

SIGNAL JAMMING

1,000 ships at times lost GPS in Middle East

AFP, Washington

The global positioning system (GPS) capabilities of cargo ships, oil tankers and other vessels stuck in the Middle East because of the widening war are likely worse than those in your cell phone.

Experts say this deficiency explains why since the start of US-Israeli strikes, the jamming of satellite navigation signals has left about 1,000 ships in the Gulf and the Gulf of Oman unable to determine their location, either momentarily or continuously.

Dimitris Ampatzidis, a risk and compliance analyst for the energy market intelligence firm Kpler, said the number represents about half of the vessels in the area. The vast majority of those ships are located off the UAE and Oman.

SPOOFING

Jamming a GPS signal is "not that complicated," said Katherine Dunn, the author of an upcoming book of the history of GPS, "Little Blue Dot." All one needs is "another radio transmitter that can broadcast on the same frequency, but louder," she said, which creates "a wall of mush." Spoofing is more sophisticated -- and more dangerous, affecting a ship's Automatic Identification System, or AIS.



DEFENSIVE JAMMING

Signal jamming is undoubtedly being used both offensively and defensively. Gulf states are directing their systems towards their own shores to ward off Iran's satellite-guided Shahed drones -- at the cost, deemed acceptable, of disrupting their own lives.

Israel did the same thing in 2024, as did Iran after its 12 days of conflict with Israel last year. "Even if their own air traffic or maritime traffic or their delivery drivers or their dating apps are affected by GPS jamming and spoofing, they'll do it, just like Israel did. Israel did it for a year in 2024," Todd Humphreys, an engineering professor at the University of Texas at Austin, told AFP. For air and sea navigation, start-ups are developing alternative technologies using Earth's magnetic field or inertial navigation. But for ships today, navigating without a GPS is still far in the future.



In this photo obtained from Iran's ISNA news agency yesterday, rescue workers carry the body of a victim after a strike on a building in Tehran's Enghelab Square. PHOTO: AFP

Turkey warns of Iran civil war plot

Reports say US plans to arm Kurds to infiltrate Iran

AFP, Istanbul

Turkey's foreign minister advised Saturday against efforts to cause a civil war inside Iran, while warning Tehran after Nato intercepted a Turkey-bound ballistic missile launched from Iran this week.

Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said any effort to stir up a civil war inside Iran in a bid to bring about regime change would be a "historic" mistake.

"We are against all scenarios that aim to instigate a civil war in Iran, that target ethnic or religious fault lines," Fidan told journalists in Istanbul. "This is the most dangerous scenario," he added.

He was speaking after reports

that Washington was looking to arm Kurdish guerrillas to infiltrate Iran, with US President Donald Trump expressing support for such an offensive.

However, Trump said Saturday that "We're not looking to the Kurds going in".

"We're very friendly with the Kurds, as you know, but we don't want to make the war any more complex than it already is," he told reporters in a briefing aboard Air Force One. Fidan said he had raised the matter with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who had denied any American involvement in such an effort.

"They stated they are not

involved in such an effort and have no such intention," Fidan said after the pair spoke on Wednesday.

He pointed the finger instead at Israel's "strategy of using Kurdish groups in the region as proxies".

Such a move would raise hackles in Turkey, which has fought a decades-long bloody conflict with the Kurdish militant group PKK, which it is now seeking to end.

"We are openly warning everyone... against this scenario," Fidan said. "This will not only lead to more suffering and loss of life for innocent civilians in Iran, but it will also cause millions to be displaced and flee to neighbouring countries and beyond," he added.

Nepal's centrist RSP party poised for landslide

AFP, Kathmandu

Nepal's centrist RSP party of rapper-turned-politician Balendra Shah had secured a majority in the direct parliamentary elections, partial official results showed yesterday, and was heading for a landslide according to official trends.



The 35-year-old's Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) was also leading in the proportional representation vote, according to results declared and election commission trends.

Shah himself had on Saturday defeated the veteran four-time prime minister KP Sharma Oli -- whose Marxist-led government was ousted in the violence last year -- in his own seat.

India thrash NZ

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Opener Tim Seifert hit 52 off 26 balls but his departure in the ninth over off struggling spinner Varun Chakravarty effectively ended the Black Caps' slim hopes.

Wickets kept tumbling and Bumrah struck with successive deliveries to bring up a hat-trick ball which was just about negotiated by Lockie Ferguson.

Skipper Mitchell Santner

hit 43 but was never going to be able to prevent New Zealand from slipping to their second T20 World Cup final loss after they went down to Australia in 2021.

India exorcised the ghosts of the past at the same venue from when they were shocked by Australia in the 2023 ODI World Cup final.

