

C'wealth appoints special envoy to Maldives

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Commonwealth has appointed its former secretary general Sir Donald McKinnon as special envoy to the Maldives to encourage consolidation of democratic culture in the islands country.

The decision to appoint a special envoy was taken on Friday at the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) meeting in London last week, according to a press statement of commonwealth.

Sir Donald McKinnon is a former commonwealth secretary general (2000-2008), and former deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs of New Zealand.

"We will encourage inclusive agreement among political leaders, promote consolidation of democratic culture and institutions and commonwealth values," the statement said.

Indians vote in final leg of key state polls

AFP, New Delhi

India's most populous state along with one of its smallest went to the polls yesterday in the last leg of local elections that could influence who rules the world's largest democracy in two years.

Voters in vast northern Uttar Pradesh and tiny coastal Goa cast ballots in the elections seen as an important test of popularity for Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's scandal-tainted Congress party-led national government.

Results of the polls staged over five weeks in five states will be announced next Tuesday and analysts are watching to see whether the embattled Congress fares well enough to remain the powerbroker in the 2014 general elections.

The Uttar Pradesh vote is the most important of the five elections which also have been held in the restive state of Manipur, the wheat-bowl heartland of Punjab and the mountainous region of Uttarakhand.

Rahul Gandhi, scion of a family which has dominated post-independence Indian



Rahul Gandhi

politics, has spearheaded campaigning for the secular left-leaning Congress party in politically crucial Uttar Pradesh.

The 41-year-old is widely viewed as a prime minister-in-waiting, but he faces a hard task in resurrecting Congress's fortunes in a state where the party has been out of power for 22 years and was thrashed in the last elections in 2007.

Arrayed against him in the vast, underdeveloped state of 200 million people is the mercurial Chief Minister Mayawati, a low-caste populist who commands a huge following from those at the bottom of India's strict social ladder.

Rahul Gandhi has made it his key goal to substantially raise Congress's seat tally from the just 22 out of 403 it won in the last election in Uttar Pradesh.

The main contest in Uttar Pradesh is between Mayawati's Bahujan Samaj Party, another regional caste-based group the Samajwadi Party, Congress and the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party.

Uttar Pradesh will send 80 members to parliament in the next national elections -- the single largest bloc.

Zardari party leads Pakistan polls

BBC ONLINE

Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari's beleaguered ruling political party has made gains in the Senate elections, unofficial results indicate.

They show that the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) won 19 seats, becoming the largest party.

The main opposition Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party led by Nawaz Sharif secured 14 seats.

Analysts say it is a big boost for Zardari and his government, who have recently been under pressure from the judiciary and the powerful military.

They are in conflict over a leaked memo suggesting that President Zardari wanted to ask the US government for support to prevent a possible coup, during the turmoil, which followed the killing of Osama Bin Laden.

The Supreme Court has also tried to force Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani to have corruption proceedings reopened against Zardari.

Several leaders of the PPP earlier accused the opposition of conspiring to stop Friday's elections.

Elections are being held for 45 senators in the 104-member chamber. They are being replaced as their terms end.

Pakistan's official APP news agency says nine more candidates stood unopposed in the poll.

The unofficial results suggest that the PPP would now have 41 seats in the Senate, and together with its allies would control the chamber for another three years.

Given the support that the ruling PPP party enjoys among the parliamentarians, this election is expected to give it considerable influence within the country's political system for several years to come.

NEWS IN brief

Former ANN chairman dies

ANN, Manila

Isagani Yambot, publisher of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, passed away on Friday due to cardiac arrest at the age of 77.

Yambot was one of the members of the board of the Asia News Network (ANN), an alliance of 21 newspapers in the region. He was also the chairman of the board in 2009.

Abigail Valte, deputy spokesperson of Philippines President Benigno Aquino III, expressed the government's condolences on his death.



Isagani Yambot

Gilani reaffirms he will not quit

DAWN ONLINE, Multan

Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said he had fulfilled a promise of holding the Senate elections on time.

While addressing a ceremony after inauguration of a new Air University campus here yesterday, Gilani said he was going nowhere and the government would now present its fifth budget in May.

