

Iran working to restore nuke programme

Says the country’s atomic energy chief

AGENCIES

Mohammad Eslami, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, has said the country is evaluating the damage inflicted on its nuclear programme and planning to rehabilitate it.

“We have taken the necessary measures and are currently assessing the areas that were damaged,” Eslami said in a statement carried by Iran’s Mehr news.

“Preparations for recovery had already been anticipated, and our plan is to prevent any interruption in production or services,” he said.

After President Donald Trump bragged US strikes had “obliterated” Iran’s nuclear capabilities, officials cautioned it was still too soon to assess the impact on the country’s nuclear programme.

Many questions remain after Sunday’s strikes, especially about the whereabouts of Iran’s sensitive stockpile of uranium



Mourners react during the funeral of Palestinians killed by Israeli fire while attempting to receive aid in central Gaza, at Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

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enriched to 60 percent – a short step from the 90 percent required for a nuclear weapon, reports AFP.

Before the attacks, Iran had about 22,000 centrifuges – the machines used to enrich uranium. Many of them were damaged when Natanz was hit, the IAEA head said.

With “60 percent enriched uranium and a few hundred advanced centrifuges, Iran still has the capability to weaponise, and now there is more political impetus to dash for a bomb”, said Kelsey Davenport, an expert with the Arms Control Association, told AFP.

Before the conflict, the IAEA said it had “no indication” of the existence of a “systematic programme” in Iran to produce a nuclear weapon. But without access to nuclear sites, the agency no longer has oversight.

ISRAEL-IRAN CONFLICT

Trump claims a ‘forever’ peace in land of forever wars

CNN ONLINE

So much for the quagmire. Donald Trump seems to have emerged from the worst crisis in America’s estrangement with Iran’s Islamic Republic with a win.

The president leaped on Tehran’s modest missile response Monday to the US pounding of its nuclear sites as a sign it wants to end escalations. “CONGRATULATIONS WORLD, IT’S TIME FOR PEACE!” he posted on Truth Social.

Trump’s exuberance was a sign that he sees the US involvement in the conflict as over, at least for now.

And he followed up by announcing a ceasefire between Iran and Israel due to come into force later yesterday.

Ceasefires in the Middle East are often fragile and fleeting, as was underscored by attacks by both Israel and Iran in the hours before the truce was due to be established.

But the president was already trumpeting his chosen image as a peacemaker and consummate deal maker, only 48 hours after US stealth bombers slammed Iran.

“I think the ceasefire is unlimited. It’s going to go forever,” Trump told NBC News on Monday night, predicting that Israel and Iran will never “be shooting at each other again.”

That’s a bold claim given the Middle East’s reputation as a graveyard of American presidencies.

US top court allows 3rd country deportations to resume

AFP, Washington

A divided US Supreme Court paved the way on Monday for the Trump administration to resume deportations of undocumented migrants to countries that are not their own.

The unsigned order from the conservative-dominated top court came in response to an emergency appeal by the Justice Department to lift a stay imposed by a lower court on so-called third country deportations.

The Supreme Court did not provide an explanation for the decision and the three liberal justices dissented. The original case challenging the third country deportations will now be heard by an appeals court but the Supreme Court’s move allows the removals to proceed for now.

District Judge Brian Murphy had ordered a halt to third country deportations in April, saying migrants were not being given a “meaningful opportunity” to contest their expulsions.

Murphy said they should get at least 15 days to challenge their deportation and provide evidence of whether they may be at risk of torture or death if expelled.

US House bans WhatsApp service from staff devices

REUTERS, Washington

Meta Platforms’ WhatsApp messaging service has been banned from all US House of Representatives devices, according to a memo sent to all House staff on Monday.

The notice said the “Office of Cybersecurity has deemed WhatsApp a high risk to users due to the lack of transparency in how it protects user data, absence of stored data encryption, and potential security risks involved with its use.”

The memo, from the chief administrative officer, recommended using other messaging apps, including Microsoft Corp’s Teams platform, Amazon.com’s Wickr, Signal, and Apple’s iMessage and FaceTime.

Meta disagreed with the move “in the strongest possible terms,” a company spokesperson said, noting that the platform provides a higher level of security than the other approved apps.



Rescuers carry an injured woman at the site of a building damaged by a Russian missile strike in Dnipropetrovsk region, Ukraine yesterday. “The number of dead as a result of the attack has risen to nine. Around 70 people were wounded, including 10 children,” the regional governor Sergiy Lysak announced on social media. PHOTO: REUTERS

POTENTIAL WAR WITH RUSSIA

Finland hardens Nato’s northern frontier

AFP, Lappeenranta

At a shooting range 10 miles from the Russian border, Finnish army reservist Janne Latto opened the trunk of his car and unpacked a small surveillance drone and controller, equipment he sees as vital for any future conflict with Finland’s neighbour.

Since the invasion of Ukraine prompted Helsinki to join Nato two years ago, tensions reminiscent of the Cold War have resurfaced along the forested 1,340-km frontier, Europe’s longest with Russia.

The Nordic nation is beefing up an already sizeable reservist force and will host a new command for Nato, whose members meet in the Hague on June 24 for an annual summit.

Still under construction, an imposing barbed wire-topped fence now dominates a once-bustling section of the border, closed by Finland after it accused

Russia of weaponising migration. Shopping malls and restaurants that buzzed with Russian visitors have fallen quiet.

Kyiv’s June 1 attack on Russia’s strategic bomber fleet, including at the Olenya airfield near northern Finland, brought the war in Ukraine closer to home.

