

British PM to visit Pakistan

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan has announced that British Prime Minister David Cameron would today make his first visit to the nuclear-armed South Asian country since taking office nearly a year ago.

Cameron's visit comes nine months after he sailed into a diplomatic row with Pakistan over remarks he made in the country's arch rival India last July that elements in the Muslim majority country were promoting the "export of terror".

Cameron is to arrive in Islamabad for a one-day visit at the invitation of PM Yousuf Raza Gilani, the Pakistani foreign minister's said.

"Pakistan attaches considerable importance to the British prime minister's visit and to the close cooperative relationship with the United Kingdom," it said in a statement.



Anti-regime protesters shout slogans calling for the ouster of Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh during a demonstration in central Sanaa yesterday, as security forces shot dead 17 fellow demonstrators and wounded scores more on the second day of lethal clashes in Taiz, south of the capital, medics said.

PHOTO: AFP

SC hearing on appeals

FROM PAGE 20
date of the hearing.

Nobel laureate Dr Yunus and nine board members of the microfinance bank filed two separate leave-to-appeal petitions on Sunday challenging the HC verdict as they recently got the certified copy of the judgment.

The apex court on March 29 adjourned the hearing on two petitions till yesterday as the lawyers for the petitioners sought time for filing the leave-to-appeal petitions.

Dr Yunus and nine board members of the microfinance bank on March 9 filed two separate petitions with the apex court, seeking a stay on the operation of the verdict and the Bangladesh Bank order.

US pressured Gulf states over Iran: Ahmadinejad

AFP, Tehran

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said yesterday the United States and its allies pressured Gulf Arab states to accuse Tehran of interfering in the region and demanded Saudi forces leave Bahrain.

"This statement was issued under pressure from America and its allies. It does not bear any legal value," Ahmadinejad told reporters at a Tehran news conference, after the GCC said Sunday it was worried about "Iranian meddling."

The Iranian president also said that Saudi-led forces brought into Bahrain amid protests by the Shiite majority in the kingdom should leave.

"Take them out. The people have demands so listen to them," the hardliner said.

The Gulf Arab states on Sunday accused the Islamic republic of interfering in Bahrain and Kuwait.

Foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), in a statement issued after a meeting in Riyadh, said they were "deeply worried about continuing Iranian meddling."

Ahmadinejad said the Gulf Arab monarchies must "not fall into the trap of the Americans," and should boost their ties with Tehran instead.

"We have extended the hand of friendship... do not fall into the American trap, all should be alert," Ahmadinejad said in the press conference broadcast live on state television.

Pointing the finger at Tehran's regional archfoe, Israel, he said: "Their (the West's) intention in interfering in the region is to save the Zionist regime."

The GCC -- grouping Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia with Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates -- accused Shiite Iran of plotting against the security of its Sunni monarchies and of fanning confessional discord.

Aila-hit people staring at sky

FROM PAGE 20

The family of 35-year-old Sabir is one of the 8,321 households still living on the embankment in Khulna, Satkhira and Bagerhat, according to ECHO partners' assessment as of March this year. As many as 40,385 out of 63,000 badly affected households have already returned to their places.

BWDB officials claim all of the Aila affected 49 polders have already been repaired except the one in South Betkashi.

"We hope to repair the last one in April," claimed Giasuddin Ahmad, director of the project for rehabilitation of the BWDB structure.

Yet only repair is too inadequate for the poorly main-

tained 50-year-old embankment as very often it would be found narrowed down to less than three feet wide and seven feet high. In places parts of the slope of the embankment were even found washed away.

As the correspondent travelled at least 12 villages along the BWDB embankment in Khulna, Satkhira and Bagerhat, people were found living in constant fear that another cyclone would destroy the entire embankment.

"Unless redesigned, the 50-year-old embankment might not withstand another natural disaster," said BWDB official Giasuddin Ahmad.

He suggested the height of the coastal belt embankment be increased by at least one metre. And the slope of about 1,000km of the embankment must be protected with blocks along the big rivers.

Meanwhile, the parliamentary standing committee on water resources ministry on April 3 formed a three-member committee headed by Awami League lawmaker Abdur Rahman to investigate progress of the damaged embankment reconstruction.

The move came in the wake of widespread allegations that the embankment was repaired with sub-standard materials and without proper bidding procedure.

SOUTH BETKASHI AND THE EMBANKMENT

Locals in Betkashi allege the breach on the embankment was only 10-foot wide just after the cyclone.

But it widened faster and became 60 metre wide by the time the government took its first repairing step.

The work began in October 2010 with an estimated budget of Tk 2.06 lakh and continued till February this year but failed to seal the crack.

The second phase of repairing with Tk 4.92-crore budget began in March, but even then the crack became 130 metre wide.

The affected people looked frustrated as they showed this correspondent the poor condition of the embankment.

In Southkhali of Bagerhat Dulal Howlader lamented that the embankment, which was their protection from the mighty Baleshwar River, would not even withstand even a cyclone of second cautionary signal.

The immediate past chairman of South Betkashi union Shamsur Rahman said "Neglect has caused the damage the cyclone itself could not unleash."

AL stalwarts, allies

FROM PAGE 20

Hossain from the censure of the lawmakers. And that is when the issue was put to rest.

The same month, former AL general secretary Abdul Jalil said the government had failed to arrest the price hike of essentials and improve law and order. He also spoke of inadequacy of the government efforts to solve the electricity and gas crises.

In private, some top AL leaders are even more scathing about the government's performance, party insiders say.

Many ministers, on the other hand, view these criticisms as "venting of frustration for not being in the cabinet".