Answering a question on the Pakistan US relations, he said the bi-lateral ties have seen many ups and downs.

He said the government wanted to provide facilities to people according to the available resources.

Blast kills 3 at Yemen army base

REUTERS, Sanaa

Two militants drove a car packed with explosives into a Yemeni army base in the south of the country yesterday, killing themselves and a soldier, the defence ministry said.

The attack targeted barracks of the republican guard forces in the province of al-Bayda at dawn, the ministry said on its website. It blamed al-Qaeda for the blast.

"The explosion was very loud and took place in Dar al-Nasr, which is a military site of the Republican Guard," said a website close to Ali Mohsen al-Ahmar, a general who defected from former President Ali Abdullah Saleh in the early days of an uprising against him last year.

Quran burning: Six accused

CNN ONLINE

The recent burning of Qurans at a Nato base in Afghanistan involved five American servicemen and a local translator, according to a Nato official familiar with the investigations.

The Qurans burned were among religious materials seized from a detainee facility at Bagram Airfield last week.

Throng of outraged Afghans took to the streets following the incident, prompting US President Barack Obama to apologise to his Afghan counterpart, Hamid Karzai, calling the burning an inadvertent error.

PDB aims to triple output

FROM PAGE 1
million cubic feet per day (mmcf).

The PDB believes by adding another 40 mmcf gas to such a unit if converted into a combined cycle one, the unit would be able to produce 610 MW very cheap power.

"We are looking at two old units in Ghorashal, among unit numbers three to five," said the PDB chairman.

"The World Bank is interested in funding conversion of one such unit. It has appointed a consultant to look into its feasibility, which will take six months. Then the World Bank will give its decision," Alamgir said.

"But meanwhile we (PDB) are going to finance conversion of one such unit... We are going to ask the bidders to arrange loans for the scheme. PDB will guarantee repayment."

In this manner, the PDB is looking at turning two

210 MW plants into two 610 MW ones. The gas efficiency of these plants is now 33 percent. It will exceed 50 percent after the conversion.

The government is now minimising the level of load shedding by relying on around two dozen rental power plants, most of which generate power using imported liquid fuel. As imported fuel is very costly, the PDB has turned to Tk 9,000 crore subsidy, half of which it now plans to cover by raising power tariff.

Some of these rental plants are using gas that are not being used by the old PDB plants which went out of order for technical reasons. The PDB's gas-based plants which suspended production include Ghorashal sixth 210 MW unit, Siddhirganj 210 MW unit and Raajan 210 MW second unit.

Of these, the PDB has

diverted the Ghorashal unit 6 gas to a 150 MW rental power plant that was previously generating power using costly imported diesel. This diversion is saving the PDB up to Tk 1,200 crore a year worth of diesel import. At the same time, such rental plant would provide the PDB back up support while the old plant is being repaired or another old plant is being converted into a combined cycle one.

As rental power generation costs are bleeding the PDB, it is now increasingly focusing on raising efficiencies of old gas-based power plants.

In line with Petrobangla's gas generation forecasts, the PDB believes that within a year the country's gas crisis will be temporarily solved and there will be some extra gas available to be utilised in the power sector.



PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar Opposition Leader Aung San Suu Kyi waves to her supporters as she campaigns in the country's second largest city of Mandalay yesterday. She fell ill as she addressed the largest crowd of her election campaign so far.

International smuggling rings busted

Says US officials

BBC ONLINE

The US authorities say they have smashed several major international smuggling rings stretching from the US to China, Taiwan and the Philippines.

In all, 29 people were charged with distributing contraband cigarettes and fake luxury goods in the United States, as well as drug smuggling.

The smuggled goods were manufactured in China and were worth hundreds of millions of dollars, prosecutors say.

All the rings used a port in New Jersey. Six suspects remain at large.

The US authorities say undercover agents used phone tapping to dismantle.

Mosquitoes free to bite

FROM PAGE 1

Residents, particularly of Basabo, Mirpur, Pallabi, Mohammadpur, Lalmatia, Uttara, Nayabazar, Nawabpur, Jatrabari, Madartek, Kazipara, Shewrapara, Moghbar, Rampura, Khilgaon, Sutrapur and Gendaria have been complaining the most about the menace.

