

## POKROVSK CITY Russia closes in on Ukrainian troops

REUTERS, Moscow

Russia said yesterday that its forces were tightening their encirclement of Ukrainian troops in the city of Pokrovsk, a transport and logistics hub they have been trying to capture for over a year.

With fighting raging in the streets of the ruined city, the Russian Defence Ministry said its soldiers had cleared 35 buildings of Ukrainian troops.

It said Russian forces were also squeezing surrounded Ukrainian troops near the town of Kupiansk in the Kharkiv region.

DeepState, a Ukrainian project that maps the front line based on verified open source images, yesterday showed that Russian forces had pushed further into Pokrovsk and its environs, though it showed much of it still in grey, beyond firm control of either side.

Pokrovsk had a pre-war population of some 60,000, but most civilians fled long ago. Capturing it could give Moscow a platform to drive towards Kramatorsk and Sloviansk.



Democratic New York City mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani holds hands with his wife, Rama Duwaji, after voting at a polling location at the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in the Queens borough of New York City, US, yesterday. New Yorkers are projected to elect Mamdani as mayor, opening a new front in opposition to Donald Trump and raising the specter the president will retaliate against the city where he made his name.

PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS

## World to overshoot 1.5C climate goal

Says United Nations' Environment Programme

REUTERS, Sao Paulo

The world has failed to meet its main climate change target of limiting the rise in global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and will likely breach this threshold in the next decade, the United Nations' Environment Programme said yesterday.

The annual Emissions Gap report said because of countries' slow action to reduce planet-heating greenhouse gas emissions, it was now clear that the world would exceed the core target of the 2015 Paris Agreement - at least temporarily.

"This will be difficult to reverse - requiring faster and bigger additional reductions in greenhouse gas emissions to minimize overshoot," UNEP said.

Lead report author Anne Olofsson said deep emissions cuts now could delay when the overshoot happens, "but we can no longer totally avoid it".

The 2015 Paris Agreement commits countries to limit the global average temperature rise to 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to aim for 1.5°C.

Yet governments' latest pledges to cut emissions in future, if met, would see the world face 2.3-2.5°C of warming, UNEP said.

That's around 0.3°C less warming than the UN's projection a year ago - indicating that new emissions-cutting plans announced this year by countries including top CO2 emitter China have failed to substantially close the gap.

China pledged in September to cut emissions by 7-10% from their peak by 2035. Analysts note the country tends to set modest targets and exceed them.

Limit will be breached at least temporarily  
Deep emissions cuts could pull world back below limit  
UN finding adds pressure to countries at COP30 summit

For example, 2°C of warming would more than double the share of the population exposed to extreme heat, compared with 1.5°C. Warming of 1.5°C would destroy at least 70% of coral reefs, versus 99% at 2°C.

Current policies - the ones countries already have in place - would lead to even more warming, of around 2.8°C, UNEP said.

The world has made some progress. A decade ago, when the Paris Agreement was signed, the planet was on course for around a 4°C temperature rise.

But heat-trapping CO2 emissions continue to rise, as countries burn coal, oil and gas to power their economies.

Former US  
VP Dick  
Cheney  
dies at 84



AFP, Washington

Former US vice president Dick Cheney has died aged 84, US media reported yesterday, citing a statement from his family.

Cheney was the 46th vice president, serving under Republican president George W. Bush for two terms between 2001 and 2009.

The former congressman and defense secretary "died due to complications of pneumonia and cardiac and vascular disease," according to the family's statement cited by US media.

For decades, Dick Cheney served our nation, including as White House Chief of Staff, Wyoming's Congressman, Secretary of Defense, and Vice President of the United States," it added.

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End 'nightmare of  
violence' in Sudan  
UN chief urges peace as  
Sudan's army-backed council  
meets on US truce proposal

AFP, Port Sudan

Sudan's army-backed authorities were due to meet yesterday to discuss a US proposal for a ceasefire in the war with the paramilitary, a government source told AFP, as the UN chief called for an end to the "nightmare of violence".

The war, which has killed tens of thousands of people and displaced millions more over the past two years, has spread to new areas of Sudan in recent days, sparking fears of an even graver humanitarian catastrophe.

After mediating in other conflicts in Africa and the Middle East in recent months, the US administration under Donald Trump is pushing for a ceasefire in Sudan.

The army aligned authorities had rejected an earlier truce proposal under which both they and the paramilitaries they are fighting would be excluded from a transitional political process.

The latest discussions follow an escalation on the ground, with the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) appearing to prepare an assault on the central Kordofan region after it captured El-Fasher, the last army stronghold in Darfur region.

"The Security and Defence Council will hold a meeting today to discuss the US truce proposal," the army-aligned government source said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to brief the media.

People forced to flee El-Fasher have described to AFP scenes of fear and violence.

## India launches mass overhaul of voter rolls

Activists warn the move  
could lead to widespread  
disenfranchisement

AFP, New Delhi

India launched a revision of its voter rolls yesterday, expanding a contentious exercise that activists warn could fuel disenfranchisement in the world's largest democracy.

The three-month voter registration overhaul - known as the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) - kicked off in 12 states and territories, many of which are slated to hold local elections next year.

Tens of thousands of election officials and nearly half a million volunteers will go door-to-door to help residents complete voter enumeration forms.

Officials "will help the elector fill the enumeration form, collect it and submit it," Election Commission of India chief Gyanesh Kumar told reporters while announcing the exercise.

Earlier this year, the ECI conducted a similar revision in the eastern state of Bihar, home to more than 130 million people, ahead of its state elections beginning November 6.

The process led to the exclusion of around 6.5 million names, which the ECI said was necessary to prevent the inclusion of "foreign illegal immigrants".

Members of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have long claimed that undocumented Muslim migrants from neighbouring Bangladesh have fraudulently registered as voters.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Integrated Services and Livelihood for Displaced People from  
Myanmar and Host Communities Improvement Project  
Level-08, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207  
www.lged.gov.bd  
Memo No.46.02.0000.575.07.002.25-18 Date: 04/11/2025.

### Corrigendum Notice-01

Request for Expression of Interest (REoI) for Design, Monitoring and Supervision Consulting Services (Firm Selection) vide memo no. 46.02.0000.575.07.002.25-13. Dated 07/10/2025 is hereby revised as follows:

**Provision in the Original REoI Sl. No. 5**  
The Consultants shall have to submit their EOIs electronically through the ADB CMS by 11:59 PM (Manila local time) on 06 November, 2025.

All other contents of the REoI shall remain unchanged.

(Md. Asifuzzaman)

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