INTERNATIONAL

Pakistanis displaced by floods queue for water at an army-run makeshift tent camp in Sehwan, Sindh province, yesterday.

before court verdict

main market.

could be rebuilt.

Ayodhya.

Ayodhya crosses its fingers

who runs a sweetmeats shop in Ayodhya's

reason why the verdict would not go in

their favour while Muslims are hoping

that the judiciary would entitle them to

their claim to the land so that the mosque

oldest Muslim litigant in the case, is wor-

Party (BJP) and its allies, he said: 'I have

never collected any funds in the name of

the Babri Masjid but it is no secret how

many political outfits have minted money

by keeping the Ayodhya issue alive for

decades. We must guard against the

seeking the right to offer namaz in the

mosque, where idols of Lord Ram were

introduced in 1949. It was Ansari's plea that

led the court to order shutting of the gates to

the disputed shrine that were unlocked

Muslim claim was based on far stronger

evidence, he is quite emphatic about

is that either party must abide by the

Though Ansari believes that the

'What we need to profess and promote

'And though I see no reason why the

Popular Life First Mutual Fund

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more than three decades later in 1986.

Ansari moved the local court in 1961

designs of such elements.'

abiding by the court order.

order of the court,' he stressed.

ried about the politicking in the name of

Mohammed Hashim Ansari, 90, the

Without naming the Bharatiya Janata son used to drive his car.'

Hindus in the town say they see no

Key Obama economy adviser to quit

BBC ONLINE

President Barack Obama's top economics adviser, Larry Summers, is to leave the administration at the end of the year.

Under Mr Summers, the council has been at the heart of the government's economic policy making.

The president praised him for "brilliance, experience and judgement" at "a time of great peril" for the US.

But the departure of Mr Summers, who is returning to a post at Harvard University, is the latest from the White House economy team.

In July budget director Peter Orszag stepped down and chairwoman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Christina Romer left earlier this month.

Earlier on Tuesday, the US Federal Reserve issued a downbeat assessment of the US economy and said that its main interest rate was likely to be kept at current levels close to zero for a long time.

In a statement issued after a regular policy meeting the Fed also said it was prepared to take additional measures to support the economy if needed

He's the third member of the economic team to depart and by far the most important and difficult to replace."

The White House said Mr Summers had been an architect of the 2009 Recovery act aimed at jump-starting the US economy, and had also, among other roles, led an overhaul of the automobile industry.

Meanwhile, Mr Summers said he would "miss working with the president and his team on the daily challenges of economic policy making".

verdict should go against our claim, espe-

cially since we have such strong evidence

in our favour, we will knock the doors of

between him and rival Hindu litigant

Mahant Ram Chandra Paramhans, who

spearheaded the Ram temple movement

for decades before passing away a few

years back. 'Paramhans and I would

sometimes even travel together to attend

the court hearings in Lucknow and my

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP and a key

member of the Ramjanmbhoomi Nyas

(Trust) entrusted with the task of building

a Ram temple, is confident that the ver-

grand Ram temple in this Ram nagri,

cal about not taking the issue to the

claim, we will make an appeal to the

union government to bring about legisla-

tion for building a grand Ram temple at

will go on endlessly as the matter is bound

to be taken to the country's apex court by

streets as in the 1980s and early 1990s.

'How can the judgment go against us? How can we be denied the right to build a

However, Vedanti, 67, is also categori-

'In case the verdict goes against our

'Unless that is done, this legal battle

dict will go in their favour.

which is his birthplace?'

the site, 'Vedanti told IANS.

the losing party.'

Swami Ram Vilas Vedanti, a former

He recalls the spirit of goodwill

the Supreme Court if need be.'

Obama groped for Afghan exit strategy, reports say

AFP, Washington

President Barack Obama groped for an exit strategy from the Afghan war last year amid fierce divisions among top advisors and powerplays by the military for more troops, reports said yesterday. Excerpts from a blockbuster new book

by legendary reporter Bob Woodward suggest that Obama, frustrated with the Pentagon as he sought to stop the war consuming his young presidency, dictated his own new six-page strategy.

