

Emergency in Tunisia

FROM PAGE 16
statement shared on jihadist social media accounts has claimed responsibility for the bombing in a busy area in the heart of Tunis, a few hundred metres (yards) from the interior ministry, which came as the 26th Carthage Film Festival was in full swing.

The Jihadist group previously staged attacks in the North African country, often seen as a rare success story of the Arab Spring after its 2011 overthrow of longtime dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

Twelve presidential guards were killed and 20 other people were wounded in Tuesday's blast, including four civilians, according to a preliminary toll from the health ministry.

The remains of a 13th person found at the scene have not yet been identified, officials said.

"It could be that this is a terrorist," Health Minister Said Aidi told national television.

According to unconfirmed reports in Tunisian media, the blast was caused by a man wearing an explosives belt.

Some presidential guards expressed concern that not enough was being done to protect them from attacks.

"For years this place has been our gathering point but they didn't think to change it although we are the first to be targeted," one guard said of the site of the bombing.

The transport ministry announced following the blast that security would be reinforced in the country's ports and only passengers would be allowed to enter Tunis's international airport.

Tunisia has been plagued by Islamist violence since the 2011 revolution and dozens of members of the security forces have been killed.

Two attacks this year claimed by the Islamic State group targeted foreigners -- at the National Bardo Museum in March, killing 21 tourists and a policeman, and at a resort hotel in Sousse in June, killing 38 tourists.

A year ago, a bus carrying troops was attacked by two armed men in northwest Tunisia, according to the defence ministry. Five soldiers were killed.

In July 2014, 15 soldiers were killed in the Mount Chaambi region near the Algerian border, in the worst such attack in the army's history.

The United States condemned the latest attack and offered to help the Tunisian

authorities with their investigation.

Tunisia's press yesterday called for national unity and resistance.

"United against barbarism" declared Le Quotidien. "Tunisia will not bend," said Le Temps, while Al Maghreb called for "a new philosophy and special measures" to fight terrorism.

The attack came after a jihadist group on Sunday claimed the beheading of a young Tunisian shepherd on behalf of IS, accusing him of having informed the army about their movements in the central province of Sidi Bouzid.

Thousands of Tunisians are fighting in neighbouring Libya, as well as in Iraq and Syria on the side of jihadists.

IS CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY

In a statement shared on jihadist social media accounts, the IS said a Tunisian suicide bomber named "Abou Abdallah al-Tounissi" boarded the bus in central Tunis on Tuesday and blew himself up.

IS published a photo of the attacker dressed in white and wearing an explosives vest, his head and face covered with a scarf.

The jihadist group said 20 people had been killed.

Common concern for all

FROM PAGE 1
General Mahbubul Alam Hanif told The Daily Star yesterday.

Some senior AL leaders have already said that their party might face intra-party rivalries in the polls.

Hanif, however, yesterday said the party would take proper actions in such cases. "After finalising the criteria by the party central committee, respective district leaders and MPs will select the prospective mayor aspirants with several alternatives on the basis of the criteria," he added.

The party's selection board would make the final decision on who gets to run and everyone would have to be okay with that, he added.

The BNP in the wee hours of today decided in principle to take part in the polls despite having concerns whether the polls would be free and fair.

Talking to The Daily Star before the meeting, BNP Joint Secretary General Md Shahajahan said they would work to ensure just one mayor candidate from the party in each municipality.

Leaders at the meeting held at BNP chief Khaleda Zia's Gulshan office were largely in favour of taking part in the polls.

At a formal briefing after the marathon meeting, BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon said BNP leaders entrusted Khaleda to make the final decision. "No decision about the matter has been finalised yet. She'll inform

us about her decision soon."

"Although we have doubts that the present Election Commission will not be able to hold a free and fair election, most of us spoke in favour of joining the polls," BNP standing committee member Lt Gen (retd) Mahbubur Rahman told The Daily Star after the meeting early today.

Most senior leaders told the BNP chief that the party would gain more if it joined the polls despite the possibility of the ruling party "snatching polls result", meeting sources added.