For this story, Reuters spoke to a dozen people in Finland’s border region, where the emerging divisions have left some unable to visit relatives and caused economic losses. Others supported the measures, citing a need to prepare for and deter future conflict.

At the shooting range, near the lakeside town of Lappeenranta, some 100 miles from Russia’s second city, St Petersburg, Latto, 47, said the Lauritsala Reservists were training with three drones including the Parrot Anafi surveillance vehicle.



India defence minister heads to China summit

AFP, New Delhi

Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will travel to China this week for talks with his regional counterparts, New Delhi said yesterday.

Ties between the world’s two most populous nations have improved in recent months, after hitting a low in 2020 over a deadly clash between their troops on the Himalayan border.

Singh will join fellow defence ministers in the eastern city of Qingdao for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit starting today.

He will “outline India’s vision towards achieving greater international peace & security, call for joint & consistent efforts to eliminate terrorism & extremism in the region”, a ministry statement said.

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ZIRANI, SAVAR, DHAKA.

Memo No-34.04.0000.000.002.14.0001.25/2678

Date: 24th June, 2025

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

1. Ministry/ Division	: Ministry of Youth and Sports
2. Agency	: Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisththan (BKSP)
3. Name of Procuring Entity	: Executive Engineer, BKSP
4. Title of Service	: Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Recruitment of Consultancy Firm for the feasibility study of the project titled “Establishment of Bangladesh Sports Institute (BSI) at Ramu, Cox’s Bazar”.
5. Procuring Entity District	: Dhaka
6. Expression of Interest for Selection of	: Consultancy Firm (National)
7. EOI Ref. no & Date (dd/mm/yy)	: 34.04.0000.000.002.14.0001.25.11, Date: 24/06/2025.
KEY INFORMATION	
8. Procurement Sub-Method	: Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS), National
FUNDING INFORMATION	
9. Budget and Source of Funds	: GOB
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
10. Project Code	: N/A
11. Project Name	: Feasibility study of the project titled “Establishment of Bangladesh Sports Institute (BSI) at Ramu, Cox’s Bazar”
12. EOI Closing Date and Time	: 09/07/2025 at 12.30 PM
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT	
13. Brief Description of Assignment	: The government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) will provide funds for the consultancy Service for the feasibility study of the project titled “Establishment of Bangladesh Sports Institute (BSI) at Ramu, Cox’s Bazar”. To execute the feasibility study of the proposed project Office of the Executive Engineer of BKSP (hereinafter referred to as the client) invites EOI from reputed consultancy firms. The assignment includes - <ul style="list-style-type: none">To prepare a feasibility study report of the project using a specific format circulated by NEC-ECNEC and Co-ordination Division, ECNEC Branch-1, Memorandum No-20.00.0000.411.14.053.20-34; Date: 12-09-2021.To prepare a complete Master Plan of BSI and Basic Structural and Architectural Design of the proposed structures with a 3D view.To prepare a Development Project Proposal (DPP) for the proposed project.To prepare a standard operating procedure (SOP) in order to run a fully residential and academically integrated sports institution that will provide professional training in 11 disciplines, foster academic excellence through a 3-year BA (sports) (PASS) degree, and ensure the holistic development of 400 student-athletes.To prepare a complete operating budget comprising all kinds of recurrent and capital expenditures for a year to operate the sports institute smoothly.In addition, the consultant shall complete/fulfill all the assignments as mentioned in the Terms of Reference (pages 11 to 14, objectives of the assignment & scope of service).
14. Experience, Resources, and Delivery Capacity Required	: a) The consultancy firm(s) shall have at least 05 years of general experience in feasibility study-related consultancy services as mentioned in the TOR. b) The firm(s) must have a valid trade license (updated), VAT identification number, TIN, updated tax return receipt, and last 3 (three) years’ audit report (Only summary part). c) The firm(s) shall have Aggregate Turnover of BDT 800.00 lac. in last 5 years, a minimum amount of liquid assets, and financial capacity of BDT 50.00 lac. d) Multiple Companies having technical and legal competency for providing such services can apply jointly with a legal JV agreement according to relevant clauses of PPR-2008 (current edition with all amendments). The joint venture company jointly needs to fulfill all conditions mentioned in the TOR. e) Shortlisted consultancy firms/organizations will be invited to submit their technical and financial proposals subsequently. f) The Consultant will be selected and engaged in accordance with the PPR-2008 (current edition with all amendments).
15. Other Details	: a) Applicants are requested to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) by 09/07/2025 on or before 12.30 PM. b) The Terms of Reference (TOR) is available at the BKSP website www.bksp.gov.bd c) Expression of Interest (EOI) shall be submitted in one original and two copies in a sealed envelope to the address given below and be marked with “Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Recruitment of Consultancy Firm for the feasibility study of the project titled “Establishment of Bangladesh Sports Institute (BSI) at Ramu, Cox’s Bazar”.” d) Any application submitted later than the specified date and time or submitted through telex/fax/email will not be accepted.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS	
16. Designation of the Official Inviting EOI	: Executive Engineer, BKSP.
17. Address of the Official Inviting EOI	: BKSP, Zirani, Savar, Dhaka-1349.
18. Contact details of the Official Inviting EOI	: Telephone No: +8802223371119, E-mail address: exn@bksp.gov.bd
The head of the procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs.	

GD-1453

Md. Rakibul Hassan
Executive Engineer, BKSP
Zirani, Savar, Dhaka.