

NEWS IN brief

Pakistani provincial governor resigns
 AFP, Lahore
 The governor of Pakistan's central Punjab province resigned yesterday, saying the country's political system had failed ordinary people and served "only the elite class". Mohammad Sarwar, who served as a British member of parliament for more than a decade, was appointed to the largely ceremonial role in 2013.

Indonesia ready to execute foreigners
 AFP, Jakarta
 Indonesia is ready to execute seven foreign drug convicts on death row after their appeals for presidential clemency were rejected, an official said, in a move certain to set Jakarta on a collision course with international allies. The seven include two Australian leaders of the "Bali Nine" drug-smuggling gang, who have been on death row for almost a decade.

Indian editor arrested over Charlie Hebdo
 AFP, Mumbai
 Shirin Dalvi, editor of the Mumbai edition of the daily Avadhnama newspaper, was arrested under section 295A of the Indian Penal Code, which bans malicious and deliberate acts intended to outrage religious feelings. She was arrested for reprinting a cartoon of the Prophet Mohammed from satirical French magazine Charlie Hebdo.

North Korea restarting nuke reactor
 BBC ONLINE
 North Korea may be trying to restart a nuclear reactor which can produce fuel for a nuclear bomb, an American think tank has said. The US-Korea Institute said on its 38 North website that satellite images showed steam coming from the Yongbyon plant and an increase in melted snow.



Congress vice President Rahul Gandhi (C) waves to supporters during an election rally ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections, in New Delhi yesterday. Polling will be held on February 7 with counting two days later.

Lanka Plans fresh war crimes probe

REUTERS, Colombo
 Sri Lanka is planning an investigation into accusations of human rights abuses in the final stages of a 26-year civil war amid international frustration at the failure to look into numerous civilian deaths, a government spokesman said late on Wednesday.
 Former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, who was ousted in a surprise election defeat this month, had refused to cooperate with any UN investigation into claims the army committed atrocities in the war that ended in 2009.
 Without some accountability for civilian deaths, the United Nations argues there will be no lasting reconciliation to allow Sri Lanka to move on from the war that dragged on for decades as ethnic Tamil rebels battled

'Halt executions' Rights groups tell Pakistan

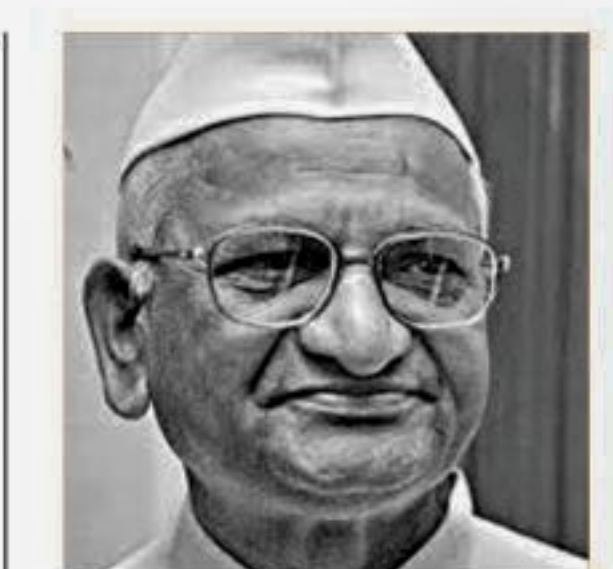
AFP, Islamabad
 Rights organisations yesterday called on Pakistan to halt the execution of the first civilian for a non-terror related offence since 2008, saying the move would violate its own official policy.
 Pakistan lifted a six-year moratorium on the death penalty last month in the case of convicted terrorists following a Taliban attack on a school in Peshawar which killed 150 people.
 Since then it has hanged 20 people, with plans to execute up to 500.
 But a death warrant issued this week for convicted murderer Shoaib Sarwar has raised the prospect of executions being resumed for the rest of the country's almost 8,000 death row convicts.
 Rights groups have slammed the announcement, which sets the date of his hanging for February 3 in the city of Rawalpindi.
 Analysts believe that resuming the executions in non-terror cases could imperil a favourable trade agreement with the European Union.

