

Israel applies Gaza playbook to 'yellow line' in south Lebanon

AGENCIES

Israel's military on Saturday said it has established a "Yellow Line" demarcation in southern Lebanon – a boundary it says mirrors a similar separation used in Gaza.

The development comes just days after Israel and Lebanon agreed to a 10-day ceasefire aimed at halting weeks of fighting between Israel and the Iran-backed Hezbollah. Referring to the newly established "Yellow line" for the first time, the Israeli military said its forces identified individuals approaching from beyond it.

"Over the past 24 hours, IDF forces operating south of the Yellow Line in southern Lebanon identified terrorists who violated the ceasefire understandings and approached the forces from north of the Yellow Line in a manner that posed an immediate threat," news agency AFP quoted the Israeli forces as saying.

The military added that it acted swiftly. The IDF said its "forces attacked the terrorists in several areas," adding that "actions taken in self-defence and to remove immediate threats are not restricted by the ceasefire."

The "Yellow Line" is essentially a military demarcation – a notional boundary drawn on the ground to separate



Palestinian demonstrators hold pictures of jailed Palestinians during a rally in Ramallah in the occupied West Bank yesterday, marking Prisoners' Day and protesting the Israeli parliament's approval of a new death penalty bill for Palestinians convicted of deadly attacks.

PHOTO: REUTERS



opposing zones of control. Israel says it has now created such a line in southern Lebanon, marking the limit between its forces and areas beyond which potential threats could emerge.

A similar "Yellow Line" has been in place in Gaza since October 10, where it effectively split the territory into two parts: one under Israeli military control and the other under Hamas. By invoking the same term in Lebanon, Israel appears to be applying a familiar operational framework to manage troop movement and perceived threats along a volatile front. In a separate update later in the day, the military said its air force carried out strikes near the same zone.

"The IDF eliminated a terrorist cell operating in proximity to IDF soldiers in southern Lebanon, in the area of the forward defence line," it said, again referring to the Yellow Line. It did not specify how many militants were killed. The announcement comes against the backdrop of a fragile ceasefire agreed on Thursday, meant to pause six weeks of intense conflict.

Mismanaged US-Iran posts stall peace progress

AGENCIES

Premature and mismanaged media announcements by Donald Trump and Tehran have derailed progress toward a peace settlement between Iran and the US.

Iran announced it would reinstate a complete block on commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz and refuse to export any of its stockpile of highly enriched uranium, marking the culmination of recent missteps.

The chain of events started when the Iranian Foreign Minister, Abbas Araghchi, posted on X on Friday soon after the markets opened in the US. Donald Trump claims to have ended a 10th war – but will the Lebanon ceasefire hold?

"In line with the ceasefire in Lebanon the passage of all

commercial vessels through the strait of Hormuz is declared completely open for the remaining period of the ceasefire [Lebanon ceasefire] on the coordinated route as already announced by the Ports and Maritime Organisation of the Islamic Rep of Iran."

His announcement knocked \$12 off the price of a barrel of oil and was welcomed by Pakistan, reports The Guardian online. Araghchi's poorly framed post sparked backlash, worsened by falling oil prices and Trump's upbeat Truth Social response thanking Iran for opening the strait and agreeing to export uranium.

Tasnim, close to the IRGC, quickly called the post wrong or incomplete, saying it lacked clarity on passage conditions and drew heavy criticism. The impasse

prompted Trump to threaten renewed bombing after the ceasefire ends Wednesday, raising the risk of confrontation in the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran also told mediators it would not restart talks in Islamabad, rejecting US demands as excessive and insisting the strait remains its leverage.

Iran's tough stance reflects the IRGC's dominance in foreign policy and its concern that Araghchi was conceding too much to Washington.

Resentment grew after Trump's upbeat Truth Social posts, which Speaker Mohammad Ghalibaf dismissed as lies. Araghchi later clarified the Strait of Hormuz was open only to IRGC-authorized ships using designated routes and paying tolls.

Trump orders probe into 11 scientists' mysterious deaths

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump has ordered an investigation into the mysterious deaths and disappearances of nearly a dozen American scientists with access to some of the nation's most closely guarded nuclear and space secrets.

