

# INTERNATIONAL

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## Russia launches missile barrage at Ukraine

Energy facilities in western regions hit; residents in Kyiv take shelter as capital attacked

REUTERS

Russia launched a new barrage of missiles and drones at Ukraine yesterday, targeting gas infrastructure and other energy facilities in western regions in the latest strike on the country's hobbled power system as it approaches mid-winter.

President Volodymyr Zelensky said that the Russian forces launched over 40 missiles during the morning attack and used more than 70 drones overnight. Ukrainian air defences shot down at least 30 missiles, he said.

"Another massive Russian attack. It's the middle of winter, and the target for the Russians remains



Security forces reporting to Syria's transitional government launch a search operation in Dummar, a suburb of the Syrian capital Damascus, during their campaign to seize weapons and hunt down armed supporters of the ousted Assad leadership yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



unchanged: our energy infrastructure," Zelensky said in a social media post on X platform.

"Among their objectives were gas and energy facilities that sustain normal life for our people."

The capital Kyiv also came under attack, with hundreds of residents taking shelter in underground metro stations across the capital, sleeping on yoga mats and sitting on folded chairs with their pets.

The governor of Ukraine's western Lviv region said two energy facilities, in the Drohobych and Stryi districts, were damaged. In neighbouring Ivano-Frankivsk, the governor said air defences were fending off Russian attacks on facilities. Both said no injuries had been reported.

Ukrainians use natural gas mainly for heating homes and cooking. The country uses gas stored over the summer months to use in winter, when daily production does not cover consumption.

## S Korean President Yoon arrested

REUTERS, Seoul

Impeached South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol was arrested and questioned by authorities yesterday in relation to a criminal insurrection investigation, saying he was only cooperating with what he called an illegal probe to avoid violence.

His arrest, the first ever for an incumbent South Korean president, is the latest head-spinning development for one of Asia's most vibrant democracies even though the country has a history of prosecuting and imprisoning former leaders.

Since lawmakers voted to

impeach him and remove him from duties after his short-lived December 3 declaration of martial law, Yoon has been holed up at his hillside residence, guarded by a small army of presidential security that blocked a previous arrest attempt.

He agreed to come in for questioning after more than 3,000 police officers determined to arrest him marched on his residence in the early hours of yesterday.

"I decided to respond to the CIO's investigation despite it being an illegal investigation - to prevent

unsavoury bloodshed," Yoon said in a statement, referring to the Corruption Investigation Office for High-ranking Officials (CIO) that is heading the criminal probe.

A prosecutor accompanied Yoon in his car from his home in the upscale area to the austere CIO offices, where he slipped in through a back entrance, avoiding media.

Authorities now have 48 hours to question Yoon after which they must seek a warrant to detain him for up to 20 days or release him.



## Tight rein

FROM PAGE 1

have to be precise, proportional, and appropriate.

The use of force will be governed by the rules of engagement developed for UN peacekeepers, which allow it only for self-defence. Bangladeshi police deployed in UN peacekeeping missions already follow these standards. "This will minimise the risk of loss of life," read the recommendations.

The commission proposed assessing the need for Rab by reviewing its past activities and allegations of human rights violations against it.

It also recommended introducing measures to combat custodial torture, legal harassment by the police, extortion, arbitrary arrests, and enforced disappearances.

To eliminate the risk of custodial torture, the report suggested introducing clear-walled interrogation cells in every police station.

To counter the involvement of police in enforced disappearances, the commission recommended that police going out on raids for arrests will have to wear GPS trackers and bodycams.

The commission recommended opening a hotline for citizens so that they can file a complaint regarding any police officer refusing to disclose his or her identity during a search or conducting the search without a warrant.

In addition, arrests made between dusk and dawn must be done in presence of a magistrate, or a representative of the local government body, the report said.

Addressing concerns about arbitrary arrests under section 54 and custodial remand under section 167 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, the commission underscored the need for implementing directives of the High Court and Supreme Court in this regard.

