



This handout image shows hikers amid deep snow at Tangxiang camp in the Karma Valley of the Tibet Autonomous Region on Sunday, following a sudden heavy snowfall in the region. One hiker has died and hundreds of others have been rescued after sudden heavy snowfall in China's northwest and western mountain regions over the weekend, state media reported yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

INDONESIA SCHOOL TRAGEDY

Death toll hits 63; 6 missing

AFP, Sidoarjo

The death toll from an Indonesian school collapse rose to 63 yesterday, officials said, as workers pulled more remains from the rubble of the building that collapsed last week.

Part of the multi-storey Islamic boarding school on Indonesia's Java island collapsed as more than 150 students gathered for afternoon prayers.

Around half a dozen youngsters are still unaccounted for.

"We hope we can conclude the recovery today (Monday), and we will return the bodies (to the families)," National Search and Rescue Agency operations director Yudhi Bramantyo told a press conference Monday.

The collapse was Indonesia's deadliest disaster so far this year, Budi Irawan, the deputy head of the national disaster agency, said.

Investigators have been examining the cause of the collapse, but initial indications suggest that substandard construction may have contributed to the incident, according to experts.

The families of the missing agreed last Thursday for heavy equipment to be used, after the 72-hour "golden period" for the best chance of survival came to an end.

Netanyahu faces far-right fury amid Gaza peace push

REUTERS, Jerusalem

A rift within Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's far-right coalition is emerging as a flashpoint in efforts to end the war in Gaza, threatening to derail a US push to reshape the political landscape of the Middle East.

Under pressure from Donald Trump to end the two-year-old war, Netanyahu is facing a backlash from ultra-nationalist allies whose opposition to the US president's Gaza proposal could force the Israeli leader into early elections.

Netanyahu has embraced Trump's 20-point plan to end the war, which calls for Gaza's demilitarisation and rules out any future governing role for Hamas, though it allows its members to remain if they renounce violence and surrender their weapons.

Hamas also responded positively, partially accepting Trump's plan, saying it was ready to negotiate the hostages' release and would be part of a "Palestinian national framework" as Gaza's future is addressed.

But the idea that Hamas could still exist, let alone be in a position to continue discussing the Gaza plan after hostages are released, enraged Netanyahu's right-wing coalition partners.

"We cannot agree under any circumstances to a scenario in which the terrorist organisation that brought the greatest calamity upon the State of Israel is revived," said National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir.

"We will in no way be partners to that," he said in a post on X

after the Sabbath, threatening to quit the government.

If far-right ministers believe Netanyahu has made too many concessions to end the war, his ruling coalition – the most right-wing government in Israel's history – could collapse a full year before the next election, which must be held by October 2026.

But insisting on more war administration pursues its own interests in the Middle East, but Riyadh has made it clear it will not normalise with Israel until the Gaza war ends and there is a path to Palestinian statehood.

Trump has called for Israel to stop bombing Gaza so talks on his plan can play out, starting with indirect negotiations between Israel and Hamas in Egypt's Red

Sea resort of Sharm el Sheikh yesterday for the release of all remaining hostages.

Netanyahu sees the plan starting with the release of hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners. Of the 48 hostages remaining in Gaza, 20 are believed to be alive. A second phase would focus on disarming Hamas and demilitarising Gaza.

But on Saturday, Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said that pausing attacks in Gaza was a "grave mistake". He said that over time this would erode Israel's

position as it pursues its aims of freeing the hostages, eliminating Hamas and carrying out the demilitarisation of Gaza.

Ben-Gvir and Smotrich, whose parties hold 13 of the Knesset's 120 seats, have long pushed Netanyahu to pursue sweeping, seemingly unattainable goals in Gaza. If both were to leave the government, it would likely trigger an election.

Israeli government spokesperson Shosh Bedrosian told reporters on Sunday that the military had stopped what she said was certain bombings but that there was no ceasefire in place.

Netanyahu has framed the plan as a joint effort that advances the government's goals, which include Hamas' surrender and Israeli security control in Gaza and its perimeter.

But Trump's plan lacks details, including any sort of time frame for Hamas to disarm. A vague reference to Palestinian statehood is also likely to infuriate Netanyahu's far-right allies.

Israeli pollster Mitchell Barak, who worked for Netanyahu in the 1990s, said he believed that the government was nearing its end, though he did not expect an immediate collapse given that the opposition supports the Trump plan while Smotrich and Ben-Gvir have few options other than staying aligned with Netanyahu.

Opposition leader Yair Lapid has offered to lend the government support to prevent it from collapsing in order to see through Trump's plan.



in Gaza would antagonise the families of hostages still held by Palestinian militants in Gaza, and could further alienate a war-weary Israeli public as well as Israel's international allies.

Continued conflict could also extinguish Israeli hopes that more Arab and Muslim states like Saudi Arabia or Indonesia could join the Abraham Accords, a set of US-backed agreements that normalised relations between Israel and several Arab states.

Expanding the Accords has been a priority for Trump as his

GAZA SUMUD FLOTILLA Israel deports 171 more activists including Thunberg

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel yesterday said it deported 171 more activists who were detained while taking part in an aid flotilla bound for Gaza, including Swedish campaigner Greta Thunberg.

