

49 KILLED, 300 INJURED IN BANGLADESH PORT DEPOT FIRE

•At least seven firefighters die, four missing •Containers holding chemicals explode in blaze •About 110 million dollars worth of garments destroyed

SITAKUNDA

AT least 49 people died and hundreds were injured after a fire sparked a huge chemical explosion at a shipping container depot in Bangladesh, officials said on Sunday.

The toll was expected to rise, with some of the more than 300 people injured in serious condition, officials said, while volunteers reported that there were more bodies inside the smouldering, wreckage-strewn facility.

The fire started late on Saturday at the depot in Sitakunda, which stores around 4,000 containers, many filled with garments destined for Western retailers. The facility is about 40km (25 miles) from the major southern port of Chittagong.

The blaze caused containers holding chemicals to explode, engulfing firefighters, volunteers and journalists in an inferno, hurtling people and debris through the air, and turning the night sky a blazing orange. Buildings located kilo-

metres away rattled with the force of the blast.

Elias Chowdhury, regional chief doctor said the number of dead was 49 but it would likely increase. "The death toll will rise as the rescue work has not been completed yet," Chowdhury said. "These people — including several journalists who were doing Facebook lives — are still not accounted for."

Firefighters continued to douse pockets of fire on Sunday afternoon, with television footage showing smoke still billowing from some containers, more than 19 hours after the fire began. Reazul Karim, operations director of the fire department, said at least seven firefighters died and at least four others were missing.

"Never in our fire department history have we lost so many firefighters in a single incident," Bharat Chandra, a former senior firefighter, told AFP. "There are still some bodies inside the fire-affected places. I saw eight or 10 bodies," one volunteer told reporters.



A firefighter trying to contain a blaze that broke out at the BM Inland Container Depot in Bangladesh | AP

Toll expected to rise

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Mujibur Rahman, the director of B.M. Container Depot, the firm operating the facility with around 600 workers, said that the cause of the initial fire was still unknown.

The container depot held hydrogen peroxide, fire service chief Brigadier General Main Uddin told reporters. "We still

could not control the fire because of the existence of this chemical," he said. "Fireballs



People carry a body at the BM Inland Container Depot, a Dutch-Bangladesh joint venture, early on Sunday | AP

falling like rain' Mohammad Ali, 60, who runs a nearby grocery store, said the blast was deafening. "A cylinder flew around half a kilometre from the fire spot to our small pond when the explosion occurred," he said.

"The explosion sent fireballs

into the sky. Fireballs were falling like rain. We were so afraid and immediately left our home to find refuge... We thought the fire would spread to our locality as it is densely populated," he added.

Lorry driver Tofael Ahmed was standing inside the depot

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— Mohammad Ali, a shopkeeper

when the explosion occurred. "The explosion just threw me some 10 metres from where I was standing," he said. "My hands and legs are burned."

Chowdhury, the chief doctor in Chittagong, said the injured had been rushed to different hospitals as doctors were brought back from holiday to help.

Requests for blood donations for the injured flooded social media. The army said it had deployed 250 troops to prevent chemicals flowing into the Indian Ocean by using sandbags. Rakibul Alam Chowdhury from the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association said about 110 million dollars worth of garments were destroyed in the fire. AFP

Missiles hit Kyiv, Prez Putin warns West

KYIV

RUSSIA took aim at Western military supplies for Ukraine's government with early Sunday airstrikes in Kyiv that it said destroyed tanks donated from abroad, as President Vladimir Putin warned that any Western deliveries of long-range rocket systems to Ukraine would prompt Moscow to hit 'objects that we haven't yet struck'.

The cryptic threat of a military escalation from the Russian leader didn't specify what the new targets might be, but it comes days after the US announced plans to deliver \$700 million of



A Pion artillery system of the Russian military fires at a target in an undisclosed location in Ukraine | AP VIA RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY PRESS SERVICE

security assistance for Ukraine that includes four precision-guided, medium-range rocket sys-

tems, helicopters, Javelin anti-tank weapon systems, radars, tactical vehicles, spare parts and more.

Military analysts say Russia is hoping to overrun the embattled eastern Donbas region, where Russia-backed separatists have fought the Ukrainian government for years, before any weapons that might turn the tide arrive.

The Pentagon said earlier this week it will take at least three weeks to get the precision US weapons and trained troops onto the battlefield.

Russian forces pounded railway facilities and other infra-

structure in Kyiv on Sunday, which had previously seen weeks of eerie calm.

Ukraine's nuclear plant operator, Energoatom, said one cruise missile buzzed the Pivdenonoukraiensk nuclear plant, about 350 kilometers (220 miles) to the south, on its way to the capital citing the dangers of such a near miss.

There was no immediate confirmation from Ukraine that the Russian airstrikes had destroyed tanks.

Kyiv hadn't faced any such strikes since the April 28 visit of UN Secretary-General António Guterres. AP

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 This is to notify all our valued customers and stakeholders that the operations as well as customer's account of Salem Erode Investments Limited, Thirupur Kamaraj Road Branch located at 52, First Floor, Kamaraj Road, Near Bus Stand, Tirupur- 641604 will be closed permanently with effect from 07th September, 2022. The existing customers/ account holders can contact the branch on landline number: 04212999335, Mobile number: 8589010054 or Email id: kmrj@salemrode.com.
 For Salem Erode Investments Limited
 Irinjalakuda Sd/- K. G. Anilkumar
 06.06.2022 Managing Director

RAMA DEVI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, BHUBANESWAR
TENDER CALL NOTICE
NO. 2750 DT. 4.6.22
CAD-727: Sealed tenders are invited from manufacturer/ authorized dealers/ Suppliers having GSTN number for supply of **SPORTS GARMENTS AND EQUIPMENTS** for the Sports Council, Rama Devi Women's University. Tender details and documents are available on the University website www.rdwuniversity.nic.in. Tender papers complete in all respects should reach the Registrar, Rama Devi Women's University, Vidya Vihar, Bhubaneswar-751022 on or before **19/06/2022 by 5.00 PM** through speed post/ registered post/ courier/ by hand. The tender papers will be opened on **20.06.2022 at 11:00 A.M.** Interested bidders are requested to be present at the time of opening of the tender paper. The authority reserves the right to accept/cancel any tender(s) without assigning any reason thereof.
Sd/- Registrar
OIPR- 11031/11/0003/2223

Format C-1

Declaration about criminal cases

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name and address of candidate : **C.Ve. SHANMUGAM**
 Name of political party : **ALL INDIA ANNA DRAVIDA MUNNETRA KAZHAGAM (AIADMK)**
 Name of Election : **Biennial Elections to the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), 2022**
 Name of Constituency : **Biennial Elections to the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), 2022**

I, **C. Ve. Shanmugam**, a candidate for the abovementioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:-

(A) Pending criminal cases				
Sl. No.	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of case(s)	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)
1.	NA	Cr. No. 77/22, Vilupuram West P.S 07.04.2022	FIR Stage	Offences relating to unlawful assembly for protesting on 07.04.22 u/s 143, 153, 341, 188, 268 IPC S.4(1) TN Open Space (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act, 1959 S. 151 CrPC, S. 3A TN Town Nuisance Act, 1889.
2.	NA	Cr.No. 51/22, Vilupuram West P.S 28.02.2022	FIR Stage	Offences relating to unlawful assembly for protesting on 28.02.22 u/s 143, 341, 269, 270, 290 IPC
3.	NA	Cr. No. 46/22, Vilupuram West P.S 15.02.2022	FIR Stage	Offences relating to making insulting speech and intimidating on 14.02.22 u/s 294(b), 504, 506(i) IPC
4.	NA	Cr.No. 539/21, Villupuram West P.S 17.12.2021	FIR Stage	Offences relating to unlawful assembly for protesting on 17.12.21 u/s 143, 341, 269, 270 IPC and S. 3 of Epidemic Diseases Act.
5.	NA	Cr. No. 434/21, Villupuram West P.S 31.08.2021	FIR Stage	Offences relating to unlawful assembly for protesting on 31.08.2021 u/s 143, 341, 269, 270 IPC and S. 3 of Epidemic Diseases Act.
6.	NA	Cr. No. 418/21, Rosanai P.S. Tindivanam 29.07.2021	FIR Stage	Offences for violations of Section 144 Cr PC on 28.07.21 u/s 143,151, 269, 188 IPC and S. 3 of Epidemic Diseases Act and S.51 of DM Act
7.	NA	Cr. No. 397/21, Vilupuram West P.S 26.07.2021	FIR Stage	Offences relating to unlawful assembly for protesting on 26.07.21 u/s 143, 188, 269, 271 IPC, S. 3 of Epidemic Diseases Act and S.51 of DM Act
8.	NA	Cr. No. 185/21, Vilupuram West P.S 01.04.2021	FIR Stage	Offences relating to payment in connection with elections on 31.03.21 u/s 171-E and 171-H of IPC
(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences				
Sl. No.	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed	
	NIL	NIL	NIL	

