

Russia hopes for 'progress' at Saudi talks

AFP, Moscow Moscow is hoping to achieve "some progress" at talks in Saudi Arabia tomorrow, a Russian negotiator told state media some 48 hours before the United States meets delegations from both Ukraine and Russia in a bid to halt the three-year conflict.

Moscow has rejected a joint US-Ukraine proposal of a full and unconditional 30-day ceasefire, instead suggesting just halting aerial strikes on energy facilities.

Despite that offer, both sides have continued to launch aerial attacks in the run-up to the negotiations.

A Russian strike on the southern Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia late Friday night killed a family of three, triggering anger among Ukrainian officials.

Despite the flurry of diplomacy and push from US President Donald Trump, a breakthrough has so far proved elusive.



Palestinians inspect the site of an Israeli strike on a fishing harbour in Deir el-Balah in the central Gaza Strip yesterday. At least 130 Palestinians were killed and 263 wounded in the past 48 hours of Israel's offensive on Gaza, the Palestinian enclave's health ministry said yesterday.

US revokes legal status for 500,000 LatAM immigrants

AFP, Washington The US said Friday it was terminating the legal status of hundreds of thousands of immigrants, giving them weeks to leave the country.

President Donald Trump has pledged to carry out the largest deportation campaign in US history and curb immigration, mainly from Latin American nations.

The order affects around 532,000 Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans and Venezuelans who came to the United States under a scheme launched in October 2022 by Trump's predecessor Joe Biden and expanded in January the following year.

They will lose their legal protection 30 days after the Department of Homeland Security's order is published in the Federal Register, which is scheduled Tuesday.

That means immigrants sponsored by the program "must depart the United States" by April 24 unless they have secured another immigration status allowing them to remain in the country, the order says.

Welcome.US, which supports people seeking refuge in the United States, urged those affected by the move to "immediately" seek advice from an immigration lawyer.

The Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans (CHNV) program, announced in January 2023, allowed entry to the United States for two years for up to 30,000 migrants per month from the four countries, which have grim human rights records.

'We are at a turning point in history'

Japan, China, and South Korea agree to promote peace, ties

AFP, Tokyo Japan, South Korea and China agreed Saturday that peace on the Korean peninsula has a shared responsibility, Seoul's foreign minister said, in a meeting of the three countries' top diplomats in which they pledged to promote cooperation.

The talks in Tokyo followed a rare summit in May in Seoul where the three neighbours -- riven by historical and territorial disputes -- agreed to deepen trade ties and restated their goal of a denuclearised Korean peninsula.

But they come as US tariffs loom over the region, and as concerns mount over North Korea's weapons tests and its deployment of troops to support Russia's war against Ukraine.

"We reaffirmed that maintaining peace and stability on the Korean peninsula is a shared interest and responsibility of the three countries," South Korea's Cho Tae-yul told reporters after the trilateral meeting.

Seoul and Tokyo typically take a stronger line against North Korea than China, which remains one of Pyongyang's most important allies

and economic benefactors. Japanese Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya said he, Cho, and China's Wang Yi "had a frank exchange of views on trilateral cooperation and regional international affairs... and confirmed that we will promote future-orientated cooperation".

"The international situation has

Wang noted this year marks the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, saying "only by sincerely reflecting on history can we better build the future".

At two-way talks between Iwaya and Wang on Saturday, the Japanese minister said he had "frankly conveyed our country's thoughts and concerns" on disputed islands,



become increasingly severe, and it is no exaggeration to say that we are at a turning point in history," Iwaya said at the start of Saturday's meeting.

This makes it "more important than ever to make efforts to overcome division and confrontation", he added.

detained Japanese nationals and the situation in Taiwan and the South China Sea, among other contentious issues.

Ukraine was also on the agenda, with Iwaya warning "any attempt to unilaterally change the status quo by force will not be tolerated anywhere in the world".

Four killed in South Korea wildfire

AFP, Seoul

At least three firefighters and a public servant have been killed in a wildfire in South Korea, prompting the government to declare a state of emergency in southeastern regions, authorities said yesterday.

