

The Sitar falls silent

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defiant touch it needed, his own. It was the sitar through which he spoke. And he spoke not through a laboured demonstration of determination to master the art, but through a spontaneous display of emotions that music often brings up in the one who lives and breathes it.

Ravi Shankar was born to create music. There was about the making of melody in Ravi Shankar something that emerged from within, something in the nature of cool water bathing the arid stones of mountains and soaking in spring warmth the fallow earth in the foothills of the mountains.

Ravi Shankar was spring personified, in that metaphorical sense of the meaning. In the literal, he was the child of spring, for it was on an April day that the earth welcomed him into its bosom. And then began a long life that would only be a long train of spring songs that he would create for the world to hear. Branching out into the world beyond India with elder brother Uday Shankar at the tender age of ten, it was the future that the future maestro deciphered in the capitals of the globe. And that future was not to be had in dancing, a vocation Ravi Shankar had set for himself. He was wise enough to understand that the future lay in a re-creation of the grandeur of the Indian

musical past. Indeed, it was Tansen to whom everyone wished to return; it was heritage flowing from the sitar and the tabla that held everyone in raptures. Ravi Shankar knew then that the sitar was his calling. He went, sitar in hand, to the courtyard of the great man of classical music, none other than Ustad Allauddin Khan. Shankar was eighteen. Khan discerned the future in the youth.

After that there was no stopping the exuberance of the young man. Life was not all about music, but Ravi Shankar persuaded himself into believing that music gave life the notes it needed to give meaning to those who inhabited the world. In time, Shankar would team up with Satyajit Ray to score the music that would turn the latter's Apu Trilogy into a household image around the world. For Shankar as for Ray, perfection was all. Flawed music was no music. That Indian classical music stretched back in time, that it was a harkening back to ages lost in the setting of the sun, was the message Ravi Shankar sought to convey in his odyssey across America and Europe and the Soviet Union in the 1950s and 1960s. To the West, Ravi Shankar's music was a rediscovery of India, of an ancient civilization throbbing with life in modernity. There was the cosmo-

politan in Shankar even as the essence of his melody remained pure Hindustani. He had western music makers and aficionados mesmerized with the way his fingers strummed the sitar. They sought to draw the light and the energy, for their compositions, which shone through in Shankar. Andre Previn and Philip Glass and Yehudi Menuhin were among those proud to be in Shankar's company; and Shankar was cheered by the prospect of his creativity casting its glow in lands that remembered Mozart and Wagner and Haydn. Ravi Shankar strummed for Gandhi, the movie. In the late 1980s, he would send people into spasms of ecstasy with the dance drama Ghyansham.

With George Harrison, he of the Beatles, Ravi Shankar was a soul brother. Transfixed by Shankar's sitar, the playing of it, Harrison spent as many as six weeks studying the sitar, its moods and its many nuances, under Shankar. In August 1971, the two men teamed up again --- to inform the world of the brutalities being perpetrated on the people of Bangladesh by the Pakistan occupation army. Harrison sang, Shankar played the table and everyone at New York's Madison Garden and beyond wept. If music could draw attention to a political cause, Shankar

and Harrison did the job terrifically with the Concert for Bangladesh. And Bangladesh has not forgotten.

It is to this great voice of music, our very own Pandit Ravi Shankar, that we pay homage today. He was the subcontinent's Robinadro Shaunkar Chowdhury. In another day and age, he would be

sharing the world of the ancient gods --- Greek or Roman or of Indian mythology --- rocking paradise gently with the leafy strains of the sitar, making the stars go tipsy in the soft cadences of song.

The sitar has fallen silent. Spring is gone and winter winds scream through the bare trees.

Justice Kabir

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judge of Tribunal-1. The two tribunals are dealing with nine crimes against humanity cases of which Tribunal-1 hears four cases.

Justice Obaidul Hassan, a member judge of Tribunal-2, is likely to replace Justice Kabir at the tribunal while Justice Mojibur would join and work alongside judge M ShahinurIslam.

State Minister Qamrul yesterday said the changes at the tribunals were being made as per section 6 (4) of the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973.

