



**US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump pose with Britain's King Charles III and Queen Camilla as they arrive ahead of a State Dinner in the East Room of the White House in Washington, DC, on Tuesday (US time). The trip, which comes as the US approaches the 250th anniversary of its independence from Britain, is meant to celebrate the strong relationship between the two countries.**

PHOTO: AFP

## CONDITION FOR PAYING UN DUES US wants curbs on China, other reforms

REUTERS

The United States has set specific conditions for the release of billions of dollars it owes to the United Nations, such as more cost-cutting and moves to counter China's influence at the world body, a development news agency reported yesterday.

The United States circulated two diplomatic notes calling for nine "quick-hit" reforms in order to release more funds, independent agency Devex, which covers global development, said in the report.

It said these included overhauling the UN pension system, ending long-distance business-class travel for some senior and mid-level professionals and further cuts in the UN's senior ranks.

It also demanded a "10% reduction in

long-standing, ineffective peacekeeping missions."

And it asked to block China from channelling tens of millions of dollars each year to a discretionary fund housed in the office of the UN secretary general, a move aimed at countering Chinese influence at the United Nations.

"These reforms will be an indication that the UN is serious about reform," Devex quoted one of the documents as saying.

The United States withdrew from dozens of UN bodies this year and cut millions of dollars in funding last year.

In January, Guterres warned that the UN faced "imminent financial collapse" due to unpaid fees, mostly owed by the United States. In February, the UN said the United States had paid about \$160 million of the more than \$4 billion it owes.

## 'You'd be speaking French'

King Charles roasts Trump at state dinner after urging US-UK unity in speech to Congress

AGENCIES

King Charles III gave US President Donald Trump a taste of his own medicine at a White House state dinner yesterday when he joked that without the British, Americans would be speaking French.

As the heads of state traded jokes during their dinner toasts, Charles referenced previous comments by Trump aimed at European allies he accuses of freeloading on defense since World War II.

"You recently commented, Mr President, that if it were not for the United States, European countries would be speaking German. Dare I say that, if it wasn't for us, you'd be speaking French," Charles quipped.

The king was talking about places with British and French origins in North America, where the rival colonial powers battled for control of the continent before US



independence 250 years ago.

At the Davos summit in January, Trump said that without US help in World War II, "you'd be speaking German and a little Japanese."

Earlier, King Charles told the US Congress that despite an age of uncertainty and conflict in Europe and the Middle East, the UK and the US will always be staunch allies united in defending democracy, at a time of deep divisions between the

two long-time allies over the war with Iran.

In a speech that Buckingham Palace said beforehand would not be political, Charles also made references to Trump's criticism of Nato, highlighted the importance of continued US help for Ukraine in its war with Russia, the dangers of isolationism, and even a call for the safeguarding of nature, an important issue to the king for most of his life.

Charles referred to the September 11, 2001, attacks, saying, "we answered the call together, as our people have done so for more than a century, shoulder to shoulder through two world wars, the Cold War, Afghanistan and moments that have defined our shared security today. Mr Speaker, that same unyielding resolve is needed for the defense of Ukraine, and her most courageous people."

## Star wins gold and silver at WAN-IFRA awards

FROM PAGE 1

The award is regarded as the most prestigious recognition for publishers for their outstanding work in digital media.

This year's Digital Media Awards South Asia highlight excellence in digital innovation, creativity, and audience engagement, showcasing the industry's push to advance storytelling and tech-driven news experiences.

Prothom Alo secured gold in "Best Marketing Campaign for a News Brand" and a silver in "Best Use of Video".

Participating newsrooms competed across multiple categories, including AI, audience

engagement, data visualisation, newsletters, video, audio, digital products, and revenue strategies.

Entries were judged by digital media subject-matter experts, editors, and industry leaders based on innovation, audience impact, and journalistic excellence. All gold winners will advance to WAN-IFRA's World Digital Media Awards.

The South Asia awards ceremony will be held on June 25, 2026, in Delhi, coinciding with the Digital Media India 2026 conference.

