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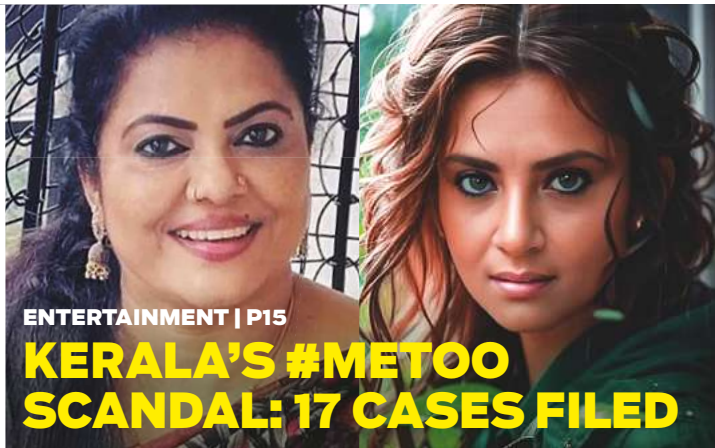


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AFF

■ Israeli soldiers operate during a raid in the Nur Shams camp for Palestinian refugees near the city of Tulkarem in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday.

## 10 Palestinians killed as Israel raids West Bank

Large-scale military operation launched in four cities

**DUBAI**

**BY STEPHEN N. R.**

Senior Associate Editor

In a dramatic escalation of hostilities in the occupied West Bank, Israel launched a large-scale military operation in four cities yesterday, employing drones and bulldozers, which resulted in the deaths of 10 Palestinians. The coordinated raids targeted Jenin, Nablus, Tubas, and Tulkarem, also leaving 15 others injured. The Palestinian Red Crescent reported that two were killed in Jenin, four in a nearby village, and four in a refugee camp near Tubas.

Amid rising violence, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas cut short his visit to Saudi Arabia to address the crisis. Palestinian Authority spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh warned that the escalation would have "dire and dangerous results,"

urging the world to act against what he described as an extremist government threatening regional stability. "The escalation will not bring security and stability to anyone, and everyone will pay the price," Abu Rudeineh said.

### Pre-emptive strike

Israeli military spokesperson Lieutenant Colonel Nadav Shoshani claimed the operation was a "pre-emptive strike against Iranian weapons smuggling into the West Bank."

The raids coincide with the ongoing Gaza war, now approaching its 11th month.

The West Bank has seen increased violence since the war

began on October 7, with over 650 Palestinians killed and 5,400 injured.

### UN alarmed

Meanwhile, the United Nations yesterday said Israel's military operation in the occupied West Bank "risks seriously deepening the already catastrophic situation" in the Palestinian territory.

"Such unnecessary or disproportionate use of force and the increase in apparent targeted and other summary killings are alarming," UN Human Rights Office spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani.

Additionally, the US announced new sanctions on Israeli settlers in the West Bank over violence against Palestinians, urging Israel to enforce greater accountability. "Extremist settler violence in the West Bank causes intense human suffering, harms Israel's security, and undermines the prospect for peace in the region," said State Department spokesman Matthew Miller.

**SEE ALSO P9**

## New Salik gates valued at Dh2.7b

Two gates at Business Bay and Al Safa South to be ready by Nov

**DUBAI**

Salik Company, Dubai's exclusive toll gate operator, has announced the combined valuation of the two new toll gates at Business Bay and Al Safa South. These two new gates have been valued at a total of Dh2.73 billion, with the Business Bay Gate valued at Dh2.26 billion and the Al Safa South Gate valued at Dh469 million.

The new gates are expected to be operational by the end of November this year and will expand Salik's toll gate net-

work in Dubai from eight to ten.

These additions aim to optimise traffic flow by redirecting vehicles to routes with higher capacity, thereby alleviating congestion. RTA has conducted detailed traffic impact studies to ensure that the placement of each gate aligns with its strategic goals for traffic management optimisation.

As per the Concession Agreement with RTA, Salik has the exclusive rights to construct, operate, and maintain the toll gates until end of June 2071.

Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Salik, commented, "The launch of the two new gates highlights the commitment of both the Roads and Trans-

portation Authority and Salik Company to advancing sustainable mobility solutions and improving Dubai's transport infrastructure. The new gates will play a crucial role in optimising travel time and reducing congestion on some of Dubai's busiest routes."

Ibrahim Sultan Al Haddad, CEO of Salik, added, "We are extremely pleased with the progress we are making on our long-term objectives, in line with our ambition to become a global leader in mobility solutions. We are thriving in the tolling business and remain focused on strengthening our core business offering as we expand our footprint within Dubai."

**SEE ALSO P5**

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## No overstay fine, exit fee for UAE amnesty seekers

TWO-MONTH GRACE PERIOD FOR VISA VIOLATORS STARTS ON SEPTEMBER 1

**DUBAI**

**BY HUDA TABREZ**

Living in UAE Editor

People on all types of visa — residence or visit — who have overstayed in the UAE will be able to benefit from a two-month amnesty that will be applied in the UAE from September 1.

In a press conference yesterday, the Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs and Port Security (ICP), announced details of the grace period that will be provided to visa violators, allowing them to regularise their status by applying for a new work or residence visa or by exiting the country.

Those who decide to leave the country will not have a ban placed on them and can return to the UAE on a legal visa, according to the authorities.

### Slew of benefits

The amnesty, which will last till October 31, will help people who have exceeded the stay on their residence visa or any type of visit visa, as well as those who have been put on the absconding list and those who were born in

Those who decide to leave the country will not have a ban placed on them and can return to the UAE on a legal visa, according to the authorities. The amnesty, however, will not include cases where the violations occurred after September 1, 2024.

the UAE, but have not gotten a residence visa.

Those applying for the amnesty will also benefit from fines and fees being waived, including overstay fines and fees for visa cancellation and getting an exit permit.

The amnesty, however, will not include cases where the violations occurred after September 1, 2024, as well as those individuals who have faced deportation from the UAE or any of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

Officials urged people in the UAE to make the most of this period to ensure that they can live in the UAE legally.

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