

LAND CASE

Pakistan army arrests former spy chief

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan's ex-spy chief who served during jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's term has been taken into military custody, the army announced yesterday. Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed, who stepped down in December 2022, was accused of abusing his power and raiding the businesses of a private housing developer, according to Supreme Court papers published last year. The court at the time ordered the developer to take his complaints to the ministry of defence. "Complying with the orders of Supreme Court of Pakistan, a detailed court of inquiry was undertaken by Pakistan Army. Consequently, appropriate disciplinary action has been initiated against Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Retd)," the military's media wing said in a statement.

AUKUS SUBS

Australia, US, UK sign nuke transfer deal

AFP, Sydney

Australia said yesterday it had signed a deal to allow the exchange of nuclear secrets and material with the United States and Britain, a key step toward equipping its navy with nuclear-powered submarines. It binds the three countries to security arrangements for the transfer of sensitive US and UK nuclear material and knowhow as part of the tripartite 2021 AUKUS security accord. AUKUS, which envisages building an Australian nuclear-powered submarine fleet and jointly developing advanced warfighting capabilities, is seen as a strategic answer to Chinese military ambitions in the Pacific region. "This agreement is an important step towards Australia's acquisition of conventionally-armed, nuclear-powered submarines for the Royal Australian Navy," said Richard Marles, Australia's defence minister and deputy prime minister.



Firefighters try to extinguish a wildfire burning in Grammatiko, near Athens, Greece yesterday. The fast-moving wildfire fuelled by gale-force winds spread to the edge of Athens, torching trees, houses and cars and forcing evacuations of several hospitals and a dozen towns and villages, Greek authorities said.

PHOTO: REUTERS

ISRAEL-IRAN TENSIONS

US orders carrier group to hasten ME arrival

AFP, Washington

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin ordered an aircraft carrier group to hasten its arrival in the Middle East, the Pentagon said Sunday, as mounting tensions raise fears of a region-wide war. It is a show of support for key US ally Israel after Iran and the Lebanese Hezbollah group vowed to avenge last month's killings of Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh and Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukr. Austin ordered the aircraft carrier strike group led by the USS Abraham Lincoln, and equipped with F-35 fighters, to "accelerate its transit" to the region, said Pentagon spokesman Major General Pat Ryder. He said Austin, who spoke with his Israeli counterpart Yoav Gallant on Sunday, had also ordered the USS Georgia guided missile submarine to the area. Ryder said the pair discussed "the importance of mitigating civilian harm, progress towards securing a ceasefire and the release of hostages held in Gaza," and efforts to deter aggression by Iran-aligned groups in the region. The United States announced last week that it was deploying the strike group, as well as additional



ballistic missile defense-capable cruisers and destroyers, and a fighter squadron. Lebanon's Hezbollah movement said an Israeli air strike later on Sunday killed two fighters from the Iran-backed group, with the health ministry reporting another death from an attack days ago. Hezbollah has traded near-daily fire with Israel in support of its ally Hamas since the Israel triggered offensive in Gaza. A strike on Beirut's southern suburbs late last month killed Hezbollah's top military commander, Fuad Shukr, just hours before the assassination, blamed on Israel, of Hamas's political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran. Air France and its subsidiary Transavia France have again extended the suspension of their flights to Beirut, through tomorrow, because of continued tensions in the region, the companies said yesterday. The flights have been suspended since July 29 because of the "security situation in Lebanon" and their resumption "will be subject to a new assessment of the situation on the ground", Air France said in a statement. The airline said "the safety of its clients and crews are its absolute priority".

DATA USE

Elon Musk's X faces privacy complaints in Europe

AFP, Vienna

A Vienna-based privacy campaign group lodged complaints in eight European countries against Elon Musk's X yesterday over "unlawfully" feeding the personal data of users into its AI technology without their consent. The complaints filed by the European Center for Digital Rights -- also known as Noyb -- come after Ireland's Data Protection Commission earlier this month took court action against X over its data collection practices to train its AI. X had recently started "irreversibly feeding" the personal data of more than 60 million European users into its Grok AI technology, "without ever informing them or asking for their consent", according to Noyb. Noyb slammed X for "never proactively informing" its users that their data is being used for AI training, saying many people appeared to have "found out about the new default setting through a viral post on 26 July".

