

ZEE NEWS POLL
97pc Indians
want Anna to
join politics

ZEE NEWS ONLINE

As per the results of the biggest ever television poll in India conducted by Zee News, the nation wants Team Anna to join politics. At 2:00pm on Thursday, Zee News had put this question before the nation: "Should Team Anna contest elections?" Nearly 4,50,000 people have voted through SMS and on ZeeNews.com till the poll closed at 4:00 pm on Friday. And the nation has overwhelmingly voted in favour of Team Anna joining politics. In absolute numbers, 4,10,286 people or a whopping 96.36 percent have said they want Team Anna to provide a 'political alternative'.

Team Hazare takes political plunge

Ends fast; says fight is for changing system, not power

AFP, New Delhi

Indian anti-graft activists led by Anna Hazare yesterday said they would start a new political movement aimed at winning seats in parliament for candidates committed to fighting corruption in public life.

Anna Hazare, while speaking at the end of the fast at Jantar Mantar yesterday, announced that he himself would not be contesting elections, but will support this party 'from the outside'.

The move ahead of a 2014 general election marks a new chapter in their bid to rid the country of the scourge of bribe-taking which mobilised hundreds of thousands last year nation-wide but has since fizzled out.

Aides to Hazare, a 75-year-old former army driver who models his appearance on independence leader Mahatma Gandhi, broke the news at the end of his six-day hunger strike to press his demand for a new powerful anti-corruption ombudsman.

"This is not a party. It will be a movement from the street to parliament. There will be no high command. People will decide the candidates and they will fund it," fellow activist Arvind Kejriwal told a crowd of several thousand.



Throwing light on its proposed "political alternative", Kejriwal said: "Our aim is not to grab power, but to end the Delhi-centric government and take governance to the villages and the people," Kejriwal told the thousands gathered at the indefinite fast site in Jantar Mantar.

Hazare became an unlikely national hero last August when he led countrywide protests that tapped into a rich seam of public anger at corruption and caught Prime Minister Manmohan

Singh's tainted coalition government unawares. But this time, the media have been less openly supportive with many saying Hazare has gone too far by displaying an autocratic streak in insisting the government accept his demands.

Meanwhile, Team Anna's decision to end their fast at Jantar Mantar and proposed to form a 'political alternative' as an answer to an unresponsive government evoked some mixed responses.

Taking potshots at Team Anna over its decision, Swami Agnivesh said they have hurt the sentiments of the general public by leaving their 'anshan' midway.

Bharatiya Janata Party chief Nitin Gadkari yesterday stressed that Team Anna could not become an alternative to the BJP and also said his party did not face any threat from the new group.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Ambika Soni Thursday said their move to form a political alternative would make them realise the responsibilities and compulsions of being in politics.

"Personally I don't approve of Team Anna's entry into politics. It should have remained a social movement," said Pushpendra Sharma, a 24-year-old student. "The movement has not died, it has committed suicide."

US extends Myanmar import ban

AFP, Washington

The US Congress on Thursday extended a ban on imports from Myanmar, seeking to maintain pressure despite a series of reforms in the country that have prompted an easing of other sanctions.

The Senate and House of Representatives voted separately to extend by one year a ban on all imports from the country formerly known as Burma, which was ruled for decades by generals who gave power to a nominal civilian last year.

President Barack Obama has eased other restrictions on Myanmar in hopes of encouraging reform. On July 11, he gave the green light to US companies to invest in Myanmar and partner with its controversial state oil and gas company.

Lawmakers said they were also encouraged by recent changes in Myanmar, including the election of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi to parliament, but wanted to maintain leverage to press for greater improvements.

"By renewing this bill today and keeping the measure on the books even as we are open to new flexibilities, we will help send a strong signal to those in Burma," Representative Joe Crowley, a member of Obama's Democratic Party, said on the House floor.

Republican Representative David Dreier said he would visit Myanmar next week and believed that the extension of sanctions "can play a role in continuing to encourage the positive reforms that we are seeing take place."

Robot rover nears Mars

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Engineers told reporters on Thursday that they were close to a bulls-eye.

A slight course correction - the fourth since launch - was instigated last Saturday, and the latest analysis indicates Curiosity will be no more than a kilometre from going straight down its planned "keyhole".

"We are about to land a small compact car on the surface with a trunk-load of instruments. This is a pretty amazing feat getting ready to happen. It's exciting, it's daring - but it's fantastic," said Doug McCuiston, the head of NASA's Mars programme.

Curiosity - also known as the Mars Science Laboratory

- is the biggest, most sophisticated Mars rover yet.

It will study the rocks inside Gale Crater, one of the deepest holes on Mars, for signs that the planet may once have supported microbial life.

