

BNP demands reconstitution

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experts without any political affiliation should be in the committee.

Senior BNP leaders claimed probe committee chief Khandaker Ibrahim Khaled is not free from political influence and has no experience of handling sharemarket issues.

They were speaking at a press conference at the BNP chairperson's political office in the city's Gulshan area.

The party asked the government to identify those responsible for the recent sharemarket slump and punish them irrespective of their political affiliation.

"Opportunity had been created for a few pro-government businessmen to loot money from the sharemarket by overvaluation of specific shares through private placement, direct listing, uncontrolled book building and premium pricing," BNP standing committee member MK Anwar read out from a statement.

"At least Tk 363 crore was drained out of the market after each Tk 10-share of Navana CNG was sold for Tk 200. Besides, the SEC approved direct listing of the commerce minister's family-run institutions -- the KPCL and the OCL."

"The KPCL took away Tk 84 crore from the market in two weeks and the OCL Tk 114 crore against a paid-up capital of Tk 23 crore."

Mobil Jamuna and MI Cement also made a big fortune the same way in a short time.

The SEC on March 1 asked all listed companies not to change the face value. But Summit Power on April 25 and Summit Alliance Port Ltd on May 2 changed the face value pushing up the price of each Summit Power share by Tk 48. But no action was taken against the company.

Summit Group Chairman Muhammad Aziz Khan dismissed the allegation as "baseless and irrational."

"I have high regard for BNP leaders like MK Anwar, Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, Osman Farruk and Moyeen Khan. I believe they were not briefed properly and the statement was not prepared by them."

"I request the opposition leaders to contact me for any clarification," he said.

Azam J Chowdhury, managing director of MJL Bangladesh Ltd, denied the allegation against his company saying it has no authority to set share price.

"The institution concerned sets the price and the SEC approves it," he said.

Navana Group Vice Chairman Saiful Islam Shumon said they applied for direct listing in line with the rules and got the SEC's approval.

"We did not do any wrong. Our shareholders are happy as the shares have

been valued rightly," he said.

Referring to the finance minister's remark on market slump, Anwar said, "The truth cannot be revealed by any probe if the persons, who admitted their flaws in the decisions on the market, still hold their posts."

"The Securities and Exchange Commission must see some changes and the role of Bangladesh Bank must be examined."

He said they don't know how much money had been scooped out of the market. But the total market capital on December 5 last year was Tk 3,68,000 crore that came down to Tk 2,83,000 crore on January 20.

The former minister criticised the finance minister for holding meetings with those, "who had a hand in the 1996 market crash," to overcome the current crisis.

The BNP leader alleged that those people were also involved in the recent market crash.

Asked why the BNP-led government did not move against the market manipulators of 1996, Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, adviser to the BNP chairperson, said the then Awami League government did not investigate the matter properly, and related documents were not available.

Standing committee member Abdul Moyeen Khan and former minister Osman Farruk were also present.

Whim drives govt from Trishal to Arial Beel

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Till December last year, the government was working on a proposal to construct the high end airport in Trishal on 6,000 acres of land.

In April last year, the civil aviation ministry made a formal proposal for the Trishal airport. The proposal was based on a recommendation from the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) which had sent its experts to Mymensingh, Tangail, and some other districts to primarily select a site.

The biggest advantage of selecting Trishal was that the government already had 1,200 acres of land in its possession there to start with, and the ancient Trishal soil is fit to take the high impact that an airport generates.

But the decision was halted at the level of approval by the Prime Minister's Office in early

December. At that point some political leaders and some officials convinced the prime minister to build the airport in a district on the near south of Dhaka, because there is no big infrastructure.

They further argued that the people of that region would be happy to have a major infrastructure there, named after Bangabandhu, sources said.

Two senior officials hailing from Munshiganj played the key role in convincing the policymakers, the sources added.

And within a few days, the name of Arial Beel popped up out of nowhere. This time, the size of the proposed airport also shot up to 25,000 acres as the proposal included building a new city named after Bangabandhu as well.

The Trishal site did not get clearance even after

eight months of primary selection. But PMO approved Arial Beel as the site just a day after a multimedia presentation of comparisons among different proposed sites.

The authorities cited a number of reasons for discarding Trishal as a site. One of the reasons is that it is near an international border, approximately 35 to 50 nautical miles. And the authorities are saying in case of diversion of aircraft due to weather conditions, those will require to cross the international boundary, complicating air traffic control and air traffic management.

Aviation experts however said when any aircraft lands in Singapore airport it has to use air space of three countries, and that does not create any problem there.

Other reasons included absence of river routes to the Trishal site, an increase in

flight time by 20 minutes leading to an increase in fuel consumption by all aircraft, and the current use of a section of the airspace by Bangladesh Air Force for training purposes.

