

NEWSBYTES

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“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

BBC prepares secret scripts for possible use in winter blackouts

Exclusive: Scripts set out how corporation will reassure public in event of major power loss



Broadcasting House in London. The draft scenario suggests a reduced BBC radio service would operate from an emergency broadcasting centre in a rural location. Photograph: PAMedzro/Alamy

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The BBC has prepared secret scripts that could be read on air if energy shortages cause blackouts or the loss of gas supplies this winter.

The scripts, seen by the Guardian, set out how the corporation would reassure the public in the event that a “major loss of power” causes mobile phone networks, internet access,

banking systems or traffic lights to fail across England, Wales and Scotland. Northern Ireland would be unaffected because its electricity grid is shared with the Republic of Ireland.

The public would be advised to use car radios or battery-powered receivers to listen to emergency broadcasts on FM and long-wave frequencies usually reserved for Radio 2 and Radio 4.

One draft BBC script warns that a blackout could last for up to two days, with hospitals and police placed under “extreme pressure”.

Another says: “The government has said it’s hoped power will be restored in the next 36 to 48 hours. Different parts of Britain will start to receive intermittent supplies before then.”

It is understood they were written by BBC journalists as part of routine emergency planning to deal with hypothetical scenarios. They include local details for the different regions and nations of Britain.

In a national emergency, the BBC has a formal role in helping to spread information across the country, as part of the government’s civil contingencies planning. The broadcaster’s governance framework states: “If it appears to any UK government minister that an emergency has arisen, that minister may request that the BBC broadcast or otherwise distribute any announcement or other programme.”

The government works with the BBC as part of its emergency planning process, although it is unclear whether it had any input on these scripts. A spokesperson said: “The government is confident that this is not a scenario we will face this winter.”

The BBC said it did not comment on its emergency broadcasting plans.

Ministers have been at pains to reassure businesses and householders that blackouts are unlikely. However, National Grid, which oversees electricity supplies in Great Britain, has issued a rare warning that power supplies could be at risk. The organisation said that in a worst-case scenario it could order planned blackouts for up to three hours a day if Russia cuts off all gas supplies to Europe.

On Monday, National Grid’s chief executive, John Pettigrew, went further and said that if everything that could possibly go wrong did go wrong, there could be rolling blackouts between 4pm and 7pm on “really, really cold” days in January and February, when wind speeds are too low to power turbines.

The BBC’s draft scenario suggests that in a national blackout it would run a greatly reduced temporary radio service from the UK’s emergency broadcasting centre, called the EBC, based in a rural location not acknowledged by the BBC.

This would provide half-hourly news bulletins on Radio 4’s FM and long-wave frequencies and a “music service”, with news updates on the FM spectrum used by Radio 2.

One scenario used in some of the scripts assumes that mains electricity is available in only a few lightly populated parts of Scotland – the Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland, and some parts of the Highlands.

The draft scripts for on-air news bulletins include space for a quote from a Cabinet Office minister, given the fictitious name Jose Riera.

The scripts report that these blackouts would affect gas supply systems, and knock out mobile phone networks, cashpoints and internet access. Traffic lights would stop working, causing disruption on the roads.

One script, written for a hypothetical news bulletin, warns: “The emergency services are under extreme pressure. People are being advised not to contact them unless absolutely necessary.”

It states that in Wales an emergency coordination centre has been set up, while in Scotland the first minister, Nicola Sturgeon, is chairing the devolved government’s emergency planning meeting. It adds: “Officials are saying there is no current risk to food supply and distribution. But they’re asking people to look out for vulnerable neighbours and relatives.”

Iran inks deal to supply Russia with ballistic missiles, more drones

18 October 2022, 5:43 pm



A cleric walks past Zolfaghar, top, and Dezful missiles displayed by the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, at Imam Khomeini grand mosque, in Tehran, Iran, Friday, Jan. 7, 2022 (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

Iran has signed a deal to supply Russia with surface-to-surface ballistic missiles and additional drones, Reuters reports, citing four Iranian officials.

The deal was forged on October 6 when Iran’s First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber led a senior security delegation to Moscow, Reuters says.

“The Russians had asked for more drones and those Iranian ballistic missiles with improved accuracy, particularly the Fateh and Zolfaghar missiles family,” an Iranian diplomat tells Reuters.

The report comes after Russia launched a wave of attacks on Ukraine using Iranian drones.

Digital Dictatorship Is Coming - The Power To Monitor & Control All Transactions



Governments and financial institutions are increasingly warming to the idea of introducing Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) – central banks’ digital tokens, pegged to a country’s fiat money, and controlled and backed by the authorities in ways they never could with other money they issue.

Unlike cryptocurrencies, which are private, Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) will be issued and controlled by the central banks themselves. In many ways, it’s the

same as banknotes, but it’s likely that every single transaction will be monitored for compliance.

On Friday 14th October, the IMF streamed a live video on YouTube called "Central Bank Digital Currencies for Financial Inclusion: Risks and Rewards."

Speakers were Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands, who's also the UN Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development. Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director, IMF, and Bo Li, Deputy Managing Director, and Cecilia Skingsley the BIS Innovation Hub Director.

It was all about global financial inclusion, which they said has improved over the past ten years, but almost a quarter of the world's adult population is still unbanked. It is hoped that central bank digital currencies would be affordable, widely accepted, and safe instruments, which would address some of the issues surrounding financial inclusion, among other things.

With less than 5,000 views, the live stream went under the radar for many. Our buddy Tim Hinchliffe over at The Sociable kept an eye on what was going on. Tim posted a video of Bi Li, the Deputy Managing Director of the IMF, explaining how CDBSs can be programmed.

According to Bi Li, a CDBC can improve financial inclusion by allowing government agencies and private sector players to program, to create smart contracts.

Smart contracts are programs stored on a blockchain that run when predetermined conditions are met. Most of the time, they're used to automate agreement execution, so everyone knows the outcome right away, without any intermediaries.

The smart contract would allow targeted policy functions, like welfare payments, consumption coupons, food stamps, etc. With CBDCs, we can precisely control what people can and can't own. Also, what kind of use this money can be programmed for, like food only. - Bi Li

As a result of this potential programmability, government agencies can precisely target their support packages to the right people. CBDCs can't solve every financial inclusion challenge, but they can work together with financial literacy and digital literacy. CBDC will have to work with other policies like digital identities and wallets.

This goes hand in glove with what the World Bank Group Report titled CBDC for Cross Border Payment described in November 2021.

Digital identity verification is essential to the operation of CBDCs, particularly in cross-border transactions. Tradeable digital assets must be tied to a digital identity system, which in turn should be tied to an automatic KYC and AML/CFT verification system. This is a foundational step to the potential use of CBDCs, and emerging developments in regulatory and compliance technology may benefit central banks' experiments in the digital currency space.

CBDC describes itself as an ecosystem, and the data it would produce would be very valuable to third parties and service providers. Using our day-to-day transaction data, they're working on value-add services. Data capture, global society goals, and control are also part of it.

When questioned on how this transactional data could be used, Bo Li explained: "I can give you one example in China, those transaction data can be utilized by service providers in credit underwriting."

Underwriting is the process by which the lender decides whether an applicant is creditworthy and should receive a loan.

Those transaction data in terms of how many coffees I drink every day, where I buy coffee, do I use UBER every day and what kind of working hours I have. Those non-traditional data can be very useful for financial service providers to give me a credit score and based on that credit score the service providers can give me a credit line without any face-to-face due diligence.

He continues to say that this "will create value in addition to finance and that data can be very profitable, and that's the value we are talking about to make it attractive to private sector players to join this eco system."

It's like the Chinese model, but every country has the option to do it differently. There is limited privacy. Setting thresholds for anonymizing lower transaction values. AML - Anti-Money Laundering. This live stream explained how central banks are working together. The IMF, World Bank, and BIS are also managing many central banks to do this. There's still a long way to go. But it's coming.

