

'No going back' on Greenland

Says Trump sharing leaked texts, AI mock-ups; EU vows 'unflinching' response

REUTERS, Davos

US President Donald Trump said yesterday there was "no going back" on his goal to control Greenland, refusing to rule out taking the Arctic island by force and rounding on allies as European leaders struggled to respond.

Trump's ambition - spelled out in social media posts and mock-up AI images - to wrest sovereignty over Greenland



from fellow Nato member Denmark has threatened to blow apart the alliance that has underpinned Western security for decades.

It has also threatened to reignite a trade war with Europe that rattled markets and companies for months last year, though Trump's Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent pushed back against what he called "hysteria" over Greenland.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen yesterday vowed an "unflinching" response to Donald Trump's threats over Greenland. Europe "must respond" to any trade war, Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen told her parliament.



Israeli machinery demolishes a structure at the UNRWA headquarters in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood of Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem yesterday. Israeli forces have ordered dozens of Palestinian families in the southern Gaza Strip to leave their homes in the first forced evacuation since October's ceasefire.

PHOTO: AFP

Asean won't certify Myanmar election

Says Malaysia FM

REUTERS, Kuala Lumpur

The 11-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations will not send observers to army-ruled Myanmar's ongoing three-stage election and will therefore not endorse the polls, Malaysia's foreign minister said yesterday. Myanmar has been ravaged by conflict since the military staged a coup against a civilian government in 2021.

The election, which began in December last year, has been criticised by the United Nations, many Western countries and rights groups as a ploy to legitimise military rule through political proxies.

In a low turnout, voters cast their ballots in the second stage of the polls earlier this month, with junta-allied Union Solidarity and Development Party leading after securing 88 percent of the lower house seats contested over the first phase.

Speaking in parliament, Minister Mohamad Hasan said Asean had rejected a request from Myanmar to send polls observers during annual leaders' summit last year, though some individual member states had decided to do so on their own.

World cannot revert to 'law of the jungle'

Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng warns at Davos

AFP, Davos

Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng warned yesterday that the world must not revert to the "law of the jungle", speaking at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos as Washington steps up its bid to take Greenland.

"A select few countries should not have privileges based on self-interest, and the world cannot revert to the law of the jungle where the strong prey on the weak," he said in a speech which came as US President Donald Trump pushes his increasingly assertive America First agenda, and demands Nato ally Denmark to cede Greenland to him.

"All countries have the right to protect their legitimate interests."

Trump said yesterday he had agreed to a meeting of "various parties" at the

gathering of global elites about his bid to seize Greenland. "I agreed to a meeting of the various parties in Davos, Switzerland," Trump posted on Truth Social platform.

French President Emmanuel Macron said Tuesday he prefers "respect to bullies" and "rule of law to brutality" during a speech at Davos.

UN chief Antonio Guterres has cancelled his participation in the summit after coming down with a "bad cold", a spokesman said. Nato is facing the biggest crisis in its history over Trump's threats, and the time for "flattering" the US leader is over, former alliance chief Anders Fogh Rasmussen told AFP.

"It's not only a crisis for Nato, it's a crisis for the transatlantic community at large...," he said in the interview with the WEF.

AR Rahman's 'communal' claim

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been a communal thing also." Rahman's comments triggered intense backlash on social media, particularly from Hindu right-wing voices, forcing him to issue a clarification. In a video posted on Instagram three days ago, he said, "I understand that intentions can sometimes be misunderstood, but my purpose has always been to uplift, honour and serve through music."

The controversy deepened when Rahman called his recent film "Chhaava", which portrays Mughal ruler Aurangzeb, a "divisive" project. The remark added fuel to the fire, with critics accusing him of playing the victim card.

Several prominent figures came out in support of the legendary composer. Director Imtiaz Ali said Rahman's comments may have been "misinterpreted or taken out of context".

Lyricist Varun Grover strongly backed Rahman on social media, saying, "The greatest living composer of the last three decades got attacked and abused even by people within the industry for stating an opinion in the politest, mildest manner, that too based on his lived experience."

DMK MP Kanimozhi also voiced her support, saying, "I stand with AR Rahman. The deliberate targeting of a musician whose art transcends religion, language and identity, and the shocking silence of those in authority in India is deeply disturbing."

