NUKE EXPANSION

India aims to allow its pvt firms to mine, import uranium

REUTERS, *New Delhi*

India aims to allow private firms to mine, import and process uranium as part of plans to end a decades-old state monopoly over the nuclear sector and bring in billions of dollars to boost the industry, two government sources said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government plans to expand nuclear power production capacity by 12 times by 2047 and it is also relaxing requirements to allow foreign players to take

a minority stake in power plants, Reuters reported in April.

If it meets its expansion goal, nuclear will provide 5 percent of India's total power needs, according to government estimates.

Until now, the state has maintained control over the mining, import and processing of uranium fuel because of concerns over the possible misuse of nuclear material, radiation safety and strategic security.

A firefighting airplane drops water on a wildfire on the outskirts of Abejera de Tabara in Zamora, Spain, yesterday. Firefighters across Spain, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, and the Balkans are battling blazes as a heatwave pushes temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius across parts of Europe. PHOTO: REUTERS

Ukraine, allies must resist Russian 'deception'

Says Zelensky ahead of phone diplomacy with Trump; Moscow makes biggest 24-hr Ukraine advance in over a year

AFP, *Kyiv*

President Volodymyr Zelensky said yesterday that Ukraine and its allies must work together to pressure Russia into ending its invasion, ahead of talks in Berlin with European leaders and US leader Donald Trump.

"Pressure must be exerted on Russia for the sake of a fair peace. We must learn from the experience of Ukraine and our partners to prevent deception on the part of Russia," Zelensky wrote on social media. "There are currently no signs that the Russians are preparing to end the war," he added.

Zelensky reached in Berlin yesterday for talks with European leaders and Trump ahead of the US president's summit with Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

The Ukrainian leader said he and his team had held more than 30 conversations with world leaders and high-ranking officials ahead of the talks. The flurry of diplomatic engagements have been overshadowed by rapid, but so far limited Russian push in the eastern Donetsk region, which the Kremlin claims is part of Russia.

Meanwhile, Russia branded as "insignificant" European diplomatic consultations with Ukraine yesterday ahead of a planned summit between Trump and Putin in Alaska.

The Russian army made its biggest 24-hour advance into Ukraine in over a year on Tuesday just ahead of the Trump-Putin summit, according to an AFP analysis of data from the US-based Institute for the Study of War (ISW).

Deadlocked plastics treaty talks 'at cliff's edge'

AFP, *Geneva*

Negotiators from 184 countries remained riven yesterday on how to curb plastic pollution, less than 36 hours before they were slated to deliver a binding global treaty.

Diplomats are "at the edge of a cliff," one official observer told AFP.

Dozens of ministers have arrived in Geneva to try to break the deadlock as the 10-day talks hurtle towards a close, but widely divergent positions have made the search for a so-called landing zone "very difficult", according to Danish Environment Minister Magnus Heunicke.

A new draft of the treaty text, streamlined by the talks chair, was expected later yesterday, several sources told AFP. A plenary meeting to take stock of where things stand is scheduled for 7:00 pm (1700 GMT).

The debate continues to pit the so-called "Like-Minded Group" of chiefly oil-producing countries that refuse restrictions on the production of plastic -- a derivative of oil -- or certain chemicals thought to be harmful to health against a much larger "high ambition" bloc that favours such measures.

20 migrants die in shipwreck off Lampedusa island: UN

REUTERS, *Rome*

At least 20 people have died after a migrant boat capsized off the southern Italian island of Lampedusa, a United Nations agency and local media reported yesterday.

Rescuers have recovered 20 bodies so far and operations were continuing, according to initial reports by Ansa news agency. Between 70 and 80 people were believed to have survived.

Filippo Ungaro, from the UN's refugee agency UNHCR, expressed "deep anguish" over the disaster and said more migrants could still be missing at sea.

"Twenty bodies have been recovered and the same number are missing," he wrote on his account on social media platform X.

The Italian interior ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

More than 30 boats carrying about 600 irregular migrants have arrived in Spain's Balearic islands since Monday, officials said, as a new migratory route from North Africa gains traction after a crackdown by authorities in other jumping off points.

Swiss pilot surpasses solar-powered plane altitude record

AFP, *Geneva*

Swiss pilot Raphael Domjan beat the altitude record for a solar-powered electric plane in a flight that took him soaring to 9,521 metres, his team announced yesterday.

The SolarStratos plane made the landmark flight from Sion airport in southwest Switzerland on Tuesday, taking advantage of warm air thermals to go beyond the 15-year-old record.

The certified altitude record for a solar plane had stood at 9,235 metres (30,298 feet). It was set in 2010 by the Solar Impulse plane, with Swiss pilot Andre Borschberg at the controls.

Domjan's flight lasted five hours and nine minutes.

"I share this moment of joy with all the people who have been preparing for this achievement for years," he said, celebrating afterwards with the melted cheese of a traditional Swiss raclette.

