

Blast hits Israelis in Bulgaria

6 killed as Israel blames Iran; US, UK renew threat to Tehran on Hormuz

AFP, Sofia
At least six people were killed and many more wounded yesterday in an attack on a bus packed with Israelis at a Black Sea airport in Bulgaria that the government in Israel blamed on arch foe Iran.



A picture shows smoke rising over Bourgas airport yesterday following the blast.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said "all signs point to Iran" after an official in Jerusalem said the bus carrying Israeli citizens at the Burgas airport was shot at and an explosive device thrown.

"Israel will respond forcefully to Iranian terror," Netanyahu said. "In the past few months we have seen attempts by Iran to harm Israelis in Thailand, India, Georgia, Kenya, Cyprus and other places."

The attack, the first on Bulgarian soil against Israelis, also drew strong condemnation from the Israel's staunchest ally the United States and France. White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters that the United States "condemns such attacks on innocent people, especially children, in the strongest possible terms."

coast, setting off a fire that spread to another two buses, the ministry said.

Pictures showed huge plumes of black smoke rising over the airport, which the ministry said had been closed after the incident. Television showed ambulances rushing people to hospital and women crying.

Between 40 and 50 passengers had got on to the bus at a parking lot outside the arrivals hall at the airport when the blast occurred, state-owned BNR radio said.

Earlier, The US and Britain said in joint statement that the countries will not tolerate Iranian attempts to block the strategically important Strait of Hormuz.

US Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and his counterpart Philip Hammond spoke about Iran's "destabilizing behavior" during a bilateral meeting, Panetta told reporters at a joint news conference.

"The Iranians need to understand that the United States and the international community are going to hold them directly responsible for any disruption of shipping in that region," the Pentagon chief said. "And the United States is fully prepared for all contingencies here."

Govt to divert money

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after a secretary-level meeting at the Cabinet Division.

All secretaries attended the meeting presided by the cabinet secretary. At the meeting, the secretaries decided to donate one of their festival allowances, equivalent to one month's salary, for the Padma bridge project. They would be donating the money in two phases.

All top civil servants would give their best effort to build the bridge with the country's own money as per the premier's wish, added the cabinet secretary.

He said funds of those projects, which did not need to be implemented immediately, would be diverted to the Padma bridge project. The Bridges Division would provide assistance to the government for implement-

ing the bridge project on a priority basis.

He said budget allocations would be spent quickly this year to help them get a better idea about which projects could be put on low priority and their funds could be diverted.

Meanwhile, the shipping ministry yesterday informed the parliamentary standing committee on the ministry that it would provide Tk 2,000 crore for the Padma bridge project; the Chittagong Port Authority alone would give Tk 1,500 crore.

Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) Coordination Committee yesterday expressed solidarity with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on this issue and decided to make a donation. The prime minister had

thanked them for their donations.

FOREIGN CURRENCY

FROM BB
The central bank would provide the government with the foreign currency, if necessary, to implement the Padma bridge project, said Bangladesh Bank Governor Atiur Rahman yesterday.

If foreign currency is required for implementing the project, the central bank would provide it the same way it provides for fertiliser and fuel, he said replying to a journalist's query. He was announcing the monetary policy for the second half of the current fiscal year.

The governor, however, said he did not think foreign currency would be needed for the project during the tenure of this monetary policy.

Sugar price cut by Tk 5

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for selling the sweetener at a higher rate than the market price. Even many dealers of the BSFC have stayed away from taking delivery of their allotted sugar.

The price will be Tk 50,000 per tonne or Tk 50 a kg in the wholesale market, effective during the month of fasting, said Barua.

The government wants to ensure a smooth supply of sugar so that its price remains stable during Ramadan, said the minister.

The country's annual demand for sugar is around 1.4 lakh tonnes, which rises

to 1.5 lakh tonnes during Ramadan.

Along with the 1.06 lakh tonnes of imported sugar, the BSFC has a stock of 1.74 lakh tonnes, which is more than enough to meet the Ramadan demand, stated the minister.

The state-run agency will incur a loss of Tk 12 per kg for selling it at Tk 50 in the wholesale market, he said, adding that the government would bear the subsidy for the sake of consumers.

The wholesale price of sugar was Tk 50 per kg in Moulvibazar yesterday.

Sugar was being sold at Tk

55-56 a kg in the city markets yesterday, according to the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh. The price is 5.71 percent higher than the prices in the last 30 days.

