

Turkey summons
Ukraine
ambassador over
Black Sea attacks

AFP | Istanbul, Turkey

Turkey summoned Ukraine's ambassador over attacks this week in the Black Sea against a Turkish vessel, and against a second ship that came to tow the first, the country's foreign ministry said yesterday.

The attacks happened on Wednesday and Thursday, the ministry told AFP.

"During the meeting, Turkey warned about the absolute need to ensure the safety of people, of assets, of navigation and of the environment in the Black Sea," the ministry said in a statement.

It said the Turkish container ship Lider Bordo Mavi was hit on Wednesday while it was off the Russian coast on the Black Sea. The next day, the ship Lider Kocatepe sent to tow the cargo vessel was also targeted, the ministry said.

Four migrants
arrested in Ceuta
for throwing stones
at Spanish soldiers

AFP | Madrid, Spain

Four Moroccan migrants in Spain's enclave of Ceuta were arrested yesterday for throwing stones at a patrol of Spanish soldiers, one of whom fell and injured himself while pursuing the assailants, a police spokesman told AFP.

It was the second such incident to occur in recent days in the tiny territory located in North Africa, following the arrests on Thursday of 12 Moroccan migrants who threw stones at a Spanish military vehicle, injuring one of its four occupants.

Eleven of those 12 were deported to Morocco, according to local reports.

Druze factions
block students from
sitting exams in row
with Syria govt

AFP | Sweida, Syria

Armed factions in Syria's Druze-majority Sweida province have blocked students from travelling to sit for official exams, demanding they be held instead in the areas they control, drawing condemnation from the Damascus-appointed governor yesterday.

Sweida city and other parts of the southern province are run by local armed groups and are the last areas outside the grasp of Syria's new Islamist authorities, who have been trying to establish control over the entire country after toppling longtime ruler Bashar al-Assad in 2024.

Rescuers claw through mud as missing toll nears 3,000

RACE AGAINST TIME
RESCUE OPERATIONS
HEROES ON THE GROUND

100+ PEOPLE TRAPPED IN TUNNELS
Nepali army teams are drilling in an "extremely challenging" bid to rescue more than 100 people inside multiple hydropower tunnels.

933 MISSING WORKERS
Those trapped in the tunnels were among 933 missing workers from hydropower projects on the rivers where the torrent of icy debris swept down.

INTERNATIONAL HELP
India has sent an 11-person specialised team. China has also sent a 9-person tunnel team to help.

NEPAL-TIBET FLOOD DISASTER
THE HUMAN COST
BEYOND NUMBERS. BEYOND WORDS.

3,000 PEOPLE MISSING IN NEPAL AND TIBET
Nepal and Tibet authorities put the total number of missing close to 3,000.

682 BODIES RECOVERED SO FAR
With 682 bodies recovered.

COUNTLESS FAMILIES
waiting for news. Holding on to hope. Praying for their loved ones.

THOUSANDS MISSING. FAMILIES IN AGONY. HOPE IS FADING, BUT SEARCH CONTINUES.

LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY & RECONSTRUCTION

RECONSTRUCTION COULD COST 'BILLIONS'
Nepal's reconstruction bill could run into "billions of dollars", says Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal.

HEIGHTENED VIGILANCE
India is stepping up monitoring of its Himalayan regions bordering China and Nepal, days after the deadly flood apparently triggered by a glacial collapse.

INDIA MONITORS GLACIERS
Since we share a border with Nepal, as a neighbour, and also have a similar geographic situation... we have asked our department to monitor all the glaciers and known glacial lakes in the region.

— Madan Kaushik, State Disaster Management Minister, Uttarakhand, India

AID OFFERS & SUPPORT

93,000 PEOPLE
As many as 93,000 people in Nepal are potentially affected by the disaster, according to the Red Cross.

NEPAL'S APPEAL
Nepal appealed on Friday for international financial assistance, as well as specialised rescue support, including heavy lift drones, DNA testing kits, and body freezer storage units.

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

CANADA
Will provide CAN\$5 million (\$3.6 million) in humanitarian assistance.

EUROPEAN UNION
Has pledged 2 million euros (\$2.3 million).

CHINA
Chinese President Xi Jinping offered Beijing's help on Friday.

THE WORLD STANDS WITH NEPAL. TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP HEAL.

AFP | Bidur, Nepal

Rescuers in Nepal and China were battling yesterday to locate thousands of people missing days after a deadly, tsunami-like wall of water and debris swept through the Himalayan region, engulfing entire villages.

Figures from both countries put the number of missing close to 3,000, with 682 bodies recovered -- and reports of some dead possibly swept downstream as far away as India.

Rescue worker Kawan Koirala, from the Nepal Scout Disaster Response Team, said they were struggling in thick, leg-sucking mud.

"People want their family member's body back, either dead or alive, but we cannot find them... you can see the mud," he told AFP, exhausted after an 18-hour shift.

"It is very traumatic for me too. It is my first time seeing these types of things. Everywhere is mud. We faced flood in Nepal before, but not like this."

The US Geological Survey said the disaster on the Tibet-Nepal border on Wednesday was caused by a glacial collapse that created a torrent of debris downstream.

While the exact cause of the collapse is unclear, climate change is causing glaciers to melt worldwide, increasing the risks of such disasters.



Fire and rescue personnel conduct search and rescue operations at the site of Gyirong Port



Houses covered heavily in sludge in the aftermath of flash floods at Devighat in Nepal's Nuwakot district

'Nothing left'

Survivors face an agonising wait to learn the fate of missing relatives, and the prospect

of rebuilding their lives from nothing.

"All the settlements near the river were swept away," Bud-

dhi Ram Dangol told AFP in Nepal's Nuwakot district. "There is nothing left."

At Bidur's army base, a key rescue hub in the same district, relatives crowded around lists of rescued people pasted on a wall.

"I have come here looking for my son," said Kalka Sharda, scanning the list in desperation. "He was a labourer at the hydropower plant, but I can't find his name, and the authorities are not saying anything."

In an area home to vast energy infrastructure projects, Nepal's disaster authority listed 933 hydropower workers among the missing, along with 517 foreigners, including trekkers and Hindu pilgrims to Tibet's sacred Mount Kailash.

Pilgrimage route

Nepal reported a death toll of 675 people on Saturday.

There are 2,426 people, including hundreds of foreigners, who are out of contact in the country.

Across the border in Tibet, which is largely inaccessible to foreign journalists, seven people died and 554 remain missing, Xinhua state news agency said on Saturday.

Authorities also said they had evacuated 555 stranded tourists and 499 Chinese residents from Tibet.

In India, officials said they had recovered seven bodies from rivers flowing from Nepal, believed to be flood victims.

Chinese rescuers
zero in on Tibet
mudslide site

AFP | Beijing, China

Chinese rescuers were progressing yesterday towards the epicentre of a deadly mudslide at the Tibet-Nepal border that has left hundreds missing, as a lake that had threatened more damage has drained, state media said.

More than 500 rescuers had reached the heart of the devastation by Saturday, the agency reported.

Rescue operations had been temporarily paused because of the threat of renewed flooding from a lake formed by the mudslide. But state broadcaster CCTV said late Saturday that the lake was "discharging naturally" and had been "essentially drained", citing China's ministry of water resources.

Hope was fading for some still waiting desperately for news.

Kalka Sharda, in Bidur, was searching lists of rescued for his 18-year-old son Vinod Sharda, a hydropower plant labourer.

"I don't think there is any hope left," he said.

"Because, if he was alive, he would have found a way to get in touch."