বাংলাদেশ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর
ডালিয়া পানি উন্নয়ন বিভাগ
বাপাউবো, ডালিয়া, নীলফামারী
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Memo No. Dalia/T-1/Ka(Part-37)/861 Date: 11-08-2025

e-Tender Notice No. Dalia/NDR/PW-01,02,03,04,05,06,07/25-26

e-Tender packages have been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of the following work.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Package No. (Lot No.) & description	Location of the works	Tender document last selling date & time	Tender closing & opening date & time
01	1139040	Dalia/NDR/PW-01/25-26 Precautionary work to protect the right bank of Teesta River from km 5.100 to km 5.310=210.00 meters at Kharapara in Upazila: Dimla, Dist: Nilphamari under Dalia WD Division, BWDB, Dalia, Nilphamari during the financial year 2025-26	Kharapura, Dimla, Nilphamari.	27-08-2025 & 12:00	27-08-2025 & 12:30
02	1139041	Dalia/NDR/PW-02/25-26 Precautionary work to protect the right bank of Teesta River from km 7.150 to km 8.330=1180.00 meters at Doholpara & Uttor Khoribari in Upazila: Dimla, Dist: Nilphamari under Dalia WD Division, BWDB, Delia, Nilphamari during the financial year 2025-26.	Khoribari, Dimla, Nilphamari.	11-09-2025 & 12:00	11-09-2025 & 12:30
03	139042	Dalia/NDR/PW-03/25-26 Precautionary work to protect the right bank of Teesta River from km. 17.150 to km 17.650=500.00 meters at Choto Khala in Upazila: Dimla, Dist: Nilphamari under Dalia WD Division, BWDB, Dalia, Nilphamari during the financial year 2025-26	Choto Khata, Dimla, Nilphamari	03-09-2025 & 12:00	03-09-2025 & 12:30
04	1139043	Dalia/NDR/PW-04/25-26 Precautionary work to protect the right bank of Teesta River from km 22.00 to km 22.350=350.00 meters at Baispukur in Upazila: Dimia, Dist: Nilphamari under Dalia WD Division, BWDB, Dalia, Nilphamari during the financial year 2025-26.	Baispukur, Dimla, Nilphamari	03-09-2025 & 12:00	03-09-2025 & 12:30
05	1139044	Dalia/NDR/PW-05/25-26 Precautionary work to protect the right bank of Teesta River from km 37.600 to km 37.750=150.00 meters at Uttar Dowabari, from km 38.510 to km 38.670=160.00 meters at Dowabari, from km 39.000 to km 39.200 = 200.00 meters at Sholmari in Upazila: Jaldhaka, Dist: Nilphamari under Dalia WD Division, BWDB, Dalia, Nilphamari during the financial year 2025-26	Uttar Dowabari, Dowabari, Sholmari Jaldhaka, Nilphamari	03-09-2025 & 12:00	03-09-2025 & 12:30
06	1139045	Dalia/NDR/PW-06/25-26 Precautionary work to protect the right bank of Teesta River from 40.00 to km 40.400=400.00 meters at Koymari in Upazila: Jaldhaka, Dist: Nilphamari under Dalia WID Division, BWDB, Dalia, Nilphamari during the financial year 2025-26.	Koymari, Jaldhaka, Nilphamari	03-09-2025 & 12:00	03-09-2025 & 12:30
07	1139046	Dalia/NDR/PW-07/25-26 Precautionary work to protect the left bank of Teesta River from km 1.950 to km 2.550=600.00 meters at Charkhoribari, Upazila: Dimla, Dist: Nilphamari under Dalia WD Division, BWDB, Dalia, Nilphamari during the financial year 2025-26.	Charkhoribari Dimla, Nilphamari	03-09-2025 & 12:00	03-09-2025 & 12:30

This is an online tender, whore 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 (http://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 up to banking hours as stated in IFT notice in e-GP Web Portal. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) (01762625528-31) (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd).

পানি-১৪৮/২০২৫-২০২৬
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11.08.25
Amitav Chowdhury
Executive Engineer
Dalia Water Development Division
BWDB, Dalia, Nilphamari

GD-1800

US HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

India acts minimally, Pak rarely acts against abuses

REUTERS, *Washington*

The US government noted abuses in India and Pakistan in a shortened human rights report released on Tuesday that said India "took minimal credible steps" to combat the abuses while Pakistan "rarely took credible steps."

The Trump administration scaled back the annual US government report on human rights worldwide, dramatically softening criticism of some allies and countries that have been President Donald Trump's partners.

The State Department human rights documentation for India and Pakistan was also much shorter and scaled back this year.

India has been an important US partner in recent years in Washington's effort to counter China's rise, although relations have been tense over Trump's imposition of a 50 percent tariff on goods from India. Pakistan is a non-Nato US ally.

About India, the report said: "The government took minimal credible steps or action to identify and punish officials who committed human rights abuses."

On Pakistan, it added: "The government rarely took credible steps to identify and punish officials who committed human rights abuses."

Indian and Pakistani embassies in Washington had no immediate comment on the report released on Tuesday, which documented instances in 2024.

