

Merkel hints at forming govt next week

AFP, Berlin

German Chancellor Angela Merkel met the opposition Social Democrats' leader yesterday, ahead of a decision expected next week on her preferred governing partner for Europe's biggest economy.

A new poll showed a record two-thirds of Germans would favour a re-run of a left-right 'grand coalition' between the two big parties, Merkel's conservatives and the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD).

For now Merkel, whose centre-right CDU won the September 22 vote, is keeping her options open and has agreed to more talks early next week with both the SPD and the left-leaning and ecologist Greens.

In the end "the typically cautious Merkel will probably still prefer the tested combination with the SPD", with whom she governed in her first term, said an analysis by Berenberg Bank.

"We see an 80-percent probability for a grand coalition in Germany."

Senior economists at the bank cautioned that an SPD pledge to let its party base vote on any coalition deal "introduces an element of unreliability" and that "the readiness in Merkel's CDU (Christian Democratic Union) to do a deal with the Greens seems to be growing".

Almost three weeks after the election left Merkel without a clear majority, decision time is approaching for her CDU and its Bavarian allies the CSU.

They have said they want to know by October 22, one month after the election, with whom to launch serious coalition talks.

On Friday -- a day after the conservatives held their first exploratory talks with the Greens, described as cordial by both sides despite many points of conflict -- Merkel and CSU chief Horst Seehofer met quietly with SPD chief Sigmar Gabriel in the chancellery.

If a 'grand coalition' takes shape, the SPD has said it will push its core campaign demand for a national minimum wage to help the country's growing army of working poor -- an idea supported by most Germans, according to a new poll.

While 35 percent support the SPD's call for an 8.50 euro (\$11.5) hourly minimum wage, another 56 percent want one that is even higher, found the Infratest dimap poll for ARD public television.

The same survey found that 67 percent of Germans would back a 'grand coalition', while only 27 percent preferred an alliance of the conservatives and Greens, called a "black-green" coalition in Germany's colour-coded politics.

The Greens may narrow Merkel's options as early as Tuesday.

AU accuses ICC of bias, opens summit

Terms the court as 'political' and 'unfair'

AFP, Addis Ababa

The International Criminal Court was under fire yesterday over its "unfair" and "totally unacceptable" treatment of Africa, as Ethiopia opened a special African Union summit with a scathing attack on the tribunal.

The meeting comes amid mounting tensions between The Hague-based ICC and Kenya, whose president and vice-president have been charged with crimes against humanity for allegedly masterminding a vicious campaign of ethnic violence after disputed 2007 elections.

Several nations in the 54-member AU, whose rotating presidency is currently held by Ethiopia, have accused the ICC of singling out Africans for prosecution, and have demanded that the court drop the proceedings against Kenya's leadership.

"The manner in which the Court has been operating, particularly its unfair treatment of Africa and Africans, leaves much to be desired," Ethiopian Foreign Minister Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told ministers and delegates at the opening of the two-day meeting.

"The court has transformed itself into a political instrument. This unfair and unjust treatment is totally unacceptable," he said of the ICC, the world's first permanent court to try genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

A Zimbabwean government official yesterday said his country which never signed the Rome Statute supports calls for African states to cut ties with the ICC.

African countries account for 34 of the 122 parties to have ratified the Rome

Statute, the ICC's founding treaty, which took effect on July 1, 2002. A mass pull-out from the court -- as some countries have demanded -- could seriously damage the institution.

Sudan's Foreign Minister Ali Karti told AFP that "African countries have their own mechanisms of justice and they prove to be good, better than the European ones".

The bloc, however, appears divided on the issue -- with countries like Kenya, Sudan, Ethiopia and Rwanda taking a tough line, but other nations seemingly more reluctant to get embroiled in a diplomatic confrontation and some prominent African figures lobbying hard against a pull-out.

South African anti-apartheid icon and Nobel peace laureate Desmond Tutu fired off a sharply-worded attack that compared ICC opponents to Nazis seeking to evade justice, and argued the number of African cases was merely a reflection on the dismal human rights record of many of the continent's governments.

