

# Ukraine war talks in Geneva end without deal on territory

They call talks 'difficult'; plan another round with US role in monitoring

**GENEVA**

THE latest US-brokered talks between envoys from Moscow and Kyiv over Russia's all-out invasion of Ukraine ended Wednesday with no sign of a breakthrough and with both sides saying the talks were "difficult," as the war's fourth anniversary approaches next week.

The negotiations in Switzerland were the third round of direct talks organised by the US, after meetings earlier this year in Abu Dhabi that officials described as constructive but which also made no major headway. Expectations for significant progress in Geneva were low.

"The negotiations were not easy," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said after the talks broke up and he spoke briefly by phone from Kyiv with his negotiating team.

He earlier accused Russia of "trying to drag out negotiations" while it presses on with its invasion — an accusation he and European leaders have repeatedly made in the past.

Despite that, some progress was made on military issues although political differences remain deep, including over the



Soldiers are at a pickup before assignments on the frontline near Kostyantynivka, Donetsk region in Ukraine | AP

future of land in eastern Ukraine that is occupied by the Russian army and that Russian President Vladimir Putin wants to keep, Zelenskyy said. The head of the Russian delegation, Putin adviser Vladimir Medinsky, told reporters that the two days of talks in Geneva "were difficult but businesslike."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that it's "too early" to speak about the outcome of the talks. Putin has been receiving reports about progress in Geneva, he said. Both sides said a new round

of talks is set to take place.

Zelenskyy described the military discussions as "constructive," adding that the armed forces of both countries considered how any future ceasefire might be monitored.

"Monitoring will definitely be carried out with participation of the American side," he said in a voice message shared in a media group chat on WhatsApp.

The two armies remain locked in battle along the roughly 1,250-km front line as Russia bombards Ukrainian civilian areas daily. AP

**Ukraine slams Russian return to Paralympics**

KYIV: Ukraine condemned a decision to let Russian and Belarusian athletes compete under national flags at the 2026 Milan-Cortina Paralympics. Kyiv called it outrageous and political. Six Russians and four Belarusians received slots. Ukraine will not boycott. EU sports commissioner Glenn Mulcaire plans to skip the opening ceremony. The IPC said athletes would be treated equally.

**Pipeline row: Hungary halts diesel to Ukraine**

BUDAPEST: Hungary has suspended diesel exports to Ukraine, citing disruptions to Russian oil flows through the Druzhba pipeline. Budapest says Ukrainian actions caused delays, a claim Kyiv denies, blaming Russian attacks. Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó said Hungary has ample reserves. The dispute comes as Hungary keeps Russian energy ties and seeks alternatives via Croatia's Adria pipeline for now amid regional tensions.

# Ex-military chief alleges raid tied to Zelenskyy rift

**LONDON**

EVER since he was ousted as the head of Ukraine's army in 2024 and appointed as the country's ambassador to Britain, Valerii Zaluzhnyi has widely been seen as the top political rival to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Zaluzhnyi, 52, refuses to discuss his political ambitions, saying he doesn't want to risk harming national unity during a war with Russia that is approaching its fourth anniversary. Yet in a sign of his possible desire to run for the presidency — after the war is over — Zaluzhnyi spoke publicly for the first time about a deep rift between himself and Zelenskyy in a recent interview with *The Associated Press*.

Tensions emerged soon after Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, and tempers of war flared between the two men over how best to defend the country, Zaluzhnyi said. The strained relationship reached a boiling point later that year, when dozens of agents from



FILE: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy with Commander in Chief of Armed Forces Valerii Zaluzhnyi | AP

Ukraine's domestic intelligence service raided Zaluzhnyi's office, he told the AP.

Zaluzhnyi alleges that the previously unreported incident was an act of intimidation. It risked exposing their rivalry at a time when national unity was paramount. Ukraine's security service, known as the SBU, said that no search was ever carried out at Zaluzhnyi's office, though it acknowledged that the address was part of an investigation unrelated to him. Zelenskyy's office declined comment; the AP could not independently confirm Zaluzhnyi's account. AP

**ORE DIPLOMACY**

# Indonesia tightens grip on nickel as EV demand shifts

**HANOI**

INDONESIA is tightening state control over the world's largest nickel supply after years of betting the metal would anchor a homegrown electric-vehicle industry, and just as global demand begins shifting away from heavy reliance on nickel.

The move could still ripple through global EV supply chains as the United States and China compete for critical minerals. Indonesia sits at the center of the nickel market: its share of global supply jumped to about 60% in 2024 from 31.5% in 2020, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence, after former President Joko Widodo banned raw ore exports, drawing a surge of Chinese-backed investment into refining.