Top-performing finalists, including the gold winners of the Digital Media Awards South Asia

2026, from 78 countries will advance to compete for the World Digital Media Awards in each of the 12 categories, with winners to be announced at the World News Media Congress 2026 in Marseille in June, according to a press release by WAN-IFRA.

"Anatomy of BGB Shootings in Rampura" is a joint investigation by The Daily Star and Tech Global Institute that reveals how a Dhaka neighbourhood became a hotspot of state-sanctioned killings on July 19, 2024. Published on August 6, 2025, the investigation reconstructed the events of that day by analysing over 200 photos and videos captured in the Rampura area --

deploying digital pattern analysis of clothing, weapon identification, and chronolocation techniques to map the movement of state forces.

Keeron aims to help students, graduates, and young professionals accelerate their careers through industry-relevant, practical online courses designed and taught by top local experts, combining recorded lessons, live sessions, mentorship, and real-world case studies to bridge the gap between traditional education and job-market skills, while building a strong learning community with tens of thousands of learners across the country.

## 4 arrested over 'links with TTP'

FROM PAGE 1

militant organisation. However, when asked whether those arrested were linked to that group, the DB chief said they had no connection with the organisation. "It is a new organisation connected with TTP."

Meanwhile, police filed a case against the four under the Anti-Terrorism Act

with Kamrangirchar Police Station. Later, the accused were produced before a Dhaka court with a seven-day remand prayer.

After the hearing, Aminul Islam Junaed, magistrate of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, placed the arrestees on a four-day remand.

According to the case statement, the

arrestees were held from Kamrangirchar and its surrounding areas on Tuesday.

During the drives, law enforcers recovered a foreign pistol, a locally made gun, 14 bullets, several bullet shells, multiple smartphones, a metal detector, a drone and drone-related equipment, fake military

uniforms, and "jihadi" books and leaflets.

The FIR stated that the arrestees were operating with the "intention of preventing the Bangladesh government or any other state from carrying out its duties." It also noted that they had gathered the recovered equipment to "create panic among the public".

**CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF BANGLADESH**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**E/M DIVISION- 3, KURMITOLA, DHAKA.**

File No- 30.31.0000.432.07.001.25/539 Date: 28.04.2026

**e-Tender Notice**

e-tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods:

Sl No	Name of Tender	Tender ID No	Last date & time of selling	Last date & time of closing
1				
01.	Internal Electrification & relocation works of E/M installation (Ceiling fan, Air cooler & PA System) for Temporary Mosque shed at R/A, SAIA, Chattogram.	1255788	13-May-2026 17.00	14-May-2026 12.00

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no office/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-tender, registration in the national e-GP portal is required. The fees, for downloading the tender document from the national e-GP system portal, have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches. Future information and guidelines are available in national e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

নং-৩০.৩১.০০০০.৪৩২.০৭.০০১.২৫/১৯৯  
তারিখ: ২৯/০৪/২০২৬ খ্রি.

*(Md. Al-Mamun)*  
Executive Engineer (E/M)  
E/M Division-3, CAAB, Dhaka.

**GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH**  
**Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation**  
**Open Tender (International) for Petroleum Products**

