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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.

The election has become a

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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 commissioners posts.

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offenders' 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 Quddus, 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 any

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