

# Give full autonomy to central bank

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the banking centre at Brac Centre Inn in the capital.  
The central bank should be given full authority, said lawmaker Tajul Islam, chief of a sub-committee of the parliamentary body on the finance ministry.  
An independent lawmaker, Fazlul Haq Azim, echoed his view.

"If the government thinks the Bangladesh Bank lacks anything, we have to identify them. We should not keep any scope for confrontational activities in the financial sector," said Tajul.  
On the loan scam, he suggested finding out the beneficiaries of the loans swindled out of Sonali

Bank's Ruposhi Bangla branch against forged documents and sought their punishment.  
He and other participants at the programme blamed the scam on the bank's failure in its internal control mechanism, BB's lack of supervision, the finance ministry's control over state banks and

appointment of directors to the bank's board on political considerations.  
Bangladesh Bank Deputy Governor SK Sur Chowdhury took issue with the allegation of BB's weak supervision and monitoring.  
BB conducts an audit annually. It inspects 100 branches of Sonali Bank

of its 1200 branches. As money transactions in the Ruposhi Bangla branch were very few in the past, BB had not inspected it, the BB official said.  
"Miscreants have chosen the branch very tactfully," he said, adding the Ruposhi Bangla branch was a quiet branch and that its function had been

limited to dealing with depositors.  
CPD Chairman Rehman Sobhan and Head of Research Fahmida Khatun in a keynote paper said the amount disbursed by the Sonali Bank branch in loans was 320 percent of the bank's paid-up capital.  
Rehman Sobhan said the default loan culture that had begun with Shilpa Rin Sangstha and Shilpa Bank has gone on for the last three decades.  
If all the default loans and those written off were added up, he said, "The figures would really defy our imagination. So, what we see is just a cumulative process of lack of financial governance."  
Salehuddin Ahmed,

former governor of BB, said, "When I was leaving [the bank], I told policymakers, 'Please don't constitute the banking division'".  
Monetary policy cannot be properly implemented if the central bank does not enjoy full autonomy.  
Citing a recurrence of financial misdeeds, former commerce minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury said, "Those who have created the banking division should be held responsible first."  
A money-making machine has been set up at the finance ministry by curbing the authority of the central bank, he said, and this banking division was deciding who would be appointed to the boards

of state-run banks and other banking activities.  
"We are just systematically destroying all the [financial] institutions. Even after repeated disaster, nothing is being done to protect them."  
Nurul Amin, chairman of the Association of Bankers, Bangladesh, blamed the Sonali Bank board for the loan scam.  
He suggested setting up a body to detect financial fraud.  
CPD distinguished fellow Debapriya Bhattacharya demanded that the beneficiaries of the loan scam be found out.  
"It is very important for us to understand whether it is a structural failure in the banking sector," he noted.

# Then PM didn't let DGFI launch probe

**FROM PAGE 1**  
hour statement and fixed November 11 for cross-examination by defence counsels.  
Although the then opposition leader Sheikh Hasina, now prime minister, narrowly escaped death and suffered ear injury in the grenade blasts, 24 other AL activists, including Ivy Rahman, wife of President Zillur Rahman, were killed and around 300 maimed.  
Rumi in his statement said that at about 5:30pm to 5:45pm on August 21, 2004, Col Imam informed him about the attacks over the mobile phone.  
Rumi could reach neither Khaleda nor her ADC as she was at a public rally in Noakhali on the day.  
He over phone requested the prime minister's political secretary, Harris Chowdhury, who was then with Khaleda, to inform her about the attack.  
"Without expressing any reaction regarding the attack, Harris Chowdhury told me that he would pass the information on to the prime minister," Rumi told the court, adding that Harris hung up before he could go into details.