Woodward reports that the administration was besieged by warnings of possible terror attacks on US soil and reveals the CIA established a covert army in Afghanistan to hunt and kill Taliban fighters.

The revelations about the president's agonizing search for a new war approach to Afghanistan last year, blow the lid on the hardball Washington infighting that led up to his decision to send in 30,000 more troops.

Woodward, half of the reporting team

that brought down president Richard Nixon over Watergate, is renowned for indepth reporting on successive administrations, which can set media and public perceptions of a new president. His account is based on a lifetime of contacts in Washington's political and

national security establishment and includes interviews with administration heavy hitters, including Obama.

Times obtained copies of the new book "Obama's Wars," which is due to be published Monday just six weeks before crucial mid-term elections in which Democrats fear heavy losses.

There was no immediate White House comment on the revelations.

Woodward reports Obama flatly rejected any prolonged US nation building effort, and was determined to send a signal to the American people along those lines.

"I'm not doing 10 years," he told Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in a late October 2009 meeting, Woodward writes, according to the Post.

"I'm not doing long-term nation-building. I am not spending a trillion dollars.

When Obama announced his troop surge in December, he also made clear that American soldiers would begin coming home in July 2011, a timeline that has caused intense public debate ever since.

The book appears to reveal internal fissures, distrust and infighting among the White House national security team as it debated every aspect of the Afghanistan war, a conflict which may define Obama's entire presidency.

"Everything we're doing has to be focused on how we're going to get to the point where we can reduce our footprint," Obama is quoted as saying in the book, according to the Post, where Woodward The Washington Post and New York worked for decades.

"It's in our national security interest. There cannot be any wiggle room," Obama is reported to have said.

"This needs to be a plan about how we're going to hand it off and get out of

Afghanistan," Obama said. The president rejected a Pentagon request for 40,000 troops, Woodward said, chronicling Obama's meetings with Gates and Clinton in the months leading up to

his December announcement. The New York Times reported that the famously cool-headed Obama at times lost his composure as pressure built to make a

"I'm done doing this!" he exploded at one point, the Times reported.

The book describes the sometimes pointed and personal tone of the debate among the sparring factions within the administration.

National security adviser James Jones privately referred to Obama's political aides as "the water bugs," the "Politburo," the "Mafia," or the "campaign set," Woodward wrote.

Woodward's book also details how the White House was battered by warnings about the threat of fresh attacks on US soil, even as the president insisted that the lesson of September 11, 2001 was that the country would be able to rebound from any such attack.

"We can absorb a terrorist attack," the president said during an interview with Woodward in July.

Hasina deplored that human's callous activities have increased destruction of biodiversity at such an abnormal pace that the mother earth may, sooner than expected, lose her vital functions of sustaining all living things, plants and animals, including human beings.

Making a passionate appeal to the convention, she said, "Let us not forget that every species has a specific role to play in our world ecological system, and that they are all connected in a mysterious, miraculous chain with the sole purpose of preserving our planet.

on mother Earth. Let us with down the decline."

it is too late."

She said most of the world's population is poor whose daily lives depend on biodiversity. This is one strong reason why world leaders set a target in 2002 to substantially reduce biodiversity loss by 2010, and integrated the sameintotheMDGs.

Hasina said one must recognise the close links between the natural capital and the development objectives. It must also establish the practical link between biodiversity loss and poverty, as in the theme of this Biodiversity Year, "Biodiversity for Development and Poverty Alleviation."

On the International Year of Biodiversity, she called for crafting a new vision on biodiversity when the leaders will meet again in Japan later

"Today's event and all such events during this 'Biodiversity Year' must send a clear message to the Nagoya meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity in October next," the

Taking a stock of the last 20 years, she said the situation looks bleak as the onslaught on the planet's resources continues unabated.

the convention must promote conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and equitable sharing of the benefits from its use.

developing world, women farmers produce 60-80 percent of food. Unfortunately, they suffer disproportionately through biodiversity loss, land degradation, climate change, and deepening poverty but they are inadequately represented in decision making.

