

# Myanmar lifts campaign restrictions on complaints

AP, Yangon

Myanmar election authorities lifted restrictions on political campaigning yesterday in an unusually swift response to complaints by pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi's party.

The National League for Democracy said earlier in the day that the restrictions risked making upcoming by-elections unfair.

The state Union Election Commission's decision to lift all restrictions was unusual. Bureaucratic wheels grind slowly even where there are no political hurdles in the country where an elected, nominally civilian government took office almost a year ago after a half-century of military rule.

NLD spokesman Nyan Win had said the party was facing difficulty in getting permission to use public venues for its meetings ahead of the April 1 polls.

"What we want is fair play but the

restrictions have increased lately. It is very difficult to say that the upcoming by-elections could be free and fair," Nyan Win told reporters.

Later yesterday, however, he said the state Union Election Commission had informed the party that "all restrictions are lifted for the organizational activities."

"There is now a flicker of hope," Nyan Win commented.

Suu Kyi, a former political prisoner and 1991 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, is running for one of the 48 parliamentary seats being contested in April. Her party overwhelmingly won a 1990 general election but the military refused to allow it to take power.

The NLD boycotted a 2010 general election, saying the rules were unfair. It agreed to rejoin electoral politics last year when the new military-backed elected president, Thein Sein, began implementing democratic reforms.

The government has released politi-

cal prisoners and amended some election laws among other changes, while arguing that Western political and economic sanctions imposed because of the repression under the past military regime should be lifted.

The U.S. and other nations have specifically cited a fair election as a benchmark by which their Sein's administration will be judged.

Nyan Win, also the NLD's campaign manager, had said some government organizations blocked the party's campaign activities even though the election commission had approved them.

He said Sports Minister Tint Hsan had objected to the NLD's use of football fields in three constituencies - Hlegu in northern Yangon, the central city of Mandalay and the Irrawaddy delta town of Phayapon - after local election commissions had approved such meetings.



Members of the National League for Democracy (NLD) party select party gifts at their headquarters in Yangon yesterday.

# India's defence minister for more dev in borders

THE HINDU ONLINE

Stating that all border areas need to be developed, Defence Minister A K Antony yesterday said secure and non-porous international borders must remain the topmost priority of the Centre.

"We are aware of the challenges which people living in border areas face and it is our collective duty to ensure that our border areas are developed as any other part of the country," Antony said here.

Referring to the highly-sensitive nature of the state, he said that the importance of a secure, non-porous international border must continue to be the topmost priority area of the Centre.

"Arunachalees have always been known to be fiercely patriotic and yield to none in their love for the motherland," Antony said while addressing the silver jubilee celebra-



A K Antony

tion of statehood day of this frontier state here yesterday morning.

The proposals submitted by the State government to PMO and Planning Commission to provide connectivity to 22 unconnected administrative centres, construction of foot suspension bridges, log bridges and porter tracks in border areas, as well as providing drinking water facilities in border areas are highly relevant and will definitely be given a serious consideration, he added.

Considering the strategic importance of the state which shares 1,680 square kilometres of international border with China, Myanmar and Bhutan, the defence ministry had taken a decision on the funding of land acquisition for the company locations of the first battalion of the Arunachal Scouts and early operationalisation of all the Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) in the state, the minister disclosed.

# Uphold spirit

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Ekushey (the immortal 21st) and stay alert about those who opposed the Language Movement and the country's independence.

"To face them, we will have to infuse the spirit of Ekushey into the new generation and practise Bangla language and literature in every sphere of society," she said while addressing the Ekushey Padak, 2012, one of the highest civilian award ceremony of the country, held in the city's Osmani Memorial Auditorium yesterday.

Hasina also urged all to contribute to establishing a knowledge-based prosperous, peaceful and non-communal Bangladesh being inspired by the spirit of Amar Ekushey and the Sonar Bangla (Bengal of gold) dream by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The premier handed over the prestigious Ekushey Padak to 15 distinguished personalities for their remarkable contribution in different fields. Each recipient was honoured with a gold medal and Tk 1 lakh along with a citation.

The award recipients are: Momtaz Begum (posthumous) for language movement; Mobinul Azim (posthumous), filmmaker Tareque Masud (posthumous), Dr Inamul Haque, Mamunur Rashid and Karunamoy Goswami for performing arts; E h t s h a m H a i d a r Chowdhury (posthumous), Ashfaque Munier Chowdhury (posthumous) and Habibur Rahman Milon in journalism; Prof Ajay Kumar Roy, Dr Mansurur Alam Khan and Dr AK Nazmul Karim (posthumous) in education, Prof Baren Chakraborti in science and technology; Srmat Shuddhanand Mohathero for social work; and late Prof Dr Humayun Azad for language and literature.