The cases have fueled online speculation ranging from foreign espionage to a government cover-up of classified UFO research, reports RT online.

Speaking to reporters on Thursday, Trump stated that he "just came out of a meeting on this," noting that "It's pretty serious stuff."

"I hope it's random, but we're going to know in the next week and a half. Some of them were very important people, and we're going to look at it over the next short period," the president said.

Since 2023, at least ten individuals with ties to advanced research have died or vanished under puzzling circumstances.

Reports of at least 11 deaths and disappearances involving experts in space, defense, and nuclear fields have circulated this month, prompting speculation within the scientific community. Authorities have not confirmed any official connection among the cases.

Two men killed in ambush on Manipur highway

AGENCIES

Suspected extremists ambushed the vehicles of civilians on National Highway 202 in the northeast Indian state of Manipur's Ukhrul district on Saturday, killing two Tangkhul Naga men, including a retired soldier.

The incident occurred at 2:35 pm near Yaolen Kuki village, about four km from Litan on the highway linking Ukhrul town and the State's capital Imphal. Tension has been prevailing in the Litan area since February 7, when a localised fight snowballed into a conflict between the Kuki and Tangkhul Naga communities.

The attack came a day after Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh met villagers along the highway as part of a mission to "remove the trust deficit" between the Kukis and Tangkhuls.



US officials en route to Pakistan for talks

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on February 28, announced on Friday it would reopen the strait.

But it reversed that decision a day later after Trump refused to halt a US naval blockade of Iranian shipping. At least two ships reported they had been fired upon while approaching the strait on Saturday, and since then shipping data has shown no movement through the waterway.

"Iran decided to fire bullets yesterday in the Strait of Hormuz – A Total Violation of our Ceasefire Agreement!" Trump wrote in yesterday morning's post. "That wasn't nice, was it?"

Still, despite Trump's new threats to renew bombing, his announcement that US officials were returning to Pakistan was the first official confirmation that talks would resume. A first round of talks held a week ago had ended with no breakthrough.

Iran's chief negotiator, Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, said the two sides remained far apart on nuclear issues and the strait, the two main sticking points.

STRAIT SHUT AGAIN

Two liquefied petroleum gas tankers were seen on ship tracking sites moving eastbound towards the Strait early on yesterday morning, but the semi-official Tasnim news agency reported that Iran's armed forces turned them back. Marine traffic data showed no other movements after midnight.

Now in its eighth week, the war has created the most severe shock to global energy supplies in history, sending oil prices surging because of the de facto closure of the strait, which before the war carried one-fifth of the world's oil shipments.

Friday's announcement that the strait would reopen caused one of the sharpest one-day drops in oil prices in history, and stock markets hit fresh all-time highs on the expectation that the disruption would soon end. That the reopening has yet to take place as anticipated could bring new volatility when markets reopen on Monday morning.

Thousands of people have been killed by US-Israeli strikes on Iran and in an Israeli invasion of Lebanon

conducted in parallel. Iran responded to attacks with missiles and drones against its Arab neighbours that host US bases.

Talks in Islamabad ended with no agreement last week, but security measures were being taken in the Pakistani capital in preparation for potential further meetings.

City authorities halted public transport and heavy goods traffic through the city and rolls of barbed wire were rolled out near the Serena Hotel, where last week's talks were held. The hotel told guests yesterday to leave.

In central Islamabad, there was a heavy police and army presence, but the security protocols did not appear to be at the same level as they were before the first round, when Vice President JD Vance led the US delegation.

Earlier, Iran's deputy foreign minister, Saeed Khatibzadeh, said a framework of understanding would have to be agreed for further talks.

'PROGRESS IN TALKS' Pressure for a way out of the war has mounted on Trump as his fellow Republicans prepare to defend narrow

majorities in Congress in the November midterm elections, with US gasoline prices high, inflation rising and his own approval ratings down.

Iran's chief negotiator, Bagher Ghalibaf, told state media that the talks in Islamabad had made progress, but "There is still a big distance between us."

"There are some issues on which we insist ... They also have red lines. But these issues could be just one or two."

When US and Iranian negotiators met last weekend in Islamabad, Washington proposed a 20-year suspension of all Iranian nuclear activity, while Iran suggested a halt of three to five years, according to people familiar with the proposals.

