said the party had checked with the Gambling Commission to ensure its decision to withdraw support did not compromise its inquiries. The Commission has not named anyone in relation to its investigation.

British bookmakers allow bets on politics, and the timing of an election is a popular bet. But placing bets with insider knowledge is a crime. Sunak, who took most lawmakers and voters by surprise when he announced election date, has said he was "incredibly angry" to hear about the allegations.

জেলা পরিষদ কার্যালয় গাজীপুর শেষ হাসিনার মূলনীতি www.zpgazipur.gov.bd গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি শ্মারক নংঃ ৪৬.৪২.৩৩০০.০০২.০০৪.১২.১৯-৭৭৭ তারিখঃ ২৫-০৬-২০২৪খ্রিঃ ঠিকাদারী লাইসেঙ্গ নবায়ন ও নতুন ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি এতম্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকল ঠিকাদার/ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২০২৪-

২০২৫ অর্থ বছরের গাজীপুর জেলা পরিষদের ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের লাইসেন্স বহি নবায়ন এবং নতুন ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্তির দরখাস্ত আব্বান করা যাচ্ছে। নতুন ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য ০১/০৭/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে ২৯/০৮/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত জেলা পরিষদের নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদন করা যাবে। আবেদন ফরম (শর্তাবলীসহ) ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) নগদ মূল্যে অত্র জেলা পরিষদ কার্যালয় হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। জেলা পরিষদের তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদারগণকে লাইসেন্স নবায়নের জন্য হালনাগাদ আয়কর সনদপত্র, ভ্যাট রেজিষ্ট্রেশন, ট্রেড লাইসেন্স ও জেলা পরিষদের ঠিকাদারী লাইসেন্স বহিসহ নিম্নে উল্লেখিত ফি "প্রধান নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা, জেলা পরিষদ, গাজীপুর" এর অনুকুলে ব্যাংক দ্রাফট/পে-অর্ভারের মাধ্যমে নিমুস্বাক্ষরকারীর দণ্ডরে জমা দিতে হবে। নির্ধারিত তারিথের পরে নিম্নে উল্লেখিত হারে জরিমানাসহ লাইসেন্স বহি নবায়ন করা যাবে। নতুন ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভূক্তির ক্ষেত্রে জেলা পরিষদ কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

শৰ্তাবলীঃ

GD-1035

- (ক) নতুন ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্তির ক্ষেত্রে ০১/০৭/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে ২৯/০৮/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত জেলা পরিষদ হতে নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরম সংগ্রহ ও জমা প্রদান করা যাবে।
- (খ) ঠিকাদারী লাইসেন্স বহি নবায়নের ক্ষেত্র ০১/০৭/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে ২৯/০৮/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত ২০০০/- (দুই হাজার) টাকা ফি এবং ফি'র উপর ১৫% হারে ভ্যাট প্রদান করে লাইসেন্স নবায়ন করা যাবে।
- (গ) উক্ত ফি'র উপর ৫০% জরিমানাসহ ০১/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে ৩০/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত নবায়ন করা যাবে।
- (ম) ৩০/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখের পরবর্তী সময় হতে ১০০% হারে জরিমানা প্রদানপূর্বক ৩০/০৬/২০২৫খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত লাইসেন্স বহি নবায়ন করা যাবে।
- (৬) ঠিকাদারী লাইসেন্স বহি নবায়ন ও নতুন ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির বিষয়ে পিপিআর-২০০৮ এবং এর সর্বশেষ সংশোধনীর শর্তাবলী প্রযোজ্য হবে।

25.06.2024 মোঃ মনির হোসেন সহকারী প্রকৌশলী জেলা পরিষদ, গাজীপুর ফোনঃ ০২৯২৬১৬৮৭

IRAN PRESIDENTIAL VOTE Khamenei urges 'high participation'

AFP. Tehran

Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei yesterday called for "high participation" in Friday's presidential election to replace Ebrahim Raisi, who died last month in a helicopter crash.

"We emphasise the importance of high participation (in the election) because it is the pride of the Islamic republic," Khamenei declared in a televised speech three days ahead of the vote.

"In every election where the turnout was low, the enemies of the Islamic republic have denounced us," he added.

Voters have the choice between six candidates, who were selected by the Guardian Council -- an unelected body dominated by conservatives -- from the 80 hopefuls who had filed their candidacy.

The three frontrunners are considered to be conservative parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, ultraconservative former nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili and reformist lawmaker Massoud Pezeshkian.

During the last presidential election, in 2021, the government invalidated many reformists and moderates, which allowed Raisi, the candidate of the conservative camp, to be easily elected and succeed moderate president Hassan Rouhani.

Turnout was at 49 percent, the lowest rate for a presidential election since the Islamic Revolution of 1979.

military source, speaking on condition of other of breaking the truce. anonymity, told AFP.

Hundreds of kilometres away in northern Shan state, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) launched dawn attacks on the military in the town of Kyaukme, the group and residents said.

One resident of the town, which sits on a vital highway to China, said they had

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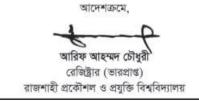
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The town of Thandwe, a few kilometres from Rakhine's Ngapali beach and home to the local airport, was largely deserted as of Monday, a resident who fled that day told AFP. "Almost everyone in the town has fled... Very few people are now in Thandwe," said the resident, who requested anonymity for security reasons.



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(ক) পুরকৌশল বিভাগ- ২টি

(খ) যন্ত্রকৌশল বিভাগ- ১টি

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