

LEBANON PAGER ATTACKS

Israel's Unit 8200 in spotlight

REUTERS, London

The mass pager attack against Hezbollah in Lebanon has turned the spotlight on Israel's secretive Unit 8200, the Israel Defense Forces' intelligence unit, which a Western security source said was involved in planning the operation.

Israeli officials remained silent on the intelligence operation that killed 12 people on Tuesday and wounded thousands of Hezbollah operatives. At least 20 people was killed on Wednesday when hand-held radios used by Hezbollah detonated.

A senior Lebanese security source and another source told Reuters that Israel's Mossad spy agency was responsible for a sophisticated operation to plant a small quantity of explosives inside 5,000 pagers ordered by Hezbollah.

One Western security source told Reuters that Unit 8200, a military unit that is not part of the spy agency, was involved in the development stage of the operation against Hezbollah which was over a year in the making.



Lebanese army members prepare to carry out a controlled explosion of a battery of a communications device in the town of Qlayaa, southern Lebanon yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

Ammunition from India enters Ukraine Russia irked

REUTERS, New Delhi

Artillery shells sold by Indian arms makers have been diverted by European customers to Ukraine and New Delhi has not intervened to stop the trade despite protests from Moscow, according to eleven Indian and European government and defence industry officials, as well as a Reuters analysis of commercially available customs data.

The transfer of munitions to support Ukraine's defence against Russia has occurred for more than a year, according to the sources and the customs data. Indian arms export regulations limit the use of weaponry to the declared purchaser, who risks future sales being terminated if unauthorised transfers occur.

The Kremlin has raised the issue on at least two occasions, including during a July meeting between Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and his Indian counterpart, three Indian officials said.

Details of the ammunition transfers are reported by Reuters for the first time.

The foreign and defence ministries of Russia and India did not respond to questions. In January, Indian foreign ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told a news conference that India had not sent or sold artillery shells to Ukraine.

PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

UNGA demands Israel ends occupation

Hamas welcomes adoption of non-binding resolution

AGENCIES

UN member states voted Wednesday to formally demand an end to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories within 12 months and the imposition of sanctions for non-compliance.

The non-binding resolution, which Israel claimed would fuel violence, calling it "distorted" and "cynical," is based on an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) saying the occupation since 1967 was "unlawful."

There were 124 votes in favour, 14 against and a notable 43 abstentions, with the Palestinian delegation heralding the adoption as "historic."

Arab countries called the special session just days before dozens of world leaders meet at UN headquarters to address the kick-off of this year's General Assembly.

The resolution -- the first introduced by the Palestinian delegation itself under new rights gained this year -- demands Israel "brings to an end without delay its unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory."

It calls for a withdrawal "no later than 12 months" from the resolution's adoption. A previous draft gave six months, reports AFP.

"The idea is you want to use the pressure of the international community in the General Assembly and the pressure of the historic ruling by the ICJ to force Israel to change its behavior," said Palestinian ambassador Riyad Mansour on Monday.

Israel firmly rejected the resolution.

"This is what cynical international politics looks like," foreign ministry spokesman Oren Marmorstein said on X.

Hamas said it "welcomes the adoption", saying it reflected "the international community's solidarity with the Palestinian people's struggle."

The resolution "demands" the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Palestinian territories, a halt to new settlements, the return of seized land and property, and the possibility of return for displaced Palestinians.



'Life or death' for big cities should planet warm 3C

Researchers warn

AFP, Paris

Longer and more frequent heatwaves, soaring demand for air conditioning, and widespread disease: life in cities would become unbearable should the planet keep warming at current rates, researchers warned yesterday.

The World Resources Institute looked at what might happen in nearly 1,000 major cities if temperatures remain on track to rise 3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

They found that the impact on these cities would be dire compared to a scenario where global warming is restricted to 1.5C.

"At 3 degrees C of warming, many cities could face month-long heatwaves... as well as a shifting risk for insect-borne diseases -- sometimes simultaneously," the authors wrote.

'Completely unwarranted'

Says India on US court summons over Khalistani separatist

NDTV ONLINE

A US court's summons to the Indian government over Khalistani separatist Gurbatwant Singh Pannun's civil suit, alleging a plot to murder him, was "completely unwarranted", India's Ministry of External Affairs said.

In a news briefing yesterday afternoon, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri was asked about the summons by the US District Court for Southern District of New York.

The summons names Government of India, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, former R&AW chief Samant Goel, R&AW agent Vikram Yadav, and Indian businessman Nikhil Gupta and seeks a reply within 21 days.

"When these issues were first brought to our attention, we took action. There's a high-level committee engaged (in this matter)," the foreign secretary said. He said this was a "completely unwarranted case". "I invite your attention to the person who filed this," Misri said, adding that Pannun's "antecedent is well-known" and that he is from an unlawful organisation.

Pannun heads the radical Sikhs for Justice and is known to put out incendiary speeches and threats against Indian leaders and institutions. New Delhi designated him a terrorist in 2020.

Try some nature in your background to fight Zoom fatigue

AFP, Paris

Feel drained after a long video call? Your tiredness could be partly linked to the background on your screen, according to a study published yesterday which suggested trying an image depicting nature.

Whether for work meetings, distance learning at school or just catching up with friends and family, video calls have become a part of daily life for many people -- particularly since the Covid pandemic.

The amount of time spent communicating on these screens has given rise to a new phenomenon dubbed "videoconference fatigue", which can represent physical, emotional or cognitive exhaustion.

Two researchers in Singapore were interested in testing another element that could play a role -- the virtual background people choose to conceal what is really behind them.

This could be important because existing research "suggests that during videoconferencing, users spend the vast majority of their time focusing on themselves", researcher Heng Zhang of Singapore's Nanyang Technological University said.

