

# Act now on climate change

Gore urges global leaders

AFP, Copenhagen

Former US vice president turned climate campaigner Al Gore warned the international community Sunday that the world was running out of time to find a deal on how to fight global warming.

"It's time to act now... We have to do it this year, not next year," Gore told the World Business Summit on Climate Change in the Danish capital of Copenhagen.

"To save the future, we have everything we need except the political will," the Nobel Peace Prize laureate added in his keynote speech at the meeting of business leaders, academics and politicians.

Organisers, the think tank Mandag Morgen, want to raise awareness of environmental issues before the city hosts the United Nations' crucial Climate Change Conference later this year.

"Every nation, every business leader has a role to play in order to ensure a good and real deal in Copenhagen," Gore told delegates.

The UN hopes to approve a new global warming treaty for the period after 2012, when the Kyoto Protocol's obligations to cut carbon emissions expire.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon opened the conference, calling on big business to do more to shape a greener economy.

"I want to see you in the vanguard of an unprecedented effort to retool the global economy into one that is cleaner, greener and more sustainable," he said.

"We must harness the necessary political will to seal the deal on an ambitious new climate agreement in December," added Ban, who arrived earlier Sunday from Sri Lanka

where he had been on a two-day visit.

Executives from leading companies such as Intel Corporation, BP and Siemens met at the World Business Summit to discuss ways companies can help reduce greenhouse gases without hampering economic growth.

The meeting also aims to encourage businesses to invest in green technology and promote more efficient use of energy resources.

While the UN hopes to build on agreements struck under the Kyoto treaty, the European Union has already said it will slash emissions by 20 percent by 2020 and raise the target to 30 percent if others set similarly ambitious targets.

Former US president George W. Bush refused to sign up to the Kyoto treaty over fears it would harm his country's economy.

But his successor, President Barack Obama, has vowed that the United States would now ready to take a leading role in the battle against global warming.

Lawmakers in the US Congress opened debate last week on a "clean energy" bill that aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 17 percent from 2005 levels by 2020 and create "green" jobs.

Last week former US president Bill Clinton called for more commitment and concrete action on climate change.

"You do not have the luxury of just debating what we are going to do and how much money we are going to spend on it," Clinton told a conference in the South Korean capital of Seoul.

He warned that if the world fails to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by 2050, it would pay a high price in food shortages, drought and public health dangers.

# Israel to continue to build inside settlements

Says Netanyahu

AFP, Jerusalem

Hawkish Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that Israel would continue to build inside settlements in the occupied West Bank, despite calls from the United States to stop such activity.

"I have no intention to construct new settlements, but it makes no sense to ask us not to answer to the needs of natural growth and to stop all construction," a senior official quoted him as telling the cabinet.

During Netanyahu's first official visit to key ally Washington last week, US President Barack Obama told him that "settlements must be stopped," a call echoed by other senior administration officials and on Capitol Hill.

Israeli settlements in the West Bank are one of the major stumbling blocks in the halting Middle East peace process, which Obama has vowed to push forward despite a new largely right-wing government in Israel that backs settlements.

Earlier on Sunday ultra-nationalist Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman ruled out a return to Israel's pre-1967 borders, and most ministers rebuffed calls to remove settlements - including those Israel itself considers illegal.

"A return to the borders of '67 today, as we are being pressured to do, would not end the conflict, would not guarantee peace or security," Lieberman told reporters before the weekly cabinet meeting.

"It would simply move the conflict to within the '67 borders," he said, referring to Israel.

Israel seized the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights and east Jerusalem during the 1967 Six-Day War and continues to occupy the territories, except for Gaza, that today are home to about half a million Jewish settlers.

The new Israeli cabinet largely opposes dismantling settlements.

Lieberman said that removing the wildcat outposts should come in the framework of the international 2003 "roadmap" for Middle East peace, a step-by-step plan that foresees the creation of a Palestinian state.

Under its first phase, Israel committed to removing outposts and the Palestinians undertook to halt violence.

But Lieberman, known for his controversial statements, said the plan may have to be re-examined.

"Removing outposts should be part of an overall policy and cannot be patchwork," he said, referring to Israeli settlements in the West Bank that were not authorised by the government.

"The correct outline is the roadmap, which we might have to re-adopt on all its stages," he said. "And if it is necessary within the framework of the roadmap to

remove outposts, we will do so."

His position was largely echoed, with Interior Minister Eli Yishai of the ultra-Orthodox Shas party saying: "I don't see any reason to dismantle outposts before we decide on a unified policy."

Defence Minister Ehud Barak, whose Labour party is the most liberal member of the Netanyahu cabinet, backed the idea of removing outposts but spoke of 22 such structures - a number several times lower than that of watchdog groups.

