

Letters will only be considered if they carry the writer's full name, address and telephone number (if any). The identity of the writers will be protected. Letters must be limited to 300 words. All letters will be subject to editing.

# A democratic country?

Every now and then US leaders try to teach us democracy, human rights and justice. They also tell us that the USA is the most successful democracy in the world. Former US President Bill Clinton moves a step forward and claims that the USA is the greatest civilisation on earth.

True the USA is the most powerful and prosperous country in the world. But we wonder whether the US leaders preach what they really practice. Don't the activities and powers of the US President George Bush, his confrontations with the US Senate and House of Representatives, his flouting and scoffing of American and world public opinion, invasion

and occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq, indiscriminate killing of millions of innocent people on the one hand and overall US possession of nuclear arms, weapons of mass destruction, stationing of US troops in foreign countries like Korea, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, UAE, Afghanistan and Iraq for indefinite period point to the real intentions of the US?

Would the US leaders kindly clarify the relevant matters for the sake of information, freedom of speech, freedom of press and welfare of billions of people of our good earth?  
O H Kabir  
Wari, Dhaka



## Politics, crime and sports

Russia roared back from behind to spectacularly defeat England 2-1 at Luzhniki stadium in Moscow on Oct 17, increasing its chances of reaching the European Championship. The match unfolded peacefully on the artificial pitch, but the victory, Russia's most impressive since beating world champions France in 1999, was spoiled by violence. England went ahead in the 29th minute with a stunning volley from Wayne Rooney, although he looked offside.

Earlier, England seemed in control of the game, and few believed that Russia could come back. Fans sent off flares in the crowd after an hour, even though they usually wait for a goal first. Less than 10 minutes after the flares had been sent off, coach Hiddink's second-half substitute, Roman Pavlyuchenko, destroyed England with two goals in four minutes. First, Pavlyuchenko scored from the spot after Konstantin Zyryanov was fouled by Rooney. The foul appeared to have taken place just outside the penalty area, but the Russian team was still awarded a penalty.

Four minutes later, Pavlyuchenko pounced to score after England goalkeeper Paul Robinson parried a shot by Zyryanov. Russia is in third place with 21 points. If it wins the next two games against Israel and Andorra, it is guaranteed a trip to the finals in Austria and Switzerland next year. Before the game, Russian fans unveiled a gigantic national flag that stretched along most of the side of the stadium and featured a bear with sharp claws.

Russian Prime Minister Viktor Zubkov, who attended the game, was quick to capitalize on the success by mixing sports with politics through vague nationalist sentiments, with state-owned Channel One television showing a recording of a meeting he had with players ahead of the game. "We won the Great Patriotic War and were first to fly to space and, therefore, you must win today too," Zubkov told the players. "You must do everything you can," he exhorted, cutting the air with his right hand. The meeting was highly reminiscent of Soviet times, when Communist bosses met athletes ahead of important games.

Several clashes erupted between Russian and English fans ahead of the game, and police accused the foreigners of getting drunk and stirring up trouble. "After they arrived they went straight for the pubs and clubs. The English fans are getting drunk and provoking conflicts," a police spokesman said. Itar-Tass reported. "Police found several English fans on the street in a state of extreme intoxication." More than 20 Russian fans broke into a bar on Novy Arbat three hours before the game and attacked a group of foreigners with hockey sticks, chairs and tables before fleeing. Ekho Moskvy radio reported. Police, however, denied that any incident had taken place. Interfax reported.

