

UNITED NATIONS

India votes in favour of UNGA call for end to U.S. embargo on Cuba



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

India voted in favour of a United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution calling for an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States against Cuba, reiterating that the restrictions should be lifted to help the Caribbean nation pursue its development aspirations. PTI

Ready to provide counterterrorism expertise to ASEAN countries: India

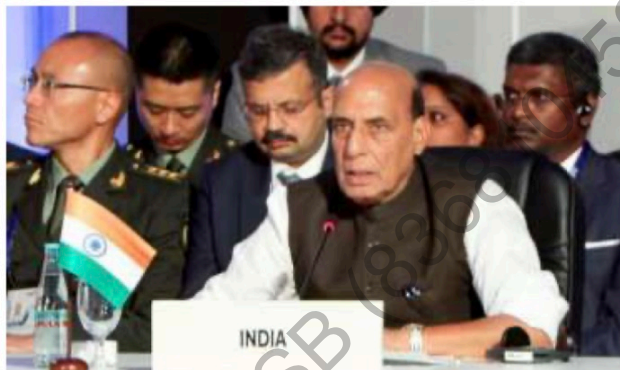
Saurabh Trivedi

NEW DELHI

India is committed to collective regional security and the eradication of terrorism in all its forms and is ready to share its battle-tested counterterrorism expertise with ASEAN partners to strengthen joint capabilities, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday.

Addressing the 13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in Cebu, Philippines, Mr. Singh said India's counterterrorism experience was not theoretical knowledge but had been acquired through decades of confronting complex security challenges, including cross-border terrorism.

He said India's strategies had been tested and refined through real-world operations, with Operation



Collective approach: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the 13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' meeting in Cebu, Philippines. PTI

Sindoor demonstrating the country's proactive counter-terrorism doctrine.

During the operation, India dismantled terrorist infrastructure and enforced a firm red line against state-sponsored terrorism, he said. Emphasising that terrorism knows no borders, Mr. Singh said India was prepared to share its operational experience with ADMM-Plus

partners through joint exercises, capacity-building programmes and intelligence sharing.

Counterterrorism remains an important area of cooperation under the ADMM-Plus framework, with India and Malaysia co-chairing the Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism for the 2024-2027 cycle.

In a significant proposal

to deepen regional engagement, Mr. Singh called for the establishment of a dedicated defence 'Youth Bridge' to strengthen institutional people-to-people connectivity between India and ASEAN countries. The ASEAN members appreciated the move. The initiative would promote digital innovation and capacity building, while providing greater opportunities for young people to contribute to regional peace and security.

Highlighting the importance of maritime security, Mr. Singh said India had designated 2026 as the ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation and had conducted the second ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise. He reiterated India's commitment to freedom of navigation, international maritime law and the security of global sea lanes.

Kharge, Rahul to speak at CEC ‘impeachment’ event

Former Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar to preside over proceedings; Opposition bloc to avoid imagery that could be seen as mocking Parliament; people affected by SIR to take part in event

Sandeep Phukan

NEW DELHI

The “public impeachment” of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar planned by the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) over alleged electoral manipulation through the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls will avoid imagery that could be seen as mocking Parliament as an institution.

Sources told *The Hindu* that there are unlikely to be any impersonations, posters, or banners depicting the Prime Minister, the Home Minister, and the CEC. The programme is also likely to avoid any symbolic representation of the Treasury Benches.

However, there is no official word on how the event, intended as a curtain-raiser for the Sunday rally, will unfold on Friday afternoon at Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge’s official residence here.



Key event: Former Lok Sabha speaker Meira Kumar, Congress leaders Jairam Ramesh, K.C. Venugopal and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and others during a meeting of INDIA bloc leaders on Thursday. PTI

Sources said former Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar is likely to preside over the proceedings, while Mr. Kharge, who is also the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, is likely to move the motion against the CEC. Congress leader and MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is said to be supervising the finer details of the public impeachment.

Timing for speech

Both the LoPs will get about 20 minutes, while the Samajwadi Party and Mamata-Trinamool Congress will get 10 minutes

during these proceedings. Other parties will get five minutes each. Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi is likely to be the last speaker, the sources added.

Representatives of civil society, leaders of student organisations and people whose names have been left out of the electoral rolls are expected to attend the event. One leader from each political party is likely to speak on the issue.