She observed that women farmers' opinion, need and interest would no doubt help successful formulation of conservation policies and programmes.

preamble to the Convention on CBD recognises "the vital role that women play" in the conservation and sustainable uses of biological diversity.

Planning Minister AK

FROM PAGE 16

"Let us also not forget that

their survival also may have a significant role in our survival utmost sincerity, at least, slow-The premier proposed to

adjust policies and mindsets to reflect the true value of species and habitats, saying "biodiversity is life--our life. Let us act now to preserve it, before

this year.

premier said.

The decisions to be taken at Hasina said across the

The PM mentioned that the

The premier expressed satisfaction that what she has always believed and tried to practice in Bangladesh has been echoed in CBD affirmation of "the need for the full participation of women at all levels of policy-making and implementation for biological diversity conservation."

Khandker, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, Ambassador at-Large M Ziauddin and Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the UN Abdul Momen were present.

PM for effective | Whistleblowers to be protected two years' imprisonment or with FROM PAGE 16 financial penalty.

No criminal or civil or departmental proceedings can be initiated against a reporting person for disclosing publicinterest related information to the authorities, and his or her identity will not be disclosed without his or her consent. A provision of the bill says if a

whistleblower is a government official, no action can be taken to punish them by sending them on forced retirement, or demoting them or taking any departmental step to harass, which may damage their social dignity or cause torment. A whistleblower cannot even

be made a witness and produced before court in connection with the criminal and civil cases to be filed following the information disclosed. The information cannot be produced before court as evidence to keep the person's identity secret, according to the provisions.

If a person discloses a whistleblower's identity, he might be punished with a maximum five years' or minimum

On receiving information from a whistleblower, the authorities concerned will launch investigation or take proper action. Legal actions will be taken under the existing laws if any allegation is proved correct after enquiry.

The proposed legislation also said a person might be punished with a maximum five years' and minimum two years' imprisonment or financial penalty if one intentionally provides false information to the authorities. If the person in question is a

government official, that person might face departmental action in addition to jail sentence. If a person is victimised for

disclosing false information by a person, then the latter may have to give compensation to the victim, says a provision of the bill. The bill also defined compe-

tent authorities. In the case of people holding constitutional posts, the president will be the competent authority, likewise the Speaker for MPs, the Supreme Court's registrar for members of the judicial service, Anti-Corruption Commission for graft related matters, the Comptroller and Auditor General for public money, officers-in-charge of respective police stations will be considered competent authorities for illegal and immoral

activities. The law minister said the present government is determined and committed to take necessary measures for curbing corruption.

He said Bangladesh has been a party to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, 2007. Being a state party of the convention, it is mandatory for Bangladesh to introduce legislation to ensure protection of whistleblowers. The Public Interest Related

Information Disclosure (Protection) Act, 2010 and Electoral Rolls Act bills were sent to the parliamentary standing committee on law, justice and parliamentary affairs ministry for scrutiny.

পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ (An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board) ISO 9001:2000

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১। বিষয় বা কাজের

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ক) গোপালগঞ্চ গ্রীড উপকেন্দ্র হইতে নির্মাণাধীন গোপালগঞ্চ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র পর্যন্ত ১৩২ কেভি সংগ্রালন লাইন নির্মাণ কাজ। খ) ফরিদপুর গ্রীড উপকেন্দ্র হইতে নির্মাণাধীন ফরিদপুর বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র পর্যন্ত ১৩২ কেভি

সঞ্চালন লাইন নির্মাণ কাজ। গ) গোপালগঞ্জ গ্রীড উপকেন্দ্রে ১টি ১৩২ কেভি লাইন "বে ইকুইপমেন্ট" ও পরিচালন যন্ত্রপাতি স্থাপন কাজ।

ঘ) ফরিদপুর গ্রীড উপকেন্দ্রে ১টি ১৩২ কেভি লাইন "বে ইকুইপমেন্ট" ও পরিচালন যত্রপাতি স্থাপন কাজ।

২। বায়না বা জামানত

क कार्ष्ट्रत জना ठीका ১,२०,०००/-, थ कार्ष्ट्रत জना ठीका ७,৫०,०००/-, श कारब्द्रत জना টাকা ৩০,০০০/- এবং ঘ কাজের জন্য টাকা ৪০,০০০/- মাত্র, যে কোন তফসীলি ব্যাংক কর্তৃক পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর অনুকৃলে দেয়।

