

UNREST IN NEPAL

Celebrities back Gen Z protesters

THE KATHMANDU POST ONLINE

Members of Nepal's Generation Z have taken to the streets yesterday morning to protest against corruption and government restrictions on social media. Their demonstration has drawn support from prominent artists and entertainers.

Actors Madan Krishna Shrestha and Hari Bansa Acharya publicly voiced their support on Facebook, backing the youth-led movement.

Acharya drew attention to the fragility of a recently paved road, questioning why public infrastructure funded by taxpayers fails so quickly. He wrote, "I wondered daily how this road could deteriorate so fast. I walked it daily but only thought about it. Today's youth, however, do more than just think—they ask questions. Why did it collapse? How? Who is accountable? This is just one example of the issues this generation raises. The voice we hear today is not against the system itself, but against the actions of leaders and officials responsible for it."

He urged leaders to improve their performance and pass responsibilities to the younger generation, noting that today's youth expect more accountability. Shrestha echoed the sentiment. Singer and actor Prakash Saput encouraged his two brothers, Sunil and Sachin, to join the protests. He advised them to distribute money for food and water for the protesters.



Riot police personnel fire tear gas to disperse demonstrators during a protest outside the parliament in Kathmandu yesterday; protesters carrying Nepal's national flag try to storm the parliament; and protesters carry an injured victim during the protest.

PHOTO: AFP



Indonesia replaces minister after protests

AFP, Jakarta

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto yesterday removed Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati in a cabinet reshuffle following deadly anti-government protests across the country.

Sri Mulyani is an influential figure who once served as managing director of the World Bank and was finance minister under three different presidents. Her house was ransacked during the recent protests over lavish perks for lawmakers.

Purbaya Yudhi Sadewa, an economist who previously served as the chief commissioner of the Indonesia Deposit Insurance Corporation, was appointed as her successor, according to a presidential decree.

Nearly 600 people are still in detention following the protests, police said.

Prabowo did not give any reason for Sri Mulyani's removal from the cabinet.

End protectionism, tariff 'blackmail'

Says BRICS, calls for upholding of multilateral trading system

AFP, Brasilia

Leaders of the 11-member BRICS bloc railed against economic protectionism and "tariff blackmail" during a virtual meeting yesterday held amid a damaging trade war with US President Donald Trump.

The group of emerging economies met via videoconference at the initiative of Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, whose office said it was necessary to address the "intensification of unilateral measures."

The BRICS represents nearly 40 percent of global GDP and almost half of the world's population.

Its members are among those hardest hit by what Lula referred to Monday as "tariff blackmail" and "unjustified and illegal" trade practices.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, for his part, called for the upholding of "the multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization at its core" and for rejection of "all forms of protectionism."



Tensions between the United States and China, the world's two biggest economies, resulted in tit-for-tat duties that reached triple digits earlier this year before being lowered again.

In Brazil's case, Trump slapped his highest level of trade tariff — 50 percent — on a range of goods from Latin America's biggest economy.

Trump is punishing Brazil for what he calls a "witch hunt" against his right-wing ally, former president Jair Bolsonaro who is on trial for allegedly plotting a coup

to take power back from Lula after losing 2022 elections.

A verdict in the trial is expected this week.

"Tariff blackmail is being normalized as an instrument to conquer markets and interfere in domestic affairs," Lula said Monday.

Washington also imposed tariffs of up to 50 percent on Indian imports, accusing New Delhi of fueling Moscow's deadly attacks on Ukraine by purchasing Russian oil.

Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar told the BRICS summit the world needed sustainable trade, adding that "increasing barriers and complicating transactions will not help."

Russian President Vladimir Putin also took part in the virtual meeting days after gathering with Xi, North Korea's Kim Jong Un and India's Narendra Modi in China, where regional leaders slammed America's "bullying behaviour."

Trump hit South Africa, engaged in a spat with Washington over a range of domestic and

US sanctions won't shift Russia's path

Says Kremlin

REUTERS, Moscow

The Kremlin said yesterday that no sanctions would ever force Russia to change course in the Ukraine war, hours after the United States and the European Union indicated they were considering additional economic restrictions.

The West has imposed tens of thousands of sanctions on Russia over its 3-1/2 year-old war in Ukraine and its 2014 annexation of Crimea in a bid to hobble Russia's \$2.2 trillion economy and undermine support for President Vladimir Putin.