Actor Paresh Rawal shared Rahman's clarification video, writing, "We love you sir. You are our pride."

Composer Shankar Mahadevan offered a nuanced perspective, saying, "The person who creates the music is one. The person who decides what's going to happen to this music is a totally another team. The destiny of your musical product lies with a non-

musical person."

Filmmaker Anil V Kumar Kailas wrote a detailed note defending Rahman, stating, "Calling a globally respected artiste a 'disgrace', questioning his faith, mocking his recent works, and reducing his lived experience to a 'victim card' is not criticism. It's hate speech presented as opinion."

On the other hand, Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasreen criticised the composer, saying, "AR Rahman is a Muslim and extraordinarily famous in India. Yet, he claims he is not given work in Bollywood because he is a Muslim." She added that "the famous and wealthy rarely face difficulties anywhere", suggesting Rahman did not need pity.

Veteran lyricist Javed Akhtar disagreed with Rahman's assessment, saying he has never felt any discrimination in the industry. Akhtar suggested producers might hesitate to approach Rahman due to his global commitments rather than communal reasons.

Singer Shaan offered a balanced view, saying lack of work is common for artistes and that "music should not be viewed through a communal or minority lens".

The most scathing attack came from actor-director Kangana Ranaut, who called Rahman "the most hateful and prejudiced" person she has encountered. She accused him of refusing to meet her for the film "Emergency", dismissing it as "propaganda" without hearing her vision.

The controversy has sparked a broader debate about the Hindu right's influence on Bollywood and whether the industry has shifted toward majoritarian narratives.

As the discussions continue, Rahman remains one of India's most celebrated artistes, having won Oscars, Grammys, and the Padma Vibhushan for his contribution to music.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Power Division
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
Admin-3 Section
www.powerdivision.gov.bd

No. 27.00.0000.043.07.042.25-56 Date: 20.01.2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited through the National e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of:

SI No.	Tender ID	Description	Tender publish date	Tender closing date
1	1199081 GR-07	Procurement of Computer and accessories	20.01.2026	02-Feb-2026 16:10

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted through National e-GP Portal. No hard copy will be accepted. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited through any registered branch of enlisted banks. Further information and guidelines are available on the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Size: DG-1315/7025(5x3)

Md. Abubakker Siddique
Senior Assistant Secretary
Power Division
Ph: 02223390024
E-mail: admin-3@pd.gov.bd

GD-146

Make long-term plan

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The experts also emphasised strengthening services abroad and upon return.

Prof Tasneem Siddiqui, executive director (acting) of the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), told The Daily Star that the government spends only 0.08 percent of the national budget on migration, while the sector brings in nearly 30 billion dollars annually.

"We demand that at least 1 percent of the national budget be allocated for the protection and welfare of migrant workers," she said, stressing the need for a 10-year national migration vision to address problems systematically.

"Without a long-term commitment, solving migration problems in a piecemeal way will not work."

Prof Siddiqui also proposed forming a separate directorate with three wings for welfare, immigration, and skills, and upgrading the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) to a full directorate.

Migration expert Asif Munier highlighted governance and quality migration. Policymakers should not be involved in recruitment businesses to avoid conflicts of interest, he added.

"We always talk about how many people go abroad, but we do not ensure quality migration. Sending skilled workers could increase remittance and reduce migrant suffering."

Munier also urged political parties to commit to implementing existing reform proposals, including better support for the returnees.

Talking to this correspondent, Shariful Hasan, associate director of BRAC Migration Programme and Youth Platform, stressed the need for good governance and a digital registration system to manage aspiring migrants.

"People from any part of Bangladesh should be able to register digitally at local centres," he said.

Shariful also stressed the need for strengthening welfare services abroad, including proper staffing and budgets for embassies, and supporting migrants after they return home.

"Migrants should receive real services while staying abroad, not just promises. Returnees need reintegration support and investment opportunities without harassment."

Contacted, Fakhrul Islam, former joint secretary of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira), highlighted issues related to labour markets, middlemen, and remittances.

"Many traditional labour markets, such as Malaysia, Dubai, Oman, and Bahrain, are now closed or limited. Political parties must work to reopen these markets and explore new ones in Asia and Europe."

