

INTERNATIONAL

Freeze war at current battle lines

Trump calls on Russia, Ukraine; Zelensky says Kyiv preparing contract to buy 25 Patriot systems

AGENCIES

United States President Donald Trump has called for Russia and Ukraine to freeze the war along current battle lines – a proposal that would see Moscow keep large areas of Ukrainian territory.

Trump told reporters late on Sunday that the two sides should just stop fighting and resolve the “details” over territory at future talks. The current front line runs through the Donbas region, an industrial hub.

“What I say is they should stop right now at the battle lines, go home, stop killing people and be done,” the US president said, adding that it would be difficult to negotiate details of a final resolution.

Asked about what would happen to Donbas, which has seen most of the fighting, Trump said: “Let it be cut the way it is. It’s cut up right now – I think 78 percent of the land is already taken by Russia. You leave it the way it is right now. They can negotiate something later on down the line.”

Ukraine has previously insisted on reclaiming all of its



land. Trump himself asserted last month that Ukraine can win militarily and recapture all of the territories occupied by Russia, which also includes the Crimean Peninsula and other areas in eastern Ukraine, reports Al Jazeera online.

The US president, who had promised to swiftly end the war between Russia and Ukraine, is set to meet his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, in Hungary in the coming weeks.

Zelensky has said he would be ready to join Putin and Trump at their summit in Hungary if he is invited.

Meanwhile, Ukraine is preparing a contract to buy 25 Patriot air defence systems, Volodymyr Zelensky said, in what would be a huge boost to Kyiv’s abilities to defend against Russia’s aerial bombardments.

In comments to media at a meeting on Sunday and cleared for use yesterday, Zelensky said the systems would be supplied every year for a number of years, and that Ukraine would seek for some European nations to give Kyiv priority in the queue for the systems.

End arbitrary arrests and detentions

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meeting between Yunus and representatives of international civil society during the United Nations General Assembly in New York last month.

The rights groups urged Bangladesh to prevent arbitrary arrests and detentions. They recommended reviewing and withdrawing cases that appear politically motivated or infringe on freedom of expression and other fundamental rights.

They said such reviews should cover cases filed both before and after August 2024, regardless of perceived political affiliation, including those involving Awami League members and supporters charged or detained without credible evidence.

The rights bodies also urged the government to protect journalists from harassment and violence by state and non-state actors, to conduct prompt and independent investigations into such attacks, and to implement the Media Reform Commission’s recommendations in line with international standards on press freedom.

“Ensure press freedom and protect journalists from arbitrary arrests and detention, regardless of perceived political affiliation, particularly where charges lack credible evidence or violate freedom of expression or other rights,” the letter said.

The groups acknowledged measures taken by the interim government since last year’s July uprising, including investigations into past abuses and steps to restore civil liberties.

However, they noted that reforms in the legal and security sectors remain

incomplete and urged the authorities to take further action ahead of the 2026 national elections to strengthen institutions and uphold rights.

The letter also said security sector reforms are necessary to consolidate public trust.

It added, “Implement security sector reform, including by disbanding the Rapid Action Battalion and limiting the powers of the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence, to break with the past and develop rights-respecting security institutions. The Rab’s track record of perpetrating serious abuses with impunity has put the institution well beyond reform, and all military personnel should be removed from civilian law enforcement. The DGFI’s perpetration of enforced disappearances and other serious abuses underscores the need for its role and authority to be strictly delineated to military intelligence with operational limits and a clear legal mandate.

“The military should provide its full support for these accountability efforts, including by respecting the jurisdiction of the ICT [International Crimes Tribunal], a civilian court, over members of the military.”

They also called for a moratorium on the death penalty.

The letter further recommended revising or repealing several laws, including the Cyber Security Ordinance 2025, the Special Powers Act, and the Official Secrets Act, to ensure compliance with international standards on freedom of expression.

It pointed out that a ban has been imposed on the Awami League against all forms of activities, while supporters of the party engaging in them are

being detained.

The organisations referred to a UN fact-finding report released in February, which found evidence that some senior AL leaders were involved in serious human rights violations during the previous administration, and noted that the UN had warned against a ban on the party.

