

Can't accept nations as 'world judge'

Says Chinese FM after US captures Maduro

REUTERS, Beijing

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Beijing cannot accept any country acting as the "world's judge" after the United States captured Venezuela's Maduro.

"We have never believed that any country can act as the world's police, nor do we accept that any nation can claim to be the world's judge," Wang told his Pakistani counterpart Ishaq Dar during a meeting in Beijing on Sunday, referring to "sudden developments in Venezuela" without directly mentioning the US.

"The sovereignty and security of all countries should be fully protected under international law," China's top diplomat added, in his first remarks since images of the 63-year-old Maduro blindfolded and handcuffed on Saturday stunned Venezuelans.



Members of the militia group known as "Colectivos" march in Caracas on Sunday, calling for the release of Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro after he and his wife, Cilia Flores, were captured in US strikes on Venezuela. Inset, employees stand near rubble after the US airstrike destroyed a TV and telephone tower in El Hatillo, on the outskirts of Caracas. PHOTO: REUTERS



MYANMAR POLLS Pro-military party wins in first phase

Official results show

AFP, Yangon

Myanmar's dominant pro-military party won the first phase of junta-run elections, the last released official results showed yesterday, with the USDP taking nearly 90 percent of lower house seats.

The military staged a 2021 coup that ousted the democratic government of Aung San Suu Kyi, but is overseeing a month-long phased election it pledges will return power to the people.

Western diplomats and democracy advocates dismiss the poll as a ploy to rebrand military rule, citing Suu Kyi's jailing, her party's dissolution and a crackdown on dissenters.

The pro-military Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) won 89 of 102 lower house seats included in the first phase, according to an AFP tally of official results released from Friday to yesterday.

The USDP win equates to more than 87 percent of lower house seats included in the first phase of voting on December 28 - the remainder mostly won by a smattering of parties representing ethnic minorities.

TRUMP'S CAPTURE OF MADURO Concerns grow over potential war with Iran

AGENCIES

Hours after the United States announced the capture of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, Israeli politician Yair Lapid issued a warning to Tehran: "The regime in Iran should pay close attention to what is happening in Venezuela."

The forcible removal of Maduro from power came less than a week after US President Donald Trump met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and threatened to launch new strikes against Iran.

Although Washington's tensions with Caracas and Tehran

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have different roots and dynamics, analysts say Trump's move against Maduro raises the prospects of war with Iran.

"A new lawlessness makes everything less stable and war more likely," said Jamal Abdi, president of the National Iranian American Council (NIAC).

"Whether Trump becomes enamoured with 'surgical' regime change, or gives Netanyahu a US imprimatur for similar actions,



it's hard not to see how this gives momentum for the many actors pushing for renewed war with Iran."

He added that Maduro's abduction could prompt Iran "to do something that triggers military action", including developing its own military deterrence or preempting US or Israeli strikes.

Negar Mortazavi, a senior fellow at the Center for International Policy, also said the US actions in Venezuela show Trump's maximalist aims, further dimming the chances of diplomacy.

"What I see and hear from Tehran is that they are not interested in negotiating with the Trump administration the way this administration signals that they want total surrender," Mortazavi

told Al Jazeera.

"So, not much chance for diplomacy at the moment, which then opens the path to the opposite road, that is conflict. Right now, Israel, Iran and the US are on a path to potential conflict."

Abdi echoed that assessment. "This action reinforces every doubt and suspicion about US intentions, and gives more credence to those in Iran who say engaging the US is useless and [that] developing a nuclear deterrent is vital," he told Al Jazeera.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has also been emphasising Maduro's ties to Iran, accusing Caracas, without evidence, of providing the Lebanese armed group Hezbollah a foothold in the Western Hemisphere.

Moderate 5.4 quake hits India's Assam

AFP, New Delhi

A moderate 5.4-magnitude earthquake struck northern India's Assam state early yesterday morning, according to the US Geological Survey.

The shallow quake was centered three kilometres outside of the village of Dhing near India's border with Bhutan and hit around 4:17 am (2247 GMT on Sunday).

The USGS reported strong shaking in the area, but expected a limited population had been affected.

Tremors were felt across Meghalaya and parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and West Bengal, prompting people in several areas to rush out of their homes. Authorities said there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The Himalayan region experiences big earthquakes each year, and has been the site of some of India's largest and deadliest tremors.

A 1950 quake killed about 4,800 people in Assam and Tibet.

The Great Assam Earthquake of 1897 is said to be one of the most powerful to have hit India, leaving hundreds dead in the remote hills.

China, Pakistan reaffirm ties

US outreach to Islamabad deepens

REUTERS, Beijing

China and Pakistan yesterday pledged to further deepen ties and expand cooperation, reaffirming to each other their historically "ironclad" friendship as signs of rapprochement between Islamabad and Washington grow.

Pakistan is one of China's closest partners, diplomatically supporting Beijing on a wide range of internationally sensitive issues ranging from the status of Taiwan to Xinjiang, Tibet, Hong Kong and the South China Sea.

In exchange, Beijing has poured billions of dollars into the South Asian country through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) - a flagship project under China's Belt and Road trade and infrastructure initiative.

But repeated militant attacks on Chinese nationals working on the CPEC and other projects in Pakistan have become a major source of tension in recent years.