LANKA'S OWN INQUIRY
 President Maithripala Sirisena promised a new investigation
 Former president Mahinda Rajapaksa had refused to cooperate with any UN investigation
 Government spokesperson Rajitha Senaratne said the government was looking at releasing political prisoners

for autonomy in the island's north and east.
 "We are thinking of having our own inquiry acceptable to them to the international standards," Rajitha Senaratne, a government spokesman, told a forum of foreign correspondents in Colombo, referring to the United Nations.
 "It will be a new local inquiry. If we need, we will bring some foreign experts."
 The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in November accused Rajapaksa's government of trying to "sabotage" its own investigation and creating a "wall of fear" to prevent witnesses from giving evidence to its inquiry set up in March.
 About 40,000 Tamil civilians were killed in the final weeks of the war, most of them by the Sri Lankan army, the United Nations estimated in a 2011 report. Sri Lanka has rejected the accusations and has been conducting its own investigation.
 Newly elected President Maithripala Sirisena in the run up to the vote promised a new investigation under an independent judiciary, but rejected demands for an international inquiry.
 This week, he sent his senior adviser on foreign relations to meet U.N. officials to discuss the investigation, government sources said.
 Senaratne also said the government was looking at releasing political prisoners, mainly suspected members of the defeated Tamil Tiger rebel group.

