

Afghan attacks kill 5 as vote nears

AFP, Kandahar

Suicide and rocket attacks killed five people and wounded more than 20 others across Afghanistan yesterday, fanning security fears just over two weeks before elections.

A provincial governor survived an assassination attempt just 10 kilometres (six miles) outside the Afghan capital Kabul and eight rockets slammed into the city, wounding a child and adult, authorities said.

In the southern province of Zabul, a suicide attacker walked up to an intelligence agency vehicle in a busy bazaar and blew himself up, killing one of the agency's staff and four civilian passers-by, police said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but the attack was similar to scores carried out by the Taliban, which routinely bombs security services in a bloody insurgency that reached record levels this year.

Sixteen civilians, including three children, two agency staffers and a policeman were wounded, deputy provincial police chief Ghulam Jailani Khan told AFP.

Zabul is one of Afghanistan's most troubled

provinces, part of the southern belt where the insurgency is strongest and where thousands of Western soldiers are pressing major battles to root out the Islamist hardliners.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for a volley of rockets fired into Kabul at about dawn, saying they were aimed at an Afghan military base and the international airport.

The interior ministry said eight slammed into the city, including one several hundred metres (feet) from the US embassy and others near the airport, in strikes that left a child wounded by shattered glass and also hurt a man.

Police found and defused a ninth rocket, interior ministry spokesman Zamaral Bashary told AFP.

There are periodic rocket attacks on Kabul but they rarely cause casualties or significant damage.

Just outside the capital early Tuesday, the governor of the neighbouring province of Wardak escaped with his life when four mines placed under a bridge exploded as his vehicle crossed, the ministry said.

Governor Mohammad Halem Fidyee and his guards were unharmed, it said in a statement. Four suspects were

arrested.

A recent spike in violence that has seeped increasingly out of traditional southern and eastern strongholds has fanned fears about security in the countdown to the August 20 presidential and provincial council elections.

The vote marks only the second time in history that Afghans will vote for a head of state and has been billed as a landmark on Western efforts to build democracy since the 2001 US-led invasion forced the Taliban out of government.

President Hamid Karzai, who is seeking a second term in office, is widely expected to win among a field of 41 candidates.

There are more than 100,000 foreign troops in Afghanistan mainly deployed under Nato and a separate US-led coalition that is trying to support Karzai's government in defeating the Taliban-led insurgency.

Amid speculation the top US commander in Afghanistan may be seeking more American forces for the war, the Pentagon revealed overnight that Defence Secretary Robert Gates flew to Belgium for a secret meeting with the general.

Hope rises on hills

FROM PAGE 1
Directorate of Land Records to complete the survey within the shortest possible time.

"I will talk to the government, the land ministry, and other related authorities to assist us in verifying the claims on the spot for finding solutions," he said.

Referring to the manpower crisis in the commission office, he said there is only one staff in the office while the total number of posts is 13, and that it is running without its secretary. He urged the government to appoint the required manpower.

Our Khangrachi correspondent reported that Additional Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong Md Nurul Islam, Khangrachi Hill District Council Chairman Ruhita Karbari, and Mong Circle King Saching Prue attended the meeting among others.

After the meeting in Rangamati circuit house in the afternoon, Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury said considering the real situation in CHT, if necessary, the existing Land Act will be amended to resolve the land disputes in the region.

"It's the first meeting and more such meetings will be arranged after forming the full commission. We're not being able to start our work due to a shortage of staff in the commission," he added.

Our Rangamati correspondent reported that the Chakma king, who was present at that meeting as well, said some contradictions are prevailing in the commission. The CHT Regional Council already sent recommendations to the land ministry for reforming the commission, headed by

The Rangamati meeting was also attended by Additional Divisional Commissioner Nurul Islam, Rangamati Deputy Commissioner Sourendranath Chakrabarty, ADC (revenue) SM Selim Reza, ADC (general) Biswajit Bhattacharya, Executive Officer of CHT Regional Council Krishna Chandra Chakma, and Councillor of Rangamati Hill District Council Aungsoi Prue Chowdhury.

Meanwhile, during a meeting with a delegation of diplomats representing seven European countries in the capital yesterday, Deputy Leader of the House Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, who is also the chairperson of the National Committee for Implementation of the CHT Peace Accord, reasserted the incumbent government's commitment to implementing the accord, saying a meeting of the national committee will be held in Rangamati on August 19.

Our Bandarban correspondent reported that the Land Commission will also have another meeting in Bandarban DC Office this morning.

On July 20, the parliamentary committee on CHT affairs recommended cancellation of leases of 45,000 acres of land in the three hill districts, as those had not been used according to the terms of the leases in the last 10 years.

The move is seen as complying with the 1997 peace

accord, as it is mentioned in the treaty that lessees who had been given the leases for rubber plantation and other purposes, but had not implemented any project within the past 10 years or had not utilised the lands properly, shall lose their leases.

