



Palestinians gather at the site of an Israeli strike on a house in Gaza City, yesterday. EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas, during a visit to Jerusalem, warned that Israeli strikes on Syria and Lebanon could threaten to worsen the situation.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Sri Lanka to host India PM next month

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka will host Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi next week, an official said yesterday, as Colombo grapples with the competing interests of its powerful northern neighbour and China, its largest lender.

A member of leftist President Anura Kumara Dissanayake's office said Modi will be the first foreign head of government to visit the island nation under the new administration.

"It must be recalled that President Dissanayake's first foreign visit after his election in September was to New Delhi in December," the official told AFP.

## Israeli strikes in Gaza kill 65 Palestinians

Say health officials; Egypt makes new truce offer

REUTERS, Jerusalem

Egypt has put forward a new proposal aimed at restoring the Gaza ceasefire deal, security sources told Reuters yesterday, as Palestinian health authorities said Israeli strikes have killed at least 65 people in the enclave in the past 24 hours.

The proposal, made last

week, follows an escalation in violence after Israel resumed air and ground operations against Hamas last Tuesday, effectively ending a two-month period of relative calm.

Health officials said Israel has killed nearly 700 Palestinians since it resumed

its attacks, including at least 400 women and children.

The Egyptian plan calls for Hamas to release five Israeli hostages each week, with Israel implementing the second phase of the ceasefire after the first week.

Hamas is still holding 59 hostages, with 24 of them thought to be still alive.

Both US and Hamas agreed to the proposal, the security sources said, but Israel has not yet responded. A Hamas official didn't confirm the proposed offer, but said that "several proposals are being discussed with the mediators.



REUTERS, Yangon

A Myanmar junta airstrike

kills 11 including doctor

REUTERS, Seoul

South Korea's Constitutional Court

reinstated Prime Minister Han

Duck-soo to the post of acting president,

striking down his impeachment as he

pledged to focus on steering Asia's fourth

biggest economy through a US "trade war".

The ruling, which comes amid months

of political turmoil in the country,

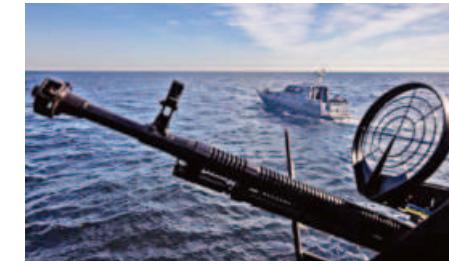
returns Han to power immediately. He

took over as acting leader from President

Yoon Suk Yeol, who was impeached

over his imposition of martial law in

December.



## US, Russia discuss Ukraine war in KSA

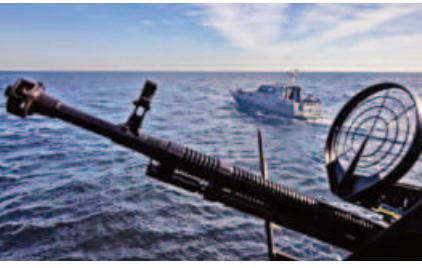
### Eye a Black Sea ceasefire; Russia's air attack on Kyiv wounds one, damages houses

REUTERS, Riyadh

US and Russian officials yesterday began talks in Saudi Arabia aimed at making progress towards a broad ceasefire in Ukraine with Washington eyeing a separate Black Sea maritime ceasefire deal before securing a wider agreement.

The talks, which followed US negotiations with Ukraine in Saudi Arabia on Sunday, come as US President Donald Trump intensifies his drive to end the three-year-old conflict after he last week spoke to both Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

A source briefed on the planning for the talks said the US side was being led by Andrew Peek, a senior director at the White House National Security Council, and Michael Anton, a senior State Department official.



The White House says the aim of the talks is to reach a maritime ceasefire in the Black Sea, allowing the free flow of shipping, though the area has not been the location of intense military operations in recent months.

Meanwhile, Russia launched its third consecutive overnight air attack on Kyiv, wounding one person and damaging several houses in the region, a Kyiv's regional governor said yesterday.

Turkey detains 1,100 since Erdogan rival's arrest

AFP, Istanbul

Turkish police have detained more than 1,100 people, including journalists, since the arrest of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's main rival sparked the country's worst unrest in years, a minister said yesterday.

The demonstrations began in Istanbul after Ekrem Imamoglu's arrest last week and have since spread to more than 55 of 81 provinces, sparking clashes with riot police and drawing international condemnation.

