

Evaluation of bid again

FROM PAGE 20
However, instructions from the higher authorities compelled the Department of Immigration and Passport (DIP) to take cognisance of the complaints and go for a fresh evaluation.

The home ministry, following media reports and complaints filed by several bidders, asked the DIP to investigate the allegations. The ministry also sent back the evaluation committee's recommendation.

Ministry sources said the evaluation committee did not consider the allegations against De La Rue due to strong political pressure and on the plea of saving money.

Ordered by the home ministry, the DIP on February 11 sent an urgent

email and a fax to the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi to know about the complaints.

The high commission replied the next day, confirming the firm's supply of fake banknote paper and the subsequent rejection of its supply by India in 2010.

In this regard, the Bangladesh mission referred to a question-answer session at Rajya Sabha on December 20, 2011.

The Indian government came to know during July-August 2010 that the paper being supplied by De La Rue was not conforming to some of the prescribed specifications, Indian State Minister for Finance Narain Meena told Rajya Sabha.

"Accordingly, the supply of the paper was suspended. The deficiency in the paper was subsequently admitted by De La Rue also," he noted adding, he was informed that the contract can be terminated relying on the fact that the paper supplied by the company was not strictly as per the contract specifications.

DIP Director General Abdul Mabud confirmed receiving the reply from the Bangladesh high commission. "The technical evaluation committee will sit again to discuss everything about selecting a company for the job."

On September 2 last year, the DIP had invited an international tender to

procure the MRP booklets.

Seven companies bid for the project. Of them, two firms -- De La Rue and Polish Security Printing Works (PWPW) -- met all the physical criteria tested by Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Limited and thus became eligible. The De La Rue quoted \$33 million for the job while the PWPW quoted \$37 million.

It is imperative that the authorities pick a company soon as the procurement of booklets is a lengthy process and the current stock of 6.6 million booklets, procured in 2010, will be exhausted in July, said DIP officials.

Any delay in this regard will have disastrous consequences for people.

Toughest

FROM PAGE 20
While not the most attractive creatures, the small, segmented animals come in many forms.

There are more than 900 species of them and they are found everywhere in the world, from the highest mountains to the deepest oceans.

Boil the one millimetre creatures, freeze them, dry them, expose them to radiation and they are so resilient they will still be alive 200 years later.

Water bears can hack temperatures as low as -457 degrees, heat as high as 357 degrees, and 5,700 grays of radiation, when 10-20 grays would kill humans and most other animals.

The animals can also live for a decade without water and even survive in space.

Nurul Amin's

FROM PAGE 20
adopted as a state language of Pakistan.

The resolution was a significant pointer to the fact that while other Pakistani politicians, including some from East Bengal, were determined to prevent Bangla from being a state language, Nurul Amin spotted logic in the language demand. He was the very first ruling Muslim League politician in office to make known his support for Bangla.

Meanwhile, against the background of the killings of the previous day, students at educational institutions across the province lowered the national flag to half mast as a mark of respect to the martyrs. They organised marches in different areas of Dhaka.

For their part, the authorities appeared determined to give the happenings of February 21 their own bizarre spin. As a press note issued by the government was to observe:

"On the Nawabpur Road another unruly crowd overpowered the police officers in charge of the forces. Since it would not disperse, firing was resorted to in order to disperse it. A lathi charge was also made in the university area."

It was clear the authorities were bent on demonising the students, through reporting at one point that Hasan Ali, minister for communications, had been injured in student violence.

The strike, observed all over the province, went

beyond February 22 and well into the next day. Shops stayed closed and no vehicles were seen on Dhaka streets. Railway workers stayed away from work, which left train services disrupted. Meanwhile, various organisations issued statements severely condemning the police action of February 21.

On February 23 Pakistan's leading English language newspaper, Dawn, based in Karachi, wrote a long editorial on the tragedy of February 21.

Part of the editorial went as follows:

"We can assure the people of East Pakistan that the people of West Pakistan will not grudge them the equality with Urdu which Bengali has at last won."

