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Battle for Ctg city father today

STAR REPORT

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) goes to polls today amid tight security, as voters choose a city father in a fierce battle between incumbent mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and his main challenger Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin.

The non-stop eight-hour voting will begin at 8:00am with 11,38,318

registered voters of the port city exercising their franchise to elect a mayor, 41 ward commissioners and 14 women ward commissioners in reserved seats.

The government has declared a public holiday in the country's commercial capital to facilitate the voting taking place after five years. Mohiuddin was elected mayor for a second term in the year 2000.

Over 18,000 security personnel including members of the army, paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles (BDR), Armed Police Battalion, Ansar and Coastguard have been deployed to maintain law and order during the polls.

The Election Commission (EC) has put restriction on movement of all types of motorised vehicles in the CCC area until midnight today.

Mobile phone networks in Chittagong will also be switched off during the poll hours.

Twenty-one candidates are contesting for the mayoral post while there are 304 candidates for the 41 ward commissioner posts and 83 for the 14 women ward commissioner posts.

The election has become a

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70,000 brought in to rig polls, alleges Nagorik Committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

About 60,000 to 70,000 outsiders and criminals have been brought to Chittagong to rig the mayoral election in favour of ruling alliance-backed candidate Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin, alleged the Nagorik Committee yesterday.

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Cops crack down on Mohiuddin's supporters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The police last night clamped down on Awami League and Nagorik Committee strongholds in the port city hours before today's city corporation elections.

Sources said armed with a list

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Mir Nasir sure of winning

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The BNP-led four-party alliance nominated candidate Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin at a press briefing yesterday afternoon expressed his confidence in winning the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) elections today.

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Unqualified polling officers withdrawn

2,000 doubtful ones remain, EC blasts returning officer

STAR REPORT

A number of polling officers were withdrawn yesterday after the Election Commission (EC) the same day blasted the Returning Officer (RO) for appointing the officers unfit to discharge election duties in today's Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) polls.

Still, some 2,000 'inept' polling

officers remain, as it is not possible at the last moment to replace all of them among who are pro-BNP Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) leaders, peons and orderlies of different offices, said sources.

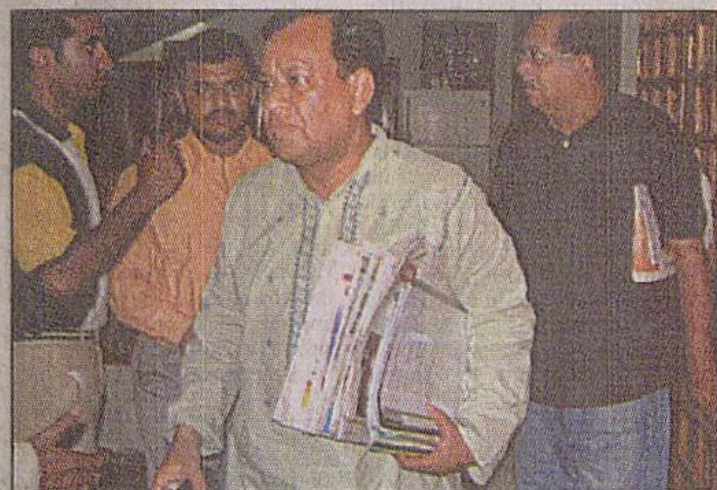
The RO has appointed 10,210 people as polling officials, and of them, 6,422 are polling officers.

The fourth class employees who had been appointed polling officers

were removed and replaced by officials from the reserve," Golam Qudus, the RO for the CCC polls, said at a press briefing at his office in Chittagong yesterday.

The RO, however, did not disclose how many of those controversially appointed employees were removed and replaced. "We check the list and replace them whenever we

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Ruling coalition candidate in Chittagong mayoral race Mir Nasir leaves home for his campaign office, left, and his prime opponent incumbent Mayor Mohiuddin Chowdhury listens to news from different wards on the eve of the election day.



PHOTO: STAR

SAVAR TRAGEDY

Factory owner surrenders, sent to jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent the managing director of the collapsed sweater factory at Savar, Shahriar, alias Sayed Hossain, and a director of the factory, Abul Hashem Fakir, to jail after they surrendered for bail.

Shahriar had been absconding since April 11, when the nine-storey factory building at Palashbari in Savar collapsed in the middle of the night, killing 61 people and injuring 84 others, according to official estimates.

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Shahriar taken to jail

A few ministers violated election code
Complains Dr Kamal

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday lodged a complaint with Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) MA Syed against a few ministers for violating the electoral code of conduct in Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) elections.

"It's unprecedented the way a large number of ministers went to Chittagong to

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PROFILES OF TOP TWO ASPIRANTS

Mir Nasir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The four-party alliance nominated mayoral candidate for the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) elections 2005 Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin was born in 1951 in village Mirerkheel of Hathazari upazila of Chittagong.

His father late Mir Nowabul Haq Meah was an eminent politician and respected personality.

Mir Nasir had his schooling at Hathazari Parbati School to obtain his matriculation. He

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Mohiuddin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The main opposition Awami League (AL) backed Nagorik Committee candidate for the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) mayoral elections 2005, ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury was born in village Shantir Dwep in Rajan upazila of Chittagong district in 1944.

He was second among the eight sons and daughters of late Hossen Ahmed Chowdhury.

He passed the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) from Noakhali Zila

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