

## IMF to consider request for rapid aid Says Sri Lanka; police shoot protester dead

AGENCIES

The International Monetary Fund will consider providing quick financial assistance to debt-burdened Sri Lanka following representations by India, Sri Lanka's finance ministry said yesterday.

A delegation headed by Sri Lanka's Finance Minister Ali Sabry kicked off formal talks with the IMF in Washington on Monday for a programme the government hopes will help top up its reserves and attract bridge financing to pay for essential imports of fuel, food and medicines.

Shamir Zavahir, an aide to Sabry, said on Twitter that Sri Lanka asked for a loan under the rapid financial instrument (RFI) window. But the global lender was initially not inclined to grant the request, he said.

"The IMF has subsequently informed Minister Sabry that India had also made representations on behalf of Sri Lanka for an RFI," Sri Lanka's finance ministry said in a statement.

"It had been communicated that IMF will consider the special request made despite it being outside of the standard circumstances for the issuance of an RFI."

Meanwhile, a severe fuel shortage sparked spontaneous protests across Sri Lanka yesterday, with tens of thousands of angry motorists burning tyres and blocking a major road in Rambukkana.

Police shot dead one man and wounded 10 others after using live ammunition against the motorists, officials said, in the first killing of a protester in weeks of anti-government demonstrations over the island's crisis.



## Western sanctions failed Says Putin, honours brigade accused by Ukraine of 'war crimes', mass killings in Bucha

AGENCIES

Russia's President Vladimir Putin has said that the barrage of Western sanctions imposed against Russia over its invasion of neighbouring Ukraine has failed.

Putin said late on Monday that the West "expected to quickly upset the financial-economic situation, provoke panic in the markets, the collapse of the banking system and shortages in stores".

He added that "the strategy of the economic blitz has failed" and instead led to a

"deterioration of the economy in the West". The Russian leader spoke in televised remarks during a video call with top economic officials.

Putin noted that "Russia has withstood the unprecedented pressure", arguing that the rouble has strengthened and the country has recorded a historic high trade surplus of \$58bn in the first quarter of the year, reports Al Jazeera online.

He also bestowed an honorary title on a brigade accused by Ukraine of "war crimes" and mass killings in the town of Bucha.



## 6 killed in blasts at Kabul high school

AFP, Kabul

At least six people were killed and 24 wounded yesterday by two bomb blasts that struck a boys' school in a Shia Hazara neighbourhood of the Afghan capital, police and hospital staff said.

Several bodies were strewn outside the gate of the Kabul school, alongside patches of blood, burnt books and school bags, according to images posted on social media.

"We were leaving school and had just stepped out from the rear gate when the explosion occurred," Ali Jan, a student who was wounded in the first blast, told AFP at a hospital.

The second blast took place as rescuers arrived to ferry victims from the first explosion to hospitals. "When I heard of the blast I called one of my friends who studies at that school," said wounded shopkeeper Murtaza.

"His phone was switched off. Then I went to the site... and that's when I was hit in the second blast."

Kabul police spokesman Khalid Zadran told AFP that the attack outside the Abdul Rahim Shahid school was caused by improvised explosive devices, killing six people.

"These are preliminary figures. We are at the site and waiting for more details," he said.

Two hospitals confirmed they were treating a total of 24 people wounded in the blasts.

## Israel downs Gaza rocket

REUTERS, Jerusalem

Israel shot down a rocket fired from the Gaza Strip late on Monday, the Israeli military said, the first such attack in months as tensions over a flashpoint Jerusalem shrine drew angry pro-Palestinian rhetoric from Jordan and US mediation efforts.

No Gaza faction claimed responsibility for the launch, which followed warnings by the dominant Hamas Islamists of reprisals for Israeli conduct around Jerusalem's Al Aqsa mosque compound.

Within hours, Israeli air strikes hit camps used by Hamas and another Gaza faction, Palestinian sources said. The military said one target was an arms manufacturing site. No one was hurt.

Since Friday, Al Aqsa has seen confrontations between Palestinian stone-throwers and Israeli riot police recalling violence that helped fan a Gaza war one year ago.

Palestinians accuse Israel of encroaching at Al Aqsa during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Israel says Palestinian protesters seek to disrupt Muslim prayer for political ends and to prevent visits by Jews, who are now celebrating Passover. The tensions complicate Israel's security ties with Jordan, which is custodian of Al Aqsa and has a Palestinian majority.

## LOCKDOWN BREACH UK House can debate PM's comments

REUTERS, London

Britain's House of Commons Speaker Lindsay Hoyle said he would allow the opposition Labour Party to put forward a motion for debate in parliament tomorrow around whether Prime Minister Boris Johnson misled lawmakers over breaching Covid-19 rules.

Hoyle said it was not for him to determine whether Johnson had committed a contempt in his statements to parliament over lockdown gatherings at his Downing Street residence and office. "My role is to decide whether there is an arguable case to be examined," he said. "Therefore, (the leader of the opposition) may table a motion for debate on Thursday."

The motion will be published today and is expected to ask lawmakers to decide whether to refer Johnson to a parliamentary committee to investigate whether he deliberately misled lawmakers in his responses to accusations of lawbreaking in Downing Street.