The \$2.5b mission is due to touch down at 05:31 GMT Monday 6 August.

It will be a totally automated landing.

Engineers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, can only watch and wait.

The vast distance between Mars and Earth means there is a 13-minute lag in communications, making real-time intervention impossible.

Nasa has had to abandon the bouncing airbag approach to making soft landings.

This technique was used to great effect on the three previous rovers - Sojourner, Spirit and Opportunity.

But at nearly a tonne, Curiosity is simply too heavy to be supported by inflated cushions.

Instead, the mission team has devised a rocket-powered, hovering crane to lower the rover to the surface in the final moments of its descent.

The team is also keeping a sharp eye on the Martian weather and any atmospheric conditions that might interfere with the

descent manoeuvres.

It is the time of year when winds can kick up huge clouds of dust, and a big storm was spotted this week about 1,000 km from the landing site. But Nasa expects this storm to dissipate long before landing day.

The first black-and-white images of the surface taken by Curiosity should be returned to Earth in the first hours after touch down, but the mission team do not intend to rush into exploration.

The rover has a plutonium battery that should give it far greater longevity than the solar-panelled power systems on previous vehicles.

Friendship core

FROM PAGE 1

announced himself to the Games with a bold 'this is my time' was left licking his wounds. With such intense competition, it would be perfectly normal for both to develop attrition towards each other.

But watching them together at the press conference on Thursday night, you could tell that beyond the pool, these guys were the best of friends.

"He is the toughest racer I have ever swum with," said Lochte. "We have been racing for eight years now and the rivalry that we have created has been tremendous for the sport."

"But the friendship we created also is awesome. Hopefully I will still see him around but I am going to miss racing him," admitted Lochte as Phelps made his cartoonish entrance.

Their camaraderie was instantly obvious. Lochte was asked whether it was true that in Beijing he ate McDonald's for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Before he could answer, Phelps was nodding his head vigorously. "I witnessed that," he said. Lochte laughed and admitted that he was guilty as charged.

"I am definitely eating McDonald's tonight as well," said Lochte.

He deserves it too; it was his birthday on Friday.

Phelps was in a mood, happy to joke around with the press. It seemed that winning his individual gold had done wonders to relieve the pressure he must have been under.

"Obviously it was a relief to win an individual gold, and special to 'threepeat'. I fell short in the first couple of events, but to be able to do something that no male has

ever done in the sport is a pretty cool feeling," said Phelps.

He also admitted that London 2012 would definitely be his swansong.

"There will be no more competitive swimming. There will not be any Masters," said Phelps. I came over from Bubba [Watson USA Golfer] and he said I'm a good swimmer but still terrible at golf. So maybe I'll challenge him to swimming and we can go on a golf course after that, that will be my competitive swimming after I'm done," said Phelps to much laughter.

But the swimming legend was not done. Lochte who had come into the press conference much before Phelps was being excused early. Phelps would have none of it.

"Why does he get to go? He is done. There is no more

competition for him! I got two more [races] to go!" he said.

"It's my birthday," said Lochte, before beating a hasty retreat. "I will text you," he said before heading out.

It was the last time those two shared a podium and so it bought to an end one of the best rivalries the sport of swimming had ever witnessed. London was nowhere near as close as it was built up to be. But then again, London had hardly gone as predicted for either man. Lochte finished with two silvers, two bronzes, and a fourth. Phelps has two golds, two silvers, one fourth with two more events still to come. But against each other, they are done.

Phelps and Lochte may go down in swimming history as the greatest of rivals but outside of it, they will spend the best part of their lives as the best of friends as well.

Jamaat eating iftar

FROM PAGE 20

of Ramadan that began on July 21. Party leaders alleged that police intercepted the processions everywhere.

Jamaat then revised its strategy and took up the present programme considering it the best way to strengthen the party and to step up the campaign against the government, and detention and trial of its top leaders.

Party leaders including Ghulam Azam, Motiur

Rahman Nizam and Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed are now in jail and are being tried on charges of war crimes.

Asked about the iftar parties-discussion meetings, Jamaat leader and lawmaker Hamidur Rahman Azad, however, said these are routine activities of the party and all its units. "We always organise such programmes during Ramadan," he added.

The party started its pres-

ent programme by holding an iftar party in honour of the foreign diplomats in Dhaka on July 22, the second day of Ramadan.

Jamaat's Nayeb-e-Ameer AKM Nazir Ahmad made a brief speech before the diplomats, saying that the party's top leaders were detained and put on trial under a black law, and they were being tortured.

"Everything the government is doing in the name of trial of war criminals is

against international rules and regulations," he said.

Asked to explain, Nazir advised this correspondent to talk to Azad, and said, "Brother I am a sick person. Sometimes I attend a few programmes, nothing else."