The popular 53-year-old has been widely seen as the only politician who could defeat Turkey's leader Erdogan at the ballot box.

## SOUTH KOREA POLITICAL CRISIS

### Court reinstates impeached PM as acting president

REUTERS, Seoul

"I believe the people are making it very clear, in one voice, that the extreme confrontation in politics must stop," said Han, who thanked the court for its "wise decision" and the cabinet for their hard work while he was suspended.

"As acting president, I will do my best to maintain stable state administration, and devote all wisdom and capabilities to safeguard national interests in the trade war," Han said in televised comments.

South Korea, one of the world's top exporters, has been bracing for the potential impact of a range of threatened tariffs under US President Donald Trump.

**Eastern Bank PLC.**

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DHAKA-1212, BANGLADESH

### INFORMATION SENSITIVE TO SHARE PRICE

#### Recommendation for Cash Dividend & Stock Dividend for the year 2024

This is to notify for information of all concerned that the Board of Directors of Eastern Bank PLC. (EBL) in the Board Meeting held on **Monday, March 24, 2025** between 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM approved the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2024 and recommended for dividends to the shareholders for the same year as noted below:

- a) Cash Dividend @ 17.50% (Seventeen Point Five Zero Percent)
- b) Stock Dividend @ 17.50% (Seventeen Point Five Zero Percent)

1. The Board also disclosed the following information from the Audited Financial Statements for the year 2024 with the corresponding figures of 2023:

Key Financial Indicators	Solo		Consolidated	
	2024	2023 (Restated)	2024	2023 (Restated)
Net Asset Value (NAV) in Crore BDT	4,306.36	3,748.43	4,295.81	3,824.28
Net Asset Value Per Share in BDT	31.71	27.60	31.63	28.16
Earnings Per Share (EPS) in BDT	5.53	4.50	4.86	4.51
Net Operating Cash Flow Per Share (NOCFPS) in BDT	18.31	6.99	17.74	6.95

#### Disclosure after recommendation of stock dividend in compliance with BSEC Notification (Ref: BSEC/CMRRC/2009-193/46/Admin/138, Dated: October 03, 2022).

- a. Stock dividend has been recommended to strengthen the capital base of the Bank (EBL) in order to support projected business growth and to improve certain regulatory ratios.
- b. Stock Dividend is recommended out of accumulated profit; and
- c. Stock Dividend is not recommended from capital reserve or revaluation reserve or any unrealized gain or out of profit earned prior to incorporation of EBL or through reducing paid-up capital or through doing anything so that the post dividend retained earnings become negative or a debit balance.

2. The Board also decided to hold the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Company (EBL) as per following schedule:

Day & Date	: Wednesday, May 21, 2025
Time	: 11.00 AM (Bangladesh Standard Time)
Record Date	: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 (In lieu of Book Closure)
Venue & Mode	: Virtual Meeting through online/ Digital Platform (Link to be communicated in due course)

3. **Dividend Entitlement:** The Shareholders whose names would appear in the Register of Members of the Company (EBL) and/or in the Depository Register on the 'Record Date' (April 23, 2025) will be eligible to join the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) and to receive the Dividends.

By order of the Board of Directors

Sd-

Md. Abdullah Al Mamun FCS  
Company Secretary

Dated: March 24, 2025

Dhaka, Bangladesh.

#### Note:

- All Hon'ble Shareholders of EBL are requested to update their respective BO Accounts [Mailing Address, Electronic Mail (e-Mail), Bank Account details, Taxpayer's Identification Number (e-TIN), Contact Number etc.] through Depository Participant (DP) latest by **April 22, 2025 (Before Record Date)**.
- As per Income Tax Act, 2023, for the shareholders having no e-TIN, Tax will be deducted @ 15% (Fifteen Percent) instead of @ 10% (Ten Percent) from Cash Dividend payable.
- The concerned Depository Participants (DP) are requested to provide us detailed information (both soft & hard copies) of their margin loan holders (if any) within May 15, 2025 who hold shares of the Bank as on 'Record Date' (April 23, 2025) to the Share Department or through email at [sharedepartment@ebi-bd.com](mailto:sharedepartment@ebi-bd.com)
- The Annual Report for the year 2024 of the Bank (EBL) will be accessible on the Bank's website, [www.ebi.com.bd](http://www.ebi.com.bd) within the specified timeframe. Additionally, it will be distributed to Shareholders via email addresses available to us as on the Record Date (April 23, 2025).