Putin says the Russian economy, which has grown faster than those of G7 countries and defied Western predictions of a crash, not least thanks to spending on the war effort, has endured well. He has ordered businesses and officials to defy the sanctions in every way they can.

"No sanctions will be able to force the Russian Federation to change the consistent position that our president has repeatedly spoken about," Peskov told Kremlin reporter Alexander Yunashev.

French PM ousted in parliament confidence vote

AFP, Paris

France's parliament yesterday ousted the government of Prime Minister Francois Bayrou after just nine months in office, leaving President Emmanuel Macron scrambling to find a successor and plunging the country into a new political crisis.

Bayrou, who has been in the job for just nine months, had blindsided even his allies by calling a confidence vote to end a lengthy standoff over his austerity budget, which foresees almost 44 billion euros (\$52 billion) of cost savings to reduce France's debt pile.

Bayrou, the first premier in the history of modern France to be ousted in a confidence vote rather than a no-confidence vote, will submit his resignation on Tuesday morning, according to a person close to him who asked not to be named.

In the vote in the National Assembly, 364 deputies voted that they had no confidence in the government while just 194 gave it their confidence. "In line with article 50 of the constitution, the prime minister must submit the resignation of his government," said speaker Yael Braun-Pivet.

Bayrou is the sixth prime minister under Macron since his 2017 election but the fifth since 2022. Bayrou's ousting leaves the French head of state with a new domestic headache at a time when he is leading diplomatic efforts on the Ukraine war.



'We have 2.5 options to seek deferral'

FROM PAGE 1

a deferral of five to six years.

Bangladesh has already demonstrated its strength by meeting all three required criteria — per capita income, human asset index, and economic vulnerability index — twice since 2018, under two triennial reviews by the UN Committee for Development Policy (UN CDP), which decides on LDC graduation. The country also received a two-year extension due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Business leaders argue that Bangladesh's economic vulnerabilities differ from Lao PDR and Nepal, who are also set to graduate alongside Bangladesh.

TRADITIONAL CHOICES. Of the two and a half options Bangladesh has to seek the deferral, the first is

for the head of government to write to the UN CDP, citing "unforeseen" and "beyond control" circumstances that require more time beyond 2026, Debapriya said.

The CDP would then form a sub-committee to examine the situation based on relevant data and information, and make recommendations to the full body.

This is how the Solomon Islands secured a three-year deferral in 2023, endorsed by the UN General Assembly (UNGA), with strong backing from Australia. The country is now set to graduate in 2027.

The second option is to write directly to the UN secretary-general, after which the request would go to the General Assembly for decision.

In December 2023, the

UNGA indefinitely deferred Angola's graduation after oil price shocks pulled its indicators below thresholds. Angola's

Debapriya points out that the process to seek deferral will require rescinding the March 13, 2025 decision by the cabinet of advisers confirming Bangladesh's graduation in November 2026.

graduation process will restart only once it again meets the criteria.

Debapriya noted that navigating the General Assembly requires influential patrons, as illustrated in Angola's case, where Portugal played a key

role.

NEW ENTRY POINT The "half option", Debapriya explained, lies in the Enhanced Monitoring Mechanism (EMM), which tracks graduating and recently graduated countries. He currently leads this process in the CDP.

On August 25, 2025, the CDP chair wrote to the Bangladesh government, along with other graduating countries, seeking reports on progress in implementing Smooth Transition Strategies (STS).

A consultation between the CDP and Bangladesh may take place on November 25, 2025, where the country's EMM report will be discussed.

How Bangladesh presents its case in that report will influence any subsequent request for deferral. The EMM

assesses not only the three main criteria but also a wide range of Supplementary Graduation Indicators (SGI). The CDP will review these reports at its February 2026 plenary.

MISCONCEPTIONS Debapriya noted several misconceptions about deferrals. For example, it is often claimed that Myanmar chose to delay its graduation.

In reality, although Myanmar was willing, the CDP withheld its 2021 decision due to uncertainty following the February 1, 2021 military takeover. The decision was later deferred to 2024, and again to 2027.

He also highlighted that many LDCs remain stuck in the graduation pipeline, particularly small island developing states (SIDS) such as Tuvalu and Kiribati (since 2009), with later additions including

Comoros and Djibouti. These countries remain highly vulnerable to climate and external shocks.

Meanwhile, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda are expected to join the pipeline soon. If Bangladesh opts for deferral, it would stand as the only South Asian country other than Afghanistan still in the LDC group.

