

Israeli drone strike kills three in Gaza

AGENCIES

Three Palestinians have been killed in the southern Gaza Strip in Israel's latest violation of October's ceasefire in its genocidal war on the besieged enclave, according to sources in Gaza.

An Israeli quadcopter drone struck down three Palestinians in Khan Younis yesterday, the sources told Al Jazeera. A Palestinian woman was also wounded by Israeli gunfire in al-Batn al-Sameen area. The attacks came after Israeli army forces carried out air strikes and shelling across several parts of the enclave yesterday.

The three people killed were identified as Wissam Abdullah Salem al-Amour, Mahmoud Subhi Breika and Atef Samir al-Bayouk, the Palestinian news agency Wafa reported.

The Israeli army has killed more than 71,400 people, mostly women and children, and injured over 171,000 in its war, which began in October 2023.



Federal agents spray pepper at a protester holding a sign during an immigration enforcement operation outside the Whipple Building, an ICE facility in Minneapolis, Minnesota, US on Sunday. Hundreds more federal agents were heading to Minneapolis, the US homeland security chief said.

PHOTO: AFP



'I know the pain'

Ex-refugee takes over as UNHCR chief

AFP, Kakuma

Barham Salih has known torture and the wrenching loss of exile. Four decades after his own ordeal, he has taken the helm of the UN refugee agency as it grapples with a funding shortfall and ever-rising needs.

A former Iraqi president, Salih, 65, became the first former head of state to run the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) at the start of the year.

"It is a profound moral and legal responsibility," Salih told AFP during his first trip in the new role -- to Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya. "I know the pain of losing a home, losing your friends," he said.

The Kakuma refugee camp, which Salih visited on Sunday, is east Africa's second largest, hosting roughly 300,000 people from South Sudan, Somalia, Uganda and Burundi. It has been in place since 1992.

US will have Greenland 'one way or the other'

Says Trump, warns Russia, China would 'take over' if Washington didn't act; Nato working on 'next steps' to boost Arctic security

AFP, Aboard Air Force One

President Donald Trump said Sunday the United States would take Greenland "one way or the other," warning that Russia and China would "take over" if Washington didn't act.

Trump says controlling the mineral-rich Danish territory is crucial for US national security given increased Russian and Chinese military activity in the Arctic.

"If we don't take Greenland, Russia or China will, and I'm not letting that happen," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One, despite neither country laying claim to the vast island.

Trump said he would be open to making a deal with the Danish self-governing territory "but one way or the other, we're going to have Greenland."

Denmark and other European allies have voiced shock at Trump's threats over the island, which plays a strategic role between North America and the Arctic, and where the United States has had a military base since World War II.

Denmark's Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen on Sunday said her country faces a "decisive moment" in its diplomatic battle with the US over Greenland.

A Danish colony until 1953,



Greenland gained home rule 26 years later and is contemplating eventually loosening its ties with Denmark.

The vast majority of its population and political parties have said they do not want to be under US control and insist Greenlanders must decide their own future -- a viewpoint continuously challenged by Trump.

"Greenland should make the deal, because Greenland does not want to see Russia or China take over," Trump warned, as he

mocked its defenses.

"You know what their defense is, two dog sleds," he said, while Russia and China have "destroyers and submarines all over the place."

Trump waved off the comment saying: "If it affects Nato, it affects Nato. But you know, (Greenland) need us much more than we need them."

Nato chief Mark Rutte said yesterday the alliance was working on ways to bolster Arctic security, as Europe scrambles to deflect Trump's interest in taking over Greenland.

DEADLY CYCLONE Lanka seeks Chinese aid to rebuild key infrastructure

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka asked China to help rebuild key infrastructure damaged by Cyclone Ditwah, which killed at least 641 people and caused extensive damage, the island's foreign minister said yesterday.

Vijitha Herath said he made the request during talks with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi, who stopped in Colombo yesterday after visiting Tanzania and Lesotho.

"I particularly requested the assistance of the Chinese government in infrastructure development, including the reconstruction of identified roads, railways, and bridges that were affected," Herath said. He added that Wang had "assured his personal intervention" to assist Sri Lanka's recovery from the deadly cyclone, which struck in November.