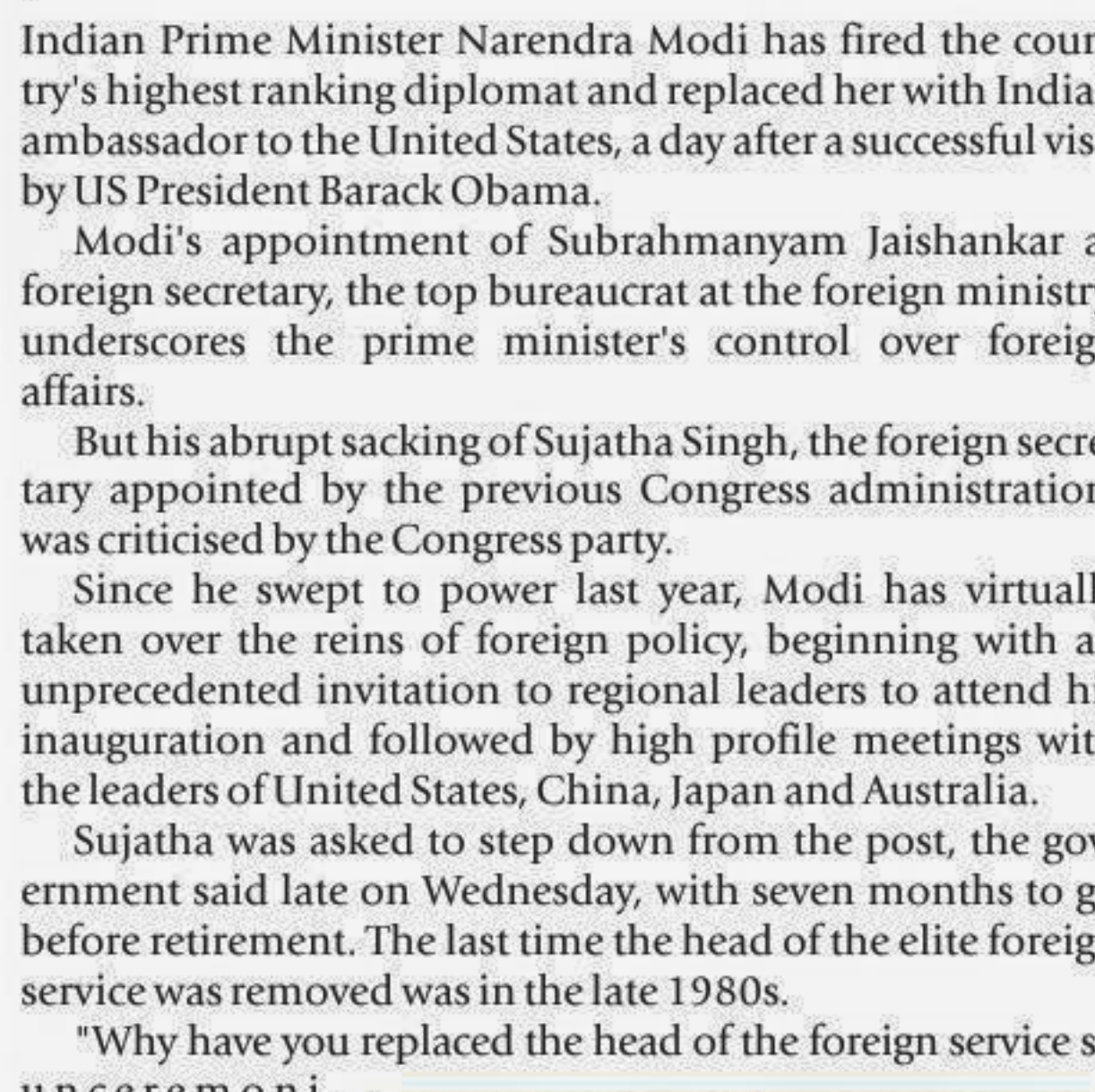
Modi tightens grip over policy

Jaishankar replaces Sujatha as Indian foreign secretary
 REUTERS, New Delhi
 Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has fired the country's highest ranking diplomat and replaced her with India's ambassador to the United States, a day after a successful visit by US President Barack Obama.
 Modi's appointment of Subrahmanyam Jaishankar as foreign secretary, the top bureaucrat at the foreign ministry, underscores the prime minister's control over foreign affairs.
 But his abrupt sacking of Sujatha Singh, the foreign secretary appointed by the previous Congress administration, was criticised by the Congress party.
 Since he swept to power last year, Modi has virtually taken over the reins of foreign policy, beginning with an unprecedented invitation to regional leaders to attend his inauguration and followed by high profile meetings with the leaders of United States, China, Japan and Australia.
 Sujatha was asked to step down from the post, the government said late on Wednesday, with seven months to go before retirement. The last time the head of the elite foreign service was removed was in the late 1980s.
 "Why have you replaced the head of the foreign service so uncereemoniously," Manish Tewari, a leader of the Congress party said. "The government needs to explain."
 During Sujatha's tenure under the previous administration, India and the United States were embroiled in a diplomatic row over the arrest of a junior Indian diplomat in New York for an alleged visa fraud. Ties hit their lowest level in a decade.
 Since then, Modi has moved rapidly to rebuild ties with Washington, putting behind his own embarrassment at being denied a visa for a decade for religious violence in the state he governed earlier.
 He went on a state visit last September, building a relationship with Obama and then hosting him as the guest of honour at this week's Republic Day Parade, the first US president to do so.
 Jaishankar, credited with helping Modi turn around the relationship, said his job was to carry out the government's priorities.
 "A big responsibility. I am honoured that I have been assigned this responsibility," he told reporters as he took charge.



Anna Hazare to take on Narendra Modi
 BBC ONLINE

Indian anti-corruption activist Anna Hazare has said he will launch a campaign against the government three years after he staged hunger strike that forced radical policy changes.
 Hazare said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had failed to enact the changes his hunger strike had called for.
 He said the government had also failed to recover any of an estimated \$500bn stashed illegally overseas.
 Hazare's 2011 campaign energised a national anti-corruption movement.
 It forced the Congress party government to bring in the Lokpal bill, which envisaged setting up an independent ombudsman with the power to prosecute politicians and civil servants.
 Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party defeated Congress last year, and promised to tackle corruption.
 However, Hazare told NDTV news channel: "In eight months, the government has not given any priority to corruption and there has been no progress on the Lokpal law. We are gathering people for a movement."
 While campaigning for last year's general election, Modi had also promised to bring back funds held overseas within 100 days of being voted into power.
 "People were promised during the elections that black money will be brought back within 100 days, 1.5 million rupees will be deposited in the accounts of every citizen, but not even 15 rupees have come, Hazare said.