“End the broad ban on Awami League activities under the Anti-Terrorism Act, which excessively restricts freedom of association, assembly, and expression, and has been used to arrest Awami League members and perceived supporters engaged in peaceful activities,” the letter said.

They also urged the government to ease restrictions on civil society organisations by reforming the NGO Affairs Bureau and reviewing the Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act, which they said has constrained the work of non-governmental groups.

The rights groups also expressed concern over the condition of Rohingya refugees, particularly those who arrived after renewed violence in Myanmar since late 2023.

The signatories urged the government to prevent any forced returns until conditions in Myanmar allow voluntary, safe, and dignified repatriation. They encouraged steps to improve access to education, livelihoods, and freedom of movement in the refugee camps.

They further said Bangladesh is at an important stage in its political transition and that further progress toward transparency, accountability, and inclusion would strengthen public confidence ahead of the next election.

CU student stabbed to death

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Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

Though originally from Barishal, Shamim lived with his parents in the Barapola area of Bandar Residential in Chattogram.

Bandar Police Station Sub-Inspector Monirul Karim told journalists that Shamim was alive when police first found him.

“He was lying in a pool of blood

with his hand and foot tendons cut. We are investigating both possibilities – whether it was suicide or murder,” he said.

Family members and police said Shamim left home around noon on Sunday after receiving a phone call. He told his mother he was going to meet someone and also mentioned he had a job interview.

Responding to a 999 call, Halishahar Police first rushed to

the spot assuming the location was within their jurisdiction but later transferred the case to Bandar Police Station after a preliminary inquiry. His family was informed afterward.

“We are shocked by the incident – we want a proper investigation,” said the victim’s cousin, Md Maruf.

A case will be filed regarding Shamim’s death, he added.



University students light flares during a protest marking the first anniversary of Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto's administration, criticising government policies—particularly the free meals program—in Jakarta, Indonesia, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Colombia recalls ambassador to US

Trump-Petro feud intensifies

AFP, Bogotá

Colombia yesterday said its ambassador to the United States had been recalled, as a public feud between the nations’ leaders heats up with President Donald Trump revoking aid and threatening punishing tariffs.

Trump on Sunday vowed to end aid to the South American nation, a historically close US partner, accusing his leftist Colombian counterpart Gustavo Petro of being an “illegal drug leader.”

He also said he would be making an announcement on tariffs targeting Colombia later yesterday.

The threats came as the United States announced it had struck another alleged drug-running vessel in international waters, killing three people.

The boat was affiliated with

a Colombian armed group, the National Liberation Army (ELN), US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said.

That strike came on the heels of another attack – on a semi-submersible vessel – that left two survivors, one of whom was Colombian.

Petro, who has clashed with Trump since the US leader returned to power in January, has fiercely criticized the deadly anti-drug campaign in the Caribbean.

He has accused Trump of murder and of violating Colombia’s sovereignty.

Colombia’s Ambassador Daniel Garcia Pena has already returned to Bogota, the foreign ministry said yesterday in a statement, adding Petro’s government would be making further announcements during the day.

It's like asking one to swim

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asking someone to swim after throwing him or her into the river, tying hands and legs,” he said while rebutting the prosecution’s formal charges in a case filed against Hasina, Kamal, and former IGP Chowdhury Abdullah Al Mamun, now an approver.

Taking the allegation seriously, tribunal Chairman Justice Golam Mortuza Mozumder asked, “You mean the Evidence Act and CrPC should have been applied [to the ICT]?”

Amir agreed.

“The ICT Act imposes many bindings. We have to conduct the trial through numerous obstacles, which put the defence in an embarrassing situation,” he said.

The defence also challenged the claim of “widespread” attacks. He said prosecution only could bring witnesses from fewer than 20 of the 52 districts where the prosecution alleged atrocities occurred. And in most of those districts, there was only one witness.

“Uncorroborated testimony from a single witness cannot prove widespread crimes,” Amir said.

The tribunal observed that even killings in Dhaka alone could be termed “widespread”.

Amir said Hasina’s reference to “descendants of Razakars” targeted certain section of people, not all, and that her attempt to reform the quota system was blocked by

agitators “as part of a larger design.”