DISHONEST BUSINESSES WARNED

Commerce Minister GM Quader yesterday said the government would strongly monitor the market to keep the prices of essentials at "justifiable" levels during Ramadan, reports UNB.

Speaking at a discussion at the DCCI office in the city, the minister, admitting some lapses, called upon traders not to raise the prices of basic

commodities illogically and sought their cooperation in keeping the market stable.

The government has already instructed the deputy commissioners to monitor the market on a regular basis so that consumers do not suffer due to any unjustified price hike of essentials.

Meanwhile, Commerce Secretary Ghulam Hussain, at a meeting at his office yesterday, urged the top importers of basic commodities to reduce the price of edible oil in the upcoming Ramadan in light of oil prices having gone down in the

international market, reports our staff correspondent.

According to data from the Bangladesh Tariff Commission (BTC), prices of both edible oil and sugar have declined in the international market, but the impact of the downward trend in prices is yet to be reflected in the domestic market.

"Please reduce the prices of edible oil at least by Tk 1 per litre, because the prices of the item have declined in the international market," the secretary pleaded before the businessmen at the meeting, with folded hands.

Ghulam Azam's plea rejected

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Jamaat Chief Matiur Rahman Nizami last year and it too was rejected.

Justice Nizamul said Ghulam Azam was still in hospital undergoing treatment and the tribunal was not sure whether he could perform the religious rites. However, he said, "We [tribunal] do not want to make any comments."

The tribunal further said if the relevant authorities--hospital and the prison--found Ghulam Azam to be fit enough to perform the rites, they could make arrangements in prison.

The tribunal said it did not find any reason to free Ghulam Azam on bail. "As

such the petition stands rejected."

Ghulam Azam's first bail prayer was rejected on January 11 when he appeared before the court. The court had sent him to jail and he has been in the prison cell of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital almost ever since.

His second bail petition, filed on the grounds of deteriorating health, was rejected on February 24.

Meanwhile, Tribunal-1 yesterday also recorded cross-examination of investigation officer of a case filed against Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delwar Hossain Sayedee for his

alleged involvement in crimes against humanity during the Liberation War.

Sayedee is facing charges on 20 specific counts for crimes against humanity. The proceeding of the case was adjourned until today.

SESSION IN CAMERA
The defence counsels of Jamaat leader Abdul Quader Mollah yesterday completed cross-examination of the third prosecution witness behind closed doors at the International Crimes Tribunal-2.

The three-member Tribunal-2, led by its Chairman Justice ATM Fazle Kabir with members Justice Obaidul Hassan and Judge Md Shahinur Islam,

adjourned the case proceeding until July 23 when the fourth prosecution witness was expected to testify.

For the first time at the international crimes tribunals, a witness testified behind closed doors on Tuesday. Besides the judges, three each of prosecutors and defence lawyers, court officials and the accused Quader Mollah were present at the courtroom yesterday.

Mohammad Ali, the conducting prosecutor of the case, told reporters that the tribunal had completed recording the cross-examination of the female witness.

On July 12, the tribunal

decided to allow two female witnesses, members of victims' families, to give their testimonies against the Jamaat assistant secretary general behind closed doors to protect their identity and privacy.

Meanwhile, defence counsels yesterday filed a petition seeking appropriate action against prosecutors who had "violated court order" by disclosing before the media information on the proceedings in camera on Tuesday.

Defence counsel Mohammed Kafil Uddin Chowdhury told The Daily Star that the tribunal would hear the petition on July 23.

Hannan Shah out of race

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upcoming movement to compel the government to restore caretaker system.

"The decision has frustrated our leaders, workers and supporters since our victory was certain. But we will obey the decision as elections cannot be free and fair under the Awami League administration," Hannan Shah told The Daily Star yesterday.

The Gazipur-4 parliamentary seat was declared vacant after Tanjim Ahmed Sohel Taj had resigned as ruling AL lawmaker.

Since the 1996 general elections, the BNP has not

won this parliamentary seat. In 1991 Hannan Shah, also a former minister, was elected lawmaker from this constituency for the last time.

The national standing committee of the BNP on Monday night at a meeting decided not to take part in the upcoming by-election.

Standing committee member Lt Gen (ret'd) Mahbubur Rahman said it was a collective decision. "We won't do anything that may hamper our upcoming movement," he said while talking to The Daily Star.

Meeting sources say Hannan Shah had tried his

best to convince the his party leaders, to ensure his ticket to the by-election, but none of his colleagues in the standing committee stood beside him.