"We should deal with the remaining 22 (outposts) in a responsible and correct way," he said. "First by talking and if that doesn't work then unilaterally."

Under the roadmap plan, Israel undertook to dismantle all outposts in the West Bank constructed after March 2001, with an Israeli commission later determining there were 26 such structures.

The Peace Now anti-settlement group, however, says that more than 50 outposts have been erected since March 2001 and that at present the West Bank has more than 100 outposts.

The international community considers all Israeli settlements in the West Bank to be illegal.

The main settler organisation Yeshva blasted Netanyahu's statements, saying that he "should respect the wishes of voters who voted en masse for parties that are in favour of continuing construction in Judea and Samaria," the Israeli name for the West Bank.

## Govt short-lists

FROM PAGE 16

Infrastructure Investment Fund (BIIF) will be formed to ameliorate the investment deficit through projects under the PPP initiative. The funds will be raised from public and private sectors.

The working paper also proposes increasing BIIF through release of long-term bonds and shares on the capital market.

It also suggests collecting fund through turning loans into transferable debt securities through securitisation, and through sales of those. Besides, a special technical assistance fund might also be set-aside in the next budget for studying PPP projects.

Those who will invest in BIIF might be given tax waiver or allowed to pay a minimum tax.

Import of capital machinery under PPP initiatives might get duty-free facilities and tax holidays, or a minimum tax might be allowed on profits for a specific period.

An advisory committee comprising 11 to 13 members headed by the finance minister might be formed to provide guidelines for the PPP initiatives.

The sources said a final announcement regarding the issues will be made in the budget speech of the finance minister.

# Turag inherited!

FROM PAGE 1

"I have inherited some pieces of land from my father and bought some more. Now I am selling some of those," he adds.

He demands Tk 4 lakh for each katha of land and wishes to sell around 20 katha there.

As the city is expanding northwards, the price of land started to shoot up especially since the Dhaka protection embankment was built in the early 90s. Soon some influential quarters from the capital invested huge amount on land and started grabbing the river with the help of the local people.

On the land to be sold by Mukhter there was another signboard just a week ago that read, "The land is booked by Iman Ali and associates".

Contacted over phone, Iman Ali's brother said they were going to buy the land and gave some money to Mukhter in advance.

"We later decided not to buy the land and removed the signboard," he added.

Around 74 decimals of land was developed a couple of years ago beside the land of Uttara University near Kamarpara and Dhaur. The wife of a serving brigadier is the owner of the land just

beside the Turag.

Contacted, the military official said he did not fill up the river; rather he filled up his land six feet away from the river area.

"The river is really very narrow out there," the said asking not to be identified.

"I brought engineers from the Water Development Board to measure boundaries of the river and my land so that I don't fill up the river," he added.

"The land I have bought is absolutely private and legal," he said adding recently he got permission from the government to make a road to connect his land with the Dhaka bypass.

The brigadier went on to say he bought soil from the government to fill up his land as the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) dredged the river.

But he could not say the width of the river in the official papers and in reality beside his land.

The brigadier has a plan to do some charity work on that land once he goes on retirement.

Asked about the Wetland and Open Space Preservation Act, 2000, he said he is not aware of the law.

# Proshika axes Faruque

FROM PAGE 1

"Our foremost concern was to prevent the organisation from collapse and putting the organisation above an individual."

Even though the governing body invited Qazi Faruque to the meeting, he failed to show up.

On contact, Qazi Faruque Ahmed said the governing body meeting that removed him from chairmanship of Proshika was illegal since the chairman did not convene the meeting.

According to Proshika's constitution, only the governing body chairman can convene such a meeting, he said, adding that the governing body neither has mandate to call for an extraordinary meeting nor can it remove the chairman.

"The 55-member general body can convene an extraordinary meeting and remove the governing body chairman with a three-quarter majority," Qazi Faruque said, adding, "I will go for legal recourse against the decision."

Masrurul Islam said provisions of Proshika constitution do not forbid such a meeting of the governing body in a situation when the entire organisation is at stake.

It is an accepted principle that eight people of a nine-member body can convene a meeting when the single top man refuses to do it, he added.

Ninety-nine percent of Proshika's general employees stand against Qazi Faruque for his alleged corruption, nepotism and political involvement. The agitation had brought the organisation's activities to a stand still for last one month, he said.

The governing body members repeatedly requested Qazi Faruque to convene a meeting but he did not, he claimed.

At least 5,000 employees depend on this organisation that has around 16 lakh beneficiary members in the country, he said.

However, Masrurul Islam said they would convene an extraordinary meeting of the general body on June 9 and governing body will not have

any objection if the general body elects Qazi Faruque chairman again.

The governing body has also appointed a five-member managing committee comprised of Sirajul Islam, Sirajul Haq, Abdul Rob and Mahbul Alam and chief financial officer Altah Hossain Talukdar. The managing committee will help the new CEO Mahbul-ul-Karim do his job.