On Thursday, Mr. Gandhi released a video appeal urging people to join the INDIA bloc’s Chalo Dilli

march at the Ramlila Maidan on Sunday.

“Don’t worry about the police, don’t worry about lathis – the BJP will not have the guts to try any of their antics. Come march with us – we will walk together to protect the Constitution, to protect the Indian nation,” he said.

“I urge all student groups, regardless of your political affiliation – if you feel that India is under attack, if you feel you are under attack, your expression, your ideas, your way of thinking is under attack, come, and join us,” he said.

ELECTION COMMISSION EXTENDS S.I.R DEADLINES, DAY AFTER SC NUDGE

Claims, objections: Extension for Delhi, reopens in 5 states

Final rolls on November 30 in Nagaland, Andhra, Telangana, Maharashtra and Haryana; December 22 in Delhi: Poll panel

Damini Nath

New Delhi, October 29

THE ELECTION Commission (EC) on Thursday extended the deadline for filing voter enrolment and deletion forms in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Delhi, and also re-opened the window in five states — Nagaland, Telangana, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Haryana — where the claims and objec-

tions period had ended as per the latest schedules available on the websites of the State Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs).

In separate letters to the respective CEOs, the EC has now pushed the date of publication of the final rolls to November 30 for Nagaland, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra and Haryana, and to December 22 for Delhi.

While the EC has extended the SIR timelines across States

e EXPLAINED

Window of hope for those left out

The EC's decision to re-open the claims and objection period in five States and extend the timeline in Delhi provides a breather for those who got left out of the draft roll following the SIR. It also offers hope to electors in other States who got left out due to various factors.

several times in the past as well, Thursday's decision comes a

day after the Supreme Court asked the Commission to consider extending the deadline for filing claims and objections beyond the deadline of October 30, while hearing a petition regarding the ongoing SIR in Delhi.

The EC has also decided to re-start the period for filing claims and objections, i.e. time to file voter enrolment and deletion forms, in States where the process had ended on different dates in the past two months, according to the latest schedules available on the State CEOs' websites and social media handles.

While the claims and

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Claims, objections: Extension in Delhi

objections period is ongoing in Delhi, it had ended in Maharashtra on October 26, in Haryana on September 30, in Telangana on October 7, in Andhra on October 22, and in Nagaland on October 20, according to the websites of the State CEOs.

The EC has now extended the period for filing claims and objections to November 13 for Maharashtra, November 20 for Andhra Pradesh and Haryana, November 25 for Nagaland, and November 26 for Telangana.

In the case of Delhi, the

claims and objections period had started after the publication of the draft roll on August 31 and was to end on Friday. The date has now been extended to November 25.

The EC had started the third phase of the SIR in 19 States/UTs, including the six granted extensions on Thursday, on May 14. The exercise has been completed in 24 States/UTs so far.

As per the EC's SIR procedure, all registered electors were required to submit an enumer-

ation form within a one-month enumeration phase in order to make it to the draft roll. All those who did not do so were deleted in the draft roll, but were given one month's time to file claims (through the voter registration form, Form 6) within an initially scheduled one-month claims and objections period to get back on the roll in time for the final list. Apart from new voters, those seeking deletions can also do so by filing an objection through Form 7.

Siang dam: Why the project to counter China faces opposition in Arunachal

Shinjini Ghosh

New Delhi, October 29

TENSIONS ARE rising in Arunachal Pradesh's Siang belt, with sections of the indigenous Adi community, youth leaders and residents objecting to the proposed Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (SUMP).

A 12-hour shutdown was called last Friday; reports of vandalism and violence emerged soon after it ended. On Thursday, several groups held a rally in state capital Itanagar, protesting the project and demanding the release of protesters and activists detained in connection with the agitation.

According to local residents, the project threatens them economically and socially, and also impinges upon the sentimental and cultural heritage attached to their ancestral land. Even as the government goes ahead with the pre-feasibility survey (PFR), apprehensions have only grown. The state government maintains that the SUMP is es-

sential to counter China's proposed upstream dam and is a national security issue.

What is the Siang Project?

At 11,200 MW, the SUMP is touted to be India's largest hydropower project. Plans to harness the Siang and Subansiri rivers date back to 1982, when the Brahmaputra Board proposed three smaller projects; countering Chinese projects was not a primary concern then. In 2013, however, the central government raised concerns over Chinese projects on the Yarlung Tsangpo — as the Siang is known in upstream Tibet — and expressed interest in being a downstream user.