The moment of resistance

FROM PAGE 1
acknowledged the reality of the existence of this people's republic, would be a mistaken assumption.

Quader Mollah's notorious flash of that victory sign on the day the judgement was pronounced was just one of the brazen ways in which the stooges of the Pakistan occupation army have continued to demonstrate their contempt for this land they so happily molested all those years ago.

It is a sinister thought these old Pakistani collaborators have passed on to the generation of fanatics that came after them. In the 1980s and 1990s, activists of the Islami Chhatra Shibir went around displaying the new methods they had come to learn as a way of advancing their macabre politics. And then they informed a horrified country that they were ready to apply that learning in all its ferocity. A long process of cutting off veins and slicing away tendons -- of those they considered their enemies -- followed.

The law was powerless to haul them to the citadels of justice, for they were protected by men and women too keen on holding on to power and too indifferent to the damage that was being done to the

nation. Their mentors in the party, both those who helped Pakistan's soldiers in their mission of killing Bangalees and those who came of age in the darkness following the tragedy of August-November 1975, saw little reason to discourage such outrage committed in the name of faith.

In time, these friends of the Pakistan army came to share the political dais with men and women in a political party whose founder had caused something of a turning back of the clock in his five-year dictatorial moment. He helped these collaborators in their rehabilitation. His spouse took them right into her government. No one in that family-led dispensation cared to remember the three million dead of 1971, the scores of Bangalee intellectuals murdered on the eve of Liberation.

The Nazis never came back after the fall of Hitler. The men of the Vichy regime went to the gallows after the liberation of France in 1944. Japanese prime ministers have been excoriated over their visits to Yasukuni, where Tokyo's war criminals lie buried. Ironically for Bangladesh, all the collaborators of Pakistan not only survived

but came back to deliver the ultimate insult to Bangalees-- through becoming ministers and members of parliament, through refusing to admit their crimes.

And today, it is their political descendants who pounce on the police, set vehicles afire and brazenly demand that the men now on trial for war crimes be freed and the trials abandoned altogether. That they can kill, in the manner of the generation of criminals preceding theirs, is a warning they have now sounded through the murder of Ahmed Rajib Haidar.

Rajib's death only reinforces the national feeling that these war criminals and their followers must be steadily and forcefully marginalised if this country means to keep its self-esteem intact. This murder is a call to everyone who remembers the War of Liberation, who believes in Bangladesh, to come together in a decisive struggle against the enemies of the state.

The exigencies are simple to understand: not partisan politics, not the sophistry over Joy Bangla (and that is our eternal slogan), not the narrow interests of the present but the broad future of this

nation which is at peril. It is that future we need to save, across our differences on the political plane. And we can save the future through repudiating, once and for all, the dark forces which did everything they could to prevent our rise as a free people and which have been doing all they can to turn us away from our glorious past and back into the medievalism where fanaticism scars the beauty of faith, where killing men and women in the name of God is sport.

The moment for resistance is upon us. Remember the three million dead, remember the bodies of our illustrious fellow citizens in the brickfields of Rayerbazar, remember the steady manner in which all our liberation heroes, from our founding fathers to our brave freedom fighters, were pushed to their deaths in the horrible mid-1970s to early 1980s.

And when you remember, you will know what needs to be done. Those tens of thousands of our young are out there at Projonmo Chottor, in homage to Rajib. Join them in raising once more the militant Joy Bangla slogan and purge this country of the enemies lurking within its sacred territory.

Govt to build

FROM PAGE 1
voiced for the Malaysian investment. Both Malaysia and China have already placed formal proposals to the government to finance the \$ 2.9-billion project.

Early this month, China has proposed to bear around \$ 2 billion for the project on build-operate-transfer (BOT) basis with Bangladesh having to pay no interest for 20 years. Based on the existing design, China has proposed to construct the bridge in three years.

However, the interest rate of the Chinese loan after the grace period could not be known yet.

On the other hand, Malaysia proposes to build the bridge in three years as well and operate it for 35 years to cover the capital and profit before transferring it to Bangladesh.

