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Britain bids adieu to the Queen

Elizabeth II laid to rest after historic funeral attended by world leaders

AGENCIES

Queen Elizabeth's coffin was lowered into a vault at Windsor Castle yesterday after a day of inimitable pageantry that drew world leaders to her funeral and huge crowds to the streets to say farewell to a revered monarch.

Hundreds of thousands of well wishers lined the route her hearse took from London, throwing flowers, cheering and clapping as it passed from the city to the English countryside that she so loved much.

Many more had crammed into the capital to witness the procession and funeral, in a moving tribute to Britain's longest-serving monarch who won global respect during 70 years on the throne.

Inside the majestic Westminster Abbey where the funeral was held, some 500 presidents, prime ministers, foreign royal family members and dignitaries, including Joe Biden of the United States, were



among the 2,000 congregation. Later the attention switched to St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle, where some 800 guests attended a committal service ahead of her burial.

It concluded with the crown, orb and sceptre - symbols of the monarch's power and governance - being removed from the coffin and placed on the altar.

The Lord Chamberlain, the most senior official in the royal household, then broke his 'Wand of Office', signifying the end of his service to the sovereign, and placed it on the casket before it slowly descended into the royal vault.

As the congregation sang the national anthem, King Charles appeared to be fighting back tears.

However, the vault will not be her final resting place. Later yesterday, a private burial service was due to be held for the royal family, when the Queen

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Britain's King Charles III; Camilla, Queen Consort; Prince William, Prince of Wales; Catherine, Princess of Wales; Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex; and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, with other members of the Royal Family, walk behind the coffin of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II as they leave Westminster Abbey in London yesterday, after the State Funeral Service for Her Majesty. PHOTO: AFP

BIMAN FLIGHT 'Errant' pilot causes delay, financial loss

RASHIDUL HASAN

In a show of utter negligence, a senior pilot of Biman Bangladesh Airlines did not operate scheduled flights on the Dhaka-Chattogram-Muscat-Sylhet-Dhaka route.

This not only made passengers suffer from delays but also caused financial losses to the national flag carrier.

Biman's flight operations department on September 11 served a show-cause notice to Captain Abu Safa, asking him why departmental action should not be taken against him.

The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the notice, which said his actions showed utter negligence to his duty and warrant stern punishment.

It further said Captain Safa was appointed the operating captain for the flight on the Dhaka-Chattogram-Muscat-

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EVM PROCUREMENT, MANAGEMENT EC finalises massive Tk 8,711cr project

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The Election Commission yesterday finalised Tk 8,711 crore project for purchasing two lakh electronic voting machines and their management.

Its development project proposal (DPP) has fixed \$2,487 as the base price of an EVM and, according to this, at least half a billion dollars will be needed to procure the machines.

Another Tk 25,000 to Tk 30,000 will be needed for accessories per machine, said officials involved in preparing the project proposal.

In total, a full-fledged EVM machine will cost Tk 3.05 lakh and about Tk 6,000 crore will be needed to buy two lakh EVM.

The commission in a statement yesterday said a meeting approved a project worth Tk 8,711.44 crore, titled "increasing the use of EVM in elections and its sustainable management".

- EC to procure 2 lakh EVMs
- A full-fledged EVM to cost Tk 3.05 lakh
- 10 warehouses to be built to preserve the machines
- 534 pick-up vans, 4 jeeps to be procured
- 1,300 manpower to be appointed

Under the project, two lakh EVMs will be procured for electronic voting in maximum 150 parliamentary seats during the upcoming 12th national polls, the statement said.

The EC currently has 1.5 lakh EVMs that can be used in 70-80 constituencies at one go in the next polls.

After the meeting yesterday, Election Commissioner Md Alamgir told reporters that they undertook

the project as they would need more EVMs if they want to use the machines in 150 seats.

"We had asked the [EC] secretariat to prepare a DPP and it was finalised in the meeting. We will send it to the Planning Commission for approval," Alamgir said, without taking any questions.

In another briefing on Sunday, Election Commissioner Rashida Sultana said the cost of the project also covers building warehouses to preserve EVMs, creation of skilled manpower and their training.

"We don't take up projects every day.... The government will allocate money according to its capacity. We don't think the government lacks the capacity," she said.

