

Suu Kyi can vote in Myanmar poll

Say officials

AFP, Yangon

Myanmar officials said yesterday that detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi would be entitled to vote in the upcoming election, despite earlier statements that she would be barred from taking part.

Raising confusion over the Nobel Peace laureate's rights and the interpretation of the electoral laws, an official told AFP: "Aung San Suu Kyi and her two live-in maids will get the right to vote. But they will not get permission to go outside on election day."

The official, who asked not to be named, suggested: "The authorities might ask them to vote in advance."

Later yesterday an AFP correspondent said Suu Kyi's name on the electoral roll at the Election Commission office in Bahan Township in Yangon, where the 64-year-old lives under house arrest in her lakeside mansion.

On Monday officials had said Suu Kyi did not appear on the voting list because serving prisoners have no right to vote under Myanmar's 2008 constitution.

But another official yesterday confirmed her right to vote in the first election in two decades, due on November 7, saying the relevant authorities "are likely to inform her soon".

He said she had the right to vote on the basis that she is under house arrest rather than in prison.

Suu Kyi was, however, earlier this year barred from standing as a candidate in the elections on the grounds that she is a serving prisoner.

Aung Naing Oo, a Thailand-based Myanmar analyst, said the country's electoral laws were "quite elastic... so they may be differently interpreted according to the need, the politics on the day".

He expressed doubt that Suu Kyi would exercise her right to participate.

"On the part of the military it's best for them to let her vote," he said. "It's not that important an issue because she has already boycotted (the election)."

Suu Kyi's (National League for Democracy (NLD) party decided to boycott the upcoming polls, saying the rules were unfair, and has subsequently been disbanded by the ruling generals.

The party won the last election in 1990 by a landslide but was never allowed to take office, and Suu Kyi has spent most of the past 20 years in detention.

Her incarceration was lengthened by 18 months in August last year for breaching the terms of her detention after an American man swam to her home.

The opposition leader's current house arrest term is due to expire just days after the November election, which has been widely condemned by activists and the West as a charade aimed at legitimising military rule with a civilian face.



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani activists of the hardline party Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) carry photographs of Pakistani scientist Aafia Siddiqui as they shout slogans while they march toward the US embassy during an anti-US protest in Islamabad yesterday following the sentencing of Aafia Siddiqui to 86 years in prison for trying to shoot US officers.

Pakistan wants jailed scientist repatriated

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan said yesterday it would petition the United States to repatriate a Pakistani mother of three sentenced to 86 years in jail for attempted murder whose fate sparked furious protests.

A New York court found Aafia Siddiqui, the once brilliant scientist dubbed "Lady Qaeda" by the US tabloids, guilty of the attempted murder of US military officers in Afghanistan in a case that sparked outrage in Pakistan.

"We will use every means to bring her back. Doctor Aafia is the daughter of the nation. We fought for her and we will fight politically to bring her back," Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani told parliament.

The tough jail term sparked immediate outrage among Islamic activists in Pakistani cities, who took to the streets chanting anti-US slogans and burnt an effigy of President Barack Obama, AFP reporters said.

Interior Minister Rehman Malik said the government would petition the US administration to review the sentence on a "humanitarian basis" and request that Siddiqui be handed over to Pakistan and held with under Pakistani law.

Asked under what circumstances Siddiqui could return home, the foreign ministry said Obama could pardon her, or an agreement could be reached for her to serve at least part of her sentence in Pakistan.


Siddiqui, 38, who as a student excelled at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was found guilty of grabbing a rifle at an Afghan police station where she was being

interrogated in July 2008 and of trying to shoot US servicemen.

Prosecutors said she picked up the weapon and opened fire on US servicemen and FBI representatives trying to take her into detention. She missed and in a struggle was herself shot by one of the US soldiers.

Defence lawyers argued there was no physical evidence, such as finger prints or gunpowder traces, to show Siddiqui even grabbed the rifle.

