BID TO OUST NETANYAHU

Israel opposition eases on ultra-Orthodox draft

AFP, *Jerusalem*

Israel's opposition yesterday saw a new path to oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as one of its leaders backtracked on demands that ultra-Orthodox Jews serve in the military, opening the door to a once improbable alliance with the community.

Neither Netanyahu nor opposition chief Gadi Eisenkot reached a majority in the October 27 election, with Israeli society highly polarised over Netanyahu and worn down by three years of war. Eisenkot, a former military commander whose campaign sought to appeal to secular and liberal Israelis, could form a government with Israeli-Arabs, whose seat count soared on anger over Netanyahu's far-right government.

But an alliance with Israeli-Arabs faces strong disagreement from opposition partner Avigdor Liberman, a onetime aide to Netanyahu who now sharply criticises the prime minister but shares his hawkish views on the Palestinians.

Liberman said yesterday he would not back down on refusing to work with Israeli-Arabs but called for talks with ultra-Orthodox Jews, even though he has berated the community for years and ran on promises to end its exemption from Israel's mandatory military service.

Meanwhile, Israel's President said on Thursday evening that it was still unclear who could break the election deadlock as he pledged to nominate a candidate tomorrow. Listing the most important goals as removing Netanyahu and avoiding new elections, Liberman said it was time to compromise and "understand that trying to have everything risks getting nothing".



Protesters shield themselves from water sprayed by riot police during a protest organised by students against the policies of Chilean President Jose Antonio Kast's government, in Santiago, Chile, on Thursday. PHOTO: REUTERS

US issues new Cuba sanctions

Beijing opposes Washington's 'sabotage' of Cuba-China ties

AGENCIES

The United States on Thursday issued a determination paving the way for sanctions on the electronics, manufacturing, marine and technology sectors of the Cuban economy.

The determination was issued as the US imposed fresh Cuba-related sanctions on people and entities, targeting a crude oil shipping network, state-owned entities and China-based suppliers of Cuba's military forces, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in a statement.

"The Trump Administration will not stand by while the Cuban regime funnels the island's resources to its military elite, while regime insiders and their family members profit from opaque offshore networks, and while Cuba continues to serve as a staging ground for a global coalition of hostile anti-American actors to threaten, spy on, and plot against the United States and its interests," Rubio said.

Meanwhile, Beijing yesterday condemned the new US sanctions against Cuba which it said sought to "sabotage" Chinese relations with the island.

The new wave of sanctions includes, for the first time, two Chinese companies accused of supplying the island's military with electronics and other security equipment.

China's foreign ministry vehemently opposed the move, calling the sanctions illegal and an example of "long-arm jurisdiction".

China's foreign ministry called the sanctions illegal and an example of "long-arm jurisdiction"

Midterms fuel AI fears

Global tech stocks plunge as US Democrat win raises prospect of AI crackdown

AFP, *Hong Kong*

Tech firms suffered a bloodbath yesterday as investors tracked a collapse on Wall Street fuelled by fears that Democrats will ramp up regulation of the AI industry following their blowout victory in this week's US midterm elections.

Trading boards were a sea of red in early business, with Seoul and Tokyo taking the brunt of the selling as traders fled to the hills amid uncertainty about a sector that had pushed stock markets to record highs just five months ago.

While the historic "blue wave" in Tuesday's vote had been initially welcomed on hopes it could put pressure on President Donald Trump to wind down his war against Iran, fears about the impact on the AI buildout soon came to the fore.

Data centres have faced broad opposition from US voters across the political spectrum, and many midterm winners have pledged to put the brakes on such projects. Analysts said investors were also spooked by a call



from progressive US Senator Bernie Sanders for a national moratorium on their building.

The results compounded already heightened fears about the hundreds of billions firms had pumped into the sector and when they would see a return, while the recent spike in borrowing costs also fuelled concerns about their financial position.

The eye-watering rally in many companies' valuations had also caused unease on trading floors. Michael Hewson at MCH Market Insights said investors were selling up because of "concerns that we might see greater opposition to AI buildout plans, with the results in Texas prompting concerns that politicians in the state might target Elon Musk's Tesla and SpaceX due to his support for Trump".

New York's Nasdaq plunged 5.5 percent in its worst day -- percentage-wise -- since April last year when Trump unveiled his wide-ranging global tariffs. The S&P 500 tanked more than four percent and the Dow more than three percent.

Bloomberg said the Philadelphia Semiconductor Index had collapsed around 16 percent this week, putting it on course for its worst run since April last year. Trump blamed the collapse on the Democrats, writing on Truth Social: "The Stock Market crashed today because the Dumocrats had a big Tuesday – So sad to see, you only have yourselves to blame! President DONALD J. TRUMP."

Seoul briefly plunged almost nine percent before ending six percent lower with chip giant SK hynix off more than 10 percent while rival Samsung was 6.4 percent down.

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

'Big, beautiful' deal in the works: Trump

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump said he met privately on Thursday with Russian President Vladimir Putin's envoy after the Russian official appeared with representatives from Ukraine at a White House event organised by US first lady Melania Trump.

Trump would not disclose what he discussed with Putin envoy Kirill Dmitriev but predicted a deal could emerge soon aimed at resolving the Russian war in Ukraine.

A US delegation is scheduled to mediate talks in Abu Dhabi November 10 to 11 between representatives from Russia and Ukraine. Trump, speaking to reporters at the White House, said the war was close to being settled and that ending it might involve all of Europe, reports Reuters.

"It's going to be a big agreement, and it's going to involve more than Ukraine ... I could even say it might involve all of Europe. It's going to be a big, beautiful agreement, and everyone's going to be thrilled," Trump said.

