

Houthi accuse US of attacking airport

Israel intercepts missile launched from Yemen

AFP, Sanaa

Houthi rebel media in Yemen accused the United States Saturday of attacking the airport in Hodeida, the latest such claim since Washington announced heavy strikes against the rebels one week ago.

Al-Masirah TV, blaming "American aggression," said three attacks had targeted the airport in Hodeida on the Red Sea coast.

Meanwhile, Israel said yesterday it had intercepted a missile launched from Yemen after air raid sirens sounded in several areas across the country.

The Houthi's fresh attacks come under a pledge to expand their range of targets in retaliation for renewed Israeli strikes in Gaza that killed hundreds after weeks of relative calm.

GRAFT INVESTIGATION

Turkish court jails Istanbul mayor pending trial

REUTERS, Istanbul

A Turkish court yesterday jailed President Tayyip Erdogan's main political rival, Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu, pending trial on graft charges, in a move likely to stoke the country's biggest protests against the government in more than a decade.

The decision to send Imamoglu to jail comes after the main opposition party, European leaders and tens of thousands of protesters criticised the actions against him as politicised and undemocratic.

Imamoglu has denied the charges, calling them "unimaginable accusations and slanders".

"I am standing tall, I will never bow down," Imamoglu said on X, calling on supporters not to lose hope. "We will rip away this coup, this dark stain on our democracy all together."

The government denies that investigations are politically motivated and says courts are independent. Interior Ministry said that Istanbul Imamoglu has been removed from duty after the court formally arrested him on graft charges.

As the courtroom developments unfolded early yesterday, members of Imamoglu's Republican People's Party (CHP), the main opposition against Erdogan's ruling alliance, were preparing to anoint Imamoglu as its candidate for the next presidential election.

He is the only nominee and hundreds of people had flocked to polling stations for the election to show support after the court ruling, and skirmishes with police continued through the night in major cities.

No general election is scheduled until 2028. But if Erdogan is to run again, parliament would need to back an earlier election since the president will have reached his limit by that date. Imamoglu is leading Erdogan in some opinion polls.



A protester flashes a victory sign as pro-Palestinian demonstrators participate in a rally against Israel's operations in Gaza and Lebanon, outside the Israeli embassy in Athens, Greece, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Put fresh pressure on Moscow to end war

Zelensky urges allies as Russian strikes on Kyiv kill three people; Ukraine, US teams to hold talks in KSA



AFP, Kyiv

President Volodymyr Zelensky yesterday urged Ukraine's allies to put fresh pressure on Moscow to end the war, after Russian drones targeted Kyiv overnight, killing at least three people, according to local authorities.

"New decisions and new pressure on Moscow are needed to bring an end to these strikes and this war," Zelensky posted on social media on the eve of parallel talks between the two sides with US officials on a partial truce.

"According to the available information, three people died, including a five-year-old child. Another 10 people were wounded," the Kyiv city military administration said on Telegram.

Among the wounded, "the youngest victim was... only 11 months old," it said.

The drones targeted several districts of Kyiv, mainly hitting residential buildings and causing large fires, according to footage circulating on social media.

Ukraine's air force also said Russia had launched 147 drones overnight targeting several parts of the country. The military

said air defence units had destroyed 97 of the drones, with 25 failing to reach their targets.

Russian and Ukrainian delegations are to hold parallel ceasefire talks with US representatives in Saudi Arabia today.

Moscow is hoping to achieve "some progress" at the talks, a Russian negotiator told state media before the United States meets Ukrainian and Russian delegations separately in a bid to halt the three-year conflict.

US envoy Keith Kellogg described the effort as "shuttle diplomacy" between hotel rooms.

Ukraine will meet the US mediators first, with Zelensky saying he was "prepared" for yesterday's talks.

Moscow has rejected a joint US-Ukraine proposal for a full and unconditional 30-day ceasefire, countering with a suggested pause on aerial attacks on energy facilities.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said US President Donald Trump has a point that European countries must bear a greater burden for their collective self-defence, the New York Times said yesterday. "We need to think about defence and security in a more immediate way," he told the newspaper.

SOUTH LEBANON

One dead as Israel resumes drone strike

AFP, Beirut

Lebanon's health ministry said one person was killed yesterday in an Israeli drone strike, a day after the most intense escalation since a November ceasefire in the war with Hezbollah.

"The Israeli enemy raid with a drone on a car in Aita al-Shaab led to the death of one citizen," the health ministry said, after the official National News Agency (NNA) had reported the strike on the southern village.

The NNA also reported separate Israeli strikes yesterday on Naqurah, Shihin and Labbounah in the south, near the Israeli border.

The Lebanese health ministry said seven people were killed on Saturday, including in an attack on Tyre which a security source told AFP targeted a Hezbollah official.

Pakistan army kills 16 militants on Afghan border

AGENCIES

Pakistan's army has killed 16 Islamist militants along the country's western border with Afghanistan, a statement said yesterday.

It said border troops killed all the militants in an exchange of fire during the night between March 22 and 23 in North Waziristan district. "Our troops effectively engaged and thwarted their attempt to infiltrate," the army statement said.

Islamabad says that Islamist militants who attack inside Pakistan, and against the army have safe havens in Afghanistan, a charge Kabul denies, reports Reuters.

