

GAZA STRIP Israel vows to enforce ban on 37 NGOs

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel said yesterday 37 international NGOs operating in Gaza had not complied with a deadline to meet "security and transparency standards," in particular disclosing information on their Palestinian staff, and that it "will enforce" a ban on their activities.

The groups will now be required to cease their operations by March 1, which the UN has warned will exacerbate the humanitarian crisis in the war-ravaged Palestinian territory.

"Organisations that have failed to meet required security and transparency standards will have their licenses suspended," the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs said yesterday.

Several NGOs said the requirements contravene international law or endanger their independence.



Crew members of the "Ocean Viking" rescue ship assist a migrant onto a RHIB (rigid inflatable boat) during an evacuation from the oil tanker "Maridive 703" in the search-and-rescue zone of international waters between Malta and Tunisia, Wednesday.

PHOTO: AFP

128 journalists killed worldwide in 2025: IFJ

AFP, Brussels

A total of 128 journalists were killed around the world in 2025, more than half of them in the Middle East, the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) said yesterday.

The grim toll, up from 2024, "is not just a statistic, it's a global red alert for our colleagues," IFJ General Secretary Anthony Bellanger told AFP. The press group voiced particular alarm over the situation in the Palestinian territories, where it recorded 56 media professionals killed in 2025 as Israel's offensive continued in Gaza.

"We've never seen anything like this: so many deaths in such a short time, in such a small area," Bellanger said. Journalists were also killed in Yemen, Ukraine, Sudan, Peru, India and elsewhere.

Bellanger condemned what he called "impunity" for those behind the attacks. "Without justice, it allows the killers of journalists to thrive," he warned.

Meanwhile, the IFJ said that across the globe 533 journalists were currently in prison -- a figure that has more than doubled over the past half-decade.

China once again topped the list as the worst jailer of reporters with 143 behind bars, including in Hong Kong, where authorities have been criticised by Western nations for imposing national security laws quashing dissent.

Deal to end Ukraine war '10 percent' away

Says Zelensky; 20 killed in Ukrainian drone attack: Moscow

AGENCIES

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Wednesday his country was "10 percent" away from a deal to end the war with Russia, but cautioned that the most important issues were unresolved and warned against rewarding Moscow.

US-led efforts to end Europe's deadliest conflict since World War II have gained pace in recent weeks, but both sides remain at odds over the key issue of territory in a post-war settlement.

In his New Year's Eve address, Zelensky said his country wanted an end to the war but not at "any cost", and that any agreement needed strong security guarantees to deter Russia from invading again, reports AFP.

"The peace agreement is 90 percent ready. Ten percent remains. And that is far more than just numbers," Zelensky said in the address,

posted on his Telegram account.

"Those are the 10 percent that will determine the fate of peace, the fate of Ukraine and Europe," he added.

Meanwhile, a Ukrainian drone attack on a Russian-held part of Ukraine's southern Kherson region has killed at least 20 people, a Moscow-installed governor and Russian authorities said yesterday.

"Three UAVs struck a cafe and hotel on the Black Sea coast in Khorly. According to preliminary reports, more than 50 people were injured, and 24 people were killed," Vladimir Saldo said on Telegram.

A Russian drone attack damaged power infrastructure in several Ukrainian regions overnight, Ukraine's energy ministry said yesterday.

Saudi-backed forces to deploy in seized territories Say Yemen separatists

AFP, Al Mukalla

Separatists from Yemen's Southern Transitional Council said yesterday that Saudi-aligned government forces would enter territories seized by the UAE-backed group, in a step that appeared unlikely to satisfy Riyadh after it repeatedly demanded their full withdrawal.

A surprise offensive by the STC, in which the separatists took control of resource-rich Hadramawt and Mahra provinces last month, has brought the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, officially allies in Yemen, to a point of unprecedented escalation.

On Tuesday, the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen struck what it said was a shipment of Emirati weapons destined for the separatists, a claim Abu Dhabi has denied, and called for STC forces to withdraw.

In its statement yesterday, the STC said it would continue to operate in the regions but had agreed to the deployment of the Riyadh-backed National Shield government force in the areas.

"Today, we launched an operation to integrate the southern National Shield forces so that they can assume the responsibilities and missions that fall to our armed forces," they announced.

The statement said a National Shield brigade would be deployed in "areas of the Hadramawt and Mahra governorates, as agreed".

ECONOMIC WOES One killed in Iran protests

REUTERS, Dubai

One man was killed in Iran on Wednesday night, state television said, the first death reported after days of demonstrations over high inflation that mark the most significant unrest since nationwide protests three years ago.



State media said yesterday the person killed was a member of the paramilitary Basij militia-- naming him as 21-year-old Amirhossam Khodayari Fard.