"I contacted state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar over mobile phone. He replied he was in his office and had heard about the incident. He then cut the phone line.  
"Later, I directed CIB director Brigadier Gen Rezzakul Haider and Col Imam to inform me about the incidents in detail. I also directed them to collect video footage and show it to me," said the former DGFI DG.  
"The next morning, Rezzakul informed me that on that night of the incidents, Babar had directed him to destroy two unexploded grenades by army experts. Under that instruction, Rezzakul that night sent army personnel to the place of occurrence. The army men took away two unexploded grenades."  
The next day, August 22, 2004, around 2:00pm, the DGFI DG met Khaleda Zia at her office and sought her permission to conduct an investigation.  
"She [Khaleda] told me that a committee would be formed to enquire into the matter, and that I needn't investigate."  
Later, a meeting was held at the home ministry

about this incident and there Rezzakul Haider Chowdhury represented the DGFI.  
The former DGFI DG said he learnt from Rezzakul that the government-appointed investigation committee could unearth nothing.  
In August 2006, information extracted from Shahedul Alam Bipul, a Huji operative, led Task Force Intelligence (TFI) to interrogate Mufti Abdul Hannan, detained leader of the militant group Harkat-ul-Jihad-al Islami (Huji).  
Hannan told the TFI cell about the involvement of his organisation as well as Tarique Rahman, BNP ministers Babar and Abdus Slam Pintu in the attacks, Rumi said.  
The statements of two other Huji men, including Pintu's brother Moulana Tajuddin, also corroborated Hannan's version.  
Rumi said the DGFI came to know that grenades had been supplied by Tajuddin, who was sent abroad by some of his colleagues in DGFI as per the then BNP government's decision.  
A DGFI representative to the TFI cell informed

Brig Gen Amin and Lt Col Saiful Islam Joarder about Hannan's statement on the August 21 attack.  
Since Mufti Hannan had mentioned the names of two ministers in his statement, the DGFI boss made it known to the prime minister in writing as well as verbally. "She [Khaleda] did not give me any other directive in this regard later."  
Meantime, the Rab DG called him, seeking DGFI help to capture Moulana Tajuddin. Rumi asked Lt Col Saiful Islam Joarder to help the elite crime buster get Tajuddin.  
Saiful told the DGFI boss that there would be a problem if they handed over Tajuddin to Rab.  
"When I asked what the problem was, he [Saiful] said the government was likely to be put in an embarrassing situation."  
A few days after this conversation, Rumi learnt from his colleague Big Gen Amin that Tajuddin, located through Huji founder Moulana Salam, was at a DGFI safe house in Gulshan.  
Rumi directed Amin and Saiful to obtain every bit of information from Tajuddin. Sometime in

October 2006, both officers informed the DGFI chief that Tajuddin's statement matched everything Hannan had revealed.  
Afterwards, Brig Gen Amin and Lt Col Saiful informed Babar and the PM's private secretary-2 (also her nephew) Saiful Islam Duke about Moulana Tajuddin's statement.  
Later the two DGFI officers informed their DG that Babar and Duke had told them about the prime minister's directive on sending Moulana Tajuddin abroad. Tajuddin wanted to go to Pakistan.  
"Then I asked them why they had informed me about Tajuddin's wish to go to Pakistan even though they had made all arrangements," Rumi said.  
Duke is a nephew of the then prime minister while Saiful is Duke's brother-in-law.  
As many DGFI reports were leaked out because of Amin's intimacy with the duo, it was impossible to maintain secrecy about the agency's work.  
"I appealed to the authorities concerned to transfer them. But it was not done," said Rumi.

## Chittagong City Corporation www.ccc.org.bd Invitation for Tender

01.	Ministry/Division	Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives.
02.	Agency	Chittagong City Corporation.
03.	Procuring entity name	Engineering Department, Chittagong City Corporation.
04.	Invitation for	Tender.
05.	Invitation Ref No.	Not applicable.
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
06.	Procurement method	Open Tender Method.
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
07.	Budget & source of fund	GOB Fund.
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
08.	Tender package No.	Not necessary.
09.	Tender package name	Supply of Double Cabin Pickup, Container Mover, Container, Dump Truck & Carrying Dump Truck.
10.	Tender publication date	01-11-2012.
11.	Tender last selling date	26-11-2012.
12.	Tender closing date & time	Date: 27-11-2012 Time: 02.00pm
13.	Tender opening date & time	Date: 27-11-2012 Time: 2.30pm
14.	Name & address of the offices	Address: - Selling tender document: Chief Engineer, CCC, Superintending Engineer and PD CCC, Chief Account Officer, CCC, Divisional Commissioner, Ctg. Division, Ctg. - Receiving tender document: Engineering Department, Chittagong City Corporation, Ctg. - Opening tender document: Tender Opening Committee, Chittagong City Corporation.

