

# If not AL, others will contest

**FROM PAGE 1**  
cannot form government. This is why they want to foil the election. They want to boycott the election that they can do. But there are many more parties eager to participate in the elections.

She said this is the reason that the particular party says it will not let the election be held.

Khaleda was speaking at a public rally at the Kabirhat Government College playground in Noakhali.

UNB from Kabirhat, Noakhali adds: Hinting at AL, the PM said those opposing the election would have to take part in the polls or else further lose people's support and get less parliamentary

seats in future than what they got in the last election.

"The only path is election as the caretaker government will hand over power to those who will win the election," Khaleda, also the ruling BNP chairperson, told a big public meeting at Kabirhat College ground.

The PM made it clear that the country would run according to the constitution and "not go by certain person or party's wish."

As per constitution, the last-retired chief justice will be the chief adviser of the caretaker government, she told her audience amidst claps. "But they [AL] have fixed their choice as to

whom they would make chief adviser."

Khaleda observed that they don't want continuity of democratic process and don't believe in multiparty democracy but want to re-establish "one-party BAKSAL" system.

The prime minister said that, according to the constitution, they would hand over power to a caretaker government next month and the caretaker government would conduct the general election.

"Knowing it full well they (opposition) are unnecessarily enforcing hartal and siege unleashing chaos and indiscipline as they don't want peace, progress and development and welfare of the country and its people," she told the gathering.

As much as election is coming nearer so much are they creating chaos and indiscipline in the country, the PM alleged.

She pointed out that they (AL) had come to power through election under caretaker government in 1996 as well as they, during their rule, had appointed election commissioners and prepared new voter list.

"Now the Election Commission is preparing a correct voter list and working well, but they don't want fair election and voter list," Khaleda said.

"We, too, want a correct voter list for free and fair election," she said, adding that the opposition, instead of cooperating with the EC, is unnecessarily obstructing their work.

Khaleda alleged that the opposition wants to boycott and foil the general election as they have no chances of winning the election, but many other parties are ready to take part in the election. "They want to snatch away the voting and democratic rights of the people."

The BNP chairperson said the people of Bangladesh are united in favour of peace, development and public welfare pursued by her party and government. "They are against destructive and antidevelopment politics."

Listing her almost five-year-old government's successes and massive development activities across the country, the PM said when Bangladesh has been advancing quickly, the opposition resorted to politics of hartal, gherao and siege,

arson and killing.

"Their popularity has been on the decline for their terrorist activities, corruption and for not doing public-welfare activities," she noted.

Khaleda said the way her government has carried out works, the appearance of Bangladesh has changed on all fronts as reflected in the increased per-capita income, purchasing capacity, export, local and foreign investments, employment, life expectancy, literacy rate and foreign-currency reserve.

She urged people to vote for 'sheaf of paddy' and BNP and its alliance to complete the ongoing development activities and carry forward the roadmap of development to build a self-reliant and prosperous Bangladesh.

Presided over by Law Minister and local MP Moudud Ahmed, the rally was also addressed by PM's Political Secretary Harris Chowdhury, State Minister for LGRD Ziaul Huq Zia, Mahbubur Rahman MP, Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal president Barkatullah Bulu, Md Shajahan MP and MA Hashem MP.

Earlier, Prime Minister Khaleda inaugurated Noakhali BSCIC Industrial Estate at Ashyadia, and the newly built Kabirhat pourashava bhaban and auditorium and laid the foundation stone of the upazila complex of the newly created Kabirhat upazila.

## 'Implement tripartite RMG agreement'

DU CORRESPONDENT

National Garment Workers' Federation (NGWF) yesterday demanded immediate declaration of a wage board for garment workers and implementation of tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), says a press release.

The federation held a rally at Pallabi in the city, where leaders urged the government and garment owners to declare a wage board and implement the MoU.

General Secretary Amirul Haq Amin, Vice President Faruq Khan, Md Bareq and other central and local leaders spoke at the rally.