Masrurul Islam said they would have to look into the allegations of misappropriation of money brought against Qazi Faruque to ascertain the true extent of the damage.

Sirajul Islam, a senior director and a member of the newly formed managing committee, said, "We have not received any fund from foreign and local donor agencies for last five-six years apparently due to Qazi Faruque's non-transparent activities and political involvement."

Foreign donors of Proshika include DFID, Canadian CIDA, European Union and local organisation PKSF he said. Proshika mainly runs educational, awareness building, training and health service programmes.

According to the agitating employees, Proshika was on the verge of ruination because of Qazi Faruque's political ambition and financial irregularities.

Qazi Faruque formed a political party styled Oikyabodhdha Nagorik Andolan and took part in the December 29 general elections from three parliamentary constituencies. He lost his deposits to all three constituencies.

He not only involved Proshika employees in his campaign but also spent an unspecified amount of Proshika money, alleged the agitating employees.

At yesterday's press conference Mahbul-ul-Karim also said Qazi Faruque had compelled Proshika employees to work for his political party formed four months before the ninth parliamentary elections.

"Engaging a huge number of employees and officials, he [Qazi Faruque] ran his

party which disrupted the organisation's microcredit programme," said Mahbul.

Mahbul also said they would form an internal investigation committee to probe Qazi Faruque's corruption.

The NGO affairs bureau during an investigation in 2001 identified 55 irregularities including financial irregularities in Proshika.

MRA CONCERNED The Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA) is concerned with the Proshika situation and has decided to write to the government asking it to address the issue immediately and protect interests of thousands of micro-depositors.

"Realising the gravity of the problem we have decided to write to the government [Ministry of Finance] today to take necessary steps to protect micro-depositors' interests," Khandakar Muzharul Haque, executive vice chairman of MRA, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Muzharul, also an executive director of Bangladesh Bank, said the MRA could not take actions directly because the NGO is yet to get a licence for operating microcredit programmes. The NGO is running with the approval of the social welfare department.

"So a copy of the letter will also be sent to the social welfare ministry," Muzharul said.

According to an investigation of the MRA, allegations that have been found valid are: Loss of Tk 203 crore, diversion of money from the employees' provident fund, internal feud and groupings.

"Top management of the NGO has transferred assets of microcredit and did not mention it in the books of accounts," alleged another top official of MRA.

The official said, "Proshika has spent money of poor people. It is the government that can protect the deposit of the poor people."

Members of the Proshika, mostly rural folks, have so far deposited Tk 199 crore with the NGO.

# Third notice to Khaleda

FROM PAGE 1

to the Military Estate Officer of Dhaka Cantonment.

Meanwhile, the High Court (HC) is scheduled to hear today Khaleda's writ petition challenging the legality of the government's earlier two notices.

Yesterday's notice reads, "Since you [Khaleda] have not made any reply to the show-cause notice and have refrained from citing any reasons and have not turned its down, we assume the statement is proper and right. In this situation, you have no legal rights to occupy the house No-6 on Mainul Hossain Road at Dhaka Cantonment."

Besides, it says, deed of the so-called lease on the house is void ab initio, which means "invalid from the outset". It gives her no title to the residence.

Additional Attorney General M Enayetur Rahim yesterday told The Daily

Star that the government has gone by the law and the constitution to issue the latest notice asking the BNP chief to cede possession of the house by June 30.

Mentioning that she did not reply to the show-cause notice served on May 7, and nor she turned that down, he said, "It's now obvious that she has no legal right to continue in the house anymore."

The third notice is based on the show-cause notice, he continued.

Hearing on Khaleda's petition challenging the government's earlier notices will be held today. In the interim, technically there is no restriction on the administration to issue her with notice to hand over the house.

The first notice, served on April 20, asked the BNP chairperson to leave the house within 15 days. The second, a show-cause notice, asked her to explain


why she should not be directed to return the estate within 15 days since receipt.

On May 18, an HC bench comprising Justice Syed Rezaul Karim and Justice Md. Moazzam Hossain Chowdhury adjourned the hearing on the writ petition till today, and directed the government not to force her to leave the house during this period (until May 25).

The court ruled that Khaleda, also leader of the opposition in parliament, may submit a supplementary petition in case of any developments, before, the hearing date.

It however told the attorney general that after May 22 the government may take any lawful step with regard to the second notice.

So far, three HC judges had felt embarrassed to hear the petition, while one declined saying he was not qualified to hear it.