The section says, "If any member of a tribunal dies or is, due to illness or any other reason, unable to perform his functions, the government may, by notification in the official gazette, declare the office of such member to be vacant and appoint thereto another person qualified to hold the office."

A law ministry official requesting anonymity told The Daily Star that the decision for reshuffle and the new appointment was made at a meeting of Law Minister Shafique Ahmed, the state minister for law and the high officials at the ministry.

Justice Nizamul Huq resigned amid controversy over the leak of his Skype conversation with an expatriate Bangladeshi legal expert.

Meanwhile, pro-opposition lawyers yesterday demanded restart of all four trials at Tribunal-1 afresh and

removal of Justice Nizamul Huq from the post of High Court judge.

Moudud Ahmed, a senior pro-BNP lawyer, claimed that the proceedings of Tribunal-1 have become illegal, unconstitutional and unacceptable.

He said Justice Huq and expatriate Bangladeshi legal expert Ahmed Ziauddin talked about ongoing proceedings over Skype.

He said the judges' resignation proved that he had indulged in immoral, illegal acts and violated his oath and committed misconduct.

Moudud was speaking at a press conference organised by 18-party alliance backed lawyers at the Supreme Court Bar Association auditorium yesterday afternoon.

Moudud appealed to the president to remove Justice Huq from the office of the High Court judge through formation of a Supreme Judicial Council.

He said just an appointment of a new judge and continuation of the trial proceedings would be unacceptable for the nation as Justice Huq resigned in an abnormal situation.

The BNP leader said Tribunal-1 should start trial proceedings from the beginning to ensure transparency and maintaining international standards.

Pro-Jamaat-e-Islami lawyer Abdur Razzaq demanded an international judicial enquiry into the incident.

Please, find

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said FBCCI President Kazi Akramuddin Ahmed.

Ahmed, who addressed a press conference for the first time after he had been elected president of the country's apex trade body, said political differences were to be settled in parliament through debates and discussions, not by "going on strikes".

The FBCCI was thinking of bringing the two major political parties under one roof for dialogues, Ahmed said.

Replying to queries, he said they wanted the next national elections to be held under a mechanism that was acceptable to all political parties.

"We do not want to say how the elections should be held. All we want is peace."

Earlier in a written statement, Ahmed said socio-economic activities would be hampered most if the recent trend of political conflicts and violence continued.

"It will discourage foreign investments in the country and will also have a negative impact on economic growth and people's income."

Strikes would also hamper export-import activities in Chittagong and Mongla ports and transport of goods across the

country, the FBCCI president said.

The law and order situation has deteriorated due to political violence during the recent hartals and roadblock, which, according to Ahmed, have blemished Bangladesh's image outside the country.

Presenting some key economic statistics, he said Bangladesh earned \$10,133 million through export in the July-November period of the current fiscal year, a 4.36 percent rise year-on-year.

Foreign direct investments during this period were of \$450 million and remittance was \$6.11 billion. Inflation in November was 6.55 percent while the foreign currency reserve stood at \$11.84 billion in December, Ahmed said.

Not only that, the FBCCI chief said, investors from many countries, including China, Thailand, Turkey, Japan and Belarus were considering Bangladesh as an investment destination.

"Amid this situation, we urge all political parties not to announce programmes like hartal that hurt the country's potential to achieve the targeted economic growth and become a mid-income country."

BNP for hard game

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are successful."

Citing the opposition activists' strong presence in the streets during the blockade, two other BNP standing committee members -- Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain and Lt Gen (ret'd) Mahbubur Rahman -- said their movement was "undoubtedly gaining momentum".

"And we will do everything in the coming days to achieve our goal," Mahbubur added. Mosharraf said, "We are finalising our movement strategy in light of the experiences we gathered handling the opposition agitation in the past."

The ruling AL, while in opposition, launched vigorous street agitation against BNP-led government twice -- once between 1994 and early 1996 and again between 2005 and early 2007.

The AL-led opposition enforced violent street agitation including blockade, non-cooperation movement and 96 days of hartal to press home their demand for the caretaker government system.

