

## 60 killed in Israeli strikes on Lebanon's Bekaa Valley

REUTERS, Beirut  
Israeli strikes on Lebanon's Bekaa Valley overnight killed more than 60 people across a dozen towns, the district governor said yesterday, the deadliest day yet in the area in more than a year of hostilities. Rescue workers were still pulling bodies out of the rubble yesterday morning. Israel has ramped up its air strikes across Lebanon over the last month, saying it is targeting Lebanese armed group Hezbollah. Lebanese officials, rights groups and residents of affected towns say the strikes are indiscriminate. No evacuation orders were given for any of the towns struck overnight. District governor Bachir Khodor said 67 people had been killed and more than 120 wounded and the death toll was expected to rise.



A woman carries a child while crossing from Lebanon into Syria, as she flees the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, at the Masnaa border crossing, Lebanon. The photo was taken on Monday and released yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

### Hezbollah elects Naim Qassem as head to succeed Nasrallah

"That's only the people who've been removed from under the rubble and we still don't have the final toll. This is the most violent day for Baalbek in the last year," Khodor told Reuters. The toll included nine people killed in Ram, its mayor Nazih Noun said, including a woman and her four children. "It's quiet now, but we don't know how we can carry on with the funerals given the security situation," Noun told Reuters. Large swathes of the Bekaa Valley are Hezbollah strongholds. Meanwhile, Hezbollah said yesterday it had elected deputy head Naim Qassem to succeed Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah, who was killed in an Israeli air attack on Beirut's southern suburb over a month ago. The group said in a written statement that its Shura Council had elected Qassem, 71, in accordance with its established mechanism for choosing a secretary general.

## Israeli strike kills 93 in north Gaza town

20 children among dead; dozens injured; fears grow over Israel's ban on UN aid agency

REUTERS, Cairo  
At least 93 Palestinians were killed and missing and dozens wounded in an Israeli strike on a residential building in the northern Gaza town of Beit Lahiya yesterday, the Gaza health ministry said. Medics said at least 20 children were among the dead. "A number of victims are still under the rubble and on the roads, and ambulance and civil defense crews cannot reach them," the territory's health ministry said. Later yesterday, Ismail Al-Thawabta, the director of the government media office, put the number of fatalities at 93. There was no immediate Israeli comment. The Israeli military has frequently questioned figures on death toll published by the Hamas media office, saying they were often exaggerated.

- ▶ Doctors forced to evacuate Kamal Adwan Hospital
- ▶ Healthcare system in north Gaza collapsed
- ▶ Death toll in enclave rises to 43,061

Video footage obtained by Reuters showed several bodies wrapped in blankets on the ground outside a bombed four-storey building. More bodies and survivors were being retrieved from under the wreckage as neighbours rushed to help with rescue. "There are tens of martyrs (dead) - tens of displaced people were living in this house. The house was bombed without prior

warning. As you can see, martyrs are here and there, with body parts hanging on the walls," Ismail Ouaida, a witness who was helping to recover bodies, said in the video. The health ministry said yesterday those wounded in the strike could not receive care as doctors had been forced to evacuate the nearby Kamal Adwan Hospital. The death toll from Israel's retaliatory air and ground onslaught in Gaza has risen to 43,061, the Gaza health ministry said. Yesterday's strike came a day after Israel's parliament passed a law to ban the UN relief agency UNRWA from operating inside the country, alarming some of Israel's Western allies who fear it will worsen the already dire humanitarian situation in Gaza.

## Houthi target 3 ships in Red Sea, Arabian Sea

REUTERS  
Yemen's Houthis said on Monday that they targeted three ships in the Red Sea and Arabian Sea, attacks they called part of their efforts to enforce a naval blockade on Israel. Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Sarea said in a televised address the vessels were targeted for attempting to approach ports bound for Israel. According to the latest data from ISEG, all three targeted vessels were Liberia-registered. One of the vessels, identified by the Houthis as Motaro, was last seen off Yemen's western coast in the Red Sea, en route from Egypt's Suez Canal to Shanghai. Another vessel, the SC Montreal, was reportedly targeted in Arabian Sea while travelling from Port Victoria to Salalah, Oman.

## US PRESIDENTIAL RACE

### For many, economy is personal and they blame Democrats

REUTERS, Detroit  
Tiesha Blackwell, 24, voted for Joe Biden in 2020 but says she is casting her ballot for Republican former president Donald Trump this year, and high food and housing prices are a chief reason. Blackwell, who lives southwest of Detroit in the battleground state of Michigan, says she has a better job now, but her rent has since doubled after she was forced to move, and her grocery and utility bills have soared. "I'm not worse off than I was four years ago," Blackwell said on the sidelines of a rally featuring Trump's running mate JD Vance in Detroit this month. "But compared to then, things are really, really high out here. I went from paying \$575 to now I pay \$1,100 just for rent. I remember ground chuck was \$2.99 a pound. Now it's \$4.99. Everything is higher." The United States' post Covid-19 economic recovery has been the envy of the developed world, with strong consumer spending and business and federal investment helping the economy dodge a predicted recession.



