

Ukraine peace deal is close

Says US envoy; Moscow wants radical changes

REUTERS

US President Donald Trump's outgoing Ukraine envoy said a deal to end the Ukraine war was "really close" and depended on resolving just two major issues but the Kremlin said there had to be radical changes to some of the US proposals.

Trump, who says he wants to be remembered as a "peacemaker" president, says that ending Europe's deadliest conflict since World War Two has so far been the most elusive foreign policy aim of his presidency.

US Special Envoy for Ukraine Keith Kellogg, who is due to step down in January, told the Reagan National Defense Forum that efforts to resolve the conflict were in "the last 10 metres" which he said was always the hardest.

The two main outstanding issues, Kellogg said, were on territory - primarily the future of the Donbas - and the future



Civil defence personnel and relatives exhume graves at Al-Ahli Arab Baptist Hospital to transfer the remains to official burial sites in Gaza City yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Second phase of Gaza plan 'close': Israeli PM

Two Palestinians killed in Israeli fire in West Bank

AGENCIES

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday that he will meet President Donald Trump later this month, saying a second phase of the US president's Gaza plan was close.

The meeting will discuss possible opportunities for peace and an end to the Palestinian group Hamas's rule in the enclave, he said during a joint press conference with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz.

Negotiations on the next stages of Trump's plan to end the two-year war in the Palestinian enclave have been continuing. The plan also included the release of Israeli hostages and the establishment of an interim technocratic Palestinian government in Gaza, overseen by an

international "board of peace" and backed by an international security force.

"I will be having very important conversations at the end of the month on how to ensure the second phase will be achieved," Netanyahu added.

He also said that the first phase of Trump's plan was about to be finished.

Israel's military said yesterday that its forces killed two men in the occupied West Bank after what it described as an attempted ramming attack, with the Palestinian Authority identifying the deceased as a 17- and 55-year-old.

The Ramallah-based health ministry named the two victims as Ahmad Khalil Al-Rajabi, 17, and Ziad Jabara Abu Dawoud, 55, after the incident on Saturday night in the Bab al-Zawiya area in the city of Hebron.



of Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, Europe's largest, which is under Russian control.

"If we get those two issues settled, I think the rest of the things will work out fairly well," Kellogg said on Saturday at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, California. "We're almost there."

"We're really, really close," said Kellogg, Zelensky said on Saturday that he had had a long and "substantive" phone call with Witkoff and Kushner. The Kremlin has said it expects Kushner to be doing the main work on drafting a possible deal.

Meanwhile, Russia's air defences destroyed 77 Ukrainian drones launched overnight, Russia's defence ministry said yesterday.

US MILITARY BUILDUP

Insomnia, anxiety stalk Venezuelans

Army swears in 5,600 more soldiers

AGENCIES

The streets of Caracas are decorated with Christmas lights. The sound of traditional Venezuelan Christmas music can be heard everywhere. Daily routines seem undisturbed: children attending school, adults going to work, vendors opening their businesses.

Beneath this facade lurks anxiety, fear, and frustration, with some even taking preventative measures against a possible attack amid the tension between the United States and Venezuela.

The Venezuelan army swore in 5,600 soldiers on Saturday. President Nicolas Maduro has called for stepped-up military recruitment after the United States deployed a fleet of warships and the world's largest aircraft carrier to the Caribbean under the pretext of



combating drug trafficking.

American forces have carried out deadly strikes on more than 20 vessels, killing at least 87, reports AFP.

A woman who asked to be identified as Victoria for fear of reprisals has lived alone in western Caracas since her two children left the country and currently works in commerce. She describes her routine in recent months as marked by uncertainty, with each day bringing

unsettling developments that rob her of peace of mind.

Although she hasn't stopped doing her daily tasks, Victoria confesses that this state of alert, with the constant question of what might happen next, has disrupted her sleep, reports CNN online.

Sometimes, she says, she gets up in the middle of the night and starts checking the news on her phone, even though she acknowledges that doing so makes it harder to fall back to sleep.

"There's a confrontation in which we, ordinary citizens, have nothing to do," she says, referring to the potential conflict between her country and the Trump administration. "We try to carry on with our daily lives, we try to carry on with our daily activities, but that's always interrupted by the whole situation we're experiencing, which undoubtedly affects us."



People walk past damaged houses after landslides triggered by Cyclone Ditwah in Ulapane village near Nawalapitiya in Kandy, Sri Lanka, yesterday. Sri Lankan authorities issued fresh landslide warnings as rains continued to lash areas already devastated by the powerful cyclone, with the death toll rising to 627.