The incident in Kuhdasht in Iran's western Lorestan province marks an escalation in the unrest that has spread across the country since shopkeepers began protests on Sunday.

University of Dhaka
e-GP Tender Notice

e-GP Tender is invited in the National e-GP System (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of medicine mentioned below under University of Dhaka.

SL No	Tender ID	Package No	Name of Work	e-Tender Last Selling date & Time	e-Tender Closing date & Time
1.	I203834	DU/MC/Procurement/2025-2026/OTM/G-2	Procurement of Medicine	18-Jan-2026 17.00	19-Jan-2026 12.30

[Signature]

Chief Medical Officer
Shahid Buddijibe Dr Mohammad Mortaza Medical Center
University of Dhaka

GD-9

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Jamalpur Public Works Division
Jamalpur
Phone: 02-997772417
E-mail: ee_jmlpr@pwd.gov.bd

2nd Corrigendum Notice

Date: 01-01-2026

Memo No. 25.36.3900.164.07.001.26/1092
e-Tender is invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer, Jamalpur PWD Division, Jamalpur for the procurement of:

Tender Description			
Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of work	Tender documents last selling date & time
1	1195341	"Establishment of Jamalpur Medical College & Hospital and Nursing College, Jamalpur. Sub-Head: Construction of Hospital Building (6-Storied Building with 10-Storied Foundation) with a Basement Floor including Civil, Sanitary and Electrical Work. FY-2025-26"	11-Jan-2026 17:00:00

Corrigendum:	
Notice	2. Minimum Specific Experience as a Contractor shall be Successful Completion of at least 1 (one) number of 5 (Five) Storied RCC Building with a Single Basement (B1+5) that covers Civil, Sanitary and Electrification Works of value Tk 140.00 (One Hundred and Forty) Crore within the Last 10 (Ten) Years counting backward from the date of publication of the IFT.
ITT Clause-13.1(b)	Minimum Specific Experience as a Prime Contractor shall be Successful Completion of at least 1 (one) number of 5 (Five) Storied RCC Building with a Single Basement (B1+5) that covers Civil, Sanitary and Electrification Works of value Tk 140.00 (One Hundred and Forty) Crore in a Single Contract in any Government/Semi-Government/Autonomous Organization of Bangladesh within the Last 5 (Five) Years counting backward from the date of publication of the IFT.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. This Corrigendum is part and parcel of the tender. All other conditions will remain unchanged.

[Signature]
Md. Rokonuzzaman
Executive Engineer
Jamalpur PWD Division
Jamalpur

GD-02

Office of the Project Director
Economically Lost Lifecycle Rubber Tree Felling, Reforestation and Rubber Processing Modernization Project
Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation
73, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000
www.bfidc.gov.bd

Date: 01-01-2026

e-GP Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal ([https://www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) for the procurement of bellow:

SL	Description	Tender ID	Last Selling Date & Time	Last Date & Time of Tender Security Submission	Closing & Opening Time & Date
01	Hiring of 01 (one) double cabin pickup for project office, project site monitoring and supervision work.	1205749	11-01-2026 14:00	12-01-2026 13:00	12-01-2026 14:00

This is an online e-Tender registration in the national e-GP system portal ([https://www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the national e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches. Further information and guideline are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

[Signature]
01-01-26
(Md. Masudur Rahman Bhuiyan)
Project Director (Joint Secretary)
Economically Lost Lifecycle Rubber Tree Felling, Reforestation and Rubber Processing Modernization Project
Phone: 02-223382979
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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Munshiganj Road Division
Dashkani, Panchasar (Mukterpur), Munshiganj.
Phone # 02-998847019
E-mail: ee munrhd@gmail.com

Date: 01/01/2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in The National e-Gp system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by the Executive Engineer, RHD, Munshiganj Road Division, Munshiganj for the procurement of

SL No	Tender ID & Package No	e-Tender Description	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
1	1205590 02-Dev-e-GP/Mundiv/2025-2026	Construction of 151.90m (1x25.90m+1x99.00m+1x25.90m) Span Steel BUG Truss / I-Girder Bridge (Kunderbazar Bridge) at 6th Km (Ch.5+570m) and Construction Of 25.90m (1x25.00m) Span Steel Composite I-Girder Bridge (Baroipara Bridge) at 6th Km (Ch.5+804m) on Munshiganj (Hatinara) - Kunderbazar - Sreenagar (Sonabari) Road (Z-8004) under Munshiganj Road Division, Munshiganj (WP-34)	01-02-2026 17:00	02-02-2026 12:00	02-02-2026 12:00

1. The above tender is online Tender. Where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-Gp portal and no Offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-Gp system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).
2. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National E-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks Branch.
3. Further information and guidelines are available in the National E-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

[Signature]
01-01-26
(Masud Mahmud Simon)
ID No-602165
Executive Engineer, RHD
Munshiganj Road Division.