

Taiwan detects 62 Chinese aircraft US ships transit waters

AFP, Taipei

Taiwan said yesterday it detected 62 Chinese military aircraft near the self-ruled island this week, as two US ships sailed through the sensitive Taiwan Strait.

The US and its allies regularly transit the 180-kilometre Taiwan Strait to reinforce its status as an international waterway, angering Beijing. Beijing has never ruled Taiwan, but it claims the democratic island as part of its territory and has threatened to bring it under its control by force.

Taipei said the US ships travelled from north to south "starting from February 10".

China's People's Liberation Army said yesterday it had monitored the passage of the US destroyer and the ocean survey ship.

"This US action sent the wrong signal and increased security risks," Li Xi, a senior colonel and spokesman for China's Eastern Theatre Command, said in a statement.

Taiwan's defence ministry spokesman Sun Li-fang dismissed the criticism and said Taipei supported the freedom of navigation in the Taiwan Strait.

Modi heads to US in mission to dodge tariff battle

AGENCIES

The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is heading to Washington for high-stakes talks in an attempt to avoid a trade war with Donald Trump.

India is considering tariff cuts in at least a dozen sectors in the hope of dodging US tariffs that would pile more pressure on its already slowing economy, reports The Guardian online.

Modi and Trump are set to meet in Washington today.

The exact timing of the meeting has yet to be confirmed.

According to The Indian Express online, Modi was due to land in Washington yesterday evening.



Migrants argue with Panamanian National Border Service members as they attempt to cross the border between Panama and Costa Rica at Paso Cana on Tuesday while trying to return to Venezuela. Dozens of Venezuelan migrants crossed the border from Costa Rica into Panama in a small caravan, having given up their journey to the United States.

PHOTO: AFP

More than \$53bn needed to rebuild Gaza: UN

AFP, United Nations

More than \$53 billion will be required to rebuild Gaza and end the "humanitarian catastrophe" that has gripped the war-torn territory, including \$20 billion in the first three years alone, the United Nations said Tuesday.

The global body said in a report that a "political and security framework" must also be put in place so that recovery and rebuilding can begin, and a groundwork can be laid for a political process to quickly end the Israeli occupation "and establish a viable two-State solution."

Much of Gaza -- including schools, hospitals and other civic infrastructure -- has been reduced to rubble by a

withering Israeli military offensive.

"The interim assessment offers an early indication of the enormous scale of recovery and reconstruction needs in the Gaza Strip," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in the document, cautioning that it was not a full assessment.

"The report estimates the recovery and reconstruction needs in the short, medium and long term across the Gaza Strip at \$53.142 billion."

Of these, the near-term needs in the first three years are estimated to be around \$20.568 billion," he added.

In a resolution adopted in December calling for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in Gaza, the UN

General Assembly had asked Guterres to provide an assessment of the territory's needs within two months.

The report assessed that with "over 60 percent of homes" destroyed in the year-plus war between Israel and Palestinian group Hamas, the housing sector requires around \$15.2 billion.

The commerce and industry sector will need an estimated \$6.9 billion, as will the health sector, according to the report.

Reviving the agricultural industry will take around \$4.2 billion, transport will require \$2.9 billion, water and sanitation an estimated \$2.7 billion and education \$2.6 billion. The UN has estimated that the war has generated over 50 million tonnes of debris.



Volunteers assist residents through swift floodwaters in Makassar, Indonesia yesterday. Hundreds of houses in four sub-districts have been flooded since Monday due to heavy rain and high-intensity sea waves.

PHOTO: AFP

NAMING OF GULF OF MEXICO

White House bars AP reporter

AFP, Washington

The Associated Press (AP) said Tuesday that its White House reporter was barred from an event with President Donald Trump over the top US news agency's refusal to follow his order renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America.

"We were informed by the White House that if AP did not align its editorial standards with President Donald Trump's executive order renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America, AP would be barred from accessing an event in the Oval Office," AP Executive Editor Julie Pace said.

"This afternoon AP's reporter was blocked from attending an executive order signing," Pace said.