For Hanif, slating the government openly is like playing into the opposition's hands and thus politically immature.

Many AL leaders say they cannot speak their mind in party forums either.

Around 6,29,619 lakh students will take the exam under eight general education boards while 76,957 will take Alim exam under Madrasa Board and 68,961 will take BM exam under Technical Board.

The highest number of examinees, 2,09,117, will appear under the Dhaka board.

Earlier on Sunday, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said necessary steps have been taken to conduct the exams in a secure and peaceful atmosphere.

The minister is likely to visit Dhaka College in the capital today.

HSC exams

FROM PAGE 20

43,068 more than last year's. Some 4,24,823 male and 3,54,618 female students of 7,288 educational institutions are appearing for the exams under 10 education boards.

The exams will also be held in five overseas centres in Jeddah, Riyadh, Qatar, Abu Dhabi and Tripoli for a total of 191 candidates.

Ahead of the examination, Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) imposed restriction on access within 200 yards of the examination centres to ensure peaceful atmosphere. The restrictions will remain effective on the examination days, said a DMP release.

Bangla First Paper will be on the first day, today, followed by Bangla Second Paper on April 7. The written examinations will end on May 31.

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বিসিআইসি দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি					
(বিসিআইসির পর্যায় শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক)					
ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, পলাশ ইউনিয়ন কাট্টারী লিঃ, পলাশ, নরসিংহনগুড় নির্মাণ বালিত কাজের জন্য OTM পদ্ধতিতে কালীমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আবহাও করা যাচ্ছে ৩-					
ক্রমিক নং	দরপত্র নামসূ র ও তারিখ	কাজের বিবরণ	দরপত্র মালিকের মুদ্র্য (ক্ষেত্রে ক্ষেত্রের নাম)	দরপত্র মালিকের হাজা র প্রতিশেষ	দরপত্র মালিকের তারিখ ও সময়
১	প্রিয়াকা/বালিকা/ বিজ্ঞান/টেকনোলজি বাকার/১০/১/১	৫০ কেজি ওজনের সারের বকা (কৃষ্ণ / পরিষেপণালীন) গুরুবার্ষিক কাজের ক্ষেত্রে ট্রাকের ধূম যে কোন পরিবহন বেগাই করণ কাজের দরপত্র।	৫০০ (পাঁচ শত) টাকা	ক) বিসিআইসি প্রধান কার্যালয়, পরিচালক, ডিভিশন ৩০-৩১, পলাশ লাইন ১-এ, ঢাকা। খ) মহাবাবুপুর (বালিকা), পলাশ ইউনিয়ন কাট্টারী লিঃ, পলাশ, নরসিংহনগুড়।	জন ২৫/০৪/২০১১ সময় ১১,০০ টাকা
২	প্রিয়াকা/বালিকা/ বিজ্ঞান/গুরুবা কার/১০/১/১	৫০ কেজি ওজনের সারের বকা (কৃষ্ণ / পরিষেপণালীন) গুরুবার্ষিক কাজের ক্ষেত্রে ট্রাকের ধূম যে কোন পরিবহন বেগাই করণ কাজের দরপত্র।	৫০০ (পাঁচ শত) টাকা	-এ-	-এ-
দরপত্র অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (১) হিসাব বিভাগ, বিসিআইসি প্রধান কার্যালয়, ৩০-৩১, দিলক্ষ্মী বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০, (২) পিউট্রোফ্রান্স এর হিসাব ধেকে পাওয়া যাবে। দরদাতাদের অধ্যাদের মনোনিত প্রতিলিপির উপরিলিপিত নির্মাণ করা হবে এবং উপরিলিপি প্রতিলিপি নির্মাণ করা হবে। দরপত্র দাখিলের দিন কোন দরপত্র দলিল বিজ্ঞাপন করা হবে না। (২০ সংকলন ইসলাম) উপ-ব্যবস্থাপক (ক্ষেত্রে) ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের পক্ষে।					

ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LTD.

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Ashuganj, B.Baria-3402, Bangladesh

Tariq: ০৩-০৪-২০১১ প্রিঃ

সুব. নং ৪ এপিএসিএল/এমডি/ইএসট-৫/২০১১/৪৭৩

আওগঞ্জ পাওয়ার স্টেশন কোম্পানী লিঃ (এপিএসিএল)-এ সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (বৈদ্যুতিক) / জুনিয়র ইঞ্জিনিয়ার
(বৈদ্যুতিক) পদে সিদ্ধিত পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তিএতোরা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অর্কে কোম্পানীতে উপরোক্তিত পদসমূহে নিয়োগের জন্য নির্বাচনী
সিদ্ধিত পরীক্ষা নিম্নোক্ত সূচী অনুষ্ঠানে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে ৪

পদ	তারিখ ও বার	উপরোক্তির সময়	পরীক্ষা আরম্ভের সময়	হাজা
সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (বৈদ্যুতিক)	১০ এপ্রিল ২০১১ রবিবার	দুপুর ১:৩০ ঘটিকা	দুপুর ১৪০০ ঘটিকা	আওগঞ্জ তাপ বৈদ্যুত কেন্দ্র উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, আওগঞ্জ পাওয়ার স্টেশন কোম্পানী লিঃ আওগঞ্জ, ত্রাপ্পেরাবাড়ী-৩৪০২
জুনিয়র ইঞ্জিনিয়ার (বৈদ্যুতিক)	১২ এপ্রিল ২০১১ রবিবার	দুপুর ১:৩০ ঘটিকা	দুপুর ১৪০০ ঘটিকা	আওগঞ্জ তাপ বৈদ্যুত কেন্দ্র উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, আওগঞ্জ প