Govt revises rules

FROM PAGE 12

Four officials from the Cabinet Division and the Ministry of Public Administration expressed frustration over the move.

"Taking a controversial decision just to justify an error is unwise," one of them said.

Another official added, "Amending the rules instead of correcting the mistake will set a bad precedent."

Asked for comment,

Cabinet Secretary Nasimul Gani said the government has the authority to take such decisions.

Responding to a question on whether amending the rules instead of correcting the mistake could be controversial, Gani said, "There is no room for controversy here. The government decided to allow the award in a different category after 25 years for exceptional contributions."

Prime accused

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"An operation was conducted, and during the intervening night of March 7-8, 2026, the two Bangladeshi nationals -- Rahul alias Faisal Karim Masud and Alamgir Hossain -- were detained from Bongaon," the statement said.

According to the STF, the suspects are accused of murdering Bangladeshi political activist Osman Hadi before fleeing the country.

Investigators said the two allegedly entered Indian territory illegally through the Meghalaya border, travelled through several locations in India, and eventually reached Bongaon in West Bengal while attempting to return to Bangladesh.

The STF said the operation was carried out based on intelligence shared by Bangladesh's defence intelligence authorities. During preliminary interrogation, Faisal, also known as Rahul, reportedly confessed that he and Alamgir were involved in Hadi's killing, investigators said.

Indian authorities have registered a case in

connection with the arrests. The suspects were produced before a court and remanded in police custody, while further investigation is underway, the statement added.

Citing various sources, the ISPR also said the newly appointed director general of the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence recently visited India and urged Indian authorities to arrest those involved in the Hadi murder and facilitate their return to Bangladesh.

Following the request and based on specific intelligence, Indian authorities were able to detain the two suspects, the source said.

Meanwhile, Inqilab Moncho last night brought out a procession at Dhaka University demanding justice for Hadi. The march was held after an iftar programme at the Teacher-Student Centre on the university campus.

The procession started from TSC, through the Shahbagh intersection, and ended the rally at the Raju Sculpture. Contacted by The Daily Star, the platform's Dhaka University convener, Fatima Tasnim Juma, said they demand the disclosure

of the main perpetrator behind the killing.

She added that the platform's next programme will be announced after discussions with law enforcement agencies.

Hadi, who was also an independent aspirant for the Dhaka-8 constituency, was shot in Dhaka's Paltan area on December 12 last year. He died on December 18 while undergoing treatment in Singapore.

On December 14, Inqilab Moncho Member Secretary Abdullah Al Jaber filed an attempted murder case with Paltan Model Police Station against Faisal and several unnamed individuals. The case later became a murder case after Hadi's death.

Earlier, at a press briefing on December 28, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Additional Commissioner SN Nazrul Islam said Faisal and Alamgir had crossed into India's Meghalaya state with the help of local associates. However, India's Meghalaya Police and the Border Security Force at the time rejected the claim.

On January 6 this year, DB Inspector Faisal Ahmed, the investigation officer of the case, submitted a charge sheet against the prime

accused, four of his family members, and 12 others.

In the charge sheet, the IO said analysis of the accused persons' political affiliations and Hadi's political statements suggested the killing stemmed from political rivalry.

The charge sheet also mentioned that Faisal and his associates infiltrated Hadi's election campaign as part of a pre-planned effort to disrupt the upcoming 13th parliamentary election and create fear among voters.

But on January 15, Jaber filed a petition with the court, rejecting the probe report submitted by the DB. The same day, the court directed the Criminal Investigation Department to conduct further investigation after accepting a no-confidence petition against the DB's probe report.

On February 26, a Dhaka court asked the CID to submit a probe report by March 11. Dhaka Additional Metropolitan Magistrate Jashita Islam passed the order after the CID failed to submit the report on the scheduled date, said a court sub-inspector.

Crisis exposes fragile energy security

FROM PAGE 1

for about 14 days, and 22,000 tonnes of octane, sufficient for around 24 days.

Despite delays in scheduled arrivals, officials say supply remains manageable. Under BPC's March import plan, Bangladesh is set to receive 2,00,000 tonnes of crude oil, 3,74,000 tonnes of diesel, 25,000 tonnes of octane, and 45,000 tonnes of jet fuel.

Energy experts said the current stock is essentially an "operational buffer", meaning that if shipments were halted, the country would have around two weeks of routine supply before fuel-dependent activities begin to face disruption.

Officials added that agreements with oil refineries will ensure fuel supplies through June. Although some shipments have been slightly delayed, deliveries continue, and citizens have been advised to follow daily fuel caps per vehicle to ensure equitable access.

The government has launched mobile court

drives across the country and deployed additional police at refuelling stations.