1	Ministry/Division	Energy and Mineral Resources Division.		
2	Agency	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).		
3	Procuring Entity Name	General Manager (Com. & Ops.), Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).		
4	Procuring Entity District	Chattogram, Bangladesh.		
5	Invitation for	Invitation for Open Tender (International) for import of Gasoil 0.005% 'S' (50 PPM) and Jet A-1 during "June 1 <sup>st</sup> to August 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2026".		
6	Invitation Ref. No	28.03.0000.000.045.01.0013.26.		
7	Date	30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2026		
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>				
8	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)		
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>				
9	Source of Funds	Own Fund		
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>				
10	Tender Package No.	PG-01 and PG-02		
11	Tender Package Name	PG-01: Invitation for Open Tender (International) for import of Gasoil 0.005% 'S' (50 PPM) and Jet A-1. PG-02: Invitation for Open Tender (International) for import of Gasoil 0.005% 'S' (50 PPM) and Jet A-1.		
12	Tender Publication Date	30/04/2026		
13	Tender Last Selling Date and time	12/05/2026; 4:00 PM (BST) (GMT+6)		
14	Tender Closing Date and time	13/05/2026; 12:30 PM (BST) (GMT+6)		
15	Tender Opening Date and time	Date: 13/05/2026 ; PG-01: 12:45 PM (BST) (GMT+6) PG-02: 01:30 PM (BST) (GMT+6)		
16	Name and Address of the Office(s)			
17	Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, BSC Bhaban (1st Floor), Saltgola Road, Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh.		
	Selling Tender Document (Others)	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, BTMC Bhaban, Level-10, 7-9 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.		
	Receiving Tender Document	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, BSC Bhaban (1st Floor), Saltgola Road, Chattogram-4100.		
	Opening Tender Document	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, BSC Bhaban (1st Floor), Saltgola Road, Chattogram-4100.		
18	Place/Date/Time for Pre-Tender Meeting	Virtual Meeting (Zoom Platform). 06/05/2026; 12:45 PM (GMT+6)		
19	Tender Validity/ Offer Validity Period	The Offer must be valid till 21/06/2026.		
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>				
20	Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer	(i) A maximum of three (03) litigation history against the tenderer(s) over a period of the last three (03) years. (ii) The tenderer(s) must have minimum 3 (Three) years' general experience in the export of petroleum products. (iii) The Tenderer(s) must have specific experience of executing at least 02 (two) contracts with a minimum value of USD 150 Million each in last three years in the supply of goods similar to the proposed goods. (iv) The Tenderer(s) must own refinery(ies) or more than 50% equity of a refinery. The processing capacity of the refinery(ies) must be at least 2.25 million metric tons per year. Or, The Tenderer(s) must satisfactorily complete the export of at least 3.75 million Metric tons of petroleum products annually for the last three years. (v) Annual turnover of the Tenderers during last 3(three) years must be equivalent to minimum US\$ 2.25 billion. (vi) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital facility must be US\$ 1.50 billion. (vii) The Tenderer(s) must be free from any interdictory/embargo/sanction from international organization like UNO, OPEC, WTO etc. (viii) The Tenderer(s) must comply with international safety standard and environment compliances.		
21	Brief Description of Goods	PG-01: The total quantity to be supplied is 2,387-2,909 Million Barrels (320,000-390,000 Metric Tons) of Gasoil 0.005% 'S' and 0.560-0.720 Million Barrels (70,000-90,000 Metric Tons) of Jet A-1 (+/-10% for each grade at Buyer's Option). PG-02: The total quantity to be supplied 2,238-2,536 Million Barrels (300,000-340,000 Metric Tons) of Gasoil 0.005% 'S' and 0.480-0.640 Million Barrels (60,000-80,000 Metric Tons) of Jet A-1 (+/-10% for each grade at Buyer's Option). Minimum and Maximum range of importable quantity for each package is at Buyer's option.		
22	Tender Document Price	Tender Document Price: BDT 12,000.00 / US\$ 100.00 for each package. Non-Refundable by Cash / Pay Order / Bank Draft drawn in favor of "Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation".		
23	Package No	Identification	Tender Security Amount	Completion Time
	PG-01 and PG-02	PG-01	USD 1.00 Million	01 <sup>st</sup> June – 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2026 (3 Months)
		PG-02	USD 0.70 Million	01 <sup>st</sup> June – 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2026 (3 Months)
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>				
24	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Mohammad Zahid Hossain		
25	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	General Manager (Commercial & Operations), BPC.		
26	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, BSC Bhaban (1st Floor), Saltgola Road, Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh.		
27	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Tel. No: +88-02-3333-16121 Mobile: +88 01713755377/+880 1762-921229 Fax No: +88 2333320147 Email: gm_commercial@bpc.gov.bd		

*The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.*

Mohammad Zahid Hossain  
General Manager (Commercial & Operations)  
Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC)