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## Now, fine for not reporting domestic abuse in UAE

#### DUBAI

BY ZAINAB HUSAIN Features Writer

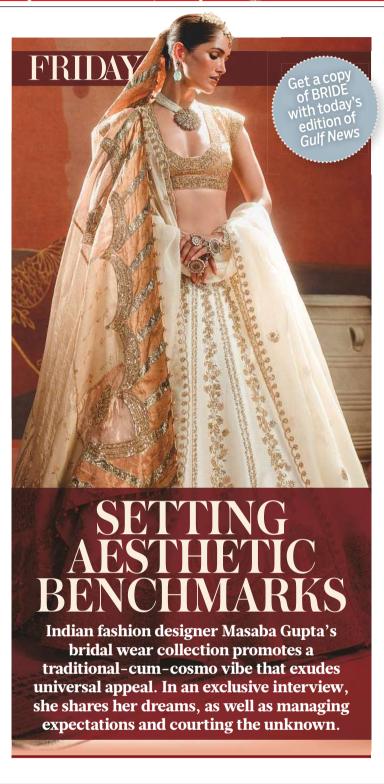
The UAE has enacted a new domestic violence law - Federal Decree-Law No. 13 of 2024 on the Protection from Domestic Violence, which came into effect on October 2, 2024. It replaces the 2019 law and now serves as the primary legal framework for handling domestic abuse cases in the UAE.

The law expands the definition of domestic violence to include physical, psychological, sexual, and economic abuse by a family member. Anyone who fails to report an incident of domestic violence immediately upon becoming aware of it, or who submits a false or malicious report, will face a fine between Dh5,000 and Dh10,000.

Significantly, the law extends protection to domestic workers, recognising them as a 'family member', and other vulnerable groups. For example, children who have witnessed domestic violence are also considered as victims, with additional provisions to address their psychological welfare.

Penalties for abusers have been made more severe, particularly for repeat of-

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# Israel vows Iran strike as Biden seeks restraint

THREAT SPARKS CALL IN TEHRAN FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS

### DUBAI

BY STEPHEN N. R.

Senior Associate Editor

President Joe Biden's first call on Wednesday with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu since August underscored his limited sway over Israel's plans for a potential strike on Iran.

The fact that Biden and Netanyahu went 49 days without speaking amid escalating tensions in the region highlights the deepening rift in their relationship and diverging objectives for the region. Biden is frustrated by Netanyahu's dismissal of his advice and public rejection of efforts to ease regional tensions, officials say.

The Israeli security cabinet convened last night to strategise, with Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant set to decide on the timing of any action against Iran.

US officials are pushing for a measured response focused on military targets and new sanctions against Iran. "Our attack on Iran will be deadly, precise and above all surprising," Gallant, defence minister, said on Wednesday. "They will not understand what happened and how it happened. They will see the results."

There are political concerns for the US. Vice-President Kamala Harris is anxious to keep



Lebanese civil defence members inspect the site of an

Israeli air strike on central Beirut yesterday. ISRAEL STRIKES CENTRAL BEIRUT, 18 KILLED

At least 18 people were killed, and 92 others injured as Israeli forces launched two air strikes on central Beirut.

According to Israeli media, the attack reportedly targeted head of Hezbollah's liaison and coordination unit Wafig Safa. The first strike targeted a building in the Ras Al Naba'a neighbourhood. while the second hit an apartment in a high-rise on Al Mamoun Street in Nowayri neighbourhood.

-Khitam Al Amir, Chief News Editor

the conflict from draining support in battleground states ahead of the November 5 elec-

### **Appeal for nukes**

With the prospect of Israeli retaliation, some Iranian hardliners want their government to revise its nuclear doctrine to pursue atomic weapons. More than three dozen hardline law-

makers have submitted a letter to Iran's top security body, the Supreme National Security Council, urging it to revisit the Islamic republic's nuclear doctrine. The parliamentarians also called on supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to reconsider his long-standing religious edict or fatwa banning nuclear weapons.

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