<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>		
15.	Eligibility of tenderer	1) Up-to-date trade license. 2) VAT registration certificate. 3) Up-to-date Income Tax clearance certificate. 4) Bank solvency certificate. 5) All activities in connection with the said procurement of supply will be guided as per PPR/2008. 6) All necessary papers in connection with all supplying vehicles shall be submitted along with tender. 7) The original catalogue must be submitted with tender document. Without this tender will be not valid. 8) The tenderer shall be submitted financial & technical offers should be two different enclosed envelope. If the technical offer comply then the financial offer will be opened. 9) The invitation of tender is open for any manufacturer/authorized dealer/authorized supplier of four wheeler motor vehicle having past experience to supply of motor vehicle in any govt./semi-govt./autonomous body.
16.	Brief description of works	Mention in schedule.
17.	Price of tender document	@ Tk. 2,000/-, 4,000/-, 5,000/- & 7,000/- per schedule.
18.	Tender security amount	Double Cabin Pickup Tk- 1,19,700/-, Container Mover Tk- 6,27,000/-, Container Tk- 68,400/-, Dump Truck Tk- 11,97,000/-, Carrying Dump Truck Tk- 4,27,500/- Security Amount "Mayor, Chittagong City Corporation" as Pay-Order/Bank Draft.

<b>DESCRIPTION OF WORK</b>						
19.	Sl. No	Name of work	Location of work	Tender security amount	Price of the tender schedule	Completion time in days
	1.	Supply of 01(one) Unit Double Cabin Pickup.	Dampara Yard	1,19,700/-	2,000/-	As per schedule
	2.	Supply of 04 (four) Unit Container Mover with 4 (four) Unit Container	Do	6,27,000/-	5,000/-	Do
	3.	Supply of 16 (sixteen) Unit Container	Do	68,400/-	2,000/-	Do
	4.	Supply of 14 (fourteen) Unit 3 (three) Ton Capacity Dump Truck	Do	11,97,000/-	7,000/-	Do
	5.	Supply of 05 (five) Unit 5 (five) Ton Capacity Carrying Dump Truck	Do	4,27,500/-	4,000/-	Do

<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>		
20.	Name of the official inviting tender	Engr. Md. Abdul Malek.
21.	Designation of official inviting tender	Superintending Engineer (Mech) & Project Director.
22.	Address of official inviting tender	Chittagong City Corporation.
23.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone No- 031-631389.
24.		This IFT will be available in the website of CPTU.
25.	Remarks	1) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject all tenders. 2) Notice of award will be given after getting recommendation of tender evaluation committee and administrative approval of appropriate authority. 3) All conditions of tender mentioned in schedule. 4) Details information of tenders to collect from Mechanical Engineering Division.
26.	Special instructions	1) If the last date as selling, closing & opening date at tender is disturbed by any holiday unavailable circumstances, the next working day will be applicable for the same respectively. 2) Manufacturer performance guaranty on machinery should be submitted at the time of delivery. 3) Suppliers warranty for spare parts and machineries should be mention.

**Engr. Md. Abul Malek**  
Superintending Engineer (Mech) &  
Project Director  
Improvement of Garbage Disposal System of  
Chittagong City Corporation, Chittagong

CCC/PRE-202/12  
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# A brief tale of elections past

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Which one? You can never tell.  
Strange things have happened at America's presidential elections in the last many decades. In 1948, Republican Thomas Dewey went to bed (he slept soundly because the opinion polls have given him a good lead) on voting day imagining he would be the next president. He awoke to discover that Harry Truman, the incumbent, had caused an upset.  
Not all races for the White House had been unpredictable, though. In 1980 and 1984, it was fairly evident to everyone that Ronald Reagan would beat Jimmy Carter and then Walter Mondale in both the popular vote and the electoral vote. But no one could imagine in 1992 that George H W Bush, having helped Kuwaitis get back their country from Saddam