The foreign ministry said in a post on X that "171 additional provocateurs from the Hamas-Sumud flotilla, including Greta Thunberg, were deported today from Israel to Greece and Slovakia".

It added that the deportees were citizens of several countries, including Greece, Italy, France and the United States.

Photos shared with the post showed Thunberg alongside two other women walking through Israel's Ramon Airport wearing the grey tracksuits used in Israeli prisons.

The Israeli foreign ministry told AFP that 138 activists from the Global Sumud Flotilla were still in Israeli custody.

The 45 vessel flotilla had been aiming to break an Israeli blockade to deliver aid to Gaza, where the United Nations says famine has taken hold after two years of devastating conflict.

Israel started intercepting the flotilla vessels in international waters on Wednesday. An Israeli official said on Thursday that boats with more than 400 people on board had been prevented from reaching the Palestinian territory.

International activists who arrived in Istanbul after being deported from Israel said on Saturday they had been subjected to violence and "treated like animals".

In its post on X yesterday, Israel's foreign ministry said that "all the legal rights of the participants in this PR stunt were and will continue to be fully upheld."

"The lies they are spreading are part of their pre-planned fake news campaign," it added.

NEPAL, INDIA FLOODS

Rescuers scramble to deliver aid; more than 70 killed

AFP, Kathmandu



Rescuers in Nepal and India yesterday scrambled to deliver emergency aid after days of torrential rain triggered landslides and floods that have killed more than 70 people, officials said.

The downpours, which began on October 3, have now eased, but rescue teams are still struggling to reach several

cut-off areas with roads blocked and bridges washed away.

Monsoon rains, usually from June to September, bring widespread death and destruction every year across South Asia, but the number of fatal floods and landslides has increased in recent years.

Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority said at least 46 people have died in rain-related incidents – two more than the previous day – while six others remain missing.

Security forces have been deployed with helicopters and motorboats to assist the efforts. Several highways blocked over the weekend slowly opened up Monday to allow the movement of stranded travellers.

Across the border in eastern India, at least 28 people were killed in the storms, officials said, as rescuers struggled to reach the worst-hit spots in the Himalayan region.

The tea-growing hills of Darjeeling in West Bengal state were among the hardest hit.

"Landslides have been reported from 35 locations in the hills of Darjeeling and more than 100 houses have been destroyed," Praveen Prakash, a West Bengal state police official told AFP, confirming 28 deaths.



Buddhist devotees light lamps at Botahtaung Pagoda to mark the full moon day of the Thadingyut festival in Yangon yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সম্প্রতি পরিলক্ষিত হচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের ও আন্তর্জাতিক মুদ্রা তহবিলের নাম কিংবা লোগো ব্যবহার করে <https://dbbloan.com>, <https://bbloan.com> ও <https://www.bdbloan71.com> নামে ঋণ প্রদান সংক্রান্ত ভুয়া অ্যাপ ও ওয়েবসাইট পরিচালিত হচ্ছে, যার সাথে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কিংবা আন্তর্জাতিক মুদ্রা তহবিলের কোনো প্রকার সংশ্লিষ্টতা নেই। এসব অ্যাপ ও ওয়েবসাইটে রেজিস্ট্রেশনের মাধ্যমে নাম, ঠিকানা, জন্ম তারিখ, মোবাইল নম্বর, ই-মেইল ঠিকানা ও জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের নম্বরের ন্যায় সংবেদনশীল তথ্য সংগৃহীত হচ্ছে, যার অবৈধ ব্যবহারের ফলে জনসাধারণ আর্থিক প্রতারণার শিকার হতে পারেন কিংবা বিভিন্ন আইনগত ঝুঁকিতে পড়তে পারেন। আর্থিক ক্ষতি ও আইনি ঝুঁকি এড়ানোর লক্ষ্যে সবাইকে উপরের কিংবা এ ধরনের অন্য কোনো ভুয়া অ্যাপ ও ওয়েবসাইটে যে কোনো ধরনের সংবেদনশীল তথ্য প্রদান এবং আর্থিক লেনদেন হতে বিরত থাকার পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে।

পরিশোধ ও নিষ্পত্তি ব্যবস্থা আইন, ২০২৪ এর ১৫(২) ধারা অনুসারে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের অনুমোদন ব্যতিরেকে জনসাধারণের নিকট হতে বিনিয়োগ গ্রহণ কিংবা ঋণ প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে কোনোরূপ অনলাইন বা অফলাইন প্ল্যাটফর্ম পরিচালনা করা আইনের ধারা ৩৭(১) অনুযায়ী একটি অপরাধ, যার জন্য কোনো ব্যক্তি ০৫ বছর কারাদণ্ড বা ৫০ লক্ষ টাকা অর্থদণ্ড বা উভয়দণ্ডে দণ্ডিত হবেন। এ ধরনের অপরাধমূলক কার্যক্রম পরিহারের জন্য সবাইকে নির্দেশ দেয়া যাচ্ছে।

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