These directives aim to prevent misuse of power during interrogations and arrests. However, government appeals against these rulings have delayed implementation. The commission recommended that the government withdraw its appeals.

To prevent extortion by police on the streets, the commission recommended that traffic police wear bodycams while making traffic stops and fining rule violators. Law enforcers checking vehicles on the roads or at checkpoints will also have to wear bodycams or be within clear visibility of CCTV camera, the report said.

To curb legal harassment, the commission included a measure that states that

people who have not been accused in a first information report (FIR) cannot be arrested without submitting the case before a court and obtaining its order for such arrests.

Additionally, it says, "The culture of including multiple 'unnamed persons' in FIRs must be discarded." If a police member intentionally harasses someone in such a case, legal action has to be taken against him or her.

The report also said that until and unless someone has been proven guilty by court the police cannot parade the person in front of the media.

It proposed that the National Human Rights Commission be empowered for taking direct steps to investigate allegations of human rights violations by members of law enforcement agencies.

The reform body also suggested the formation of a statutory or a constitutional body called the Independent Police Commission, tasked with ensuring accountability and neutrality of the law enforcers.

The commission recommended setting up a human rights cell in the head office of the law enforcement agency, so that they themselves can probe human rights abuses perpetrated by or instigated by officers.

The commission made it mandatory for the police stations to accept general diaries (GD) and the police cannot delay or refuse to accept any FIR.

Safar Raj Hossain, chief of the commission, at a press briefing yesterday said, "We have reviewed laws that might put people in distress if enforced, and specified various sections of 22 laws for amendment, revision, and replacement."

The amendment of the laws, including the Police Act, 1861, Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and the Police Regulation of Bengal, 1943, will make the police people friendly and accountable force that protects human rights.

The nine-page report also suggested a "watchdog or oversight committee" as a short-term measure to prevent deliberate interference in police work or corruption. An all-party committee can be formed in each thana or upazila, which will act as an "oversight body" at the local level and take effective measures to prevent corruption, it recommended.

It suggested that a special task force can be formed for long-term recommendations taking into account the experiences of the all-party committee.

## Won't tolerate delay

FROM PAGE 12

date and assurances that it would serve as the foundation for the future constitutional and legal framework.

The interim government had earlier said it would make the proclamation based on consensus among political parties.

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus would hold an all-party conference over the proclamation at the Foreign Service Academy between 4:00pm and 7:00pm today, his press wing said last night.

Reading out a statement, Arif Sohel, member secretary

of the student body, demanded the government announce a date for the proclamation immediately after these discussions.

He criticised the government for a lack of visible action on the proclamation over the last 15 days.

"The government must remember, for its own legitimacy, the July proclamation is urgent. An article like Section 106 of the existing constitution, which lacks any legal binding, cannot be the full basis of this government's legitimacy," he said.

"No more delay or procrastination will be tolerated by the student community. If there is a delay, we will quickly build a mammoth movement with students from all levels across the country," Arif said.

Appealing to political parties, Arif said, "Let us set aside differences and unite on the issue of Bangladesh. In the current geopolitical reality, unity is essential to ensure the survival and development of the political community. Unity is required on the question of issuing the July Student Uprising Proclamation."

## Gaza ceasefire

FROM PAGE 12

of the Palestinian territory.

"I can't believe that this nightmare of more than a year is finally coming to an end. We have lost so many people, we've lost everything," said Randa Sameeh, a 45-year-old displaced from Gaza City to the Nuseirat refugee camp

in the central Gaza Strip.

Hamas said the ceasefire was the "result of the legendary steadfastness of our great Palestinian people and our valiant resistance in the Gaza Strip for over 15 months".

Pressure to put an end to the fighting had ratcheted up in recent

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## China, Lanka agree more investment, economic co-op

REUTERS, Beijing

China and Sri Lanka have agreed on more investment and economic cooperation, after China's President Xi Jinping met recently elected Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake in Beijing yesterday.