In 2017, the proposed Siang Upper Stage-I and Stage-II were merged under one umbrella, which eventually took shape as the SUMP. The project gained further prominence after China approved its 60,000 MW lower Yarlung Tsangpo hydropower project in December 2024.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Ninog

• PROPOSED PROJECT



Ering, Pasighat West MLA, said, "It is a national interest project. What if China purposely releases water and uses it [its dam] as a water bomb? We need checks and balances in place. This is why the Centre emphasised that we need this project."

Experts, however, have questioned this argument. Himanshu Thakkar, coordinator of the South Asia Network on Dams, told

The Indian Express: "The government is trying to say that the SUMP is required to counter China. But the problem is that we don't even know the basic dimensions of the Chinese project. Only when we know the operational SOP of the project will we know what kind of impact it will have on India and what needs to be done to take care of it."

Thakkar said it was essential for India to seek public details of the project from Beijing. "As a downstream country we have the right to that information. India is pushing for the project by just assuming that it will help counter the Chinese project. Even if India wants to go ahead with the project, it will not be possible without the full cooperation of the local community," he said.

What is the project's current status?

The SUMP is currently at the pre-feasibility survey stage. In September, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu said the project would not be

"rushed beyond the feasibility stage."

Khandu said that if experts found the project not feasible, "there will be no further progress". The Chief Minister also assured extensive consultations with affected communities if the SUMP progresses beyond the feasibility stage, including a social impact assessment, an environmental assessment and preparation of a detailed project report.

Ering added, "The Chief Minister has already given the assurance that even after the PFR if villagers do not want the project to go ahead, then it will not be done. However, it should be kept in mind that the government will look into all aspects for the affected residents, including proper compensation and rehabilitation."

Dubit Siram, a resident of Geku village along the Siang, said it was unlikely that the government would step back once the PFR is completed. "It is unlikely that the PFR will say that the project is not feasible. When has

it ever happened? The authorities should give it to us in writing that even after the PFR, the dam will not be built. Even if the PFR is done, we will not allow the construction of the dam," said Siram, a member of the Siang Indigenous Farmers' Forum.

What do communities stand to lose?

Condemning the recent vandalism reported from Pasighat, Ering said: "People have the right to be angry, but we are ready to hold conversations. Maybe we could have implemented the awareness programmes sooner. But there are elements that are instigating the protestors."

For the indigenous communities, the loss of ancestral land and livelihood are at the core of the issue. "We will be refugees in our own land," Siram said. Thakkar also stressed that for indigenous communities and residents along the riverbank, the Siang is like a "mother for them culturally, economically, socially and on religious terms."

India must set a higher bar on clean energy targets



RITWICK
GEORGE

India should name the year its power-sector emissions will peak and set an absolute limit (rather than its current intensity goals), the kind the Paris Agreement encourages

AT THE Paris Agreement in 2015, India promised that by 2030, 40 per cent of its power capacity would come from non-fossil sources. It got there nine years early. It also pledged to cut the emissions intensity of its economy, the carbon emitted per rupee of GDP, by 33-35 per cent from 2005 levels. It met that goal too, with a decade to spare. The problem is that India's pledges ask little more than what the country is already on track to do.

With the Hormuz crisis sending oil above \$100 a barrel, and ahead of COP31, it's time for India to set ambitious climate targets and deliver on them — because this is now the cheaper and safer path. In September, the UN announced the failure to limit global warming to 1.5 °C, calling for mass carbon removal, with no actual feasible ways to do so. NDCs were supposed to be aimed at reducing GHG emissions. India's targets have routinely been weak and not aligned with the aim of staying below 1.5 °C. The March pledge raises similar concerns about scope and ambition. India now promises 60 per cent clean energy capacity by 2035, despite already reaching nearly 53 per cent in February. It also promises to cut emissions intensity by 47 per cent by 2035. Intensity as a metric is skewed because it measures emissions relative to economic output. If an economy doubles while cutting intensity by 40 per cent, it will still emit 20 per cent more. Focusing on intensity also allows India to report steady reductions on paper while keeping emissions rising. Most major economies have committed to absolute limits, including China. India is the largest emitter still in the Paris Agreement without one.