New foreign secretary S Jaishankar (left) with Sujatha Singh (right).

India wields club on golfing bureaucrats
 AFP, New Delhi
 India's right-wing government has scrapped membership of Delhi's prestigious golf club for bureaucrats as part of a crackdown on its notoriously work-shy civil servants, a report said yesterday.
 The memberships had been awarded to a select group of serving and retired bureaucrats by the previous left-leaning Congress government, the Hindustan Times daily said.
 But Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has now scrapped the perk, cancelling memberships for 27 civil servants teeing off from the club's lush greens and mulling the future of another 30.
 The newspaper said the quota scheme organised by the urban development ministry, which oversees the club's land, was ended after it was found to be in "contravention of rules and regulations," without elaborating.
 Ministry officials could not be contacted for comment, while the club said it had no comment to make.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

সিনিয়র জেল সুপারের কার্যালয়, রংপুর
 পত্র নং ৪৪.০৭.৮৫০০.১৬২.০৪.০২০-১৫-২৪৫/৯ তারিখঃ ২৫/০১/১৫খ্রিঃ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

- ১ সঞ্জাহকারী সত্তা : সিনিয়র জেল সুপার, রংপুর।
- ২ দরপত্রের নাম ও মেয়াদকাল : (১) ০১/০৪/১৫ হতে ৩০/০৯/১৫ পর্যন্ত বিভিন্ন প্রকার ডাল।
- ৩ দরপত্রের প্রকৃতি : উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
- ৪ দরপত্র সিকিউরিটি : দরপত্র দলিলে বর্ণিত মতে।
- ৫ দরপত্র দলিল প্রাপ্তির স্থান : কেন্দ্রীয় কারাগার, রংপুর, কারা উপ-মহাপরিদর্শকের দপ্তর, ঢাকা এবং কারা উপ-মহাপরিদর্শকের দপ্তর, রংপুর।
- ৬ দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য : প্রতিটি= ৫০০/- টাকা মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
- ৭ সরবরাহকারীর যোগ্যতা : দরপত্র দলিলের বর্ণনা মতে।
- ৮ দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান : স্থানীয় কারাগার, বিভাগীয় কমিশনারের কার্যালয় ও কোতওয়ালী থানা, রংপুর।
- ৯ সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ সময় : ২৩/০২/২০১৫ (৯.০০ ঘঃ হতে ২.৩০ঘঃ)।
- ১০ দাখিলের সময় : ২৪/০২/১৫ তাঃ সকাল ৯ঃ০০-১২ঃ০০ ঘটিকা।
- ১১ খোলার সময় : ২৪/০২/১৫ তাঃ বেলা ১২ঃ৩০ ঘটিকা।
- ১২ মূল্যায়ন : ২৪/০২/১৫ তাঃ বিকাল ০২ঃ৩০ ঘটিকা।

দরপত্র দলিলের সাথে/দলিলে বিস্তারিত শর্তাবলী সংযুক্ত থাকবে। আরো জানার প্রয়োজনে দপ্তরের সাথে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।
 মোঃ রফিকুল ইসলাম
 সিনিয়র জেল সুপার (অতিরিক্ত দায়ঃ)
 কেন্দ্রীয় কারাগার, রংপুর
 জিডি-৩৭৩

