

● PREPARED TO DEFEND PALESTINIANS IN SOUTH GAZA: HAMAS

Israel strikes Rafah after issuing evacuation order

MOHAMMED SALEM & NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI
Rafah, Gaza Strip, May 6

ISRAEL'S MILITARY CARRIED out airstrikes in Rafah on Monday, residents said, hours after Israel told Palestinians to evacuate parts of the southern Gaza city where more than a million people sought refuge after the war had been sheltering.



Palestinians flee from the eastern side of the southern Gaza after the Israeli army orders them to evacuate ahead of a military operation, in Rafah, on Monday

Fears are growing of a full-blown assault in Rafah, long threatened by Israel, against the Hamas-affiliated Al-Aqsa TV said had targeted areas in eastern Rafah near neighborhoods given evacuation orders.

Instructed by Arabic text messages, phone calls, and flyers to move to the Israeli military called an "expanded humanitarian zone" around 20 km away, some Palestinian families began trudging away under chilly spring rain. Some piled children and possessions onto donkey carts, while others left by pick-up or on foot through muddy streets. "It has

been raining heavily and we don't know where to go. I have been worried that this day may come, I have now to see where I can take my family," one refugee, Abu Raed, told Reuters via a chat app.

A senior Hamas official said the evacuation order was a "dangerous escalation" that would have consequences. "The US administration, alongside the occupation, bears responsibility for this terrorism," the official, Sami Abu Zuhri, told Reuters, referring to Israel's alliance with Washington. Hamas said later in a statement that any offensive in Rafah would not be a "picnic" for Israeli forces and said it was fully prepared to defend Palestinians there.

Biden speaks with Netanyahu

US PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke on Monday after Israel's military urged civilians to move out of the southern Gaza city of Rafah, according to US and Israeli officials.

Israel Defense Forces conducted air strikes early Monday morning, but the warning has prompted spec-

ulation Israel may be readying long-expected ground operations.

The US has made clear its opposition to a major ground operation of Rafah to the Israeli government, according to a White House National Security Council spokesperson, who confirmed the call between the two leaders. —BLOOMBERG

● XI MEETS MACRON TO IMPROVE TIES



French President Emmanuel Macron shakes hands with Chinese President Xi Jinping as he arrives for a meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris, on Monday. The Chinese president is on a two-day state visit to France. Xi's visit marks his first trip to Europe in five years, amidst growing business tensions. These tensions include the EU investigating electric vehicle exports from China, while Beijing conducts probes into mostly French-made brandy imports

Disruption to Red Sea shipping rising, says Maersk

STINE JACOBSEN
Copenhagen, May 6

DISRUPTION TO RED SEA container shipping is rising, Maersk said on Monday, forecasting this will cut the industry's capacity between Asia and Europe by up to 20% in the second quarter. Maersk and other shipping companies have diverted vessels around Africa's Cape of Good

Hope since December to avoid attacks by Iran-aligned Houthi militants in the Red Sea, with the longer voyage times pushing freight rates higher. "The risk zone has expanded, and attacks are reaching further offshore," Denmark's Maersk said. "This has forced our vessels to lengthen their journey further, resulting in additional time and costs to get your cargo to its destination for the time being," it added in an updated advisory.

Maersk's fuel costs on the affected routes between Asia and Europe are now 40% higher per journey, a spokesperson said. Germany's Hapag-Lloyd, which has said it believes the crisis can be overcome before the end of 2024, is also rerouting vessels for the time being. "The attacks in the Red Sea and the

Gulf of Aden are moving further and further out to sea. That is why we are avoiding this area altogether," Hapag-Lloyd said. By routing traffic away from the Suez Canal, Maersk estimated that the container industry's capacity between Asia and northern Europe and the Mediterranean would be cut by between 15% and 20% in the second quarter. —REUTERS

Trump fined in criminal trial, warned of jail time

THE JUDGE OVERSEING Donald Trump's criminal trial said on Monday he would hold the former president in contempt of court for a 10th time for violating a gag order and said he would consider jailing him for further violations.

Justice Juan Merchan said the \$1,000 fines he has imposed so far do not seem to be deterring Trump from violating the gag order, which prohibits him from making public comments about jurors, witnesses and families of the judge and prosecutors if the statements mean to interfere with the case.

Merchan said jail time would be a last resort and one that he was trying to avoid at all costs. But he said Trump's "continued, willful" violations

of the gag order amounted to a "direct attack on the rule of law." "I do not want to impose a jail sanction and have done everything I can to avoid doing so. But I will if necessary," Merchan said from the bench in absence of the jury.