"Those leaders seeking to skirt the court are effectively looking for a licence to kill, maim and oppress their own people without consequence," he wrote in an op-ed carried by several news-papers.

"They simply vilify the institution... as Hermann Goering and his fellow Nazi defendants vilified the Nuremberg tribunals following World War II," he wrote.

Former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan has also said a pull-out would leave Africa wearing a "badge of shame".

Kenyan Foreign Minister Amina Mohamed meanwhile sought to distance herself from the perception that her government was lobbying for a mass withdrawal.

"That is not our intention," she told reporters. "Are we concerned about some of the things that are happening in the court? Yes we are, but we never said we would move out."

The special summit started with a ministerial-level meeting yesterday. Heads of state are due to join the debate at the AU's Addis Ababa headquarters today.

Algeria's Foreign Minister Ramtane Lamamra said African leaders were likely to send a warning message, telling the ICC to listen to their "legitimate grievances".

All of the ICC's current eight cases are against Africans, giving rise to a sentiment that the court is "hunting" Africans -- even if four of those cases, including those involving Kenya, were referred to the court by the countries themselves.

According to one diplomat, there was a sentiment the ICC -- which is an independent international organisation, and is not part of the United Nations system -- was turning a blind eye to other parts of the world where "massive crimes against humanity had been committed".

The ICC has charged Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and Vice-President William Ruto, as well as former radio boss Joshua Arap Sang, with crimes against humanity linked to post-election violence in 2007-2008 that left at least 1,100 dead and more than 600,000 homeless.

Blast hits near Sweden consulate in Libya

AFP, Benghazi

A car bomb exploded outside the Swedish consulate in the restive Libyan city of Benghazi yesterday, seriously damaging the building but causing no casualties, a security official said.

"A powerful explosion in front of the Swedish consulate caused serious damage to it and neighbouring buildings but no casualties," Colonel Abdullah Zaidi said.

The incident highlights the lawlessness in Libya since the 2011 uprising that ousted dictator Moamer Kadhafi, and comes just a day after former rebels took Prime Minister Ali Zeidan hostage in Tripoli and held him for several hours.

The Swedish mission is one of the few remaining diplomatic offices remaining in Benghazi, which was the cradle of uprising and frequently sees attacks on security personnel and institutions.

The consulate is in the Al-Fouihet district of the eastern city, not far from the Egyptian consulate which was bombed in August.

The worst attack was in September 2012, when armed men assaulted the US consulate, killing ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Such attacks are routinely blamed on Islamists, but have never been claimed.

Neither has any group yet said it was behind the attack on the Swedish consulate.

Zeidan was kidnapped just days after US commandos embarrassed and angered the government by capturing senior Al-Qaeda suspect Abu Anas al-Libi on the streets of Tripoli and whisking him away to a warship in the Mediterranean.

For them

FROM PAGE 16
victims through DNA tests, and their families would be compensated only after that.

For Mamataz Begum in the meantime, the Rana Plaza collapse has been a collapse in every sense. It has taken away her son and with him the source of her family income. It has taken away, too, the joy she shared with him on Eid days.

"I wish I could get at least my son's body so I could bury him."

Asked what this year's Eid meant to her, she said: "What can a festival mean to a mother who has lost her son?"

She said she did not get any help from the government.

Worse, she cannot open the little tea shop she and her husband ran near the collapsed nine-storey building. The place where the shop had been remains restricted on security grounds.

Mamataz is one of the 15 mothers the correspondents spoke to while visiting Majidpur area, close to Rana Plaza.

At least seven of them are yet to find the bodies of their children or get any government help. Whenever they see a journalist they show the pictures of their sons or daughters with documents to prove their claims.

Among those who shared their heart-breaking stories with The Daily Star was Rasheda, 55. The body of her daughter, Rina Akhter, was pulled out from under the rubble by rescuers two days after the collapse. A few days later, Rasheda's husband Yunus Akhter, who joined the rescue operation with many other civilians, died of a heart attack, possibly because of the trauma he had gone through.