The accord also says the CHT Land Commission, in addition to settling land disputes of rehabilitated indigenous refugees, shall have the fullest power for cancellation of ownership of those lands and hills which have been so far occupied or settled on illegally. No appeal can be made against the judgment of the commission, and its decision shall be final, the accord adds.

Speaking at a roundtable titled 'Preserving Our Culture and Heritage, Facing the Dual Challenges of Economic and Educational Development', organised by The Daily Star in the conference room of Rangamati District Sports Association on Monday, former president of Rangamati Bar Association, Advocate Protim Roy, said hundreds of indigenous people, who returned from India, are roaming in jungles, since they have yet to get their homes back due to the delay by the authorities in addressing the land disputes.

After signing the accord in 1997, members of Jana Sanghati Samity, who had been in an armed struggle for autonomy of CHT, surrendered their arms to the then Awami League government.

Implementation of the accord however lost momentum after the last BNP-Jamaat-led alliance government assumed state power in 2001. The alliance opposed the signing of the peace accord.

After being elected again to form a government in January this year, Awami League resumed implementation of the accord to bring normalcy in the region, and in May, made Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury the chairperson of the national committee for implementation of the treaty.

Dhaka-Ctg

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transfer (BOOT) basis.

The estimated cost for this project will go up by several hundred crores taka following twice cancellation of the tender. The estimated cost will be as high as Tk 2,400 crore compared to the previous estimated cost of Tk 2,168 crore, officials say.

Azimat Consortium proposed it would take five years to complete construction of the second highway. After operating for 30 years and recovering the investment through toll, the expressway will be handed over to the government, the proposal says.

The RHD sources say if the second highway is constructed, it will be the first expressway in the country with facilities like adequate parking space, refuelling stations, food courts and rest houses at regular intervals.

This expressway would cut the journey time between the two major cities to three hours from existing seven to eight hours. It would also help improve the economic corridor between the capital and the port city.

"The second highway will not only ensure safe journey in a smooth traffic environment but also cut operation costs saving fuel. The proposed highway would also provide higher level of service with uninterrupted traffic flow," says an RHD official.

A three-route option has been kept open from which one would be selected for the highway.

The first one runs parallel to the existing highway, while the second route starts from Jatrabari towards Narayanganj and then moves to the south to cross the Dhaleshwari river, Munshiganj, the Meghna and finally reaches Chittagong through Chandpur and Noakhali.

The third probable route begins from Jatrabari to reach Chittagong by crossing Laksham and Feni and will be the shortest and most direct one.

The country's busiest highway linking the prime port city and the capital has become a death trap due to its narrowness. Traffic cannot move uninterrupted on it which causes extra fuel consumption and eats up valuable time of the passengers.

Communications Minister Syed Abdul Hossain said upgrading the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway is one of the priority projects of his ministry.

"I hope there will be no trouble regarding tender of the project," he told The Daily Star.

KOKO'S WRIT HC adjourns hearing till today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday again adjourned the hearing on the writ petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's son Arafat Rahman Koko till today.

A time prayer by Attorney General Mahbubey Alam led the HC bench of Justice Syed Rezaat Ahmed and Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury to fix today for the hearing.

The attorney general yesterday sought time to file an application with this court challenging the process of filing the petition by Koko.

Earlier on Monday, the HC bench adjourned the hearing till yesterday, as the attorney general sought time for placing arguments.

Barrister Mahbubuddin Khokon on Sunday filed the writ petition on behalf of Koko challenging the legality of a money laundering case against him. Moreover, he prayed to the HC to quash the case.

The Anti-Corruption Commission on March 17 this year filed the case with Kofur Police Station in Dhaka against Koko on charge of laundering money he had taken illegally from a Chinese company, Siemens and other sources in exchange for helping them to get government contracts.

BENAZIR'S DEATH

UN investigator to grill Musharraf next month

ANI, Islamabad

A UN Commission investigating the assassination of former Pakistan premier Benazir Bhutto will question former president Pervez Musharraf next month contrary to the mixed signals coming from the ruling PPP-led government.

The inquiry commission, it appears, is clear that it will be interviewing Musharraf, who is currently residing in London.

According to sources close to the UN Commission, the interview may be conducted some time in September, most likely in London.

The three-member UN commission will definitely interview Musharraf in person. The News quoted sources, as saying.

The commission, which will go by its own mandate, is known to believe that its work will be incomplete without interviewing a principal, important and perhaps the most authoritative personality in Pakistan when the tragic and bloody killing of Benazir took place.

The commission, headed by Chile's Permanent Representative to the UN and former Chilean Deputy Foreign Minister, Ambassador Heroldo Munoz, is known to be quite determined about conducting the inquiry in a credible manner.