That is the whole story about the hidden agenda of political sports in the world. It seems the field of sports is linked to domains like trade, strategy, crime and politics. If cash and other lucrative prizes don't make any significant results in sports, then crime is invariably unleashed to win the matches "at any cost" or make victories "some-how".  
Dr. Abdul Ruff Colachal  
JNU, Delhi

## Save our youths

I am very disgusted and shocked to read in the newspapers about the distasteful blue films being made and sold in Dhaka by young men belonging to the posh residential areas of the city. I commend and salute the RAB & the Joint Forces for busting these evil circles that are corrupting our culture and destroying our youths. They should be dealt with very seriously before they destroy the decency and décor of the very fabric of our society. Middle-aged and older people who support, sponsor and are addicted to the habit of watching these blue CDs should be brought to justice. Porn makers and sellers should be given exemplary punishment for spreading the evil culture.  
Babul Ahmad  
USA

## 28th BCS and age limit

The above-mentioned news item is being published in various national dailies to draw the attention of the Bangladesh Public Service Commission in fixing the age of the candidates for the upcoming 28th BCS exams. No advertisement was issued in the last two years. As a result, a good number of candidates have already crossed the age limit. Who will take this responsibility? Are the candidates responsible

for it? We, as citizens of Bangladesh, have the right to appear in the general BCS every year.

So, we urge the authorities concerned to consider the matter in right earnest and give a chance to the candidates who have crossed the age-limit for no fault of theirs. If it is done a good number of age-barred candidates will have the opportunity to appear in the BCS exams for the last time.

Abdul Alim  
Nawabpur Road  
Dhaka

It is now a buzz word that the advertisement of the 28th BCS examination will be published within a very short time. But we are much worried over the matter of fixing the age limit. The advertisement of the 27th BCS was published in June 2005. We have not had any advertisement since 2005 and a good number of students have lost their age to appear at the BCS exams. So we call upon the Honourable Chairman of the PSC to fix the age limit as of November 2006. So that we, the age-expired candidates, can take part in the upcoming 28th BCS.

In this regard, we would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Chief Adviser of the CTG.

Md. Asaduzzaman  
Ring Road  
Shyamoli, Dhaka

## Good write-ups

Mr. Mohammad Badrul Ahsan's erudition in and insight into the endless subjects, either on history, politics, theology or that relate to day-to-day life (I love to cite a few of the titles, among hundreds, 'Midlife Misery', 'God and truth', 'Legends of life', 'Laden and Bush', 'Other side of history', 'Garden of Life') from romance to pains of estrangement, from affluence to poverty, from everything to nothing, defy all description and one simply gets startled to get to the depth of his knowledge and at the beauty in his style of writing, always using sharp contrast. And the piece, 'Under cross talk' is, therefore, such a one that if one misses it, one misses great pleasures of reading apart from knowing what one was/is ignorant of.

His piece (Closing of the Red Sea, Oct. 12) dwelt upon reforms in our political planks, and like all his past write-ups, this one was also paved with the historical pertinent event that took place in France before the Revolution and references of the fall of the Roman Empire, the atrocities of the Middle Ages, et al. He seems pretty skeptical about the ultimate fate of reforms in our political horizon that became inevitable following the catastrophe the nation was thrown into, and after the emergency of 1/11, it became more indispensable when people came to know how grossly the trusted elected leaders who were entrusted with nation building did not care a hoot to betray their trust and denuded the nation for their (leaders') personal well-being. In fact, as we see nine months have already elapsed with the bang of reforms but our political parties have not stepped ahead nine inches in the area of reforms, rather they are raising a hue and cry about release of their key leaders, both of whom are in custody now, along with their colleagues and cohorts (and many have fled to evade arrest for their repulsive deeds of minting and rolling in money).

So, Mr. Ahsan made the observation, 'And what started with a bang might end with a whimper'. He also quoted a political thinker as saying, "One would play with fire if one failed to sincerely carry out a reform" and referred to the story about the fate of Girolamo Savonarola, a Dominican preacher falling victim to his own reforms because he could not condemn the violation of one of his reforms. It is really not unlikely that, as Mr. Ahsan has reason to believe, if the failed leaders are made to walk free, get their confiscated wealth back and eventually the election is held, it would be at best the same old liquor in a new bottle, and it cannot be ruled out that the pioneer(s) of reforms would meet the fate of Girolamo. On reading the newspaper reports and stories of the filthiest looting of national wealth and abuse of power by the national leaders and their cronies and cohorts, Mr. Ahsan in one of his earlier write-ups wanted them to face public trial.