Debapriya stressed that any decision to seek deferral has to be very well thought out, and based on compelling empirical evidence and with expressed political support from the international development partners.

He also pointed out that the process would require rescinding the March 13, 2025 decision by the cabinet of advisers confirming Bangladesh's graduation in November 2026.

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
"BSC Bhaban", Saltgola road, Chattogram.
REF: 18.16.0000.373.02.265.25 Date: 07.09.2025

Re-Tender Notice

S.L No.	Tender ID	Name of the Tender	Tender Closing & Opening Time & Date
1	COMC-07092025 DATED: 07.09.2025 REF: 18.16.0000.373.03.265.25	BADC-265// INTERNATIONAL LIMITED FREIGHT RE-TENDER FOR TRANSPORTATION OF 2ND LOT OF 40,000 MT (+/- 10%) DAP FERTILIZER IN BULK FROM FANGCHENG PORT, CHINA AND DELIVERY IN 50 KG NET BAG TO TRANSPORT AGENT LOCATED AT CHATTOGRAM AND SHIROMONI GHAT (KHULNA) VIA OUTER ANCHORAGE OF CHATTOGRAM PORT (A/B/C ANCHORAGE), BANGLADESH AND/OR HARBARIA, MONGLA PORT, BANGLADESH AS PACKAGE BASIS (RATIO: CTG & MONGLA : 40%:60%) LAY CAN 11-15 SEPTEMBER, 2025 A/C BADC.	09.09.2025 11:30 HRS (LT) & 09.09.2024 11:35 HRS (LT)

Website address: Detail information & tender document will be available in the website of www.bsc.portal.gov.bd.

Capt. Md Mozibur Rahman
General Manager (Chartering)
Phone: 031-728269
E-mail: gm-cht@bsc.gov.bd

GD-1961

AFGHANISTAN EARTHQUAKE Survivors refuse to return to villages, fearing landslides

REUTERS, Masud

Haunted by the fear that aftershocks could bring rocks crashing down from the mountains, survivors of Afghan earthquakes vowed not to return to destroyed villages but camp in fields and on riverbanks instead, even without tents to keep off the rain.

"We have no shelter, not even a tent," said 67-year-old farmer Adam Khan, leaning on a stick outside his ruined home in the village of Masud

in Afghanistan's eastern province of Kunar. "It rained last night, we had no place to take cover," he added. "Our biggest fear is the big rocks that could come down at any moment."

Two earthquakes since around midnight on August 31 killed more than 2,200 people and injured over 3,600 across the region, flattening thousands of homes, while aftershocks brought fresh landslides, leaving families trapped between unstable mountains and swollen rivers.

London's Tube network shuts

Workers begin week of strikes

REUTERS, London

London's Tube network came to a standstill yesterday as its workers began a week of strikes over pay and working conditions, disrupting travel for commuters and tourists in the British capital.

Almost no London Underground trains are expected to run between yesterday and Thursday. Additionally, the Docklands Light Railway, which connects the financial centres of Canary Wharf and the City of London, will not run today and Thursday.

Londoners reported making longer journeys to get to work yesterday morning, with many choosing to cycle and others taking detours.

"The prospect of it being all week, it's a bit of a nightmare... it's probably taken me twice as long to get in this morning," said legal counsel Laura Sutton, 46, who was near London Bridge station.

সোনালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি
কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিভিশন
প্রধান কার্যালয়, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা

ইংরেজি ২০২৬ সালের জন্য ২০,০০০ (বিশ হাজার) পিস
খামসহ ৮,৫০,০০০ (আট লক্ষ পঞ্চাশ হাজার) দেয়াল
ক্যালেন্ডার মুদ্রণের লক্ষ্যে দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
(উনুজ দরপত্র)

কাজের নামঃ Printing and Supplying of 8,50,000 (Eight Lac Fifty Thousand) Pieces of Wall Calendars & 20,000 (Twenty Thousand) Pieces of Envelopes.

টেন্ডার রেফারেন্সঃ 2025/96 Date: 07/09/2025

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির বিস্তারিত তথ্য সোনালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি এর Website www.sonilbank.com.bd এর Tender Board এ রয়েছে।
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ফোনঃ ০২-২২৩৩৮৪৬৪২, মোবাইলঃ ০১৭০৮-১৫৯৩১৯

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ডেপুটি জেনারেল ম্যানেজার

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