On the occasion, Hasina recalled the sacrifice of language martyrs Salam, Barkat, Rafique, Jabbar,

Shafiur and others. She also reminisced about the role of her father Bangabandhu as he had been imprisoned several times while leading the movement.

She said the language movement was the result of non-communal spirit of Bangalees and inspired by that Bangabandhu in 1972 adopted secularism as one of the main principles in the constitution.

The premier alleged that after 1975, military government had rehabilitated anti-liberation forces in the country betraying the spirit of Ekushey February and mutilated the constitution.

"We have restored the glorious history through the (15th) amendment to the constitution," she added.

H a s i n a s a i d Bangabandhu delivered his speech in Bangla at the United Nations in 1974 to uphold Bangla and Bangalee tradition in the world arena. "I followed this legacy and also gave my speech at the UN General Assembly in Bangla," she added.

The premier said the government from this month has made installation of full-fledged Bangla keypad in basic mobile handsets of all brands mandatory. Initiatives have also been taken to formulate the second country coded internet domain "dotbangla" alongside the existing "dotbd".

She said her government has established the International Mother Language Institute enacting the International Mother Language Act for preservation and researches on the languages of different ethnic people of the world.

Efforts are underway for the recognition of Bangla as an official language at the UN. A proposal has been placed before the UN General Assembly in this regard, said Hasina, adding, "The illustrious melody on Amar Ekushey February has now spread to 193 countries."

# Putin vows to boost Russian army ahead of vote

AFP, Moscow

Russian strongman Vladimir Putin vowed yesterday that Russia would strengthen its military might and offer an "asymmetrical and effective" response to the deployment of a Nato missile shield.

"We must not tempt anyone with our weakness," Putin wrote in a fiercely worded article on national security in the state newspaper Rossiiskaya Gazeta, ahead of his bid for a third Kremlin term in March 4 presidential polls.

"Therefore we will never in any circumstances give away our potential of strategic deterrence and will strengthen it," he said in his sixth campaign article laying out his political beliefs.

Drawing historic parallels with World War II, he cited Marshal Georgy Zhukov and warned against repeating the Soviet Union's disastrous entry to the war, taken by surprise by the Nazi invasion.



Russia must implement strong countermeasures to respond to Nato's planned deployment of a missile shield in Europe, he said, continuing a debate that has simmered for nearly a decade.

The mix of European radar and interceptors -- a key part of a global shield being studied by the United States -- are designed to protect against potential attacks from Iran amid worries about the Islamic state's nuclear programme.

But Russia fears the system could one day make its own shrinking nuclear arsenal ineffective and has outlined a series of retaliatory steps it may take should Nato ignore its concerns.

"The time demands decisive steps to strengthen a single system of air and space defence of our country. We are being pushed towards these actions by the policy of the United States and Nato on the question of deploying a missile shield," Putin wrote.

# HR issues ignored in JS'

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last three years, according to a study the rights organisation presented yesterday at a roundtable discussion in the capital.

Human rights conditions have been deteriorating day by day in the country but the House has seldom spoken of the issue, SAHR said in the study report.

It was learnt in the course of the study that ruling party MPs had praised their party and party chief 616 times and criticised the opposition 808 times during parliamentary sessions, which SAHR regarded as a waste of time and resources.

It said that due to a comfortable majority in parliament, the ruling Awami League chose to bypass parliament in enacting

major laws.

The rights organisation was also critical of the opposition parties, saying they had clearly ignored their electoral pledges by boycotting the House.

The discussion was presided over by Shaheen Anam, bureau member of SAHR, and the study report was explained by Irfaath Ara Iva, Bangladesh chapter coordinator of the organisation.

In the study report, SAHR said some 46 hours had been spent in the law making process in seven sessions in the last two years whereas the total working hours of parliament were over 576 hours.

On an average, the House spent 21 minutes to pass a law, as per the report.

The rights body at the discussion said an annual calendar of parliamentary sessions was necessary to run the House effectively.

Besides, a code of conduct or integrity standard must be put in place immediately for MPs.

SAHR suggested that parliamentary seats of MPs should be scrapped if he/she remains absent from sessions for 30 consecutive days, instead of 90 days.

It also recommended ensuring regular attendance of the prime minister and the opposition leader in the House. MPs attendance needs to be recorded digitally and displayed on the websites, SAHR said.

Ruling AL MP AKM Mozammel Huq and Saguta Yasmin, who spoke in the program, supported many of the recommendations given by the rights body.

Hamida Hossain, a rights activist, Badiul Alam Majumdar, secretary of Shushashoner Jannoy Nagorik, among others, spoke in the programme.