Hussein, would lose to the unknown Bill Clinton. But he did lose.  
Clinton was clever enough to focus on domestic issues. "It's the economy, stupid!" said his posters. Bush's son George W Bush was luckier, even though questions remain about the way Florida and the US Supreme Court might have given him a fraudulent victory over Al Gore in 2000. Bush had 47.9 per cent of the popular vote to Gore's 48.4. In the electoral college, Bush overtook Gore 271 to 266. Four years later, Bush won a second term, against Senator John Kerry, the tally for the former being 50.7 per cent and 45.7 per cent for the latter.  
One of the closest presidential races in modern times was in 1960. Democrat John F Kennedy overcame the religion question (he was a Roman

Catholic) and won his party's nomination. At the election, he eked out a bare 49.7 per cent of the popular vote to Richard Nixon's 49.5. Foul play was suspected in Mayor Richard Daley's Chicago. Four years after JFK's narrow triumph, his successor Lyndon Johnson easily beat off the challenge by Arizona's conservative Senator Barry Goldwater 61.1 per cent to 38.5 per cent. The Vietnam War forced Johnson into renouncing a second term in 1968, a year which saw Eugene McCarthy rise and fall and Robert Kennedy die in Los Angeles.  
Richard Nixon narrowly beat Hubert Humphrey, 43.4 per cent to 42.7 per cent (with 13.5 per cent taken by third party candidate George Wallace). Nixon was more fortunate four years later, when he won reelection by a landslide (67.7

per cent to 37.5 per cent) against the Democrats' George McGovern. Two years later, he was brought down by Watergate.  
Gerald Ford, the man who succeeded Nixon, lost the 1976 election to the relatively unknown Jimmy Carter for three reasons: He had pardoned Nixon over Watergate; the dark legacy of the Nixon White House lingered; and Ford did badly against Carter in the televised presidential debates. Ford garnered 48 per cent of the popular vote to Carter's 50.1. In 1980, Ford appeared willing to be Reagan's running mate but eventually lost out to the senior Bush, who had during the primaries described Reagan's economic policies as voodoo economics.  
The vagaries of American politics have often played havoc with presidential ambitions. As the 2008 campaign com-

menced, it was almost a fait accompli that Senator Hillary Clinton would be the Democrats' nominee in November. Her formidable machine was soon to be destroyed, however, by an upstart Senator Barack Obama, who would eventually go on to beat the Republicans' John McCain 52.9 per cent to 45.7 per cent at the election.  
In modern times, many have been the men who deserved to be president of the United States but fell by the wayside. Nelson Rockefeller could only go up to being unelected vice president under Gerald Ford. Adlai Stevenson lost twice to Dwight Eisenhower. Michael Dukakis failed in 1988 and images of a woman on Gary Hart's lap killed his chances in 1984. Edward Kennedy, badly wounded by Chappaquiddick in 1969, nevertheless campaigned for the nomination in 1980 only to divide the Democratic Party and weaken President Carter.  
Carter and the senior Bush could not win second terms in the White House. John Kennedy was cut down by an assassin in his third year as president. Lyndon Johnson in his own right served a single term. Nixon could not finish his second term and Ford, an unelected president, could not win the White House on his own in 1976.  
Barack Obama, having come to office on a theme of change four years ago, faces an uphill task at today's election. Mitt Romney, whose father George Romney's presidential ambitions were dashed in 1968, has been preparing for the White House for years.




## Vacancy Announcement

The Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction Programme (UPPR) is the largest urban poverty reduction initiative in Bangladesh, and one of the largest in the world. The Programme aims to improve the living conditions and livelihoods of three million urban poor and extreme poor, especially women and girls, in thirty cities and towns by 2015. To expedite and the urban poverty reduction, UPPR is integrating a nutrition component - "Accelerating Improved Nutrition for the Urban Extreme Poor" for addressing the nutritional needs of the extreme urban poor. The activities will include raising awareness, providing nutrition supplements and building institutional capacity of the community organizations and other stakeholders for strengthening and sustaining program impact.

UPPR invites applications from highly qualified and experienced professionals to fill the following vacancies:

**For Nutrition Component**

- **Nutrition Expert** (24 posts in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna & Rajshahi regions)
- **Monitoring and Evaluation Expert**

**For Poverty Reduction/Regular activity**

- **Town Manager** (3 posts)
- **Monitoring and Evaluation Expert**

For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than **17 November, 2012**.