

China's Xi holds talks with North Korea's Kim

AFP, Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Kim Jong Un met for talks in Beijing yesterday, state media reported, while the North Korean leader is in China on a rare foreign visit.

Xi told Kim of China's enduring support for ties with Pyongyang. "No matter how the international situation changes, this position will not change," Xi said.

China attaches "great importance to the traditional friendship between China and the DPRK and (is) willing to maintain, consolidate and develop China-DPRK relations," state news agency Xinhua reported, using the acronym for North Korea.

Kim and Russia's



People inspect damaged bulldozers, excavators, and other vehicles following Israeli airstrikes on an industrial complex that services heavy construction machinery in the coastal town of Ansariyah, southern Lebanon. The strikes, carried out Wednesday night, killed at least five people, according to the health ministry and state media.

PHOTO: AFP



Vladimir Putin flanked Xi at a massive parade of Chinese military might on Wednesday in Beijing, where underwater drones, massive missiles and laser weapons were showcased to the foreign leaders.

China is North Korea's most important ally, their relationship forged in the bloodshed of the Korean War in the 1950s.

Chinese state media said Kim and Xi met for talks in Beijing's Great Hall of the People.

China's foreign ministry said earlier the talks would be "an in-depth exchange of views on China-DPRK relations and issues of common concern", using the acronym for North Korea.

"China is willing to work with the DPRK to strengthen strategic communication... (and) deepen the exchange of experience in governance," spokesman Guo Jiakun said.

Trump pledges to pursue Russia-Ukraine peace

CBS News reports; Putin vows not to back down in Ukraine

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump said he remains committed to pursuing a peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine despite uncertainty over the prospect of face-to-face talks between Russia's Vladimir Putin and Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky, CBS News said in a report published yesterday.

"I've been watching it, I've been seeing it, and I've been talking about it with President Putin and President Zelensky," Trump said in a phone interview with CBS News on Wednesday. "Something is going to happen, but they are not ready yet. But something is going to happen. We are going to get it done."

Trump earlier on Wednesday said he plans to hold talks about the war in Ukraine in coming days after his Alaska summit with Putin in August failed to achieve a breakthrough.

Meanwhile, European leaders yesterday spoke to Trump after holding a summit with Zelensky on security guarantees for Kyiv in the event of a peace accord to end Russia's three-and-a-half war

Europe leaders call Trump after Ukraine security guarantees summit

Putin willing to meet Zelensky if he "comes to Moscow"

against Ukraine.

The guarantees by the so-called coalition of the willing, which remain under wraps but are expected to include ramped-up training for the Ukrainian army and deployment of troops by some European states, have angered Russia.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday he would carry on fighting in Ukraine if a peace deal cannot be reached.

Putin also said he was ready to meet with Zelensky if the Ukrainian president came to Moscow but that any such meeting had to be well prepared and lead to tangible results. Ukraine's foreign minister dismissed the suggestion

of Moscow as a venue for such a meeting, reports AFP.

Trump told CBS News he is unhappy with the carnage between Russia and Ukraine but will keep pushing for a peace agreement.

"I think we're going to get it all straightened out. Frankly, the Russia one, I thought, would have been on the easier side of the ones I've stopped, but it seems to be something that's a little bit more difficult than some of the others," he said.

Trump has been frustrated at his inability to get a halt to the fighting, which began with Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, after he initially predicted he would be able to end the war swiftly when he took office in January.

Trump also said on Wednesday that he watched China's "beautiful ceremony" marking the end of World War Two, where Putin was seen alongside Chinese President Xi Jinping and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

"I understand the reason they were doing it, and they were hoping I was watching, and I was watching," Trump told CBS News.

Thailand set for vote on new PM

Royal officials reject request by ruling party to dissolve parliament

AFP, Bangkok

Thai royal officials rejected a request by the ruling party to dissolve parliament, the country's acting prime minister said yesterday, clearing the way for a vote that could select his successor.

A power vacuum has consumed Thailand's top office since last Friday, when the Constitutional Court sacked prime minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra over an ethics breach.

A coalition of opposition MPs has backed conservative construction magnate Anutin Charnvirakul to take the top office, with a vote scheduled for today.