On the issue of CBDC data privacy, Cecilia Skingsley the BIS Innovation Hub Director explained: "What we just heard from Bo about credit scoring was a very good example of how different countries will take different journeys to a 'new world' where they serve their societies in the digital space." "We will all have different preferences and this preference on privacy or anonymity is tricky". She continued to say, "That its worth to give up a little bit of privacy to get security".

We've heard that before, right?

This sharing of transactional data was further emphasized by Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands in her opening remarks. She said,

A good design of CDBC could give people more control of their transactional data and their ability to share it with a wider set of financial sector providers.

And in a concept paper, India announced its plans for a digital rupee. Transactions with higher amounts may have to be disclosed mandatory, while smaller ones can stay anonymous, just like cash. We don't know what that higher amount will be.

The RBI isn't in favor of the e-rupee earning interest. It believes that if the e-rupee earns interest, users may withdraw funds from banks and convert them into digital form, affecting India's financial and banking system.

Earlier this year at the World Government Summit session aptly titled a 'New World Order', the economist Pippa Malmgren dropped the beans saying that "We are on the brink of a dramatic change; we are about to abandon the traditional system of money and replace it with a new one, Digital Blockchain CBDC, which will give us greater clarity over every single transaction."

The downside to having a CDBC-only monetary system is that, like China, the global west can shut off your digital wallet if you protest or speak negatively about the global elites. As was the case recently in China. The authorities' response to any civil disobedience can be swift and broad.

Globalists want centralized control and dominance structures where everything is tracked and surveilled rather than fragmented decentralized and private systems of digital money and identity. They're not joking! The parameters they set for digital currency will nudge your behavior through social scoring, to control society and to control you.

Headlines:

Boston University Defends Controversial Study On COVID Hybrid Strain With '80 Percent' Mortality Rate in Mice

One lawmaker, Sen. Roger Marshall (R-Kan.), said that the research entailed "lethal gain of function virus research" that creates the "potential to kill more people than any singular nuclear weapon." Marshall, a doctor, added that "viruses have managed to escape even the most secure labs" and said such "research must stop immediately while the risks and benefits can be investigated."

GPS Signal Mysteriously Disrupted Around Dallas Airports

The first reports of signal degradation occurred about 24 hours ago. "Significant GPS interference being reported by pilots in the Dallas area. Aircraft being rerouted onto non-RNAV arrivals," The FAA said it was investigating GPS signal degradation in the metro area and looking closely to see if this could be due to "possible jamming of the global-positioning system. "

How to watch the last solar eclipse of 2022 online for free (Oct. 25)

On Tuesday (Oct. 25), Earth will experience a partial solar eclipse that will be visible from parts of Europe, western Asia, and northeast Africa. Skywatchers in other parts of the world, such as the U.S., may miss this event in person, but they can watch it live online for free.

Israel must rethink its Ukraine policy as Iran joins Russia in war

For Russian President Vladimir Putin, the gloves were off from the start, but now, he has discarded any semblance of shame as he continues to wage war on Ukraine. The Ukrainians say they understand Israeli defense establishment's inability to provide lethal weapons because of the sensitive relations with Russia. "But what is their excuse for refusing defensive weapons?" a Ukrainian officials asked over the weekend. "And what is the argument when Iranian weapons are killing Ukrainian civilians?"

US military getting weaker; Navy 'weak', Air Force even worse says Heritage study

A new strength assessment by the Heritage Foundation sees the U.S. military is growing weaker and weaker as it continues to face an "aggressive" set of threats and challenges around the world. On Tuesday, the Heritage Foundation released its annual U.S. Military Strength assessment. The conservative think tank gave the overall U.S. military a "weak" rating, with the U.S. Marines rated as "strong," the U.S. Army as "marginal," the U.S. Navy as "weak" and the U.S. Air Force as "very weak."

North Korea fires 250 artillery shells into neutral buffer zone with South Korea

North Korean forces fired around 250 artillery shells on Tuesday into maritime buffer areas on the east and west sides of the Korean Peninsula that separate North and South Korea. In a statement provided to Reuters, the South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff said North Korean artillery forces fired 100 shells into the sea off its west coast at around 10 p.m. local time and another 150 rounds off its east coast around the same time.