DEADLY HEATWAVE

Italy on red alert, Hungary turns off lights to save energy

REUTERS, *Rome*

Italy took the unprecedented step of placing all its major cities on the highest level of health alert due to high temperatures yesterday while Hungary turned off the lights at some of its best-known buildings to save energy as a heatwave maintained its grip on large parts of Europe.

Europe, the world's fastest-warming continent, has been ravaged by record-breaking heat and destructive wildfires this summer, with France and Spain particularly hard hit in recent weeks.

The focus of the heatwave has since moved further east, with temperatures in Austria hitting successive national records this week, peaking at 41.2 degrees Celsius (106.2 degrees Fahrenheit) on Wednesday.



Italy is accustomed to hot summers, but the red alert issued by the Health Ministry stretches from Palermo on the southern island of Sicily to Bolzano in the mountainous north. Such a warning indicates a potential health emergency with prolonged high temperatures posing a serious health risk to the entire population.

In the northwestern city of Genoa, people aged 65 and over can escape the heat by visiting museums and libraries free of charge during the hottest hours of the day this month.



Officials from the East Java Provincial Disaster Management Agency fill a drone's water tank to battle a wildfire, *inset*, in the Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park near Mount Bromo in Probolinggo, East Java province, Indonesia yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Ukraine hits Russian refineries

Moscow downs 605 Ukrainian drones, strikes train station, ship; six killed; Sweden court clears seized ship transfer to Kyiv

AGENCIES

Ukraine struck two Russian oil refineries hundreds of kilometres from the border in an overnight attack, President Volodymyr Zelensky said yesterday, as Russia hit a train station and commercial ship in Ukraine.

Both sides have been intensifying their long-range attacks in recent months, leading to a jump in civilian deaths. Kyiv has been firing record numbers of drones at Russia, while Moscow has been launching all-time high missile attacks.

Zelensky said Ukraine had hit oil refineries in the Bashkortostan and Yaroslavl regions -- about 1,300 (800 miles) and 700 kilometres from the front. The attacks were "strengthening the prospects for diplomacy", Zelensky said.

"Russia must choose peace," he added, posting a video from Russian social media of black smoke rising above an oil facility.



Russia's defence ministry said earlier it had downed 605 Ukrainian drones in the night, reports AFP.

The governor of the Yaroslavl region -- north of Moscow, where Zelensky said a refinery had been hit -- said 92 drones had been downed there in what he called the "most massive" attack on the region of the war.

In the Tver region, also north of Moscow, a drone hit a logistics centre belonging to Wildberries -- the Russian e-commerce giant that has been heavily targeted over the past month. Fresh Russian attacks overnight killed three people at the Lozova train station in the northeastern Kharkiv region of Ukraine.

Three people were also killed overnight and at least 19 wounded in Russian attacks on settlements in the northern region of Sumy.

A commercial vessel carrying Ukrainian wheat was also hit in the Black Sea by Russia, killing one person, the Odesa region governor said.

Meanwhile, Sweden's top court said yesterday it has upheld a ruling that a cargo vessel seized in the Baltic Sea this year can be handed over to Ukraine, where it is suspected of illegally transporting grain from Russian-occupied territory, reports Reuters.

MICHIGAN UPSET

AIPAC looks to back Republican against El-Sayed

AGENCIES



After spending more than $30m on a candidate who lost the Michigan Democratic Senate primary on Wednesday, the leading pro-Israel lobbying group in the US has now indicated it will pivot to the Republican in that race come November.

The move highlights how the one-issue behemoth does not see itself as ideologically bound to one party or the other. "Our members remain determined to ensure that voters reject Dr El-Sayed and his radical anti-Israel agenda," the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (Aipac) said in a statement. "Our community is proud to support pro-Israel Democrats and Republicans who stand for our values."

The race between pro-Israel Congresswoman Haley Stevens and former Detroit public health official Abdul El-Sayed quickly became the most expensive Democratic primary race of all time, reports Middle East Eye. Sayed won the tight race by one percentage point, in what was a stunning upset for establishment Democrats.

38 Yemeni troops killed in Houthi attacks: sources

AFP, *Al Mukalla*

Houthi missile and drone attacks in Yemen yesterday killed at least 38 government troops and injured 29, two medical sources told AFP, in one of the deadliest days between the two sides in years.

A military official told AFP that a military camp in the al-Ruwaik area of Marib province, in central Yemen, had been attacked, as well as camps in the Al-Abr and Al-Wadiah areas of Hadramawt, near the border with Saudi Arabia.

One of the missile attacks hit troops during their morning formation at the camp in Marib province, "killing and wounding at least 45 personnel", said another military source, who declined to be named for security reasons.