Paetongtarn's Pheu Thai party -- still governing in a caretaking capacity -- had attempted to dissolve the legislature and block the vote, submitting its request to the palace.

BALTIC SEA REGION Sharp rise in GPS jamming in aviation

Says Sweden pointing finger at Russia

AFP, Stockholm

GPS interference affecting aviation over the Baltic Sea region has risen sharply since 2023 and now occurs almost daily, Sweden's Transport Agency said yesterday, pointing the finger at Russia.

The number of interference incidents with global navigation satellite systems (GNSS), such as GPS, in Swedish airspace has risen from 55 in 2023 to 733 this year as of August 18, according to new data presented by the Transport Agency.

"We have done analyses over a longer period and collected data. We can conclude that the interference is originating from Russian territory," Andreas Holmgren, in charge of aviation issues at the agency, told AFP.

The interference includes both spoofing (false positioning) and jamming (disruption of signals). It was initially limited to the eastern areas of Sweden's airspace, over international waters.

But it has now "spread both geographically and in scope... occurring over a larger area over



both land and sea in Sweden", Holmgren said in a statement.

"This is serious and is a security risk for civil aviation, not least given the extent, duration and nature of the interference," he added.

The jamming also affects maritime navigation and critical infrastructure using GNSS, the agency said.

In early June, Sweden and five other Baltic Sea countries -- Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland -- raised the issue with the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), of which Russia is a member state.

The ICAO Council "expressed grave concern over the situation and demanded that Russia comply with its international obligations and ensure an immediate end to the interference", the agency said.

Despite this, the interference "in the Baltic Sea region has instead increased", it added.

The countries now intend to raise the issue with the ICAO's general assembly this autumn.

A plane carrying EU chief Ursula von der Leyen was hit by GPS jamming as it readied to land in Bulgaria on Monday, and Russia was suspected to be behind the incident, the European Commission said.

The plane was able to land safely. The incident came as Western powers discuss new aid to Ukraine as it fends off Russia's invasion.

17 dead after Lisbon funicular derails, crashes

21 hurt; Portugal declares day of mourning

REUTERS, Lisbon

Portuguese authorities were investigating yesterday what caused a funicular railway popular with tourists to derail and hurtle down a hill, killing at least 17 people and injuring 21 when it crashed into a building.

Footage from the site showed the mangled wreckage of the yellow tram-like funicular, which carries people up and down a steep hillside in the Portuguese capital, lying where it had left the track and hit a building, just metres from another car at the bottom of the hill.

Lisbon resident Abel Esteves, 75, and his wife and grandson were among 40 passengers in the car at the bottom of the hill who saw the derailed carriage careering towards them.



"When I saw another carriage coming down, I told my wife: 'We're all going to die here'," he said. "It picked up a brutal speed, took a slight turn and hit the building with a loud bang."

Flags flew at half-mast as Portugal declared a day of mourning for the victims. The city's remaining two lines were shut for inspections, authorities said.

Thirty-eight people were involved in the accident, with 15 killed at the scene while two more died in hospital overnight, said Margarida Martins, head of the city's emergency services.

Among the injured were four Portuguese, two Germans, two Spanish, one Korean, one Cape Verdean, one Canadian, one Italian, one French, one Swiss and one Moroccan, she said.

The German foreign ministry said in a statement that it assumed some of its citizens were among the victims.



UN staff held in Yemen suspected of spying for Israel

Says Houthi official; projectile falls into Red Sea near ship off Yemen

AGENCIES

UN staff arrested by Yemen's Houthi rebels earlier this week are suspected of spying for Israel and the United States, a Houthi official told AFP yesterday on condition of anonymity.

At least 11 United Nations workers were detained on Sunday after an Israeli air strike killed the Houthis' prime minister and about half of his cabinet last week.

"Those who were arrested from among the United Nations employees are accused of spying for the American and Israeli aggression," the official said. "Whoever has the accusations against them confirmed will be referred to trial."

The detainees included workers from the World Food Programme and Unicef, which provides aid and support for children. Dozens of other people were arrested on Saturday "on suspicion of collaborating with Israel", a Yemeni

security source told AFP at the time.