PHOTO: AFP

DIG faces inquiry

FROM PAGE 2

According to the show-cause, Sufian used his official social media account to send objectionable messages to the victim, a female additional superintendent of police from the 35th batch.

On September 18, he allegedly sent an obscene video clip as well.

Though the DIG allegedly deleted the content from his Messenger, the evidence provided has been validated in a forensic report conducted by the Criminal Investigation Department.

The notice further stated that by sending such a video to a junior female colleague while holding an important post, "DIG Abu Sufian demonstrated extreme unprofessionalism".

His conduct was deemed unbecoming of an officer and devoid of morality and has severely tarnished the image of the police force, it

added.

The ministry further stressed that such behaviour is considered a punishable offence under the Government Servants (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 2018.

Responding to the allegations, Sufian told The Daily Star that he received the show-cause notice yesterday.

He claimed he was "a victim of fraud", saying that he was sent this video from another ID. "I then forwarded it to her [the female officer] asking why it was sent."

However, the female officer yesterday told journalists that she was frequently sent such messages, images, and video content on several occasions. She added that only when the situation became "completely unacceptable" did she inform the authorities through established departmental rules.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Health Services Division

Directorate General of Health Services

Central Medical Stores Depot (CMSD)

30, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sharani, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208

www.cmsd.gov.bd

Invitation for Tenders (Goods)

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following goods. Details are given below:

Tender ID No.	Package No., Name & IFT No.	Tender documents last selling (date & time)	Closing date & opening date & time
1190903	GR-2515 Anti-Retroviral Drugs' CMSD/GR-2515/ICT(e-GP)/2025-26/Proc.D-5/29 date: 07-12-2025	21 January 2026 10:00am	21 January 2026 11:00am

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Huzar Ali

Director (Additional Secretary)

Central Medical Stores Depot

Directorate General of Health Services

30, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sharani, Tejgaon

Dhaka-1208

GD-2679

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Export Promotion Bureau

TCB Bhaban, 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215

www.epb.gov.bd

No: 26.02.0000.055.53.056.24.44

Date: 07.12.2025

Re-Tender Notice

The 30th Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF) 2026 will be held throughout the month of January 2026, starting from 01 January 2026. Applications/Tenders are hereby invited from interested Persons/Institutions for the allocation of a limited number of unallocated Stall/Pavilion/Restaurant and Foreign Stall spaces by 04:00 PM on 18 December 2025.

Sl.	Category/Type/Name	Size (ft)	Application Processing Fee (Including VAT & Tax) Non Refundable	Floor Rate (Lowest Price of Rent/Royalty) (excluding VAT & Tax)	Unallocated Numbers
1	Premier Pavilion Platinum (PPP)	(50'x50')	Tk.20,000/-	Tk. 22,00,000/-	05
2	General Pavilion (GP)	(36'x36')	Tk. 20,000/-	Tk. 15,000,000/-	01, 02, 09, 10, 16, 17
3	Mini Pavilion (MP)	(36'x17')	Tk. 14,000.00	Tk. 11,00,000/-	04, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 22, 23 & 24
4	Restaurant (R)	(50'x50')	Tk. 16,000.00	Tk. 17,00,000/-	02, 03, 06 & 07
5	Mini Restaurant (MR)	(20'x20')	Tk. 12,000.00	Tk. 6,50,000/-	01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07 & 08
6	Premier Stall (PS)	(20'x20')	Tk. 7,000.00	Tk. 4,50,000/-	01, 02, 13, 14, 15, 17, 34, 35, 36, 37
7	Premier Mini Stall (PMS)	(20'x10')	Tk. 7,000.00	Tk. 3,30,000/-	01, 13, 17, 19, 25, 26, 28, 30, 35 & 36
8	Foreign Premier Stall (FPS)	(20'x20')	US\$ 135.00	US\$ 7,000.00	01, 02, 03, 06 & 07

Application Submission Procedure:

02. Online Application:

2.1 Application Submission Link: <http://services.mincom.gov.bd/portal/ditf>

2.2 All Foreign applications shall be submitted through (e-mail: ditf@epb.gov.bd) concerned Bangladesh Missions abroad or through Missions of their own countries in Dhaka along with scanned copies of deposit slip of Application processing fee and security money.

2.3 Application Submission Start Date: 07.12.2025 & Closing Date & Time: 18.12.2025, 04:00 p.m. (local time)

03. All received applications/Tenders will be opened on the same day at 04:30 PM, in the presence of the applicants or their representatives.

04. All other terms and conditions published in the previous notice (dated 30 October 2025) shall remain unchanged.

Secretary (Deputy Secretary), Export Promotion Bureau (EPB)

and

Director, 30th Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF) 2026 Secretariat

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