And Islami Chhatra Shibir organised an iftar party a few days ago at a city hotel.

Taking part in the discussion there, Jamaat and Shibir leaders bitterly criticised the government "for failing to run the country."

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Hiring Human Resource Recruitment and Consulting Firm

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

UNDP Bangladesh seeks Proposals from interested Companies for "Hiring Human Resource Recruitment and Consulting Firm". All interested companies may request the Bidding documents (RFP) from manzurul.hasan@undp.org by a formal request to UNDP that will register bidders into participants list, so any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and respective answers can be sent to all bidders.

Submission of Proposal: The envelope should state the tender subject mentioned above and should be submitted to the **UNDP -Registry**, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

The deadline for submission of proposal is **August 28, 2012, 04.30 p.m. Local Time.**

বাংলাদেশ সাবমেরিন কেবল কোম্পানি লিমিটেড (বিএসসিসিএল)

Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited (BSCCL)

Shifting of Corporate & Registered Office

We have already shifted our Registered and Corporate Office as per the following:

Bangladesh Submarine Cable Co. Ltd (BSCCL)

Rahmans' Regnum Centre (7 & 8th Floor)

191, Tejgaon Gulshan Link Road, Dhaka-1208.

Phone: 8879194-5

Fax: 8879193

Website: www.bsccl.com.bd

Our valued shareholders, customers and well-wishers are requested to communicate with the above address.

GD-3038

ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LTD.

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Ashuganj, B.Baria-3402, Bangladesh

Fax: +88-08528-74014, 74044

E-mail: apscl@apscl.com, apsclbd@yahoo.com, Website: www.apscl.com

Memo No.: APSCCL/MD/Project-450MW (North)/2012/1490 Date: 19-07-2012

Invitation for Bids

Project Title : Construction of Ashuganj 450 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (North)

ADB Loan No. and Title : Loan No. 2769-BAN, Power System Efficiency Improvement Project

IDB Agreement No. and Title : BD-0163: Ashuganj Power Station Efficiency Improvement Project

Deadline for submission of Bid : 20-10-2012 at 12:00 Hrs BST

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Islamic Development Bank (IDB) towards the cost of Power System Efficiency Improvement Project and it is intended that a Part of this loan will be used for payments under the contract named above. Bidding is open to eligible bidder(s) from eligible source countries of ADB and IDB.
- Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd. (APSCCL), ("the Employer"), an enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Detailed Engineering, Design, Manufacture/Procurement, Inspection, Testing, Delivery to site, Installation, Construction of related civil works, Commissioning and Performance test on turnkey basis of Ashuganj 450 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (North). The Plant capacity shall be in the range of 450MW ± 20% net at site ambient conditions of 35°C, 1.013 bar atmospheric, 98% relative humidity. The configuration of the plant shall be 2: 2: 1 or 1: 1: 1. Fuel shall be natural gas supplied from Bakhrabad Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited and generated power will be evacuated to 400 KV national grid through new 400 KV GIS Sub-Station.
- International competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB's "Two Stage" Bidding Procedure.
- To be qualified for bidding against this IFB:

The prospective Bidder shall have essential experiences in the supply, construction, testing & commissioning of at least one Combined Cycle Power Plant having minimum capacity of 360 MW within the last 10 years. The plant shall have at least three (3) years of satisfactory operating experience.

(Note: Only important qualification criteria are mentioned above briefly. To know the other qualification criteria, intending bidders are advised to inspect the Bidding Document by visiting the website of APSCCL.
- To obtain further information and inspect the bidding document, bidders should contact:

Company Secretary
Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.
Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria-3402; Bangladesh
Tel: 0088 08528 74647
Fax: 0088 08528 74014, 0088 08528 74044
E-mail address: companysecretary@apscl.com
Website: www.apscl.com
- A complete set of bidding documents (in English) may be purchased by any interested eligible bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fees of BDT.30,000.00 or US\$ 400.00 on submission of a written application to the address below only during normal office hours on all working days till 18-10-2012. The method of payment will be either in Pay Order or Demand Draft in favor of the Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited, Ashuganj; Brahmanbaria; Bangladesh.
- Bid must be delivered to the Project Director, Ashuganj 450 MW CCPP (North), Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd., Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria-3402, Bangladesh on or before 12:00 noon Bangladesh Standard Time on 20-10-2012. Bidders are requested to submit sealed envelope. The technical bids will be opened immediately after the deadline in the presence of bidders representatives who choose to attend.
- APSCCL will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders on connection with the preparation or delivery of bids, site visits, etc.
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject all bids without explaining any reason.

19.7.2012
Company Secretary
Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.
Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria-3402; Bangladesh