Later a team comprising the chief of the cell formed for the proposed airport, and representatives from the ministry concerned, Caab, and BAF visited different sites in Munshiganj, Faridpur, Madaripur, and Shariatpur on November 3 and 13.

Chief of the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence Lt Gen Molla Fazle Akbar also visited proposed sites at Shibchar of Madaripur, Jazira of Shariatpur, and Arial Beel with another team by a helicopter on November 15.

Other members of that team were the secretary to the civil aviation ministry, Caab Chairman Air Commodore Mahmud Hussein, and

some other officials from the ministry, BAF and Caab.

Chief of the cell for the proposed airport, Joyanal Abedin Talukder, who is also a joint secretary, finally gave the multi-media presentation on the comparative study of different sites to the prime minister on December 12 last year, which led to the choosing of Arial Beel as the most suitable site.

The next day the prime minister gave her approval although no feasibility study on economic and environmental impact was done.

A senior geologist observed that considering the geological formations of Trishal and Arial Beel sites, the Trishal site would not only be superior, it would also be a cost saver.

"There are technologies which would allow you to construct high impact structures in low lying lands. But that costs extra money. Why do we need to spend this extra money?" he asked.

The geologist added, "If we construct an airport in the beel, where would the flood water go? Finally, did the authorities conduct a prefeasibility study before embarking on such a massive venture?"

A member of a Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) team, which had recently visited the area, said all documents since the British colonial era suggest Arial Beel has all the basics of a flood flow area.

He said apart from the owners of lands in the beel, a good number of victims of river erosions and monga earn their livelihoods from the swamp which is also a treasure trove of biodiversity.

He said during rainy seasons the swamp work as a conduit for flood water coming from nearby rivers. It also connects the rivers Padma, Dhaleshwari and Ichhamoti through 18 canals.

More fishing in Bay

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newlicences.

The recommendation was overlooked first by the BNP-led government that issued 50 licences for deep-sea fishing in 2002.

Interestingly, most people who got licences sold those at Tk 50 lakh each.

However, the licences changed hands a few more times before landing in real fishing companies, which had to spend over Tk 1 crore for each.

Interested quarters have already started lobbying to buy the upcoming licences. But this easy rent-seeking method will take a huge toll on the sea fish stock, the experts warn.

Insiders cite the example of Thailand where such over fishing has left the sea absolutely fishless.

The fisheries experts say the move to allow more trawlers might be disastrous because of a rapid depletion of fish stocks in the Bay, home to 65 commercially important fish species and 36 shrimp species.

They warn that awarding new licences would be disastrous too for the existence of national fish hilsa.

"What I feel is that this is a plot to destroy marine fish stocks. There will be no fish to catch. Everything will vanish in five to seven years," said Prof Md Abdul Kader of Institute of Marine Sciences and Fisheries, University of Chittagong.

"If more trawlers are allowed for mid-water fishing, they will catch both mid-water and surface water fish thanks to the type of nets they use. It will deplete the existing stock," he added.

The alarm came at a time when 44,000 fishing boats and 170 trawlers skim the Bay every day with sea-floor-scraping nets that scoop up everything on the way, causing over-fishing by about 50 percent.

Fishermen and trawling firms say their catches are declining. Already deep-water fishing trawlers record a downturn in catches.

Many industrial trawlers are moving close to the coastline--in waters 10

metre deep--to keep business afloat as they are not getting adequate quantity of fish in deepwater, observed Prof Kader.

A study by UN's FAO on Bangladesh also shows that fish resources are on the decline due to environmental degradation and other activities such as overexploitation of inshore fisheries.

"It hits traditional fishermen. They are not getting adequate fish to make ends meet as industrial trawlers are moving to catch fish in low depth areas," Prof Kader commented.

"If you allow mid-water trawling, hilsa will also disappear because all types of hilsa, especially mother hilsa, will be caught," he said.

Md Mahbubur Rahman Khan, director general of the Department of Fisheries (DoF), claimed the new licence decision came on the basis of past catch data.

"We have seen that catches of existing trawlers are not dropping. Based on the data, the government has decided to issue new licences," he told The Daily Star over the phone Sunday.

The experts say the data showed there has been a rise in total catches. But it is because of increase in the nets, boats and trawlers.

"The rise is due to increase in catch per unit effort and increase in the number of nets. Actually, marine fish resources are declining," said Prof Kader.

Asked about the estimate of stock of mid-water or pelagic fish, the DoF DG said: "We have no survey."

No detailed survey of marine stock was conducted in more than two decades, although the expert committee led by Dr Mahmudul Karim recommended continuous survey by research vessels to determine MSY

(maximum sustainable yield) level per year.

According to the experts' committee report submitted in 1997, there was no survey of the mid-water pelagic fish stocks in the Bay.

