

How will a new UK PM be chosen?

REUTERS

Under the current rules, candidates need the support of eight Conservative MPs to stand. Once all the candidates have declared - if there are more than two candidates - Tory MPs will hold a series of votes until only two remain. In the first round, candidates must get 5 percent of the votes to stay in the running. In the second round, they must get 10 percent. In the following rounds, the candidate with the least number of votes is eliminated. When two MPs are left, all Conservative Party members around the country will vote for the winner. The leader of the party with a majority in the House of Commons is the de facto prime minister. He or she does not have to call a snap election, but has the power to do so.

HOW LONG WILL IT ALL TAKE?

The duration of the leadership contest can vary, depending on how many people put themselves forward. Theresa May became leader less than three weeks after David Cameron resigned in 2016 and all other contenders dropped out mid-race. Local media reported that Johnson had agreed with the chairman of the 1922 Committee, who will oversee the ballot that a new leader should be in place before the party's annual conference in October.

FRONTRUNNERS TO BE THE NEXT PM

LIZ TRUSS: The 46-year-old foreign secretary is the darling of the party's grassroots and has regularly topped polls of party members carried out by the website Conservative Home.

BEN WALLACE: Defence minister Ben Wallace, 52, has risen in recent months to be the favourite to replace Johnson. According to results of a YouGov poll, he was the favourite among Conservative party members to be the next party leader.

RISHI SUNAK: Sunak, who resigned as finance minister on Tuesday was until last year the favourite to succeed Johnson. Revelations about his wealthy wife's non-domiciled tax status and a fine he received, along with Johnson, for breaking Covid rules have damaged his standing.



Liz Truss Ben Wallace Rishi Sunak



BREXIT TO EXIT

The rise and fall of Boris Johnson

AFP, London

Boris Johnson rode his luck throughout his career, bouncing back from a succession of setbacks and scandals that would have sunk other less popular politicians.

But the luck of a man once likened to a "greased piglet" for his ability to escape controversies finally ran out, after a slew of high-profile resignations from his scandal-hit government.

The departure comes just three years after he took over from Theresa May in an internal Conservative leadership contest. He called a snap general election that December, winning the biggest Tory parliamentary majority since the heyday of Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s.

That allowed him to unblock years of political paralysis after the 2016 Brexit vote, to take Britain out of the European Union in January 2020.

But he has faced criticism since, from his handling of the

Covid pandemic to allegations of corruption, cronyism, double standards and duplicity.

Some drew parallels between his governing style and his chaotic private life of three marriages, at least seven children and rumours of a host of affairs.

Alexander Boris de Pfeffel Johnson had a conventional rise to power for a Conservative politician: first the elite Eton College, then Oxford University.

At Eton, his teachers bemoaned his "cavalier attitude" to his studies and the sense he gave that he should be treated as "an exception".

After university, he was sacked from The Times newspaper after making up a quote, then joined the Telegraph as its Brussels correspondent.

From there he fed the growing Conservative Euroscepticism of the 1990s with regular "euromyths" about supposed EU plans for a federal mega-state threatening British sovereignty.

He became an MP in 2004,

with the Tory leader at the time, Michael Howard, sacking him from his shadow cabinet for lying about an extra-marital affair.

From 2008 to 2016 he served two terms as mayor of London, promoting himself as a pro-EU liberal, a stance which he abandoned as soon as the Brexit referendum came about.

His former editor at the Telegraph, Max Hastings, described it as cynical - but not unexpected. Johnson, he said, "cares for no interest save his own fame and gratification".

On Wednesday, as calls mounted for Johnson to go, Hastings wrote in The Times that the prime minister had "broken every rule of decency".

But he was "the same moral bankrupt as when the Conservative party chose him, as shambolic in his conduct of office as in his management of his life".

"We now need a prime minister who will restore dignity and self-respect to the country and its governance," he added.

MI5, FBI warn of China espionage

AFP, London

The heads of MI5 and the Federal Bureau of Investigation warned Wednesday about China's commercial espionage thrust in the West, in a rare joint address at the British intelligence service's London headquarters. Speaking to an audience of officials and business executives in Thames House, MI5 Director General Ken McCallum and FBI Director Chris Wray said the threat from Chinese spies is paramount in both countries and only continues to grow. They urged businesses to stay alert and report possible threats.

Pakistan flood kills 9

AFP, Karachi

A 12-year-old boy suspected to be working illegally at a coal mine was among at least nine people killed by a flash flood at a quarry in southern Pakistan, officials said yesterday. Police said torrential monsoon rain inundated the mine in Jhampir, 120 kilometres east of Karachi.

Last Muslim lawmaker leaves India's BJP

CNN ONLINE

The last remaining Muslim lawmaker in India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party has resigned, leaving the party without a single representative from the minority community among its 395 members of parliament. Minister of Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi resigned on Wednesday, one day before his term was expected to come to an end. The Indian parliament has nearly 800 lawmakers in total.

PRICE SPIKES 71m pushed into poverty since March

AFP, United Nations

Soaring global food and energy prices have forced 71 million people into poverty in the world's poorest countries, according to a United Nations Development Program report published yesterday.

The rise in the developing world's poverty rates over the past three months "is drastically faster than the shock of the Covid-19 pandemic," said the UNDP in a press release, blaming the price surges in part on the war in Ukraine.

To address the growing issue, the UNDP said "targeted cash transfers to households are more equitable and more cost-effective than blanket energy subsidies," but the UN agency added that governments will "need support from the multilateral system to make ends meet."

The UNDP also warned in its report that as central banks raise interest rates to tackle inflation, "there is a risk of triggering further recession-induced poverty that will exacerbate the crisis even more, accelerating and deepening poverty worldwide."

