

NEWSIN brief

Ties with Japan moving forward: Putin

President Vladimir Putin said yesterday that Russia's ties with Japan were moving forward as he met with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in the latest bid to make progress on a decades-old territorial dispute. The meeting follows on from Putin's first visit to Japan in 11 years last December, when the two leaders failed to resolve a disagreement over an island chain.

Four Thai rangers killed by bomb in restive south

Four Thai army rangers were shot dead in an ambush after a roadside bomb toppled their truck in Thailand's insurgency-plagued south yesterday, police said, the latest rebel attack to undermine already stagnant peace talks. The Muslim-majority border region has seethed with violence for over a decade as ethnic Malay insurgents battle the Buddhist-majority state for more autonomy.

Calls on Saudi social media for protest

Calls have been growing on social media for Saudi Arabia's jobless to protest on Sunday, after a similar appeal before the government restored benefits to civil servants last weekend. Demonstrations are banned in the conservative kingdom, and the previous calls for civic action led police to flood Riyadh on April 21.

Nine more democracy activists arrested in HK

Nine democracy protesters were yesterday arrested in Hong Kong over an anti-Beijing rally in the latest swoop by police as activists say they are being persecuted. Concerns are growing that the semi-autonomous city's freedoms are under threat from Beijing, fuelling calls from some groups for greater autonomy or even a complete split from China.



Families of Palestinians imprisoned in Israeli jails demonstrate in front of the EU offices in East Jerusalem yesterday after hundreds of the detainees launched a hunger strike earlier. Some 1,500 Palestinian prisoners entered the 11th day of a hunger strike over demands ranging from improved medical care to greater access to telephone calls.

China alters landscape

Claims top US general as Duterte says there is no point protesting Beijing's artificial island building

China has fundamentally altered the physical and political landscape in the strategic South China Sea through militarisation and large-scale land reclamation, a top American admiral has claimed. Chinese military modernisation is focused on defeating the US in Asia by countering US asymmetric advantages, Admiral Harry Harris, Commander of US Pacific Command told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing, reported TNN. "North Korea continues to disregard UN sanctions by developing and threatening to use intercontinental ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons that will threaten the US Homeland," Harris said. "China has fundamentally altered the physical and political landscape in the South China Sea through large scale land reclamation and by militarising these reclaimed features," Harris said. He said China continues to press Japan in the East China Sea, stepping up diplomatic and economic pressure against Taiwan, and methodically trying to supplant US influence with "our friends and allies in the region". "Furthermore, China is rapidly building a modern, capable military that appears to far exceed its stated defensive purpose or potential regional needs. China's military modernisation is focused on defeating the US in Asia by countering US asymmetric advantages," Harris alleged. "China's near-term strategy is focused on building up combat power and positional advantage to be able to restrict freedom of navigation and overflight while asserting de facto sovereignty over disputed maritime features and spaces in the region," the top American commander said. Meanwhile, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said yesterday there was no point protesting Chinese artificial island building in disputed areas of the South China Sea because it could not be stopped, reported AFP. Duterte made the comments on the eve of him hosting a two-day Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) summit, and he confirmed he would not use the event to pressure China on its expansionism in the strategically vital waters.

SOUTH CHINA SEA ROW



Harry Harris Duterte

SE Asia militant group JI regains strength

Warns a think-tank

AFP, Jakarta

Southeast Asian militant group Jemaah Islamiyah, blamed for major attacks including the 2002 Bali bombings, has regained strength in Indonesia and could spawn a new generation of extremists, a leading security think-tank warned yesterday. Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) does not pose an immediate threat and its leadership has for some years rejected violence to achieve its goal of forming an Islamic state, said the report from Jakarta group the Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict (IPAC). But it is also building a clandestine military wing in Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim-majority country, and there is a risk a more militant faction could emerge from the wider organisation as it steps up recruitment, it said.

Children pay high price in fighting: UN

AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT

Children account for one-third of civilian casualties in Afghanistan's grinding conflict in the first three months of 2017, and are paying an increasingly high price in the fighting, a UN report said yesterday in Kabul. From January to March, 210 children were killed -- up 17 percent from the same period last year -- and 525 injured, out of a total of 2,181 civilian casualties (715 dead and 1,466 injured). The overall total is slightly down, by four percent, compared to the same period in 2016. Among women, 88 deaths were recorded, a figure that jumped 54 percent from last year, mainly due to aerial bombardments -- an increasing danger as the Afghan Air Force begins to carry out its own strikes. Overall, the report showed 148 deaths and injuries from airstrikes in the first quarter, compared to 29 last year. "We are extremely concerned about the increase in the number of casualties among women and children, particularly deaths," said the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), which has documented civilian victims of the conflict since 2009. "The 17 percent increase in child casualties reflects the failure of parties to the conflict to take adequate precautions to protect civilians, including through marking and clearing unexploded ordnance after fighting ends," said Danielle Bell, head of human rights for UNAMA. The main cause of casualties remains fighting on the ground, claiming up 35 percent of the victims.



BANGLADESH SMALL AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES CORPORATION (BSCIC)						
BSCIC Bhaban, 137-138, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000.						
(Invitation For Open Tender Notice)						
01.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Industries.				
02.	Agency	Bangladesh Small And Cottage Industries Corporation				
03.	Procuring Entity Name	Chief Engineer, Civil Engineering Department, BSCIC, Dhaka.				
04.	Procuring Entity Code	N/A				
05.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.				
06.	Invitation For	Works (Multiple package) as mentioned in SI.No. 17(i), 17(ii) and 17(iii)				
07.	Invitation Ref No. & Date	36.02.026.00.346.2017. Date: 23-04-2017.				
08.	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)				
09.	Budget and Sources of Fund	Revenue Budget of current year.				
10.	Tender Last Selling, submission & Opening Date and time	Tender last selling	Tender submission date & time	Tender opening date & time		
		14-05-2017 Upto 3 P.M.	15-05-2017 Upto 1 P.M.	15-05-2017 at 2.30 P.M.		
11.	Name and Add. of the Offices Selling Tender Document	Principal - Cash Section, BSCIC Bhaban, (5th floor), BSCIC, 137-138, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka. Others: Regional Director, Regional Office, 128, Motijheel C/A, (8th floor), BSCIC, Dhaka-1000.				
	Receiving Tender Document	(i) Director (Finance), BSCIC Bhaban (3rd Floor), BSCIC, 137-138 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. (ii) Room No. 518 (4th floor), Ministry of Industries, 91, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.				
	Opening Tender Document	Director (Finance), BSCIC Bhaban(3rd Floor), BSCIC, 137-138 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.				
12.	Tender Security	Tender Security should be submitted in favour of "Chairman BSCIC" in the form of Pay order/Bank Draft issued by a Scheduled Bank of Bangladesh.				
13.	Place/Date/Time of the Pre-tender Meeting	Not Applicable.				
14.	Eligibility of Tenderer	The Tenderer shall have- a) 5 years of general experience. b) At least one no. of specific experience of similar works completed of value 24 lacs for SI. No. 17(i) and 5 lacs for SI. No. 17(ii) and 3.5 lacs for SI. No. 17(iii) within last 10 years. c) The minimum amount of liquid assets i/e working capital or credit lines of the tenderer shall be Tk. 28.00 lac for SI. No. 17(i), 6.00 lac for SI. No. 17(ii) & 4.00 lac for SI. No. 17(iii). d) The Firm shall have 11 digit VAT registration certificate. e) Income tax clearance certificate of last year with Tax identification no (TIN). f) Trade licence of current year. g) BC licence from Electrical Licencing Board of Current Year. h) Must be enlisted at PHE/PWD/other govt. agencies. i) Other criteria as stated in the tender document. Tenderer must meet aggregate criteria for submitting more than one package.				
15.	Brief Description of goods	i) Installation of 150x300mm dia deep tube well including 38mm dia test observation well of Sub-Mersible Pump with all related works for SI. No. 17(i). ii) Repairing of Sub-Mersible Pump replacing existing Pump for SI. No. 17(ii). iii) Repairing and reinstallation of Turbine Pump for SI. No. 17(iii).				
16.	Brief Description of related Services	i) Electrical works and related civil & mechanical works for SI. No. 17(i) ii) Electrical works and related mechanical works for SI. No. 17(ii) iii) Electrical works and related mechanical works for SI. No. 17(iii)				
17.	S.I. No.	Identification of Package No.	Name of the works and Location	Price of Tender documents(Tk.)	Tender Security (Tk.)	Completion time
	(i)	Package No. 26/2016-17	Installation of 150x300mm dia deep tube well including 38mm dia test observation well of Sub-Mersible Pump with all related works at BSCIC, Industrial Estate, Joydevpur (konabari).	Tk. 1,000.00	Tk. 90,000.00	90 days
	(ii)	Package No. 27/2016-17	Repairing of Sub-Mersible Pump replacing existing Pump at BSCIC, Industrial Estate, Barisal.	Tk. 500.00	Tk. 20,000.00	45 days
	(iii)	Package No. 28/2016-17	Repairing and reinstallation of Turbine Pump at BSCIC, Industrial Estate, Chandpur.	Tk. 500.00	Tk. 14,000.00	45 days
18.	Name & Designation of Official inviting tenderer	Engr. Md. Ataur Rahman, Chief Engineer, BSCIC.				
19.	Address & Contract Details of Official inviting tenderer	Civil Engineering Department, BSCIC, 128, Motijheel (5th Floor), C/A Dhaka-1000. 88-02-9553501				
20.	(i)	The Tendering and Evaluation process shall follow the PPA-2006 and PPR-2008 with latest amendment.				
	(ii)	Rate in figure should be quoted two digit after decimal and total amount obtained by multiplying rate and quantity of item will be quoted two digit after decimal point and lowest acceptable total quoted amount=0.9xofficial cost estimate & highest acceptable total quoted amount=1.1xofficial cost estimate.				
	(iii)	Modification in the form of % (percent) basis on quoted amount shall not be accepted				
	(iv)	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenderers or annul the Tender proceedings.				

INDIAN ASSEMBLY POLLS

Seize EVMs used in Vikasnagar: HC

NDTV ONLINE

Electronic Voting Machines or EVMs used for the Vikasnagar constituency in the Uttarakhand assembly elections earlier this year will be taken in court's custody, the state's High Court has ruled, as it admitted a petition by a Congressman who lost the election from that seat. Senior Uttarakhand Congress leader, Nav Prabhat, has challenged the election of the BJP's Munna Singh Chauhan from Vikasnagar, near capital Dehradun, alleging that the EVMs were rigged. Opposition parties have alleged that the BJP's landslide win in Uttarakhand and neighbouring key state Uttar Pradesh last month was aided by tampered EVMs. The Election Commission has emphatically said EVMs cannot be rigged. The Uttarakhand High Court has asked the Election Commission, the state poll panel and Chauhan to send their replies within six weeks to notices that it served yesterday. It has also asked the election commissions not to use the Vikasnagar EVMs for any elections till it issues further orders. The EVMs have not been used since the Uttarakhand elections since vote machines deployed for an election are not used again for at least two months after results are announced.

Britons shun ebooks due to 'screen fatigue'

AFP, London

British sales of ebooks are waning, trade figures revealed yesterday, suggesting readers were suffering from "screen fatigue". Britain's publishing industry had a record-breaking year in 2016, with sales of books and journals recording their fastest year-on-year growth in a decade to reach £4.8 billion (\$6.2 billion, 5.7 billion euros), their highest ever level. But sales of ebooks fell three percent to £538 million, continuing a trend already observed in 2015. "There is generally a sense that people are now getting screen tiredness, or fatigue, from so many devices being used, watched or looked at in their week," Stephen Loting, chief executive of The Publishers Association trade organisation, told The Guardian newspaper. Most impacted by the decline were consumer ebooks -- comprising fiction, non-fiction and children's titles -- which dropped 17 percent year-on-year to £204 million. Despite the drop in ebook sales, digital sales overall still rose by six percent due to sales of audiobooks (up 28 percent) and academic/professional digital books (up six percent). Overall, digital sales made up 35 percent of total revenues. Meanwhile sales of physical books rose by eight percent on the year to £3 billion, their highest level since 2012 with consumer titles increasing by nine percent.

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ক্রঃ নং	বিবরণ	তারিখঃ ১৩ বৈশাখ ১৪২৪ বঙ্গাব্দ ২৬ এপ্রিল ২০১৭ খ্রিঃাব্দ
০১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্থানীয় সরকার বিভাগ, স্থানীয় সরকার, পল্লী উন্নয়ন ও সমবায় মন্ত্রণালয়।
০২	দরপত্র বিক্রি/প্রতিষ্ঠান	জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, পটুয়াখালী।
০৩	খাত/কোড	৩/৩৭০৫/৩৬০৫/৫৯০৫।
০৪	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (ওটিএম)।
০৫	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের নাম	"২০১৬-২০১৭ অর্থ বছরে গ্রাম পুলিশদের পোশাক ও অন্যান্য সরঞ্জামাদি সরবরাহ"।
০৬	দরপত্র ফরমের মূল্য ও ক্রয় পদ্ধতি	প্রতি গ্রুপে ১০০০/- (এক হাজার টাকা মাত্র) (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
০৭	দরপত্র বিক্রয় এবং খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	দরপত্র বিক্রয় তারিখ সময় ১৪-০৫-২০১৭ পর্যন্ত ৫.০০ পর্যন্ত ১ম বার ২য় বার দরপত্র দাখিল তারিখ সময় ১৫-০৫-২০১৭ পর্যন্ত ০১.০০ পর্যন্ত ২০১৭ পর্যন্ত ২০১৭ পর্যন্ত ০১.০০ পর্যন্ত ২০১৭ পর্যন্ত
০৮	দরপত্র বিক্রয় ও দাখিলের স্থান	১। বিভাগীয় কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, বরিশাল (স্থানীয় সরকার শাখা)। ২। জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, পটুয়াখালী (স্থানীয় সরকার শাখা)। ৩। পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, পটুয়াখালী।
০৯	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, পটুয়াখালী।
১০	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	(ক) প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান/টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান দফাদার, মহাল্লাদার/আনসার ভিডিপি/পুলিশ/এ ধরনের প্রতিষ্ঠানে বিগত ০৫ (পাঁচ) বছরের মধ্যে ১০.০০ (দশ লক্ষ) টাকার পোশাক ও সরঞ্জামাদি সরবরাহ করার অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। (খ) দরপত্রদাতার ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন, টিআইএন নম্বর, হালনাগাদ আয়কর পরিশোধ সংক্রান্ত সনদ, ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট থাকতে হবে।
১১	দরপত্র জামানত	প্রতি গ্রুপে ৫০,০০০/- (পঞ্চাশ হাজার) টাকার পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট জেলা প্রশাসক, পটুয়াখালী বরাবরে দাখিল করতে হবে।
১২	কার্য সম্পাদনের মেয়াদ	কার্যদেয় প্রদানের পর ৪৫ দিনের মধ্যে।
১৩	কার্যের বিবরণ	দরপত্র কমিটি কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত নমুনা অনুযায়ীঃ (নমুনা প্রদর্শনের জন্য এ কার্যালয়ের স্থানীয় সরকার শাখায় সরবরাহ করা হবে)। গ্রুপ-০১ঃ (১) ফুল হাতা শার্ট ৬৭০টি (নীল রং), (২) হাফ হাতা শার্ট ৬৭০টি (নীল রং) এবং (৩) ফুল প্যান্ট ১৩৪০টি (খাকী রং) (মহাল্লাদারদের জন্য লাল রংয়ের সোন্ডার ব্যাচ এবং দফাদারদের জন্য সোন্ডার ব্যাচে কাপড়ের রিবন ০২টি), (৪) বেস্ট ৬৭০টি, (৫) কাপড়ের জুতা (মোজাসহ) ৬৭০ জোড়া। গ্রুপ-০২ঃ (১) মাথার কাপ ৬৭০টি, (২) শীতের জ্যাকেট ৬৭০টি, (৩) উলের জামা ৬৭০টি, (৪) চার্জার টর্চ লাইট (৪.৫০ জোল্ট) ৬৭০টি, (৫) ছাতা (গ্রাম পুলিশ মনোমাসহ) ৬৭০টি, (৬) লায়নার বাঁশি, (৭) বেতের লাঠি ৬৭০টি।
১৪	অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী	সিডিউল এর সংশ্লিষ্ট সংশ্লিষ্ট শর্তাবলী।
১৫	নির্দেশাবলী	সিডিউল ক্রমকালে দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতার সাথে সংশ্লিষ্ট কাগজপত্র/প্রত্যয়নপত্রের মূল কপি প্রদর্শন করতে হবে। কোন দরদাতা এক বা একাধিক গ্রুপে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে পারবেন। সিডিউলে বর্ণিত মালামালের যে কোন আইটেম/আইটেমের সংখ্যা বাড়াবো কমানোর ক্ষমতা এবং কোন কারণে দরদাতা ব্যতিরেকে দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন। প্রথম বারে কোন গ্রুপের মালামাল সরবরাহের বিষয়ে চূড়ান্ত সিদ্ধান্ত গৃহীত হলে দ্বিতীয় বার উক্ত গ্রুপের টেন্ডার ফরম বিক্রয়/গ্রহণ করা হবে না।