Malaysian prime minister's special envoy Dato Seri S Samy Vellu is scheduled to arrive in Dhaka today to discuss their investment. Highly-placed sources said ministers Muhith and Quader would begin formal negotiation with the Malaysian envoy

tomorrow.

If everything went according to plan, Prime Minister Hasina would soon talk with the Malaysian premier to reach an agreement regarding the project, said sources.

Negotiations with Asian Development Bank (ADB), Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) and Islamic Development Bank (IDB) over the project implementation will also continue, added the sources.

The government was keen to construct the 6.15-kilometre bridge under BOT system so that it need not to finance the bridge, said sources, adding that Malaysia, which had earlier signed a memorandum of understanding with Bangladesh, had softened its terms and conditions in line with Bangladesh's proposal.

Another source said even if Malaysia opted for building the bridge, China would play a leading role in constructing it.

"We will go for the option that protects the country's interest the most," Communications

Minister Obaidul Quader told The Daily Star, adding that they were planning to form a consortium with different countries which would finance and construct different segments of the bridge.

He said the government might use for the Padma bridge project the \$ 200 million grant from India's \$ 1 billion credit.

"But nothing has been finalised yet. The Prime Minister will officially unveil the government's plans on March 2," Quader added.

Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to unveil the construction plan of the bridge on March 2 at a rally in Madaripur. The very day she will visit the Jazira point of the Padma River in Shariatpur district, inaugurate the river-bank protection works and address a rally there.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister AMA Muhith has recently told parliament that the government would build the Padma bridge with domestic resources keeping the present design intact.



On February 1, the gov-

ernment sent a letter to the World Bank withdrawing the request for financing the Padma bridge project. On January, 23, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said the government would construct the Padma bridge with funds from alternative sources, if the World Bank by January did not give any decision on financing the project.

The WB on June 29, 2012 had cancelled its \$ 1.2 billion funding in the project, saying it had proof of a "corruption conspiracy" in the project involving Bangladeshi officials, executives of a Canadian firm and some individuals.


The global lender maintained that it would finance the project if former communications minister Syed Abul Hossain was included in the list of accused in the case filed over the corruption conspiracy.


Meanwhile, the finance minister is scheduled to meet the WB president on February 27 to request him to invest the promised \$ 1.2 billion in other infrastructure projects in Bangladesh.

Terms & Conditions

1. The participant of the contest must be a Bangladeshi.
2. Offer is valid for married couples only.
3. You will get a call from Unilever Careline within 72 hours of sending the SMS to complete your registration.
4. During registration, you will have to provide your correct full name, occupation, email ID, mobile number, marital status. Without these details we will not be able to register you successfully.
5. After registration, you have to give answer to the question, "How would you make your 2nd Honeymoon unforgettable if you get a chance to spend it on a far away exotic beach?" In addition, your couple photo (size 3R, maximum 2MB for upload) should be provided. The photo cannot be more than six months old.
6. Participants need to retain the product pack with code on the pack as proof of purchase. This will be checked before selecting the winner.
7. The pack must be a Pond's Age Miracle 50gm Day/Night cream, which has been imported by Unilever Bangladesh Limited as mentioned in the sticker on the side of the pack.
8. Any pack without this sticker will lead to disqualification.
9. The participants and their spouses need to have international passports which are valid for at least next 6 months.
10. The winning couples will need to provide their Marriage Certificates as proof.
11. Previous My 2nd Honeymoon winners will not be eligible for this contest.
12. The 7 winners will each win, return air tickets (two tickets per couple) to 1 of 7 most exotic beaches of the world.
13. The winners will have to manage their VISA on their own. Unilever Bangladesh Limited will only provide proof of their winning the contest and necessary details of the tickets.
14. The airline tickets are not transferable. The tickets cannot be redeemed for cash or for any other format.
15. The winning couples have to travel within 6 months of winning the tickets.
16. Winners will be communicated after the end of the contest through their mobile phones and through email.
17. Decision of the company in deciding the destination of the winners shall be final and binding.
18. Winners of this contest will have to give their consent consciously and on a voluntary basis that they will participate in personal interviews, still photoshoots, video shoots and reality shows to be arranged by Unilever Bangladesh Limited as appearing in different media for an unlimited period which include but not limited to newspapers, billboards, various magazines and television channels, facebook, website, digital and social media etc. for which neither the winners nor their successors/representatives/assignees will have any claim/objective whatsoever against Unilever Bangladesh Limited.
19. Unilever reserves the rights to change or modify rules or cancel the contest without prior notice.
20. The management reserves the right to contact the winners of this contest for any future campaign of Pond's.
21. All information received through registration will be kept confidential and will be viewed by Unilever management and partner agencies only.
22. Anyone associated with Unilever Bangladesh Limited, Ogilvy & Mather Bangladesh, Mindshare or Creato will not be eligible to participate in this contest.





Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)

TCB Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
Import Section

Invitation for Tender (International) of Refined Sugar (ICUMSA-45)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Commerce.				
2	Agency	Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB).				
3	Procuring entity name	Chairman, TCB, Dhaka.				
4	Procuring entity code	Not applicable.				
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.				
6	Invitation for	Refined Sugar (ICUMSA-45).				
7	Invitation Ref. No.	26.05.26.90.016.07.028.13				
8	Date	17-02-2013.				
KEY INFORMATION						
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (International).				
FUNDING INFORMATION						
10	Budget and source of funds	TCB's own fund.				
PARTICULAR INFORMATION						
11	Package No.	TCB/Imp-38/Sugar/2013.				
12	Package name	Refined Sugar (ICUMSA-45).				
13	Notice publication date	18-02-2013 to 20-02-2013.				
Date Time						
14	Documents last selling date	28-03-2013 17:00pm				
15	Closing date and time of submission of tender	30-03-2013 11:00am				
16	Tender opening date and time	30-03-2013 11:10am				
17	Name & address of the office(s)	Address				
Selling tender document of each item can be purchased from the banks & offices as mentioned in right column						
(1) Sonali Bank Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch, TCB Bhaban, Dhaka, (2) Rupali Bank Ltd, TCB Bhaban Branch, TCB Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, (3) National Bank Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch, BTMC Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka and TCB's Principal Office at Dhaka.						
-Receiving tender document						
In front of TCB's reception (2nd Floor), TCB Bhaban, 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.						
-Opening tender document						
Board Room, TCB.						
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER						
18	Eligibility of tenderer	Bonafide suppliers/manufacturers. Details conditions will be mentioned in the tender documents.				
19	Brief description of goods	Import of 12,500±5% (twelve thousand five hundred plus minus five percent) M. Tons Refined Sugar (ICUMSA-45).				
20	Price of tender document	Tk 5,000 (five thousand) per set.				
21	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Shipment schedule	
		1	Refined Sugar	Offers are to be made on CFR (C) Chittagong, Bangladesh.	Tender is to be submitted along with earnest money amounting to USD 72,000 (US dollar seventy-two thousand) or BDT 57,63,600 (fifty-seven lac sixty-three thousand six hundred) only in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee. The successful bidder is to submit 5% (five percent) performance security in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee.	Entire quantity of goods is to be shipped within 50 (fifty) days (including L/C correction & grace period).
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS						
22	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Shahabuddin.				
23	Designation of official inviting tender	Chief Officer (Import), TCB, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.				
24	Address of official inviting tender	Principal Office, Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB), 1 No. Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.				
25	Contact details of official inviting tender	Telephone No. 02-8180074	Fax No. 880-2-8180057	E-mail: tcb@tcb.gov.bd		
26	Special instructions:					
i. Incomplete, conditional tender and alternative offer shall not be considered. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject any/all tenders partly or wholly without assigning any reason.						
ii. Tenderer whose bid-bond was awarded the NOA (Notification of Award) earlier but could not submit performance security (PS) in due time, will not be eligible for the tender.						
iii. Tenderer whose performance security (PS) was partially or totally forfeited earlier will not be eligible to participate in the tender.						

Chief Officer (Commercial)
Trading Corporation of Bangladesh