

“It is absolutely true that France which has not been consulted and is not part of this military offensive launched by the United States and Israel, is not taking part in it.”

French President Emmanuel Macron

“We receive messages from the American side, some direct and some through our friends. . . There are no grounds for negotiations.”

Iran’s FM Abbas Araghchi

“The months ahead may not be easy. . . No government can promise to eliminate the pressures that this war is causing.”

Australian PM Anthony Albanese

“For us, it’s the most significant disruption of supply chains that we have seen since Covid and the beginning of the war in Ukraine.”

WFP’s supply chain chief Corinne Fleischer on ME war



Smoke rises from Kuwait International Airport after a reported drone strike yesterday. Kuwait’s civil aviation authority said the facility was hit by an Iranian drone attack that caused “a large fire” at a fuel depot. *Inset*, Israeli security forces and first responders work at the scene of a strike in a residential area of Tel Aviv following an Iranian attack.

PHOTO: AFP

## US-ISRAELI STRIKES ON IRAN

# Trump team’s four goals keep changing

CNN ONLINE

The Trump administration keeps suggesting that the Iran war could wrap up soon. The reason? Because it’s accomplishing its goals. “We are going to achieve our objectives in a matter of weeks, not months,” Secretary of State Marco Rubio told ABC News on Monday. But when it comes to precisely what those goals are, the administration has been remarkably inconsistent. Officials have regularly listed four objectives, but they’ve often changed depending upon the date and who’s providing them. At a briefing, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth described four objectives: destroy Iranian offensive missiles, destroy Iranian missile production, destroy their navy and other security infrastructure and they will never have nuclear weapons. Those four more or less matched the things President Donald Trump mentioned in a video released the morning of the first strikes. But just hours after Hegseth’s comments, Trump debuted an amended list at a Medal of Honor ceremony at the White House. Numbers 3 and 4 were the same, but numbers 1 and 2 were merged into one goal — “destroying Iran’s missile capabilities.” And he added a new fourth goal concerning Iran’s Middle East proxy groups like Hezbollah and the Houthis: “Ensuring that the Iranian regime cannot continue to arm, fund and direct terrorist armies outside of their borders.” Two days later, a similar split was seen. Rubio echoed Hegseth’s list in a social media post. But shortly thereafter,

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt echoed Trump’s amended list. She ran through four goals that again included neutralising the proxy threat, which Rubio hadn’t mentioned. And the split has largely continued along those lines, with Leavitt including the proxy threat but others like Hegseth and Rubio omitting it. The initial goals suggested success would be achieved only if Iran had no missiles or ability to fire them, and if proxy groups like Hezbollah in Lebanon



and the Houthis in Yemen were cut off. At a briefing on Tuesday morning, Hegseth pitched the war as different from other recent US wars, where he said the mission was ill-defined. But that’s exactly the sense the administration’s public comments about this war have given. It makes it very difficult to measure the success of war effort when administration can’t even give a consistent list of four goals. And the fact that those goals have shifted so much probably won’t calm the fears of Americans who don’t seem to understand what this war is about.

## BORDER TENSION

# Afghan-Pak hold talks in China

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan and Afghanistan are holding talks in China to end months of conflict, two officials from Islamabad told AFP yesterday. The meeting in the northwestern city of Urumqi comes after Pakistan’s Foreign Minister, Ishaq Dar, travelled to Beijing on Tuesday to meet his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi. The pair discussed Islamabad’s role in trying to get the United States and Iran to the negotiating table, and set out a joint five-point plan for an end to the conflict. Dar was due to return to Islamabad yesterday. China has sought to mediate in the escalating conflict between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Pakistan says it is targeting extremists who have carried out cross-border attacks, but authorities in Kabul deny harbouring militants. There was no immediate comment from Pakistan’s foreign ministry and military when contacted by AFP, or from the Afghan government. But a senior Pakistani security official said: “A delegation led by an official from Pakistan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs is in Urumqi to hold talks with the Afghan Taliban.” “The meeting is taking place at the request of our Chinese friends.” A second senior government official also confirmed the talks, adding: “The meeting is to set a base for full-scale dialogue.” The first official said Pakistan’s demands from Afghanistan “remain unchanged”, urging Kabul to “take verifiable action” against extremists and “end any support for the group”.