US brands Taliban and ISIS differently

PTI, Washington

The United States has described the Afghan Taliban as "an armed insurgency", while the Islamic State as a "terrorist" group, drawing a controversial distinction between the two militant organisations.
 "The Taliban is an armed insurgency. ISIS or ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and Levant) is a terrorist group. So we don't make concessions to terrorist groups," White House deputy press secretary Eric Schultz told reporters in response to questions at the daily press briefing on Wednesday.
 Asked whether the Jordanian government's decision to swap prisoner with the ISIS was similar to the US trading five Taliban members for Army Sgt Bowe Bergdahl, he said, "As you know, this was highly discussed at the time and prisoner swaps are a traditional end-of-conflict interaction that happens."
 "As the war in Afghanistan wound down, we felt like it was the appropriate thing to do. The president's bedrock commitment as commander in chief is to leave no man or woman behind. That's the principle he was operating under," he said.
 When asked for a second time whether the Taliban is a terrorist group, Schultz replied, "I don't think that the Taliban, - the Taliban is an armed insurgency."
 "This was the winding down of the war in Afghanistan and that's why this arrangement was dealt," he added, referring to the prisoner swap deal with Taliban brokered through Qatar.

Thai junta gets tough on dissent

REUTERS, Bangkok

Thailand's junta said yesterday it had summoned two opposition members "to amend their political way of thinking", less than a week after former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra was banned from politics.
 The announcement comes after a lull in strong-arm tactics by the military following a coup last May that overthrew the government, ending months of protests in which about 30 people were killed.
 Lieutenant General Kampanart Ruidit said the army had summoned Chaturon Chaisaeng, a former education minister and Puea Thai Party member, to meet with the army officials.
 "We have invited Chaturon Chaisaeng to meet us to amend and explain [his] political understanding," Kampanart told Reuters.
 Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, who as army chief led the May coup, said the NCPO had also invited former foreign minister Surapong Tavichakchaikul, a Puea Thai Party lawmaker, to "create understanding after they demonstrated political opinions following the [Yingluck] impeachment case".

West Zone Power Distribution Co. Ltd.
 Biddyt Bhaban Boyra Main Road, Khulna
 (An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Dev. Board)
 Memo No: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.15.56 Date: 27.01.15
বিদ্যুৎ সাস্রয়ী বাতি ব্যবহার করুন
Corrigendum
 Due to some unavoidable circumstances Tender Inquiry No: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.15.09 Date: 05.01.15 have been made the following amendment. All concerned are requested to take necessary actions accordingly.

| Tender Inquiry No. and date | Amendment of the tender notice |
|---|---|
| Inquiry No.: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.15.09 Date: 05.01.15 | 16. Tender opening date will be 04.02.15 instead of 05.03.2013 (Place and time remain unchanged). |

 Design, Manufacture, Supply, Construction of 33KV & 0.4KV distribution line from 132/33KV Patuakhali Grid S/S to proposed Modhupara 1320MW Thermal Power Station and carrying of materials.
 All other terms & conditions in the tender notice shall remain unchanged.
Project Director
 বিদ্যুৎ/জন-৮১০(৩)/২৯/১/১৫ 21 District Power Distribution Project, WZPDCL, Khulna
 GD-411

West Zone Power Distribution Co Ltd
 (An Enterprise of BPDB)
 Pre-Payment Metering Project for Khulna City Phase-1, Biddyt Bhaban Campus, Boyra Main Road, Khulna-9000
 Memo No: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.15/6 Date: 26/01/2015
বিদ্যুৎ সাস্রয়ী বাতি ব্যবহার করুন
Corrigendum
 Due to some unavoidable circumstances Tender Inquiry No: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.14/4 Date: 28/12/2014 and corrigendum memo No.: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.15/3, Date: 12/01/2015 has been made the following amendment. All concerned are requested to take necessary actions accordingly.

| Tender Inquiry No. and Date | Amendment of the Tender Notice |
|---|--|
| Inquiry No.: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.14/4 Date: 28/12/2014 Corrigendum memo No.: 27.22.4785.700.50.040.15/3, Date: 12/01/2015 (Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Pre-Payment Metering System with related services at Khulna City on Turn-key Basis.) | Pre-Tender Meeting will be held on 02/02/2015 instead of 29/01/2015 (Place and time remain unchanged). |

