

BERLIN: The German government said on Wednesday that it plans to force plastic manufacturers to contribute to the cost of cleaning up litter in streets and parks. The Cabinet agreed on a bill that makers of

products containing single-use plastics will need to pay into a central fund managed by the government, starting in 2025. The fund is estimated to collect about 450 million euros in the first year.



# RUSSIA REJOINS UKRAINE GRAIN EXPORTS DEAL

## Large-scale drone attacks continue in Kyiv and other regions

Kyiv: Diplomatic efforts salvaged a wartime agreement that allowed Ukrainian grain and other commodities to reach world markets, with Russia saying on Wednesday it would stick to the deal after Ukraine pledged not to use a designated Black Sea corridor to attack Russian forces.

The Russian Defence Ministry said in a statement that Ukraine formally committed to use the established safe shipping corridor between southern Ukraine and Turkey "exclusively in accordance with the stipulations" of the agreement.



A road sign lies next to a damaged Russian armored personnel carrier on a road near Vovchans'k, Kharkiv region on Tuesday

Russia suspended its participation in the grain deal over the weekend, citing allegations of a Ukrainian drone attack against its Black Sea fleet in Crimea.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu informed Turkey's defence minister that the deal for a humanitarian grain corridor would "continue in the same way as before" as of noon Wednesday.

In Ukraine on Wednesday, thousands of homes in the Kyiv region and elsewhere remained without power of-

ficials said on Wednesday, as Russian drone and artillery strikes continued to target Ukraine's energy infrastructure.

Kyiv region Gov. Oleksiy Kuleba said 16,000 homes were without electricity and drone-attacked energy facilities in the Chernihiv region south of the capital, prompting power outages.

Although power and water

were restored to the city of Kyiv, Kuleba didn't rule out electricity shortages lasting "weeks" if Russian forces continue to hit energy facilities there. In a Telegram post, he accused Russian forces of trying to prompt a serious humanitarian crisis.

Power outages were also reported in the southern cities of Nikolopol and Chervonohorivka following "a

large-scale drone attack," Dnipropetrovsk Gov. Valentyn Reznishchuk said.

Russian shelling across 9 regions in southern and eastern Ukraine resulted in the deaths of at least four civilians and injuring 17 others between Tuesday and Wednesday as per office of the Ukraine President. —AP

# Sunak makes U-turn, to attend key climate meet

London: UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak confirmed he will attend the Cop27 environmental conference in Egypt next week, the media reported.

The UK PM had initially indicated he would not travel to North Africa despite the UK hosting the previous event in Glasgow last year, *Daily Mail* reported.

The change came after Sunak's predecessor Boris Johnson confirmed he would attend, having made them a key plank of his premiership.

Writing on Twitter, Sunak said: "There is no long-term prosperity without action on climate change. There is no energy security without investing in renewables. That is why I will attend Cop27 next week to deliver on Glasgow's legacy of building a secure and sustainable future."

He had previously said to focus on Britain's "pressing domestic challenges" but faced growing pressure to join other world leaders at the conference next week.

Labour's climate change secretary Ed Miliband said: "The Prime Minister has been adamant into going to Cop27 for the reason of belief that he would fail to turn up. He is going to avoid embarrassment, not to provide leadership."



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak carries his red ministerial folder as he leaves 10 Downing Street on Wednesday

## India, UK discuss migration, security issues

LONDON: Cooperation on migration and security issues was on the agenda at a meeting between UK Home Secretary Suella Braverman and Indian Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday.

Braverman in turn reiterated the "strong partnership" shared between India and the UK. "I look forward to working with Home Secretary Suella Braverman and Indian Home Minister Amit Shah on migration and security issues," she tweeted.

Dorawani inaugurated a new Indian visa centre in London to boost capacity for processing applications for a large number of measures, such as a doorstep service and document verification facility.

# Israel polls: Netanyahu may return to power

Jerusalem: With over 81 per cent of the votes counted, Israel's former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu's right-religious bloc on Wednesday seems all set to make a dramatic comeback to power. The exit polls projected pro-Netanyahu parties may win up to 65 seats in the 120-member Parliament.

The alliance comprised Netanyahu's Likud party, religious Zionism/Jewish Power, Shas and United Torah Judaism.

The Central Elections Committee has so far counted 40,81,243 votes, with 24,201 invalidated. The Times of Israel newspaper reported.

Based on the current count, Netanyahu's bloc would pick up 65 seats, though this number may change as more ballots are processed, the report said.

Israelis voted on Tuesday for an unprecedented fifth time in four years to break the political impasse that has paralysed the country.

# 'North Korea covertly shipping artillery to Russia'

WASHINGTON: The White House on Wednesday accused North Korea of covertly shipping "significant number" of artillery shells to Russia in support of its invasion of Ukraine.

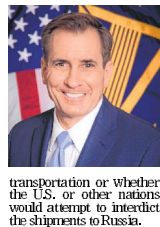
National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said the U.S. believes North Korea is "trying to make it appear as though they're being sent to countries in the Middle East or North Africa." He declined to provide a specific estimate on the quantity of ammunition

being sent to bolster the Russian effort.

Kirby said North Korea "is covertly supplying" the ammunition to Russia, but that, "we're still monitoring this to determine whether the shipments are actually received."

Kirby insisted that the North Korean shipments are "not going to change the course of the war," citing Western efforts to resupply the Ukrainian military.

The White House would not specify the mode of



transportation or whether the U.S. would attempt to intercept the shipments to Russia.

The White House revealed the new intelligence nearly two months after first alleging that U.S. intelligence officials had determined Russian Ministry of Defense was in the process of purchasing millions of rockets and artillery shells from North Korea as it is on-going fight in Ukraine.

Even as the administration revealed information about the covert North Korean artillery shell shipments, the White House also sought to downplay its significance.

"We don't believe that they are in such a quantity that they would change the direction of this war or tangibly change the momentum either in the East or in the South," while some of the heaviest fighting in Ukraine is taking place, Kirby said. —AP

# Pay \$8 to get blue tick on Twitter, says Musk

San Francisco: Twitter boss Elon Musk has announced that users can get their accounts verified with the new Blue plan at a price of \$8.

"Verified" users can post and retweet content faster and has a blue checkmark in the bio.

He said additional benefits that users will get with the new Twitter Blue plan including, "priority in replies, in retweets, in mentions, in post long video and audio, half as many advertisements."

The world's richest man also said the "price adjusted by country proportionate to purchasing power parity."

He said additional benefits that users will get with the new Twitter Blue plan including, "priority in replies, in retweets, in mentions, in post long video and audio, half as many advertisements."

—IANS

# 'R20 will help spread message of religious leaders to the world'

Bali: Expressing delight over India's turn to host the next R20 summit, the 20th Religious Forum, Secretary General of the Muslim World League, Saifuddin bin Abdul Karim Al-Jassas, said that the country shares a very strong relationship.

Al-Jassas said he has no doubt that it will have a big impact on conveying the message of religious leaders to the world at

large.

"We will be delighted with India hosting the second edition of the R20 summit within the framework of the G20. We count greatly on India welcoming this through religious leaders in India, with whom we share a very strong relationship," said the Secretary-General.

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## सम्यक्दाय शासन लोक निर्माण विभाग संभागा अगार मालवा

लोक निर्माण विभाग संभागा अगार मालवा

निविदा क्रमांक 08/2022-23 दिनांक 01.11.2022

निविदादाता को होना चाहिए (Online) निविदा अर्जित करी जावे ही अर्जितकर्ता को बांधु विभाग के वेबसाइट <https://mptenders.gov.in> पर देखें जा सकते हैं।

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