

Joe Biden said Monday that America was stronger on the global stage than it had been for decades, in a swansong foreign policy speech one week before Donald Trump's White House comeback.

The outgoing US president took aim at Russia, China and Iran, and urged the West to maintain support for Ukraine in an address at the State Department setting out his international legacy.

But Biden's unspoken target was Trump as he touted his rebuilding of international alliances over the last four years after his Republican rival's chaotic first term.

"The United States is winning the worldwide competition compared to four years ago," said Biden, after diplomats at the State Department gave him a standing ovation. "America is stronger. Our alliances are stronger, our adversaries and competitors are weaker."

POLLS INTERFERENCE

Trump would have been convicted: DoJ

US President-elect Donald Trump would have been convicted for his alleged effort to overturn the result of the 2020 election if he hadn't been elected four years later, said a report by then special counsel Jack Smith published by US media early yesterday.

The US Department of Justice's "view that the Constitution prohibits the continued indictment and prosecution of a President is categorical and does not turn on the gravity of the crimes charged, the strength of the Government's proof, or the merits of the prosecution, which the Office stands fully behind," the report said.

“Indeed, but for Mr Trump’s election and imminent return to the Presidency, the (Special Counsel’s) Office assessed that the admissible evidence was sufficient to obtain and sustain a conviction at trial.”

Soon after the report's overnight release, Trump hit back on his Truth Social platform, calling Smith "deranged".



A firefighter monitors the spread of the Auto Fire in Oxnard, northwest of Los Angeles, California, US on Monday night. Hot, powerful winds yesterday threatened to rekindle and whip up major fires that have devastated the hills and suburbs of Los Angeles, killing at last 24 people and changing the face of America's second biggest city forever.

PHOTO: AFP

Ukraine launches big strikes on Russian cities

Factories in three cities damaged; airports closed

Ukraine struck Russian regions with a major drone and missile attack overnight, damaging factories in at least three cities, officials and media said yesterday.

The Shot Telegram channel said that Russia had downed more than 200 Ukrainian drones and five US-made ATACMS ballistic missiles.

"The enemy has organised a massive combined strike on the territory of the Russian regions," the Two Majors war blogger said.

Moscow said Ukraine had fired six US-made ATACMS ballistic missiles, six UK-made Storm Shadow cruise missiles and at least 146 drones into Russia in an attack that it said would not go unanswered.

Roman Busargin, governor of the Saratov region about 720 km southeast of Moscow, said the cities of Saratov and Engels, on opposite banks of the Volga River, had been subjected to a mass drone attack and there was damage to two industrial sites. Schools

had shifted to remote learning, he said.

Ukraine attacked the same region last week and claimed to have struck an oil depot serving an airbase for Russian nuclear bomber planes, causing a huge fire that took five days to put out.

Flight restrictions were imposed at airports in Kazan, Saratov, Penza, Ulyanovsk and Nizhnekamsk, Russia's aviation watchdog said.

The independent Astra news outlet reported a fire at an industrial site in the city of Kazan, east of Moscow, as a result of a drone attack.

Alexander Bogomaz, the governor of the Bryansk region in western Russia, said Ukraine had launched a major missile attack but did not say which missiles had been used.

CABLE SABOTAGE

Nato launches Baltic Sea patrols

The Nato military alliance said yesterday it was launching a Baltic Sea monitoring mission following the suspected sabotage of undersea cables in recent months.

Several undersea telecom and power cables have been severed in the region, with politicians accusing Russia of orchestrating a hybrid war against the West as the two sides square off over Ukraine.

At a meeting in Helsinki of Nato members, Nato chief Mark Rutte said that the "Baltic Sentry" mission would "involve a range of assets, including frigates and maritime patrol aircraft, among others, and will enhance our vigilance in the Baltic."

120 killed by shelling near Sudan capital

Say volunteer rescuers

Sudanese volunteer rescuers said shelling in the greater Khartoum area has killed at least 120 people, as fighting between the army and paramilitaries has escalated nationwide.

The “random shelling” on Monday in western Omdurman, the capital’s twin city just across the Nile River, resulted in the deaths of 120 civilians, said the Ombada Emergency Response Room, part of a network of volunteer rescuers across the war-torn country.

It said the figure was an “initial toll”, and did not specify who was behind the attack.

The rescuers said medical supplies were in critically short supply as health workers struggled to treat “a large number of wounded people suffering from varying degrees of injuries” as a result of the shelling.

Since April 2023, Sudan has been at war between the forces of rival generals vying for control.

Most of Omdurman is under army control, while the rival paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) hold Khartoum North and some other areas of the capital.

LANDMINE EXPLOSION

Six Indian army personnel hurt in Jammu & Kashmir

Six India army personnel were injured in a landmine explosion in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district yesterday.

The officials said the mishap occurred when troops were on patrol duty. They said one of the soldiers accidentally stepped over the landmine near Khamba Fort in the Nowshera sector around 10:45 am, triggering the explosion.

The injured were immediately shifted to hospital and their condition was stated to be stable.

As part of an anti-infiltration obstacle system, the forward areas near the Line of Control are dotted with landmines which sometimes get washed away by rains resulting in such types of accidents, the officials told PTI.

This tragic incident follows another recent mishap in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipore district. On January 4, four soldiers lost their lives, and three others were injured when an Army truck veered off the road and plunged down a hill near the Sadar Koot Payen area.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department

Office of the Executive Engineer

District: Dinajpur

www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.2700.000.07.59.01.23-144

Date: 14/01/2025

e-Tender Notice No. 31/2024-2025

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (OTM) (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for 01 No. Package of CIBRR Project, FY 2024-2025 for this District.


SI No.	Name of package	Name of work	Tender ID
1	CIB-Din-W-19-b	Remaining work of 175m Long PSC Girder Bridge Over Atrai river on Kharkati Bazar to Vhail UP office road at Ch. 1950m under Chirirbandar Upazila Dist. Dinajpur, Road ID No. 127303011 [CHIRIRBANDAR]	1053885

Last selling date & time 12-02-2025, 15:00, closing & opening date & time 13-02-2025, 11:00.

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 (<http://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 banks branches up to **12 February 2025, 16:00.**

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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