

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

BJP set to sweep Gujarat: exit polls

AGENCIES

The BJP is set to sweep Gujarat, with the Congress as a distant second, and Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) will finish third, predicted an aggregate of exit polls yesterday evening. The BJP is also likely to win a record second consecutive term in Himachal Pradesh, the polls said.

The BJP will win its seventh successive term in Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state, the exit polls predicted. AAP, despite an aggressive campaign, is likely to win less than 10 seats, the polls said.

AAP promised voters subsidies on electricity and other bills during the election campaign.

The poll of exit polls gives the BJP 131 of 182 seats in Gujarat and the Congress and its allies 41. The Congress's tally will drop significantly since 2017, when it stopped the BJP from winning more than 100 seats, reports NDTV.

In Himachal Pradesh, the exit polls predict 37 of 68 seats for the BJP with the Congress close behind at 30 seats. The counting of votes will be taken up on December 8. About 58.7 percent of the 2.5 crore people eligible to vote in Phase II of the Assembly elections turned up at the polling booths in Gujarat yesterday, reports The Hindu.

COUNTERING COUP IN REGION

West African leaders agree to create force

AFP, Abuja

West African leaders agreed on Sunday to create a regional force to intervene against jihadism and in the event of coups, a senior official said.

Leaders of the Economic Community of West African States had decided to act to "take care of our own security in the region", Omar Aliou Touray, president of the ECOWAS commission, told journalists at a summit in Nigeria.

They are "determined to establish a regional force that will intervene in the event of need, whether this is in the area of security, terrorism and restore constitutional order in member countries," he added.

Mali, Guinea and Burkina Faso have all been hit by military coups in the last two years. Several countries in the region are also suffering from the spread of jihadism, including Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, and southwards to the Gulf of Guinea.

National armies, largely powerless against the jihadist forces operating across borders, have been cooperating with external actors such as the UN, France and Russia.

But Touray said this decision would "restructure our security architecture".



PHOTO: REUTERS

Firefighters gather outside an office building destroyed in shelling in the course of Russia-Ukraine conflict in Donetsk, Ukraine yesterday. President Volodymyr Zelensky said Ukrainian forces were holding positions along the front line, including near Bakhmut, viewed as Russia's next target in their advance through Donetsk.

US supports 2-state solution

Says Blinken on ending decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict; Palestinian killed as Israeli forces raid West Bank

AGENCIES

The US plans to work closely with Israel's new government, Secretary of State Antony Blinken told a left-leaning Jewish group in Washington on Sunday, and continues to support a two-state solution to end the decades-long conflict with Palestinians.

The US administration expects "the new Israeli Government to continue to work with us to advance our shared values, just as we have previous governments," Blinken told the nonprofit J Street liberal advocacy group. "We will gauge the government by the policies it pursues rather than individual personalities," he said.

"Security assistance to Israel is sacrosanct," Blinken said, noting the more than \$3 billion the US



provides to Israel in foreign military funding.

Last week, Israeli Prime Minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu reached a coalition deal with the far-right Religious Zionism party, which opposes Palestinian statehood and supports extending Israeli sovereignty into the West Bank.

Itamar Ben-Gvir, who was convicted in 2007 of racist incitement against Arabs and backing a group considered by

Israel and the United States to be a terrorist organization, is Israel's new security minister, with responsibility for Border Police in the occupied West Bank, reports Reuters.

President Joe Biden remains committed to "realizing the enduring goal of two states," Blinken said. "We believe Palestinians and Israelis, like people everywhere, are entitled to the same rights and the same opportunities."

The US "will also continue to unequivocally oppose any acts that undermine the prospects of a two-state solution," Blinken said.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian man yesterday when clashes broke out during an arrest raid in the occupied West Bank, official sources on both sides said.

ABOLITION OF MORALITY POLICE

Iran activists brush off claim

AFP, Paris

Campaigners backing Iran's protest movement yesterday dismissed a claim that the Islamic republic is disbanding its notorious morality police, insisting there was no change to its restrictive dress rules for women. There were also calls on social media for a three-day strike, more than two months into the wave of civil unrest sparked by the death of Kurdish-Iranian woman Mahsa Amini, 22, after her arrest by the morality police in Tehran. Amini was accused of flouting Iran's strict dress code demanding women wear modest clothing and the hijab headscarf, and her death sparked protests that have spiralled into the biggest challenge to the regime since the 1979 Islamic revolution. Iran's Prosecutor General Mohammad Jafar Montazeri, in a surprise move at the weekend, was quoted as saying that the morality police units had been closed down. But activists were sceptical about his comments, which appeared to be an impromptu response to a question at a conference rather than a clearly signposted announcement on the morality police, which is run by the interior ministry.

