

## Israel leading Middle East to 'total disaster'

Says Turkey

AFP, Istanbul

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan yesterday accused Israel of leading the Middle East towards "total disaster" by attacking Iran on June 13.

"Israel is now leading the region to the brink of total disaster by attacking Iran, our neighbour," Fidan told a meeting of top diplomats of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Istanbul.

"There is no Palestinian, Lebanese, Syrian, Yemeni or Iranian problem but there is clearly an Israeli problem," he said.

He called for an end to the "unlimited aggression" against Iran. "We must prevent the situation from deteriorating into a spiral of violence that would further jeopardise regional and global security," he added.



Israeli soldiers and first responders check the damage caused to a building from an Iranian strike in Beit She'an yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Pakistan to nominate Trump for Nobel prize

REUTERS, Islamabad

Pakistan said on Saturday it would recommend U.S. President Donald Trump for the Nobel Peace Prize, an accolade that he has said he craves, for his work in helping to resolve the recent conflict between India and Pakistan.

In May, a surprise announcement by Trump of a ceasefire brought an abrupt end to a four-day conflict between nuclear-armed foes India and Pakistan. Trump has since repeatedly said that he averted a nuclear war, saved millions of lives, and grumbled that he got no credit for it.

Pakistan agrees that U.S. diplomatic intervention ended the fighting, but India says it was a bilateral agreement between the two militaries.

"President Trump demonstrated great strategic foresight and stellar statesmanship through robust diplomatic engagement with both Islamabad and New Delhi, which de-escalated a rapidly deteriorating situation," Pakistan said. "This intervention stands as a testament to his role as a genuine peacemaker."

Governments can nominate people for the Nobel Peace Prize. There was no immediate response from Washington.

## US B-2 bomber that may be used in Iran

REUTERS, WASHINGTON

The US Air Force's B-2 Spirit stealth bomber represents one of America's most advanced strategic weapons platforms, capable of entering sophisticated air defences and delivering precision strikes against hardened targets such as Iran's buried network of nuclear research facilities.

The US military is ready to carry out any decision that President Donald Trump may make on Iran, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said, adding that Tehran should have heeded the president's calls for it to make a deal on its nuclear program prior to the start of Israel's strikes on Friday.

**B-2 SPIRIT SPECIFICATIONS:** The US B-2 costs about \$2.1 billion each, making it the most expensive military aircraft ever built. Made by Northrop Grumman NOCN, the bomber with its cutting edge stealth technology, began its production run in the late 1980s but was curbed by the fall of the Soviet Union. Only 21 were made after the Pentagon's planned acquisition program was truncated.

The bomber's range of over 6,000 nautical miles without refuelling enables global strike capabilities from continental US bases. With aerial refuelling, the B-2 can reach virtually any target worldwide, as demonstrated in missions from Missouri to Afghanistan and Libya.

Its payload capacity of more than 40,000 pounds allows the aircraft to carry a diverse array of conventional and nuclear weapons. The bomber's internal weapons bays are specifically designed to maintain stealth characteristics



while accommodating large ordnance loads which could include two GBU-57A/B MOP (Massive Ordnance Penetrator), a 30,000-pound precision-guided "bunker buster" bomb.

The two-pilot crew configuration reduces personnel requirements while maintaining operational effectiveness through advanced automation systems.

The B-2's stealth technology incorporates radar-absorbing materials and angular design features that minimise detection by enemy air defence systems. Its radar cross-section is reportedly comparable to that of a small bird, making it nearly invisible to conventional radar.

**MASSIVE ORDNANCE PENETRATOR (MOP):** The 30,000 pound MOP represents the largest conventional bomb in the US arsenal, specifically engineered to defeat hardened underground bunkers. Its massive size requires the B-2 to carry only one or two MOPs per mission, but provides

unmatched bunker-penetration capability.

The weapon's 20.5-foot length and GPS guided precision targeting system enable accurate strikes against specific underground facilities. Its penetration capability of over 200 feet through hardened concrete makes it effective against the world's most protected underground installations.

**CONVENTIONAL PAYLOADS:** Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) provide the B-2 with precision conventional strike capability against fixed targets. These GPS guided weapons can be deployed in large numbers, with the bomber capable of simultaneously engaging multiple targets with high accuracy.

**NUCLEAR PAYLOAD CAPABILITIES:** The B-2 Spirit serves as a key component of America's nuclear triad, capable of delivering strategic nuclear weapons with stealth and precision. The aircraft can carry up to 16 B83 nuclear bombs.

## Brazil balloon tragedy kills 8

AFP, Sao Paulo

At least eight people were killed Saturday when a hot air balloon with 21 passengers caught fire in southern Brazil, said the governor of Santa Catarina state, where the incident occurred.

"Eight fatalities and 13 survivors," governor Jorginho Mello said on X.

Videos taken by bystanders and carried on Brazilian television showed the moment when the balloon erupted in flames above the coastal town of Praia Grande.

## India will 'never' restore Indus water treaty

Says Amit shah

AFP, New Delhi

New Delhi will "never" reinstate a key water treaty it suspended with Pakistan over deadly violence in India-administered Kashmir, the interior minister said in an interview published yesterday.

India halted the agreement following an April attack on civilians which it accused Pakistan of backing, a charge denied by Islamabad and one which was followed by days of fighting between the two foes.

Despite a ceasefire holding, India's interior minister said his government would not restore the treaty which governs river water critical to parched Pakistan.

"It will never be restored," interior minister Amit Shah told the Times of India.

"We will take the water that was flowing to Pakistan to Rajasthan (state) by constructing a canal. Pakistan will be starved of water that it has been getting unjustifiably," he added.