A statement from Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei said Iran's navy was ready to inflict "new bitter defeats" on its enemies.

A two-week ceasefire in the Iran war is set to expire early on Wednesday. Israel and Lebanon announced a separate ceasefire last week, which paved the way for Iran's announcement that it

would reopen the strait.

More than a million Lebanese were displaced by the Israeli invasion, which Israel said was in pursuit of Hezbollah, a powerful Shi'ite armed group allied with Iran that fired across the border in support of Tehran.

A French soldier serving in a UN peacekeeping mission in Lebanon was killed, and three personnel from the mission were wounded, two of them severely, in an incident UN officials said was probably caused by Hezbollah fire. An Israeli soldier was also killed in a separate incident, the Israeli military said.

Israel's Defence Minister Israel Katz said his military will use "full force" in Lebanon – even during the ongoing ceasefire – should Israeli troops face any threat from Hezbollah.

Lebanon's military said, meanwhile, it has reopened a road and bridge between the city of Nabatieh and Khardali that was damaged by Israeli strikes in the south.

Iran will resume international flights today from Mashhad airport in the country's northeast, its civil aviation authority said.

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১	1260357, 54.01.1500.256. 03.010.25	Procurement different types of LED SIGNAL ASPECT for CTG Division.	NCT, OTM	20-Apr-2026 03-May-2026

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১. শুধুমাত্র ই-জিপি সিস্টেমে নিবন্ধিত eligibility শর্তাবলী পূরণকারী দরদাতাগণ সরাসরি অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।
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এস (২৬) (২০৬)

১৯-০৪-২০২৬

মোঃ আশিকুর রহমান
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GD-860

Gazipur Development Authority
Ministry of Housing and Public Works
Gazipur, Bangladesh

Reference No. gda-dev-2025-2026-3-3 Date: 19-04-2026

Corrigendum of e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited by National e-GP System Portal (www.ggp.gov.bd) for the procurement of

Tender Id	Name of work	Last selling date and time	Opening date and time
1253428	Supply of vehicles under the project titled Survey, Random Selection, and Feasibility Study on Low-income Housing		26-04-2026 17:00

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

Md. Mumtazur Rahman
Member (Administration and Finance)
Gazipur Development Authority

GD-858

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e-Tender বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পাওয়ার গ্রিডের জিএমডি, নরসিংদী দপ্তরের আওতাধীন নিম্নলিখিত দরপত্র e-GP পোর্টালে প্রকাশিত হয়েছে।

ID	Reference	Title of Works
1258459	27.21.0000.447.07.001.26.22	Supply of different types of Materials (MCB, magnetic contactor, space heater, control room light, LED Flood Light, and related items) for substations under GMD, Narsingdi.
1194311	27.21.0000.447.07.001.25.23	Yearly Basis Grass Cutting and Sweeping, Cleaning work of Control Room, Toilets, Roads, Drain, Septic Tank, etc. at Ghorashal 230/33 kV Sub-Station under GMD, Narsingdi, Power Grid.
1258976	27.21.0000.447.07.001.26.24	Supply & Installation of Tetrapod, Muffling & Painting Works of Different Transmission Towers under GMD, Narsingdi.
1258448	27.21.0000.447.07.001.26.25	Temporary Ansar Barrack Work "Making Partition on the Ground Floor of Substation Building by Using Hardboard and Making Temporary Kitchen and Toilet for Ansar" at Bajitpur 132/33kV SS under GMD, Narsingdi.

অগ্রহী তিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে www.eprocure.gov.bd সাইটের মাধ্যমে দরপত্রে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

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নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, জিএমডি, নরসিংদী

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Memo No. 117/A-16/IES/2026 Date: 19.04.2026

e-Tender Notice
(Notice Number: IES-001/2025-26)

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

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of works	Tender/proposal publication date and time	Tender document last selling date and time	Tender closing date and time
01	1258320	Supply Office Equipment (Lab Equipment) at the Institute of Environmental Science, University of Rajshahi	19-Apr-2026 13:30	30-Apr-2026 14:00	30-Apr-2026 15:00

This is an 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 (https://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's branch. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Director
Institute of Environmental Science
University of Rajshahi
Motihar, Rajshahi-6205

GD-857