ঃ ক) মহাব্যবস্থাপক (সঞ্চালন-২), বিদ্যুৎ ভবন (১০ম তলা), ১ আব্দুল গণি রোড, ঢাকা। খ) কোম্পানী সচিব, পিজিসিবি লিঃ প্রধান কার্যালয়, আইইবি ভবন, রমনা ঢাকা। গ) উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক, গ্রীড সার্কেল, পিজিসিবি, গোয়ালপাড়া, খুলনা।

ঘ) প্রকল্প পরিচালক, আরপিপি সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রকল্প, ৮০, মহাখালী (২য় তলা), ঢাকা।

ঙ) নিমু স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর।

দরপত্র দলিলের

ঃ ক কাজের জন্য টাকা ২,০০০/-, খ কাজের জন্য টাকা ৫,০০০/-, গ এবং ঘ প্রতিটি কাজের জন্য টাকা ১,০০০/- মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য) পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর অনুকুলে তফসীলভুক্ত ব্যাংক এর পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফ্ট এর মাধ্যমে দেয়।

ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা

- ঃ ১) 'ক' এবং 'খ' কাজের জন্য পিজিসিবি'র সঞ্চালন লাইন নির্মাণ কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন অথবা বিউবা/ডিপিডিসি'র ১ম শ্রেণীর তালিকাভূক্ত (এবিসি ইলেকট্রক্যাল লাইসেন্সধারী) ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান যাহাদের ১৩২ কেভি বা তদূর্ধ ভোল্টেজের সঞ্চালন লাইন নির্মাণ ও টেষ্টিং-কমিশনিং কাজে কমপক্ষে ৩০,০০,০০০/- টাকার একক কাজের সন্তোষজনক কার্য সম্পাদনের অভিজ্ঞতা আছে।
- 'গ' এবং 'ঘ' কাজের জন্য পিজিসিবি'র গ্রীড উপকেন্দ্রের ইকুইপমেন্ট স্থাপন কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন অথবা বিউবো/ডিপিডিসি'র ১ম শ্রেণীর তালিকাভূক্ত (এবিসি ইলেকট্রিক্যাল লাইসেন্সধারী) ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান যাহাদের ১৩২ কেভি বা তদূর্ধ ভোল্টেজের ইকুইপমেন্ট স্থাপন ও টেষ্টিং-কমিশনিং কাজের সন্তোষজনক কার্য সম্পাদনের অভিজ্ঞতা আছে।
- শেব তারিব ও সমর
- ঃ ১২/১০/২০১০ ইং বিকাল ৪:০০ ঘটিকা।
- ৭। দরপত্রগ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান ৮। দরপত্র খাম

খোলার তারিখ ও

- ঃ ১৩/১০/২০১০ ইং দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা ক্রমিক নং ৩-এ উল্লেখিত ('খ' ও 'ঘ' ব্যতীত) যে কোন দপ্তরে দরপত্র দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
- ৪ ১৮/১০/২০১০ ইং দুপুর ১২:১৫ ঘটিকায় নিমু স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে সকল দরপত্র একত্র করিয়া দরদাতাগণের সম্মুখে, যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন সকল দরপত্রের খাম খোলা হইবে।
- ৯। দরপত্র ক্রয়ের পূর্বে দপ্তর প্রধানের নিকট ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের হালনাগাদ তালিকাভুক্তির ও মালিকানা দলিল, ব্যাংক সল্ভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট, আয়করের হালনাগাদ সার্টিফিকেট, VAT রেজিট্রেশন ও হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স প্রদর্শন এবং দপ্তর প্রধানের অনুমতি গ্রহণ করিতে হইবে। সিডিউলে উল্লেখকৃত অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী এইক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য হইবে। কোন কারন দর্শানো ব্যতিরেক দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা পিজিসিবি কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষন করে।

এ, কে, এম, আনোয়ার হোসেন, ব্যবস্থাপক জিএমডি, পিজিসিবি, গোয়ালচামট, ফরিদপুর।

slip from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. as per following schedule:-

Asset Management

IANS, Ayodhya

blanket is back.