Last year, Eid meant joy to her because her daughter arranged the celebration with her little savings. But this year, all she feels is desolation.

She is worried too. Worried, because another of her daughter, who used to work at a Rana Plaza garment factory, had her waist badly injured in the collapse.

Rasheda is struggling to manage the treatment cost. And she does not know where the money will come from in the days ahead.

Dhaka's longest flyover opens

FROM PAGE 1

see the newly built facility for herself.

From there, she travelled to the flyover's exit at Kutubkhali near the Dhaka-Chittagong highway and unveiled the inaugural plaque there.

For a single trip across the flyover, a motorbike will be charged a toll of Tk 5, an auto-rickshaw Tk 10, a car Tk 35, a jeep Tk 40, a microbus Tk 50, a pickup van Tk 75, a minibus Tk 100, a bus Tk 150, a four-wheeler truck Tk 100, a six-wheeler truck Tk 150 and a large goods vehicle Tk 200.

To avert traffic gridlock and public sufferings, the inaugural ceremony was organised at the Osmani Memorial Hall near Gulistan instead of the flyoversite.

Speaking at the programme, the prime minister said the flyover was an Eid-ul-Azha gift for the city residents.

The 11.8km flyover will ease the perennial traffic congestion and greatly facilitate the connectivity of 32 southeastern districts with the capital city. It will also help the link of Chittagong and Mongla sea ports and the proposed Padma bridge with the capital, mentioned Hasina.

Orion Infrastructure Limited, a concern of local business conglomerate Orion Group, developed the facility absolutely on private finance as the country's first ever Public Private Partnership (PPP) scheme.

Md Obaidul Karim, chairman of Orion Group, said they had to accomplish an arduous job while building the flyover, keeping a web of underground utility service lines undamaged and traffic movement uninterrupted.

"We had to overcome an enormous negative propaganda against the venture and various physical hurdles to implement the scheme. But today, the dream has become a reality," he noted. Though as per the agreement, the government was

required to clear all the obstructions from the project site and handover a green field, it later wanted the concessionaire to implement the scheme keeping all the underground trunk lines of gas, electricity, water and telephone intact to save Tk 400 crore and expedite the work, mentioned the Orion chief.

The flyover pathway stretches from Shanir Akhra to Palashi via Jatrabari, Sayedabad, Hatkhola, Tikatuli, Joykali Mondir, Kaptanbazar, Gulistan and Fulbaria.

LGRD Minister Syed Ashrafur Islam said, "Sheikh Hasina will also inaugurate the under-construction Shantinagar-Moghbazar flyover next year as an elected prime minister."

Abu Alam Md Shahid Khan, secretary to local government division, said a total of 2,000 workers and 120 engineers worked for 26,000 hours to build the flyover with 32,000 tonnes of steel, 89,000 tonnes of cement and 1,66,000 tonnes of stone.

Fitted with earthquake resistant devices, the flyover has a height clearance of 5.5 metre to facilitate traffic movement on the existing roads. State-of-the-art design based on the latest American code has been applied to its construction, said Project Director Md Ashiqur Rahman.

Jahangir Kabir Nanok, state minister for local government, also spoke at the programme, chaired by Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Administrator Nozmul Islam.

The construction work of the flyover had begun in mid-2010. The DSCC is the executing agency of the scheme, while CES India Limited worked as independent consultant, LEA International Canada and LEA Associates South Asia Limited India as design consultants and Simplex Infrastructures Limited India as the contractor.

World renowned GEA France equipment have

been installed for collecting tolls at seven plazas. Transcom Electronics of Bangladesh supplied the electrification materials for the project.

The up and down ramps at Shanir Akhra and Chankharpool and two up ramps at Motiheel and Gulistan are ready along with the main flyover. Construction of ramps at Janapath, Sayedabad and Dhaka-Mawa road would take four more months.

