



UK's Starmer pledges big drop in immigration Says greater control needed to maintain social cohesion

REUTERS, London

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer yesterday promised to cut net migration to Britain significantly over the next four years, saying greater control was needed to maintain social cohesion and drive investment in the local workforce.

Controlling immigration was a key factor in Britain's 2016 vote to leave the European Union, yet net arrivals have quadrupled since it left the bloc, helping boost the popularity of Nigel Farage's right-wing, anti-immigration Reform UK party.

Starmer said nations depend on rules that set out rights, responsibilities and obligations, and that without them Britain risked "becoming an island of strangers".

He said his new plan meant migration would fall sharply by the end of this parliament in 2029.

"That's a promise, but I want to be very clear on this, if we do need to take further steps, if we do need to do more to release pressure on housing and our public services, then mark my words, we will," he told a press conference at his Downing Street office.

'Clock is ticking' for Russia

Warns Germany on Ukraine ceasefire ultimatum as Europe threatens Nord Stream 2 sanctions

REUTERS, Kyiv

European countries will begin preparing new sanctions on Russia unless the Kremlin starts abiding by a 30-day ceasefire in its war with Ukraine, which was set to expire by the end of yesterday.

Ukraine's military said Russia had conducted dozens of attacks along the front in eastern Ukraine yesterday as well as an overnight assault using more than 100 drones, despite the ceasefire proposal by Europe and Kyiv.

"The clock is ticking," a German government spokesperson said at a news conference in Berlin.

"We still have 12 hours until the end of the day, and if the ceasefire is not in place by then, the European side will (set in motion) preparations for sanctions," the spokesperson said.

The leaders of four major European powers travelled to Kyiv on Saturday and demanded an unconditional 30-day ceasefire from yesterday. Russian President Vladimir Putin, implicitly rejecting the offer, instead



proposed direct Russia-Ukraine talks in Istanbul that he said could potentially lead to a ceasefire. In a fresh twist in the stop-start peace talks process, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said he would travel in person to Istanbul where, he said, he would be waiting to meet Putin.

The Kremlin has not responded to that latest proposal. Putin and Zelensky have not met since December 2019 - over two years before Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine - and make no secret of their contempt for each other.

The Ukrainian air force said Ukraine came under attack overnight from 108 long-range combat drones starting from 11:00 pm, an hour before the proposed ceasefire was due to kick in. Attacks of this kind unfold over the course of hours as drones fly much slower than missiles.



Palestinian Red Crescent crews hold a rally yesterday in Ramallah, in the occupied West Bank, to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day and call for the protection of medical personnel and humanitarian workers in Gaza.

PHOTO: AFP

Gaza faces critical risk of famine

Says hunger monitor; Israeli strikes kill 15 Palestinians sheltering in a school

AGENCIES

A global hunger monitor said yesterday that Gaza's entire population continues to face a critical risk of famine, while half a million people face starvation.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification described the findings as major deterioration since its last assessment in October.

The latest report analysed a period from April 1 to May 10 this year and gave projections of the situation until the end of September, according to a summary of its key findings, reports Al Jazeera online.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian group Hamas said yesterday it will release Israeli-American hostage Edan Alexander from Gaza, although Israel's prime minister said there would be no ceasefire and plans for an intensified military campaign would continue.

Fighting will pause to allow for Alexander's safe passage, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, and three Palestinians in Gaza told Reuters early yesterday afternoon that there had been calm since midday, with no

- Half a million people face starvation in Gaza: monitor
- Hamas will release US-Israeli hostage
- Israel preparing to step up fighting while talks continue

sound of drones or warplanes.

Israel was told on Sunday of Hamas' decision to free the last surviving US hostage in Gaza as a goodwill gesture to President Donald Trump.

The release, after four-way talks between Hamas, the United States, Egypt and Qatar, could open the way to freeing the remaining 59 hostages held in the Gaza Strip.

But Netanyahu said Israel had agreed only to allow safe passage for Alexander, and its forces would continue recently announced preparations to step up operations there.

"Israel has not committed to a ceasefire of

any kind," his office said, adding that military pressure had forced Hamas into the release. "The negotiations will continue under fire, during preparations for an intensification of the fighting."

Israeli jets continued to pound Gaza before the expected release, killing at least 15 people sheltering in a school housing displaced families in Jabalia in the north of the enclave, local health authorities said.

The Israeli military said it was looking into the report.

On Sunday, Hamas said it had been talking to the US and had agreed to release Alexander. Arab mediators Qatar and Egypt called it an encouraging step towards a return to ceasefire talks.

Trump is due to visit Gulf states on a trip that does not include a stop in Israel but special envoy Steve Witkoff, who helped arrange the release, was expected in Israel yesterday, two Israeli officials said.

Alexander's family thanked Trump and Witkoff, saying in a statement that they hoped the decision would open the way for the release of the other remaining hostages.