The other two members of the commission are: Marzuki Darusman, a former attorney-general of Indonesia and Peter Fitzgerald, a veteran of the Irish National Police.

Interviewing Musharraf, observers believe, should not be a problem since the mandate of the commission does include interviews with key players of the Musharraf era.

The commission, which commenced its six-month mandate on July 1, 2009, visited Pakistan in mid-July.

The commission will submit a report to the UN secretary-general within six months of its actual starting of work. He will then share the report with Government of Pakistan and submit it to the Security Council for information.

5 bodies

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Bharani canals Monday evening.

Sources in the coastguard confirmed that the five pirates were among those killed in a fierce gunfight between Raju Bahini and Zulfikar Bahini at Dudmukhi canal under Sharankhola upazila. No one has so far claimed the bodies, police said.

Meanwhile, coastguard members recovered two trawlers from Lathimara canal during a special operation on Monday. The pirates of Raju Bahini used the trawlers, sources said.

Besides, coastguards and forest guards in another joint operation rescued 25 fishermen and recovered eight fishing boats from Dudmukhi canal on July 31.

The fishermen, hailing from Sharankhola upazila, were kidnapped by pirates to realise Tk one lakh each from them, said Lieutenant Lokman Hakim of coastguards west zone.

Businessman

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ransom calling his relative Omar Faruque on mobile phone.

Witnesses said Faruque Ahmed, sensing the presence of the miscreants, jumped into the pond but had to come back to the abductors at gunpoint.

Admitting the incident, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Roanghari police station told reporters that his force has already been taken measures to rescue Faruque.

While contacted relatives of the abducted informed that a group claiming themselves Chittagong Hill Tracts Nationalist Forum (CHTNF), a new insurgent group in Bandarban, repeatedly demanded

Faruque pay extortion.

The group may be involved in the abduction as Faruque had denied paying any, they added.

Meanwhile, leaders of Bandarban Engine Boat Owners' Association said they had postponed all types of transportation in Bandarban-Roanghari, Bandarban-Ruma and Bandarban river routes due to a continuous threat posed by some vested interest groups.

Bandarban Tribal Boat owners Association also called a transport strike in all the routes on Sunday evening. An armed group had looted 20 sacks of rice from a boat at Pantola area near Ruma police camp on the same day, sources in the association informed.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Directorate General of Health Services
MBDC, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

Request for Open-Tender

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOH&FW)			
2.	Agency	TB & Leprosy Control Programme, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
3.	Procuring entity name	Director, MBDC & Line Director, TB-Leprosy Control, MBDC, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
4.	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.			
5.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.			
6.	Invitation for	Open tender for goods.			
7.	Invitation Ref. No.	MBDC-14/TB-Lep/MSR/2008/1490			
8.	Date	29.07.2009			
KEY INFORMATION					
9.	Procurement method	OTM, contractor/tenderers/suppliers will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the guide lines of Public Procurement Regulations-2008 of the Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10.	Budget and source of fund	GOB.			
11.	Development partner (if applicable)	NA			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12.	Project/programme code (if applicable)	NA			
13.	Project/programme name (if applicable)	TB & Leprosy Control Programme, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
14.	Tender package No.	GR-02			
15.	Tender package name	Procurement of MSR (Laboratory Chemicals and Reagents).			
16.	Tender publication date	29.07.2009			
17.	Tender last selling date	20.08.2009 17.00 hours.			
18.	Tender closing date & time	23.08.2009 at 13.00 hours.			
19.	Tender opening date & time	23.08.2009 at 15.00 hours.			
20.	Name & address of the office(s)	MBDC, TB & Leprosy Control Programme, Leprosy Institute & Hospital Compound, DGHS (TB Gate), Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
	- Selling tender document (principal)	Do			
	- Selling tender document (others)	Do			
	- Receiving tender document (others)	Do			
21.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)				
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22.	Eligibility of tenderer	Contractor/tenderers/producer/suppliers must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the same & may associate to enhance their qualification & as per terms & conditions attached with schedule.			
23.	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of MSR (Laboratory Chemicals and Reagents).			
24.	Brief description of related services	As per schedule.			
25.	Tender document price Tk. 750/-	& may be collected by depositing document price in the Sonali Bank/Bangladesh Bank, Dhaka, in favour of undersigned Vide Code No. 1-2711-0000-2366 through Treasury Challan with CTR.			
	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount in Tk	Completion time in weeks/month
26.	Lot No. 1	Procurement of MSR (Laboratory Chemicals and Reagents) like Sulphuric Acid Methylene Blue, Basic Fuchsin, Phenol Crystal, etc.	TB & Leprosy Control Programme, Leprosy Institute & Hospital Compound, MBDC, DGHS (TB Gate), Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212	15,000/-	15 days
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
27.	Name of official inviting tender				
28.	Designation of official inviting tender				
29.	Address of official inviting tender				
30.	Contact details of official inviting tender				
31.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.				
Prof Dr Pravat Chandra Barua Director, MBDC & Line Director, TB-Leprosy Control DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212					

4 cops hurt in gunfight with criminals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four policemen and a listed criminal sustained bullet wounds in a shoot-out between police and his party at Dattapara in Narsingdi town yesterday.

