

No voter

FROM PAGE 20
March 10 in line with the past commission's decision.
"The task [of updating the voter list] may be legally questioned if it begins this way," he said. "They did not update the voter list in the last three years. How did their salaries get justified? But now they are talking much on television talkshows."

Mobarak said the electoral law says the voter list will be updated in January, and asked why it did not start in time.
Asked if the job of updating the voter list will begin on March 10, he said: "Should we use snow powder as the past commission used it? Our question is: why did they not do the task in the last three years?"

He said the incumbent EC would decide about it in next two to three days.

According to the electoral roll law, the voter list is supposed to be updated every year from January 2 to January 31.

The past EC could not update the voter list in January 2009 due to holding upazila parishad elections country-wide the same month.

Later it updated the voter list between May 2009 and January 2010.

The past EC could not also update the voter list in 2011 due to holding polls to municipalities and union parishads countrywide from January.

Election Commissioner Brig Gen (ret) Zayed Ali the same day said the EC had nothing to do with the ongoing campaign launched by the ruling Awami League-led alliance and other aspirants to mayoral posts to the bifurcated Dhaka City Corporation.

Talking to reporters at this office, he said the EC supervises all activities related to polls from the announcement of the schedule to the publication of results in the official gazette.

"So, we don't have anything to do before the announcement of the election schedule. We will discharge our duties as per the Constitution. We will not find any ways on our own [to take steps against the ongoing campaign] and will not take any trouble," he added.

Nepal market fire kills six

AFP, Kathmandu

Six people were killed as a fire tore through the main vegetable market in the Nepali capital of Kathmandu on Saturday night destroying more than 100 stalls, police said.

Firefighters and residents battled for seven hours to contain the blaze, which was caused by an electrical fault, deputy superintendent of Kathmandu Police Dhiraj Pratap Singh told AFP.

The 400-stall market is the main wholesale supplier for fruit and vegetables to traders in the city.

COCKROACH PROBLEM? Use BAQSOL GEL
Call for your nearest sales point
SAFWAY T: 9841000
Pest Control E: 01730077700
safeway.com.bd L: 01730088800

Work going on

FROM PAGE 20
Police Station on Saturday.
Contacted, USTC Director Najibur Rahman told The Daily Star he had no information about the construction work on the ground and the GD.

Prof Saleh Uddin in the GD said the university authorities were doing the construction works in the darkness of night violating the court order.

The under-construction building was fitted with doors and windows following the instruction of USTC Vice-Chancellor Prof Nurul Islam, he alleged.

Md Obaydul Haque, officer-in-charge (OC) of the police station, confirmed about the GD.

"Receiving the written complaint, we visited the spot," the OC said adding that it is not possible for police to ensure vigilance at the spot during night hours.

USTC Director Najibur

said "The varsity authority went to the killing ground on February 21 to pay homage to the martyrs. After that day, we know nothing about any construction work there."

Echoing the comments of Najibur, USTC Registrar Shamsujjoha said he knew nothing about the matter.

Prof Saleh Uddin told The Daily Star Pahartali Badhyabhum is the biggest mass killing ground of the country where hundreds of people were slaughtered by Biharis during the Liberation War.

"The USTC authorities are gradually trying to wipe out the history of the struggle of Bengali nation through this kind of step", he alleged.

The private university authorities started construction work of a building on the ground in 2008.

Later the same year, noted writer Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Prof Gazi Saleh

Uddin, Milly Rahman, Prof Muntasir Mamoon and Md Azizur Rahman filed a writ petition with the High Court for preserving the land.

In 2011, the court issued a status quo order upon the petition for putting an end to any construction and development work on the ground.

It also formed a committee to identify the mass graveyard in the ground.

Saiful Karim Chhotan, a resident of Khulshi, said locals caught four construction workers red-handed from the spot last year and handed them over to police.

"In the last one week, many doors and windows were fitted by the university authorities in the second and third floors of the under-construction building," he said.

As the ground is surrounded by many tin-shed houses, it is hard to notice any construction work going on over there, Saiful added.

Bangabandhu's writ

FROM PAGE 1
obvious that the state of Pakistan was fast reaching a point of no return.

In Dhaka, the residence of the Awami League chief turned into the real seat of political authority, with crowds of professionals, cultural figures, students and all other categories of citizens constantly making their way to Dhanmondi Road 32 to affirm their support for the democratic cause.

In West Pakistan, except for a handful of rightwing politicians, all political quarters kept up the demand for a

quick transfer of power to the Awami League as a way of preventing a political division of the country.

And in East Pakistan, which by now had become Bangladesh de facto, the authority of the central government as well as the provincial administration had dwindled into non-existence except in the cantonments. Offices, businesses and other establishments spontaneously conducted themselves under the direct authority of Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman.

The directives issued on a day to basis by the Awami League were articulated by Tajuddin Ahmed, general secretary of the party. At the universities and other educational institutions, militancy went up by leaps and bounds, the clear message being that there was no way out of the crisis except through full sovereignty for Bangladesh.