UKRAINE INCURSION

Russia widens evacuations in border regions

AFP, Kyiv

Two Russian regions bordering Ukraine ordered more evacuations yesterday as Moscow battled to contain an unprecedented push onto its territory. Ukraine sent troops into Russia last week in its biggest cross-border operation since Moscow launched its invasion in February 2022 and the most significant by a foreign army since World War II. Authorities in the Kursk region announced they were widening their evacuation area to include Belovsky district, home to some 14,000 people. The neighbouring Belgorod region said it was evacuating its border district of Krasnoyarskiy. "For the health and security of our population, we're beginning to move people who live in Krasnoyarskiy to safer places," Belgorod region governor Vyacheslav Gladkov said on Telegram. The assault on Kursk had killed at least 12 civilians and already led to 121,000 people being ordered out. President Vladimir Putin ordered his army to "dislodge" Ukrainian troops. Meanwhile, each country blamed the other for a fire at the Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant in southern Ukraine later on Sunday. Both sides -- and the UN's nuclear watchdog -- said there was no sign of a nuclear leak.

Indian medics strike after murder of colleague

AFP, New Delhi

Indian doctors in government hospitals across several states halted elective services "indefinitely" yesterday to protest the rape and murder of a young medic. The 31-year-old woman's brutalised body was found bearing multiple injuries on Friday in a state-run hospital in West Bengal's Kolkata, where she was a resident doctor. A subsequent autopsy confirmed sexual assault and homicide. Police have detained a man who worked at the victim's hospital helping people navigate busy queues, according to local media reports. Demonstrations by doctors demanding justice and better workplace security that initially began in Kolkata have now spread to other parts of the country. Sexual violence against women is a widespread problem in India -- an average of nearly 90 rapes a day were reported in 2022 in the country of 1.4 billion people. But doctors say they face additional threats of workplace violence from angry family members of patients, especially after delivering bad news. "There should be stringent security measures in hospitals and CCTV cameras should be installed," said Sarvesh Pandey, from the Federation of Resident Doctors Association.



"The enemy will certainly receive a worthy response, and all the goals facing us will, without a doubt, be achieved."

Says President Vladimir Putin after Ukraine's incursion into Russian territory



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Invitation For e-Tender

For financial year 2024-2025, e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of :

SL	Tender ID No & Reference No	Description of goods	Last selling Date & Time	Closing/ Opening Date & Time
1.	1007317, RABHQ/CPs/2024-2025/4113301/1889 Date:04-08-2024	Procurement of Subscription for Various Software and Services.	27-Aug-2024 10:00	27-Aug-2024 12:00

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 (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 bank branches.

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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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Director
Kurmitola General Hospital
Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka.

Memo No – KGH/Re-Tender/2024-25/2500

Date: 12/08/24

e-GP Re-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 (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd), For more details, please contact support desk contact numbers. e-Tender are invited in e-GP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) by Brigadier General Md. Saydur Rahman, Director, Kurmitola General Hospital, Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka for the Procurement of;

Tender Id	Name of Goods	Tender/Proposal Publication Date & Time	Tender/Proposal Last Selling Date & Time	Tender/Proposal Closing/Opening Date & Time
1008044	Supply of Rice, Dal & Spice for the FY 2024-25 (Framework Agreement)	13-Aug-2024 10:00	04-Sep-2024 11:30	04-Sep-2024 12:30
1008052	Supply of Fish, Meat & Egg for the FY 2024-25 (Framework Agreement)	13-Aug-2024 10:00	04-Sep-2024 11:30	04-Sep-2024 12:30
1008053	Supply of Vegetable & Fruits Item for the FY 2024-25(Framework Agreement)	13-Aug-2024 10:00	04-Sep-2024 11:30	04-Sep-2024 12:45
1008054	Supply of Bread & Confectionary Item for the FY 2024-25 (Framework Agreement)	13-Aug-2024 10:00	04-Sep-2024 11:30	04-Sep-2024 12:45

e-Tender details can be downloaded on e-GP system portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for pursuer. e-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list; accepted tenders will be opened online immediate as stated in above list.

Brigadier General Md Saydur Rahman
Director
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