

Official from UK PM's party probed over election bets

REUTERS, London

An official from Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservative Party is being investigated by Britain's gambling regulator over allegations he placed bets on the date of the general election before it was announced, the Sunday Times reported.

Britain's Gambling Commission has already been reported to be investigating two Conservative election candidates and the party's director of campaigning over bets on date of July 4 polls.

The widening scandal has further damaged Sunak's attempts to catch the opposition Labour Party, which is far ahead in opinion polls in run-up to the polls.

The official was named as Nick Mason, chief data officer at the Conservative Party. Mason did not immediately respond to a request for comment.



Palestinians carry a casualty outside the headquarters of UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency) following an Israeli strike in Gaza City yesterday. Israel's offensive since October 7 has left Gaza in ruins, killed almost 37,600 people, according to Palestinian health authorities, and left nearly the entire population homeless and destitute.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Israeli forces tie injured Palestinian to jeep in raid

REUTERS, Jerusalem

Israeli army forces strapped a wounded Palestinian man to the hood of a military jeep during an arrest raid in the occupied West Bank city of Jenin on Saturday.

A video circulating on social media and verified by Reuters showed a Palestinian resident of Jenin, Mujahed Azmi, on the jeep that passes through two ambulances.

The Israeli military in a statement said Israeli forces were fired at and exchanged fire, wounding a suspect and apprehending him.

Soldiers then violated military protocol, the statement said. "The suspect was taken by the forces while tied on top of a vehicle," it said.

The military said the "conduct of the forces in the video of the incident does not conform to the values" of the Israeli military and that the incident will be investigated and dealt with.

The individual was transferred to medics for treatment, the military said. Reuters was able to match the location from corroborating and verified footage shared on social media that shows a vehicle transporting an individual tied on top of a vehicle in Jenin. The date was confirmed by an eyewitness interviewed by Reuters.

According to the family of Azmi, there was an arrest raid, and he was injured during the raid, and when the family asked for an ambulance, the army took Mujahed, strapped him on the hood and drove off.

Food piles up at Gaza crossing in south

Aid agencies say they are unable to work due to continued Israeli strikes, breakdown of public order

AFP, Jerusalem

Days after Israel announced a daily pause in fighting on a key route to allow more aid into Gaza, chaos in the besieged Palestinian territory has left vital supplies piled up and undistributed in the searing summer heat.

More than eight months of offensive have led to dire humanitarian conditions in the Gaza Strip and repeated UN warnings of famine.

Desperation among Gaza's 2.4 million population has increased as fighting rages, sparking warnings from agencies that they are unable to deliver aid.

Israel says it has let supplies in and called on agencies to step up deliveries.

"The breakdown of public order and safety is increasingly endangering humanitarian workers

and operations in Gaza," the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA, said in a briefing later on Friday.

"Alongside the fighting, criminal activities and the risk of theft and robbery has effectively prevented humanitarian access to critical locations."

But Israel says it has allowed hundreds of trucks of aid into southern Gaza, trading blame with the United Nations over why the aid is stacking up.

It shared aerial footage of containers lined up on the Gazan side of the Kerem Shalom crossing

and more trucks arriving to add to the stockpile.

With civil order breaking down in Gaza, the UN says it has been unable to pick up any supplies from Kerem Shalom since Tuesday, leaving crucial aid in limbo.

A deputy UN spokesman this week said the crossing "is operating with limited functionality, including because of fighting in the area".

William Schomburg, International Committee of the Red Cross chief in Rafah, said arranging lorries from the Egyptian side in particular was complicated.



A firefighter works at a site of a Russian air strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kharkiv, Ukraine yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Trump courts Black voters in Philadelphia

Asks Christians to back him one last time

REUTERS, Philadelphia

Donald Trump made two speeches on Saturday, urging Christian supporters to go to the polls for him one last time and courting Black voters in Philadelphia by promising to fix a city "ravaged by bloodshed" even as data shows a decline in violent crime.

If elected in November, the Republican presidential candidate told a rally of several thousand at Philadelphia's Temple University, he would give police "immunity" to do their jobs and "surge" federal

resources to cities battling violence. Trump dismissed as "fake" FBI statistics that showed a continued drop in levels of violent crime and murder across the country in the first three months of 2024, and accused Democratic President Joe Biden of lying about the data.

"Under crooked Joe Biden the City of Philadelphia is being ravaged by bloodshed and crime," Trump said

in an arena in a historically Black neighbourhood, addressing an audience more diverse than a typical rally, but still largely white.

"Under the Trump administration we are going to bring law and order and safety back to our streets."

The promise to fight crime was part of a larger pitch to Black and Hispanic people, who form more than half the city's population.



Deaths from Indian toxic alcohol rise to more than 50

AFP, Chennai

The death toll from a batch of toxic illegal alcohol in India has risen to 53, media reported yesterday, as more victims in hospital succumbed to the poisonous brew.

Tamil Nadu state Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has said the locally brewed arrack drink was laced with poisonous methanol, killing 37 within hours after they drank the illegal alcohol on Tuesday.

More than 100 people were rushed to hospital, but some were too sick for medics to save.

An AFP photographer, who had visited the hard-hit Kallakurichi district during the first wave of deaths, reported how the sky was darkened by plumes of smoke that rose from dotted funeral pyres, as wailing relatives gathered to mourn.

Hundreds of people die every year in India from cheap alcohol made in backstreet distilleries, but this poisoning is one of the worst in recent years.

