

‘Democracy will die’

Politicians, civil society join journalists in protest against proposed draconian media authority

DAWN/ANN

Supports from political parties, student unions and members of civil society have continued to pour in for Pakistani journalists who are protesting against the proposed Pakistan Media Development Authority (PMDA) bill.

The protesting journalists have been protesting since Sunday outside the parliament.

On Sunday night, senior opposition leaders including former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi visited the protest site outside the parliament to express solidarity with the journalists.

Addressing the protest on Monday, PML-N leader Ahsan Iqbal lambasted the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf government for “attacking and attempting to muzzle” the media.

Referring to the PMDA bill, he dubbed it a “conspiracy” and said if the bill was passed, “democracy will die in this country”.

Later, PPP Chairperson Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari addressed the protest, saying that journalists in the country had bravely fought against and defeated former president Pervez Musharraf in the past, and they would also put up a fight against the incumbent



Bilawal with protesting journalists.

government and its decisions challenging media freedom.

He announced that the PPP would join journalist protests across the country.

PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif too railed against the bill, terming it a “black law” and expressing solidarity with journalists.

“The government doesn’t have the guts to pass it and we won’t allow it,” he thundered. Shehbaz warned the government against passing the “black law” otherwise it would have to bear the consequences.

Inside the parliament, Pakistan opposition members staged a vigorous protest against the PMDA bill during President Alvi’s address. Carrying banners such as “We reject media martial law” and “Opposition rejects PMDA”, they shouted slogans against the government and PM Imran Khan.



Afghan nationals residing in India hold banners and placards during a protest in New Delhi yesterday, against Pakistan’s alleged support to the Taliban in Afghanistan.

PHOTO: AFP

Taliban thank world for promised aid

AFP, Kabul

The Taliban yesterday thanked the world for pledging hundreds of millions of dollars in emergency aid to Afghanistan, and urged the United States to show “heart” in future dealings.

Amir Khan Muttaqi, the regime’s acting foreign minister, told a press conference the Taliban would spend donor money wisely and use it to alleviate poverty.

He was speaking a day after the United Nations said a total of \$1.2 billion in aid had been pledged to Afghanistan, which was taken over by the Taliban on August 15.

He also asked Washington to show appreciation for the Taliban allowing the US to complete evacuation of 120,000 people last month.

“America is a big country, they need to have a big heart,” he said.

Suu Kyi back in court after health no-show

AFP, Yangon

Ousted Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi returned to court yesterday to face charges of incitement and flouting Covid restrictions, her lawyer said, a day after failing to appear on health grounds.

Suu Kyi’s government was deposed by the military in a February coup that sparked a mass uprising and a brutal junta crackdown on dissent that killed more than 1,000 civilians.

Monday’s hearing was adjourned after Suu Kyi suffered from what her lawyer said was “car sickness”.

Journalists are barred from the proceedings against Suu Kyi, who also faces charges of sedition, accepting illegal payments of gold and violating a colonial-era secrecy law.

Myanmar’s junta chief said last month that elections would be held and a state of emergency lifted by August 2023, extending the initial one-year timeline the military announced days after the coup.

TALIBAN TAKEOVER OF AFGHANISTAN

Can the Middle East trust US?

Official says Gulf states are reconsidering their alliances

THE GUARDIAN

The Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan is a shattering earthquake that will shape the Middle East for many years, a senior Gulf official has said, warning that – despite the group’s promises of moderation – the militant group is “essentially the same” as last time it was in power.

Speaking on the condition of anonymity, the official also said that the rapid and chaotic US withdrawal also raises serious questions for Gulf states about the value of US promises of security over the next 20 years.

“Afghanistan is an earthquake, a shattering, shattering earthquake, and this is going to stay with us for a very, very long time,” the official said on Monday. He added that the episode marked a complete break with the outdated Carter doctrine – a commitment that an oil-dependent US would use military force to defend its interests in the Gulf.

“Can we really depend on an

American security umbrella for the next 20 years? I think this is very problematic right now – really very problematic.”

He suggested that 20 years of warfare, supposed to be “a battle against those who had hijacked Islam”, had left no legacy in Afghanistan, and predicted that the Taliban’s seizure of power would prompt concern among leaders in West Africa and the Sahel about the rise of a newly confident Islamic extremism.

The official added he had no expectation that the Taliban would behave differently from when it was previously in power, saying, “They are essentially the same, but just more world-savvy.”

Afghanistan, he said, will probably come to be seen as a Pakistan victory, and a Chinese opportunity – with the US playing a minimal role. “If there is a geopolitical struggle over Afghanistan, we will see Pakistan and China on one hand and India, Iran and Russia on the other hand,”

the official said. “And I don’t think the Americans are going to be a part of the geopolitical struggle over Afghanistan.”