Even the BNP chairperson did not show any sympathy toward Hannan's appeal for not boycotting the by-election, which he believes "was a great opportunity to win back the seat from Awami League".

"I myself was the candidate and our workers became very enthusiastic to go to the election. The boycott decision will make them very frustrated," sources quoted Hannan Shah as

saying. Hannan went on, "The Awami League will be defeated and we must win the seat. So we should not give up the race."

Senior leader Moudud Ahmed strongly opposed Hannan and said the party could not take part in the polls as it had already rejected the incumbent Election Commission.

"It will be contradictory if we take part in the by-polls," Moudud told the meeting.

The former minister said the chairperson had declared that a tougher movement will be forged after Eid-ul-Fitr to realise the

demand for a restoration of the caretaker government. Participation in any election will weaken the movement, he added.

"Increasing numbers in parliament by a seat will have no impact in politics," Moudud was quoted as saying at Monday's meeting and got support from other members of the committee.

Later BNP chief and Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia also extended her support to those against participation in the polls, frustrating Hannan Shah to the core, insiders say.

India elects new president today

FROM PAGE 20
Vote counting is scheduled for Sunday and the results are likely to be announced by early evening.

Election managers of the United Progressive Alliance are hopeful of a runaway victory for Pranab who is expected to get around 7.5 lakh vote value.

In the run up to the presidential polls, UPA ally Trinamool Congress made a U-turn on its decision to support Sangma.

West Bengal Chief Minister fell out with the UPA last month after she had rejected Pranab as the coalition's candidate for president. The Trinamool Congress was the only UPA member which had opposed

Pranab's candidacy. Besides the UPA and its four supporting parties--Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party, Rashtriya Janata Dal and Janata Dal(S)-- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance constituents Janata Dal(U) and Shiv Sena as well as the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and Forward Bloc have declared their support for Pranab.

The Communist Party of India, Rashtriya Shakti Party, Telugu Desam Party and Telangana Rashtra Samithi, which together have about 36,000 votes, are likely to abstain in the voting.

There are around 32,000 votes from smaller parties which have no presence in parliament but have legislators in the states.

Sangma, a former Lok Sabha Speaker, jumped into the fray playing the tribal card with initial support of key regional parties Biju Janata Dal ruling eastern state of Odisha, and All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) in power in Tamil Nadu. BJP and Akali Dal decided to back Sangma, who quit the Nationalist Congress Party that he founded with Sharad Pawar, to contest the elections.

On the eve of presidential elections, Congress President Sonia Gandhi yesterday hosted a lunch where all constituents and

supporting parties, including Trinamool Congress, were present.

Sangma, on Trinamool Congress not voting for him, said he had no grudge against Mamata Banerjee for supporting his rival Pranab Mukherjee.

Asked if he was disappointed at Mamata's last-moment decision, he said, "She has every right to decide for her party. I have nothing against her..."

"You wait till July 22," he said when asked about his prospects.


Meanwhile, UPA nominee Hamid Ansari yesterday filed his nomination papers for re-election as vice-president in the presence of Sonia Gandhi, Prime

Minister Manmohan Singh and leaders of the ruling alliance who are confident of his overwhelming victory in the August 7 polls.

Sonia Gandhi and Manmohan Singh handed over the first set of nomination papers on behalf of Ansari to Lok Sabha Secretary General T K Vishwanathan who is the returning officer for the vice-presidential elections.

Seventy-five-year-old Ansari is set to become the second person to get two consecutive terms after Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan.

According to UPA election managers, Mamata will back Ansari as she did for Pranab in the presidential polls.



OFFICE OF THE PROJECT DIRECTOR
Procurement of 6 nos. dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories
for Ministry of Water Resources & Ministry of Shipping
(Mongla Port-1 no. BIWTA-3 nos. BWDB-2 nos.),
BWDB, NARAYANGANJ.

Invitation for Tenders (2nd Re-Tender) (International)

1. Ministry	Ministry of Water Resources.
2. Agency	Bangladesh Water Development Board.
3. Purchaser Name	Project Director, Procurement of 6 nos. dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories for Ministry of Water Resources & Ministry of Shipping (Mongla Port-1 no. BIWTA-3 nos. BWDB-2 nos)
4. Purchaser District	Narayanganj.
5. Invitation for	Manufacturing & Supply of 500 mm discharge pipe diameter Cutter Suction Dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories (2 sets).
6. Invitation ref. no. & date	PD/PDAC-6(LoC)/2012-13/04 Dated: 17.07.2012.