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Invitation for e-Tender

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

Tender ID	Invitation Reference No.	Tender Description	Tender Publish Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
1074059	JBPLC/IT-Proc-16/OTM/Tape Cartridge/2025	Procurement of Tape cartridge for CDC of Janata Bank PLC, following Open Tendering Method (OTM).	12/02/2025 14:00 PM	03/03/2025 12:00 PM

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. Ready stock will be preferable and goods must be delivered after 05 days from contract sign.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the national e-GP System portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP portal and e-GP Help Desk (Email: helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

SDY
(Mohammad Shakhwat Hossain)
Deputy General Manager

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Economic Relations Division

Ministry of Finance
Admin-3 Section
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
www.erd.gov.bd

Memo No: 09.00.0000.074.26.004.25/82

Date: 12/02/2025

Tender Notice (e-GP)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of goods and services mentioned in the table below:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Description of Goods/ work	Tender Document Selling Start	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
1.	1074541	Procurement of Microbus for ERD	12.02.2025 at 12.00	27.02.2025 at 10.00	27.02.2025 at 12.00	27.02.2025 at 12.00

1. 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.
2. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
3. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank Branches.
4. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Ummi Hasina
Deputy Secretary

Phone: 48114354

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
Bangladesh Power Dev. Board

e-Tender Notice

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

SL No.	Tender ID No.	Packa ge No.	Reference No.	Description of goods/works	Last selling date and time	Closing date and time	Openin g date and time
01	1074687	GRL-21 (FY:24-25)	27.11.0000.304. 25.11.225 Date: 12/02/2025	Supply of 33/11KV Power Transformer 10/13.33 MVA (Tongi Store)	17- Mar 2025 13:00	17-Mar 2025 14:00	17-Mar 2025 14:00

This is 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 bank branches.

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

For more details please contact to the PE's Support Desk (01768595879).

Md. Nannu Miah
ID No. 1-01304
Director
Directorate of Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-৭৯২(৩)/১২/০২/২৫

GD- 423

KHULNA SHIPYARD LIMITED BANGLADESH NAVY, KHULNA

Notice No. BABE (F)-INSPECTION/2024-2025/05 Dated: 12 February 2025

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

01	Procuring Entity Name	Khulna Shipyard Limited
02	Invitation For	Appointment of Pre-Shipment Inspection (PSI) Agent
03	Invitation Reference No.	BABE(F)-INSPECTION/2024-2025 Dt. 12/02/2025
04	Procuring Method	Open Tender
05	Budget & Source of Funds	Own Cash Finance
06	Tender Last Selling Date	05 March 2025
07	Tender Closing Date & Time	06 March 2025 Time: 1115 A.M.
08	Tender Opening Date & Time	06 March 2025 Time: 1130 A.M.
09	Name & Address of the Office for Selling of Tender Documents:-	(1) Cash Section, Khulna Shipyard Ltd. Bangladesh Navy, Khulna. (2) Naval Store Sub Depot, Khilkhat Nama Para, Khilkhat, Dhaka.
10	Price of Tender Document	Tk. 1,000.00 (Tk. One Thousand) Non-refundable.
11	Contact Details of Official	Mob: +8801674950715 Email: icomf.ksy@gmail.com
12	Special Instructions	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all or any Tenders prior to acceptance without showing any reason.

GD- 420

Manager Admin

Return to Ukraine's pre-2014 borders not realistic Says US defence chief

REUTERS, Brussels

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth said yesterday that a return to Ukraine's pre-2014 borders was unrealistic and the Trump administration does not see Nato membership for Kyiv as part of a solution to the war triggered by Russia's invasion.

Speaking at a meeting of Ukraine's military allies at Nato headquarters in Brussels, Hegseth delivered the clearest and bluntest public statement so far on the new US administration's approach to the nearly three-year-old war.

He also told Nato allies that they would have to assume greater responsibility for Europe's security.

"We want, like you, a sovereign and prosperous Ukraine. But we must start by recognising that returning to Ukraine's pre-2014 borders is an unrealistic objective," Hegseth told the meeting of more than 40 countries allied to Ukraine. "Chasing this illusionary goal will only prolong the war and cause more suffering," he added.

Russia annexed the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea from Ukraine in March 2014 and then backed pro-Russian separatists in an armed insurgency against Kyiv's forces in the eastern Donbas region of Ukraine.

Record number of journos killed in 2024: CPJ Israel mostly responsible

REUTERS, WASHINGTON

A record number of journalists was killed around the world last year, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) said yesterday, adding that Israel was responsible for nearly 70 percent of the deaths.

At least 124 journalists in 18 countries died in 2024, the deadliest year for reporters and media workers since the committee started recording the numbers more than three decades ago, the CPJ said in a statement.

CPJ said the Israel-Gaza war has accounted for the deaths of 85 journalists at the hands of the Israeli military, and accused Israel of attempting to stifle investigations of incidents, shift blame onto journalists and ignore its duty to hold people to account for the killings.