Merchan said he considered jail time a "truly the last resort" for many reasons, including the disruption to the trial, political implications of jailing a leading presidential candidate ahead of an election and the extraordinary security challenges of incarcerating an ex-president with a lifetime Secret Service detail. Merchan had previously fined Trump \$9,000 for nine social media posts that he ruled had violated the gag order. —REUTERS

Sunita Williams set to fly into space today



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Washington, May 6

INDIAN-ORIGIN ASTRONAUT SUNITA Williams is ready to fly into space for the third time on Tuesday as the pilot aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft in its first crewed test flight.

Boeing's Starliner will blast off for the International Space Station from Cape Canaveral in Florida. Starliner will carry Williams, 58, and Butch Wilmore to the International Space Station, marking what could be a momentous and long-awaited victory for the beleaguered Boeing programme.

The scheduled lift-off is set for 2:24 local time on Monday (8:04 am IST on Tuesday) "We are all here because we are all ready. Our friends and family have heard about it and we've talked about it and they are happy and proud that we are part of the process to fix it all," the BBC quoted Williams as saying. The mission has been delayed for several years because of setbacks in the spacecraft's development.

human space vehicle," said Mark Nappi, vice president and Starliner programme manager at Boeing, during a Thursday news briefing.

"There is a number of things that were surprises along the way that we had to overcome... It certainly made the team very, very strong. I am very proud of how they've overcome every single issue that we've encountered and gotten us to this point," Nappi said.

"This is history in the making," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said of the upcoming Starliner mission during a March 22 news conference. "We're now in the golden era of space exploration." This is Boeing's second flight to the International Space Station and third Starliner flight test overall, following a second Orbital Flight Test, the uncrewed mission also known as OFT-2, in May 2022. Boeing also completed pad abort demonstration in November 2019, according to NASA.

As the final flight test for Starliner, NASA's Boeing crew flight test will validate the transportation system, including the launch pad, rocket, spacecraft, in-orbit operational capabilities, and return to Earth with astronauts aboard, it said.

SpaceX and Boeing developed their respective vehicles under NASA's Commercial Crew Programme, a partnership with private industry contractors. From the outset, the space agency aimed to have both companies operating at once.

Sustainable Impact: A Legacy of Success

GUJARAT GAS

STATEMENT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED ON 31st MARCH 2024

(₹ in Crores)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Standalone		Consolidated					
		Quarter ended 31-03-2024	Year ended 31-03-2024	Quarter ended 31-03-2024	Year ended 31-03-2024				
1	Total income from operations	4,324.94	4,105.61	16,400.72	17,407.43	4,324.94	4,105.61	16,399.08	17,407.49
2	Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional items)	494.02	476.64	1,480.52	2,024.65	494.02	476.64	1,478.88	2,024.71
3	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after Exceptional items)	549.71	476.64	1,536.21	2,024.65	549.71	476.64	1,534.57	2,024.71
4	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after Exceptional items)	409.54	369.22	1,142.77	1,525.47	410.48	370.50	1,143.70	1,528.38
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	413.90	374.78	1,151.43	1,533.99	414.83	375.96	1,152.31	1,536.74
6	Equity Share Capital (Face value of ₹ 2/- each)	137.68	137.68	137.68	137.68	137.68	137.68	137.68	137.68
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet)		7,551.58	6,857.93			7,584.80	6,890.27	
8	Earnings Per Share in ₹ (Face Value of ₹ 2/- each) (not annualised for quarter)								
	Basic (₹)	5.95	5.36	16.60	22.16	5.96	5.38	16.61	22.20
	Diluted (₹)	5.95	5.36	16.60	22.16	5.96	5.38	16.61	22.20

Notes:

- The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 and read together with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards - Ind AS) Rules issued thereafter and other accounting principles generally accepted in India. These financial results are presented in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 as amended from time to time along with other relevant rules issued thereunder.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (as amended). The full format of the same is available on the Stock Exchange websites. (www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com) and also on Company's website www.gujaratgas.com.
- The above financial results were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 6th May, 2024 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- The Board of Directors has recommended a dividend of ₹ 5.88/- per Equity Share of face value of ₹ 2/- each aggregating to ₹ 389.63 Crores for the year ended 31st March 2024.
- Previous period figures have been reclassified / regrouped wherever considered necessary to conform to the current period figures.

Place: Gandhinagar
Date: 05th May, 2024

For and on behalf of Board of Directors
Gujarat Gas Limited
Milind Torawane, IAS
Managing Director

GUJARAT GAS LIMITED

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