It is unlikely to pass because Johnson's Conservatives have a large majority in the House of Commons, so many of his own lawmakers would have to join the opposition in voting for such a probe.

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

National Sports Council  
Office of the Project Director  
Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium  
at Upazila Level (2nd Phase) Project  
62/3, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000

#### Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) (Consulting Services: Firm Selection-National)

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has financed for Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for construction supervision consulting services.

Ministry/Division	Ministry of Youth & Sports
Agency	National Sports Council
Procuring Entity Name	Project Director, Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project.
Procuring Entity Code	
Procuring entity District	Dhaka
Expression of Interest for Selection of	Consulting Services: Firm (National) (time-Based)

Title of Services (Lot wise)	Lot 1: Selection of Consulting Firm for construction supervision of Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project (Zone-1). Lot 2: Selection of Consulting Firm for construction supervision of Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project (Zone-2). Lot 3: Selection of Consulting Firm for construction supervision of Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project (Zone-3). Lot 4: Selection of Consulting Firm for construction supervision of Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project (Zone-4). Lot 5: Selection of Consulting Firm for construction supervision of Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project (Zone-5). Lot 6: Selection of Consulting Firm for construction supervision of Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project (Zone-6). Lot 7: Selection of Consulting Firm for construction supervision of Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project (Zone-7).
EOI Ref. No.	34.03.0000.005.13.106(2).2021/286
Date	Date: 19.04.2022
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>	
Procurement Sub-Method	Fixed Budget Selection (FBS)
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>	
Budget and Source of Funds	GOB
Development Partners	N/A
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>	
Project Name	Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd phase) Project.
EOI Closing Date and Time	11/05/2022 at 01:00pm
Publication Date	20/04/2022
<b>INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT</b>	
Brief Description of Assignment	This is a Project of National Sports Council under the Ministry of Youth and Sports where total 186 Nos. Upazila Mini Stadium at 56 districts will be Constructed. To ensure quality works and timely completion of project work the Procuring Entity would like to engage consulting firms in 7 (seven) Lots for Construction Supervision. For each Separate Lot, the required service includes but not limited to: (1) Supervision of construction work by engaging full time supervision engineers. (2) Updating and review of design and duly preparation of estimates/BOQ. (3) Monitoring entire construction work as per approved Architectural and structural design and drawings. (4) Quality Control of works as per technical specification mentioned in BoQ. (5) Monitoring progress and preparation of monthly progress report. (6) Other assignments as per instructions of Project Director.
Experience, Resources and Delivery Capacity Required	The EOIs for each Lot will be evaluated on the basis of the following to prepare a short list and interested firm must provide the following information: 1) Background of the firm with brochure(s). 2) Experience of the firm 1. The Firm should have minimum 5 (five) years of experience in the field of construction project supervision works. 2. The Firm should have Specific experience of having successfully completed contracts for construction project supervisions of at least one contract during the last 3 (three) years of similar complexity. The EOI should summarize the diversified experiences of the firm (or combined experiences of the consortium) supported by project data sheets, Completion Certificate & Contract Documents, work order of related works which should be included in the EOI. 3) Annual Turn Over with audit reports of the firm for the last 3 years. 4) Availability of appropriate Key staff, other staff, logistic supports. EOIs should consist updated Trade License, VAT registration certificate (13 digit), Income tax Certificates (up to 2020-21 tax year), JVCA agreement (if any). Key experts will not be evaluated at shortlisting stage.
Other Details (if applicable)	The Expression of Interest (EOI), for each Lot, must be submitted in 2 (two) sets: 1) one original & 1 (one) copy, which should be marked and enveloped duly and these two sets inner envelope have to put into and sealed outer envelope which must be marked clearly with i) Lot No., ii) Name of the consulting firm and iv) Address of the undersigned. The sealed envelope must be submitted or before the specified date and time to the office of the undersigned. The consultants will be selected in accordance with Fixed Budget Selection (FBS) method following Public Procurement Act (PPA), 2006 & Public Procurement Rules (PPR), 2008. Consulting Firm(s) in the form of a Joint Venture or a Sub-consultancy or Association are also encouraged to participate in the EOI as per PPR, 2008. The details will be provided in the Terms of References (TOR). TOR will be available at National Sports Council's website <a href="http://nsc.gov.bd/">http://nsc.gov.bd/</a> . Short listing will be made in accordance with PPR, 2008. Only short-listed consulting firm(s) will be qualified for participating in RFP for the consultancy services. Interested applicants may obtain further information from the undersigned during office hour (9.00am to 3.00pm).

Procuring Entity Details	Name of Official Inviting EOI : Mahbub Moushred Sohel Designation of Official Inviting EOI : Project Director Address of Official Inviting EOI : Office of the Project Director, Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila level (2nd Phase), National Sports Council, 62/3, Purana Paltan (Level-7), Dhaka-1000.
Contact details of Official Inviting EOI	Phone: 02-41052044, Email: <a href="mailto:pd@nsc.gov.bd">pd@nsc.gov.bd</a>

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject at any stage any or all EOIs.
<b>Mahbub Moushred Sohel</b> Project Director Construction of Sheikh Russel Mini Stadium at Upazila Level (2nd Phase) Project