The move to buy the additional EVMs comes following the EC's August 23 decision to go for electronic voting in up to 150 constituencies in the polls despite objections from major opposition

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PUBLIC SERVANTS Govt relaxes restrictions on foreign tours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday relaxed the restrictions on foreign trips of its officials "to ensure their skill upgradation".

In a circular issued by the finance ministry, government officials were given the conditional exemptions to travel abroad under the "Management and Development Budget".

According to the circular, in order to continue the activities of enhancing the efficiency of government officials, foreign travels can be made on a limited scale with the approval of the appropriate authorities.

"Officials can travel abroad for Masters and PhD courses with government funding under the budget, and scholarships can be given by various

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Israel uncovers rare Ramses II-era burial cave

AFP, Jerusalem



Israeli archaeologists have announced the "once-in-a-lifetime" discovery of a burial cave from the time of ancient Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses II, filled with dozens of pottery pieces and bronze artefacts.

The cave was uncovered on a beach last Tuesday, when a mechanical digger working at the Palmahim national park hit its roof, with archaeologists using a ladder to descend into the spacious, man-made square cave.

In a video released by the Israel Antiquities Authority, gobsmacked archaeologists shine flashlights on dozens of pottery vessels in a variety of forms and sizes, dating back to the reign of the ancient Egyptian king who died in 1213 BC.

Bowls -- some of them painted red, some containing bones -- chalices, cooking pots, storage jars, lamps and bronze arrowheads or spearheads could be seen in the cave.

The objects were burial offerings to accompany the deceased on their last journey to the afterlife, found untouched since being placed there about 3,300 years ago.



A part of the Sloviansk Thermal Power Plant damaged by a Russian military strike in the village of Mykolaivka, Donetsk region, Ukraine. Inset, A woman meets her friends on a street as she returns to her liberated home village after six months and eleven days in Troitske, Kharkiv. Both photos were taken on Sunday.

PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS

Rab sees a major reshuffle Six battalions get new COs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six out of 15 units of Rab got new commanding officers, while five of its nine wings got new directors in a major reshuffle announced yesterday.

Signed by Rab Director General Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun, a notification was issued in this regard.

Lt Col Mahmudul Hasan was made the commanding officer (CO) of Rab-8, Lt Col Abdur Rahman of Rab-4, Additional Deputy Inspector General Anwar Hossain Khan of Rab-2, Maruf Hossain of Rab-12, Mohammad Farid Uddin of Rab-10 and Mohammad Mohibul Islam Khan of Rab-14.

Lt Col Ziaur Rahman Talukder became the director of the operations wing, Lt Col Abu Naeem Md Talat of the administration and finance wing, Additional DIG Md Rokonzaman of the

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ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশন

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রিবেট সুবিধাসহ পৌরকর (Holding Tax) পরিশোধ, সারচার্জ ব্যতীত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স নবায়ন ও দোকান ভাড়া সংক্রান্ত

গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশনের সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের (বাড়ি/ফ্ল্যাট/ইমারতসমূহের মালিক ও ব্যবসায়ীগণের) অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ৩০ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২২ এর মধ্যে

(ক) বকেয়াসহ চলতি ২০২২-২৩ অর্থবছরের ৪ (চার) কিস্তি পৌরকর একত্রে পরিশোধ করে হালসনের ৪ (চার) কিস্তি পৌরকরের উপর ১০% রিবেট এবং চলতি ২০২২-২৩ অর্থবছরের ৪ (চার) কিস্তি পৌরকর একত্রে পরিশোধ করে ১০% রিবেট সুবিধা পাওয়ার সুযোগ রয়েছে।

(খ) ২০২২-২৩ অর্থবছরের জন্য সারচার্জ ব্যতীত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স নবায়ন করা যাবে।

(গ) ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশনের মালিকানাধীন দোকানসমূহের ভাড়া সারচার্জ/জরিমানা ব্যতীত পরিশোধ করা যাবে।

০২। উক্ত সময়ের মধ্যে বর্ণিত ১০% রিবেট সুবিধা এবং সারচার্জ ব্যতীত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স নবায়ন ও ভাড়া পরিশোধের সুযোগ গ্রহণ করার জন্য সম্মানিত করদাতা ও ব্যবসায়ীগণকে বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

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ঢাকা দক্ষিণ সিটি কর্পোরেশন