Tipped off, a team led by Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Narsingdi Sadar police station Shamim Hossain raided the house of Parvez Bhuyana alias Don, 25, in the area yesterday at about 1:30pm, said Sub Inspector (SI) Quamruzzaman Shikder.

When the team reached the house Don and his accomplices opened fire at policemen. A gunfight began when the officials retaliated with six bullets, Quamruzzaman said.

Don's accomplices managed to escape the scene leaving him bullet hit in his leg, he added.

The injured policemen OC Shamim Hossain, SI Quamruzzaman, SI KM Aziz and SI Mozaffar were rushed to Narsingdi Sadar Hospital and Don to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The team arrested Don and recovered a pistol and two bullets from the spot.

Don, an accused in nine cases filed with Narsingdi Sadar police station, has long been involved in drug peddling and arms trafficking in the area, police said.

পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ
POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) Bhaban (New), 3rd & 4th Floor, 8/A, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.
Web: www.pgcb.org.bd

স্মারক নং-২৬২/জিএমডি/৪/০৯-১০/৩২ তারিখঃ ২৮/৭/২০০৯ই

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১। বিষয় বা কাজের নাম	২। লালমনিরহাট গ্রীড উপকেন্দ্রে ১টি ১৩২/৩৩ কেভি, ১২.৫/১৩.৬৬ এমভিএ ট্রান্সফর্মার, ১৩২ কেভি ও ৩৩ কেভি সার্কিট ব্রেকারসহ অন্যান্য সপ্লিট সুইচগিয়ার ও সংযোগ কাজ।
২। ব্যয়না বা আদানত	টাকা ৪৮,০০০/- যার যে কোন তফসীলি ব্যাক কর্তৃক পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর অনুকূলে দেয়।
৩। দরপত্র দাখিলের মূল্য	প্রতি টাক ১,০০০/- মাত্র যার অফেরতযোগ্য পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর অনুকূলে তফসীলি ব্যাক এর পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে দেয়।
৪। দরপত্র প্রাপ্তি স্থান	ক) মহাব্যবস্থাপক (সফালন-২), বিদ্যুৎ ভবন, ১ আব্দুল গণি রোড, ঢাকা। খ) কোম্পানী সচিব, পিভিসিবি সি প্রধান কার্যালয়, আইইবি ভবন, রমনা ঢাকা। গ) উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক, গ্রীড সার্কেল, পিভিসিবি, বস্তাড়া। ঘ) নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর।
৫। ত্রিকাদায়ে যোগাযোগ	১। বিজ্ঞপ্তি, ডিপিডি, আইইবি, গণপূর্ত বিভাগের হাল নাগাদ তালিকাভুক্ত লাইসেন্সধারী দ্রুততম ১০ লক্ষ টাকা কার্যমূল্য বিশিষ্ট সপ্লিট কাজের পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন ইলেকট্রিক্যাল ত্রিকাদারগণ অংশগ্রহণ করিতে পারিবেন। ২। ২৬/৮/০৯ই বিকাল ৩:০০ ঘটিকা।
৬। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৭/৮/০৯ই দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা। ত্রমিক নং ৪-এ উল্লিখিত (খ) ব্যতীত দরপত্রসমূহে দরপত্র দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
৭। দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	৩০/৮/০৯ই দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা ত্রমিক নং ৪ এর ক ও গ-এ দাখিলকৃত সময় দরপত্র সমূহ সীলগালা অবস্থায় সজ্জা সাপেক্ষে নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে উপরোক্ত নির্ধারিত সময়ে মরদতাপালের সম্মুখে (খেলি কেব উপস্থিত থাকেন) সকল দরপত্রের খান খোলা হইবে।
৮। দরপত্র খাম খোলায় তারিখ ও সময়	৯। দরপত্র অন্দের পূর্বে দরপত্র গ্রহণের নিকট ত্রিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের হালনাগাদ তালিকাভুক্তির ও মালিকানা দলিল, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট, আয়করের হালনাগাদ সার্টিফিকেট, VAT রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স প্রদর্শন এবং দপ্তর গ্রহণের অনুমতি গ্রহণ করিতে হইবে। অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী সিটিউলে উল্লেখ রহিয়াছে। কোন কার্য দলানো ব্যতিরিক্ত দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা পিভিসিবি কর্তৃক সর্বোচ্চ করে।

মোঃ মুজিবুল হক, ব্যবস্থাপক
জিএমডি, পিভিসিবি, কলকাতা, হংকং।