

Will the ghost of 2005 return?

FROM PAGE 1
Their boycott also diminished the EC's hope to have a political consensus over some crucial electoral issues like redrawing the boundaries of parliamentary constituencies.

Now it has been made clear that the current EC will not get any cooperation from the opposition parties until or unless the modalities regarding an election time government are specifically defined. The BNP, which rejected the appointment of the current EC, has of late been saying that before a resolution of the caretaker issue, it will not sit with the EC to discuss any electoral issue.

In the prevailing political situation, chances of a possibility of the widening gap between the ruling

Awami League and opposition BNP getting minimised over the election time interim government are very slim.

So, the EC may have to proceed with its preparatory work for holding the next parliamentary election after a year without having any cooperation from the opposition parties, which is an alarming sign for it. Now there is also a possibility of heightened controversy over the EC's tasks as the BNP-led opposition parties have been questioning the neutrality and efficiency of the EC. Some BNP leaders have already spoken of a reconstitution of the EC after a resolution of the issue of an election time government.

The current situation reminds one of the scene in

2005 when the Justice MA Aziz-led EC was mired in political controversy. His appointment had not been accepted by then AL-led opposition parties, which also announced that free and fair polls would not be possible under the Aziz-led EC. Then the EC had invited over 100 political parties seeking their opinion on preparation of electoral rolls. The AL-led opposition parties boycotted the talks as they were demanding reforms in the EC and the caretaker government. At that time, the AL-led opposition vehemently opposed then retired chief Justice KM Hasan's leading the caretaker government to assist the EC in holding the polls in early 2007.

Under the leadership of Justice MA Aziz, the EC was

finally caught in political controversy over its whimsical and farcical activities, including preparation of a fake voter list, which contributed largely to circumstances leading to the declaration of a state of emergency in January 2007 to avert a grave political turmoil.

Now, some political analysts have questioned whether BNP-led opposition parties' boycott of electoral talks with the EC is a sign of a beginning of a repetition of the incidents which took place in the times of the Aziz-led EC?

One thing is, however, clear: the prevailing situation will contribute to a deterioration of the image of the EC built by Shamsul Huda's team between 2007 and 2012.

Moreover, the current EC constituted in February this year could not live up to people's high expectations or match the standards set by Shamsul Huda, who was also lucky as he and his team did not have to face much political opposition since their appointments were made during the caretaker government led by Fakhruddin Ahmed.

And the then caretaker government backed by the army extended all-out support to the EC led by Huda to accomplish his mission. Huda thus had almost a smooth political landscape to carry out some gigantic tasks, including preparation of a voter list with photographs and introduction of political parties' registration with the EC through

sweeping electoral reforms. And the electoral reforms brought about at the time also gave birth to a new electioneering culture in the country.

Incumbent CEC Kazi Rakibuddin and his team got a different political atmosphere. And the coming days may be more crucial for them. The past record may not be encouraging for them as so far three CECs have had to resign in the last one and half a decade following political parties' opposition.

The country's political landscape is so bitterly fractured and confrontational, so much so that it never allows institutions to grow independently. What's waiting for the current EC? Only time will say.

Part of park

FROM PAGE 20
Witnesses said 20 to 25 land grabbers posted two signboards of Awami Bastuhara League and Hotel Sramik League in the northeast corner of the ground in the dark. The value of the grabbed land is about Tk 15 crore, sources said.

The signboards claim Hasina, also president of ruling Awami League, is the chief adviser and main patron of the two organisations.

Cox's Bazar Nagarik Samaj leader Fazlul Quader Chowdhury demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the grabbers.

Awami Bastuhara League Cox's Bazar district unit president Hafizur Rahman admitted the matter saying they had applied to the district administration for a lease of the land.

Contacted, Additional Deputy Commissioner Md Abdur Rauf said he

would look into the matter. Administrative measures would be taken to evict the illegal occupants from the land, he added.

Jatiya Sramik League district unit president Habibur Rahman said he did not know anything in this regard.

SSC exams

FROM PAGE 1
duct the SSC, Dakhil and SSC vocational examinations.

The routine will be available on Dhaka education board's website (www.dhakaeducationboard.gov.bd) and also those of the other boards.

The examinees can collect their admit cards from their respective schools three days before the examinations begin.

This year's SSC examination taken by over 14 lakh candidates commenced on February 1

Recognise Rohingyas as Myanmar citizens

FROM PAGE 20
Valerie Amos spent two days in Dhaka on the first leg of her week-long three-nation visit that will also take her to Myanmar today and Thailand on Saturday.

Amos, the first black woman ever in a UK cabinet and also the first black Leader of the British House of Lords, appreciated that Bangladesh played host to

Rohingya refugees in the past, and said she also expect that when "they're (Rohingyas) persecuted, they get some supports."

