MALAYSIA'S Myanmar U-turn

AFP, *Kuala Lumpur*

Malaysia's Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim once urged his Muslim-majority nation to show solidarity with the persecuted Rohingya who fled Myanmar en masse, but this week rolled out the red carpet for the man accused of orchestrating their genocide.

Min Aung Hlaing touched down on Wednesday, invited for a two-day visit to discuss thousands of Myanmar migrants being sent back under a repatriation scheme touted by Anwar.

The nation hosts 190,000 Myanmar refugees or asylum seekers according to the United Nations (UN), two-thirds of them from the Rohingya ethnic group.

Myanmar says it has repatriated around 8,000 citizens by air and 1,500 by sea so far this year, while Malaysia announced it is preparing 3,500 more to go back.

But experts say Malaysian attitudes towards migrants, particularly the Rohingyas, soured during the Covid-19



pandemic when they became targets of misinformation about the disease.

"That hostility did not simply disappear afterwards," Khoo Ying Hooi, an associate professor at Universiti Malaya, told AFP.

Newer resentments include claims that Malaysians are losing jobs to migrants, as well as the narrative that they are straining public resources or involved in crime.

James Chin, a Malaysia expert at the University of Tasmania in Australia, said, after initial sympathies, the nation was now dealing with popular backlash against "allowing too many Rohingya to come".

Anwar's about-face comes as his Pakatan Harapan coalition has suffered setbacks in recent state elections in the run-up to regional and national polls, which must be held by February 2028.

Yap Lay Sheng, a senior human rights specialist with NGO Fortify Rights, said Anwar's repatriation push was an "election ploy" to court the vote of ethnic Malays.

Targeting immigrants allows him "to be seen as a defender of the collective interest against outsiders", said Yap, a powerful message for political campaigning.

Israel cuts UK diplomatic presence over sanctions

AFP, *Jerusalem*

Israel yesterday said the British consulate in Jerusalem ended its functions but that seven diplomats would be allowed to remain in a limited capacity, with the UK saying it would continue to offer "vital services".

The move comes after Israel ordered the closure of the consulate in September as retaliation after London led Western sanctions over violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said Thursday's move to downsize the UK presence had followed a dialogue with the British government in order to avoid an escalation of tensions between the two countries.

"As I announced, the British consulate in Jerusalem ended its role today," Saar said in a statement, adding that 20 diplomats including the consul general were ending their missions and leaving the country.

The retaliation came after 12 countries including Britain, Canada and France announced they would sanction trade with Israeli settlements in the West Bank, following a surge in settler attacks against Palestinians in the occupied territory.

The British consulate in Jerusalem was founded nearly 200 years ago.

It lies in east Jerusalem, part of the historically Palestinian area that Israel captured in 1967. Israel later annexed east Jerusalem and considers the holy city its undivided capital.



Bodies lying on the road after two passenger buses were struck by projectiles in Kramatorsk, near the frontline in eastern Ukraine, yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

War in 'dangerous' stage

Warns Rubio as Russian strikes kill dozens in Ukraine; largest oil refinery, data hub hit in Russia

AGENCIES

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio yesterday warned that the Russia-Ukraine war was at a very dangerous stalemate as Kyiv accused Moscow of deliberately targeting civilians after 30 people were killed when two buses were blown up in the frontline city of Kramatorsk.

Any escalation between Moscow and Kyiv, which have been at war since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, "could quickly turn what is a war between two countries into a much broader and far more dangerous regional conflict", Rubio said during a stopover in Portugal at the end of a tour of Europe.

"And stalemates are very dangerous," he said, because either side could be tempted to escalate. Rubio said there have been attempts to reach a negotiated settlement, and "we will keep trying".

Earlier, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky vowed that the attack "will not go unanswered" after photos posted by local authorities showed the burnt-out metal shells of the vehicles, with bodies and debris strewn across the road.

Police said the buses were hit with a glide bomb. Three more people were killed in a nearby village as a result of shelling, the emergency services said.

Hours after the Russian strikes, the Ukrainian military said it had struck a Russian oil refinery in Omsk, some 2,500 kilometres from Ukraine. Russia's largest refinery was hit in July as well. It did not provide details about the impact of the attack.

Earlier, drones hit a data centre owned by Russia's Yandex YDEX.MM, the country's leading AI and technology company, in the first major attack on a Russian data hub since the start of the war with Ukraine.

Hours after the Russian strikes, the Ukrainian military said it had struck a Russian oil refinery in Omsk, some 2,500 kilometres from Ukraine.

