

INDIA'S MANIPUR 11 armed men killed in police station attack

AFP, New Delhi

Indian police in troubled northeastern Manipur state yesterday battled with Kuki minority forces and killed 11 people after their station was attacked, a district official said yesterday.

One officer was wounded as they "repulsed an attack on a police station", Krishna Kumar, deputy commissioner of Jiribam district said, adding that "10 bodies of miscreants have been recovered so far".

The violence is the latest in a simmering conflict that broke out in Manipur in May 2023, between the predominantly Hindu Meitei majority and the mainly Christian Kuki community.

Those killed come from Hmar people, a smaller group within Kuki. The violence comes after the burned corpse of a Kuki woman was found last week, sparking fury.



The photo shows an apartment building hit by a Russian missile strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region, Ukraine yesterday. Ukrainian authorities issued air raid alerts for most of the country yesterday, after Russian strikes killed at least six people in the south of the country.

PHOTO: REUTERS

MPs vote to keep Ishiba as Japan PM

He will lead fragile minority govt

REUTERS, Tokyo



Japanese lawmakers yesterday voted for Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba to stay on as leader, after his scandal-tarnished coalition lost its parliamentary majority in a lower house election last month.

Ishiba, who called the snap poll after taking office on October 1, must now run a fragile minority government as protectionist Donald Trump returns to office in main ally the United States, tension rises with rivals China and North Korea, and domestic pressure mounts to rein in the cost of living.

His Liberal Democratic Party and coalition partner Komeito won the biggest bloc of seats in the election but lost the majority held since 2012, leaving him beholden to small opposition parties to pass his policy agenda.

Israel cites progress on Lebanon truce

Says Russia can help; Hezbollah says no official proposal received yet

REUTERS, Jerusalem

Israel said yesterday there was progress in talks about a ceasefire in Lebanon and indicated Russia could play a part by stopping Hezbollah from rearming via Syria, although the Iran-backed group said it had not received any truce proposals yet.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar said the main challenge would be enforcing any ceasefire agreement, and that Israel was working with the United States on the diplomatic efforts.

"I think there is a certain progress," Sa'ar told a press conference in Jerusalem. "We are working with the Americans on the issue."

"We will be ready to be there if we know, first of all that Hezbollah is not on our border, is north of the Litani river and that Hezbollah will not be able to arm again with new weapons systems."

Israel has been waging a major offensive against Hezbollah in Lebanon since late September, pounding its strongholds in Beirut's southern suburbs, southern Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley and sending troops into areas near the border.

The Litani river runs across southern Lebanon some 30 km (20 miles) north of the Lebanese Israeli border.

In Beirut, a Hezbollah official indicated an intensification of diplomatic efforts was under way but said that neither the group nor the Lebanese state had received any new proposals.

"There is a great movement between Washington and Moscow and Tehran and a number of capitals," Mohammad Afif said in a televised news conference.

"I believe that we are still in the phase of testing the waters and presenting initial ideas and proactive discussions, but so far there is nothing actual yet," he added.

Israel Hayom reported on Sunday that substantial progress has been made in diplomatic negotiations over



a proposed Lebanon ceasefire that would require Hezbollah to withdraw north of the Litani River, barring its military presence near the Israeli border, while the IDF would return to the international border.

Israel's offensive has forced more than 1 million people to flee their homes in Lebanon in the last seven weeks.

Since the eruption of hostilities a year ago, Israeli attacks have killed more than 3,189 people in Lebanon, the vast majority of them since late September, according to health ministry figures, which do not distinguish between civilians and combatants.

Migrant workers

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It will offer the workers a place to rest and subsidised food for refreshments.

The chief adviser said many more steps will hopefully be taken so that the workers can think that they are at home, and everyone is taking care of them, serving them well.

He said the nation should give the migrant workers the respect they deserve. "Bangladeshi migrants contribute to the country's progress by sending remittances and they should get the proper respect."

Prof Yunus stressed the need for easing the government services for the expatriates and said e-passports should now be issued for them.

Asif Nazrul, the law and expatriates' welfare adviser, and senior officials of the International Organisation for Migration were also present at the event.

Prof Nazrul paid tributes to the migrant workers and millions of members of the country's diaspora who made sacrifices time and again for their homeland.