Being built on Build Own Operate Transfer basis, the Tk 2,300 crore flyover will be handed over to government after 24 years of concession period.

Salman Obaidul Karim, managing director of Orion Group, said thousands of curious local residents thronged the flyover immediately after its opening yesterday afternoon. The company would have to wait until midnight to let vehicles cross it.

Shafiqur Rahman, a college student from Jatrabari, said they were elated to have the flyover in the area, which had been plagued with traffic congestion for many years.

'GOVT TOOK AWAY CREDIT'

The BNP yesterday accused the ruling Awami League of taking away the credit from the last BNP government for implementing the Jatrabari flyover project.

"We had completed about 40 percent work of the flyover during the tenure [2001-2006] of our last government," Sadek Hossain Khoka, vice-chairman of BNP, told a press conference at the party's Nayapaltan headquarters.

It was the first project in the country under the PPP, added Khoka, also a former Dhaka mayor.

The government, said former minister Osman Faruk, takes no interest in solving the country's current political crisis. Rather, it has been inaugurating incomplete projects as it has lost public support, he complained.

Islamists urge protesters to avoid Cairo's Tahrir

AFP, Cairo

An Islamist alliance urged its supporters to stay away from Cairo's Tahrir Square during protests yesterday to avoid more bloodshed after a week in which nearly 80 Egyptians were killed.

The interior ministry warned the Islamists that it will "confront any attempts to break the legitimacy" of the interim government.

The Anti-Coup Alliance, which rejects Egypt's military-installed government, said the "coup regime is shedding blood without any respect to law or values adopted by our great people".

"So the alliance is calling for marchers to avoid places of bloodshed, be it Tahrir or other squares," said a statement from the group which demands the reinstatement of ousted Islamist president Mohamed Morsi.

It said its appeal follows

calls by several intellectuals and political forces as marches to the iconic square "will lead to more bloodshed".

The alliance had repeatedly called on its supporters to march yesterday towards Tahrir, the main symbol of the Arab Spring-inspired uprising that toppled former strongman Hosni Mubarak in 2011.

"We are just limiting our marches" yesterday, the alliance said, adding it reserves "the right to protest in all squares including Tahrir, Rabaa and Nahda in the coming weeks".

Cairo's Rabaa al-Adawiya and Nahda squares were sites of a brutal crackdown by security forces on Morsi's supporters on August 14. Hundreds of people were killed in some of the worst carnage in Egypt's modern history.

"The decision was taken to calm things down after

what happened on October 6," said Tareq Hussein of the Youth Against Coup group, a member of the alliance.

On Sunday fierce clashes erupted when security forces prevented Islamists from trying to reach Tahrir Square where supporters of the military were celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Arab-Israeli war.

At least 48 people were killed in those clashes, and nine others died in similar fighting in other parts of the country.

"We are just holding our breath after Sunday's massacre. The challenge to the coup is still on and this is a battle to break the will of the coup," Hussein told AFP.

The interior ministry warned Islamists that it had deployed security reinforcements in Tahrir Square and streets around it and near the US embassy in central Cairo.



কুমিল্লা ক্যাডেট কলেজ

কোটবাড়ী, কুমিল্লা

পিক-আপ বিক্রয়ের নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কুমিল্লা ক্যাডেট কলেজের একটি অকেজো পিক-আপ যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে (১৯৮৪ সালে ক্রয়কৃত জাপান এর তৈরি, টয়োটা ডায়না, রেজিস্ট্রেশন নম্বর-কুমিল্লা-ট-৫৫৩০, চেসিস নম্বর-BU 30R-MRDHTY-3, ইঞ্জিন নম্বর- ০৬১৭৪৮০ ও ০৪ সিলিন্ডার বিশিষ্ট) নিলামে বিক্রয় করা হইবে। আগ্রহী ক্রেতাগণকে আগামী ২৭ অক্টোবর ২০১৩ তারিখ বেলা ১২৩০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে নিজস্ব প্যাডে দর উল্লেখপূর্বক হিসাব বিভাগে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাক্সে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র জমা করিতে হইবে।