Stock markets are at record highs, jobs and wages are growing fast, unemployment is low and inflation is now below January 2020 levels after a spike in 2022. But prices for food, rent, utilities and treats like dining out are all well above 2019 levels, because of complex factors the US government has limited impact on, like labor costs, lack of competition and supply chain issues.

Many Americans are in a constant state of sticker shock. That may explain why voters in the seven battleground states that will determine the winner of the November 5 election have a negative view of the economy, with 61 percent saying it is on the wrong track in a Reuters/Ipsos poll this month, and 68 percent saying the cost of living was on the wrong track. Vice President Kamala Harris, the Democratic nominee, and Trump have proposed different fixes. Harris has promised to fight price gouging and boost a child tax credit, while Trump has proposed cutting taxes on overtime pay, imposing blanket tariffs on imports that he says will bring manufacturing back to the US and mass deportation of immigrants. Trump's proposed tariffs and deportation threats will drive up prices for goods and services, many economists say, while Harris' price-gouging ban is untested on a federal level. Still, when asked which candidate had the better approach on issues, Trump led on the economy - 46 percent to 38 percent, this month's Reuters poll showed. People who study economics say they feel voters' frustration even if they don't think Trump's plan will help.



Rescuers recover the body of a person from under the debris of a private house which was hit by a Russian missile strike in Kharkiv, Ukraine yesterday. The Russian army advanced 478 sq kms into Ukrainian territory in October, a record since March 2022 in the first weeks of the war, according to an analysis. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Indian army kills 3 rebels in J&K

AFP, Srinagar  
Indian troops shot dead three suspected rebels in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) hours after gunmen sprayed a military convoy and an ambulance with bullets, the army said yesterday. Muslim-majority Kashmir has been divided between rivals India and Pakistan since their independence from British rule in 1947 and is home to a long-running insurgency. Gunmen fired on the army convoy in the early hours of Monday in the mountainous southern Akhnoor area, near the unofficial border with Pakistan. Soldiers launched a hunt for the attackers and reported that three militants had been killed. "After round the clock surveillance throughout the night, an intense firefight unfolded today morning resulting in a significant victory for our forces," the army's White Knight Corps said in a statement.

"Relentless operations and tactical excellence has led to the elimination of three terrorists." At least 500,000 Indian troops are deployed in Kashmir, battling an insurgency that has killed tens of thousands of civilians, soldiers and rebels since 1989. Earlier this month, gunmen killed seven people near a construction site for a strategic road tunnel to Ladakh, a high-altitude Himalayan region bordering China. On Friday, Indian officials said five people - including three soldiers - were killed in an ambush on an army convoy. New Delhi regularly blames Pakistan for arming the militants and helping them launch attacks, an allegation Islamabad denies. The army says more than 720 rebels have been killed since Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government cancelled the territory's limited autonomy in 2019. In early October, Kashmir held its first elections since 2014 for a regional assembly for the territory of some 12 million people.

"Establishment of Facilities for the Development of Light Engineering Sector and E-waste Processing"-Project, BCSIR  
Dr. Quadrat-I-Khuda Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205

### Invitation for Tender (IFT)

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Science and Technology				
2.	Agency	Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR)				
3.	Procuring entity name	Project Director, "Establishment of facilities for the development of light engineering sector and e-waste processing"				
4.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka				
5.	Invitation for	National Tender				
6.	Invitation ref. no.	39.02.0000.034.014.002.24.031, 39.02.0000.034.014.002.24.032				
7.	Date	29.10.2024				
8.	Procuring Method	Open Tender Method (OTM)				
9.	Budget and source if fund	GoB				
10.	Project Code	224356900				
11.	Project Name	Establishment of Facilities for the Development of Light Engineering Sector and E-waste Processing				
12.	Tender package name	Supply, Installation of Machineries and Others				
13.	Tender last selling date	27.11.2024 at 1:00 PM				
14.	Tender closing date and time	28.11.2024 at 1:00 PM				
15.	Tender opening date and time	28.11.2024 at 2:00 PM				
16.	Name and address of the office(s)					
	Selling tender document	1) Office of Project Director, "Establishment of Facilities for the Development of Light Engineering Sector and E-waste Processing", PP&PDC, BCSIR, Quadrat-I-Khuda Road				
	-Receiving tender document	-do-				
17.	Opening tender document	-do-				
18.	Eligibility of tender	As per Tender Document				
19.	Brief description of goods	As Per Specification				
20.	Brief description of related services	As Per Specification				
	Package No	Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Price of tender Document In Taka	Completion time in /month
21.	GD31	Lot A	Water Treatment Plant	PP&PDC, BCSIR, Dhaka	1000/ (Non-refundable)	2.5% of the quoted price
		Lot B	Microwave Digester		1000/ (Non-refundable)	
	GD32	Lot A	Image Analysis Software	1000/ (Non-refundable)	2 months	
22.	Name of official inviting tender					
23.	Designation official inviting of tender					
24.	Address of official inviting					
25.	Contract details of official inviting tender					
26.	The procurement entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.					

Dr. Aninda Nafis Ahmed  
28.10.2024  
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GD- 821