

Trump meets Syrian president

Urges him to establish ties with Israel after lifting sanctions

REUTERS, Riyadh

US President Donald Trump met with Syria's president in Saudi Arabia yesterday and urged him to normalise ties with longtime foe Israel, after a surprise US announcement that it would lift all sanctions on the Islamist-led government.

Trump met Syria's Ahmed al-Sharaa before a summit between the United States and Gulf Arab countries. Photos posted on Saudi state television showed them shaking hands in the presence of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, also known as MbS.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan joined Trump and MbS virtually in the meeting, Turkey's Anadolu News Agency reported.

Trump urged Sharaa to join the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco, which normalised relations with Israel under the US brokered Abraham Accords



Palestinians gather during a march to commemorate Nakba Day, the "catastrophe" of their mass dispossession in the 1948 war surrounding Israel's creation, in Ramallah in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Israeli military intercepts missile fired by Houthis

Warns Yemenis to avoid ports, signalling retaliation

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel's army yesterday urged Yemenis to stay away from Houthi-held ports, in a likely warning of retaliation after it intercepted a missile fired by the Iran-backed rebels.

The Houthis, who say they are acting in solidarity with Palestinians, have repeatedly targeted Israel and shipping in the Red Sea since the October 2023 start of the war between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

"Following the sirens that sounded a short while ago in several areas in Israel, a missile launched from Yemen was intercepted," said the Israeli military.

AFP correspondents in Jerusalem heard explosions, likely from the interception of the missile.

The Houthis, who control large swathes of the Arabian Peninsula country, claimed responsibility for launching the missile in what they said was their third attack on Israel in less than 24 hours.

Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree said they targeted Ben Gurion International Airport, Israel's main gateway near Tel Aviv, using what they called "a hypersonic ballistic missile".

The Israeli military later warned Yemenis to stay away from three Houthi-held sea ports.

"Due to the use of sea ports by the terrorist Houthi regime... we urge all people present in these ports to evacuate and stay away from them for your safety until further notice," military spokesman Avichay Adraee said in a post on X, mentioning the Yemeni ports of Hodeida, Ras Issa and Salif.

Trump offers to go to Ukraine talks if Putin does

AFP, Doha

US President Donald Trump yesterday offered to head to Turkey for talks on ending Ukraine war if his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin also showed up.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has challenged Putin to meet him in person in Turkey, but Russia has not confirmed who would attend any talks.

"I don't know that he (Putin) would be there if I'm not there," Trump told reporters on Air Force One.

China, Colombia sign Belt and Road co-op pact

REUTERS, Beijing

China and Colombia have signed a joint cooperation plan on the Belt and Road Initiative, state media said yesterday after their leaders met in Beijing.

Burgeoning commerce in recent years has helped grow Beijing's influence in Latin America and the Caribbean, a region of strategic significance for the United States.

Colombia's Foreign Minister Laura Sarabia said yesterday that the decision to join China's flagship overseas development project was the South American country's "boldest step in decades."

"The signing of this cooperation plan opens up a horizon of endless opportunities in trade, investment, and tourism. There is no turning back: Colombia is resolutely opening up to the world," Sarabia wrote on X.

China is Colombia's second largest trading partner after the United States, which it recently displaced as Colombia's largest source of imports.

China is ready to import more high-quality products from Colombia, back its firms in investing and doing business there and join in infrastructure construction, President Xi Jinping told counterpart Gustavo Petro, the Xinhua news agency said.

US admin cuts more Harvard funding

AFP, Washington



The US government on Tuesday announced fresh funding cuts to Harvard, a day after the elite school's president said it shared "common ground" with the Trump administration on many issues.

Federal agencies are terminating \$450 million in grants to Harvard, on top of the \$2.2 billion in cuts unveiled last week, the Department of Health and Human Services said in a statement, citing a "dark problem" of discrimination at the school.



in 2020, the White House press secretary posted on X.