Amid the opposition's movement and boycott, a farcical parliamentary election was held on February 15, 1996. But the BNP could not retain

power. In the face of violent agitation, it stood down introducing the caretaker government system by amending the constitution in March that year.

The second time, the AL-led opposition launched violent street agitation against the BNP-led government in protest against an attempt to make former chief justice KM Hasan the chief adviser of the caretaker government.

The AL enforced dozens of hartal and other programmes including blockade and siege. The country's politics took a violent turn at the end of 2006 over the appointment of the chief adviser.

The BNP also made desperate efforts to get the parliamentary polls held in January 2007 by putting pressure on the lajuddined caretaker government.

Escalation of violence in the streets during the AL-led opposition's agitation programmes forced the then president to declare a state of emergency, suspending the parliamentary polls.

Whatever party was in opposition, on all the occasions in the past, the country's economy and people had to feel the heat of violent street agitation.

By abolishing the caretaker government system in

June last year, the AL-led government raised spectre of political turmoil.

In the last few days, the way the ruling party men and the opposition activists were locked in street battles in the capital and elsewhere in the country reminds everyone of the scenes of 2006 and early 2007.

"History is repeating itself," commented M Hafizuddin Khan, a former adviser to caretaker government, referring to the street violence during the blockade.

"Violence occurred during the blockade also proved right our long growing fears that political violence would rear its head before the next parliamentary elections," he said while talking to The Daily Star yesterday.

"It is very unfortunate that the political parties are not willing to resolve the ongoing political crisis in light of the previous bitter experiences," he added.

Both the ruling and opposition parties must reach an agreement on the mode of election-time government as the atmosphere conducive to holding free and fair polls under a partisan government has yet to develop in the country, Hafizuddin observed.

BPDB's Local Tender Notice
"বিদ্যুৎ সাস্রয়ী বাতি ব্যবহার করুন"

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/ Power Division.			
2	Agency	Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).			
3	Procuring entity name	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.			
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.			
6	Tender invitation for	Procurement of AAC WAPS(Ins.) Conductor.			
7	Invitation Ref. No.	Pur-164-WAPS/Rev/12-13/			
8	Date	9/12/2012.			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method.			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and source of funds	BPDB's Revenue Budget (Local).			
11	Development partner (if applicable)	N/A.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	N/A.			
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Director, Directorate of Electrical Equipment, BPDB, Dhaka.			
14	Tender package No.	GDL-30(FY: 2012-13).			
15	Tender package name	Procurement of AAC WAPS(Ins.) Conductor.			
16	Tender publication date	10/12/2012.			
17	Tender selling date	12/12/2012 to 14/01/2013.			
18	Tender closing date and time	15/01/2013 at 11:00am.			
19	Tender opening date and time	15/01/2013 at 11:30am.			
20	Name and address of the office	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	- Selling tender document (principal)	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	- Tender selling document (others)	N/A.			
	- Receiving tender document	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	- Opening tender document	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.			
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	N/A.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22	Eligibility of tenderer	Local manufacturer (terms and conditions on qualification criteria have been relaxed for Lot-3).			
23	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of AAC WAPS(Ins.) Conductor.			
24	Brief description of related services	N/A.			
25	Price of tender document (BDT)	Tk. 4,000.00 (four thousand) non-refundable in shape of Pay-Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director, Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
26	Identification of lot	Location of delivery			
	Lot-1	AAC WAPS(Ins.) Conductor-100-KM	Tongi Store	3,30,000/-	Completion of time in days/weeks/months
	Lot-2	AAC WAPS(Ins.) Conductor-100-KM	Fuzderhat Store	3,30,000/-	Completion of supply within 120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of contract signing (90 days for manufacturing & 30 days for inspection & delivery).
	Lot-3	AAC WAPS(Ins.) Conductor-50-KM	Ishurdi Store	1,65,000/-	
27	Validity of tender	120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of opening of tender.			
28	Validity of tender security	148 (one hundred forty-eight) days from the date of opening of tender.			
29	Name of official inviting tender	Abul Baser Khan.			
30	Designation of official inviting tender	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
31	Address of official inviting tender	WAPDA Building (9 th Floor), Motijheel C/A, BPDB, Dhaka.			
32	Contact detail of official inviting	Tel: +88 02 9550532, 7120887, Fax No. +88 02 7126151			
33	Special instructions	Any tender received by the purchaser after the deadline for submission of tenders shall be declared late, will be rejected, and returned unopened to the tenderer. The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender to annul the tender process, or to reject any or all tenders at any time prior to contract award.			
34	This tender will be performed according to "The Public Procurement Rules-2008".				
<p align="center">Abul Baser Khan Director Directorate of Purchase BPDB, Dhaka</p>					