Many Gulf states have already begun recalibrating their foreign policy to take into account declining US dependence on oil and the growing popular insularity of the US, but the official said he now expected that process to speed up, leading to realignments in alliances and a desire for some historical rivals to establish more pragmatic relations. The general aim will be to de-escalate tensions in the region, the official said.

The official added that he expected to see greater discussions between Saudi Arabia and Iran in the future, as well as between the United Arab Emirates and Iran. The official also pointed to the signing of a defence agreement between Saudi Arabia and Russia as a sign that in a post-carbon age, the Gulf states wanted to diversify their sources of security away from the US.

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Memo No. 35.01.6152.008.07.001.21-401 Dated: 13.09.2021

e-Tender Notice
This is to notify all concern that the following tender have published through e-GP portal.

Sl. No.	Tender ID, Package No. & Date of Publishing	Name of Work	Last Selling and Closing Date & Time.
01.	Tender ID: 607935, Package No.: MZ/e-GP/07/ Dev(JRC-Sher)/2021-2022; Publishing: 13-Sep-2021	Construction of 37.92 m Long PC Girder Bridge (Sutiapara Bridge) at 5th km (Ch: 4+915) of Nalitabari-Baruajani-Baghaitola-Haluaghat Road (Z-3040) under Sherpur Road Division during the year 2021-2022.	12-Oct-2021 16:00 13-Oct-2021 13:00
02.	Tender ID: 607936, Package No.: MZ/e-GP/08/ Dev(MRC-Mym)/2021-2022; Publishing: 13-Sep-2021	Construction of 6 nos. (78.00m) RCC Box Culvert and Protective work at Ch. 14+500, Ch. 16+100, Ch. 16+300, Ch. 17+400, Ch. 18+200 and Ch. 19+300 km of Nalitabari-Baruajani-Baghaitola-Haluaghat Road (Z-3040) under Mymensingh Road Division during the year 2021-2022.	12-Oct-2021 16:00 13-Oct-2021 13:00

The interested persons/firms may visit the web site www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender.
This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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Memo No. 46.02.0100.000.07.002.20-3909 Date: 13-09-2021

e-Tender Notice: 07/2021-2022
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works, details are given below:

Sl No	Tender ID	Package No	Description of works	Last selling of document
1	2	3	4	5
1.	608199 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-35	Periodic Maintenance of Fakirhat GC-Jatrapur UP Office Road (Fakirhat Part) from Ch. 00m-4306m (Road ID-201343013) Under Fakirhat Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00
2.	608200 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-36	Periodic Maintenance of Kachua-Badhal GC-Pinguria RHD Road from Ch. 0.00m-1000m & Ch. 2850m-6000m (Road ID: 201382002) Under Kachua Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00
3.	608202 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-37	Periodic Maintenance of Barakpur-Taterhat Guchchagram (in/c. Faila & Khanjahan Ali Birman Bander Connection Road (Rampal part) from Ch. 00m-3420m (Road ID: 201732008) Under Rampal Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00
4.	608203 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-38	Periodic Maintenance of Gilatala GC-RHD at Siki Road from Ch. 00m-5895m (Road ID: 201732006) Under Rampal Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00
5.	608204 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-39	Periodic Maintenance of Mollahat-Nalua Road from Ch. 520m-3300m (Road ID: 201562001) Under Mollahat Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00
6.	608206 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-40	Periodic Maintenance of Mollahat-Nalua Road from Ch. 3300m-6500m (Road ID: 201562001) Under Mollahat Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00
7.	608207 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-41	Periodic Maintenance of Mollahat-Nalua Road from Ch. 6500m-9500m (Road ID: 201562001) Under Mollahat Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00
8.	608208 (OSTETM)	e-Tender/LGED/ BAGER/GOBM/ 21-22/W-42	Periodic Maintenance of Mollahat-Nalua Road from Ch. 9500m-12480m (Road ID: 201562001) Under Mollahat Upazila, District: Bagerhat.	17-Oct-2021 17:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches.
All other information is given in e-GP notice. **Note: Sl No. 1-8 (OSTETM).**
Further information and guide lines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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Memo No. 46.02.6900.000.07.001.21.1660 Dated: 13/09/2021

e-Tender Notice:06/2021-22
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works as stated as below.