To increase its potency, the liquor is often spiked with methanol which can cause blindness and death.

The Indian Express yesterday quoted a local councillor, Palraj, describing how poor labourers in Kallakurichi regularly bought the liquor in plastic bags costing 60 rupees, which they would drink before work.

Bangladeshi-origin minorities voted for Congress Claims Assam CM

HINDUSTAN TIMES ONLINE

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has claimed that the Bangladeshi-origin minority community members "overwhelmingly" voted for the Congress in the just concluded Lok Sabha elections, without considering the "developmental work done for them by the BJP-led governments at the Centre and in the state."

Sarma alleged that the Bangladeshi-origin minority community is the only one in Assam which indulges in communalism, PTI reported.

The Bharatiya Janata Party-AGP-UPPL coalition won 11 out of 14 Lok Sabha seats in Assam, while the Congress won the remaining three.

"If we analyse the 39 percent votes of the Congress, it is not spread across the state. Fifty percent of it is concentrated in 21 assembly segments which are minority dominated. In these minority dominated segments, BJP got 3 percent votes," he claimed while speaking at the felicitation programme of the winning BJP candidates.

Continuing further, Sarma said, "This proves that Hindus do not indulge in communalism. If anyone indulges in communalism in Assam, it is only one community, one religion. No other religion does it."

The Assam chief minister said that the minority-dominated areas have voted for Congress and did again, despite not having roads and electricity.

Philippines won't be intimidated Says Marcos amid China row

AFP, Manila

President Ferdinand Marcos said yesterday the Philippines "will not be intimidated" by anyone after a violent clash between the Filipino navy and the Chinese coast guard in the South China Sea.

The confrontation took place last Monday off Second Thomas Shoal as the Chinese sailors foiled an attempt by Philippine forces to resupply marines stationed on a derelict warship that was deliberately grounded atop the disputed shoal in 1999 to assert Manila's territorial claims.

It was the latest and most serious incident in a series of escalating confrontations between Chinese and Philippine ships in recent months as Beijing steps up efforts to push its claims to nearly all of the strategically located waterway.

"We will never be intimidated or oppressed by anyone," Marcos said in a speech during a visit to the headquarters of the Philippines' South China Sea forces on Palawan island.

Marcos awarded medals to 80 sailors who took part in the resupply mission, urging them to "continue to fulfill your duty of defending the nation" even as he said the situation has become "dangerous".

Second Thomas Shoal lies about 200 kilometres from Palawan and over 1,000 kilometres from China's nearest major landmass, Hainan island.

বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক পিএলসি.
BANGLADESH DEVELOPMENT BANK PLC.
(A State Owned Commercial Bank)


Ref No : 06.3/ Date : 23/06/2024

Invitation For Tender

Tender is invited from the reputed Companies for Operation, Maintenance & Servicing of 06(Six) no's passenger lift (Brand: Nippon) in monthly payment basis for 03 (Three) years at BDBL Bhaban, 08 RAJUK Avenue, Dhaka-1000. Necessary information's are given below:

01. Procuring Entity :	Real Estate Department, Bangladesh Development Bank PLC., Head Office, BDBL Bhaban (Level - 09), 8, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka - 1000.
02. Procurement Method :	Open Tendering Method (OTM) of Public Procurement Rules, 2008 and The Public Procurement Act, 2006.
03. Invitation for Tender No :	BDBL / RED / OTM / 2024 / 03
04. Source of Funds :	Bank's own Fund.
05. Brief Description of the Goods and Services :	Operation, Maintenance & Servicing of 06(Six) no's passenger lift (Brand: Nippon) in monthly payment basis for 03 (Three) years at BDBL head office bhaban, 08 RAJUK Avenue, Dhaka-1000.
06. Name & Address of Receiving Tender Document :	Real Estate Department, Bangladesh Development Bank Limited (BDBL), Head Office, BDBL Bhaban (Level - 09), 08, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka.
07. Last Date and Time for Selling Tender Schedule :	08/07/2024 up to Office Hour.
08. Last Date and Time for Submission :	09/07/2024 Time : 03:00 PM
09. Date, Time and Place for Tender Opening :	All Tenders will be opened at Real Estate Department, Head Office, Dhaka - 1000 on 09/07/2024 at 03:30 PM (Intending Tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend at the time of opening of Tender)
10. Eligibility of Tenderer :	1. The Tenderer must have 05 (Five) years of general experience in public/Private sector as Prime Contractor. 2. The Tenderer must have at least 02(Two) contracts of similar nature, complexity and methods (ie. Operation, maintenance & servicing of Nippon Lift) completed over a period of last 05 (Five) years. 3. The Tenderer must have minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of Tk. 5.00 (Five) Lac. 4. The Tenderer must have ABC category Electrical & Supervisory license by name of own Company, Valid & up to date Trade License, TIN & Tax Return certificate, Tax Clearance Certificate, VAT registration certificate etc.
11. Tender Security :	Tender Security of an amount of 2,70,000.00 (Two Lac Seventy Thousand Taka only) will be required in the form of Pay Order favoring Bangladesh Development Bank PLC., which is refundable.
12. Price of Tender Schedule :	Taka 1,000.00 (One Thousand Taka Only) in the form of Pay Order favoring Bangladesh Development Bank PLC Which is Non Refundable.

Bangladesh Development Bank PLC. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender either in part or full without assigning any reason whatsoever.


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Real Estate Department
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