Russia strikes hit Kyiv as Germany chancellor visits

AFP, *Kyiv*

Russia struck another major bridge in Kyiv yesterday, soon after Germany's chancellor arrived on a surprise visit to show European support in the face of an upsurge in attacks.

Air raid sirens blared repeatedly across the Ukrainian capital throughout the morning, including as Friedrich Merz met President Volodymyr Zelensky at the National Academy of Sciences, which was hit by a Russian attack drone on Monday.

Merz said as he arrived that Ukraine "needs all our support in the coming weeks".

"If Russia is not stopped, its war machine will sooner or later turn against us," he added.

Ukraine wants more Western military



support, including advanced interceptors to shoot down Russia's new fast-moving, jet-powered drones.

Government sources in Berlin said they were expected to shake hands on a new package of military support worth more than $1 billion.

It includes combat drones and satellite technology to help Ukraine hit Russian launch sites, as well as for the joint production of anti-jet drones, the German sources said.

Russia's defence ministry yesterday vowed to ramp up its strikes on "military and military-industrial facilities" plus "related infrastructure in Kyiv" and elsewhere after Zelensky this week said Ukraine would intensify its own attacks against oil facilities that it says supply Moscow's troops.

On Saturday, Moscow warned foreigners and diplomats to leave Kyiv, saying "massive" new airstrikes would hit the city. It made a similar threat in May but leaders from Ukraine's allies have continued to make visits.



SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF OLIVE GROVES

A bid to uproot Palestinian identity

AGENCIES

One less-discussed dimension of Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories came to the fore on Saturday when Israeli soldiers backed settlers who seized Palestinian olive groves in the occupied West Bank, as violence against farmers intensified at the start of the traditional olive harvest season.

The incident highlights a longstanding struggle over one of Palestinians' most important economic resources and national symbols -- the olive tree. For Palestinians, olive cultivation is not simply agriculture; it is deeply connected to their history, culture and relationship with the land.

For generations, olive trees have been woven into Palestinian family life, poetry and faith. Their fruit has sustained households, their wood has traditionally provided fuel, and the annual harvest has marked a season of work, community and resilience. Between 80,000 and 100,000 Palestinian families rely on olives and olive oil as a primary or secondary source of income, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Various reports have estimated that hundreds of thousands of olive trees have been destroyed in the occupied Palestinian territories over the decades, with some estimates putting the number at more than 2.5 million since 1967.

The loss is both economic and symbolic. A mature olive tree can represent decades, even centuries, of cultivation and family labour. When an orchard is reduced to stumps, what disappears is not only a source of income but also a physical record of generations who worked and lived on the land.

Critics describe the destruction of olive groves as a form of environmental and cultural erasure, arguing that the loss of trees weakens Palestinians' ability to demonstrate longstanding agricultural ties to land amid settlement expansion and disputes over ownership.

The practice is well spread in West Bank and Gaza. A FAO-UN Satellite Centre assessment found that 75 percent of fields once used for crops and olive-tree orchards had been damaged or destroyed by late 2024.

Near Beita in the northern West Bank on Saturday, farmers were confronted by settlers. The settlers initially backed down when faced by the farmers and solidarity activists, including some Israelis, witnesses said. Israeli soldiers then arrived, forcing the farmers and activists away and detaining several Palestinians, an AFP journalist witnessed. The Palestine Red Crescent Society said 12 Palestinians were taken to hospital after being beaten by settlers in five separate incidents Saturday.

IN BRIEF

Brazil votes in nail-biter polls

AFP, *Brasília*

Brazilians headed to the polls yesterday in a toss-up race between President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Flavio Bolsonaro that will decide whether the nation follows a regional swing to the right.

From villages deep in the Amazon rainforest to the agricultural heartlands in the south and sprawling urban favelas, Brazilians are facing a familiar cast -- with many forced to pick who they least dislike. Opinion polls show neither candidate is likely to reach more than the 50 percent threshold required to win in the first round on Sunday, putting them neck-and-neck in an October 25 runoff.

1,476 Myanmar migrants returns from Malaysia

AFP, *Thanlyin*

Nearly 1,500 Myanmar migrants from Malaysia returned to their war-ravaged home country yesterday under an opaque repatriation scheme that rights monitors say cannot assure their safety.

Rhe returnees arrived by three Myanmar Navy ships, which left Malaysia on Tuesday carrying 1,476 migrants -- the first of 5,000 that Malaysia says Myanmar agreed to take back. Rohingyas make up the majority of Myanmar refugees and asylum seekers in Malaysia, but Kuala Lumpur has not responded to an AFP query about the number onboard.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Home Affairs
Bangladesh Coast Guard

INVITATION FOR TENDER

IFT No. 44.08.2680.060.42.001.26.1602 Date: 04 October 2026

Tender Notice (OTM)

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

e-Tender ID No	Description of Goods	Online Publication Date & Time	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing & Opening Date & Time
1346122	1. Purchase of 01 Lot year 2027 Diary/ Notebook, Desk Calender, Wall Calender, Diary/Note Book Box (VIP), Sticker, Table Organizer Calender/Year Planner, Bag large and Bag Small (08 Lines). 2. 02 Samples of each item is to be submitted along with the tender offer.	05-10-2026 At 12:00	19-10-2026 At 11:00	19-10-2026 At 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-tenders 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 (http://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 listed bank branches.
Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-gp system portal and from e-gp help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gpv.bd).

MD NIZAM UDDIN
Lt Commander BN
Asst. Director Logistics (Stores)
Bangladesh Coast Guard

GD-2408

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Upazila: Savar, District: Dhaka
Web portal: www.lged.savar.dhaka.gov.bd

Memo No- 46.02.2672.000.14.001.26/1255 Date: 01/10/2026

e-Tender Notice- 01/2026-2027 (UDF)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System portal (LTM) (http:/www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following Scheme listed below:

Sl No.	Tender ID	Name of Scheme	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
01	1343744	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/01	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
02	1343745	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/02	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
03	1343746	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/03	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
04	1343747	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/04	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
05	1343748	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/05	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
06	1343752	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/06	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
07	1343750	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/07	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
08	1344712	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Shimulia UP/08	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
09	1343754	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Pathalia UP/01	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
10	1343757	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Pathalia UP/02	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
11	1343758	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Pathalia UP/03	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
12	1343761	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Pathalia UP/04	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
13	1343760	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Pathalia UP/05	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
14	1343762	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Pathalia UP/06	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
15	1343763	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Pathalia UP/07	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
16	1343772	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/01	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
17	1343774	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/02	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
18	1343775	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/03	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
19	1343777	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/04	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
20	1343778	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/05	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
21	1343780	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/06	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
22	1343782	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/07	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
23	1343783	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/08	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
24	1343784	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/09	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
25	1343786	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/10	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
26	1343788	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/11	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs
27	1343789	Package no- e-Tender/DHA/SAVA/UDF/2026-27/Dhamsona UP/12	18/10/2026 16.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs	19/10/2026 13.00 hrs

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Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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