Meanwhile, gunmen shot dead four ethnic Punjabi labourers and four policemen in southwestern Pakistan on Saturday, officials said.

Attacks on labourers from other parts of the country have increased in Balochistan, with militants accusing them of profiting from the region, reports AFP.

The incident took place in Mangocher town of Kalat district in Balochistan province, which borders Afghanistan and Iran.

"The militants arriving on motorcycles shot dead four Punjabi labourers who were operators of borewell drilling equipment," Ali Gul Imrani, a local administration official, told AFP.

A local police official, Muhammad Asghar, also confirmed the details to AFP.

In a separate incident, four policemen were killed in an ambush in Nushki district of the same province.

MEET WITH US SENATOR

Chinese premier calls for 'dialogue' with Washington

AFP, Beijing



China's number two leader yesterday called for "dialogue" with Washington, during a meeting in Beijing attended by prominent US business executives and a key congressional ally of President Donald Trump.

Relations between the world's two largest economies have plunged in recent weeks, as blanket tariffs imposed by Trump threaten China's trade prospects.

Premier Li Qiang's comments came during a meeting with Trump supporter Steve Daines, a Republican senator from Montana.

His visit has been viewed as a bid to ease strained relations, with an eye toward setting up a summit between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

"Our two sides need to choose dialogue over confrontation, win-win cooperation over zero-sum competition," Li told Daines.

CEOs of major firms including FedEx, Pfizer and Qualcomm were also present.

Li said he hoped Washington would "work together with China to promote the steady, sound and sustainable development" of relations.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Chief Controller of Stores

Bangladesh Railway
Pahartali, Chittagong-4202
Telephone: 031-659604 E-mail: ccsph@railway.gov.bd

No. CCS/eGP Notice/2025

Date: 20/03/2025

e-Tender Notice

Notice No. 2025/07

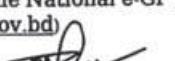
e-Tender is invited in the National eGP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Chief Controller of Stores, Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chittagong for the Procurement of Goods as stated below:

SL No	Tender/Proposal ID	Tender/Proposal Package No. and Description	Procurement Nature, Type & Method	Tender/Proposal Closing Date & Time
1.	1081880	54.01.1543.331.23.008.25 Procurement of Industrial Paint Jie Wild Lilac Finishing.	Goods NCT OTM	15-Apr-2025 12:00
2.	1075881	54.01.1543.335.10.001.25 Procurement of Electrodes Rods Class 'M-8 SWG (Curtins) & Electrodes Rods Class 'B-12 SWG	Goods NCT OTM	16-Apr-2025 12:00
3.	1081984	54.01.1543.335.08.001.25 Procurement of Hose Sleeve Size: (As100-200), Main Lock Bolt With bush and lever (Twist) & Brake Beam Hanger.	Goods NCT OTM	24-Apr-2025 13:00
4.	1081780	54.01.1543.331.23.009.25 Procurement of Paint Enamel Red Post Office.	Goods NCT OTM	23-Apr-2025 13:00
5.	1081891	54.01.1543.331.23.001.25 Procurement of Industrial Paint Jie Wild Lilac Under Coat.	Goods NCT OTM	21-Apr-2025 14:00

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.

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



(Md. Mizanur Rahman)
Assistant Controller of Stores/P1
On the behalf of CCS/PHT

GD-744

Trump targets lawyers in immigration cases

Reuters, Washington

Legal advocacy groups sounded alarms on Saturday after US President Donald Trump threatened new actions against lawyers and law firms that bring immigration lawsuits and other cases against the government that he deems unethical.

In a memorandum to US Attorney General Pam Bondi late on Friday, Trump said lawyers were helping to fuel "rampant fraud and meritless claims" in the immigration system, and directed the Justice Department to seek sanctions against attorneys for professional misconduct.

The order also took aim at law firms that sue the administration in what Trump, a Republican, called "baseless partisan" lawsuits. He asked Bondi to refer such firms to the White House to be stripped of security clearances, and for federal contracts that they worked on to be terminated.

Ben Wizner, a senior lawyer at the American Civil Liberties Union, said the new directive sought to "chill and intimidate" lawyers who challenge the president's agenda. Trump has separately mounted attacks on law firms over their internal diversity policies and their ties to his political adversaries.

"Courts have been the only institution so far that have stood up to Trump's onslaught," Wizner said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Principal
Bhola Govt. Technical School and College
Bhola

Website: www.tsc_bhola.gov.bd
E-mail: tsc_bhola@gmail.com

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Date: 23/03/2025

e-GP Tender Notice

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Tender ID	Package No.	Name of package description	Tender publishing date & time	Last selling date & time	Closing and opening date & time
1089119	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Raw/GR1	Supply of Raw Materials and Spare parts	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:00
1089633	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Eng/GR2	Supply of Engineering Equipment	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:05
1089636	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Teach/GR3	Supply of Teaching Materials	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:15
1089640	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Office/GR4	Supply of Office Equipment	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:20
1089644	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Fur/GR5	Supply of Furniture	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:25
1089647	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Clean/GR6	Supply of Cleaning Materials	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:30
1089649	Bhola/TSC/2024-25/Mono/GR7	Supply of Monohary Materials for office	24-Mar-2025 17:00	09-Apr-2025 17:00	10-Apr-2025 11:35

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