KEY INFORMATION

7. Procurement method	International Open Tendering method (ICT)
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FUNDING INFORMATION

8. Budget & Source of funds	Development budget of GOB and Loan from Exim Bank of India.
9. Development partners	Exim Bank of India.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

10. Project / Programme Name	Procurement of 6 nos. dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories for Ministry of Water Resources & Ministry of Shipping (Mongla Port-1 no. BIWTA-3 nos. BWDB-2 nos).
11. Tender package no.	POD-1(Single Lot)
12. Tender package Name	Manufacturing & Supply of 500 mm discharge pipe diameter Cutter Suction Dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories (2 sets).
13. Tender publication date	19.07.2012.
14. Tender last selling date	27.08.2012.
15. Tender receiving date & time	28.08.2012 at 12.00 Noon.
16. Tender opening date & time	28.08.2012 at 3.00 P.M.
17. Name & address of the office(s)	
- Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Janata Bank Ltd, Dredger Sangstha Branch Killarpool, Haziganj, Narayanganj, Bangladesh.
- Selling Tender Document (Others)	Janata Bank Ltd, Dilkhusa Corporate Branch 29, Dilkhusa C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
- Receiving Tender Document	Principal: 1. Office of the Chief Engineer, Directorate of Dredger, BWDB, 62, Isha Khan Road, Hajiganj, Narayanganj-1400, Bangladesh. Others: 2. Project Director, Gorai River Restoration Project, BWDB, Ansar Chamber, (11th floor), 149, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Opening Tender Document	Office of the Chief Engineer, Directorate of Dredger, BWDB, 62, Isha Khan Road, Hajiganj, Narayanganj-1400, Bangladesh.
18. Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	BWDB's Conference Room, WAPDA Building (3rd floor), Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh. Date & Time: 07.08.2012 at 11.00 AM.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

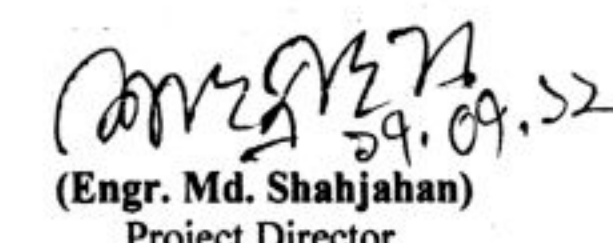
19. Eligibility of Tenderer	Tenderers who fulfill the qualification criteria mentioned in the TDS of the Tender Document are eligible.
20. Brief Description of Goods	Cutter Suction Dredger 500 mm discharge pipe diameter - 2 nos., Work boat- 2 nos., House boat- 2 nos. Tug boat - 1 no, Floating pipes, Shore pipes, spare parts etc.
21. Brief Description of Related Services	Training of engineers, Operational staffs and one year operation contract.
22. Price of Tender Document (TK.)	BDT 50,000.00 (Fifty thousand) per set (nonrefundable).

23. Lot / Package no.	Identification of lots	Location	Tender Security amount	Completion time
POD-1 (Single Lot)	Manufacturing & Supply of 500 mm discharge pipe diameter Cutter Suction Dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories (2 sets).	Dredger base, BWDB, 62, Isha Khan Road, Hajiganj, Narayanganj, Bangladesh.	US\$ 450,000.00 (Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand US Dollar)	18 months for supply of Dredgers with other Ancillary Crafts & Accessories and 12 months for operation contract.

PURCHASER DETAILS

24. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Engr. Md. Shahjahan
25. Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director, Procurement of 6 nos. dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories for Ministry of Water Resources & Ministry of Shipping (Mongla Port-1 no. BIWTA-3 nos. BWDB-2 nos).
26. Address of Official Inviting Tender	Directorate of Dredger, BWDB, 62, Isha Khan Road, Hajiganj, Narayanganj-1400, Bangladesh.
27. Contact detail of Official Inviting Tender	Tel: +88-02-7630507, Fax: +88-02-7630530, Mobile No. 01819367736, E-mail: bwdbdredger@gmail.com
28. The Purchaser reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings.	

This Notice is also available in BWDB's website www.bwdb.gov.bd and CPTU's web site www.cptu.gov.bd.


(Engr. Md. Shahjahan)
 Project Director
 Procurement of 6 nos. dredgers and Ancillary Crafts & Accessories for Ministry of Water Resources & Ministry of Shipping (Mongla Port-1 no. BIWTA-3 nos. BWDB-2 nos.)

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