Trump has frequently predicted an agreement to end Europe's deadliest conflict since World War Two was close. However, negotiations have picked up in recent weeks.

Ukraine's allies are working for a "just and sustainable" end to the war ahead of US-mediated talks next week in Abu Dhabi, Nato said yesterday.

Talks in Brussels on Thursday involving Nato, US, Ukrainian and European officials "built on productive discussions in Miami and Oslo and sought to advance a just and sustainable end to the war in Ukraine", an alliance spokeswoman said.

Jared Kushner, the president's envoy and son-in-law, said the United States was working on "a broader European security architecture that can help establish the conditions for lasting peace", reports AFP.

Kushner, who participated in the Brussels talks via videolink, said that Washington's "objective is to develop practical arrangements that address the security concerns of all sides".

"We are exploring five principal goals: permanent security consultations, reliable crisis communications, greater military transparency, reciprocal measures to reduce escalation risks, and an enduring framework for long-term European security and stability," he posted online.

IN BRIEF



Israeli fire kills five in Gaza

Woman, children among dead

AFP, *Gaza City*

Israeli strikes and gunfire on Thursday killed five people across Gaza, including a woman and a 12-year-old boy, rescue services in the war-ravaged Palestinian territory told AFP.

Mahmoud Bassal, spokesman for Gaza's civil defence agency, told AFP that a 12-year-old boy was killed by Israeli gunfire east of the Al-Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza.

A few kilometres away, near the town of Al-Zawayda, two people were killed in separate Israeli strikes, he added. The nearby Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital confirmed to AFP that all three were dead on arrival.

In southern Gaza, a woman was killed by Israeli gunfire near the city of Khan Yunis, Bassal said. Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis confirmed her death to AFP.

Later in the day, "one person was killed and several others injured in an Israeli drone strike... west of Gaza City," Bassal said.

ILLEGAL MIGRANTS

Belgium to allow home searches

AFP, *Brussels*

Belgium yesterday approved a law allowing police to detain undocumented migrants in their homes in certain instances, despite fierce criticism from left-wing parties and human rights groups.

The plans have been the subject of heated debate in Belgium for many years.

The law will allow police, accompanied by immigration office staff, to enter the home of an individual who has been barred from remaining in Belgium, or another residence where the person is living, in order to make an arrest.

The individuals targeted will be those who are "subject to a removal order" or "liable to pose a threat to public order and national security".

An investigating judge must give the order before police enter any home.

An investigating judge must authorise home searches, with police allowed to seek a locksmith's help if necessary



7 INDIAN STATES

EC gives left-out voters chance to join final rolls

AGENCIES

India's Election Commission (EC) yesterday gave a fresh chance to electors of seven states who were marked as Absent, Shifted, Dead and Duplicate (ASDD), and whose names could not be included in the draft rolls during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise there.

The EC wrote to the chief electoral officers of Delhi, Maharashtra, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Telangana and Nagaland, asking them to facilitate the inclusion of such electors in the final rolls.

The decision covers those who were issued enumeration forms but whose forms were not received back, resulting in their exclusion from the draft, reports NDTV online.

It essentially gives a second chance to such people in states where the SIR is on at present.

The opposition has been accusing the EC of deleting the names of crores of eligible citizens from the electoral rolls at the behest of the BJP.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Road Transport and Highways Division
Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited
Metrorail Bhaban, Uttara Depot, Sonargaon Janapath
Sector-16, Diabari, Uttara, Dhaka-1230
www.dmtcl.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.05.0000.000.023.07.0054.26-2052 Date: 05.11.2026

e-Tender Notice: OTM

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of Goods as stated as below:
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 Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP Help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Sl. No.	Package No.	Description of Goods	Tender ID No.	Tender Publishing (Date and Time)	Tender Last Selling (Date & Time)	Tender Closing (Date & Time)
01	DMTCL/073/NPS-14/EM/OTM/2026-27	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for Building Management System (BMS) and Audio-Visual System installed at MRT Line-6 Depot under Electrical Department.	1367174	05-Nov-2026 21:00:00	17-Nov-2026 14:00	17-Nov-2026 15:00
02	DMTCL/070/NPS-11/EM/OTM/2026-27	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for Sewage Treatment Plant and Effluent Treatment Plant, Booster, Borewell and Sump pumps installed at MRT Line-6 Depot under Electrical Department.	1367031	05-Nov-2026 21:00	18-Nov-2026 14:00	18-Nov-2026 15:00
03	DMTCL-129/NPS-37/ EM/OTM/2026-27	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for LV Panel, UPS & DG Set installed at MRT Line-6 Station Under Electrical Department	1367023	05-Nov-2026 21:30	19-Nov-2026 10:00	19-Nov-2026 11:00
04	DMTCL-064/NPS-05/EM/OTM/2026-27	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for Fire Protection Suppression & Fire Alarm System installed at MRT Line-6 Station under Electrical Department	1366918	05-Nov-2026 21:00	19-Nov-2026 10:00	19-Nov-2026 11:00
05	DMTCL-066/NPS-07/EM/OTM/2026-27	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for STP & Pump Set installed at MRT Line-6 Station under Electrical Department	1366914	05-Nov-2026 21:00	18-Nov-2026 14:00	18-Nov-2026 15:00
06	DMTCL-063/NPS-04/EM/OTM/2026-27	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for Building Management System (BMS) installed at MRT Line-6 under Electrical Department	1366891	05-Nov-2026 21:00	17-Nov-2026 10:00	17-Nov-2026 11:00

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GD-2695