The 1960 Indus Water Treaty gave India and Pakistan three Himalayan rivers each and the right to hydropower and irrigation resources.

It established the India-Pakistan Indus Commission, which is supposed to resolve any problems that arise.

Islamabad last month said the treaty was a "no-go area", after New Delhi announced it would maintain its suspension following the ceasefire.

"The treaty can't be amended, nor can it be terminated by any party unless both agree," Pakistani Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said.

Halting the water agreement was one of a series of tit-for-tat diplomatic measures taken by both countries in the immediate aftermath of the Kashmir attack.

New Delhi has not made public any evidence of Islamabad's alleged involvement in the April 22 killing by gunmen of mostly Indian tourists.

During the four days of fighting which followed in May, more than 70 people were killed in missile, drone and artillery fire. It was the worst standoff between the nuclear-armed neighbours since 1999.



### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

#### Department of Environment

Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project  
8th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban  
E/16, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
[www.doe.gov.bd](http://www.doe.gov.bd)

#### Invitation for Tender

1	<b>Ministry/Division:</b>	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
2	<b>Agency:</b>	Department of Environment (DoE)
3	<b>Procuring Entity Name:</b>	Project Director, Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project.
4	<b>Procuring Entity Code:</b>	1450301-223053500
5	<b>Procuring Entity District:</b>	Dhaka
6	<b>Invitation For:</b>	Computer and Accessories
7	<b>Invitation Ref No.:</b>	22.02.0000.045.14.003.25-104
8	<b>Date:</b>	19 June 2025

#### KEY INFORMATION

9 **Procurement Method:** Open Tendering Method (OTM) NCT.

#### FUNDING INFORMATION

10 **Budget and Source of Funds:** GEF through UNDP

11 **Development Partner:** UNDP

#### PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12	<b>Project Code:</b>	223053500
13	<b>Project Name:</b>	Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project.
14	<b>Tender Package No.:</b>	GD-09
15	<b>Tender Package Name:</b>	Computer and Accessories
16	<b>Tender Publication Date:</b>	22 June 2025
17	<b>Tender Last Selling Date:</b>	20 July 2025
18	<b>Tender Closing Date and Time:</b>	21 July 2025 at 12:00pm
19	<b>Tender Opening Date and Time:</b>	21 July 2025 at 12:30pm
20	<b>Name &amp; Addresses of the Offices:</b>	Tender Document Selling & Receiving: Project Director, EbM-ECA Project, 8th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban, E/16, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.

#### INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

21	<b>Eligibility of Tenderer:</b>	1. The minimum number of years of general experience of the Tenderer in the supply of Goods as Supplier shall be 05 (five) years. 2. The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of Goods of at least one (1) contract successfully completed within the last 3 (Three) years, with a value of at least Tk. 8.00 lac. 3. The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the Tenderer shall be Tk 08.00 lac.
23	<b>Price of Tender Document:</b>	500.00 (Taka Five hundred Only) Taka Only. (Non-Refundable)

Lot No.	Package No.	Identification of Tenderer	Location	Security Amount (Tk.)	Completion Time
24	Single	GD-09 Computer and Accessories	PMU of the Project, DoE	20,000/- (Twenty Thousand Taka Only)	2 Weeks
25	<b>Designation of Official Inviting Tender:</b> Project Director, Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh				
26	<b>Address of Official Inviting Tender:</b> Poribesh Bhaban, E/16, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.				
27	<b>Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender:</b> Phone:+880-22221860 Email: fmmummi@yahoo.com				
28	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.				

Fdi 27.06.2025

Farhana Mustari

Project Director

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**North-West Power Generation Company Ltd.**  
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Certified  
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

**Office of the Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)**  
Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1)  
Soydabad, Sirajganj.

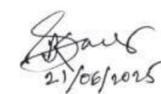
Ref: 27.28.8878.101.07.001.19.14.33      Date: 21/06/2025

### e-Tender Notice

The following e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)):

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date
1	1121878	Supply of spare parts for different pumps, Metal gaskets and others	19/06/2025	16/07/2025, 15:45	17/07/2025

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, registration in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

  
**Engr. Brojendra Kumar Sarker**  
 Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)  
 Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1)  
 NWPGL, Soydabad, Sirajganj.

GD-1435

## From origins to today's dispute

FROM PAGE 2

Faced with Iran's rapidly expanding nuclear programme, the IAEA expressed "serious concern" in its latest quarterly report at the end of May.

According to the UN agency, Iran is the only non-nuclear weapon state to enrich uranium to 60 percent. It theoretically has enough near-weapons grade material, if further refined, for more than nine bombs.

However, the manufacturing and delivering of a nuclear bomb requires many other steps, including mastering both ballistics and the miniaturisation of the nuclear charge.

The IAEA has said it currently has "no indication" of the existence of a "systematic programme" in Iran to produce a nuclear weapon.

US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard testified to a Senate committee in March that Iran was not actively building a nuclear bomb.

Iran has always denied having such ambitions, regularly referring to a long-standing fatwa, or religious edict, by Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei prohibiting atomic weapons.

Iran has also increased its stockpiles of enriched uranium, which was set at 202.8 kilogrammes under the deal. Iran's total enriched uranium stockpile is currently believed to be more than 45 times that limit.

And Tehran has since exceeded the number of centrifuges – the machines used to enrich uranium – it is allowed to have while beginning to produce more material faster by using advanced models at its plants.

Efforts to revive the deal have been fruitless so far, with European-led talks on hold since summer 2022.

After Trump's return to the White House, talks between Washington and Iran mediated by Oman resumed in April.

While the US president has voiced confidence that Iran would eventually sign a nuclear deal, Tehran has said that Israeli strikes that targeted a slew of military and nuclear sites "dealt a blow" to diplomacy.