Jakarta hoped that control over nickel would underpin a fully domestic EV industry, from mining and batteries to finished cars. Experts say that promise was used to justify forest clearing and mining expansion in the name of the energy transition, even as climate risks deepened. In 2025, Indonesia cracked down on what it called illegal exploitation of natural resources, saying many mining and plantation licenses were tainted by bribery or never properly approved.

Authorities say they have seized more than 4 million hectares of mines, palm oil plantations and processing sites, levied \$1.7 billion in fines, and could seize another 4.5 million hectares this year. However, analysts warn the crackdown comes as nickel's payoff fades, with many Chinese EVs shifting to iron-based batteries. AP

# Israel sets 10K cap for West Bank Al-Aqsa worshippers

**JERUSALEM**

Israel announced that it will cap the number of Palestinian worshippers from the occupied West Bank attending weekly Friday prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in east Jerusalem at 10,000 during the holy month of Ramadan, which began on Wednesday.

Israeli authorities also imposed age restrictions on West Bank Palestinians, permitting entry only to men aged 55 and older, women aged 50 and older, and children up to age 12.

"Ten thousand Palestinian worshippers will be permitted to enter the Temple Mount for Friday prayers throughout the month of Ramadan, subject to obtaining a dedicated daily permit in advance," COGAT, the Israeli defence ministry agency in charge of civilian matters in the Palestinian territories, said in a statement. "Entry for men will be permitted from age 55, for women from age 50, and for children up to age 12 when accompanied by a first-degree relative."

COGAT said the curbs apply only to Palestinians travelling from the West Bank. AFP

# B'desh PM pledges safety for all faiths, unveils 180-day plan

**DHAKA**

BANGLADESH'S newly-elected Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Wednesday vowed to strengthen the rule of law and said his government will turn the country into a safe land for people of all faiths, regardless of party, opinion, religion, or ethnicity.

In his maiden televised address to the nation after assuming office, Rahman out-

lined his government's priorities and said that improving the law and order situation and strictly controlling corruption to restore peace and security are his top priorities.

"We want to turn this country into a safe land for every citizen. Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Christians — regardless of party, opinion, religion, or ethnicity — whether living in the hills or the plains, this



Tarique Rahman chairing the first meeting of his newly formed cabinet

country belongs to all of us," said the prime minister, who is also the chief of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).

"Whether you voted for BNP, or did not vote for BNP, or did not vote at all — everyone has equal rights over this government...As a Bangladeshi, every one of us has equal rights in this country, in this state," he asserted.

Earlier on Wednesday, Tarique Rahman chaired the first meeting of his newly formed cabinet, which set a 180-day priority plan with a focus on controlling commodity prices, maintaining law and order and

stabilising supply chains.

Rahman, the 60-year-old chief of the BNP, was sworn in as the 11th prime minister on Tuesday. The first meeting of the new cabinet was held at the Cabinet Division in the Secretariat.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said it is customary for a newly formed government to hold a session on its first day in office. PTI

# Migrant return: Greece ties up with 4 more countries

**ATHENS**

GREECE is working with four other European countries to set up deportation centers in third countries, most likely in Africa, for migrants whose asylum applications are rejected, Greece's migration minister said Wednesday.

Thanos Plevris said on Greek state broadcaster ERT television that Greece was working with Germany, the Netherlands, Austria and Denmark for the creation of so-called return hubs, "preferably in Africa." Ministers from the five countries had already met to discuss the issue, and technical teams would be meeting next week, he said.

"We are not speaking theoretically any more, we are speaking practically," Plevris said. He didn't specify which countries were being considered to host the return hubs, and said the choice of the African continent was "not binding." AP

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU  
**VILLUPURAM HIGHWAYS**  
 (CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE) CIRCLE  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
**Tender Notice No.58/2025-2026/HDO, Dated:17.02.2026**  
 For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender** through online under Two Cover System will be received upto **28.02.2026, 11.00 hours** by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Villupuram Circle for **CRIDP 2025-26 One work (VPM-129) for Cuddalore (H) C&M Division.**  
 Details of work, approximate value of works, EMD (EMD through online payment Gateway of the Portal or e-BG will be the acceptable mode) availability of tender document and all other details are available from **19.02.2026** onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in>. If any Changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.  
**Superintending Engineer (H), C&M Circle, Villupuram**  
 DIPR/1165/TENDER/2026