The two sides also discussed advancing cooperation in trade, investment and tourism, Herath said. Sri Lanka's request for Chinese assistance came three weeks after India pledged \$450 million in humanitarian aid for cyclone recovery.

US working well with Venezuela's interim leader

Says Trump; 116 political prisoners released

AFP, Caracas

US President Donald Trump said Sunday his administration was working well with Venezuela's interim leader Delcy Rodriguez -- and that he would be open to meeting with her.

Trump's upbeat remarks came just over a week after Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro was seized in a US special forces raid and brought to New York to face drug trafficking charges.

Trump has said that the United States now has de facto control of Venezuela, as it enforces a naval blockade of the South American nation's vital oil exports.

Rodriguez, despite being a close Maduro ally, has indicated a willingness to work with the United States, saying she is open to cooperate on Trump's demands for access to Venezuelan oil.

Venezuela said yesterday that 116 political prisoners have been released since the government announced last week it would begin freeing those jailed under president Maduro.

"Venezuela is really working out well. We're working along really well with the leadership," Trump told reporters Sunday aboard Air Force One.

Asked if he planned to meet with Rodriguez, Trump said: "At some point I'll be."



NEPAL ELECTIONS

Unemployed youth scramble for polls jobs

AFP, Kathmandu

Tens of thousands of young Nepalis have applied for temporary jobs policing upcoming elections, the first polls since a youth-led uprising spotlighted the Himalayan nation's economic woes.

Nepal estimated it suffered losses of about \$586 million and that nearly 15,000 people lost their jobs after protests toppled the government in September.

The youth-led demonstrations, initially triggered by anger over a brief government ban on social media, were fuelled by deeper frustration over corruption and economic hardship.

After a police crackdown killed young protesters, the riots spread and parliament was set ablaze, prompting the government's collapse. At least 77 people were killed.

More than 27,000 people applied for the temporary police jobs on Friday and Saturday, the first two days of applications, Nepal police spokesman Abinavaran Kalle said.

Sarika Karki, 20, said she was crossing her fingers to "earn some pocket money". "I am also Gen-Z, but I do not have a job," she told AFP in the capital Kathmandu on Sunday. "I hope the election will go well, and I am able to help in my own way as a temporary police officer".



A firefighter works at the site of a building struck by a Russian drone during Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kyiv yesterday. Russia also attacked energy infrastructure in Ukraine's southern Odesa region overnight, causing blackouts, Ukrainian largest private energy firm DTEK said. Inset, Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andrii Sybaha and Norway's Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide visit a makeshift memorial to fallen Ukrainian defenders at the Independence Square in Kyiv.

PHOTO: REUTERS



Himalayas bare, rocky after reduced snowfall

Say scientists

AGENCIES

Winter snowfall on the Himalayas has sharply declined, leaving many peaks bare and rocky, meteorologists report.

Most winters in the past five years saw less snow than the 1980-2020 average.

Rising temperatures mean faster melt, with lower elevations seeing more rain than snow -- a trend linked to global warming, according to the IPCC and other studies.

Studies have also shown there is now what is known as "snow drought" during winter in many parts of the Himalayan region.

Accelerated melting of glaciers in the wake of global warming has long been a major crisis facing India's Himalayan states and other countries in the region. This dwindling snowfall during winter is making matters worse, experts have told the BBC.



বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
Bangladesh Power Development Board

Directorate of Purchase
Bidyat Bhaban (13th Floor)
1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000
www.bpd.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice

The following e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of:

Sl No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Reference No.	Description of goods/works	Last selling date and time	Closing date and time	Opening date and time
1	1211493	PG-03 FY 25-26	27.11. 0000.304. 26.308.26	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 1300kWp Grid Tied Rooftop Solar PV Net Metering System at Ghorasal Power Station, Palash, Narshingdi, Bangladesh on turnkey basis.	01.02.2026 13.00	01.02.2026 14.00	01.02.2026 14.00

This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

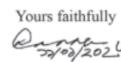
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

For more details please contract to the PE's Support Desk (0171713020).

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Md. Nannu Mia
ID No. 1-01304
Director
Directorate of Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka
E-mail: dir.purchase@bpd.gov.bd

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