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan expressed "dismay" over the "unusually harsh sentence" and called on Islamabad and Washington to negotiate urgently for her repatriation on humanitarian grounds.



Invitation for Tender for Road Milk Tanker

Name of Project	BRAC Dairy & Food Project
Source of Fund	BRAC Own Fund
Tender Package No	BDFFP - RMT/04-10
Reference No & Date	IFT/BRAC/ BDFFP-RMT/10-24 21 September 2010
Completion of Delivery Time	Within 90 days of issuing L.C. /Purchase Order
Price of the Tender Documents	Tk. 500/- (Five hundred only) Non-Refundable.
Amount of Tender Security	2.5% of Tender Value
Name & Address of Selling Tender Documents	Accounts Department-BRAC, Annex Building (4th Floor), BRAC Center, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Date & Time for Selling Tender Documents	26 Sept 2010 to 14 Oct 2010 Between 9.30 am to 2.30 pm
Name and Address of Receiving Tender Documents	BRAC Procurement Department, Ground Floor (Box No-1) BRAC Center, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Date & Time for Submission of Tender	20 Oct 2010 From 9.30 am to 2.45 pm
Tender Opening Place, Date & Time	BRAC Staff Canteen (4th Floor) BRAC Center 20 Oct 2010 at 3:00 pm

BRAC 75 Mohakhali Dhaka 1212. Phone: 8824180-7 Ext. 2017

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Save the Children USA, an International children and women focused organization invites application from qualified candidates for the following positions:

- Deputy Program Manager-Public Private Partnership (01 position based in Dhaka with PROTEEVA Project):**
Public Private Partnership is one of the promising strategies for PROTEEVA to bring private sector in promoting Early Childhood Development (ECD) program in Bangladesh. This position will be responsible for developing strategy and guidelines for collaboration/partnership with private sector to uptake ECD program, outsourcing opportunities, keeping functional relation with counterpart for effective implementation of the partnership, assessing needs, planning, designing & conducting training, and reporting.
Requirements: Master Degree in Marketing or equivalent, hands of experience dealing with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is preferable for this position. At least 7 years of working experience including 3 years on Social Marketing/ CSR, excellent interpersonal communication skills, presentation skill, readiness to travel to field for 60% of time are essential requirements.
- Program Officer (06 positions with PROTEEVA):**
(Based in Savar, Barisal, Sylhet, Jessore, Rangpur and Cox's bazar)
This position is responsible for providing technical support to Partner Organizations in terms of building capacity, quality monitoring and providing inputs in planning and implementation. The responsibilities include 50% time for School Health & Nutrition (SHN) and 50% for Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Primary Education (PE).
Requirements: Masters in Social Science or equivalent with 04 years of relevant working experience preferably in any of SHN/ECD/PE areas, proven knowledge and experience on process facilitation and coordination, excellent interpersonal communication skills, readiness to travel to field areas at least 70% of time are essential. Advanced diploma on public health/child health and nutrition/child education & development will be given preference.
- Program Support Officer-Nobo Jibon (1 position based in Dhaka):**
The position is mainly responsible for providing administrative support to the program team, maintaining liaison with relevant GOB offices and supporting commodity management related activities of the program.
Requirements: At least Bachelors degree in Social Science or relevant subject with 05 years working experiences on Administrative functions, knowledge on GOB protocols especially with commodity management issues, liaison with government counterparts, excellent coordination and process facilitation skill, good communication skill both in Bangla and English, ability to meet tight deadlines, hands on experience in using MS Office application and readiness to travel to field areas are some essential requirements.

Candidates meeting the above requirements should send their CV mentioning two names of professional references along with a cover letter to 'The Manager - IIR Operations, Save the Children USA, House No. 1A(2), Road No. 91, Gulshan-2, Dhaka -1212 by October 05, 2010. Applicants are requested to go through and understand the SC Child Safety Policy before applying. Please visit www.vacancy.somee.com. Only short listed candidates will be invited for interview. Please write the position applied for at the top of the envelope. *Women are especially encouraged to apply*