Without giving details, Amos said she had talks with the Bangladesh foreign minister on Rohingya issue as well. Besides, she had meetings with the disaster management minister, non-governmental organisations

and the UN Country Team in Bangladesh to discuss disaster preparedness.

In Myanmar, Amos said, the violence in Rakhine state has affected all communities, but particularly the Rohingyas. Her office allocated \$11 million this year for humanitarian relief. A Saudi government pledge of \$50 million, she said, would help humanitarian agencies

to step up their activities in Myanmar, and help "us to reach more people."

During her visit to Myanmar, Amos is expected to highlight humanitarian concerns in that country and discuss with the Myanmar authorities concrete steps to address the challenges and moves towards reconciliation and stability. She is scheduled to

visit the trouble-torn Rakhine State apart from visiting the nation's capital.

In Thailand, Amos is scheduled to hold a press briefing in Bangkok on December 8 to talk with the regional media about her mission and its findings.

She said Bangladesh is an example of good risk management capabilities with its records of minimising casualties in big disasters. "This is also one of the reasons why I am here -- to learn from Bangladesh's experience and apply Bangladesh examples elsewhere."

While praising the country's cyclone preparedness, Amos underscored the need for further consolidating the nation's preparedness to tackle any eventuality of earthquakes striking the country.

In this regard, she mentioned the recent appointment of a humanitarian affairs adviser at the UN Resident Coordinator's office in Dhaka.

Gerson Brandao, the adviser, who was sitting near her during the interview, said Bangladesh targeted to train up 62,000 volunteers to assist government agencies in any eventuality of tremors striking the country, and "so far, 18,000 are already trained up."

Through different UN agencies, Bangladesh got support worth \$31 million in 2011, said Brandao. The

country also hosted a Saarc region workshop on cooperation on search and rescue operations in May this year.

Amos said, "Outstanding thing here (in Bangladesh) is good presence of volunteer community. When disaster strikes, community knows the best about how to tackle the aftermath."

Her colleague from the Bangkok regional office Oliver Lacey-Hall, who also was present during the interview, said Bangladesh contributed hugely in drafting a guide for disaster management, which should be ready for publication and dissemination throughout the world by the turn of the year.

Expressing a deep sense of sorrow at so many fire deaths in Bangladesh's garment industry, Amos said, "We always encourage the governments to ensure building code in setting up factories and also ensuring proper fire exits in factories where large number of workers are employed."

According to statistics provided by Amos, the UN coordinated humanitarian relief for 56 million people in 33 countries last year. But, she said, overall needs were even greater than that. Disasters and emergencies affected 245 million people and caused record-breaking economic losses of \$366 billion, she added.

Invitation for Tender for the Procurement of the Construction of Training Centre Building and Equipment for The Programme for Improvement of Solid Waste Management in Dhaka City Toward the Low Carbon Society in the People's Republic of Bangladesh under Japan's Grant Aid for Environment and Climate Change		
01	Source of Fund	The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received Grant Aid of Japanese Yen 1,215,000,000 from the Government of Japan for the purchase of goods and services necessary for the Programme for Improvement of Solid Waste Management in Dhaka City Toward the Low Carbon Society in the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
02	Procuring Method	International Open Tendering Method (IOTM)
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
03	Description of Works	Construction of training centre building in Dhaka North City and procurement of equipment (1 Lot)
04	Tender Schedule	Firms or companies who are interested in the tenders are requested to access the web site of Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) for more details and obtaining the Tender Documents; URL: http://www.jics.or.jp from 4 th December to 12 th December, 2012. IMPORTANT: Please call +880-191-6931-383 before coming to purchase tender document. Distribution of Tender Documents: 10:00 4th December, 2012 – 16:00 12th December, 2012 Last date of Question from Tenderers: 17:00 13th December, 2012 Last date of Answer to Question and Amendment: 17:00 20th December, 2012 Closing date for Submission of Tender: 17:00 8th January, 2013 Tender Opening including the Tender Price: 10:00 10th January, 2013
05	Name & Address of the Offices Selling Tender Documents Receiving Tender Documents	Name: Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) Address: Waste Management Department, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), 81 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan, Dhaka
PACKAGE INFORMATION and INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
06	Package	Package No. 3
07	Lot No.	4
08	Description	Construction of training centre building and procurement of equipment
09	Eligibility of Tenderer	1) To be a general construction company who has his registered head, branch, and/or liaison office in Bangladesh. 2) Not black-listed or not suspended from participating in tenders by major governmental institutions in Bangladesh and Japan at the time of tender closing.* 3) To have at least one (1) fiscal year black in the last consecutive three (3) years for ordinary profit and no accumulated deficit. 4) To have experiences of completing at least three (3) construction works of a similar nature as prime contractor for the last five (5) years, among which at least one (1) work shall be of the amount of not less than Three Hundred Thousand US Dollars (US\$300,000). The meaning of the term "similar nature" is defined as follows: (i) Building construction for the use of office, workshop and so on (ii) Electrical and plumbing construction works shall be inclusive. Applicants shall attach photocopies of Completion Certificates of the said construction works. 5) To have minimum amount of funds/liquid assets and credit facilities from its bank(s) shall be not less than ten percent (10%) of the proposed Tender price. 6) To have minimum level of personnel capacity to qualify for the performance of the Works under the Contract. 7) To have access to major items of construction equipment proposed to carry out the Contract. 8) To have means of communication by e-mail. 9) All the claims, arbitration or other litigation cases have been satisfactorily resolved or otherwise, they shall have no serious negative impact on the financial capacity of the Tenderer. *In case that the firms or companies are black-listed or suspended from participating in Tenders and/or their products are refrained from purchase by major governmental institutions of Japan and Bangladesh at the closing time of Tender, they may not be awarded as the successful Tenderer in this Tender. Such firms or companies' involvement in this project as subcontractors may be also rejected. The products and services of such firms or companies may be excluded from the procurement through this Tender.
10	Completion time in months	Within thirteen (13) months from the start date
11	Price of Tender Document	3,000Tk. only per set.
12	Other details	Refer to Tender Documents
13	Tender Security Amount	Not less than five percent (5%) of tender price
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
14	Name & Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Hidekazu TANEMURA (Mr.), Project Manager Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) JICS acts as a competent Agent for and on behalf of Dhaka North City Corporation to procure the goods and incidental services utilizing the fund available. The agent is also delegated to conclude contract(s) with the Contractor(s) and to make a payment to the Contractor(s).
15	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Refer to Tender Documents
16	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone: +81-3-5369-7241 (Mr. Tanemura) Mobile Phone: +880-191-6931-383 (Mr. Repon Khan) E-mail: community_jics@kdr.biglobe.ne.jp
17	JICS reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. The procurements are governed by the laws of Japan and JICA's Procurement Guidelines of Japan's Programme Grant Aid for Environment and Climate Change. PPA and PPR of the People's Republic of Bangladesh shall not be applied to the procurements.	