Nevertheless, before setting democracy to roll in, set the house (the nation) in order and for this to happen, please take as much time as needed; this is the exigency and to meet exigencies mind least about the constitution, for we know bad money drives away good money, and so we cannot still allow the bad guys to rule the roost.

A. H. Dewan  
South Kafrul, Dhaka Cantt, Dhaka

## Just justice?

The term "just justice" was the heading of your back page UNB report on Chief Justice's advice to judges (Oct: 19). I wonder if the adjective "just" is appropriate with the noun justice. Delivering "just" justice or for that matter "unjust" justice, qualifying the noun "justice" seems totally out of place! One can however say impartial justice or sober justice or proper justice; which are examples of adjectives qualifying the word "justice".

If however the idea was to convey that free judiciary should deliver nothing but justice; then "only" would have been a more appropriate word to use.

S.A. Mansoor  
Gulshan, Dhaka

## Tajuddin Ahmed

Tajuddin Ahmed was really a great leader. But this is very much deplorable that he did not have his rewards. July 23, his 82nd birth anniversary, passed silently. I read only one write-up on him written by Mr. Shahnoor Wahid under the title "Tajuddin Ahmed: The lonely warrior" which appeared on 24 July, 2007.

I have read the article with passion and emotion. If we deeply study the 1971 liberation war, we would see how he (Tajuddin Ahmed) led the nation towards victory. Let's honour and recognise him. Thanks to Mr. Shahnoor



Wahid for his write-up.  
Mithun Chakma  
General Secretary  
Democratic Youth Forum

## Price hike

Again the prices of vegetables, oil, rice, potato, onion and eggs have increased just a few days after Eid. The wholesalers are making the excuse that the rise in prices is due to short supply of goods. The prices came down when the RAB roamed around the markets before Eid. But this came to nothing as soon as the RAB stopped its drive to prevent shopkeepers from charging too high. The government has to find out the mysterious causes behind this sudden rise in the prices of essential com-

modities. It was easily prognosticated that the prices would increase once the RAB stopped its mission and that's exactly what has happened. There are business people who want to make undue profits.

The government must take stern actions in order to rein in the people who are involved in these businesses.

Minhaj Ahmed  
Uttara, Dhaka



## Directorate General of Defence Purchase

Ministry of Defence

New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

## Tender/Re-Tender Notice

1. Sealed tenders are invited in local/foreign currency from bonafide manufacturers/dealers/ suppliers/ indentors (enlisted firms) for supply of the following item for Bangladesh Army:

Ser No.	Nomenclature	Date of Selling		Date of opening	Currency	Tender No.
		From	To			
a.	Concrete Mixer Machine, below 1.5m complete with standard tools, accessories and worth 5% fast and slow moving spare parts on FOB value, quantity-02 (1st time)	08-11-07	27-12-07	30-12-07	Local/ Foreign	1387/P-7
b.	1. Demining Personal Protection Set complete with standard tools, accessories and worth 5% fast and slow moving spare parts on FOB value (1st time): (i) Demining Protective Helmet and Visor, quantity-280 Nos (ii) Demining Protective Shoes, quantity-140 Pairs. (iii) Demining Protective Vest/Jacket, quantity-280 Nos d. Reinforced Gloves (pair), quantity-280 Nos	08-11-07	27-12-07	30-12-07	Foreign	1393/P-7
c.	Refrigeration/Freezer/Food storage (24cum) complete with standard tools, accessories and worth 5% fast and slow moving spare parts on FOB value, quantity-38 (1st time)	08-11-07	27-12-07	30-12-07	Foreign	1394/P-7
d.	IEDD Set complete with standard tools, accessories and worth 5% fast and slow moving spare parts on FOB value, quantity-05 (1st time)	08-11-07	27-12-07	30-12-07	Foreign	1405/P-7
e.	Reefer Container complete with standard tools, accessories and worth 5% fast and slow moving spare parts on FOB value, quantity-24 (1st time)	08-11-07	27-12-07	30-12-07	Foreign	1407/P-7
f.	Freezer Container (6 cum) complete with standard tools, accessories and worth 5% fast and slow moving spare parts on FOB value, quantity-14 (1st time)	08-11-07	27-12-07	30-12-07	Foreign	1408/P-7
g.	Mine Clearing Equipment (EOD/BD Set) complete with standard tools, accessories and worth 5% fast and slow moving spare parts on FOB value, quantity-04 (1st time)	08-11-07	27-12-07	30-12-07	Foreign	1406/P-7
h.	Survey and Drawing Instrument, quantity-03 line items (4th time)	08-11-07	20-11-07	21-11-07	Local	1374/P-7