Nasima Begum, a homemaker living in Basabo area, said anti-mosquito drives had been totally absent in their locality for the past few years.

"You can't relax for a moment here unless you have an electric mosquito zapper (racket) in the hand all the time," said Rizwan of Basabo, adding that killing a dozen did not matter as many more took their place within minutes.

This goes on until they take refuge inside mosquito nets, he added.

Studying is very difficult with all these biting and buzzing all around, said Alif Alam Meem, an SSC candidate living in Mirpur-12.

He said even burning two mosquito coils simultaneously could not help him

concentrate in studies.

"Mosquito net is a must if someone wants to take a nap during the day," said Mohammad Hasnet of Kazipara.

Officials of both Dhaka north and south city corporations blamed the aditicide shortage of the last five months, and lack of field monitoring and drain maintenance for the failure in mosquito control.

An official of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) last week said although the decision of procuring aditicide should be taken at the beginning of a fiscal year, fund crunch had delayed the process.

Over the last five months, anti-mosquito drives had to be carried out with half the amount of aditicide needed to contain mosquitoes, said an official of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC).

He identified lack of monitoring and the negligence of mosquito destruction crew and spray men as other key reasons behind the menace.

Just recently, the city corporations had each

received 25,000 litres of aditicide, the official said.

Mohammad Nur-Un-Nabi, chief health officer of DNCC, last week said with this quantity they would be able to conduct drives for one month.

He said so far the field monitoring could not be carried out properly as the supervisors do not have the transport facility.

He suggested that everything like procurement of medicine, spraying and fogging equipment, and field works and funding be dealt by a particular department to give anti-mosquito drives the momentum.

Brig Gen Md Abdullah Al Harun, chief health officer of DSCC, said they had started a crash programme from February 25 which would continue until March 8.

"Under the programme, we will conduct anti-mosquito drives with full logistics in one or two wards in a day. We will spray and fog aditicide and larvicide to kill mosquitoes and larvae of that particular area(s) that day," he said, adding that routine larviciding and aditiding would continue after the programme ends.

"We have also been giving priority to waste management and requested the department concerned of the corporation to strengthen their activities," said Brig Harun.

He said they had been asking people through horn speakers and messages in the print media to keep their houses clean since it is not possible for the city corporation employees alone to contain the menace.

Another official of DSCC pointed out that many of the drains in the capital are covered with concrete slabs which make it difficult for the city corporation men to reach the stagnant water underneath.

According to him, these covers should be removed in some areas of the capital.

NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO.39 OF 2012
(arising out of an application under section 81(2) & 85(3) of the companies Act, 1994)

IN THE MATTER OF:
Motaheer Hossain, Son of Alhaj Azizur Rahman, shareholder of Bangladesh Commerce Bank Limited, 234/A/1, Shantibag, Dhaka-1000. Petitioner

-VERSUS-
Bangladesh Commerce Bank Ltd. a public company limited by shares incorporated under the company Act, 1994 having its registered Head office at Eumoo's Trade Centre, Level-22, 52-53 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka represented by its Executive Vice President and another. Respondents

Take notice that on 20.02.2012 that the Hon'ble High Court Division was moved with an application under Section 81(2) read with Section 85(3) of the Companies Act, 1994, on behalf of Motaheer Hossain a shareholder of Bangladesh Commerce Bank Limited praying for permission to hold outstanding 13th Annual General Meeting of Bangladesh Commerce Bank Ltd. for the year 2011 on condonation of delay in holding 13th Annual General Meeting on compliance of provisions of Companies Act, 1994 and Articles of Association of the said Bank. Upon preliminary hearing his Lordship Mr. Justice A.F.M. Abdur Rahman on the date was pleased to admit the application for hearing and directed publication of notice to that effect within next 15 days in one English and another Bangla national daily newspaper.

If any one is interested to oppose the application on the date to be fixed by the Hon'ble Court for hearing of the application, he/she/they may do so either personally or through the appointed learned Advocate on the date fixed for hearing by filing affidavit in opposition.