In the province, curfew was imposed in Rangpur while the security forces and the army resorted to shooting in Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna

and Tongi. In Dhaka, the National Awami Party led by Prof Muzaffar Ahmed pledged its full support to the Awami League in its movement. The regime decides to take its soldiers back to the barracks.

There was yet no sign of the regime stepping back in favour of a negotiated settlement with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. A vast majority of Bangladeshis, however, expected Bangabandhu to declare independence at his scheduled March 7 rally.

Suspense hung heavy in the air.

Govt creating obstacles

FROM PAGE 1
obstacles. Police mount pressure on city hotels not to rent out rooms. Even we are not getting buses for hire outside the capital," he said at a discussion meeting at the Jatiya Press Club organised by Islami Oikya Jote.

He said local ruling party leaders are mounting pressure on bus owners so that the BNP cannot hire necessary numbers of buses to transport its supporters to the rally.

Alamgir said, "We will stay on the streets if hotels are unavailable. People will

come to Dhaka on foot if we don't get buses. But none will be able to foil our rally."

He said the government still has time to meet their demand for a non-partisan neutral caretaker government conducting the next national polls. "Otherwise the people will topple you," he said.

Other BNP leaders claimed that police gave verbal orders to all residential hotels in the city not to host BNP supporters before the opposition's rally.

They claimed that police told the hoteliers that no

more than three people of an area should be allowed to stay in one hotel.

They said the hotel authorities have to provide information including photographs of their guests to the police.

The manager of a hotel in Mohakhali yesterday said photographs and photocopies of voter ID are a must for getting a room in the hotel. "Intention of his other stay has to be mentioned too," he said while talking to The Daily Star.

He, however, refused to comment when asked if he had got any directives from

lawenforcers.

While addressing another discussion meeting, party standing committee member Khandaker Mosharruf Hossain said the city will be flooded by people joining the March 12 rally.

"March 12 rally would be a turning point in the country's politics. People will show no-confidence in the government...", he added.

BNP chief Khaleda Zia on January 9 at a rally in Chittagong announced the March-12 rally programme in Dhaka.

Flood threat in Himalayas

FROM PAGE 20
hydroelectric plant. Apa scrambled up a hill, but at least five neighbours were swept away.

Twenty-six years later, after scaling the world's highest mountain a record 21 times, Apa is on a quest to draw attention to the danger of more devastating floods as glacial melt caused by climate change fills mountain lakes to the bursting point.

The 51-year-old Apa, who like most Sherpas uses only one name, is trekking the length of Nepal to warn villagers to prepare themselves for change. A third of the way along his 120-day journey, he has already seen many lakes that look ready to spill.

"If it happens again, many villages would be washed away and lives lost," he said during a break in his trek in Tatopani, a resort village near the Tibet border.

Chances are, it will happen again.

There are now thousands of such lakes transforming Himalayan foothills and waterways into extreme danger zones for some of the millions of people in seven

countries abutting the massive mountain range.

In Nepal alone, at least 20 of the more than 2,300 glacial lakes are in danger of bursting banks made mostly of rock and scree held together by little more than gravity. Across the wider mountain range, dozens more are building to dangerous levels as temperatures rise and ice melts quicker.

Near Apa's old home lies Imza Lake, which he used to circle along a track skirting the water's edge. The trails have long since disappeared underwater.

"Because of the atmospheric warming, most of the lakes are growing very fast," said Pradeep Mool, an expert in satellite imaging who works assessing glacial melt for the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development based in Nepal's capital, Kathmandu.

Global temperatures went up 0.6 degrees C during the 20th century, leading into the warmest decade ever recorded in 2000-2009.

In 1998, a flood triggered by an ice avalanche that hit Tam Pokhara Lake, south of Everest,

killed two people and destroyed six bridges as it cascaded down a riverbed. Seven years earlier, one person was killed when a moraine collapsed into Chuberi Lake northeast of Kathmandu, and a 1981 flood unleashed from a Tibetan lake killed at least five people in Nepal.

The midday flood that took Apa's farm in 1985 left his village of Thame without power and bridges, cutting it off from neighbouring towns, markets and schools.

Having to provide for his family, he began carrying tourists' luggage up the mountains that rose from his backyard. He worked as a porter and then a mountain guide, summiting Everest for the first time in 1989 with a team that included Everest pioneer Edmund Hillary's son, Peter.

Apa has repeated the feat 20 times since, earning the nickname "Super Sherpa" within the mountaineering community. But every year, it gets more dangerous as the snow and ice that once covered the path melt and shift to reveal loose rock and deep crevasses.

Spelling Bee contest

FROM PAGE 20
spellers for the divisional round, which begins on March 16.

The contest, the first of its kind in Bangladesh, is being organised by a web portal Champs21.com.

The five spellers from Faujdarhat Cadet College who won the first round were Rakibul Hassan and Jubayer Siddiqui Shakil of class ten, Mahathir Mustafa Nabil and Inteshar Muhammad of class eight and Nasif Hussain of class nine.