Fathima Nusrath Ghazzali, acting chief of the IOM mission in Bangladesh, said the UN agency has sponsored the lounge to assist the migrant workers.

"This is an initiative of the chief adviser. We are happy

to support this initiative," she said, adding that the IOM is also sponsoring nearly 100 volunteers to help the migrants at the airport.

LATEST

Prof Yunus yesterday asked the Bangladesh officials and NGO and civil society leaders to put in extra efforts to highlight the country's climate crisis concerns at the COP29 summit from November 11 to 22.

He made the call in Baku after his arrival in the Azerbaijan capital to lead Bangladesh in the annual UN-led climate summit.

"Our main efforts will be to include our concerns and demands in the final declaration of the COP29," he told the Bangladesh delegation during a coordination meeting at a hotel in Baku.

Prof Yunus will join the main COP29 summit today and speak in at least three major events.

At the meeting, Environment Secretary Farhina Ahmed briefed officials about Bangladesh's stand on some key issues of the conference.

She said Bangladesh has set up nine teams to negotiate in all major areas, including climate finance, loss and mitigation, and just transition and adaptation mechanisms in the summit.

RMG workers

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The workers then gathered outside their factories with the hope of receiving their payment, but the owner sought to clear the dues within one week.

"The workers rejected the offer and demanded that the arrears be paid by today [Monday]," said ASP Mosharrar.

They became agitated again and resumed the blockade around 4:00pm, he added.

Traffic on the highway remained halted in the evening as the workers refused to leave, said Faruk Hossain, inspector of Gazipur Industrial Police.

Traffic was also halted on Dhaka Bypass Road, causing immense public suffering as buses, trucks, and other vehicles were stuck in long tailbacks.

To ease the passengers' suffering, police rerouted Mymensingh-bound buses via Salna and regional roads, and diverted some vehicles from Gazipur's Shibbari via Kaliganj and Chandra, said Traffic Police Inspector Mamun.

Additionally, Dhaka-bound buses from Kishoreganj were diverted through Kapasia Kaliganj-Tongi route, he said.

Speaking to The Daily Star around 9:00am, Dhaka-bound traveller Yasin Uddin Mia said, "I got off at Bhogra Bypass Junction and had to walk over a kilometre with my wife, children, and luggage. It's exhausting."

Sattar Miah, who was accompanying a patient in an ambulance, said, "We're going to Kishoreganj from Dhaka, but got stranded for around two hours at Tongi. The patient became sicker."

Ambia Khatun, who works at another factory, said she had to walk around four kilometres from her home in Boardbazar to her work in Gazipur's Konabari for the last three days. "I have no alternative to walking such a long distance," she told The Daily Star.

Around 2,000 workers

from five TNZ Group factories – TNZ Apparels Ltd, Basic Clothing Ltd, Apparels Plus, Basic Knitwear Ltd, and Apparel Art Ltd – took part in the protests.

Police said the employer had agreed to pay September wages by November 3 and October wages by November 20 following negotiations mediated by the army on October 24 after the owner missed the initial deadline of October 23.

But on November 2, the factory authorities in a notice said September wages would be paid by November 7, and October wages by November 28.

As the authorities also missed the November 7 deadline and issued a notice apologising for the delay, the workers went for the blockade.

Contacted, Ziaul Kabir Khokon, president of the Garment Workers Trade Union Centre's Gazipur district unit, told The Daily Star that the workers were demanding immediate payment, stressing that their patience was running thin after repeated delays.

Officials of the factories could not be reached despite repeated attempts.

Meanwhile, hundreds of workers from two Crony Group factories in Narayanganj's BSCIC industrial area blocked the Dhaka-Munshiganj regional road yesterday for eight hours, demanding unpaid wages, reports UNB.

The blockade from 10:30am to 5:00pm caused immense suffering to travellers.

Mostafizur Rahman, an official of Narayanganj BSCIC, said at least 432 factories operate in the area, with most ceasing operations due to the unrest.

According to officials of the district administration, a case was lodged with the labour court on November 3 by the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments over the payment of the workers' dues. A hearing will be held today.

CPJ outlines 10 actions

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many of whom face police investigations or imprisonment.

It urged the authorities to ensure the procedural rights of four arrested pro-Awami League journalists, including their right to a fair trial.