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU  
**HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT**  
**CHENNAI - KANYAKUMARI INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR PROJECT, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI CIRCLE**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
**T.N.No. NCB/CKICP/RS-IP/MC2 dated:17.02.2026**  
 For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu, **tender through online** will be received up to **25.03.2026, 15.00 hours** (Server Time) by the Superintending Engineer (H) Chennai - Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor Project, Tiruchirappalli-20, for **Road Safety Improvement works - 2 Numbers** pertaining to Salem (H), Chennai - Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor Project Division and Tirunelveli (H), Chennai - Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor Project Division.  
 Details of works, bid security, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **20.02.2026** onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in>. If any changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.  
**Superintending Engineer (H), Chennai - Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor Project, Trichy.**  
 DIPR/1154/TENDER/2026

**OMKARA ASSETS RECONSTRUCTION PVT. LTD.**  
 CIN: U67100T22014PTC020363  
 Regd Office: No.9 M.P.Nagar First Street, Kongu Nagar Extension, Tirupur 641607  
 Corporate Office: Kohnoor Square, 47th Floor, N.C. Kelkar Marg, R. G. Gadanki Chowk, Daclor (West), Mumbai - 400028  
 Email: [vm.divakaran@omkaraarc.com](mailto:vm.divakaran@omkaraarc.com) Authorized Officer **M No.:** +91-93446 84194 / 98840 62068 / 99623 33307

**[Appendix - IV-A]**  
 [See proviso to rule 8 (6) r/w 9(1)]  
**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**  
**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("SARFAESI Act") read with proviso to Rule 8(6) r/w 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**  
 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) & Mortgagor(s) that the below described immovable property (ies) mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Omkara Assets Reconstruction Pvt Ltd (OARPL) is/are proposed to be sold by e-auction. Further, Omkara Assets Reconstruction Pvt Ltd (OARPL) (acting in its capacity as Trustee of Omkara PS 22/2020-21 Trust) has acquired entire outstanding debts of the below accounts vide Assignment Agreement dated 26.02.2021 from Fullerton India Credit Company Limited (Assignor Company) along with underlying security from assignor company. Accordingly, OARPL has stepped into the shoes of assignor company and empowered to recover the dues and enforce the security. The Authorised Officer of OARPL hereby intends to sell the below mentioned secured property (ies) for recovery of dues. The property (ies) shall be sold in exercise of rights and powers under the provisions of sections 13 (2) and (4) of SARFAESI Act, on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and "Without recourse Basis" for recovery of amount shown below in respective column due to OARPL as Secured Creditor from respective Borrower(s) and Co-Borrower(s) shown below. Details of the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s), Securities, Owner, Outstanding Dues, Date of Demand Notice sent under Section 13(2), Possession Date, Reserve Price, Bid Increment Amount, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Date & Time of Inspection are given as under:

Name of Borrower & Co Borrower	Mr. K. Manivannan & Mrs. M. Rajeshwari		
<b>Details of the Secured Asset:</b> Asset: Property belongs to Mrs. M. Rajeshwari, W/o Mr. K. Manivannan (Gift Deed Doc No.97/2008, dated 11.01.2008 and Rectification Deed Doc No.1811/2013, dated 21.03.2013). In Salem District, Salem West Registration District, Magudanchavadi Sub registration District, Senkan Taluk, Gudalur S. No. 3/282B5 Punja Hectare 0.82.5 for this Punja acre 2.04, Ass. Rs. 3.18 in this punja acre 1.55 cets out of this assessed land an extent of 7002 sq feet of land is related to this description. The boundaries and measurements for the property being settled are:- South of a building belonged to Mrs. M. Rajeshwari; North of Balance property belonged to Mr. K. Manivannan; East of Road allowed to IVRCL Company; West of land belonged to Sulochanadevi. Within the above boundaries are measuring East-West both sides 72 feet; North-South both sides 97 1/4 feet feet totalling 7002 sq feet of land and with a well at South West end and its service connection No.587, with 5 H.P. Motor and with 89 Sq meter of Kallikottai Tiled house land with 99 Sq meter R.C.C. Building with EB Service Connection No.669 and another 158 Sq meter A.C.C. sheet building and with all the fitting of the above buildings and with all pathway rights and easement rights annexed thereto. The property is situated within the limit of Gudalur Village			
<b>Owner of the property</b>	Mrs. M. Rajeshwari W/o. Mr. K. Manivannan		
<b>13(2) Notice Date</b>	Outstanding dues as on 17.02.2026		
02.02.2022	Rs.1,97,69,482/- (Rupees One Crore Ninety-Seven Lakhs Sixty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Two Only)		
<b>Reserve Price:</b>	<b>EMD 10% of the Reserve Price</b>	<b>Bid Increment Amt</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time of Inspection of Property</b>
Rs.36,00,000/- (Rupees Thirty-Six Lakhs Only)	Rs.3,60,000/- (Rupees Three Lakh Sixty Thousand Only)	Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only)	With prior appoint from the authorised officer, mobile nos. As mentioned in the heading
<b>Account Details</b>	<b>Account No.:</b> 344905000929, <b>Name of the Beneficiary:</b> Omkara PS22/2020-21 Trust, <b>Bank Name:</b> ICICI Bank, <b>Branch:</b> Bandra (E) Mumbai, <b>IFSC Code:</b> ICIC0003449		
<b>Date of E-Auction &amp; Time</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 (Wednesday)</b> between 11.00 AM and 12.00 Noon		
<b>Last date and time for submission of bid letter of participation/KYC Document/Proof of EMD</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 (Monday)</b> before 04.00 PM		