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CORRIGENDUM of the IFT
Invitation for Tender (IFT) No. CMSD/SR-2405/NCT/2024-2025/Proc-D-5/12, date: 22-04-2025 published in Amar Desh and The Daily Star on 23-04-2025 scheduled to be opened on 15/05/2025 at 11.30 A.M is hereby postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. The revised date of opening will be informed to all concerned through those Newspapers.

Enclosed: Corrigendum Notice of the IFT
01(One) copy.

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Ref No. 27.11.0000.716.77.25.649

Date: 08.05.2025

Invitation for e-Tenders
e-Tender are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of following work.

Sl. No.	Tender ID & Ref. No.	Name of works	Tender publication date	Tender closing date
1	Tender ID: 1108790 Ref. No: 27.11.0000.716.77.25.646 Dt.: 08.05.2025	Supply of spare parts /accessories /Tonner for Server/PC/Laptop/Printer /Scanner/ Server HDD/ UPS/ Photocopiers related equipments etc. for BPDB Dhaka offices.	08.05.2025	26.05.2025 Time: 14:00
2	Tender ID: 1109267 Ref. No: 27.11.0000.716.77.25.647 Dt.: 08.05.2025	Supply Installation and commissioning of Laptop, Desktop with monitor, Printer, NAS, All in One Computer and scanner for different offices of BPDB.	08.05.2025	26.05.2025 Time: 12:00
3	Tender ID: 1109305 Ref. No: 27.11.0000.716.77.25.648 Dt.: 08.05.2025	Supply of Color Toner for Different Offices of BPDB.	08.05.2025	26.05.2025 Time: 15:00

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-১২১০(২)/১২/০৫/২৫

Signed
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GD-1141

Junta airstrike kills 17 school children Says Myanmar opposition

REUTERS

Myanmar's shadow government said an airstrike by the ruling junta had killed at least 17 students and injured 20 others at a school in an opposition-controlled area yesterday, despite a ceasefire being in place after a devastating earthquake.

The school, which is operated by the shadow National Unity Government, is in the central Myanmar town of Depayin in the Sagaing region, about 160 km (100 miles) north of Mandalay and not far from the epicentre of the March 28 earthquake.

"According to the information we have so far, 17 students have been killed and 20 injured," NUG spokesperson Nay Phone Latt said.

"Some may have been missing due to bomb damage, so the death toll could be higher," NUG spokesperson Nay Phone Latt said.

Myanmar has been gripped by conflict since the military used lethal force to suppress protests against its return to power in a 2021 coup.

Trump hails Air Force One 'gift'

AFP, Washington

Donald Trump on Sunday defended plans to receive a new Air Force One as a gift, after reports he will accept a luxury Boeing jet from Qatar despite strict rules on presents for US presidents.

Calling the plane a "flying palace," ABC News, which first reported the story, said the Boeing 747-8 jumbo jet gifted from the Qatari royal family would possibly be the most expensive gift ever received by the American government.

The controversy around the jet -- and Trump's boast that it was coming "free of charge" -- builds on questions the US leader is facing over potential conflicts of interest with his family businesses and use of public office.

In a social media post late Sunday that made no mention of Qatar, Trump went on the offensive to claim the plane was a temporary "gift" that would go to the Defence Department, and would replace an existing four-decade-old model. Trump said the process was unfolding as a "transparent transaction" but did not specify whether any party was receiving something in return.

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ID	Package	Title of Works	Closing & Opening Date and Time
1099786	GMDDS: 2024-2025/18	Supply of Light. MCCB, MCB & other related Accessories for different Grid Substations under GMD, Dhaka-South, Power Grid.	20 May 2025 at 12:30
1104285	GMDDS: 2024-2025/19	Cable Termination of Auto Transformer at Hasnabad 230/132kV Grid Substation under GMD, Dhaka-South, Power Grid.	

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সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ঢাকা মহানগরী ও অংশসংলগ্ন পার্শ্ববর্তী এলাকার যানজট নিরসনে ও পরিবেশ সংরক্ষণে অন্ত্যাবসিক গণপরিবহন হিসেবে পাতাল ও উড়াল সমন্বয়ে এমআরটি লাইন-৫ নর্দার্ন রুট নির্মাণের লক্ষ্যে ঢাকা ম্যাস র‍্যাপিড ট্রানজিট ডেভেলপমেন্ট প্রজেক্ট (লাইন-৫): নর্দার্ন রুট প্রকল্পের কাজ চলমান রয়েছে। প্রকল্পের প্রভাবিত রুটের (হোমোয়েতপুর হতে আমিনবাজার পর্যন্ত) মেট্রোরেল এলাকার আগামী ১৩ মে ২০২৫ তারিখ, মঙ্গলবার সকাল ৬:০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিশেষ ব্যবস্থাপনায় পরিষেবা লাইন স্থানান্তরের কার্যক্রম গ্রহণ করা হবে।
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