Yemen, which has been embroiled in more than a decade of war, last month became the latest front to be sucked into the US-Iran war, as the Tehran-backed Houthi rebels upended a 2022 truce with the Saudi-backed government.



Israeli forces check the motorcycle of a Palestinian during a raid in Qalandia refugee camp, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

Tell Trump to desist or we hit you hard

Iran warns Gulf states

REUTERS

Iran has launched a diplomatic offensive across the Gulf, warning regional governments that Tehran will strike their oil, power and water facilities unless they persuade Donald Trump to halt US attacks and seek a negotiated end to the war.

A senior Iranian official said the warning covered energy plants, refineries, electricity grids, water systems, transport networks and other strategic assets of Washington's closest Arab allies. The message, aimed at deterring further US military action by raising the specter of economic disruption, followed Trump's July 28 threat to hit Iran's energy infrastructure.

- **Energy plants, refineries, grids, water, transport among Gulf targets**
- **Qatar, Oman, KSA have all pressed Washington to resume negotiations**

Two Iranian officials, Gulf sources and a regional diplomat said Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi conveyed the warning in calls with Saudi, Turkish and Qatari counterparts, as well as Pakistan's army chief. Araqchi urged them to use their influence with Trump to dissuade renewed strikes, stressing that retaliation would target US assets and Gulf infrastructure.

"We're ready to retaliate, but finding a diplomatic solution is the best way to avoid wider escalation," one diplomat quoted Araqchi as saying. A Gulf source added: "If America targeted Iran's infrastructure, they would retaliate by striking Gulf energy facilities and other regional targets."

The campaign highlights how Iran is leveraging Gulf vulnerability, confronting governments with the risk that any US-Iran clash could place their economies in the firing line.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman later spoke with Trump, urging him to delay military action, secure a ceasefire and pursue talks, Gulf sources said. The warning was intended for all Gulf states but was conveyed mainly through Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Qatar, Oman and Saudi Arabia have all pressed Washington to resume negotiations, echoing Iranian warnings that another round of US strikes could "turn the region into a fireball."

UK sees record radicalisation referrals

AFP, *London*

A record number of people were reported last year to the UK's anti-radicalisation Prevent programme, the interior ministry said yesterday, with "extreme right-wing" concerns accounting for the most referrals related to an ideology.

The Prevent programme is part of the country's counter-terrorism strategy and aims to identify and stop people in the early stages on the path towards becoming radicalised as extremists.

In the year ending September 2025, people made 10,293 referrals, the highest number for a single year since reporting began in 2015, the Home Office said, calling it a "significant increase".

The UK in April raised its terror threat level to "severe" -- the second-highest, meaning an attack is "highly likely" -- with security officials citing the "broader and extreme right-wing terrorist threat".

The largest number of referrals due to concerns about a specific ideology related to "extreme right wing" views, accounting for 20 percent of all referrals.

There were 2,103 such referrals -- a sharp rise of 42 percent on the previous year. The anti-immigrant party Reform UK has enjoyed electoral success recently, while far-right, anti-Muslim campaigners such as Stephen Yaxley-Lennon have bolstered support online.

RAPE CASE

India court jails ex-top editor for 10 years

AFP, *Mumbai*

An Indian court yesterday sentenced former news magazine editor Tarun Tejpal to 10 years in prison after convicting him of raping a junior colleague, in a case that drew nationwide attention.

Tejpal, co-founder of magazine Tehelka, was accused of raping the journalist in the lift of a hotel in Goa during an event in November 2013.

In 2021, a trial court acquitted Tejpal of the charges of rape.

The acquittal was challenged by Goa government before the Bombay High Court, which sentenced him to 10 years in jail yesterday.

বাংলাদেশ অভ্যন্তরীণ নৌ-পরিবহন কর্তৃপক্ষ
BANGLADESH INLAND WATER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
Website: www.biwta.gov.bd
Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/biwta1958
বিআইডব্লিউটিএ ভবন, ১৪১-১৪৩, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, পোস্ট বক্স ৭৬, ঢাকা-১০০০, বাংলাদেশ
BIWTA BHABAN, 141-143, MOTIJHEEL C/A, POST BOX 76, DHAKA-1000, BANGLADESH
Fax: 880-2-223385833
Grams: AUTHORITY
Phones: 223350262-3
223350266
223350268

ক্রয় ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ

নথি নং-১৮.১১.০০০০.১৬৩.৯৯.০৫৯.২৫/১২ তারিখঃ ০৪/০৮/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ।