Biddyt/Jana-625(5)/10/12/12
GD-4883

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Chief Engineer
Health Engineering Department (HED)
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
105-106, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

Memo No. HED/HPNSDP/GAVI.HSS-810/2012/214 Dated: 10-12-2012

Invitation for Tender (IFT)

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from among the eligible tenderer for Vertical Extension & Remodeling of EPI store in Noakhali district. The details of tender are shown in the table below:

1	Ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW).		
2	Agency	Health Engineering Department (HED).		
3	Procuring entity name	Chief Engineer, Health Engineering Department, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.		
4	Procuring entity code	None.		
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.		
6	Invitation for	Vertical Extension & Remodeling of EPI Store in Noakhali district.		
7	Invitation Ref. No.	HED/HPNSDP/GAVI.HSS-831/2012/214		
8	Date	10/12/2012.		
KEY INFORMATION				
9	Procurement method	National Competitive Tendering: Open Tendering Method (OTM).		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
10	Budget and source of funds	Project AID under Development Budget.		
11	Development partners	GAVI-HSS		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
12	Project/programme code	5-2701-5480		
13	Project/programme name	Physical Facilities Development under Health, Population & Nutrition Sector Development Program (HPNSDP).		
14	Tender package No.	WP-579/SDP (GAVI) HED		
15	Tender package name	Vertical Extension & Remodeling of EPI Store in Noakhali district.		
16	Tender publication date	13.12.2012.		
17	Tender last selling date and time	Date : 30.12.2012, Time : 17.00 hrs.		
18	Tender closing date and time	Date : 31.12.2012, Time : 14.00 hrs.		
19	Tender opening date and time	Date : 31.12.2012, Time : 15.00 hrs.		
20	Name & address of the office(s) for selling tender document	i. Office of the Chief Engineer, Health Engineering Department, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 105-106, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. ii. Office of the Director General, Directorate of Health Services, Mohakhali, Dhaka. iii. Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division. iv. Superintending Engineer, HED, Circle-2, Chittagong (Comilla). v. Executive Engineer, HED, Noakhali Division.		
21	Name and address of the office for receiving tender document	i. Office of the Chief Engineer, Health Engineering Department, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 105-106, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. ii. Office of the Director General, Directorate of Health Services, Mohakhali, Dhaka. iii. Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.		
22	Name & address of the office for opening tender document	Office of the Chief Engineer, Health Engineering Department, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 105-106, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.		
23	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Pre-tender meeting will be held on 27.12.2012 at 11.00am in HED, Head Office.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
24	Eligibility of tenderer	As mentioned in tender document.		
25	Brief description of works	As mentioned in tender document.		
26	Brief description of related services	Not applicable.		
27	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk. 2000/- (non-refundable) in the form of Pay-Order or Bank Draft in favour of Chief Engineer, HED, Dhaka from any schedule bank of Bangladesh.		
Sl. No.	Identification of package No.	Name of work (location)	Tender security (Taka in lac)	Completion time
1	WP-579/SDP (GAVI) HED	Vertical Extension & Remodeling of EPI Store in Noakhali district.	2.00	5 months
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
28	Name of official inviting tender			
29	Designation of official inviting tender			
30	Address of official inviting tender			
31	Contact details of official inviting tender			
32	Special instructions			

S.M. Hayder Faruque
Executive Engineer
Health Engineering Department
Head Office

GD-4889