Adding to the complexity in Sino-Pakistani relationship, US Pakistani ties have warmed since President Trump returned to the White House a year ago and landed a diplomatic victory in a region that China regards as within its sphere of influence.

In a joint statement yesterday, China and Pakistan said they would build an upgraded version of the CPEC, focus on their cooperation on industry, agriculture and mining, and step up collaboration in the financial and banking sector.

'No leniency' towards 'rioters'

Says Iran judiciary chief; citizens to receive monthly payment amid economic woes

AFP, Tehran

Iran will offer no leniency to "rioters", though the public has a right to demonstrate, the head of the judiciary said yesterday, following more than a week of protests.

The demonstrations began last Sunday when shopkeepers staged a strike over high prices and economic stagnation, but they have since spread to other places and expanded to include political demands.

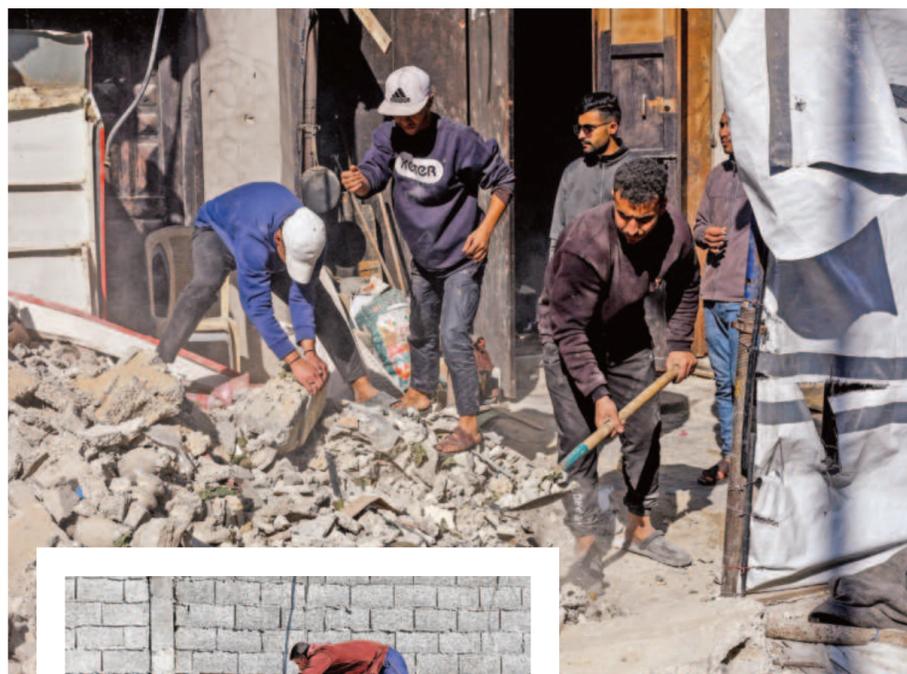


"I instruct the attorney general and prosecutors across the country to act in accordance with the law and with resolve against the rioters and those who support them... and to show no leniency or indulgence," Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei said, according to the judiciary's Mizan news agency.

He added that Iran "listens to the protesters and their criticism, and distinguishes between them and rioters". Iranian authorities on Sunday announced they will give a monthly allowance to every citizen in the country to alleviate economic pressure.

"Individuals can receive an amount equivalent to one million Tomans (approximately \$7) per person per month, which is credited to their accounts for four months," government spokeswoman Fatemeh Mohajerani told state TV.

She said the amount will be given to every Iranian for four months in the form of credit that can be used to purchase certain goods.



Palestinians clear rubble from a collapsed house damaged by an Israeli strike in the central Gaza Strip yesterday. Israel's government has told the Supreme Court that a ban on international media access to Gaza should remain in place due to security risks in the Palestinian territory, according to a court submission. PHOTO: REUTERS

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Date: 05.01.2026

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Sl. No.	Package No.	Description of Goods	Tender ID No.	Tender Publishing (Date and time)	Tender Last Selling (Date & Time)	Tender Closing (Date & Time)
1.	DMTCL/GR-16/2025-26	Supply of Diesel Generator Maintenance materials and related services for the Electrical Department (02 Nos for Uttara Depot, and 09 Nos for Uttara North to Agargaon Station) of DMTCL.	1207061	05-Jan-2026 17:00	25-Jan-2026 16:00	26-Jan-2026 15:00
2.	DMTCL/GR-12/2025-26	Supply of Air Conditioning Items and Related Services for Electrical Department. These items will be used for different buildings of Depot and MRT Stations (Station-3&5) under DMTCL.	1207022	05-Jan-2026 17:00	25-Jan-2026 16:00	26-Jan-2026 15:00
3.	DMTCL/GR-13/2025-26	Supply of Maintenance Items (Consumables, Safety items and Tools) for Civil & P-Way Department under DMTCL.	1205799	05-Jan-2026 17:00	01-Feb-2026 16:00	02-Feb-2026 15:00
4.	DMTCL/GR-14/2025-26	Supply of Fire Protection Items and Related Services of Electrical Department under DMTCL.	1205923	05-Jan-2026 17:00	01-Feb-2026 16:00	02-Feb-2026 15:00
5.	DMTCL/GR-08/2025-26	Supply of Maintenance Items for Signaling and Telecom Department of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited (DMTCL).	1206214	05-Jan-2026 17:00	01-Feb-2026 16:00	02-Feb-2026 15:00

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