## US to exit Iran war soon, may return if needed

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Trump is set to address the nation at 9:00pm Wednesday (0100 GMT Thursday). Tehran has insisted there are no ongoing negotiations and that it has not responded to a reported 15-point proposal from Washington to end the war. But Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said the Islamic republic had the “necessary will” to end the war, provided its enemies guaranteed it would not flare up again. With the status of diplomatic efforts uncertain, Iranian state television reported that Tehran was under attack yesterday, and explosions were heard in the capital. An AFP journalist said strikes hit an area near the former US embassy — which was transformed into a museum known as the “Den of Spies” and has become a symbol of the decades-long animosity between Tehran and Washington. Strikes also hit steel complexes in central and southwest Iran, according to Iranian media, causing “significant damage and destruction”. The Israeli military confirmed it had carried out the strikes, while it also intercepted an Iranian missile attack, which medics said wounded 14 people, including an 11-year-old

girl. Israel also said its air defences had responded to a missile fired from Yemen — the third attack by the Iran-backed Houthi rebels since they entered the war over the weekend. Thousands of people have been killed throughout the region during the conflict, which has displaced millions more from their homes. In Lebanon, seven people were killed in strikes around south. **Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said the Islamic republic had the “necessary will” to end the war, provided its enemies guaranteed it would not flare up again.**

Beirut, the health ministry said yesterday, while the Israeli military said it had struck a senior Hezbollah commander. A Lebanese security source and a Hezbollah source both told AFP that the strike had killed Hezbollah’s top commander for Iraq military affairs, Yousef Hashem. Since March 2, when the latest fighting between Israel and Iran-backed Hezbollah started, more than

1,200 people have been killed in Lebanon. On Tuesday, Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said his country’s military would occupy a swathe of southern Lebanon even after the current war against Hezbollah has ended. US allies in the Gulf have also been pulled into the war, with Iran carrying out retaliatory attacks on nations it says have been launchpads for strikes. A Bangladeshi national was killed yesterday by falling shrapnel from an intercepted drone in Fujairah, United Arab Emirates. Kuwait said its international airport had come under Iranian drone attack that led to “a large fire” at its fuel tanks, while the National Bank of Kuwait said it will close its headquarters for two days “in the interest of everyone’s safety”. Elsewhere, Bahrain’s interior ministry said a fire broke out at a business facility “as a result of the Iranian aggression”, and Saudi Arabia said several drones were intercepted. A tanker was also hit in the waters off Qatar, a British maritime security agency said, reporting damage but no casualties. Iran said the tanker belonged to Israel.

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Superintendent  
250 Bed General Hospital, Kushtia.  
kushtia@hospi.dghs.gov.bd

Ref No. G.H/Kushtia/MSR Repair/2025-26/759      Date: 01/04/2026

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| Tender Id | Name of Goods                                                                                            | Tender/Proposal Publication Date & Time | Tender/Proposal Last Selling Date & Time | Tender/Proposal Closing Date & Time | Tender/Proposal Opening Date & Time |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1198366   | Procurement of MSR Equipment Repair for the F.Y. 2025-2026 at Kushtia 250 Bed General Hospital, Kushtia. | 02-Apr-2026 12:00                       | 12-Apr-2026 16:00                        | 13-Apr-2026 12:00                   | 13-Apr-2026 12:00                   |

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(Dr. Abdul Mannan)  
Superintendent  
250 Bed General Hospital  
Kushtia.

Civil Aviation Authority, Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Director  
Central Procurement, Engineering and Store Unit  
Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229  
[www.caab.gov.bd](http://www.caab.gov.bd)

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|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 01  | Supply of Spare Parts & other related works for Runway Sweeper at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka                                                                         | Gr- 29/ATM/Code-100/2025-2026      | 1226263        | 12-Apr-2026 17:00 Hrs      | 13-Apr-2026 12:00 Hrs |
| 02  | Providing & Installation of A/C unit at Osmani International Airport, Cox’s Bazar Airport, Saidpur Airport, Shah Mokhdum Airport, Jashore Airport and Barishal Airport.(Re- Tender)     | Gr- 02/CNS/Code-100/2025-2026      | 1226264        | 12-Apr-2026 17:00 Hrs      | 13-Apr-2026 12:00 Hrs |
| 03  | Providing, fitting / fixing of Spare Parts & other related repairing works for Chinetty 4 X 4, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) Vehicle at Barishal Airport, Barishal               | Gr- 07/Fire/Code-3258134/2025-2026 | 1247942        | 12-Apr-2026 17:00 Hrs      | 13-Apr-2026 12:00 Hrs |
| 04  | Providing, fitting / fixing of Spare Parts & other related works for Titan 4 X 4 ARFF Vehicle at Jashore Airport, Jashore                                                               | Gr- 12/Fire/Code-100/2025-2026     | 1249529        | 12-Apr-2026 17:00 Hrs      | 13-Apr-2026 12:00 Hrs |
| 05  | Supply of different types of ARFF Vehicle Batteries, Filter, Oils, Lubricant tc.servicing materials for daily time to time use at different ARFF Vehicles in different Airports of CAAB | Gr- 14/Fire/Code-100/2025-2026     | 1249530        | 15-Apr-2026 17:00 Hrs      | 16-Apr-2026 12:00 Hrs |

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(Md. Ahsan Habib)  
Executive Director  
Central Procurement, Engineering and Store Unit  
Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh  
Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229  
Email: [edcemsu@caab.gov.bd](mailto:edcemsu@caab.gov.bd)