The committee, based on the previous catch data, suggested using small-scale fishing boats instead of trawlers to catch additional 5,000 tonnes of pelagic fish such as hilsa, tuna and mackerel.

Examining the previous data, it said 20 more trawlers could be allowed for deep-water trawling. During that time, 55 trawlers were catching fish in Bangladesh territory.

Going against the recommendations, the BNP-led government issued 50 licences including 10 for mid-water fishing.

All licence holders are engaged in fishing now, whereas issuance of another 30 licences is going to add to the existing ones.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka

International Re-Tender Notice

Memo No-E&T/EQ/39-2010 (Part-1)/458(6) Date: 24.01.2011
Sealed tender is hereby invited from the manufacturers/suppliers/local agents in their pad for the purchase of the following items for Bangladesh Police-

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs.
2.	Agency	Police Headquarters, Dhaka.
3.	Procuring entity name	Inspector General, Bangladesh Police.
4.	Invitation for	Purchase of equipment.
5.	Invitation reference no.	E&T/EQ/39-2010(Part-1)/28.
6.	Date	24 January 2011.

KEY INFORMATION
7. Procurement method Open tendering method (OTM).

FUNDING INFORMATION
8. Budget & source of fund GOB Revenue.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

9.	Tender package No.	
10.	Tender publication date	25.01.2011.
11.	Tender last selling date	24.02.2011.
12.	Tender closing date and time	27.02.2011 at 12.00 noon.
13.	Tender opening date and time	27.02.2011 at 12.30 pm.
14.	Name & address of the office(s)	Police Headquarters, Phoenix Road, Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000. Room No. 220 (1 st floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000.
	Selling tender document	Room No. 220 (1 st floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000.
	Receiving tender document	Room No. 220 (1 st floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000.
	Opening tender document	Operation Conference Room (1 st floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000.
15.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Date-10.02.2011 at 3.00pm, Operation Conference Room (1 st floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka.
16.	Eligibility of tenderer	(i) Up-to-date trade license (ii) Up-to-date income tax clearance certificate (iii) Up-to-date VAT registration certificate and (iv) Other documents described in tender document.
17.	Price of tender document (BDT)	Tk 750/- (for each item).
18.	Brief description of goods	

Package	Lot	Identification of item	Quantity	Tender security amount in BDT	Completion time in week
1	Water Canon		4 pcs	4,00,000.00	60 days

19. Name of official inviting tender M Mahbub Alam, ppm.
20. Designation of the official inviting tender AIG (E&T).

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

21.	Address of official inviting tender	Police Headquarters (1 st floor), Phoenix Road, Fulbaria, Dhaka.
22.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 9564779, Fax: 88 02 7176129 E-mail: aige_t@police.gov.bd
23.	Special Instruction-	

a. The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceeding.

M Mahbub Alam, ppm
AIG (E&T), Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka

GD-477

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, Bangladesh (Component A)

Invitation for Bids for Procurement of Hand Tools (Spade)

Credit No. 4507 - BD, Project ID No. UTF/BGD/ 040 /BGD, Bid Package No.2G8.C, Lot 5

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Procurement of Hand Tools (Spade). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of 16550 Nos. of Hand Tools (Spade) against Lot 5 under Package No. 2G8.C. Bidders having a minimum of 3 (three) years of experience in the supply of the tendered items are only encouraged to participate. The delivery period is 8 (eight) weeks from the date of the Notification of the Award.

Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, (current edition), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents from the office of FAO Representation in Bangladesh at the address below during office hours i.e. 08:00 to 16:30 hours. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of Tk.1,000.00. The method of payment for the tender documents will be in cash against a written receipt.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security for an amount of Tk. 100,000.00 (One Hundred thousand) only.

Bids shall be delivered to the address below by 02:00 p.m. on 28 February 2011. They will be opened immediately thereafter, in the presence of bidders' representatives, who choose to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected.

FAO Representation in Bangladesh

House#37, Road#8

Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205

Tel: 880-2-8118015/126

Fax: 8802-2-811 3446

The publishing of this notice and the receipt of bids does not commit FAO in any way to any party.