**TERMS & CONDITION OF THE AUCTION:** For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's (OARPL) website i.e. <http://omkaraarc.com/auction.php> or website of service provider i.e. <https://www.bankerauctions.com>  
**STATUTORY NOTICE FOR SALE UNDER Rule 8(6) r/w 9(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002**  
 This notice is also a mandatory notice of not less than 15 (Fifteen) days to the Borrower(s) of the above loan account under Rule 8(6) r/w 9(1), of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002 and provisions of Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, informing them about holding of auction/sale through e-auction on the above referred date and time with an advice to redeem the assets if so desired by them, by paying the outstanding dues as mentioned herein above together with further interest from 18.02.2026 and all costs and expenses any time before the closure of the Sale. In case of default in payment, the property (ies) shall at the discretion of the Authorised Officer/Secured Creditor be sold through any of the modes as prescribed under Rule 8 (5) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002.  
 Date: 19.02.2026 (V M Divakaran)  
 Place: Chennai Mobile No.99623 33307  
 Authorized Officer, Omkara Assets Reconstruction Pvt Ltd. (Acting in its capacity as Trustee of Omkara PS 22/2020-21 Trust)

**INDEL MONEY**  
 Corporate office: **Indel Money Limited**, 11/rd Floor Indel House, Changampuzha Nagar, South Kalamassery, Ernakulam -682033. Ph: 0484-2933999 E: [customercare@indelmoney.com](mailto:customercare@indelmoney.com)  
**GOLD AUCTION NOTICE**  
 The pledges in specific and the public in general are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 21-03-2026 at 11.00 am We are auctioning the gold ornaments of the defaulted customers who have failed to make the payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified through various communication. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice of changes in venue or date and the same shall be displayed at concerned branches without any further notice.  
**JALAKANDAPURAM** - 8304460028362, 044626384, 8304620028473, 046228605, **SAHKARI** - 940440012281, 9404440012189, 9404640012286, **ALAGAPURAM** - 7004440013477, 7004620013498, **THARAMANGALAM** - 7104620012843, 046212921, 7104640012878, **BARGUR** - 4000464000682, 046400697, **HOSUR** - 9104620008323, **UTHANGARAI** - 29904400002778, 29904640002688, 046402806.  
 In case we are unable to complete the auction at the branch on the notified date, the same will be conducted through Shriram Automall India Limited (SAMIL) on their online e-auction platform <https://gold.samil.in> or e-Procurement Technologies Limited (AuctionTiger) on their online e-auction platform <https://egold.auctiontiger.net> on 24-03-2026 between 12.30 PM to 3.30 PM. Please note if the e-auction does not completed on 24-03-2026 the same will be re-auctioned on subsequent working days on the same terms and conditions.  
 By Authorized Officer  
**Indel Money Limited**

**KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
 (A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)  
 No.2, 2/1 and 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar  
 Bengaluru - 560 009. Phone No. 080-22265383, website: [www.kiadb.in](http://www.kiadb.in)  
**IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-84/2088/2025-26** Date: 18.02.2026  
**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
 (Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)  
 Item rate Tender under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors (Civil) registered in KCEI who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:  
**Name of the Work :** Providing partition & interior works including electrical works at 6th Floor of KIADB Head Office, Gandhinagar Bengaluru.  
 The last date and time of receipt of tender is: **04.03.2026 upto 4.00 pm.**  
 Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>.  
 Sd/-  
**Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru**  
 DIPR/CP/5733/Zen/2025-26