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Package No	Name of works	Tendering Method
1	2	3	4	5
1	608967	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-03	Periodic Maintenance of Joy bangla Road-Gopalpur/Pucca Road from Ch. 00m-2833m under Baraigram Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code: 169155034).	LTM
2	608968	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-04	Periodic Maintenance of Durduria UP-Chanpur Hat Road from Ch. 00m-1140m under Lalpur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169443017).	LTM
3	608969	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-05	Periodic Maintenance of Durduria UP-Berila Bari Hat Road from Ch. 650m-1600m under Lalpur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169443018).	LTM
4	608974	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-06	Periodic Maintenance Nowdara River Ghat - Palohara More Road from Ch. 00m-1000m under Lalpur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169445078).	LTM
5	608976	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-07	Periodic Maintenance of Bogra RHD Road at Nowpara Bridge-Dangapara CARE Rd. Road from Ch. 00m-942m under Natore Sadar Upazila, District: Natore. (Road Code:169634058).	LTM
6	608975	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-08	Periodic Maintenance of Upazila H/Q-Dangapara hat Road from Ch. 5100m-6027m under Natore Sadar Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169634080).	LTM
7	608977	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-09	Periodic Maintenance of Dighapatia Bazar to Fultola Road from Ch. 00m-470m under Natore Sadar Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169634086).	LTM
8	608973	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-10	Periodic Maintenance of Rayghat Mosque To Chalk Bagrum H/O Munnaf Road from Ch. 00m-1000m under Natore Sadar Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169635121).	LTM
9	608978	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-11	Periodic Maintenance of Sadar Upazila H/Q-Lalor U.P Office (Naldanga part) Road from Ch. 1720m-2415m under Naldanga Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169933002).	LTM
10	608979	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-12	Periodic Maintenance of Ramsakazipur Dhaka para bridge -Kannaria bridge via Shahapara Road from Ch. 00m-500m under Naldanga Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169943164).	LTM
11	608980	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-13	Periodic Maintenance of Kaigoni GC- Pandithpukur GC (Singra part) Road from Ch. 00m-1000m under Singra Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169912014).	LTM
12	608981	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-14	Periodic Maintenance of Sherkoile UP-Baro Shaoli hat Road from Ch. 1800m-2670m under Singra Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169913002).	LTM
13	608982	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-15	Periodic Maintenance of Patpara - Panchshisa Road from Ch. 1200m-2300m under Gurudaspur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169414017).	LTM
14	608998	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-16	Periodic Maintenance of Dharabaria H/O Chairman - Dharabarisha Bazar Road from Ch. 00m-700m under Gurudaspur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169414040).	LTM
15	608999	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-17	Rehabilitation of 1 no. single vent 2.00mx2.00m RCC Box Culvert on Arab U.P. Office- Amritopara Hat Road at Ch. 900m under Lalpur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169443006).	LTM
16	608992	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-18	Rehabilitation of 1 no. single vent 2.60mx2.60m RCC Box Culvert on Duaria U.P Office- Mazgram Bazar (Railway Station) Road at Ch. 2000m under Lalpur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169443009).	LTM
17	608995	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-19	Periodic Maintenance of Bagatpara Upazila H/Q (Railgate) -Dayarampur GC Road from Ch. 1400m-6780m. under Bagatpara Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169092001).	OSTETM
18	609000	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-20	Periodic Maintenance of Malanchi GC- Faguardiar UP office at Saikona Road from Ch. 619m-5495m under Bagatpara Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169093006).	OSTETM
19	608983	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-21	Periodic Maintenance of Arjanpur Boromhati UP Office-(Durgapur Hat) Muladuli via Mazgram (Lalpur part) Road from Ch. 00m-3460m under Lalpur Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169443020).	LTM
20	608990	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-22	Periodic Maintenance of Upazila H/Q-Lalor UP Office Road (Sadar part) Road from Ch. 00m-2300m under Natore Sadar Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169633002).	LTM
21	608966	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-23	Periodic Maintenance of Kafuria UP Office at Tokia-Sankorvag hat Via Burirbattola Road from Ch. 00m-5875m under Natore Sadar Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169633017).	LTM
22	608986	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-24	Periodic Maintenance of Chhatni UP Office-Agdigha hat Road from Ch. 00m-2795m under Natore Sadar Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169633025).	LTM
23	608988	e-Tender/LGED/Nat/GOBM/21-22/W-25	Periodic Maintenance of Madhannagar UP Office-Khajura UP Office Road from Ch. 500m-2395m under Naldanga Upazila, District:Natore. (Road Code:169933001).	LTM

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The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' Branches up to 4: 00 PM date: 03/10/2021 for LTM Packages and up to 4.00 PM date: 17/10/2021 for OSTETM Package.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and also from e-GP help desk (E-mail: xen.natore@lged.gov.bd or Call to 0771-66665).
Interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

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