

Congress to stage massive rally in India

AFP, New Delhi

Sonia Gandhi, chief of India's ruling Congress party, and Premier Manmohan Singh were set to speak at a massive rally today to whip up support for the scandal-tainted government ahead of 2014 elections.

Italian-born Gandhi is moving into high gear as she seeks to persuade voters to elect the party for a third straight term, analysts say.

At the rally in the Indian capital, leaders will defend the government's blitz of controversial reforms to allow wider foreign investment in the retail, insurance and aviation sectors aimed at spurring a sharply slowing economy.



An Indian sand sculptor gives the finishing touches to a sand sculpture dedicated to Pakistani school student and education activist Malala Yousafzai during a workshop in Kolkata yesterday. The workshop was organised to create awareness of this form of art.

PHOTO: AFP

GRAFT CHARGES AGAINST RAHUL, SONIA Derecognise Congress

Swamy asks Indian EC over graft claims

PTI, New Delhi

India's Janata Party chief Subramanian Swamy yesterday said that he will file a plea before the Election Commission seeking derecognition of the Congress party.

Subramanian Swamy tweeted yesterday morning: "Based on Congi confession of the loan crime yesterday I am filing a Petition today before ECI seeking Derecognition of Congi party."

Battle over Swamy's allegations against Gandhi family heightened on Friday, when he stuck to his allegations and challenged Rahul Gandhi to move court with a defamation case as threatened by the latter in response to the charges.

On Friday, the Congress had said that it had provided interest-free loans to the ailing company that ran National Herald without any commercial profits.

Congress spokesman P C Chacko challenged Swamy to move court if he was

convinced of his charges instead of adopting hit-and-run tactics.

Swamy on Friday accepted Rahul's threat to move court, raising the prospect of a heightened battle between the Congress's first family and the Janata Party president, with the BJP too endorsing Swamy's claims.

Swamy's belligerent stand came a day after he accused Congress president Sonia Gandhi and Rahul of floating a private company for nonprofit and taking over the assets worth Rs 1,600 crore of now-defunct National Herald newspaper, by committing a few lakh rupees. He also accused Rahul of not disclosing his shareholding in Associated Journals, which was founded by Jawaharlal Nehru.

Congress leader Abhishek Singhvi said the nature, manner and timing of the allegations clearly substitute sensation for sense and superficiality for substance.

Myanmar considering citizenship for Rohingyas

Suu Kyi again refuses to take side on the issue

AGENCIES

The government's search for a 'win-win' solution to the conflict between the two groups follows a new outbreak of violence last week in which attacks by Buddhist mobs left 89 dead and forced more than 28,000 to flee their homes.

In an interview with The Hindu newspaper, Myanmar's information minister, U Ang Kyi, said his government is working towards a "win-win solution for all stakeholders" and acknowledged that the statelessness of its Rohingya Muslim minority is a key cause of its suffering in the country.

"Rohingyas are denied citizenship by Myanmar [Burma] and as a consequence the rights that go with it," he added.

Diplomatic sources in Burma said the government is now focused on granting citizenship rights on third generation Rohingyas, but has yet to decide what to do with several hundred thousand first and second generation Rohingyas who are regarded as Bengali immigrants by local Rakhine Buddhists.

Earlier, Myanmar's democracy icon



Suu Kyi told the BBC she could not speak out on the status of the Rohingyas, who are denied citizenship.

She has been subjected to some uncharacteristically stinging criticism over her unwillingness to speak up for the Rohingyas, described by the UN as among the most persecuted

minorities on Earth, the BBC's Jonathan Head reports.

But speaking to the BBC from her modest home in the new Burmese capital, she was unrepentant.

People on both sides in Rakhine state had suffered from the communal violence, she said - it was not her place to champion one side or the other.

"I am urging tolerance but I do not think one should use one's moral leadership, if you want to call it that, to promote a particular cause without really looking at the sources of the problems," she said.

Suu Kyi added that she had seen no statistics to show that 800,000 Rohingyas were being denied citizenship.

The much criticised 1982 law that excludes them should be looked at, she said.

Himachal set for polls today

PTI, Shimla

India's Himachal Pradesh braces for its 68-member assembly polls today.

The BJP and Congress are contesting all 68 seats while BSP has fielded 66 candidates.

In all, 459 candidates are in the fray for today's elections, 27 of them women.

In the 2007 poll, BJP had won 41 as against Congress's 23, while the independents and BSP won 3 and one seat respectively.

Corruption in both the BJP and Congress camps is a major election issue in the state.

UNSC serves no one's purpose: India

PTI, United Nations

India has said the UN Security Council in its present structure is "completely out of tune" with global realities and serves "no one's purpose", asserting that an expansion in the 15-member body should have permanent representation from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

India, which assumed this month's Presidency of the Security Council ahead of the expiry of its two-year term as a non-permanent member on December 31, 2012 said the UN body has remained "polarised and politically divided" on key issues like Syria and this strengthens the need for its reform.

"The Security Council as it is presently structured is not reflective of contemporary realities, it is completely out of tune with what is happening in the world," India's Permanent



Hardeep Singh Puri

"In order to give the Council effectiveness there is need to enlarge its size. India's point of view is that the Security Council needs to be more transparent," he said.