The organisation, which advocates for press freedom worldwide, also demanded investigations into the recent attacks on journalists, including fatal shootings in July 2024, unsolved murders, and numerous reports of custodial violence, torture, and abductions.

Other recommendations

included ending the surveillance and harassment of journalists, implementing journalist protection legislation, and reforming the Bangladesh Press Council to establish it as an independent entity.

CPJ also advocated for improved press accreditation processes, unrestricted visas for foreign journalists, and unimpeded access to media outlets and internet services.

It asserted that these reforms are crucial for safeguarding press freedom and ensuring a robust, independent press in Bangladesh amid growing threats to media rights.

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Memo No.: 35.01.2690.189.07.000.24-3050 Dated: 11-11-2024

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concern that the following tender have published through e-GP portal.

Sl. No.	Tender ID, Package No. & Date of Publishing	Name of Work	Last Selling and Closing Date & Time.
01	Tender ID: 1032491 Package No.: NRC(e-GP)/06/PMP(B&C)/2023-2024 (Re-Tender) Publishing: 11-Nov-2024	Periodic Maintenance Programme Construction of 31.828 m (1X30.488 m) Long P. C. Girder Bridge (Balughat Bridge) at 5th km (Ch:04+130) on Narsingdi (Darinabipur) Karimpur-Jamalpur (Bancharampur)- Alokali (Z-2055) Road, under Narsingdi Road Division, Narsingdi during the year 2023-2024.	01-Dec-2024; 16:00:00 02-Dec-2024; 12:00:00
02	Tender ID: 1032787 Package No.: NRC(e-GP)/07/PMP(B&C)/2023-2024 (Re-Tender) Publishing: 11-Nov-2024	Periodic Maintenance Programme Construction of 50.875 m (2X24.40 m) Long P. C. Girder Bridge (Bawshia Bridge) at 10th km (Ch:09+168) on Narsingdi (Darinabipur) Karimpur-Jamalpur (Bancharampur)- Alokali (Z-2055) Road, under Narsingdi Road Division, Narsingdi during the year 2023-2024.	01-Dec-2024; 16:00:00 02-Dec-2024; 12:00:00

The interested persons/firms may visit the web site www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender.

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 Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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e-Tender Notice No.- 09/FOSEPC/Lifl/2024-2025 (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works under EED, Naogaon Districts as mentioned below:

Sl No	Tender ID No.	Name of work	Tender Type	Tender Closing & Opening (Date & Time)
01	1029045	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF 01 NO. 6 STOPS 1000 KG CAPACITY PASSENGER LIFT WITH RELATED ACCESSORIES TO 6-STORIED ACADEMIC BUILDING OF BANGABANDHU GOVT. COLLEGE, BADALGACHI, NAOGAON.	NCT (OTM)	02-Dec-2024; 12:00
02	1029046	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF 01 NO. 6 STOPS 1000 KG CAPACITY PASSENGER LIFT WITH RELATED ACCESSORIES TO 6-STORIED ACADEMIC BUILDING OF JAHANGIRPUR GOVT. COLLEGE, MOHADEVPUR, NAOGAON.	NCT (OTM)	02-Dec-2024; 12:00
03	1029047	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF 01 NO. 6 STOPS 1000 KG CAPACITY PASSENGER LIFT WITH RELATED ACCESSORIES TO 6-STORIED ACADEMIC BUILDING OF NAZIPUR GOVT. COLLEGE, PATNITALA, NAOGAON.	NCT (OTM)	02-Dec-2024; 12:00
04	1029049	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF 01 NO. 6 STOPS 1000 KG CAPACITY PASSENGER LIFT WITH RELATED ACCESSORIES TO 6-STORIED ACADEMIC BUILDING OF SAPAHAR GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE, SAPAHAR, NAOGAON.	NCT (OTM)	02-Dec-2024; 12:00

a) Tender publication date on live of the package is 12/11/2024 at 12.00.
b) This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be acceptable in the National e-GP System Portal and No offline/hard copies will be accepted.
c) The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches up to 16.00 on 01/12/2024.
d) Credit commitment should be submitted in proper format specifying Tender ID.
e) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender (s) without assigning any reason what so ever.

SD/-
(Prodir Kumar Sarker)
Executive Engineer
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GD- 928