 All other terms & conditions in the tender notice shall remain unchanged.
Md. Tofazzel Hossain
 Project Director
 Pre-Payment Metering Project for Khulna City
 Biddyt/Bhaban-809(4)/29/1/15 Phase-1, Biddyt Bhaban, Boyra Main Road, WZPDCL, Khulna-9000
 GD-412

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
 বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
 উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (পরিবহন) এর কার্যালয়
 ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ, ঢাকা
 স্মারক নং-নবি-৪০-২০১৫/ভিসি(পরিবহন)/১১০ তারিখঃ ২৭/০১/২০১৫খ্রিঃ
নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি
 ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশের পরিবহন বিভাগের নিম্নবর্ণিত অকেজো মালামাল নিলামে বিক্রয়ের জন্য আত্মহী ব্যবসায়ী/ক্রোতা/নিলামকারকদের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

| ক্রমিক নং | অকেজো মালামালের বিবরণ | পরিমাণ |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| ১. | গাড়ির অকেজো খুচরা যন্ত্রাংশ | ১২০০ কেজি |
| ২. | লুব্রিকেটিং ওয়েল (ব্যবহৃত/গোড়া মবিল) | ৮০০ লিঃ |
| ৩. | রং এর খালি কোটা | ৩০০টি |
| ৪. | ওয়েল্ডিং জ্যাপ | ১৪০০ কেজি |
| ৫. | রং এর খালি কোটা | ৩০০টি |
| ৬. | গাড়ির টায়ার বিভিন্ন সাইজ | ৪০০টি |
| ৭. | গাড়ির টিউব বিভিন্ন সাইজ | ২০০টি |
| ৮. | মটরসাইকেল এর টিউব বিভিন্ন সাইজ | ১৫০টি |

 দরপত্র সিডিউল আগামী ১১/০২/২০১৫খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত সকল কর্মদিবসে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ৮০০/- (আটশত) টাকা মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য) মূল্য প্রদানপূর্বক উপযুক্ত প্রমাণাদি যেমন, নবায়নকৃত সিটি কর্পোরেশন সার্টিফিকেট/পৌরসভার ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, হালনাগাদ আয়কর ও ভ্যাট পরিশোধের সার্টিফিকেট, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট দেখানো সাপেক্ষে পরিবহন বিভাগ, ডিএমপি, ঢাকার কার্যালয় হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে এবং আত্মহী দরপত্রদাতাদের পরিদর্শনের জন্য স্ক্যাপ মালামাল প্রস্তুত থাকবে।
 দরপত্রদাতাদেরকে পুলিশ কমিশনার, ডিএমপি, ঢাকার বরাবরে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার এর মাধ্যমে উদ্ধৃত দরের ১০% (শতকরা দশ ভাগ) দরপত্র দাখিলের সময় জমা দিতে হবে। সফল দরপত্রদাতার নিরাপত্তা জামানত স্ক্যাপ মালামালের সম্পূর্ণ মূল্য পরিশোধ/হস্তান্তর হওয়ার পর ফেরত দেয়া হবে।
 দরপত্র পরিবহন বিভাগ, ডিএমপি, ঢাকা এর কার্যালয়ে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বক্সে আগামী ১২/০২/২০১৫খ্রিঃ তারিখ ১২ঃ০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে ফেলতে হবে। দরপত্র ঐ দিনই বেলা ১৪ঃ০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতা অথবা তাদের প্রতিনিধিদের (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে খোলা হবে। সর্বোচ্চ দরদাতা ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানকে দরপত্র গৃহীত হওয়ার ০৭ (সাত) দিনের মধ্যে গৃহীত দরের উপর বিধি মোতাবেক আয়কর ও ভ্যাটসহ মোট টাকা জমা দিয়ে সমস্ত মালামাল বুঝে নিতে হবে। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র আংশিক বা সম্পূর্ণ গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে। সিডিউল ক্রয়ের রশিদ অবশ্যই দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করে দিতে হবে অন্যথায় দরপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য করা হবে।
 মোঃ একরামুল হাবীব
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