নিলামে বিক্রয়ের পুনঃটেন্ডার (২য় দফা) বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ অভ্যন্তরীণ নৌ-পরিবহন কর্তৃপক্ষের নারায়ণগঞ্জস্থ খানপুরের ৭নং গুদামের (পশ্চিমাংশে) অভ্যন্তরে ও বাইরে খোলা জায়গায় রক্ষিত ৪৪ (চুয়াল্লিশ) টি আইটেমের ওটিআর/অপ্রচলিত/অকেজো মালামাল (যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে সে ভিত্তিতে) বিক্রয়ের লক্ষ্যে সীলমোহরকৃত নিলাম পুনঃটেন্ডার (২য় দফা) আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। ওটিআর মালামালসমূহ যেমনঃ-পিষ্টন (বিভিন্ন আকারের), লাইনার (বিভিন্ন আকারের), হাইড্রোলিক অয়েল (পানি মিশ্রিত), এম এস প্লেট/ফ্লোটার, কানেকটিং রড (বিভিন্ন আকারের), নাট-বোল্ট, প্রপেলার (পিতল), প্রপেলার (অ্যালুমিনিয়াম), পোড়া মবিল/গিয়ার অয়েল (পানি মিশ্রিত/ব্যবহৃত), এফ এস তার (ছিড়া/টুকরা), ব্যাটারী (বিভিন্ন আকারের), প্লাস্টিক পাইপ (ছোট/বড়), এম এস পাইপ স্টীল (১৮"/২০" সাইজ), এক্সাভেটর বাকেট, এম এস চেইন, রাবার হোস পাইপ, কম্প্রেসার (বিভিন্ন আকারের), ক্র্যাংক শ্যাফট (বিভিন্ন আকারের), টার্বোচার্জার (বিভিন্ন আকারের), ব্যান্ড পাইপ, খুচরা যন্ত্রাংশ (বিভিন্ন-পিস্টন রিং, বিয়ারিং, থ্রাস্ট বিয়ারিং, বুশ/কাটলেস বুশ/গান মেটাল বুশ, সার্কিট ব্রেকার/কন্ট্রোল সার্কিট, অটো টাইমার ইত্যাদি), স্টাফা মটর, লুব অয়েল কুলার (বিভিন্ন আকারের), টেলিভিশন, ইঞ্জিনসহ বিভিন্ন প্রকার মালামাল (নির্ধারিত তালিকা অনুযায়ী)। উল্লেখ্য যে, বর্ণিত মালামালসমূহ ১৬/০৮/২০২৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত নারায়ণগঞ্জস্থ খানপুর গুদামে অফিস চলাকালীন বিকাল ৩:০০ ঘটিকা সময়ের মধ্যে সরেজমিনে পরিদর্শন করা যাবে।

২। আগ্রহী দরদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক দরপত্র ফরমের মূল্য বাবদ ২০০০/-(দুই হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) বিআইডব্লিউটিএ'র হিসাব বিভাগ (৯ম তলা), ১৪১-১৪৩, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা অথবা উপ-পরিচালক (হিসাব), বিআইডব্লিউটিএ, টার্মিনাল ভবন, নারায়ণগঞ্জ এর নিকট জমা প্রদান পূর্বক ১৭/০৮/২০২৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন ১১:০০ ঘটিকা সময়ের মধ্যে দরপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।

৩। সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র পরিচালক (ক্রয় ও সংরক্ষণ), বিআইডব্লিউটিএ, ১৪১-১৪৩, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা (৫ম তলা), ঢাকা এর দপ্তরে অথবা ক্রয় ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, খানপুর স্টোর, বিআইডব্লিউটিএ, নারায়ণগঞ্জ দপ্তরে রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাক্সে ১৭/০৮/২০২৬ তারিখ সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা হতে দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে দাখিল করতে হবে এবং একই দিন দুপুর ১২:০৫ ঘটিকায় পরিচালক (ক্রয় ও সংরক্ষণ), বিআইডব্লিউটিএ, ১৪১-১৪৩, মতিঝিল বা/এ (৫ম তলা), ঢাকা এর দপ্তর এবং নারায়ণগঞ্জস্থ খানপুর দপ্তরে একযোগে উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) টেন্ডার বাক্স খোলা হবে। নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

৪। দরপত্রে বর্ণিত সকল শর্তাবলী যথাযথভাবে অনুসরণ ও প্রতিপালন করতে হবে, অন্যথায় দরপত্র বাতিল/ইনফরমাল বলে গণ্য হবে।

৫। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল কিংবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

পরিচালক
ক্রয় ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ
বিআইডব্লিউটিএ, ঢাকা।
টেলিফোন নম্বর-০২-২২৩৩৫০৮৪০

GD-1909