Try and defeat Russia

Putin challenges West as Moscow consolidates gains in Ukraine's east

AGENCIES

President Vladimir Putin yesterday challenged the West to try and defeat Russia "on the battlefield" and said Moscow's intervention in Ukraine marked a shift to a "multi-polar world."

Delivering one of his strongest speeches since he sent troops to Ukraine on February 24, Putin also raged against "totalitarian liberalism" that he said the West has sought to impose on the entire world.

"Today we hear that they want to defeat us on the battlefield. Well, what can you say here? Let them try," Putin told senior lawmakers on the 134th day of Russia's offensive in Ukraine. He accused "the collective West" of unleashing a "war" in Ukraine and said Russia's intervention in the pro-Western country marked the beginning of a shift to a "multi-polar world."

"This process cannot be stopped," he added. He also warned Kyiv and its Western allies that Moscow has not even started its military campaign in Ukraine "in earnest."

"Everyone should know that we have not started in earnest yet," he said. "At the same time we are not refusing to hold peace negotiations but those who are refusing should know that it will be harder to come to

an agreement with us" at a later stage.

On the ground, Russian forces yesterday consolidated gains in eastern Ukraine and probed the defences of potential new targets, as Ukrainian forces raised their national flag on a recaptured Black Sea island in a symbol of defiance against Moscow.

Moscow responded to the flag-raising ceremony fast. It said one of its warplanes had struck Snake Island shortly afterwards and destroyed part of the Ukrainian detachment there.

The tiny island, located about 140 km south of the Ukrainian port of Odesa, is strategically important as it guards sea lanes. Russia abandoned it at the end of June in what it said was a gesture of goodwill. Ukraine claimed it a victory.

Russian forces in eastern Ukraine meanwhile kept up pressure on Ukrainian troops trying to hold the line along the northern borders of the Donetsk region, in preparation for an anticipated wider new offensive against it.

After taking the city of Lysychansk on Sunday and effectively cementing their total control of Ukraine's Luhansk region, Moscow has made clear it is planning to capture parts of the neighbouring Donetsk region which it has not yet seized. Kyiv still controls some large cities.



Biman's delay in probe may cost it dearly

FROM PAGE 12

asked them to investigate why the pilot deviated. In five months, QCAA wrote to Biman several times, but the emails were ignored in an apparent move to sweep the incident under the carpet, alleged several Biman insiders.

After not getting any response, QCAA in mid-June wrote to the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh asking it to look into the matter.

On the instruction

of CAAB, Biman finally launched a probe.

Capt Salahuddin M Rahmatullah, head of Aircraft Accident Investigation Group, CAAB, told this paper that they have asked Biman to provide necessary information to QCAA.

An official involved in the investigation process said they were facing various difficulties in getting information as the incident happened a long time ago and there was no

information in the flight data recorder (one of the so-called black boxes).

The official claimed that TCAS in the Biman aircraft did not get activated as the plane's altitude was below 700 feet.

An aviation expert told The Daily Star that the national flag carrier high-ups showed utter negligence in complying with the request of QCAA and this could even result in Biman being banned in Qatar.

Biman's Managing Director and CEO Abu Saleh Mostafa Kamal, now in Saudi Arabia, did not receive the phone call of this correspondent.

This newspaper has obtained an animated recreation of the incident, made by authorities in Qatar, that shows the Biman aircraft veering off to the right after take-off and getting into the airspace of the parallel runway and almost colliding with a Qatar Airways plane.

Body of news portal editor

FROM PAGE 2

he received a phone call and went out, telling a colleague that he would be back soon.

But his phone was found unreachable after a while and he could not be found anywhere, they said, adding that they later

informed police about the matter.

A human chain and a rally were held in Kusthia in protest of his disappearance on Wednesday.

Rubel's wife Ibtisam said she talked to Rubel over phone just a few hours

before he disappeared and he told her that he would return home at night.

Iti alleged that her husband got killed because police did not do enough to find him.

Locals found his body around 2:45pm and then called police.

Police then recovered the body along with a wallet, some money and an identity card, said Kamruzzaman Talukder, officer-in-charge of Kumarkhali Police Station.

The body was sent to Kusthia General Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
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e-Tender Notice
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works:

e-Tender ID No.	Name of the work	Last Date and Time for Tender Security Submission	Tender/Proposal Closing Date and Time
715571	Construction of Staff Nurse Hostel at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital	07-August-2022 11:30	07-August-2022 12:00

This is 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 e-GP registered Banks' Branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

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GD-1357

Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA)
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Expressions of Interest (EOI)

1	Ministry/Division	Financial Institution Division, Ministry of Finance,
2	Agency	Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA)
3	Procuring Entity Name	Executive Vice Chairman, Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA)
4	Title of Service	Selection of a Solution Provider for Developing, Updating, Maintaining of Integrated Microfinance Solution (MRA-IMS) Including an Automated SMS Solution, a central e-KYC platform and a Call Center System portal for the Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA)
5	Procuring Entity District/ Location	Dhaka
6	Expressions of Interest for Selection of	Consulting Firm for software Development.
7	EOI Ref. No	53.04.0000.002.011.22-1432
8	Date	05.07.2022

KEY INFORMATION

9	Procurement Sub-Method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
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FUNDING INFORMATION

10	Budget and Source of Funds	MRA Own Fund
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PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11	EOI Closing Date & Time	26/07/2022, Time: 12:00 PM
12	Details	For Full Expressions of Interest (EOI) and Terms of Reference (ToR) Please visit www.mra.gov.bd

Md. Fashiullah
Executive Vice Chairman
Microcredit Regulatory Authority

GD-1358