Puri said the council, in its present structure, "serves no one's purpose", adding that an increase in its membership should have provisions for permanent representation from Africa, Latin America, Caribbean and Asia.

He said there could be consensus

around modestly expanding the Council to increasing the number of members to about 25.

On the use of veto, Puri said while the provision should be retained, there needs to be a discussion on the precise conditions and circumstances under which veto should be used by countries.

"There could be a veto restraint agreement."

Asked about countries like Pakistan seeking permanent membership, Puri said if the South Asian country wants to be a permanent member it should put its candidature forward and then let 193 members of the General Assembly decide by vote.

Puri said time has come to realise that expansion of the council will not come from within the Security Council but from traction within the General Assembly.

Blast kills politician in Pakistan

BBC ONLINE

A bomb attack in the north-west Pakistani city of Buner has killed a local anti-Taliban politician and 4 of his guards, police sources said yesterday.

Fateh Khan, an ex-leader of the secular Awami National Party, was killed as his car left a petrol station.

It was not immediately clear if he was victim of a suicide attack or of a bomb placed on a motorcycle.

Security forces largely freed Buner from the control of Taliban militants three years ago.

Up to five people were also injured in the attack, he said.

Tender Notice for Supply and Installation of remaining Sub-station Equipment including Bus Coupler, Step down Transformer, DB, SDB & Circuit Breakers at icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare			
2	Agency	icddr,b			
3	Procuring Entity Name	Executive Director, icddr,b			
4	Procuring Entity District	Mohakhali, Dhaka			
5	Invitation for	Supply and Installation of remaining Sub-station Equipment including Bus Coupler, Step down Transformer, DB, SDB & Circuit Breakers at icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka			
6	Invitation Ref No & Date	icddr,b/Mohakhali/PS/69/2012			
7	Date	04-11-2012			
8	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)			
9	Budget Source and of Funds	GOB - USDA			
10	Development Partners	USDA			
11	Project / Program Name	Strengthening of icddr,b's Capacity to Improved Hospital and Lab Services, icddr,b, Dhaka			
12	Tender Package No.	Package No. 69			
13	Tender Package Name	Supply and Installation of remaining Sub-station Equipment including Bus Coupler, Step down Transformer, DB, SDB & Circuit Breakers at icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka			
14	Tender Publication Date	November 04, 2012			
15	Tender Last Selling Date	November 25, 2012			
16	Tender Closing Date and Time	November 26, 2012	Time: 11:30 AM		
17	Tender Opening Date and Time	November 26, 2012	Time: 12:00 PM		
18	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address			
	- Selling Tender Document	Treasury Unit, Cash Counter-2, Ground Floor, IPH Building, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka between 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on all working days.			
	- Receiving Tender Document	Procurement Services Office, icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
	- Opening Tender Document	Procurement Services Office, icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
19	Pre-tender meeting	Pre-Tender meeting will be held on November 13, 2012 at 11:00AM in Procurement Services Conference Room at IPH Building, Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
20	Eligibility of Tenderer	i) The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 05 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of similar goods and related services in Govt./Semi Govt./Autonomous organization ii) The Tenderer shall have successfully completed minimum 01 (one) number supply contract of similar goods and related services within last 05 (five) years. iii) The satisfactory completion of supply of similar goods and services of minimum 80.00 (eighty) lac under a single contract in the last 05 (five) years. Evidence regarding successful completion of supply and installation in the form of Work order/Award and Completion Certificate must be submitted along with proposal. iv) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is Tk.90.00 (ninety) lac v) The maximum 02 (Two) number of arbitration against the Tenderer over a period of 05 (five) years is allowed vi) Tenderers are required to submit price quotation correspond to 100% of the required items and quantities.			
21	Price of Tender Document	Tk. 1,000.00 (Taka one thousand) only			
22	Pkg No.	Description	Location	Tender Security (TK)	Completion Time
69		Supply and Installation of remaining Sub-station Equipment including Bus Coupler, Step down Transformer, DB, SDB & Circuit Breakers at icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka	icddr,b 68, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sarani, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.	Tk. 250,000 (Two Lac fifty thousand) only in the form of Pay Order, Bank Draft or Bank Guarantee in favour of icddr,b, Dhaka from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh.	4 (four) months
23	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Shihab Ahmed			
24	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Head, Procurement Services			
25	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Procurement Services, Office of the Executive Director, icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka.			
26	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Tel:9840523-32, Ext:4400	Fax: 880-2-8811686	E-mail: shihab@icddr.org	
27	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.				
28	Special Instruction : (a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Goods will be guided as per rule of "The Public Procurement Rules 2008". (b) If it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place.				

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RUPAYAN Nawfa Plaza @ Kochukhet	Size: 1430 & 1913 Sft.	@ Banani	Size: 2075 & 5890 Sft.

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EIA is looking for dynamic team members for the following posts for its schools component:

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For detailed job descriptions and instruction on how to apply, please visit the EIA website: www.eiabd.com/career. The last date for application is 12 November 2012.

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