Copy of the application can be obtained from the High Court Chamber of the undersigned on payment of necessary charges.

Sd/-
Syed Hasan Zobair
Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
Room No.215
Supreme Court Bar Association Main Building, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000

Vacancy Announcement

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a vacancy for the post of **Capacity Building Officer** for "Police Reform Programme (PRP)" project. The duration is until June, 2014.

The duration of the Service contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than 17.00 PM, Saturday, 17 March 2012.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.
Female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

"বিদ্যুৎ সশ্রয়ী বাস ব্যবহার করুন"

Invitation for Tender
Rural Electrification Board.
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

1	Ministry/Division	Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources.		
2	Agency	Rural Electrification Board.		
3	Procuring Entity Name & District	Director, Procurement, Rural Electrification Board, Dhaka.		
4	Invitation for Tender Name	Supply of office Furniture, Computer & Computer Accessories, A/C Machine and Photocopier.		
5	Invitation Ref No. & date	REB/DP/BAR (MISC)-01 /2012/----- Date:-----		
KEY INFORMATION				
6	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method, NCT.		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
7	Budget and Source of Funds	GOB.		
8	Development Partners (if applicable)	N/A		
KEY INFORMATION				
9	Project/ Programme Name	Rural Electrification Expansion Barisal & Rajshahi-Rangpur Division Programme-1.		
10	Tender Package No.	BAR (MISC)-01 & REER-MISC-02		
11	Tender Publication Date	04-03-2012		
12	Tender Last Selling Date	18-03-2012 up to office time		
TENDER CLOSING AND OPENING				
13	Tender Closing Date and Time	19-03-2012 12.00 Noon (BST)		
14	Tender Opening Date and Time	19-03-2012 12.15 Noon (BST)		
15	Name & Address of the office	Address		
	For Selling Tender Document	Directorate of Procurement (7 th floor), Rural Electrification Board, Nikunja-2, Dhaka- 1229, Bangladesh.		
	For Receiving & Opening Tender Document	Directorate of Procurement (7 th floor), Rural Electrification Board, Nikunja-2, Dhaka- 1229, Bangladesh.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
16	Eligibility of Tenderer	Bangladeshi Manufacturer/Supplier.		
17	Brief Description of Goods	Procurement of Office Furniture, Computer & Computer Accessories, A/C Machine and Photocopier.		
18	Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	Tk. 1,000.00 (Per Document)		
19	Brief Description of Goods and amount of Tender Security :			
Tender Package No.	Sub-Package No.	Description	Tender Security Amount in Tk.	Description of Delivery
BAR (MISC)-01	BAR (MISC)-01-001	Office Furniture	23,000.00	As per Delivery Schedule
REER-MISC-02	REER-MISC-02-01	Furniture,	30,000.00	
REER-MISC-02	REER-MISC-02-02	Computer & Computer Accessories.	19,000.00	
	REER-MISC-02-03	Air Conditioner & Photocopy Machine.	4,500.00	
20.	Regarding Tender Document	Tender Document can be purchased by the interested tenderers on submission of a written application to the address below upon the payment of non-refundable Tk. 1000.00 (Taka One Thousand) in the form of Pay Order / Bank Draft in favour of Rural Electrification Board, Dhaka, Bangladesh. No tender document will be sent by courier or by mail.		
21	Mode of Payment	Payment will be made directly to the suppliers in Local Currency (BDT).		
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
22	Name of official Inviting Tender	Md. Torab Ali Akunjee		
23	Designation of official Inviting Tender	Director (Procurement)		
24	Address of official Inviting Tender	Rural Electrification Board, Head Office Building (7 th Floor), Nikunja-2, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh.		
25	Contract details of official Inviting Tender	Tel. & Fax # 8900359		
26	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders			

পরি/জন (৮৬) ২০১২-২০১২

Director (Procurement)
Rural Electrification Board,
Head Office Building (7th Floor)
Nikunja-2, Khilkhet,
Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh.
Phone & Fax : 8900359.
E-mail : rnbprocure@rivalho.com

GD-941