The fire, which began in Sancheong county on Friday afternoon, prompted the deployment of 304 personnel, along with 20 helicopters, according to South Korea's Interior Ministry.

More than 200 residents in 15 villages have been told to evacuate, it added.

"Four people -- three firefighters and one public servant -- have been confirmed to be dead," a fire agency official told AFP.

Wildfires occurred in several other areas across the country, with 16 instances reported yesterday alone.

The ministry later declared a state of emergency in Ulsan and North and South Gyeongsang provinces, due to "the extensive damage caused by wildfires across the country".

Trump revokes security clearances of Biden, aides

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump made good Friday on a threat to revoke the security clearances of his predecessor Joe Biden and several senior former White House and national security officials.

The list of names stripped of their authorisation to see state secrets included Biden, his family members, and former vice-president and Trump presidential rival Kamala Harris.

Former secretary of state and defeated presidential candidate Hillary Clinton was on the list, along with Biden's secretary of state Antony Blinken and national security advisor Jacob Sullivan.

In a memorandum to agency heads and distributed by the White House communications office, Trump said the named officials should no longer be allowed access to classified material.

"I hereby direct every executive department and agency head ... to revoke any active security clearances held by the aforementioned individuals," Trump said.

"I also direct all executive department and agency heads to revoke unescorted access to secure United States Government facilities from these individuals."

Former US presidents and national security officials traditionally retain a security clearance as a courtesy, and some find it useful in seeking employment with private contractors.

But Trump, who continues to falsely claim that Biden schemed to steal the 2020 election, which he lost, has remained furious with his predecessor and lashes out frequently.

Trump was himself investigated for breaching security rules during the period between his first and second term in office, by storing classified White House documents in his Mar-a-Lago resort.

The investigation was wound up after Trump returned to office.

Many of the individuals on Trump's list were high-profile political appointees of his Democratic predecessor, but former Republican lawmaker and vocal Trump critic Liz Cheney is also named.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Conservator of Forests Wildlife & Nature Conservation Circle Ban Bhaban, 5th floor, Agargaon, Dhaka. Invitation for Tender (Works) table with columns for Package No, Name of works, Tender Security Amount, Tender Document Fee, Completion Time.



Heathrow resumes operations after fire shutdown

AFP, London

Heathrow Airport said it was "fully operational" yesterday but there were some delays and cancellations as Europe's busiest air hub resumed operations a day after a power station fire caused travel mayhem.

The electricity substation blaze knocked out power at the London airport, closing it for most of Friday before some flights began to arrive and take off later in the evening.

The shutdown affected thousands of passengers around the world and raised serious questions about the reliability of one of the UK's most critical pieces of infrastructure.

About 1,350 flights were affected by Friday's closure, according to the Flightradar24 tracking website. Around 120 Heathrow-bound planes were in the air when the closure was announced and had to be diverted.

Around 230,000 passengers use Heathrow every day -- 83 million a year -- making it one of the world's busiest airports.

London's Metropolitan Police's Counter Terrorism Command is leading the investigation into the fire given its impact, but said that there was "currently no indication of foul play".

Fire officials said the blaze, which broke out on Thursday night, was "believed to be non-suspicious" and that an investigation would "focus on the electrical distribution equipment".

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার পল্লিপ্রসার, বন ও জলবায়ু পরিবর্তন মন্ত্রণালয় বাংলাদেশ বনসিদ্ধি উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন উৎপাদন ও বাণিজ্য শাখা বনসিদ্ধি ভবন, ৭৩, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০ www.bfildc.gov.bd. উন্মুক্ত ডিজাইন প্রতিযোগিতার বিজ্ঞপ্তি: পিপিআর-২০০৮ এর বিধি ১১১ অনুযায়ী বাংলাদেশ বনসিদ্ধি উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশনের ০৮ (আট) টি শিল্প ইউনিটের উৎপাদিত আসবাবপত্রের ডিজাইন প্রতিযোগিতার জন্য ন্যূনতম, উচ্চতম, পরিবেশ বাছন ও কর্মসম্পাদন আদায়ের "উন্মুক্ত ডিজাইন প্রতিযোগিতা" আয়োজন করা হবে।