The United States also hopes Saudi Arabia will join the Abraham Accords. Discussions on the issue came to a halt after the Gaza war erupted and the kingdom insists there can be no normalisation without Palestinian statehood.

Trump said on Tuesday Saudi Arabia would join the accords in its own time.

Despite concerns within sectors of his administration over Syria's leaders' former ties to Al Qaeda, Trump said on Tuesday during a speech in Riyadh he would lift sanctions on Syria in a major policy shift.

He also said Washington was exploring normalising relations with Syria's government beginning with his meeting with Sharaa.



PHOTO: AFP

Firefighters search the area where a Japan Air Self-Defense Force training plane T-4 crashed, at Lake Iruka in Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan yesterday.

LONDON HOUSE Ousted Myanmar envoy charged with trespass

AFP, London

Myanmar's ex-ambassador to London's Myanmar has been charged with trespass for refusing to leave his ambassadorial residence, police said yesterday, after he was stripped of his post by the military junta following a 2021 coup.

Kyaw Zwar Minn, 66, faces a charge of diplomatic trespass and will appear before a court on May 30, London's Metropolitan Police said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh University Grants Commission of Bangladesh UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A, Agargaon Administrative Area Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207 www.ugc.gov.bd UGC-McGill PhD Scholarship Program University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh and McGill University, Canada joint PhD scholarship program (UGC-McGill PhD Scholarship Program) has been announced. Applications are invited from the interested university faculties of Bangladesh. Application process must be completed through the web portal of McGill University, Canada (https://mcgill.ca/gps/funding/intl/international/students) before 11th June 2025 (Canada Standard time and date). Details of the necessary information are available at the website https://ugc.gov.bd (Notice board or International Scholarship section). Applicants must collect all information from the website by their own responsibilities. No personal communication will be made with the applicants. Candidates who have already received an offer letter from McGill University will be eligible to apply for the program directly to UGC in the UGC Overseas Masters/MPhil/PhD Scholarship for University Teachers Application form. NB: UGC, Bangladesh and McGill University, Canada preserve the right to take any decision with regards to the scholarship. With the Approval of competent Authority Mst. Jesmin Pervin Director (IC) International Collaboration Division, UGC

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয় সিলেট রেলওয়ে জেলা ব্রক-জি, রোড-৩, বাড়ি-৬৮, শাহজালাল উপশহর, সিলেট। উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি "দি পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন-২০০৬" ও "দি পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট রেগুলেশন-২০০৮" এর সর্বশেষ সংশোধনী অনুযায়ী সিলেট রেলওয়ে জেলার ২০২৫-২০২৬ অর্থ সনের পুলিশ সদস্যদের রেশন সামগ্রী (ক) দেশী মত্তর ডাল (চিকনদানা) ক্রয় (খ) সয়াবিন তেল ক্রয় (গ) পোলাউর চাল ক্রয় (ঘ) গম পেয়াই পূর্বক সরবরাহ (ঙ) রেশন সামগ্রীর পরিবহন সরবরাহ (চ) রেশন স্টোরের জন্য কুলি/সেবার সরবরাহ (ছ) খালি চট/প্রাচীর বস্তু বিক্রয় কাজের ঠিকাদার নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে প্রয়োজনীয় যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন দরদাতাদের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত বামে উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্র.সং	সামগ্রী/বিভাগ	মূল্য
০১	দেশী মত্তর ডাল (চিকনদানা) ক্রয়	৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা
০২	সয়াবিন তেল ক্রয়	৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা
০৩	পোলাউর চাল ক্রয়	৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা
০৪	গম পেয়াই পূর্বক সরবরাহ	৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা
০৫	রেশন সামগ্রীর পরিবহন সরবরাহ	৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা
০৬	কুলি/সেবার সরবরাহ	৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা
০৭	খালি চট/প্রাচীর বস্তু বিক্রয়	৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা