

Malaysia hunts for new PM

King meets party leaders, urges unity after Muhyiddin quits

REUTERS, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia's king asked leaders from different parties to work together to address the economic and health woes facing the country, as he yesterday began a search to replace Muhyiddin Yassin as prime minister.

Muhyiddin resigned on Monday with no obvious successor, deepening a long-running political crisis as the Southeast Asian nation battles a Covid-19 surge and an economic slump. He cited lack of parliamentary support but will stay on as caretaker until a new government is formed.

The constitutional monarch, King Al-Sultan Abdullah, who met leaders of political parties yesterday, had previously ruled out elections because of the pandemic, saying he would appoint a prime minister he believed likely to command a majority.

In line with the king's decree, the speaker of Malaysia's parliament asked lawmakers yesterday to each submit a letter to the palace stating their choice of the next prime minister.

The king, meanwhile, told political leaders that the new prime minister must have a majority in the

parliament, but also that "the shape of politics must change", opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim said after meeting the monarch.

"The issue was not just about appointing a new prime minister, but what's more important that was



stressed by the King is to come up with a form of politics that is more peaceful for the people," Anwar told reporters.

Malaysia has been in a state of political flux since widespread graft accusations led to the 2018 election defeat of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), which had governed for more than 60 years since independence.

Mahathir Mohamad led the opposition to election victory for the first time, but the alliance collapsed

from infighting. Muhyiddin then put together a coalition with political parties that were defeated in the polls, including UMNO.

But that alliance was also fragile, and a constant tussle with UMNO, which balked at playing second fiddle, prompted Muhyiddin's resignation after just 17 months in office.

CHOICE OF PM

At present, no lawmaker has a clear majority in parliament. The opposition bloc and UMNO, Malaysia's biggest party, are split on support for their prime ministerial candidates.

No single political party has a majority in parliament, so a successful prime ministerial candidate will have to forge a coalition.

Malaysia's lawmakers must submit their choice of prime minister by 4 pm (0800 GMT) today in letters to the palace, parliament speaker Azhar Azizan Harun said in a notice to lawmakers.

Last year, when then premier Mahathir quit, the king met all 222 members of parliament to seek their choices for the next leader. After a week of discussions, he picked Muhyiddin.

China holds assault drills near Taiwan

REUTERS, Beijing/Taipei

China carried out assault drills near Taiwan yesterday, with warships and fighter jets exercising off the southwest and southeast of the island in what the country's armed forces said was a response to "external interference" and "provocations".

Taiwan, which Beijing claims as Chinese territory, has complained of repeated People's Liberation Army (PLA) drills in its vicinity in the past two years or so, part of a pressure campaign to force the island to accept China's sovereignty.

In a brief statement, the PLA's Eastern Theatre Command said warships, anti-submarine aircraft and fighter jets had been dispatched close to Taiwan to carry out "joint fire assault and other drills using actual troops".

It did not give details. A senior official familiar with Taiwan's security planning told Reuters that China's air force had carried out a "capturing air supremacy" drill, using their advanced J-16 fighters.

Taiwan's Defence Ministry said 11 Chinese aircraft entered its air defence zone, including two nuclear-capable H-6K bombers and six J-16 fighters, and that it had scrambled jets to warn China's planes away.

The PLA statement noted that "this exercise is a necessary action" considering recent 'provocations' by the US and Taiwan.



Haitian firefighters search for survivors, under the rubble of a destroyed hotel, after Saturday's 7.2 magnitude quake, in Les Cayes, Haiti, on Monday. PHOTO: REUTERS

Death toll tops 1400

Rescuers race against time and bad weather

AFP, Port-Salut

Rescuers in Haiti Monday used heavy equipment and their bare hands to hunt for survivors under buildings flattened three days ago by a massive earthquake that killed more than 1,400 people, while an approaching storm threatened more suffering.

Flash floods and mudslides were possible as the front bore down on the Caribbean nation's southwestern peninsula, which was hard-hit by a 7.2-magnitude quake that toppled thousands of buildings early Saturday.

Hospitals have been overwhelmed with the influx of injured patients, and workers were at a loss with how they might cope with Tropical Depression Grace.

Haiti's civil protection agency gave a preliminary toll Monday of 1,419 dead and 6,900 injured in the powerful quake that struck about 100 miles (160 kilometers) to the west of the capital Port-au-Prince.

The earthquake also destroyed more than 37,000 homes, officials said.

According to the US National Hurricane Center, Haiti and the Dominican Republic -- which share the Caribbean island of

Hispaniola -- could expect five to 10 inches of rain from Grace, "with isolated maximum totals of 15 inches" across southern areas through Tuesday.

"This heavy rainfall may lead to flash and urban flooding, and possible mudslides," the NHC warned.

Residents faced a dilemma of staying outside to protect themselves from aftershocks, or returning to damaged buildings to shelter from Grace's heavy rain, which was soaking Haiti by Monday afternoon.

Some aid has come in from abroad, including specialized search crews from the United States as well as 15.4 tons of food, medicine and water from Mexico.

A 7.0-magnitude quake in January 2010 left much of Port-au-Prince and nearby cities in ruins, killing more than 200,000.

More than 1.5 million Haitians were made homeless in that disaster.

The latest earthquake comes just over a month after President Jovenel Moise was assassinated in his home by a team of gunmen, shaking a country already battling poverty, spiraling gang violence and Covid-19.

Stay out of politics

HK leader tells legal bodies

AFP, Hong Kong

Hong Kong's leader yesterday warned one of the city's top legal bodies against getting involved in politics, in the latest sign of the government telling professional bodies to toe Beijing's line.

Chief executive Carrie Lam's comments towards the Law Society come as China remoulds Hong Kong in its own image.

Lam told reporters that actions might be taken against them, without spelling out what measures the government might take.

The warning comes as the Law Society will next week elect five of its 20 council members and pro-establishment figures are concerned more liberal, pro-democracy minded lawyers might win.

On Sunday the People's Daily, the mouthpiece of China's ruling Communist Party, published a commentary described Hong Kong's Bar Association -- which represents barristers -- as a "street rat".

Bob Dylan sued for allegedly sexually abusing girl in 1965

AFP, New York

Bob Dylan has been sued in a New York court by a woman who says the US rock and folk legend sexually abused her almost 60 years ago when she was 12.

The lawsuit filed Friday alleges that Dylan abused the plaintiff, referred to in court documents as J.C., over a six-week period between April and May 1965.

It says Dylan "exploited his status as a musician to provide J.C. with alcohol and drugs and sexually abuse her multiple times."

The suit also accused Dylan, who turned 80 in May, of physically threatening the girl.

The alleged abuse took place at the apartment Dylan owned in New York's famous Chelsea Hotel, according to the lawsuit.

A spokesperson for Dylan, whose real name is Robert Zimmerman, said "the 56-year-old claim is untrue and will be vigorously defended."

The accuser, who now lives in Greenwich, Connecticut, says Dylan caused her "severe psychological damage and emotional trauma." She is seeking unspecified damages.

The lawsuit was filed a day before the window for filing claims under New York State's Child Victims Act closed.

The act allowed victims of abuse to sue their alleged attackers irrespective

of the age of the claims or whether the statute of limitations had passed.

Last week, an accuser of late US financier Jeffrey Epstein used the act to sue Queen Elizabeth II's second son, Prince Andrew, for alleged sexual abuse.

Dylan is widely considered to be the greatest singer-songwriter of all time. His most notable works include



"Blowin' In The Wind," "The Times They Are a-Changin'," and "Like A Rolling Stone."

He burst onto the folk scene in New York in the early 1960s and has sold more than 125 million records around the world.

In 2016, Dylan won the Nobel Prize for Literature "for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition."

Last year he released his 39th studio album, "Rough and Rowdy Ways," 58 years after the release of his first.

Request for Expressions of Interest (Firm)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division.			
2	Agency	Roads and Highways Department.			
3	Procuring entity name	Director (Superintending Engineer, RHD), Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory (BRRL), Roads & Highways Department (RHD).			
4	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.			
5	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Consultancy Firm (National) (Time Based).			
6	EOI Ref No.	04.01.21.307			
7	Date	17 August 2021.			
KEY INFORMATION					
8	Procurement method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS).			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
9	Source of funds	(GOB).			
10	Development partners	None.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
11	Project/programme name	Consultancy Services for Technical Support Related to application, specification & Test Protocol of Polymer Modified Bitumen for Quality Control & Training Division under Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory (BRRL), RHD.			
12	EOI closing date and time	08 September 2021, 12.00pm Local time.			
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT					
13	Brief description of assignment	The main objectives are: 1) providing advice to BRRL on application framework of polymer modified bitumen (to resist rutting, longitudinal stresses, thermal stresses etc.) on different types of road. 2) providing a formal of Test Protocol with super paved mix design, 3) providing assistance and support to enact the laboratory at Meghna site under BRRL and 4) Providing training on different performance grade bitumen application and improvement techniques. The following personnel will be needed to render the objectives of the assignment: (a) Senior Pavement Engineer (b) Junior Pavement Engineer & (c) Laboratory technicians.			
14	Qualification and experience with delivery capacity	The EOI should specially include (along with certified English translation if not in English). a) The firm's registration certificate. b) Company profile: including management, personnel, firm's specialty, performance, financial turnover. c) List of rendered services in last 5 years for: d) Summary of relevant professional employees with key qualifications.			
	Association with foreign firm is	Not allowed.			
15	Other details (if applicable)	Further information can be obtained from the Office of the Director (SE), RHD, Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory from 10:00am to 5:00pm in any working day before the closing date. With all supporting documents, the EOI must be delivered at or before 12.00pm on September 08, 2021, in sealed envelopes marked with "Consultancy Services for Technical Support Related to application, specification & Test Protocol of Polymer Modified Bitumen for Quality Control & Training Division under Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory (BRRL), RHD" to the signatory address. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is expected to be issued to the short-listed Firms by October 10, 2021. The Client will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the Firm(s) in connection with the preparation or delivery of the EOI.			
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
16	EOI Ref No.	Phasing of services	Location	Indicative start date	Indicative completion date
		18 (eighteen) months	Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory, Paikpara, Mirpur, Dhaka	December 2021	May 2023
17	Name of official inviting EOI	Md. Ahsan Habib.			
18	Designation of official inviting EOI	Director (SE, RHD), BRRL.			
19	Address of official inviting EOI	Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory (BRRL), Paikpara, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216.			
20	Contact details of official inviting EOI	Cell: 01730782585, Land Phone: 02-44804208; E-mail: sebrl@rhd.gov.bd			
21	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all EOIs.				

Md. Ahsan Habib
Director (SE), RHD
Bangladesh Road Research Laboratory
Paikpara, Mirpur, Dhaka

GD-1484

BANGLADESH BANK

HEAD OFFICE, DHAKA

"মুজিববর্ষের অঙ্গীকার
দেশী পণ্যের ব্যবহার"

Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Not applicable	
2	Agency	Not applicable	
3	Procuring Entity Name	Bangladesh Bank	
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present.	
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka	
6	Invitation for	The Procurement of Supply, Installation and Commissioning of One Thousand (1000) Desktop Computers for Bangladesh Bank, Head Office and Motijheel office as mentioned in TDS.	
7	Invitation Ref No	CSD-1(EQUIP)69(3)/2021-27	
8	Date	17/08/2021	
KEY INFORMATION			
9	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Own Source(BB)	
11	Development Partners (if applicable)	Not applicable	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
12	Project / Program Code (if applicable)		
13	Project / Program Name (if applicable)		
14	Tender Package No.		
15	Tender Package Name		
16	Tender Publication Date		
17	Tender Last Selling Date	Not applicable	
		Date	Time
18	Tender Closing Date and Time	09/09/2021	03:00 PM
19	Tender Opening Date and Time	09/09/2021	03:30 PM
20	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address BB website and Hard Copy (only Tender security) - Receiving Tender Documents - Opening Tender Document Common Services Department-1, 6th Floor, Annex-2 Building, Bangladesh Bank, Head office, Dhaka-1000	
21	-Pre-Tender Meeting	A Pretender meeting will be held on the date mentioned below: 26/08/2021 11:30 AM	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
22	Brief Eligibility of Tenderer	Having 5 years overall business experience and minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods of at least Two (2) contract(s) of similar nature successfully completed within the last Three (3) years as mentioned in TDS.	
23	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of One Thousand (1000) Desktop Computers for Bangladesh Bank, Head Office and Motijheel Office as mentioned in TDS.	
24	Brief Description of Related Services	N/A	
25	Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location
	1	Desktop Computers	CSD-1
		Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Completion Time in Weeks from the date of contract signing
		20,00,000.00	8 Weeks
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
26	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md Abul Kalam Azad	
27	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	General Manager	
28	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Common Services Department-1, Bangladesh Bank, Head office, Dhaka-1000	
29	Contact details	Tel: 9530148	Fax: 9564117 E-mail: ma.azad@bb.org.bd
30	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings		

DCP: 48/2021 - 2360
Date: 17-08 - 2021

SD/-
(Md. Abul Kalam Azad)
General Manager
E-mail: ma.azad@bb.org.bd

ব্যক্তিগত ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হারামনির শিকার হলে কিভাবে কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৬৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

GD- 1483