## Bangladesh Power Development Board

### Invitation for International Re-Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Power Division.			
2	Agency	Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB)			
3	Procuring entity name	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.			
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka			
6	Invitation for	Procurement of spares for Unit No. 4, 5&6 of Shahjibazar Gas Turbine Power Station, BPDB, Hobiganj.			
7	Invitation Ref No	Pur-332/2007			
8	Date	Date: 19-05-2009			
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>					
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method			
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>					
10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget (cash foreign exchange allocation) of BPDB.			
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>					
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable			
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable			
14	Tender Package No	102(2) (FY 2008-2009)			
15	Tender package name	Procurement of spares for Unit No. 4, 5&6 of Shahjibazar Gas Turbine Power Station, BPDB, Hobiganj.			
16	Tender publication date	19/05/2009			
17	Tender last selling date	21-06-2009 during office hours.			
18	Tender closing date and time	22-06-2009 at 11.00am (BST)			
19	Tender opening date and time	22-06-2009 at 11.30am (BST)			
20	Name & address of the office(s)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 <sup>th</sup> floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (principal)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 <sup>th</sup> floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (others)	Not applicable.			
	Receiving tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 <sup>th</sup> floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Opening tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 <sup>th</sup> floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Not applicable.			
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>					
22	Eligibility of tenderer	As per tender document			
23	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of spares for Unit No. 4, 5&6 of Shahjibazar Gas Turbine Power Station, BPDB, Hobiganj.			
24	Brief description of related services	As per tender document			
25	Price of tender documents	Non-refundable BD Taka 500/- (five hundred) only in the form of Pay Order in favour of Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
	Lot	Identification			
		Location			
		Tender security amount			
		Delivery period (validity of shipment)			
26	1	Procurement of spares for Unit No. 4, 5&6	Shahjibazar Gas Turbine Power Station, PDB, Hobiganj	USD 250,000 or BDTK 17,500/-	150 days from the date of L/C opening
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>					
30	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Abduhu Ruhullah.			
31	Designation of official inviting Tender	Director.			
32	Address of official inviting tender	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 <sup>th</sup> floor), 12-Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
33	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel. 7126144, Fax 7126151			
34	Special instruction	Any tender received by the purchaser after the deadline for submission of tenders shall be declared late, will be rejected and returned unopened to the tenderer.			
		The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender to annul the tender process, or to reject any or all tenders, at any time prior to contract award.			
This tender will be performed according to "The Public Procurement Rules-2008".					
Director Directorate of Purchase BPDB, Dhaka					

Biddiut/Jan-1692(4)/21/5/09  
GD-2696



## বাংলাদেশ স্ট্যান্ডার্ডস এন্ড টেস্টিং ইনস্টিটিউশন

### Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution

মান ভবন  
১১৬/ক, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮  
116-A, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh  
ফোনঃ ৮৮২১৪৬২, ৯১০১৫৮১, ৯১০১৫৮২, ৯৮৮০০০৯, ৯৮৯৮১৯১, ৯৮৯৯৬৩১  
Ref No. BSTI/JDCF/Vehicle Purchase-13/2009 Date: 21.05.2009

## Invitation for Tenders (Goods)

1	Project name	Modernisation of BSTI through procurement of sophisticated equipment & infrastructure development of laboratories for accreditation.			
2	Source of funds	JDCF (GOB).			
3	Tender package No.	BSTI/JDCF/Vehicle Purchase-13/2009.			
4	Invitation for tender No & date	BSTI/JDCF/Vehicle Purchase-13/2009, Date: 21.05.2009.			
5	Eligibility of tenderers	Registered Bangladeshi actual suppliers/importers/agents.			
6	Name and address of the office(s) selling tender document	Accounts Section, Dhaka Metrology Inspectorate (DMI), BSTI, 116/A, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208.			
7	Name and address of the office(s) receiving tenders	(i) Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI), 116/A, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208. (ii) Divisional Commissioner's Office, Segunbagicha, Dhaka. (iii) Joint Chief's Office, Ministry of Industries, Shipa Bhaban, 91, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.			
8	Name and address of the office opening tenders	Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI), 116/A, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208.			
9	Last date and time for selling tender document	Last date: 09.06.2009 up to office hour.			
10	Date and time for tender submission	10.06.2009 from 09.00am to 11.00am.			
11	Date and time for tender opening	10.06.2009 at 12.00 noon in the office of the Chairman TEC, BSTI, Dhaka. (Tenderer's authorised representative are allowed to attend).			
<b>Brief description of goods</b>					
Lot No	Identification of lot	Location			
		Price of tender document			
		Time for completion in weeks/months			
		Remarks			
A	Vehicle Purchase (Pickup-01 No. & Microbus-01 No)	BSTI	500/-	3 weeks	
13	Special instructions	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders prior to acceptance.			

**Mohammad Ali**  
Deputy Director (Met)  
&  
Project Director  
JDCF Project  
DMI, BSTI, Dhaka  
Phone: 9899631

GD-2694