What India's pledges leave out is also telling. It plans to grow coal capacity 46 per cent by 2035. Coal still generates more than two-thirds of India's electricity, and clean sources supplied just 29 per cent of India's power last year, despite a capacity of over 50 per cent. Since the Iran war began, India's crude imports through Hormuz have been disrupted. Coal cannot solve this; oil and gas fuel India's cars and kitchens. The way out is to electrify. Increasingly, the cheapest way to do that is the sun. In a national auction for round-the-clock clean power, winning bids came in at Rs 5.25, fixed for 25 years, while coal contracts signed in 2025 started at Rs 5.38 to Rs 6.30 and are projected to rise with fuel costs.

India should set more ambitious targets. It should name the year its power-sector emissions will peak and set an absolute limit (rather than its current intensity goals), the kind the Paris Agreement encourages developing countries to do. Second, measure what matters. Set targets for clean electricity actually generated, not just installed capacity. Chile has done this: Its renewables law required 20 per cent of its electricity generation to come from new renewables like wind and solar by 2025. It hit the target six years early and raised its goal to 70 per cent renewable electricity by 2030. Third, build the grid. India's problem is no longer generating clean power; it's delivering it. The country curbed clean power output in most months of 2025 because the grid couldn't absorb it. Over the past five years, it built only about 80 per cent of its planned transmission capacity, and on a single day this March, it lost enough renewable power to supply 5 million urban households because transmission lines couldn't carry it.

The writer is MPP candidate at Harvard, former researcher at ISB's Bharti Institute of Public Policy, and co-author of research for IPCC's Special Report on Climate Change and Cities

Nvidia chief seen as target of Chinese spying plot: Report

Jonathan Swan, Maggie Haberman, Ana Swanson, Paul Mozur, Tripp Mickle & Julian E Barnes
October 29

AMERICAN SPY agencies had gathered striking intelligence.

A top executive at a Singapore-based data center company was under scrutiny for possibly steering advanced Nvidia AI chips to China. And now American officials had concluded that she was a Chinese intelligence asset, funneling information to Beijing.

But what came next was even more alarming. Surveillance of the executive, Alice Huang or Huang Le, a Chinese citizen, revealed that she had developed a close relationship with Jensen Huang, Nvidia's chief executive.

For years, Washington has worked to deny China the technology needed to match or surpass the US in the intense global competition for superiority in artificial intelligence. The discovery that Beijing was getting reports from someone with direct access to Huang, one of the most powerful figures in the AI revolution as well as an influential ally of President Trump's, set off alarms at the White House.

Roughly a year ago, Trump was briefed about the intelligence findings, which have not been previously reported, and chose not to do anything with the information. He has been wary of disrupting Nvidia's chip sales, further complicating the trading relationship with China.

American officials already suspected Huang was helping China evade constraints on its ability to gain access to advanced AI chips. But the revelation that she was feeding information directly to Beijing raised more troubling possibilities, including Huang had insights into Trump's thinking on an issue of vital importance to both nations, one likely to come up when the president visits China next month. And it left questions about whether she could be gleaning information about Nvidia, which as much as any company accounts for the lead US has maintained in developing cutting-edge AI models.

Jensen Huang has not received a defensive briefing, warnings sometimes given to Americans who are being targeted by foreign intelligence services, people briefed on the surveillance said.

The surveillance of Alice Huang continues, they said, and



Jensen Huang, CEO of Nvidia

companies that have been affiliated with her continued this year to purchase Nvidia chips.

Nvidia said the company that employed Alice Huang, Megaspeed, was like any other regional customer and that it had previously investigated and debunked claims the Singaporean company was smuggling chips to China. John Rizzo, a spokesman for Nvidia, said, "Jensen's interactions with



Jensen Huang with Megaspeed executive Alice Huang at a party in Taipei in June 2024. NYT

(Alice) Huang are not unusual or unexpected. Meetings with customers are part of a CEO's job; Jensen talks with thousands of customer executives every year."

The White House, the CIA and the National Security Agency all declined to comment. Alice Huang did not respond to requests for comment. Asked about the American conclusion that Alice Huang has been collecting intelligence on behalf of Beijing, Liu Chang, the spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Washington, said the US was pursuing a campaign of "groundless smears and slanders" against China.

When Trump was initially briefed on the intelligence last year, US officials did not believe the Nvidia executive knew that Alice Huang was gathering information for the Chinese. Some senior officials inside the Trump administration doubt that Jensen Huang could have remained unaware of what they

had concluded was Alice Huang's intelligence-gathering role for China.