Yandex said the attack on its Sasovo hub, one of its five large data centres, caused a fire and forced it to suspend operations at the site, which hosts tens of thousands of servers.

There has been mounting concern about the increase in civilian deaths and injuries in the nearly five-year conflict, as both sides step up long-range attacks beyond their borders.

Turkey says will not send troops to fight Houthis

Blasts heard, flight disrupted in Riyadh

AFP, *Ankara*

Turkey's foreign minister yesterday ruled out sending troops to confront Yemen's Houthi forces, despite a defence pact with Saudi Arabia.

The Iran-backed fighters have launched a wave of attacks on Saudi Arabia since they began a major offensive in Yemen against the internationally recognised, Saudi-backed government there.

Turkey signed the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement with Pakistan and Saudi Arabia in August, committing the three countries to come to each other's aid in the event one were attacked.

"This is a defence agreement," said Hakan Fidan, adding: "If one of the countries is attacked, you support its defence. This is not an offensive agreement."

Turkey Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan "will not send its troops to another country's territory to launch an attack".

Turkey "will not send its troops to another country's territory to launch an attack", he stressed. Fidan said Turkish and Saudi military delegations would work together to assess what defensive measures might be needed, without giving details.

The statement came as diplomats stationed in the Saudi capital were sheltering in place and international schools took safety measures yesterday, after explosions echoed across the city.

The Iran-backed fighters have launched a wave of attacks on Saudi Arabia since they began a major offensive in Yemen.

Saudi Arabia and Yemeni government forces have struggled to contain the Houthis' advance, despite a counter-offensive aimed at recapturing territory including the area around a waterway that is crucial to global energy flows.

Numerous flights at Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport were delayed or cancelled, according sources.

পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি
POWER GRID BANGLADESH PLC
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 Web: www.powergrid.gov.bd
স্মারক নং- ২৭.২১.০০০০.৬৫০.১৬.০০৪.২৬.৪১৭ তারিখঃ ০৭/১০/২০২৬খ্রিঃ

e-Tender বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পাওয়ার গ্রিডের জিএমডি, ঢাকা (উত্তর) দপ্তরের আওতাধীন নিম্নলিখিত দরপত্র e-GP পোর্টালে প্রকাশিত হয়েছে।

ID	Reference	Title of Works
1344393	27.21.0000.625.07. 001.26.396; Date: 04/10/2026	Supply, Instalation, testing and Commissioning of 07 Nos. 10 kW On-grid Solar System for Sreepur, Bhaluka, Rajendrapur, Kodda, Joydebpur, Pubail & New Tongi Grid Sub-station under GMD, Dhaka-North, Power Grid.
1346484	27.21.0000.625.07. 001.26.399; Date:04 /10/2026	Yearly Maintenance of All Air Conditioner of 08 Nos. Grid Sub-station and GMD Office under GMD, Dhaka-North, Power Grid.
1346450	27.21.0000.625.07. 001.26.398; Date: 04/10/2026	Civil Maintenance Works at Tongi 230/132/33 kV Grid Substation under GMD, Dhaka (North), Power Grid.

আগ্রহী ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে www.eprocure.gov.bd সাইটের মাধ্যমে দরপত্রে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

দেলোয়ার হোসেন
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, জিএমডি, ঢাকা (উত্তর)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Pabna Road Division, Pabna
Phone: 02588845853
E-mail: rhdpabna@gmail.com / eepab@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No:35.01.7600.459.07.001.26 -1882 Date: 07/10/2026

e-GP Tender (OTM) Notice

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pabna for the procurement of following works. e-Tender details can be downloaded from e-GP System Portal "http://www.eprocure.gov.bd" for purchase. This is online Tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline / hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd).

Tender ID, Ref. No.	Name of work / Supply	Tender Document last selling / downloading Date and Time	Last Date and Time for Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date and Time
1348100, 05/e-Gp/ PRD/2026-2027	Construction of Rigid Pavement at Ch.124+900 to 124+948 km of Dhaka (Mirpur)-Uthuli-Paturia-Notakhola-Kashinathpur-Bogura-Rangpur-Beldanga-Banglabandha N-5 Road under Pabna Road Division during the year 2026-2027.	18-Oct-2026 12:00	18-Oct-2026 14:00	18-Oct-2026 16:00

Accepted tenders will be opened online immediately after closing time.