From The City School International Sarah Ahmed, Sariyah Rashed and Kadin Imdad of class 8 qualified, while Rumeen Choudhury,

Morjina Nishi and Azim Mazumder were selected from class nine of British Columbia School.

Meanwhile, Ifraj Mahabub and Naima Afsar of class 9 and Deenul Alam of class 6 of British Standard School crossed the hurdle of the first round.

At least 3000 spellers from all over the country, qualifying through school contest and online contest will take part in the divisional round (second round).

However, only the top 72 spellers will move into the TV Round and will be getting an opportunity to become a reality TV star. They will also be allowed to bring along a parent and a teacher of

his/her liking to the TV round.

From amongst them, the top three spellers will get Tk 5,00,000 (first prize), Tk 1,00,000 (second prize) and Tk 50,000 (third prize).

The Spelling Bee Champion will also get an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington DC along with a parent.

The students eager to qualify for the divisional round can visit www.champs21.com and play the online Spelling Bee game as many times they want. The online round will continue until March 10.

The top scorers online will be eligible to qualify for the second round.

MTB Tower a green building

NOTICE OF INVITING TENDER

SEALED TENDERS containing "Technical Offer" and "Financial Offer", in 2 (two) separate envelopes, are hereby invited by Mutual Trust Bank Limited from reputed electrical contractors for "Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Sub-station Equipment for MTB Tower", now under construction at 111, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka.

The intending bidders will have to apply on their letterhead to the undersigned, along with the following documents in support of their eligibility and obtain prior approval for the issuance of the Tender Documents:

1. Authorization from the manufacturers or their authorized local agent to offer their equipment of Sub-station & Bus Bar Trunking (BBT), etc.
2. Photocopies of the valid ABC contractor and supervisory electrical license.
3. Photocopies of valid Trade License, up to date Income Tax clearance certificate and VAT registration certificate.
4. Photocopies of satisfactory completion certificate from reputed companies/institutions for supply, installation, testing & commissioning of minimum 1,200 KVA, 11/0.415 KV Sub-station with BBT system.
5. Photocopies of Financial Solvency Certificate from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh, certifying that the bidding company enjoys an overdraft limit of minimum Tk. 2.00 (Two) crores.
6. In case of the bidding company is a Joint Venture firm, then a copy of the Agreement detailing the responsibility and obligations of each constituent firm.
7. Minimum work experience of 10 (ten) years in supply and installation of substation equipment in Bangladesh.

Bidders without the required eligibility, as stated above, need not apply for issuance of the Tender Documents.

The tender documents will be issued from March 11, 2012 to March 27, 2012, only to the eligible bidders from the office of the undersigned at MTB Centre, 26 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212, during office hours, on non-refundable cash payment of Tk. 5,000.00 (Taka Five Thousand only), on all working days, during office hours from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The bidders will have to submit lump sum earnest money of Tk. 10,00,000/- (Taka Ten Lacs only) only in favor of "Mutual Trust Bank Ltd." in the form of a Bank Guarantee along with the Technical Offer. The tender will be rejected outright without the Earnest Money.

For any clarification regarding submission of the Tender, the bidders may contact Dexterous Consultants Limited, Plot No. 6/3 (1st Floor), Block D, Lalmatia, Dhaka 1207, Phone: (02) 912 3154 or the Chief Engineer, Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.

The tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned at MTB Centre, 26 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212, up to 12:00 noon on March 28, 2012 and the Technical Offers will only be opened at 12:30 p.m., on the same day, in the presence of the bidders who wish to be present or their duly authorised representatives.

The Management of "Mutual Trust Bank Ltd." reserves the right to accept or reject any tender, or all tenders, and may divide the work amongst the bidders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Md. Sanwar Hossain
Chief Engineer
Engineering Department
Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.
MTB Centre, 26 Gulshan Avenue
Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212



মিউচুয়াল ট্রাস্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.

you can bank on us

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, Bangladesh (Component A)

Invitation for Bids for Procurement of Soil & Water Salinity Meter, Data Logging Temperature and Rain Gauge, Digital Grain Moisture Meter and Laptop Computer

Credit No. 4507 - BD, Project ID No. UTF /BGD/ 040 /BGD, Bid Package No.1G26.C

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 goods against Package No. 1G26.C. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of Soil & Water Salinity Meter, Data Logging Temperature and Rain Gauge, Digital Grain Moisture Meter and Laptop Computer. Bidders having a minimum of 3 (three) years of experience in the supply of the tendered items/similar items are only encouraged to participate. The delivery period is 5 (five) 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 and inspect the bidding documents from the ECRP office of FAO Representation in Bangladesh (Hs. # 27, Rd. # 9/A, Apte. # A -1, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka - 1209, Telephone 8130758/104) during office hours i.e. 08:00 to 16:30 Hrs. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by the interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk. 1500. 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 mentioned below.

Package No.	Lot No.	Bid Security (Tk.)
1G26.C	Lot No. 1	80,000
	Lot No. 2	25,000

Bids shall be delivered to the address below by 14:00 Hrs. on 27 March 2012. They will be opened immediately thereafter, in the presence of bidder's 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
Fax: 8802-2-811 3446