It could not be determined which intelligence agency or agencies have been involved in monitoring Alice Huang, or what prompted them to start. It is also not clear under what circumstances she began gathering information for Beijing, what information she passed along or its value to China.

The previous reporting about Alice Huang described her meteoric and somewhat mysterious rise. A Chinese businesswoman and investor, she eventually became a top official with Megaspeed, which the Commerce Department, toward the end of the Biden administration, began to suspect was helping China evade US prohibitions and gain access to the computing power of Nvidia chips.

The US government has been investigating Megaspeed since late 2024, when a Commerce Department official visited its data center in Malaysia and found the site to be suspicious. Megaspeed is among the firms in Southeast Asia that buy chips to build data centers and then rent their computing power to companies in China. It is essentially a middle man.

In June 2024, just weeks before Megaspeed began its purchases, photos posted to LinkedIn showed Jensen Huang with Alice Huang at a bar in Taipei following a local technology trade show. They drank whiskey with other AI executives.

One year later, in May 2025, they were seen together again, leaving a restaurant in Taipei after a business dinner with other AI suppliers. She waited behind Jensen Huang as he spoke to Taiwanese journalists outside the restaurant.

People with knowledge of the matter said US agencies had been conducting electronic surveillance of Alice Huang. That surveillance showed she was in contact with an American citizen. It is not clear when Jensen Huang and Alice Huang of Megaspeed first met.

She posted photos of herself with Jensen on her social media feed, according to a person who viewed it. Alice has a slim profile on the Chinese internet. She has described herself as Megaspeed's chief executive, and the company listed her as its managing director for its first eight months before removing her from that role in its corporate paperwork. NYT

Govt raises FY27 growth forecast to 7.3%, flags risks from crude oil prices

Aanchal Magazine

New Delhi, October 29

THE MINISTRY of Finance on Thursday upgraded the growth forecast for the ongoing financial year 2026-27 to 7.3% from 6.8-7.2% estimated earlier in the Economic Survey in February this year.

In its Monthly Economic Review for October, the Ministry also marginally revised up the growth projection for July-September to 7.35% from 7.3% in its September report. The economy had grown by 7.8% in April-June, the first quarter of this financial year.

Underlining "considerable uncertainties", the Ministry said that robust domestic demand, sustained investment activity, a resilient financial sector, and supply-side management have underpinned the country's growth resilience so far and are expected to support growth through the remainder of the year. "Sustaining economic activity while safeguarding price stability" will be the focus of po-

● GROWTH OUTLOOK

● Global agencies, including the International Monetary Fund, have raised their growth forecasts for India by 50-60 bps to around 7% for 2026-27.

● Earlier this month, the Reserve Bank of India also raised its GDP growth projection to 7.1%.

licymakers in the second half of the financial year amidst elevated crude oil prices, higher food inflation and an uncertain outlook for the kharif crop, it said. The Ministry said the growth estimate is based on the nowcasting model of the Department of Economic Affairs, the same model used in the Survey.

Recently, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) increased the growth forecast to 7% for 2026-27, up from 6.4% in July. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also raised its GDP growth projection to 7.1%.

"High-frequency indicators

spanning industrial output, energy consumption, port traffic, GST collections, and automobile sales recorded stronger growth in Q2 FY27 than in the previous quarter. Building on growth of 7.8% in Q1, the Department's nowcasting model estimates real GDP growth at 7.35% in Q2 FY27," it said.

Citing industrial output data and manufacturing growth, the Ministry said that recent policy, investment, and firm-level developments point to continued efforts to scale up manufacturing, localisation, and technological capabilities.

"Going forward, increasing scale, domestic value addition, supply chain depth, and export competitiveness will remain important to broadening the manufacturing base," it said.

Recent GST process reforms will ease compliance and working capital constraints for businesses. Healthy credit growth and recent trade agreements are expected to provide additional support to consumption, investment and exports, it said.

Listing out the challenges, the Ministry said the uncertainty around energy prices, supply-chain pressures and geopolitical developments remain relevant for manufacturing costs and investment decisions. Therefore, sustaining industrial momentum while translating policy support into greater production at scale, higher domestic value addition and stronger export competitiveness will remain important, it said. Near-term inflation dynamics will be shaped by a combination of domestic food supply management, global energy volatility, and systemic liquidity conditions, it said.