He argued the government had no role in a High Court writ petition on restoring the quota system in public service.

The tribunal chairman said the court’s inaction, followed by the sudden disposal of the writ within a day or two, indicated a calculated plan and clear government influence over the judiciary.

Defending Hasina’s 15-year rule, Amir said the prosecution ignored major achievements like the Padma Bridge, metro rail, Karnaphuli tunnel, and elevated expressway.

Justice Shohul responded, “In the name of development, are you justifying enforced disappearances, extra-judicial killings, and torture?”

Amir replied, “Every government makes mistakes; no administration is above error.”

He also defended Hasina’s abolition of the caretaker government system. He said Hasina was the one who introduced the system. “The system was later corrupted when a BNP-led government extended the retirement age of judges to make one of them chief adviser,” he said. “In that context, the caretaker government was scrapped, following a High Court verdict.”

On corruption, he said, “Begumpara is not only for Awami League, BNP, Jatiya Party leaders, and bureaucrats are also there.”

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

২০২৫-২০২৬ শিক্ষাবর্ষে আভানগ্রাম্যজুড়ে প্রোগ্রামে ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি



২০২০ সন থেকে ২০২৩ সন পর্যন্ত মাধ্যমিক বা সমমান এবং ২০২৫ সনের উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উচ্চীর ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের আভানগ্রাম্যজুড়ে প্রোগ্রামে ভর্তির জন্য আবেদন করতে পারবে।

ভর্তি প্রার্থীরা ২৯/১০/২০২৫ তারিখ মুসুর ১২:০০টা থেকে ১৬/১১/২০২৫ তারিখ রাত ১১:৫৯ মি: পর্যন্ত Dhaka University Admission Website (<https://admission.eis.du.ac.bd>)-এর মাধ্যমে অনলাইনে আবেদন করতে পারবে। আবেদন ক্ষি ১০৫০/- (এক হাজার পঞ্চাশ) টাকা, আইবি এইউনিটের আবেদন ক্ষি ১২৫০/- (এক হাজার মুণ্ডুষ্ঠ পঞ্চাশ) টাকা। চারটি মাস্টার্স বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংকের (সোনালী, জনতা, অঙ্গী, স্ল্যান্সি) দে কেন শাখার অধৰা অনলাইনে ডেবিট/ক্রেডিট কাৰ্ড, মোবাইল ফিনান্সিয়াল সেবা ব্যবহার কৰে শিক্ষার্থী আবেদন ক্ষি জয়া দিবে।

শিক্ষার্থীরা নিম্নোক্ত ০৫ (পাঁচ) টি ইউনিটে আবেদন করতে পারবে। আবেদনের যোগ্যতাসহ ভর্তি সংস্কৃত বিজ্ঞান প্রদত্ত সংস্কৃতি ইউনিটে আবেদন করতে পারবে।

বিজ্ঞান ইউনিট	বিজ্ঞান অনুবন্ধ, জীববিজ্ঞান অনুবন্ধ, ফর্মেলী অনুবন্ধ, আর্থ এত এনভায়েলেমেন্টল সায়েন্সেস অনুবন্ধ, ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এত টেকনোলজী অনুবন্ধভূত সকল বিভাগ এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট ইনসিটিউটে ভর্তির জন্য।
কলা, আইন ও সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান ইউনিট	কলা অনুবন্ধ, আইন অনুবন্ধ, সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান অনুবন্ধভূত সকল বিভাগ এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট ইনসিটিউটে ভর্তির জন্য।
ব্যবসায় শিক্ষা ইউনিট	বিজ্ঞেন্স স্টাডিজ অনুবন্ধভূত সকল বিভাগে ভর্তির জন্য।
চারকলা ইউনিট	চারকলা অনুবন্ধভূত সকল বিভাগে ভর্তির জন্য।
আইবি ইউনিট	ব্যবসায় প্রযোগ্য ইনসিটিউটে ভর্তির জন্য।

২০২৫-২০২৬ শিক্ষাবর্ষে ভর্তি পরীক্ষার তারিখ ও সময়সূচি নিম্নরূপ:

ইউনিট	পরীক্ষার তারিখ	বার</th
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