

US and Israel strike Iran

24 of Iran's 31 provinces hit, killing 201; Tehran retaliates with barrage of missiles at Israel, US targets across Middle East; attacks come amid talks

AGENCIES

The United States and Israel launched strikes against Iran yesterday, sending columns of smoke rising over Tehran as the Islamic republic retaliated with barrages of missiles across the region.

The escalation by the US and Israel put the Middle East into a new conflict that President Donald Trump said would end a security threat to the US and give Iranians a chance to topple their rulers.

Tehran responded by launching missiles at Israel. Explosions also rang out in nearby oil-producing Gulf Arab countries, which said they had intercepted missiles from Iran after Tehran warned it would strike the region if it was attacked. Iran's missile salvo could be heard in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait and the UAE.



At least 85 killed in Israeli attack on a girl's school in Minab of Iran's Hormozgan province yesterday.



Trump vows to "annihilate" Iran's navy, missile sites, urges Iranians to topple regime

Iran says all sites involved in Israel-US ops 'legitimate targets'

World warns against war; UNSC meeting called

'Iran defence minister, Guards commander killed'

Khamenei moved to a secure location

One killed in UAE; four in Syria

Israeli official says the attack date was set weeks ago

When we are finished, take over your government.
 Donald Trump tells Iranians

Regime change in Iran is mission impossible.
 Abbas Araghchi Iranian FM

Protracted war can weaken Bangladesh's economy

Experts say country's energy security, exports, overseas jobs can be on the line

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

The US-Iran war is poised to increase the prices of imported petroleum products, LNG and disrupt the supply chain of industrial raw materials.

"Bangladesh is always a victim of geo-political tension as the country is an importing nation," said Harun-Ur-Rashid, chairman of Bangladesh Container Shipping Association.

The overall macroeconomic stability may be affected, said Masrur Reaz, chairman of Policy Exchange, Bangladesh.

Firstly, both the price and supply of energy will be unstable for Bangladesh if the war continues, as the Middle East is the main import source for Bangladesh.

Such a situation will create a burden on the balance of payment and foreign exchange reserves.

Secondly, the main shipping artery of goods between Asia and Europe and partly the US, the Suez



Smoke rises in the sky after blasts were heard in Manama, Bahrain.

Chaos at Dhaka airport as flights to ME halted

Migrants in Middle East in panic

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Flights from Bangladesh to several Middle Eastern destinations have remained suspended since yesterday afternoon as some countries in the region temporarily closed their airspace due to US and Israel's strikes on Iran and Tehran's retaliation.

By the time the news of the flight suspensions spread, hundreds of passengers, mainly migrant workers, plus those travelling for business, Umrah or transit, started to crowd Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) in Dhaka, only to get stranded and face suffering.

International media reported that the US and Israel struck multiple locations in Iran, including capital Tehran. Iran later launched missile attacks on US military bases in several Middle Eastern countries.

In a notice, the HSIA authorities said Bahrain, Kuwait, Dubai and Qatar were among those who declared temporary airspace closures, forcing several commercial flights on affected routes to be cancelled, delayed or rescheduled.

The airport authorities directed the airlines to inform passengers in advance through SMS, email and call centres, ensure staff presence at the airport, and provide clear, coordinated information to minimise hardship.

Passengers planning to take the routes affected by the airspace closures were advised to urgently contact their respective airlines or travel agencies to verify flight status before heading to the airport. The Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh also issued similar instructions.

Group Captain SM Ragib Samad, executive director of HSIA, said authorities were closely monitoring the situation and sought coordinated cooperation from all concerned to ensure passenger safety and operational normalcy.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines has suspended all of its Middle East-bound flights due to Iran's ongoing strikes targeting US bases in the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain, according to Bosra Islam, general manager (public relations) of the national carrier.

She said passengers travelling to the Middle East were requested not to come to the airport without prior communication. They can call 13636 to know their flight status, Bosra said, adding that safety remains the top priority and updates will be shared as the situation evolves.

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