2. Tender schedule with details specifications/conditions will be available on payment as per I/T selling rate (not-refundable) during office hour between 0800 to 1300 hours. The tender can be dropped latest by 1000 hours and opened at 1005 hours on the specified date of opening in presence of all tenderers (if present).

ISPR/Misc/07/1694

GD-3669

Major

For Director General

# বাংলাদেশ ক্রীড়া শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান

জিরানী, সাভার, ঢাকা

স্মারক নং-বিকেএসপি/প্রশাসন-২/৫৯৬/২২১

০৭ কার্তিক, ১৪১৪ বাং

তারিখঃ-

২২ অক্টোবর, ২০০৭ খ্র

## পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

“সিলেট, বরিশাল ও খুলনা বিভাগে (১ম পর্যায়) এবং চট্টগ্রাম বিভাগে বিকেএসপির আঞ্চলিক প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র-স্থাপন” শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের আওতায় বিভিন্ন প্রকার ক্রীড়া সামগ্রী সরবরাহ-এর নিমিত্তে The Public Procurement Regulations-2003-এর বিধি মোতাবেক সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত সংস্থার তালিকাভুক্ত ক্রীড়া সামগ্রী সরবরাহ কাজে অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ ১ম শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদার/সরবরাহকারী/প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্র জয়ের জন্য নিম্নাঙ্কনকারী এবং বিভাগীয় কমিশনারের কার্যালয়ের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ কর্মকর্তার নিকট হতে পূর্বানুমতি গ্রহণ করতে হবে। এজন্য ঠিকাদারকে আবেদনের সাথে ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক ট্রানজেকশন স্টেটমেন্ট, অভিজ্ঞতার সনদ এবং আনুষঙ্গিক কাগজপত্রাদির মূলকপি আবেদনপত্রের সাথে উপস্থাপন করতে হবে।