Regarding the remittance, he stated that legal channels with proper incentives could increase annual earnings up to \$40 billion.

খুলনা কৃষি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
অস্থায়ী অফিসঃ ৩২৭, যাশোর রোড, উত্তর মুজিবনগর, খুলনা-৯০০০

Memo No. 37.01.4703.057.44.025.26.63 Date: 19/01/2026

e-Tender Notice

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

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Ref./Package No.	Description	Online tender notice publication date	Online tender closing date
1	1216401	37.01.4703.057.44.025.26.59; Date: 19/01/2026	Supply and Printing of Student Handbook, Slip Pad and Diary	21-Jan-2026	03-Feb-2026

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no online/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 last selling/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 guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Engr. S. M. Moniruzzaman
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Khulna Agricultural University
Khulna

GD-148

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয়
জাতীয় পরিকল্পনা ও উন্নয়ন একাডেমি (এনএপিডি)
নীলক্ষেত্র, ঢাকা-১২০৫
www.napd.gov.bd

নং-০৫.৮৮.০০০০.০০৫.০৪.০২৮.১৬ (অংশ-১)-১২২ তারিখঃ ২০ জানুয়ারি ২০২৬

ই-টেন্ডার নোটিশ

ই-টেন্ডার আইডি-১১৭২৩০৭

জাতীয় পরিকল্পনা ও উন্নয়ন একাডেমির দাপ্তরিক কাজে ব্যবহারের জন্য অফিস পেশনারী দ্রব্যাদি সরবরাহের লক্ষ্যে e-Tender আহ্বান করা হয়েছে। আগ্রহী প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী উক্ত উল্লিখিত টেন্ডারে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারেন। বিস্তারিত তথ্য ও অংশগ্রহণের জন্য www.eprocure.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটে লগইন ও যোগাযোগ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ)

GD-147

Bangladesh Krishi Bank
Procurement Department
Head Office,
83-84 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000
Phone (Office): +88-02-22338353
e-mail: dgmcsd@krishibank.org.bd
web: www.krishibank.org.bd

HO/Procure-9(2)/Part-4/2025-2026/764 Dated: 15-01-2026

"e-Tender Notice (OTM)"

This is to notify all concern that the following tender has been published through National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

SL	Tender ID, Tender Package No. & Reference No	Name of the Tenderer	Tender documents Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing & Opening Date and time	Tender Method
01	Tender ID:1213709 Tender Package No. Pro 16/2025-2026 Reference No. HO/Procure-9(2)/Part-4/2025-2026/774	Supply of 3000 Reams A4 Offset Paper (80gsm), 400 Reams Legal Offset Paper (80gsm) and 35 Reams A3 Offset Paper (80gsm) for BKB, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka.	01-Feb-2026 16:00	02-Feb-2026 15:30	OTM (NCT)

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-Government Procurement Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) and you can also ask help from e-gp help desk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd).

(Md. Shah Alam)
Deputy General Manager

GD-153

Strengthening of Poultry Research and Development Project
Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute
Savar, Dhaka-1341.

Memo No: 33.05.2672.109.20.020.25-1836 Date: 19/01/2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender will be invited through the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocurement.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following goods. Details are given below.

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of goods	Tender Document Last Selling/Downloading Date & Time	Tender Closing/Opening Date & Time
1216001	GD 23	Procurement of office Stationery	01-Feb-2026 12:00	01-Feb-2026 16:00
1215994	GD 15	Procurement of Computer & accessories	01-Feb-2026 12:00	01-Feb-2026 16:00
1191811	G3	Procurement of Chemicals, Reagent & Standard with Glassware and Apparatus	01-Feb-2026 12:00	01-Feb-2026 16:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted through the National e-GP system.

Registered tenderers are requested to deposit the required fees through any scheduled bank to purchase the e-schedule on or before 24 December 2025 at 13:30 for: (1) Procurement of Office Stationery, (2) Procurement of Computer & Accessories, and (3) Procurement of Chemicals, Reagents & Standards with Glassware and Apparatus. Further information and guidelines are available on the National e-GP Portal.

Size: (5*3/3C)

(Dr. Md. Sazdul Karim Sarker)
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