শর্তাবলী

- উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ১০% হিসাবে টাকা আনুমানিক বাবদ অধ্যক্ষ, কুমিল্লা ক্যাডেট কলেজের নামে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার আকারে দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হইবে।
- দরপত্র আগামী ২৭ অক্টোবর ২০১৩ তারিখ বেলা ১৩০০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্রদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হইবে।
- কৃতকার্য দরপত্রদাতাকে যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমোদন প্রাপ্তির ১৫ দিনের মধ্যে সম্পূর্ণ টাকা পরিশোধপূর্বক পিক-আপ ডেলিভারী নিতে হইবে। অন্যথায় আনুমানিক বাজেয়াপ্ত বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।
- দরপত্রদাতাগণ দরপত্রে অংশ গ্রহণের পূর্বে গাড়ির গুণগতমান এবং আনুষংগিক অন্যান্য বিষয় সম্পর্কে অবগত হইতে পারিবেন। পরবর্তীতে এই ব্যাপারে কোন রকম ওজর-আপত্তি গ্রহণযোগ্য হইবে না।
- কোন শর্তযোগ্য দরপত্র বা অসম্পূর্ণ দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে না।
- সরকারি বিধি মোতাবেক ভ্যাট/আয়কর কর্তন করা হইবে।
- কলেজ কর্তৃপক্ষ কোনরূপ কারণ না দেখাইয়া যে কোন দরপত্র/সর্বোচ্চ দরদাতার দর অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করিবার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

তারিখঃ ২৬ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৩

আইএসপিআর/সেনা/২০১৩/২১১১

জিডি-৩৮১০

অধ্যক্ষ

কুমিল্লা ক্যাডেট কলেজ



PUBALI BANK LIMITED

ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION

HEAD OFFICE, 26 DILKUSHA C/A, DHAKA-1000.

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the eligible Tenderers who can participate in any of the following 03 (Three) tenders or all but in separate envelope as defined in the tender documents of the under mentioned works as per terms & conditions stated below.

01	Procuring Entity	Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
02	Tender Name	1) Civil & Electrical works at Proposed Premises of our Patkelghata Branch (New), Satkhira. 2) Civil & Electrical works at Proposed Premises of our Subidkhali Branch (New), Patuakhali. 3) Civil & Electrical works at Proposed Premises of our Bheramara Branch, Kushtia.
03	Time for completion of the work	20 (Twenty) Calendar days for each Branch (who are not capable to do the works in the schedule time need not to participate).
04	Eligibility of Tenderers	i) Minimum work experience of 3 (Three) years in building renovation. ii) The tenderer must have experience during 3 (Three) years in completion of work(s) in same nature costing minimum Tk.11.00 (Eleven) Lac. iii) Having valid trade license, up to date Income Tax clearance certificate and VAT registration certificate. iv) Must be financially solvent.
05	Price of Tender Document	Tk.1100.00 (Tk. One thousand one hundred) only for each tender document which are non-refundable.
06	Amount of Tender Security	2.5% of total bid amount in the form of Payment Order favouring Pubali Bank Limited, Head office, Dhaka-1000. "No tender will be considered without tender Security (Earnest money)".
07	Name and address of the office from where tender documents will be obtained & to be dropped.	Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division, (12 th floor), 26, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
08	Last date & time for selling tender document.	Up to 6.00 PM (BST) on 24.10.2013
09	Last date & time for tender submission	Up to 11.00 AM (BST) on 27.10.2013
10	Date and time for tender opening	At 11.30 AM (BST) on 27.10.2013 in presence of bidder (if any)
11	Special Instructions	i) Tender document along with an MS Excel Calculation sheet to be submitted in sealed envelope. ii) Pubali Bank Limited reserves the right to accept partly or fully any quotation or reject any or all quotations without assigning any reason whatsoever and is not bound to accept the lowest quotation.

Sk. Golam Mohammad
General Manager