

INTERNATIONAL

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Swedish climate campaigner Greta Thunberg raises her fist after arriving at the Athens International Airport yesterday. She was among 161 nationals from 16 European countries expelled by Israel for taking part in a Gaza aid flotilla. The 22-year-old climate campaigner was one of hundreds of people who had boarded a flotilla that tried to break through an Israeli blockade of the war-stricken territory. Israel's foreign ministry yesterday said it had deported 171 activists overall to Greece and Slovakia.

PHOTO: AFP

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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



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

PHOTO: AFP

Drone attack triggers power cuts in Russia

Zelensky says Western parts found in Russian drones, missiles

AGENCIES

Russia said a Ukrainian drone barrage triggered power cuts in one of its border regions -- one of Kyiv's largest attacks of the war.

Kyiv has vowed to increase its strikes on Russian territory, in particular on Russia's oil infrastructure, in what it sees as a legitimate response to Moscow's daily barrages of Ukrainian cities and its energy network that have at times cut off heating and power to millions.

Russia's defence ministry said it had downed 251 Ukrainian drones overnight.

In the Belgorod border region, thousands were left without electricity.

A refinery in the southern Krasnodar region was also hit, wounding two people, local authorities said.

Meanwhile, Ukraine said it found of foreign parts, including Western-made, in the drones and missiles Russia fired in a weekend air attack on the country.

"During the massive combined strike on Ukraine on the night of October 5, Russia used 549 weapon systems containing 102,785 foreign-made components," Zelensky said on social media, referring to an attack in the early hours of Sunday.

Russia fired almost 500 drones and over 50 missiles at Ukraine that night, killing five people -- including in the western Lviv region hundreds of kilometres from the front line -- and damaging its energy infrastructure.

Zelensky said the parts of drones and missiles intercepted in the attack came "from companies in the United States, China and Taiwan, the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the Netherlands."

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," Praween Prakash, a West Bengal state police official told AFP, confirming 28 deaths.

সতর্কীকৰণ 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.bdloan71.com> নামে খণ্ড প্রদান সংক্রান্ত ভূয়া আয়প ও ওয়েবসাইট পরিচালিত হচ্ছে, যার সাথে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক কিংবা আন্তর্জাতিক মুদ্রা তহবিলের কোনো প্রকার সংশ্লিষ্টতা নেই। এসব আয়প ও ওয়েবসাইটে মেইনস্ট্রিমে মাধ্যমে নাম, ঠিকানা, জন্ম তারিখ, মোবাইল নম্বর, ই-মেইল ঠিকানা ও জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের নথিরে ন্যায় সংবেদনশীল তথ্য সংযোগিত হচ্ছে, যার অভিযন্তা ব্যবহারের ফলে জনসাধারণ অর্থনৈতিক প্রতিরক্ষার শিকার হতে পারেন কিংবা বিভিন্ন আইনগত ঝুঁকিতে পড়তে পারেন। আর্থিক দ্রুতি ও আইনি ঝুঁকি এড়ানোর লক্ষ্যে সবাইকে উপরের কিংবা এ ধরনের অন্য কোনো ভূয়া আয়প ও ওয়েবসাইটে যে কোনো ধরনের সংবেদনশীল তথ্য প্রদান এবং আর্থিক লেনদেন হতে বিরত থাকার পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে।

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

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