

Could British PM May could lose majority in June 8 election



Prime Minister Theresa May could lose control of parliament in Britain's June 8 election, according to a projection by polling company YouGov, raising the prospect of political deadlock just as formal Brexit talks begin. In stark contrast to opinion polls that have until the past week shown May on course for a big win in the snap election she called, the poll suggested May would lose 20 seats and her 17-seat working majority in the 650-seat British parliament.

If the YouGov model turns out to be accurate, May would be well short of the 326 seats needed to form a government in June, when formal Brexit negotiations are due to begin. May called the snap election in a bid to strengthen her hand in negotiations on Britain's exit from the European Union, to win more time to deal with the impact of the divorce and to strengthen her grip on the Conservative Party. But if she does not handsomely beat the 12-seat majority Cameron won in 2015, her electoral gamble will have failed and her authority could be undermined just as she tries to deliver what she has told voters will be a successful Brexit.

Pound Sterling was seen falling against the Euro and US Dollar overnight following the release of a poll that suggested the UK could be without a majority government following the June 8 poll. The GBP/EUR exchange rate is now seen at 1.144 - a two-month low - with momentum studies suggest it is racing back to the March lows below 1.13. The January low of 1.1286 is now even feasible.

Source: Reuters