In Dhaka, drives were held at 13 filling stations yesterday. Six of them had no supply during the day. Three of them resumed sales in the evening after oil trucks arrived.

The power, energy and mineral resources ministry has also asked district administrations to monitor filling stations across the country.

"It is being observed that some petrol pumps and filling stations are selling fuel above the government set price, stockpiling supplies for profit, or diverting fuel to the open market," the ministry said in a letter.

BPC has also written to the home ministry seeking additional police patrols at filling stations to maintain order amid rising demand.

"Various incidents involving disputes between customers and station staff have been reported during the current period," the letter

said. Officials said the temporary shortages seen over the weekend were mainly due to a sudden surge in demand, but the situation has been stabilising since depots resumed fuel releases yesterday.

Experts noted that Bangladesh still lacks a formal strategic fuel reserve, and even a modest emergency stockpile could strengthen the country's ability to withstand global supply disruptions.

Prof M Tamim, an energy expert and vice-chancellor of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), suggested building an additional reserve equivalent to 15 days of fuel consumption to guard against volatility.

He mentioned that despite significant investments in energy infrastructure over the past decade, Bangladesh continues to operate with limited refining capacity and thin reserves.

The country's only

refinery, Eastern Refinery, built in 1963, can process about 1.5 million tonnes of crude oil annually, while Bangladesh imports 7-8 million tonnes of various petroleum products each year.

Key decisions

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"People have the right to know all information, whether it is right or wrong, motivated, in the interest of the state or against it," he said.

Calling on the authorities to review the matter, he added: "I request the state and the government to consider how logical this removal is."

Asked for examples, Ittekkharuzzaman said decisions related to the Prime Minister's Office and the Chief Adviser's Office were among those no longer available online.

"Many of those decisions and information have been removed and cannot be found," he said.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা কার্যালয়
চট্টগ্রাম দক্ষিণ বন বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম

"দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি"

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, নীলাম/দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০২/রাজব অব ২০২৫-২০২৬ তাং- ১৩/০৮/২০২৫ খ্রি.এর ধারাবাহিকতায় অত্র বন বিভাগের বিভিন্ন রেঞ্জের জমকৃত/খড়পড়া/বিভাগীয় পর্যায়ে আহরিত বিক্রয়যোগ্য বনজন্তুব্যের লটসমূহ আগামী ০৭/০৮/২০২৬ খ্রি. তারিখে দরপত্রের মাধ্যমে বিক্রয় করা হবে। দরপত্র বাস্তব একই তারিখে বিকাল ৩.০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্রদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি উপস্থিত থাকে) খোলা হবে। অত্রই ক্ষেত্র/প্রতিষ্ঠানকে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে জাতীয় বিষয়াদি জেনে নেওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। উল্লেখ্য যে, দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি এর শর্তাবলী সংগ্রহ করার অনুরোধ করা হলো।

ক্র/নং	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	দরপত্র যে সকল স্থানে গ্রহণ করা হবে।	বনজন্তুব্যের অবস্থান
০১	০৭/০৮/২০২৬ খ্রি. সকাল ১০.০ ঘটিকা হতে শুরু করে বেলা-২.০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত	১। বন সুরক্ষকের কার্যালয়, চট্টগ্রাম অঞ্চল। ২। জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, চট্টগ্রাম জেলা। ৩। বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়, চট্টগ্রাম দক্ষিণ বন বিভাগ।	কালুরঘাট ডিপো, রাঙেনিয়া, চুলতি, দোহাজারী, খুলশিয়া, পটিয়া, পদ্মুয়া, কালীপুর, বারবাকিয়া, জলদী, মাদারী, এবং শহর রেঞ্জ [চট্টগ্রাম দক্ষিণ বন বিভাগের রেঞ্জ ও বিট এলাকা]।

মোহাম্মদ সোহেল রানা
পরিচিতি নং ১৩২০৯
উপবন সুরক্ষক
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা
চট্টগ্রাম দক্ষিণ বন বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Inspector General
Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka

Corrigendum of International Tender Notice

Memo No-44.01.0000.058.07.019.25/272 Date: 08/03/2026

Invitation for International Tender Notice Published in different national dailies as per Invitation tender ref No-44.01.0000.058.07.019.25/05(2025-2026) Date: 02/02/2026 for procurement of **7.62x51 mm Cartridge** in FY 2025-2026 is hereby amended as follows:

Particular Information	Published	Revised
Tender last selling date	15 March 2026	15 April 2026
Tender closing date and time	16 March 2026 at 12.00 hrs	16 April 2026 at 12.00 hrs
Tender opening date and time (Technical offer only)	16 March 2026 at 12.30 hrs	16 April 2026 at 12.30 hrs

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