Disaster Risk Mitigation Unit (DRMU)

Nobogram Road
(Opposite side of Karim Kutir Mosque), Barisal

under Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka

Tel: 880-02-8963946, 8959581, 8959368, Fax: 880-02-8961096, E-mail: drmu@sdffbd.org

IFT No.: DRMU/SDF/ G-4 (NJ) / G-10(NJ) G-11(NJ) G-12(NJ) G-13(NJ) / 827 Date: 30/01/2011

Invitation for Tenders

(Goods-Multiple Lots)

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH			
1	Ministry/Division Ministry of Finance.		
2	Agency Social Development Foundation (SDF).		
3	Procuring Entity Name Disaster Risk Mitigation Unit (DRMU)		
4	Procuring Entity Code Not used at present		
5	Procuring Entity District Barisal, Bangladesh		
6	Invitation for Supply of different Equipments of individual packages: (i) Supply of Color Television, LCD Television, DVD Player and Refrigerator & Stabilizer with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU [Package No. G-4 (NJ)] (ii) Supply of Digital Video Camcorder (3CCD) & Digital Still Camera with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU [Package No. G-10 (NJ)] (iii) Supply and Installation of IPS with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU [Package No. G-11 (NJ)] (iv) Supply and Installation of Diesel Generator (12-15KVA) with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU [Package No. G-12 (NJ)] and (v) Supply of Laptop, Server, Computer, Printer, Scanner, UPS etc. & LAN setup with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU [Package No. G-13 (NJ)] under Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka, during the year of 2010-2011		
7	Invitation Ref No IFT No.: DRMU/SDF/ G-4 (NJ) / G-10(NJ) G-11(NJ) G-12(NJ) G-13(NJ) 827		
8	Date 30 / 01 / 2011		
9	Procurement Method NCT(Open Tendering Method-OTM)		
10	Budget and Source of Funds IDA Credit # 4450-BD		
11	Development Partners IDA		
12	Tender Package No. G-4 (NJ), G-10(NJ), G-11(NJ), G-12(NJ) and G-13(NJ)		
13	Tender Package Name As stated in sl no. 6		
14	Tender Publication Date Date		
15	Tender Last Selling Date 01/02/2011		
16	Tender Closing Date and Time 17/02/2011 2:30 PM		
17	Tender Opening Date and Time 17/02/2011 3:00 PM		
18	Name & Address of the office(s) Address		
	- Selling Tender Document (i) Disaster Risk Mitigation Unit (DRMU), SDF, Nobogram Road (Opposite side of Karim Kutir Mosque), Barisal. (ii) Social Development Foundation (SDF), House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.		
	- Receiving Tender Document Social Development Foundation (SDF), House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.		
	- Opening Tender Document Social Development Foundation (SDF), House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.		
19	Place/Date/Time for Pre-Tender meeting SDF Office, Uttara Dhaka, 10/02/2011, Time: 11: 00 AM.		
20	Eligibility of Tenderer All Countries except Israel and IDA non-eligible countries		
21	Brief Description of Goods or Works As stated in sl no. 6		
22	Brief Description of Related Services (i) Needs after sales services with genuine spare parts including warranty		
23	Price of Tender Document (Tk) 1000.00 (Non-refundable) for each package.		
	Identification of Lot		
G4 (NJ)	1 Supply of Color Television, LCD Television, DVD Player for Notun Jibon Project to be Implemented by DRMU, SDF.	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Completion Time in Weeks / Months
	2 Supply of Refrigerator & Stabilizer for Notun Jibon Project to be Implemented by DRMU, SDF.	20,000.00	4 Weeks
G10 (NJ)	1 Supply of Digital Video Camcorder (3CCD) & Digital Still Camera with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU, SDF.	16,000.00	4 Weeks
G11 (NJ)	1 Supply and Installation of IPS with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU, SDF.	26,000.00	4 Weeks
G12 (NJ)	1 Supply and Installation of Diesel Generator (12-15KVA) with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU, SDF.	15,000.00	4 Weeks
G13 (NJ)	1 Supply of Laptop, Server, Computer, Printer, Scanner, UPS etc. with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU, SDF.	15,000.00	4 Weeks
	2 Supply of Computer, Printer, Scanner, UPS etc. with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU, SDF.	60,000.00	4 Weeks
	3 Supply & Installation of LAN (Local Area Network) with all accessories for Notun Jibon Project to be implemented by DRMU, SDF.	3,000.00	4 Weeks
24	Name of Official Inviting Tender A. K. M. Mahbubur Rahman,		
25	Designation of Official Inviting Tender Project Director		
26	Address of Official Inviting Tender Disaster Risk Mitigation Unit (DRMU), Nobogram Road (Opposite side of Karim Kutir Mosque), Barisal, under Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka		
27	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender Ph: 880-02-8963946, 8959581, 8959368 FAX: 880-02-8961096		
28	Special Instructions:		
	1. Tender Security money must be submitted along with the tender through Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee for each lot separately, in favor of the "SDF-Social Investment Program Project, Credit No.4450-BD".		
	2. Manufacturer's Authorization must be submitted along with the tender.		
	3. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without any reason thereof prior to acceptance.		
	4. This tender shall be governed by the PPR 2008.		
	5. A Tenderer can participate in one or more lots of said packages separately		

(A.K.M. Mahbubur Rahman,)

Project Director, DRMU, SDF