

## Nuke talks will fail if US pushes for zero enrichment Says Iran's deputy FM

REUTERS, Dubai

Nuclear talks between Iran and the United States "will lead nowhere" if Washington insists that Tehran drop its uranium enrichment activity to zero, Deputy Foreign Minister Majid Takhtavanchi was quoted by state media yesterday as saying.

US special envoy Steve Witkoff reiterated Washington's stance on Sunday that any new deal between the US and Iran must include an agreement to refrain from enrichment, a possible pathway to developing nuclear bombs. Tehran says its nuclear energy programme has entirely peaceful purposes.

"Our position on enrichment is clear and we have repeatedly stated that it is a national achievement from which we will not back down," Takhtavanchi said.

During his visit to the Gulf region last week, US President Donald Trump said a deal was very close but that Iran needed to move quickly to resolve the decades-



Displaced Palestinians gather to collect portions of cooked food at a charity distribution in Jabalia, in the northern Gaza Strip, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Israeli strikes kill 52 Palestinians in Gaza

### Aid trucks prepare to enter enclave as aid blockade lifted

REUTERS, Cairo

Israel pursued its military operation in Gaza yesterday, killing at least 52 Palestinians in overnight airstrikes after it agreed to lift a two-month-old blockade on aid deliveries that has left the enclave on the brink of famine.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel aimed to take control of all of Gaza as part of "extensive ground operations" announced on Sunday and prevent Hamas from looting aid shipments. Hamas has denied involvement in looting.

The Israeli military said forces engaged in a new campaign dubbed "Operation Gideon's Chariots" were active across Gaza, seeking to eliminate

Hamas' military and governing capabilities and bring back remaining hostages seized in October 2023.

Netanyahu's office said on Sunday Israel would ease its blockade and let limited amounts of food into Gaza.

Palestinian media said 50 trucks carrying flour, cooking oil and legumes would be allowed into the small coastal territory, while Israeli media said nine trucks with baby food were expected to enter in coming hours.

A Reuters reporter at the Kerem Shalom crossing into Gaza said no activity was visible by the late morning while UNRWA, the United Nations refugee agency for Palestinians, said it would comment to the press "when and if aid goes in".

## UK forges new ties with EU in post-Brexit era

AFP, London

Britain and the European Union yesterday reached a landmark deal setting out closer ties on defence and trade, launching a new chapter after the UK's acrimonious exit from the bloc five years ago.

The defence deal will mean more regular security talks and the potential for London to fully tap into a 150-billion-euro defence fund being set up by the EU.

The two sides agreed to lift controls imposed on UK exports to the bloc, in exchange for Britain extending EU fishing rights in British waters for a further 12 years.

## Trump calls to probe Kamala Harris celebrity endorsements

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump said yesterday he would launch a "major investigation" into his 2024 election rival Kamala Harris over celebrities who backed her failed run for the White House.

"Candidates aren't allowed to pay for ENDORSEMENTS, which is what Kamala did, under the guise of paying for entertainment," he posted on his Truth Social platform. "I am going to call for a major investigation into this matter."

Harris sought to harness star power from celebrities such as Beyonce and Oprah Winfrey in the election race.

Winfrey defended a \$1 million payment to her production company from the Harris campaign to covers costs associated with the talk show legend hosting the presidential candidate.

Harris's team, meanwhile, denied rumours that she paid pop megastar Beyonce \$10 million to appear at a rally.

## UN raises concern at Maldives sacking judges

AFP, Colombo

The top UN rights body yesterday raised concerns over the impeachment of two Supreme Court judges in the Maldives, which effectively stalled the review of a new law banning defections by parliamentarians.

The United Nations Human Rights Office said the sacking by Male's parliament of two justices raised questions about the independence of the judiciary in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

"We remind the authorities of their commitment to maintain and protect an independent judiciary, in line with the Maldives' constitution and international human rights obligations," spokesperson Jeremy Laurence said in Geneva.

The two judges, Azmiralda Zahir and Mahaz Ali Zahir, were suspended in February and dismissed this month. Another judge, Husnu Al Suood, who was also accused of misconduct, resigned.



long dispute.

Washington is complicating negotiations by expressing views in public different from what is discussed privately during talks, an Iranian foreign ministry spokesperson said yesterday.

"Despite hearing contradictory statements from the Americans, we are still participating in negotiations," Esmail Baghaei added.

A fifth round of talks is expected to take place in Rome this weekend pending confirmation, an Iranian official told Reuters.

During his first, 2017-21 term as president, Trump withdrew the United States from a 2015 deal between Iran and world powers that placed strict limits on Tehran's enrichment activities in exchange for relief from international sanctions.

Trump, who branded the 2015 accord one-sided in Iran's favour, also reimposed sweeping US sanctions on Iran. The Islamic Republic responded by escalating enrichment.

**Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute**  
Savar, Dhaka-1341.

Memo No: 33.05.2672.000.207.05.0001.17-202 Date: 19.05.2025

### e-Tender Notice

e-Tender will be invited through the National e-GP System (<http://www.eprocurement.gov.bd>) for procurement of following goods details are given below:

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of goods	Tender Document Last Selling/Downloading Date & Time	Tender Closing / Opening Date & Time
1115012	GR-24	Procurement of e-books.	02-Jun-2025 12:00	02-Jun-2025 13:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted through the National e-GP system.

To get access to the e-Tender document, the required fees is to be deposited through any registered Scheduled bank before 02-Jun-2025 12:00 for the Procurement of e-books. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System.

Size: (5"x 3/C)  
  
(Dr. Shakila Faruque)  
Director General (T.C)  
Phone: 02224491676

GD-1213

## Bomb blast kills four in SW Pakistan 12 more injured

AFP, Quetta

At least four people were killed while 12 others were wounded in a bomb blast in Pakistan's southern province of Balochistan, a security official said yesterday.

An improvised explosive device (IED) was planted in a parked car in Killa Abdullah district of Balochistan, less than 100 kilometres (60 miles) from the provincial capital Quetta.

"It seems the IED exploded before reaching its intended destination," a local security official, Ghulab Khan, told AFP. "All those killed are civilian passersby," he added.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Ministry of Public Administration  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka  
[www.mopa.gov.bd](http://www.mopa.gov.bd)

No: 05.00.0000.113.07.009.2025-451 Date: 19-05-2025

### e-Tender Notice No. 5/2024-25

Ministry of Public Administration of Bangladesh invites the Flowing tender in the National e-GP Portal:

Sl	Tender Id	Name of Supply	Publishing Date and Time	Closing Date and Time
1	1110431	Telephone Equipment	20 May 2025 & 10.00	03 June 2025 & 14.00
2	1110441	Brand New Digital Photocopier Machine		
3	1114718	Cleaning Products/Goods		

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. To submit e-tender, registration in the National e-Gp portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System Portal should be deposited on-line through any registered Bank.

Further Information and Guidelines are Available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Helpdesk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Md. Abu Aowal  
Joint Secretary  
Ministry of Public Administration  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.  
Phone: 55100540

GD-1204

**GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH**  
Ministry of Public Administration  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000  
[www.mopa.gov.bd](http://www.mopa.gov.bd)

No: 05.00.0000.113.23.041.2024- 444 Date: 19-05-2024

### Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Public Administration
2	Agency	N/A
3	Procuring Entity Name	Ministry of Public Administration
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
5	Invitation for	Goods & related Services
6	Invitation Ref No	05.00.0000.113.23.041.2024- 443
7	Date	19 May 2025
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
8	Procurement Method	OTM (Framework)
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
9	Budget and Source of Funds	Revenue/GOB
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
10	Tender Package No.	6(2024-25)
11	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Books, Printing &Packaging
12	Tender Publication Date	20-05-2025
13	Tender Last Selling Date and Time	01-06-2025; 04:00 pm
14	Tender Closing Date and Time	03-06-2024; 02:00 pm
15	Tender Opening Date and Time	03-06-2025; 03:00 pm
16	Name & Address of the office(s)	<b>Address</b>
	Selling Tender Document	Joint Secretary, Administration Section-4, Room#114, Building#3, Ministry of Public Administration, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
	Receiving Tender Document	Joint Secretary, Administration Section-4, Room#114, Building#3, Ministry of Public Administration, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
	Opening Tender Document	Joint Secretary, Admin Branch, Ministry of Public Administration, Room#111, Building#3, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
17	Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)	Date: 21 May 2025 Time: 10.00 am - 11.00 am
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>		
18	Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer	The tenderer should be well experienced with (1) Valid Trade License of 2024-25; (2) Income Tax Certificate of 2023-24 (3) Bank Solvency Certificate Collected on or after 319 May 2025; (4) VAT Registration Certificate (5) Bank Statement (22 July 2024- 21 May 2025); (6) Undertaking of not being blacklisted or debarred by any government/autonomous body; (7) Other qualifications as stated in the STD.
19	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Lot-1: Books Lot-2: Printing &Packaging
20	Brief Description of Related Services	Not Applicable
21	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	Lot-1/ Lot -2: Tk.1000.00 (each)
22	Lot Identification of Lot	<b>Location</b>
	1 Books	Ministry of Public Administration
	2 Printing &Packaging	Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
		Tender Security Amount (Tk) Completion Time in Weeks
		21,000.00 02 (Two) 20,000.00 02 (Two)
23	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Abu Aowal
24	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Joint Secretary
25	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Administration Section -4, Room#114, Building #3, Ministry of Public Administration, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000
26	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	02-55100540 Fax: 02-55101056 admincs@mopa.gov.bd
27	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the tenders.	

Md. Abu Aowal  
Joint Secretary  
Ph: 55100540

GD-1205