



### Mark Carney sworn in as Canada PM

AFP, Ottawa

Mark Carney was sworn in as Canada's prime minister yesterday, taking charge of a country rattled by a breakdown in US relations since President Donald Trump's return to power.

The ruling Liberal Party overwhelmingly backed Carney to replace Justin Trudeau, betting his experience leading two central banks through historic crises will reassure Canadians facing a potentially devastating trade war.

Carney, who turns 60 on Sunday, is a political novice who has never won an elected public office but his campaign skills will be tested soon with Canada likely headed for a general election in weeks.

The threats posed by Trump are expected to dominate the vote.

The US president has sought to bludgeon Canada, imposing sweeping import tariffs and threatening further levies while claiming the country is not "viable" on its own and should be annexed by Washington.

Carney, who was sworn in as Canada's 24th prime minister at a ceremony in Ottawa, has described Trump's stance as the most serious challenge Canada has faced in a generation.

He was an investment banker at Goldman Sachs before serving as governor of the Bank of Canada during the 2008-2009 financial crisis.



Revellers smeared with gulal (colour powder) to celebrate Holi, the Hindu spring festival of colours, at a temple in India's Ahmedabad yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Russia 'committed crimes against humanity' in Ukraine: UN probe

AFP, Geneva

Russia has committed the crimes against humanity of enforced disappearances and torture in its war in Ukraine, a United Nations investigation concluded.

The crimes were perpetrated as part of a systematic, widespread attack against civilians, the UN's Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine said in a new report to be formally presented next week.

"The commission has concluded that Russian authorities committed enforced disappearances and torture as crimes against humanity," the report said.

"Both were perpetrated as part of a widespread and systematic attack against the civilian population and pursuant to a

coordinated state policy," it added.

The categorical nature of that statement was unusual for UN investigators.

The report said large numbers of civilians were detained in areas that came under Russian control, and many of them were further transferred to detention facilities in occupied Ukraine or in Russia.

The Russian authorities "committed additional violations and crimes during these prolonged detentions. Many victims have been missing for months and years, and some died in captivity," it said.

Those authorities have systematically failed to provide information on the detainees' whereabouts, it added.

The report said Russia had acted with the intent to remove disappeared people from "the protection of the law".

Prisoners of war have also been victims of torture and of enforced disappearances, in violation of international humanitarian law, the commission added.

The inquiry said Russia had "systematically used torture against certain categories of detainees to extract information, coerce, and intimidate".

The most brutal forms were used during interrogations, while Russian authorities have also "systematically used sexual violence as a form of torture against male detainees".

The commission said it had also been studying a growing number of incidents concerning Russian troops killing or wounding captured or surrendering Ukrainian soldiers, which constitutes a war crime.

## Trump takes US birthright citizenship issue to SC

AFP, Washington

President Donald Trump took his contentious bid to end birthright citizenship in the United States to the Supreme Court on Thursday.

Trump's executive order seeking to end birthright citizenship, which he signed on his first day in office, was blocked by federal district courts in Maryland, Massachusetts and Washington state.

Birthright citizenship is enshrined in the 14th Amendment to the US Constitution, which decrees that anyone born on American soil is a citizen, and Trump's order seeks to end it for children whose parents are in the country illegally or on temporary student, work or tourist visas.

In an emergency application with the Supreme Court, the Justice Department sought to narrow the scope of the nationwide lower court injunctions to the individual plaintiffs in the three cases.

The department's acting solicitor general Sarah Harris described it as a "modest" request and she notably did not seek a ruling from the Supreme Court at this time as to whether eliminating birthright citizenship is constitutional or not.

"Those universal injunctions prohibit a Day 1 Executive Order from being enforced anywhere in the country," Harris wrote.

"While the parties litigate weighty merits questions, the Court should 'restrict the scope' of multiple preliminary injunctions that 'purport to cover every person in the country,' limiting those injunctions to parties actually within the courts' power," she said.

Trump has been facing legal pushback in courts across the country as he attempts to stem illegal immigration, slash the government budget and reduce the federal workforce.

In his latest setback, a district judge in California on Thursday ordered six federal agencies to rehire thousands of probationary workers who had been fired.

Harris, in her brief with the Supreme Court, also took issue with the number of injunctions on Trump administration moves being issued by district court judges.

"Universal injunctions have reached epidemic proportions," she said, and are preventing "the Executive Branch from performing its constitutional functions."



## Stargazers marvel at 'Blood Moon'

AFP, Belo Horizonte

Stargazers across a swathe of the world marvelled at a dramatic red "Blood Moon" during a rare total lunar eclipse in the early hours of Friday morning.

The celestial spectacle was visible in the Americas and Pacific and Atlantic oceans, as well as in the westernmost parts of Europe and Africa.

The phenomenon happens when the Sun, Earth and Moon line up, causing our planet to cast a giant shadow across its satellite.

But as the Earth's shadow crept across the Moon, it did not entirely blot out its white glow -- instead the Moon glowed a reddish colour.

This is because the only sunlight that reaches the Moon is "bent and



scattered" as it goes through Earth's atmosphere, said Daniel Brown, an astronomer at Britain's Nottingham Trent University.

It is similar to how the light can become pink or red during sunrises or sunsets on Earth, he added.

The more clouds and dust there are in Earth's atmosphere, the redder the Moon appears.

Brown called the lunar eclipse,

which will last around six hours, "an amazing way to see the solar system in action".

The period when the Moon is completely in Earth's shadow -- called the totality -- lasts just over an hour.

This event has been dubbed the "Blood Worm Moon", after one of the names given to March full moons by some Native Americans.

It is the first total lunar eclipse since 2022, but there will be another one this September.

Thursday's event is a "Micromoon", meaning the Moon is the farthest away it gets from Earth, making it appear about seven percent smaller than normal, according to the website Earthsky. This is the opposite of a "Supermoon", as was seen during 2022's lunar eclipse.

## France, UK, order more air defence missiles

AFP, Paris

Paris, Rome and London said Friday they had ordered new air defence missiles after a shock US policy shift in ties with Europe.

European governments are under pressure to step up on defence after US President Donald Trump questioned whether the United States -- the guarantor of Europe's security since World War II -- should continue its central role in Nato.

"France, Italy and United Kingdom, confirm the order of 218 additional Aster missiles and the acceleration of delivery of already ordered Aster missiles," the countries said in a joint statement.

The deal underscored "the unwavering commitment of France, Italy and United Kingdom to bolster their air defence capabilities," they said.

It would also ensure "speedier delivery, from 2025, of 134 missiles previously ordered" in December 2022, French Defence Minister Sebastien Lecornu said on X.

Aster 15 and 30 missiles are produced by pan-European manufacturer MBDA.

The order is for an unspecified number of new Aster 30 BL missiles, to enter into service next year, that are to be used in the future French and Italian SAMP/T land-to-air defence systems as well as the navy ships of the three nations.

They are to be capable of reaching a target flying at an altitude of 2,500 metres) within a range of 150 kilometres.

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Memo No-25.38.9162.636.99.004.24-146

Date: 12-03-2025.

**e-Tender Notice No-01/2024-2025**

e-Tenderare hereby invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) For the Procurement of the Works stated as below.

SI No	Package No	Name of Works	Tender ID No	Method of Tender	Closing Date & Time
01	01	Land Developmen, Construction of Road, Drain, Culvert, Retaining wall, Site Office, Main Gate & Others works for site & Services Project at Sadar Upazilla, Habigonj District. Under Sylhet Division, National Housing Authority, Sylhet.	1086642	OTM	16-04-2025 14:00 PM

**Note :**

- This is an online Tender Notice, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and on Offline /Hard copy will be accepted.
- To submit e-Tender(s), registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is Required.
- The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online at any branch of registered banks.

*Muhammod Delwar Hossain*  
**12.03.2025**  
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GD-663

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### Invitation for Tender

TENDER NOTICE NO: 03/EED/BAN/e-TENDER/2024-25

DATE: 13/03/2025

Sl. No	Lot No & Name of Works	Tender ID	Type Method	Last Date & Time of Selling Documents	Last Date and Time for Tender Security Submission	Last Date & Time of Submission Documents
01	xen/eed/bban/323-GS/03 Construction of 05 Storied Hostel Building with 05 storied foundation in/c. Sanitary, Water Supply & Electrification works at Bandarban Government High School, Sadar, Bandarban Hill district.	1086479	NCT, OTM	07-Apr-2025 16:00	08-Apr-2025 12:45	08-Apr-2025 13:00

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GD-664

*(Md. Mizanur Rahman)*  
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