Russia restricts Telegram, WhatsApp calls

Cites law breaches

REUTERS, *Moscow*

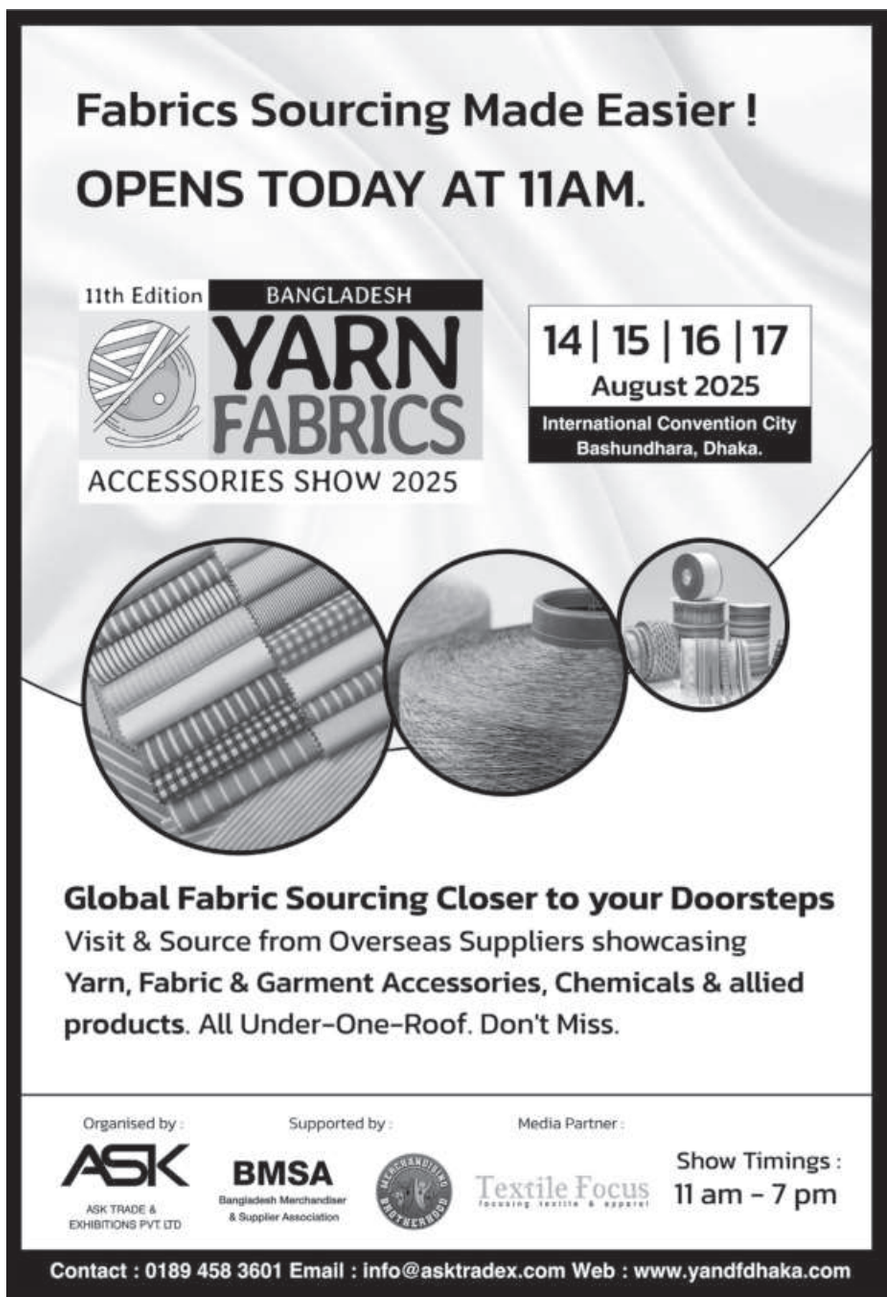
Russia has started restricting some Telegram and WhatsApp calls, accusing the foreign-owned platforms of failing to share information with law enforcement in fraud and terrorism cases, the digital development ministry said yesterday.

Russia has clashed with foreign tech platforms for several years over content and data storage in a simmering dispute that intensified after Moscow's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, with critics arguing that Russia is trying to expand its control over the country's internet space.

President Vladimir Putin has authorised the development of a state-backed messaging app integrated with government services, as Moscow seeks to establish what it calls digital sovereignty by promoting home-grown services and reducing its dependence on platforms such as WhatsApp and Telegram.

"In order to counteract criminals... measures are being taken to partially restrict calls on these foreign messengers," the Interfax news agency quoted communications regulator Roskomnadzor as saying. "No other restrictions have been imposed on their functionality."

WhatsApp owner Meta Platforms and Telegram did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Reuters reporters verified the restrictions, noting that voice calls on Telegram had barely been functioning since August 11 and that WhatsApp calls had been rendered impossible due to intermittent sound and a metallic buzzing.

The digital development ministry said Telegram and WhatsApp had ignored repeated requests to take measures to stop their platforms being used for activities such as fraud and terrorism. The blocking measures would be lifted should the platforms comply with Russian law, the ministry said.