Externally, elevated crude oil prices and maritime freight disruptions across the West Asian transit routes pose ongoing upside risks to input costs, though recent RBI measures to supply direct dollar liquidity to public-sector OMCs and curb currency speculation may help buffer extreme exchange rate volatility and mitigate imported inflation.

FULL REPORT ON

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Israel to probe election after Netanyahu's bloc alleges fraud

Arab parties which could play a key role in government formation face unproven accusations of getting foreign funding; they are on track to win 19 seats between them, while the ruling and opposition blocs are well under 61 needed for majority

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bloc on Thursday piled pressure on Israeli Arab leaders over unproven accusations of foreign funding, in a push to neuter parties that could hold the key to forming a government after an inconclusive election.

Israeli President Isaac Herzog called for an investigation into allegations of fraud but cautioned against stigmatising the entire Arab Israeli community.

Israel was nearing the completion of ballot-counting from Tuesday's election, in which neither Mr. Netanyahu nor the opposition bloc led by former



A file photo shows Ra'am party leader Mansour Abbas voting at a polling station in Maghar, Israel, on October 27. REUTERS

military chief Gadi Eisenkot looked able to secure a majority in the parliament known as the Knesset.

With nearly 93% of the vote counted, Mr. Netanyahu's bloc was at 53 seats and the opposition forces led by Mr. Eisenkot on 48 - both well under the 61

needed to form a government. The two main Arab formations were on track for an unprecedented 19 seats between them.

The Netanyahu camp's accusations, which a key Arab party has rejected, could bring uncertainty to the electoral process at a

time when the threat of a return to war with Iran looms over the region.

Polarised election

Israel's election saw soaring participation by Israeli Arabs as outrage boiled at calls by officials such as National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir to treat their community much as Israel has dealt with Palestinians in Gaza and the occupied West Bank.

Following Mr. Netanyahu's accusations of impropriety, Mr. Ben Gvir went so far as to encourage Israel to "immediately" order the arrests of Arab party leaders.

Ra'am party leader Mansour Abbas said he welcomed an investigation, adding that his moderate Islamist party had

"no connection" with the accusations.

The Arab parties together have enough votes to take the opposition bloc over the finish line, but Mr. Eisenkot has baulked after attacks by Mr. Netanyahu, who warned his right-wing Jewish base that voting for the opposition would put Arabs in power.

Mr. Eisenkot said the official probe into the claims should run its course without interference, but also accused Netanyahu of seeking to "delegitimise" the election results.

Government officials did not offer evidence to back the allegations, and left-wing candidate Yair Golan accused Mr. Netanyahu of attempting to stir controversy after failing to get a majority.

Ukraine says at least 14 killed in Russian attack on train station

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

At least 14 people were killed when a Russian drone slammed into a platform at the Dnipro railway station in central Ukraine, where a train was parked, Ukrainian authorities said on Thursday.

"Thirteen people were killed in a Russian attack on Dnipro. At least five more were wounded," Dnipropetrovsk regional governor Oleksandr Ganzha said on Telegram. He later



Rescuers evacuate a wounded civilian at the Dnipro railway station on Thursday. AP

said the toll had risen to 14. Dnipro mayor Borys Filatov said that "a drone hit

a civilian electric train".

The state Ukrainian Railways operator said a jet-powered Russian drone had hit the Dnipro station. "The strike hit one of the platforms, where train No. 866 Dnipro-Zaporizhzhia was at the time," it said.

Oleksandr Pertsovsky, the rail company's chief, said an elevated threat level had been announced.

"But unfortunately there were still a large number of people on the platform," he said on Facebook.

Bangladesh court sentences Hasina-era minister to death

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

A Bangladesh court on Thursday sentenced Md Mahbubul Alam Hanif, joint general secretary of ousted leader Sheikh Hasina's Awami League, to death in absentia for his role in the killings of six people during the 2024 uprising, while three other party leaders were sentenced to life imprisonment. Mr. Hanif also served as a mi-

nister during Hasina's rule.

The tribunal also ordered the confiscation of half of their immovable properties to be distributed as compensation to the families of people killed or injured during the uprising, Islam said.

As many as 1,400 people were killed between July and August 2024, according to the UN, when Hasina's government attempted to suppress the student-led uprising.