07-10-2026

(Sanjida Afrin Jhinuk)
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Pabna

GD-2445

El Nino to peak in Dec: UN

AFP, *Geneva*

El Nino will intensify even more before peaking in December, the United Nations said yesterday, warning it could be among the strongest witnessed since at least 1950.

The naturally occurring weather phenomenon is set to bring higher temperatures to much of the planet, the UN's weather and climate agency said, with its impact compounding the effects of man-made climate change.



"El Nino will continue to intensify ahead of its forecast peak in December," the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said in its monthly Global Seasonal Climate Update.

"It is likely to bring above-average temperatures to much of the globe and shift rainfall patterns, increasing the risk of drought and floods in different regions."

El Nino warms surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, bringing worldwide changes in winds, pressure and rainfall patterns. It typically takes place every two to seven years and lasts around nine to 12 months.

"El Nino is firmly established and strengthening rapidly," said WMO chief Celeste Saulo. "WMO forecasts indicate a near-100 percent likelihood that it will persist through February 2027, potentially being one of the strongest since at least 1950."

Saulo explained that El Nino does not add new heat to the planet, but releases heat being stored in the ocean.

Hormuz transits at lowest in 2 months

REUTERS, *Singapore*

The number of vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz fell to the lowest in more than two months after attacks on tankers in the key waterway reached their highest last week since the start of the US-Israeli war with Iran, shipping data showed.

Seven commodity vessels passed through the strait on Tuesday, for the lowest figure since July 23, data from analytics firm Kpler showed.

"Crude crossing the strait fell 27% from a wartime high the week before, to at least 10.1 million barrels a day," Kpler analysts Emmanuel Belostrino and Yui Torikata wrote in a note on October 6.

"That is back to its September average, but 74% of its pre-war level."

"গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ। এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।"

"বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি নিরাপত্তা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার"

বাংলাদেশ গ্যাস ফিল্ডস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)
Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd.
(A Company of Petrobangla)

Ref. No.: 28.10.1213.817.007.26.15 Date: 07-10-2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of following materials. Details are given below:

Tender ID	Description of Materials	Tender Publication Date	Tender Document Last Selling Date	Tender Opening Date
1346467	Spare Parts for MAN Gas Engine Generator for Habiganj Field	06-Oct-26 15:00	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:00
1346468	Different Types of Lead Acid Battery	06-Oct-26 15:05	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:05
1346469	Computer with Accessories, Printer, Scanner and Photocopier	06-Oct-26 15:10	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:10
1346470	Hiring 01 Microbus for Narsingdi Field for 03 Years	06-Oct-26 15:15	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:15
1346471	2400 Kg Tea Leaves in 04 (Four) installment under 01(One) year Framework Agreement	06-Oct-26 15:20	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:20
1346472	Digital No-Flow Timer (DNFT) & Vibration Transmitter for Bakhrabad Field	06-Oct-26 15:25	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:25
1346473	Different Types of Light, Fan and Electric Cable	06-Oct-26 15:30	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:30
1346474	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Air Conditioner and Supply of Refrigerator	06-Oct-26 15:35	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:35
1346475	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Flash Point Tester (Closed Cup) for Condensate Processing	06-Oct-26 15:40	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:40
1346476	Multistage Submersible Water Pump with Motor and Control Box	07-Oct-26 15:00	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:45
1346477	Pneumatics Actuators and their Spares for Compressor Maintenance-Titas	07-Oct-26 15:05	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:50
1346478	Supply of Various Materials for Drinking Water Treatment Plant for BKB	07-Oct-26 15:10	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 11:55
1346479	Smart Thermocouple Unit (STU) for Compressor Maintenance-Titas	07-Oct-26 15:15	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:00
1346480	Paints & Thinner for Habiganj Field and Titas Field Maintenance	07-Oct-26 15:20	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:05
1346481	Sanitary Items and Various types of Pipe for BKB & Electric Pipe Threading Machine for Titas Field (Maintenance)	07-Oct-26 15:25	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:10
1346482	Hiring Internet Service Provider for Head Office and all other Locations of Titas Field in Brahmanbaria for 03 Years	07-Oct-26 15:30	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:15
1346483	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Electronic Speed Controller and Electronic Ignition System for Meghna Field	07-Oct-26 15:35	28-Oct-26 16:00	29-Oct-26 12:20

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 (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 scheduled Bank of Bangladesh. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). The procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

28.10.1213.000876.03.0085.26(LP)
(3x10")

07/10/2026

(Md. Javed Iqbal)
Dy. General Manager (Local Procurement)

GD-2454