

ISTANBUL TALKS

Russia, Ukraine
swap peace
roadmaps

AFP, Istanbul

Russia and Ukraine yesterday swapped plans for ending their three-year war during talks in Istanbul aiming to find a way out of Europe's largest conflict since World War II. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said any deal must not "reward" Russian leader Vladimir Putin, but said Kyiv was willing to take the "necessary steps for peace".

Urged on by US President Donald Trump, Moscow and Kyiv have opened direct negotiations for the first time since the early weeks of Russia's invasion, but have yet to make progress towards an agreement.

Yesterday's talks come a day after Ukraine carried out one of its most brazen and successful attacks ever on Russian soil – using drones to hit dozens of strategic bombers parked at airbases thousands of kilometres behind the front line.

A first round of meetings in Istanbul last month yielded a large-scale prisoner exchange but no pause in the fighting.

IRANIAN LIQUEFIED GAS

Adani under new
scrutiny from US
prosecutors
WSJ reports

REUTERS

US prosecutors are investigating whether Indian billionaire Gautam Adani's companies imported Iranian liquefied petroleum gas into India through their Mundra port, the Wall Street Journal reported yesterday.

A WSJ investigation found tankers traveling between Mundra in the western Indian state of Gujarat and the Persian Gulf exhibited traits experts say are common for ships evading sanctions, the report said.

The US Justice Department is reviewing activities of several LPG tankers used to ship cargoes to Adani Enterprises, the WSJ said, citing people familiar with the matter. Reuters could not immediately confirm the report.

"Adani categorically denies any deliberate engagement in sanctions evasion or trade involving Iranian-origin LPG," a company spokesman told the WSJ in a statement. "Further, we are not aware of any investigation by US authorities on this subject."

Adani, the US Department of Justice and the US Attorney's Office in Brooklyn did not immediately respond to Reuters request for comment.

US President Donald Trump said in May that all purchases of Iranian oil or petrochemical products must stop and any country or person buying any from the country would be immediately subject to secondary sanctions.



Palestinian children wait alongside others for food at a distribution point in Nuseirat, central Gaza Strip, yesterday. UN chief Antonio Guterres called for an independent investigation into the killing of dozens of Palestinians near a US-backed aid centre in Gaza after rescuers blamed the deaths on Israeli fire and the military denied any involvement.

PHOTO: AFP

Hospital in southern
Gaza overwhelmed

Says medical NGO, blames new US aid group for
chaos; multiple burn injuries in attack at Israeli
hostage protest in US

AGENCIES

Medical charity Doctors Without Borders yesterday said the staff at Nasser Hospital in Gaza's Khan Younis are working in dire conditions, facing severe shortages of medical supplies.

"There is no room for all of the patients. We have patients in corridors... and more come in today, dead and wounded," Claire Menara, an emergency coordinator with Doctors Without Borders, told Al Jazeera.

The NGO, known by its French name MSF, blamed the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation's aid distribution system for chaos at the scene in the southern Gaza town of Rafah on Sunday that killed 31 Palestinians.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres yesterday called for an independent investigation into the deaths of Palestinians near the aid distribution site.

Meanwhile, a man yelling "Free Palestine" used a makeshift flamethrower to torch protesters rallying in support of Israeli hostages, injuring at least eight people in the US state of Colorado on Sunday evening.

The FBI said it was investigating the incident as a "targeted terror attack" and identified the suspect as 45-year-old Mohamed Sabry Soliman, reports AFP.

In Gaza, civil defence agency said an Israeli strike on a home in the northern town of Jabalia killed 14 people yesterday.

Israeli forces destroyed the only facility for kidney dialysis patients in the north of the enclave. The troops also demolished the wall of the European Gaza Hospital in Khan Younis, while also carrying out bulldozing activities in the vicinity of the hospital.

On Sunday evening, Qatar and Egypt announced plans to step up efforts for truce negotiations, as the Palestinian group Hamas said it was prepared to "immediately" hold a fresh round of talks.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan said that Israel's blocking of a visit by Arab diplomats to the occupied West Bank showed its "rejection of... a diplomatic path to peace".

Speaking at a joint press conference in Amman with his Jordanian on Sunday evening, Egyptian and Bahraini counterparts, Prince Faisal said Israel's move "illustrates and confirms its extremism and its rejection of any serious attempt to engage in a diplomatic path toward peace... it is clear that they only want violence."



Hajj pilgrims
gather in
Makkah under
desert sun

AFP, Makkah

More than a million Muslim pilgrims poured into the holy city of Makkah ahead of the annual hajj, with authorities vowing to hold a safer pilgrimage amid searing desert heat and a massive crackdown on illegal visitors.