Many grassroots level BNP leaders, who are not in jail or are "braving the possibility of getting arrested", have already started working for the campaign. However, some were of the view that the elections would not change the government so why bother risking arrest or reprisal from the ruling party men.

BNP policymakers think the party would benefit even if the government "snatches the results" of the municipalities through manipulation as the party would get people's sympathy as well as the support of the international community.

The main opposition Jatiya Party is rather ahead with its election preparations.

The party headquarters has already instructed its president and secretaries of all district units and MPs to send in a list of prospective mayor candidates, JP president Tajul Islam Chowdhury

yesterday told The Daily Star.

"On receiving the lists, the party chairman (HM Ershad) would finalise one candidate for each of the mayoral posts," said Tajul, also opposition chief whip.

Jamaat-e-Islami leaders said they were positive about taking part in the elections although the party had been facing its worst ever time since its rebirth in independent Bangladesh in 1979.

Mosiu Alami, member, Jamaat central majlis-e-sura, said a six-member election committee, led by the party's acting secretary general Shafiqur Rahman, would finalise its major aspirants on discussion with BNP and other components in the BNP-led 20-party alliance.

In the past, all parties had problems with rebel candidates in local body elections carving out their share of the pie. The dissidents caused headaches for party policymakers then and the same could happen this time around. The parties could only nominate one candidate per post, according to the rules.

However, those elections, unlike the upcoming one, were "non-partisan" in nature.

The EC yesterday directed all returning officers of upcoming municipality polls to remove campaign posters, banners and billboards, by early Friday since no candidate is allowed to campaign three weeks before election day.

EP to debate on freedom

FROM PAGE 1
(S&D group) in the EP, expresses serious concern over "the violations of freedom of expression and free media coverage in Bangladesh."

The text of the motion, available on the EP website, is yet to be adopted as a resolution.

With reference to the "new media policy" published by the government on August 6, 2014, it says "elements of this policy impose limits on media freedom."

The group calls on the government to bring the Cyber-Security Act of 2015 and the Information and Communication Technology Act in line with "international free speech standards, and drop the criminalisation of 'anti-State' publications".

It strongly calls on the Bangladeshi

authorities to launch a credible and transparent investigation into the killing of publishers, bloggers and foreign nationals and "to recognise and respect freedom of the press and media and to allow human rights groups to play an important role in strengthening accountability and documenting human rights abuses."

It asks the government to drop "all charges against editors and journalists who have published content critical of the government, allow the immediate opening of all media houses and social media services that were shut and immediately restore full and unhindered access to all forms of publications, including electronic ones."

It calls on the government of Bangladesh "to accept the call for a national dialogue from opposition political parties and civil society organisations on the current crises."

It asks the EU to review its trade relations with Bangladesh until it ensures the return of democratic governance in the country.

মসজিদভিত্তিক শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম

ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন

আগরাঁও শেরেবাল্লা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

০১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	৪	ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়
০২	এজেন্সি	৪	মসজিদভিত্তিক শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম, ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন
০৩	সংগ্রাহক সভার নাম	৪	প্রকল্প পরিচালক, মসজিদভিত্তিক শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম (৬ষ্ঠ পর্যায়)
০৪	সংগ্রাহক সভার জেলা	৪	ঢাকা
০৫	দরপত্র আহবানের নাম	৪	Supply & Installation of Computers, printers, UPS & Photocopiers.
০৬	দরপত্র আহবানের নং ও তারিখ	৪	৪২১০/মডেলিন/প্রশাস/অঞ্চল/০৭/১৫/৩০২১ তারিখ-২৫/১১/২০১৫
০৭	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	৪	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র
০৮	অর্দের উৎস	৪	জি ও বি
০৯	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞয়ের শেষ দিন ও সময়	৪	১০/১২/১৫ ইং অফিস চলাকীন সময়
১০	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তির তারিখ ও সময়	৪	১০/১২/১৫ ইং বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত
১১	দরপত্র বোলার তারিখ ও সময়	৪	১০/১২/১৫ ইং বেলা ২.০০ ঘটিকা
১২	দণ্ডের সময়ের নাম ও ঠিকানা	৪	
(ক) দরপত্র দলিলাদি বিজ্ঞয়		৪	(ক) প্রকল্প পরিচালক, মসজিদভিত্তিক শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম, ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন, আগরাঁও, শেরেবাল্লানগর(৬ষ্ঠ তলা), ঢাকা-১২০৭।
		৪	(খ) পরিচালক, অর্থ ও হিসাব বিভাগ, ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন, আগরাঁও, শেরেবাল্লানগর (৩য় তলা), ঢাকা।
(গ) দরপত্র দলিলাদি গ্রহণ		৪	(গ) ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন ঢাকা বিভাগীয় কার্যালয়, হজ্জ ক্যাম্প, আশকোনা, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।
		৪	(ঘ) ধর্ম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়(১৬ তলা), ঢাকা।
(গ) দরপত্র দলিলাদি খোলা		৪	(ক) প্রকল্প পরিচালক, মসজিদভিত্তিক শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম, ইসলামিক ফাউন্ডেশন, আগরাঁও, শেরেবাল্লানগর(৬ষ্ঠ তলা), ঢাকা-১২০৭।
		৪	(খ) দরদাতার যোগ্যতা
১৩		৪	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা
১৪	লট নং	লট পরিচিতি	অবস্থান টেক্সের সিকিউরিটি (ঢাকা) দরপত্র দলিলের অফেরণ্স মন্ত্রণালয় মূল্য (ঢাকা) করনের সময়সীমা
০১	কম্পিউটার-৬ষ্ঠটি	ঢাকা	১,৫০,০০০/-
০২	ফটোকপিয়ার মেশিন-৬ষ্ঠটি	ঢাকা	২,৫০,০০০/-

টেক্সের সিকিউরিটি বাংলাদেশের যে কোন সিকিউরিটি ব্যাংক থেকে পে- অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে মসজিদভিত্তিক শিশু ও গণশিক্ষা কার্যক্রম (৬ষ্ঠ পর্যায়) ব্যাবর তৈরী করে দপ্তরের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে। অনিবার্য কারণ বশতঃ নির্ধারিত তারিখে দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা সম্ভব না হলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময় ও একই স্থানে দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে। তবে দরপত্রের অন্যান্য শর্তবলী যথাসূচি অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে।

The Public Procurement Act-2006 & The Public Procurement Regulations-2008-এর বিধি বিধান এ টেক্সের ক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য হবে। টেক্সের সিকিউরিটি অন্যান্য শর্তবলী পাওয়া যাবে। টেক্সের সংক্রান্ত যথাতীয় বিষয়ে প্রকল্প কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত ও প্রয়োগ্য বলে বিবেচিত হবে। কোন কারণ দর্শনো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন টেক্সের বা সকল টেক্সের গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা

26/12/2015
(হাসান জাহানগুর আলম)
প্রকল্প পরিচালক
(যুগ্ম-সচিব)
ফোনঃ ০২-৮১৮১৫৫৫৫

Untold story

FROM PAGE 16

Jews fleeing German-occupied territories experienced, American University history professor Richard Breitman wrote in 2007 upon the discovery of documents chronicling the Franks' struggle to get US visas.

"Otto Frank's efforts to get his family to the US ran afoul of restrictive American immigration policies designed to protect national security and guard against an influx of foreigners during time of war."

Breitman told NPR in 2007 that the documents suggest "Anne Frank could be a 77-year-old woman living in Boston today--a writer."

Instead, she died at the age of 15 at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany.

Otto Frank tried relatively late to obtain US visas, a convoluted and ultimately doomed process laid bare in the 80 pages of documents unearthed by the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.

In a letter to his friend Nathan Straus Jr in the US, Otto Frank wrote that he applied for US visas -- applications that were eventually destroyed.