১।	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	যুব ও ক্রীড়া।			
২।	সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ ক্রীড়া শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান (বিকেএসপি)।			
৩।	প্রকৃতির/এনটিসি/দপ্তরের নাম	মহাপরিচালক, বাংলাদেশ ক্রীড়া শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান (বিকেএসপি)।			
৪।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর জেলার নাম	ঢাকা।			
৫।	কাজের নাম	সিলেট, বরিশাল, খুলনা ও চট্টগ্রাম কেন্দ্রের জন্য বিভিন্ন প্রকার ক্রীড়া সামগ্রী সরবরাহ।			
৬।	দরপত্রের নম্বর	বিকেএসপি/প্রশাসন-২/৫৯৬/২২১, তারিখঃ ২২-১০-২০০৭।			
৭।	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।			
৮।	বাজেট ও তহবিলের উৎস	উন্নয়ন (২০০৭-২০০৮)।			
৯।	টেন্ডার প্যাকেজ নং	প্যাকেজ নং 'এ'।			
১০।	টেন্ডার প্যাকেজের নাম	প্যাকেজ এঃ সিলেট, বরিশাল, খুলনা ও চট্টগ্রাম কেন্দ্রের জন্য বিভিন্ন প্রকার ক্রীড়া সামগ্রী সরবরাহ।			
১১।	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	০৪-১১-২০০৭।			
১২।	দরপত্র দাখিল/বন্ধের তারিখ ও সময়	০৫-১১-২০০৭ সময়ঃ বেলা ১-০০ ঘটিকা।			
১৩।	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	০৬-১১-২০০৭ সময়ঃ বেলা ২-০০ ঘটিকা।			
১৪।	দপ্তর/দপ্তরসমূহের নাম ও ঠিকানা	ক) দরপত্র দাখিল/বিক্রির স্থান (প্রধান) খ) দরপত্র দাখিল/বিক্রির স্থান (অন্যান্য)			
		ক) বিকেএসপি, জিরানী, সাভার, ঢাকা। খ) বিভাগীয় কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, সিলেট, বরিশাল, খুলনা এবং চট্টগ্রাম।			
	গ) দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান/দপ্তরসমূহের নাম	ক) বিকেএসপি, জিরানী, সাভার, ঢাকা। খ) বিভাগীয় কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, সিলেট, বরিশাল, খুলনা এবং চট্টগ্রাম।			
	ঘ) দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	বিকেএসপি, জিরানী, সাভার, ঢাকা।			
১৫।	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	CPTU Regulations, 2003 অনুযায়ী বিগত ৩ (তিন) বৎসরে সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানে বিভিন্ন প্রকার ক্রীড়া সামগ্রী সরবরাহ কাজে অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।			
১৬।	কাজের বিস্তারিত বিবরণ	সিলেট, বরিশাল, খুলনা ও চট্টগ্রাম কেন্দ্রের জন্য বিভিন্ন প্রকার ক্রীড়া সামগ্রী সরবরাহ।			
লট নং	প্যাকেজ পরিচিত	অবস্থান	দরপত্র দাখিলের অফিসের যোগ্য মূল্য (টাকা)	টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটি ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার আকারে অত্র প্রতিষ্ঠানের পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ)-এর অনুমোদন (টাকা)	কাজের সময়সীমা
১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬
১।	প্যাকেজঃ এ সিলেট, বরিশাল, খুলনা ও চট্টগ্রাম কেন্দ্রের জন্য বিভিন্ন প্রকার ক্রীড়া সামগ্রী সরবরাহ	সিলেট, বরিশাল, খুলনা ও চট্টগ্রাম	১০০০/- (এক হাজার)	১,৭৬,০০০/-	৩০ (ত্রিশ) দিন
১৭।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম	শাহ আশরাফ আলী।			
১৮।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর পদবী	নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী।			
১৯।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর ঠিকানা	বিকেএসপি, জিরানী, সাভার, ঢাকা।			
২০।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর বিস্তারিত যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা	টেলিফোনঃ ৭৭০১২১৫, ৭৭০১২১৬ ফ্যাক্স নংঃ ৭৭০১৫১৩			
২১।	দরপত্রদাতা নিজে অথবা তার মনোনীত প্রতিনিধি দরপত্র জমা করতে পারবেন।				
২২।	দরপত্রের সাথে সনদপত্রাদির সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে, অন্যথায় দরপত্র খোলা হবে না।				
২৩।	দরপত্রের সাথে সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ সকল তথ্যাদি পূর্ণ খামে দাখিল করতে হবে।				
২৪।	দরপত্র দাখিলের সময় দরপত্রদাতাকে প্রতিটি আইটেমের নমুনা সামগ্রী অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে। কোন আইটেমের নমুনা সামগ্রী দাখিল করা সম্ভব না হলে সে ক্ষেত্রে অরিজিনাল ক্যাটালগ দাখিল করতে হবে।				
২৫।	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।				

শাহ আশরাফ আলী

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী

বিকেএসপি

জিডি-৩৬৬৮