# Nigeria army says kills 8 Islamists

REUTERS, Maiduguri

Nigeria's military killed eight Islamist insurgents who attacked a market in the volatile northeastern city of Maiduguri yesterday, and deactivated three bombs in controlled explosions, the spokesman for the joint military taskforce (JTF) there said.

The Maiduguri-based sect Boko Haram is waging an increasingly violent insurgency against the Nigerian government, striking beyond its northeastern heartland to hit targets across the north and in the capital, Abuja.

"The JTF has killed eight BH (Boko Haram) members this afternoon who attacked and wounded three civilians at the Baga Road market," Lieutenant Colonel Hassan Mohammed told Reuters by telephone. "The sect members were engaged ... in a shootout."

Babu Nirmolendu Barman, Khan Ali Taiyab, Hasan Imam Tulu and Golam Kibria also played key roles in the language movement in Gaibandha.

Earlier, Jalilar was detained in 1949 for his involvement in the peasants' movement led by Ila Mitra in Nachole, Rajshahi. He was released after a year.

He joined the Awami Muslim League, led by Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani, in 1949 and the United Front in 1954.

Jalilar also worked for the Bhashani-led National Awami Party in 1957, and fought in the 1971 Liberation War.

"Our brave students and people set a milestone in 1952 that ultimately led to the country's independence in 1971. We should recall their contributions with due respect," said Udichi leader Zaharul.

# 1,100 NU staff

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Grounds of the verdict could not be known immediately, since the HC did not release the full text of verdict.

Roy, however, said the HC came up with the verdict on the ground that the advertisements, upon which the NU authorities made the recruitment, were wrong as those did not mention the number of posts, quota and some other particulars for the candidates.

There were also anomalies in the recruitment process, he added.

Advocate Zafar Ahmed, counsel for the NU, said more than 1,100 were appointed to different posts including deputy registrar, assistant registrar, section officer, programme officer and driver between November 2003 and November 2004 when Prof Aftab Ahmed was the vice-chancellor.

The appointment came on the basis of wrong advertisements published in five national dailies -- daily Sangbad, Bangla Bazar, New Nation, Ajkaler Khabar and The Independent, he said, adding, police have unearthed the irregularities through an enquiry.

Advocate Zafar said the enquiry found anomalies in advertisements and recruitment process.

Ruling Awami League lawmaker Fazle Rabbi Miah filed the writ in 2004 challenging legality of the appointment. The HC, however, rejected the writ and declared the appointment legal in 2006.

In December last year, another AL lawmaker AKM Mozammel Haque filed a petition with the HC for reviewing the 2006 judgement.

In August 23 last year, the HC endorsed the review prayer and ruled the appointments illegal.

Following three separate petitions submitted by the employees, the Appellate Division on December 4 last year directed the NU authorities to maintain status quo on termination of the employees and fresh recruitment to the university until further order.

The Appellate Division also asked the HC bench led by Justice Hasan Foez Siddique to hear and dispose of the writ filed by Fazle Rabbi.

Dr Kamal Hossain appeared for AKM Mozammel Haque, while Abdur Rob Chowdhury argued for Fazle Rabbi Miah and Rafique-ul Huq, Rokanuddin Mahmud and Khair Ejjah Mashud for the terminated employees.

# An unsung hero

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Arrest warrants were issued against him and his fellow activists after they demonstrated in Gaibandha. He went into hiding to avoid arrest.

Jalilar, also a member of the then East Pakistan Muslim Chhatra League, and his companions continued the movement, mainly at educational institutions, and drummed up huge public support.

He and other language heroes set up the first Shaheed Minar at the district headquarters following the February 21 bloodshed in Dhaka, said his wife Shamsunnahar.

Five decades after the movement, Gaibandha unit of Udichi Shilpi Gosthi accorded a reception to Jalilar for the first time and honoured him with a crest at the Shaheed Minar in Gaibandha on February 20, 2002.

"Nobody had come forward to honour him in 50 years. We tried to recognise his contribution to the Language Movement within our capacity," said Zaharul Quayum, president of Gaibandha unit of Udichi.

Jalilar from Kalapani, Gaibandha, had always been devoted to politics.

His son Sajjad Jahir Nazim said his father had sold all his ancestral property -- nearly 20 bighas of land -- and spent the whole amount on politics.

"We now live in a four-and-a-half-decimal plot of khas land that the government has allocated for our landless family at Masterpara in Gaibandha municipality," Nazim said.

In February 1952, thousands of students and political activists in Dhaka burst into protests as the Pakistani rulers moved to establish Urdu as the only official language of

Pakistan, ignoring a strong objection from the Bangla-speaking majority.