The arrests came after Houthi prime minister Ahmed Galeb Nasser al-Rahawi, nine ministers and two cabinet officials were killed in the Israeli air strike last Thursday, reports AFP. It marked the highest profile assassination in a series of Israeli reprisal attacks against the Iran-backed Houthis during the Gaza war.

Meanwhile, a projectile has fallen into the Red Sea near a vessel off Yemen, where the Houthis have been launching attacks on shipping since the start of Israel's war in Gaza, a British maritime agency said yesterday.

The vessel and crew were safe and proceeding to their next port of call, according to the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations agency, which received a report of the incident 178 nautical miles northwest of the port of Hodeidah. It did not specify when the attack occurred.

ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ

প্রধান কার্যালয়, বিডিবিএল ভবন (লেভেল: ১৪-২১)
৮ রাজউক এডিনিউ, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা।
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মারক নং-৫৩.১৩.০০০০.০০৯.১৭.০০২.২৫/১৭৬৬ তারিখ: ০৫.০৯.২০২৫

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ (আইসিবি)-এর জন্য নিম্নোক্ত শর্তে ০১ (এক) জন খতকালীন মেডিকেল রিটেইনার (মহিলা) নিয়োগের জন্য মহিলা প্রার্থীদের নিকট হতে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে:

ক্রম.	পদের নাম	বয়সসীমা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
১.	মেডিকেল রিটেইনার	সর্বোচ্চ ৬২ বছর	ক) চিকিৎসা কাজে কমপক্ষে ০৭ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ কোন স্বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় বা বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল (বিএমডি) কর্তৃক স্বীকৃত মেডিকেল কলেজ হতে ন্যূনতম এমবিবিএস ডিগ্রীধারী হতে হবে। মেডিসিন বিষয়ে এফসিপিএস/এমআরসিপি ডিগ্রীধারীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে। এছাড়া, অধিকতর যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে অভিজ্ঞতার শর্ত শিথিলযোগ্য; এবং খ) বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদ থাকতে হবে।

শর্তসমূহ:

- ০১) ক. মাসিক রিটেইনার ফি ৪৫,০০০/- (পঁয়তাল্লিশ হাজার) টাকা; মাসিক রিটেইনার ফি'র ৫০% হারে দুই স্তরে উৎসব বোনাস এবং মাসিক রিটেইনার ফি'র ২০% হারে পહેলা বৈশাখ উপলক্ষে নববর্ষ ভাতা প্রদান করা হবে;
- খ. সপ্তাহের প্রতি কার্যদিবসে সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা হতে দুপুর ০২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত নির্ধারিত কার্যালয়ে উপস্থিত থেকে চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদান করতে হবে। অফিসে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য কোন প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না;
- গ. প্রয়োজনে কর্মচারীবৃন্দ এবং তাদের পরিবারের সদস্যগণকে মেডিকেল রিটেইনার তাঁর ব্যক্তিগত চেম্বারে চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদান করবেন এবং এ বাবদ প্রতি ভিজিটের জন্য তিনি ২৫০.০০ টাকা ফি প্রাপ্য হবেন;
- ঘ. প্রতি পঞ্জিকাভবর্ষে সর্বোচ্চ ১০ (দশ) দিনের নৈমিত্তিক ছুটি ভোগ করতে পারবেন;
- ঙ. নিয়োগের মেয়াদ ০১ (এক) বছর যা শেষ হওয়ার পর নবায়নযোগ্য; এবং
- চ. রিটেইনারশীপ উভয়পক্ষের ০১ (এক) মাসের নোটিশে বাতিল করা যাবে।

০২) অগ্রাধী মহিলা প্রার্থীগণকে পূর্ণ জীবন-বৃত্তান্তসহ আবেদনপত্রের সাথে ০২ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি, নাগরিকত্ব সনদ ও জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের কপি, বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদসহ সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা সনদের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি এবং আনুষ্ঠানিক কাগজপত্র আগামী ০৯.১০.২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক, অ্যাডমিনিস্ট্রেশন ডিভিশন, ইনভেস্টমেন্ট কর্পোরেশন অব বাংলাদেশ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, বিডিবিএল ভবন (লেভেল # ১৪), ৮, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০ বরাবর জমা প্রদান করার জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো হলো।

(আব্দুল্লাহ আল মামুন)
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