With just one day to go for the long awaited verdict on the Babri Masjid-

Ramjanmabhoomi dispute, a strange

quiet has descended over this town with

old timers hoping this is not the prover-

century is scheduled to come to some

kind of fruition with the Lucknow bench

of the Allahabad High Court's verdict Sep

24. Eighteen years after the demolition of

the Babri Masjid by Hindu radicals who

believed that it was built on the site of the

birth place of Lord Ram, the security

and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

personnel march down the narrow streets

and police around the disputed site are on

the alert, disallowing visitors from even

quickly get as volatile as it did on Dec 6,

1992, when the Babri Masjid was demol-

the hope is that this time around, the

you can see normal life is already dis-

rupted and I would not be surpised at all if

mischief mongers are already on the job

to incite trouble,' said Suphal Chandra

Residents fear that the situation could

The debate is slowly building up, but

'The prevailing silence is very scary;

carrying combs, pen and paper.

ished, triggering nationwide riots.

reaction would be more subdued.

Gun-wielding Rapid Action Force (RAF)

The dispute that dates back to the 19th

bial lull before a communal storm.

Phone: +88 02 9360024, 9346005; Fax: +88 02 9338757; Web: www.racebd.com

DISTRIBUTION OF REFUND WARRANTS & ALLOTMENT LETTERS

DISTRIBUTION TIME 9.00 A.M TO 4.00 P.M. This is to inform that Allotment Letters/Refund Warrants of valued IPO Applicants of POPULAR LIFE FIRST MUTUAL FUND are ready for distribution. The valued Investors may collect the same by submitting original Company/Bank acknowledgement

Date	Paltan Community Centre 42, Naya Paltan, Dhaka-1000.	AGB Colony Community Centre, Dhaka (Opposite Motijheel Ideal School)
26.09.10 Sunday	Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited (All nominated branches)	Bank Asia Limited (All nominated branches)
27.09.10 Monday	Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) (All nominated branches) NCC Bank Limited (All nominated branches) The City Bank Limited B.B. Avenue Br, Dhaka Chamber Br, Dhanmondi Br, Shaymoli Br, Imamgonj Br, Johnson Rd Br, New Market Br, Kawran Bazar Br, VIP Road Br, Islampur Br, Nawabgonj Br, Nawabpur Br, Zinzira Br. & Pragati Sarani Br.	(All nominated branches) Eastern Bank Limited (All nominated branches) Trust Bank Limited (All nominated branches) One Bank Limited (All nominated branches)
28.09.10 Tuesday	The City Bank Limited nominated branches outside Dhaka. National Bank Limited (All nominated branches) Exim Bank Limited (All nominated branches)	BRAC Bank Limited (All nominated branches) Southeast Bank Limited (All nominated branches) First Security Islami Bank Limited (All nominated branches)

N.B. No Refund warrants will be issued in favour of the applicants (except NRB) maintaining account with Al-Arafah Islami Bank Ltd., Bank Al-Falah Ltd., Bank Asia Ltd., BRAC Bank Ltd., Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC, Dhaka Bank Ltd., Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd., First Security Islami Bank Ltd., Habib Bank Ltd., ICB Islamic Bank Ltd., IFIC Bank Ltd., Jamuna Bank Ltd., Mercantile Bank Ltd., Mutual Trust Bank Ltd., National Bank of Pakistan, One Bank Ltd., Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd., Social Islami Bank Ltd., State Bank of India, The City Bank Ltd., Trust Bank Ltd. and Woori Bank. The refund money shall be credited to the applicant's account by their respective bank.

Non Resident Bangladeshi (NRB) &

All Mutual Fund & Portfolio A/C

N.B. If the Allotment Letters/Refund Warrants are not collected by hand from the distribution centre within scheduled time, the Allotment Letters/Refund Warrants will be sent by courier services at the respective mailing addresses at applicant's own risk and responsibility.