S KOREA-US DRILLS

North Korea fires artillery shells as warning

REUTERS, Seoul

North Korea said it fired more than 130 artillery shells into the sea off its east and west coasts yesterday after detecting military drills across the border in the South. Some of the shells landed in a buffer zone near the sea border in what Seoul said was a violation of a 2018 inter-Korean agreement designed to reduce tensions. The South Korean military sent several warning communications to the North over the firing, the ministry of defence said in a statement. North Korea's military conducted its firing after detecting dozens of "projectiles" fired in the South near the shared border, state news agency KCNA reported, citing a spokesperson of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army.





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www.bac.gov.bd

Memo No. 37.28.0000.103.07.005.22-542

Date: 05-12-2022

Invitation for Tender: 01/2022-23

1	Ministry/Division	Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education				
2	Procuring entity name	Secretary, Bangladesh Accreditation Council				
3	Procuring entity code	Not used at present				
4	Procuring entity district	Dhaka				
5	Invitation for	Construction of full height glass partition & half height glass partition rooms with necessary fittings & fixing at Block-B of Bangladesh Accreditation Council, Head Office.				
6	Invitation Ref. No.	37.28.0000.103.07.005.22				
7	Date	05-12-2022				
KEY INFORMATION						
8	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)				
FUNDING INFORMATION						
9	Budget and source of funds	Revenue				
PARTICULAR INFORMATION						
10	Project name	Not applicable				
11	Tender publication date	06-12-2022				
12	Tender last selling date and time (office hour)	27-12-2022, 4:00pm				
13	Tender closing date and time	28-12-2022, 12:00pm				
14	Tender opening date and time	28-12-2022, 3:00pm				
15	Selling tender document (principal)	Council & Admin Department, 2nd Floor, Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 1, Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000				
	Selling tender document (others)	Procurement Section, Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education Dhaka, 13-14, Joybag Road, Dhaka-1211				
16	Receiving tender document (principal)	Council & Admin Department, 2nd Floor, Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 1, Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000				
	Receiving tender document (others)	Procurement Section, Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education, Dhaka, 13-14, Joybag Road, Dhaka-1211				
17	Opening tender document (others)	Council & Admin Department, 2nd Floor, Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 1, Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000				
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER						
18	Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	The tenderer must possess and enclosed the following documents (attested photocopies) with tender: 1) Up-to-date valid trade license (2022-2023); 2) Up-to-date income tax clearance certificate/acknowledgement slip with e-TIN certificate; 3) Valid VAT registration certificate as a construction or suppliers firm; 4) Original money receipt of purchasing tender document; 5) Any other documents as per Tender Data Sheet (Section-2)				
19	Brief description of works	Construction of full height glass partition & half height glass partition rooms with necessary fittings & fixing				
20	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk 1000.00 (one thousand) non-refundable				
<table><tr><th>Description of works</th><th>Location</th><th>Tender amount (Tk) (Pay Order/Bank Draft)</th><th>Completion time (month)</th></tr></table>		Description of works	Location	Tender amount (Tk) (Pay Order/Bank Draft)	Completion time (month)	
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Construction of full height glass partition & half height glass partition rooms with necessary fitting & fixing at Block-B of Bangladesh Accreditation Council, Head Office.		Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 1, Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.	50,000.00 (fifty thousand)	03(three)		
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS						
21	Name of official inviting tender	Professor A. K. M. Monirul Islam				
22	Designation of official inviting tender	Secretary, Bangladesh Accreditation Council				
23	Address of official inviting tender	Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2, (Hotel Intercontinental), 2nd Floor, 1, Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.				
24	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: +88-02-22224171, E-mail: secretary.bac.gov.bd@gmail.com				
25	If tender opening day happens to fall on any holiday or any unavoidable circumstance such as strike, civil commotion, govt. holiday etc. tenders shall be opened at the same hours on the first subsequent working day.					
26	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders or annul the tenders proceeding					
27	This Tender Notice will also be available at website of Bangladesh Accreditation Council (www.bac.gov.bd)					

GO-2256



Professor A. K. M. Monirul Islam
Secretary
Bangladesh Accreditation Council



China set to ease Covid curbs further

Markets cheer change of tack

REUTERS, Beijing

China is set to announce a further easing of some of the world's toughest Covid curbs as early as Wednesday, sources said, as investors cheered the prospect of a policy shift that follows widespread protests and mounting economic damage.

Three years into the pandemic, China's zero-tolerance measures, from shut borders to frequent lockdowns, contrast sharply with the rest of the world, which has largely decided to live with the virus.

The strict approach has battered the world's second-largest economy, put mental strain on hundreds of millions and last month prompted the biggest show of public discontent in mainland China since President Xi Jinping took power in 2012.

The financial hub of Shanghai announced last night that it would remove Covid testing requirements for people to enter most public places from today.

And a new set of nationwide rules is due to be announced soon, two sources with knowledge of the matter told Reuters, paving the way for more coordinated easing.

Beijing is also weighing whether to scale down its management of the virus to reflect the less serious threat it poses as early as January.

Celebrating

30 years

in construction & real estate

In this long journey, all our achievements belong to distinguished Landowners, Customers, Suppliers, Contractors and every individual of SEL family. On this auspicious day of ours, we express heartiest gratitude, warm felicitation and best wishes to all involved in our mission.



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