



\$1.3 mn was paid by a top bidder for a tuna at Tokyo fish market



Weather forecast table for various cities including Beijing, Colombo, Dhaka, Dubai, Houston, Istanbul, London, Los Angeles, Melbourne, Moscow, New York, Singapore, Toronto, and Washington.

Polar vortex brings winter storm to central US

Eastern parts of the country likely to experience bone chilling cold from today, according to weather forecasters

WASHINGTON

A major, disruptive winter storm was sweeping across the central US on Sunday, forecasters said, bringing with it a dreaded combination of snow, ice and plunging temperatures.

In the two states where blizzard warnings were in effect, travel "could be very difficult to impossible," with snow whipped around by high winds reducing visibility, the NWS said.

Studies show a fast-warming Arctic gets some of the blame for the increase in polar vortex stretching or wandering.



A car is wedged between two trucks during icy weather on Saturday in Salina, Kansas | AP

By Saturday evening, widespread heavy snow was likely between central Kansas and Indiana, especially along and north of Interstate 70.

Total snow and sleet accumulations for parts of Kansas and northern Missouri were predicted to be as high as 14 inches (35.6 centimeters).

The storm was forecast to move then into the Ohio Valley, with severe travel disruptions expected.

Starting Monday the eastern two-thirds of the country will experience dangerous, bone-chilling cold and wind chills, forecasters said.

Severe thunderstorms, with the possibility of tornadoes and hail, were also possible ahead of the storm system's cold front as it crosses the Lower Mississippi Valley.

A fire truck, several tractor-trailers and passenger vehicles overturned west of Salina, Kansas.

Freezing rain in Wichita, Kansas, sent authorities to multiple crashes in the morning, and police urged drivers to stay home if possible and watch out for emergency vehicles.

Crews are seeing too many vehicles out and sliding off, Missouri's transportation department said on X.

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South Koreans protest in snow as Yoon arrest deadline nears

SEOUL

THOUSANDS of South Koreans braved a snowstorm Sunday to rally in support or opposition of President Yoon Suk Yeol, suspended over a failed martial law bid.

Thousands descended on his residence again Sunday despite bitter snow conditions blanketing the capital.

"Snow is nothing for me. They can bring all the snow and we'll still be here," said anti-Yoon protester Lee Jin-ah, 28, who had previously worked at a coffee shop.

"I quit my job to come to protect our country and democracy," she said, adding that she had camped outside the residence overnight.

Park Young-chul, in his 70s, said the snowstorm wouldn't deter him from showing up to back Yoon. AFP

Heavy snow causes disruption in UK, Germany

LONDON

HEAVY snow and freezing rain brought widespread disruption across Europe on Sunday, particularly in the UK and Germany.

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Many sporting events have already been postponed.

Britain's main weather forecaster, the Met Office, says sleet and snow will continue to push north on Sunday and will be heaviest in northern England and into southern Scotland.

Snow and ice were also causing havoc in Germany, where a

bread of winter weather is spreading from the southwest.

Authorities have issued black ice warnings for drivers and pedestrians, advising people to stay home where possible.

Frankfurt airport canceled 120 of its 1,090 planned takeoffs and landings on Sunday.



In this videograb, Russian servicemen attend a combat training

Ukraine launches assault in Kursk surprising Russia

MOSCOW

RUSSIA said on Sunday that Ukraine had launched a "counter-attack" in the western border region of Kursk, where Kyiv's forces began a shock ground offensive last August.

It was not immediately clear how much Ukraine had advanced in the region, but pro-Kremlin military bloggers reported earlier that a powerful new offensive was under way.

The assault comes at a critical juncture in the nearly three-year conflict, with both sides seeking to boost their negotiating hand ahead of US President-elect Donald Trump's return to the White House on January 20.

"At about 9am Moscow time, in order to halt the advance of Russian troops in the Kursk direction, the enemy launched a counterattack," the Russian defence ministry said.

Ukrainian presidential chief of staff Andriy Bohdan said, "Russia is getting what it deserves," Ukrainian presidential chief of staff Andriy Bohdan said.

The head of Ukraine's Center for Countering Disinformation, Andriy Kovalenko, said on Telegram that defence forces were "working" in the area, without elaborating.

Images purportedly showing a column of Ukrainian armoured vehicles driving through the snow were shared by pro-Russia military blogger Dva Mayora on Telegram.

Ukrainian officials gave little detail on the new offensive, with a prominent lawmaker urging silence. "I can't understand why it is necessary to officially report on the Kursk region. Maybe better to do it afterwards when the operation is over?"

Other officials expressed their glee at the fightback, which comes almost three years since Moscow launched its full-scale military assault on Ukraine.

"Russia is getting what it deserves," Ukrainian presidential chief of staff Andriy Bohdan said.

The head of Ukraine's Center for Countering Disinformation, Andriy Kovalenko, said on Telegram that defence forces were "working" in the area, without elaborating.

In the Kursk region, the Russians are very worried because they were attacked from several directions, and it was a surprise for them," he said.

Pro-Kremlin military bloggers admitted the Russian army had come under pressure but said Moscow was fighting back.

TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED. NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY. E-Auction Notice of 15 days for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

ASIA MATTERS

MALAYSIA

TWO BOATS WITH 300 EXPELLED

Malaysia said it expelled two boats ferrying about 300 undocumented migrants from Myanmar from the country's waters.

Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd., (Arcil) CIN-U65999MH2002PLC134884. Acting in its capacity as Trustee of Arcil-SBPS-008-II Trust set up in respect of financial assets relating to Kallarackal Maharani Gold Supermarket.