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১	প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম	ছাতক সিমেন্ট কোম্পানী লিমিটেড, ছাতক, সুনামগঞ্জ।
২	ক্রম পদ্ধতি	প্রতিদ্বন্দ্ব
৩	অর্ধের উৎস	নিম্নস্থ তহবিল।
৪	দরপত্রের সূত্র নং ও তারিখ	(ক) সিসিআইসি/পার/এ/৮/৪/২০১২-২০১৩/১০৪১ তারিখ ০২-১২-২০১২ইং। (খ) সিসিআইসি/পার/এ/মোহাম্মদ/ফাইন/২০১২-২০১৩/১০৪৩ তারিখ ০২-১২-২০১২ইং।
৫	মালামাল / কাজের বিবরণ	(ক) সেল শাইনার। (খ) এক এক এস জলাপের ব্রাই হুইল মোরাম।
৬	দরপত্র দাখিল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৭-১২-২০১২ইং। (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)।
৭	দরপত্র দাখিল দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৮-১২-২০১২ইং বিকাল ৩-০০ ঘটিকা
৮	দরপত্র দাখিল খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১৮-১২-২০১২ইং বিকাল ৩-১৫ ঘটিকা।
৯	দরপত্রের মেয়াদ	দরপত্র খোলার দিন হতে ৯০ দিন পর্যন্ত।
১০	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তি স্থান (কারখানা অফিস)	মহাব্যবস্থাপক (হিসাব ও অর্থ), ছাতক সিমেন্ট কোম্পানী, ছাতক, সুনামগঞ্জ এর কার্যালয়।
১১	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তি স্থান (অন্যান্য)	(ক) হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বিসিআইসি, বিসিআইসি ভবন, ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা, বা/এ, ঢাকা। (খ) উর্ধ্বতন মহাব্যবস্থাপক, বিসিআইসি শাখা অফিস, ৬-আমাবাদ বা/এ, চুয়াবন্দা।
১২	দরপত্র গ্রহণের স্থান ও ঠিকানা	মহাব্যবস্থাপক (বাণিজ্যিক), ছাতক সিমেন্ট কোম্পানী পিএ এর কার্যালয়।
১৩	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান ও ঠিকানা	মহাব্যবস্থাপক (বাণিজ্যিক), ছাতক সিমেন্ট কোম্পানী পিএ এর কার্যালয়।
১৪	দরপত্র দাতাদের যোগাযোগ	দরপত্র দাখিলের বর্ণিত প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজ পত্রাদি দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করিতে হইবে :- (ক) বৈধ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স এর সত্যায়িত কপি। (খ) টি আই এন সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি। (গ) মুদ্রক নিবন্ধন সার্টিফিকেট এর সত্যায়িত কপি। (ঘ) দরপত্র ক্রয়ের মূল মানি রশিদ।
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