The movement spread to other parts of the then East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, after police opened fire on a procession that students brought out from Dhaka University on February 21, ignoring a ban on public gatherings. A number of students were killed in the firing.

When the news of the bloodshed reached Gaibandha, hundreds of locals protested against the brutality and observed a strike in the district the next day.

On February 4, 1952, Jalilar and his fellow activists observed a strike in all educational institutions in Gaibandha in line with a decision of the central Muslim Chhatra League.

Kazi Abdul Halim, former lawmaker Lutfar Rahman, Motiur Rahman, Karzon Ali,

and wounded three civilians at the Baga Road market," Lieutenant Colonel Hassan Mohammed told Reuters by telephone. "The sect members were engaged ... in a shootout."

**বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড**  
BDBL  
এখান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা  
ল ডিপিআর্সি

**নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি স্থগিতকরণ**

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, গত ২৬-০১-২০১২ তারিখে যথাক্রমে 'দৈনিক ইত্তেফাক' পত্রিকায় ৪ নং পৃষ্ঠায় ৭-৮ নং কলামে ও 'দৈনিক কালের কণ্ঠ' পত্রিকায় ৫ নং পৃষ্ঠায় ৭-৮ নং কলামে, ২৬-১-২০১২ তারিখে যথাক্রমে 'ডেইলি ষ্টার' পত্রিকায় ৮ নং পৃষ্ঠায় ৪-৫ নং কলামে এবং ফিন্যান্সিয়াল এক্সপ্রেস' পত্রিকায় ১৬ নং পৃষ্ঠায় ৪-৫ নং কলামে প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি অনুযায়ী মেসার্স বায়েস ফার্মাসিউটিক্যালস লিঃ, গাজীপুর এর বর্ণিত তফসিলভুক্ত সম্পত্তির নিলাম ২২-০২-২০১২ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠানের জন্য নির্ধারিত আছে। অনিবার্হকারণ বশতঃ উক্ত নিলাম কার্যক্রম স্থগিত করা হল।

(শেখলেপুত্র প্রকাশক শ্রী শ্রী)  
ডেপুটি জেনারেল ম্যানেজার  
ল ডিপিআর্সি  
ফোনঃ ৯৫৫৬৬৮২

**CHHATAK CEMENT COMPANY LTD.**  
(An Enterprise of BCIC),  
Chhatak, Sunamgonj.

**BCIC INTERNATIONAL RE-TENDER NOTICE**

1 Ministry	Ministry of Industries.
2 Agency	Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC).
3 Procuring entity name	Managing Director, Chhatak Cement Co.Ltd.,
4 Invitation for (Brief description of goods)	2 nos 3(three) way Solenoid Valve for Turbine Oil unit
5 Tender no. & date.	CCCL/PUR/R/12/2011-12/325 Dt. 18-02-2012
6 Procurement Method	International Open Tendering Method. (IOTM)
7 Source of funds	Own fund.
8 Last date of Selling the tender	20-03-2012 during office hours.
9 Tender closing date and time	21-03-2012 at 11-00 A.M
10 Tender opening date and time	21-03-2012 at 11-15 A.M
11 Selling tender documents (Principal)	Controller of Accounts, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
12 Selling tender documents (others)	(1) General Manager, BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong. (2) General Manager (A&F), Chhatak Cement Co.Ltd., Chhatak, Sunamgonj, Bangladesh.
13 Place of Receiving tender documents	Office of the General Manager (Commercial) Chhatak Cement Co.Ltd., Chhatak, Sunamgonj, Bangladesh.
14 Place of Opening tender	Office of the General Manager (Commercial), Chhatak Cement Co.Ltd., Chhatak, Sunamgonj, Bangladesh.
15 Eligibility of Tenderer	Mentioned in the tender documents.
16 Tender document price	Tk. 400/- (Four hundred) only. (Non-refundable). Per set.
17 Amount of tender security	Tk. 16,000.00 (Sixteen thousand) or its equivalent USD.
18 Validity of tender and tender security	120 days (One hundred twenty days) & 148 (One hundred forty eight days) respectively.
19 Name of official inviting tender	(Managing Director, Chhatak Cement Co. Ltd., Chhatak, Sunamgonj, Bangladesh.
20 Special instruction	(1) The Purchaser reserves the right to accept any or all tenders, without assigning any reason thereof. (2) Due to unavoidable circumstances if the tender shall not possible to open in schedule date & time, the same will be opened on the following working day at the same office & time. (3) In all cases "The Public Procurement Rules (PPR)-2008" shall be followed.

(Md. Abdul Awal)  
Addl.Chief Manager (Purchase.)  
For Managing Director

সিপিআই/সিপিআই/১২/২০১১-১২/৩২৫