RCC polls: 309 candidates in the fray

BSS, *Dhaka*

A total of 309 candidates, belonging to different political parties, are vying for the post of ward commissioners in the upcoming Rajshahi City Corporation polls.

Of them, 141 have affiliation to BNP, 60 to Awami League, 21 to Jamaat, 17 to Jatiya Party and 18 to Workers Party. Fifty-two people are also contesting for the posts as independent candidates.

Besides, 104 aspirants are contesting for 10 posts of commissioners reserved for women.

Sixty-one of them belong to BNP, 15 to AL and one to Workers Party. Twenty-seven are fighting for the posts as independent candidates.

Six candidates are contesting the post of mayor.

Of the mayoral candidates, M Mizanur Rahman (Minu) belongs to four-party alliance, Kamrul Monir and M Ekhlakh Hossain Advocate belong to Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), S M Basaruzzaman (Hira) belongs to Jatiya Party and Fazle Hossain Badsha to Workers Party.

M Solaiman Hossain is contesting the post as an independent candidate.

SC bar polls today

BSS, DHAKA

The election of Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association will be held today and tomorrow.

Three panels are contesting the election. These are general lawyers backed pink panel, BNP and four party alliance backed blue panel (Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Oikkya Parishad) and Awami League backed white panel (Sammilita Ainjibi Sammannoya Parishad).

Acid attack on schoolboy

UNB, BARISAL

A schoolboy sustained burn injuries in acid attack by miscreants in Fakirbari area of the town yesterday morning.

Hospital and family sources said Avijit Karmaker, 13, came under attack when he opened the door of his house hearing a knock.

PHOTO: STAR

President AQM Badrudduja Chowdhury with the recipients of gold medals – Dr Sultana Zaman and Dr Valerie Ann Taylor – and other guests at the award distribution ceremony at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the city yesterday. Dr MR Khan & Anwara Trust awarded the two social workers for their outstanding contribution to the welfare of the women and children. National Professor Dr MR Khan is also seen in the picture.

2 women physicians awarded gold medals

BSS, *Dhaka*

President A Q M Badrudduja Chowdhury yesterday called upon the rich people to play their due role for the welfare of the disabled.

"The government alone cannot solve all the problems and hence supports from the rich and well-off section of the society are needed," he said at a function here yesterday evening.

MR Khan and Anwara Trust organised the function to award gold medals to women physicians who made outstanding contributions for the welfare of the disabled in last three decades.

The recipients are Dr Sultana Zaman, a physiotherapist and social worker, and Dr Valerie Ann Taylor, a British-born social worker who have been working for the disabled since 1969 and got citizenship of Bangladesh in 1998.

Handing over the gold medals at Osmani Memorial Hall, the President said these two great women social workers could be a model for others.

He said around 10 per cent of the total population are either physically or intellectually disabled. "The industrialists and the rich should come forward to help the disabled through their proper rehabilitation and treatment."

The president underscored the need for setting up more trusts, and foundations at private levels to develop potential sectors of the country.

In this regard, he referred to a move being taken by the Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (BAIRA) to develop a sports foundation in the country. The foundation, he said, would usher in a new era in the arena of sports.

State Minister for Youth and Sports M Fazlur Rahman, State Minister for Commerce Barkat Ullah Bhulu, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury and Vice Chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Prof M A Hadi spoke on the occasion.

Chairman of the trust National Professor Dr MR Khan chaired the function.

Disruption in Internet service for second day

UNB, *Dhaka*

Country's Internet service continued to face disruption for the second day yesterday due to 'trouble' in telephone lines.

Internet service providers (ISP) said one doesn't face any problem during telephonic talks but the disruption takes place whenever the modem is engaged for Internet connection through the same telephone line.

They said that as soon as the subscribers log in, the line is disconnected. They also complained of abrupt disconnection and fluctuating line speeds.

ISP Association Bangladesh general secretary Ershad Shafi Chowdhury told UNB that due to the disruption, ISPs sustained a loss of around Tk 20 lakh per day while businessmen Tk 20-25 lakh and software exporters and private users Tk 10 lakh.

"We are receiving thousands of complaints from our customers from the fault in which we have no hand," he said.

The association has lodged a complaint with the BTTB and plans to file a complaint with the Prime Minister's office if the problem is not solved by today.

Rezaul Hasan, chief operation officer of Global Online, said many businessmen are losing their foreign contracts for which the country will incur huge loss.

One source claimed that the BTTB degraded the voice quality over telephone line to stop voice over IP, so that ISPs cannot provide ISD phone connections but the trick reduced overall data transfer speed.

T&T officials were not available for comment.

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- Counselling & advice from native-speaker teachers

Venue: The British Council Teaching Centre
754b Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Date: Saturday 30th March 2002, Time: 9.30 am - 4.30 pm

Tel: 861 8905 - 7, 911 6171 Fax: 811 6554, 861 3375
E-mail: dhaka.enquiries@bd.britishcouncil.org

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