Officials have beefed up heat mitigation measures hoping to avoid a repeat of last year's hajj, which saw 1,301 pilgrims die as temperatures reached 51.8 degrees Celsius (125.2 Fahrenheit).

Temperatures were forecast to exceed 40 degrees Celsius this week as one of the world's largest annual religious gatherings starts tomorrow.

The hajj, one of the five pillars of Islam, must be performed at least once by all Muslims with the means. As of Friday, more than 1.3 million pilgrims had arrived in Saudi Arabia for the multi-day pilgrimage, according to officials.

This year, authorities have mobilised more than 40 government agencies and 250,000 officials, doubling their efforts against heat-related illness following the heatwave of 2024.

Macron's figure
stolen from
Paris waxwork
museum

AFP, Paris

President Emmanuel Macron's wax figure was stolen yesterday from a Paris waxwork museum by several people claiming to be Greenpeace environmental activists, a police source told AFP.

According to the source, two women and a man entered the Grevin Museum in central Paris posing as tourists, and left the museum through an emergency exit.

Last week, with a wave of his hand, Macron has taken a different tack to diffuse the controversy over his wife appearing to hit him, this time by making light of it, reports Independent.

On Monday, cameras caught the moment Brigitte Macron pushed her husband in the face as their plane arrived in Hanoi, Vietnam, for the start of their southeast Asian tour. The French leader, who was standing in the doorway of the plane, looked momentarily stunned after the then-unidentified hand hit him in the face.

But after playing down headlines of the pair appearing to have been caught in the middle of a heated argument, the French president on Tuesday instead made fun of it.



No nuclear deal
if deprived of
'peaceful activities'
Says Iran's foreign minister

AFP, Cairo

Iran said yesterday it will not accept a nuclear agreement that deprives it of what it calls "peaceful activities", a reference to uranium enrichment, as it pressed the United States for guarantees it will drop sanctions.

Uranium enrichment has remained a key point of contention between the foes, in talks to seal a nuclear deal since April, with Iran defending what it says is its pursuit of a civil nuclear programme but with the US side calling it a "red line".

Speaking in Cairo, where he met the UN nuclear watchdog's chief Rafael Grossi, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said: "If the goal is to deprive Iran of its peaceful activities, then certainly no agreement will be reached."

Araghchi insisted that Iran has "nothing to hide" on its nuclear programme. "Iran has a peaceful nuclear programme... we are prepared to provide this assurance to any party or entity," he said.

The remarks came after Grossi of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) yesterday called for more transparency from Iran following a leaked report that showed Tehran had stepped up uranium enrichment.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Invitation for e-Tender

Tender Notice No. e-GP/EED/BH/6821 Furniture SHED & TMED/2024-25/23

Date: 01/06/2025

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, who have registered in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents of following Packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to the following date & Time.

Invitation Reference No.	Tender ID	Package description	Method	Last date & time of downloading tender documents	Tender closing
37.07.0000.001.002. 24/3/522 Date:10/09/2024	1122044	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Daulatkhan Govt. High School, Daulatkhan, Bhola.	NCT, LTM	18-June-2025 17:00:00	19-June-2025 11:00:00
37.07.0000.001.002. 24/3/522 Date:10/09/2024	1122725	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Fazilatunnesa Mohila College, Sadar, Bhola.	NCT, LTM	18-June-2025 17:00:00	19-June-2025 11:00:00
37.07.0000.001.002. 24/3/522 Date:10/09/2024	1122769	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Fazilatunnesa Mohila College, Sadar, Bhola.	NCT, LTM	18-June-2025 17:00:00	19-June-2025 11:00:00
37.07.0000.001.002. 20.SE./1/70 Date: 23.02.2022	1122812	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Bhola Polytechnic Institute, Borhanuddin, Bhola.	NCT, LTM	18-June-2025 17:00:00	19-June-2025 11:00:00

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

-Sd-
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Local Government Engineering Department

Chattogram Division Upazila and Union Road

Widening and Strengthening Project (1st Revision)

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www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No: 46.02.0000.695.07.049.2025-481

Date: 02/06/2025

e-Tender Notice No : 3/2024-25.

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal in OTM (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of Road Roller;

Tender ID	Name of Scheme	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
1123047 Re-Tender ID 1101226	Purchase of 3 (Three) nos. Three Wheel Static Road Roller (8-10 Ton)	25-June-2025 12:00 hr	25-June -2025 14:00 hr	30-June-2025 14:00 hr

These are online Tender, where only e-Tender 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 system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD-1345