The countries signed a total of 15 cooperation documents, including agreements to cooperate on economic and technological development and aligning China's 'Belt and Road Initiative' with Sri Lanka's 2030 digital economy blueprint.

Dissanayake's visit to his country's largest bilateral lender comes after having first travelled to regional rival India. Colombo secured a preliminary \$10 billion bilateral debt deal rework with key lenders including China, Japan and India last June and a \$12.5 billion bondholder deal in December.

However, it needs direct agreements with China EXIM Bank and China Development Bank to lock in the deal to continue demonstrating progress to the International Monetary Fund in restructuring its foreign debt to secure further disbursements from a \$2.9 billion IMF bailout programme.

## Wars top global risk in 2025: WEF

REUTERS, London

Armed conflict is the top risk in 2025, a World Economic Forum (WEF) survey released yesterday showed, a reminder of the deepening global fragmentation.

Nearly one in four of the more than 900 experts surveyed across academia and policymaking ranked conflict, including wars and terrorism, as the most severe risk to economic growth for the year ahead. Extreme weather, number 1 concern in 2024, was the second-ranked danger.

"In a world marked by deepening divides and cascading risks, global leaders have a choice: to foster collaboration and resilience, or face compounding instability," WEF Managing Director Mirek Dusek said in a statement.

**চাঁদপুর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়**  
চাঁদপুর-৩৬০০

সূত্রঃ চাঁদপুর্বিএপিএভি/খড়-০২/২০২৪-২৫/রেন্ট হাউজ/০৭

**বাড়ি ভাড়া আবশ্যক**

চাঁদপুর বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের চাঁদপুরস্থ অস্থায়ী অফিস কাম রেন্ট হাউজ এর জন্য ০১ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫ তারিখ হতে ২০০-৩০০০ বর্গফুট আয়তনের আইনগত জিল্লাতাবীহান ভবন ভাড়া প্রয়োজন। ভবন ভাড়া প্রদানে আগ্রহী মালিকদের আগমানী ২৮/০১/২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে বাড়ির বিষয়ারিত বর্ণনা, ভাড়ার পরিমাণ এবং নিম্নোক্ত শর্ত পূরণ সাপেক্ষে নিম্নোক্ত ঠিকানায় আবেদনপত্র প্রেরণের অনুরোধ করা হলো।

**শর্তসমূহ:**

১। মোট ক্ষেত্রফল ২২০০-৩০০০ বর্গফুট হতে হবে। ভবনের নিচে নিরাপত্তারক্ষীর কক্ষ ও গাড়ি পার্কিং ব্যবস্থা থাকতে হবে। তবে ডুপ্লেক্স বাসা প্রাধান্য পাবে।

২। অবশ্যই পৌরসভা কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত ডিজাইন ও ফ্লোরের প্ল্যান সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

৩। ভবন মালিকের নিজের নামে বিদ্যুৎ বিলের কাগজ ও জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র থাকতে হবে।

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হোল্ডিং নং-০৯৩৭-০২, খলিশাড়ুলী, ওয়াপদা গেইট, কুমিল্লা রোড  
(৫x৩)

**বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড**  
Bangladesh Power Development Board

**Invitation for e-Tenders**

Memo No. 27.11.6863.438.68.338.25-644

Date: 15/01/2025

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following Goods:

SI No.	Tender ID	Name of goods	Publishing date & time	Closing/opening date & time
1	1061676	Procurement of Aluminium Sulphate	14-Jan-2025 15:00	10-Feb-2025 10:30
2	1063480	Procurement of Polyacryl amide	15-Jan-2025 11:30	11-Feb-2025 11:00

These are online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tenders, registration required in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank. Further information and guidelines are available National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)) Contract No. (01762625528-31).

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-৬৮৬(২)/১৫/০১/