Rather than focusing on the people they are talking to, it seems everyone just spends video calls checking themselves out.



Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited

(A Company of Petrobangla)

Birashar, Brahmanbaria

সৈনিকতা ও সত্যতা
জীবনে আদর্শ পরিচয়
- জাতীয় স্মারক বৈশিষ্ট্য

Reference No. 28.10.1213.806.00.336.24

Date: 17-09-2024

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Civil Engineering Department, Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited, Birashar, Brahmanbaria for the procurement of following work:

SL No.	Package No.	Description of works	Tender ID No.	Tender last selling /downloading date & time	Tender closing date & time	Tender opening date & time
1	Civil/egp/27/2024-2025	Re-construction of bridge on approach road of Location-1 to Location 5 & 11 at Habiganj Gas Field, Habiganj.	1015511, (OSTETM)	01-10-2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.30 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.30 Hrs.
2	Civil/egp/16/2024-2025	Re-Construction of Officer's accommodation at Narshingdi Gas Field, Narshingdi.	1015521, (OSTETM)	01-10-2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.30 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.30 Hrs.
3	Civil/egp/07/2024-2025	Construction of 3 Nos. security post at Titas Location-A, Brahmanbaria.	1015543, (OSTETM)	01-10-2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.30 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.30 Hrs.
4	Civil/egp/10/2024-2025	RCC palisading work including earth filling in North & East side for protection of boundary wall at Location-B of Bakhrabad Gas Field, Muradnagar, Cumilla.	1015552 (OSTETM)	01-10-2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.45 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.45 Hrs.
5	Civil/egp/11/2024-2025	RCC palisading work including earth filling in outer side of boundary wall near Ansar camp at Location-A of Bakhrabad Gas Field, Muradnagar, Cumilla.	1015554 (OSTETM)	01-10-2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.45 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.45 Hrs.
6	Civil/egp/20/2024-2025	Replacing of CI sheet of roof by colour coated profile sheet of 07 Nos. Caravan at Titas Location "B", Brahmanbaria.	1015556 (OSTETM)	01-10-2024 up to 16.00 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.45 Hrs.	02-10-2024 at 14.45 Hrs.

- 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;
- The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any members of registered bank's branches up to 16.00 Hrs. on 01-10-2024.
- To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).
- Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).
- The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

28.10.1213.876.09.053.24 (Civil)
(8x4)

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GD-464

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

প্রধান উপদেষ্টার কার্যালয়

জাতীয় দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ (এনএসডিএ)

বিনিয়োগ ভবন (১১-১২ তলা)

ই-৬/বি, আগারগাঁও, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

www.nsd.gov.bd

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে জাতীয় দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ (এনএসডিএ) পর্যায়ক্রমিক ১২ (বারো) ক্যাটাগরিতে (দক্ষতা প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান, শিল্প দক্ষতা পরিষদ, শিল্প সমিতি, এনজিও, গবেষক প্রভৃতি) অর্থ বিভাগের আওতাধীন জাতীয় মানব সম্পদ উন্নয়ন তহবিল (এনএইচআরডিএফ) হতে আর্থিক সহায়তা প্রদানের নিমিত্ত সুপারিশ করবে।

২। এ লক্ষ্যে দ্বিতীয় পর্যায়ে এনএসডিএ কর্তৃক নিবন্ধিত এবং বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় যোগ্যতা কাঠামোর লেভেল অনুযায়ী ১-৬ পর্যন্ত দক্ষতা প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদানকারী সরকারি-বেসরকারি প্রতিষ্ঠান (এসটিপি) হতে শর্ট কোর্স (সর্বোচ্চ ৩৬০ ঘন্টা) পরিচালনার উদ্দেশ্যে আর্থিক সহায়তা প্রাপ্তির জন্য অনলাইনে আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

৩। আর্থিক সহায়তা পেতে আগ্রহী দক্ষতা প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে এনএসডিএ কর্তৃক অনুমোদনপ্রাপ্ত অকুপেশনে ১২ (বারো) মাস সময়ে বাস্তবায়নযোগ্য প্রশিক্ষণ কর্মসূচির জন্য আর্থিক সুবিধা প্রাপ্তির লক্ষ্যে এনএসডিএ-এর ন্যাশনাল স্কিলস পোর্টালে (<https://www.skillsportal.gov.bd/#/>) আবেদন করতে হবে।

৪। এছাড়া, গবেষণা কার্যক্রমে বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান দক্ষতা ও শ্রমবাজার সংশ্লিষ্ট গবেষণা পরিচালনার জন্য স্বয়ংসম্পূর্ণ আবেদনের ২ (দুই) কপি (আর্থিক প্রস্তাবসহ) সিলগালাকৃত খামে নির্বাহী চেয়ারম্যান (সচিব), এনএসডিএ বরাবর দাখিল করতে পারবে।

৫। এনএসডিএ কর্তৃক আবেদন গ্রহণ ও যাচাইবাছাই শেষে সুপারিশসহ আর্থিক সহায়তার প্রক্রিয়া সম্পন্নোর জন্য এনএইচআরডিএফ কোম্পানি বরাবর প্রেরণ করা হবে।

৬। আগামী ২৪ অক্টোবর ২০২৪ তারিখের মধ্যে উপরেউল্লিখিত উভয় ধরনের আবেদন (এসটিপি এবং গবেষক/গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠান) আবেদন দাখিল করতে হবে।

৭। আবেদন-সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাদি ও শর্তাবলি এনএসডিএ-এর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.nsd.gov.bd) পাওয়া যাবে।

৮। জাতীয় দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ এ-সংক্রান্ত সকল আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ/যাচাই/বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

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