

BNP feasts on AL failures

FROM PAGE 11

graft and Suranjit Sengupta's in the Rail Gate scam were brought to the fore.

Voters had little doubt that the Padma bridge project was a victim of corruption and that the prime minister did her best to save the former communications minister Abul Hossain.

In Suranjit's case, voters were also baffled by the prime minister's decision to take him away from the rail ministry but retain his position as a minister.

"How can anybody explain the actions of the prime minister regarding Abul and Suranjit? How can we explain why they still fly flags on their cars?" quipped a Khulna AL leader, asking not to be named.

All these things created a situation for the AL that made the party look corrupt, autocratic and unsympathetic.

Fazle Hossain Badsha, convener of the AL-backed candidate AHM Khairuzzaman Liton's polls conduct committee, said they had thought the polls results would be determined on the basis of the area's development.

"But we could not either understand or give importance to the opposition campaign based on religion and national issues," said Badsha, also a Workers Party MP elected from the AL-led alliance.

"The opposition carried out a massive campaign

against our candidates on some nationally burning issues like the share market crash, Padma bridge and Hall-Mark scam. But we did not have any substantial arguments to counter the criticisms," said a Sylhet city AL leader, on condition of anonymity.

But the AL also lost the support of its main electoral ally Jatiya Party. And, on the other hand, the Jamaat worked in full force for its ally BNP.

In Khulna, the Jatiya Party came up with its own candidate. Although the candidate did not get that many votes, this division made the AL look weak and isolated.

In Rajshahi, Sylhet and Barisal, the JP was not actively behind the AL candidates.

On top of these, the other factor that prominently decided the outcome of the elections was the use of religion and the "atheist issue".

The tide of the Gonojagoron Mancha that campaigned non-stop for a month to demand capital punishment for war criminals was successfully turned around by the BNP and Jamaat, which labeled it as a platform of "atheists".

The government's direct patronisation of the Mancha, which started as a non-political protest platform, backfired as the BNP could portray the government as a supporter of "atheists".

"This made a big dent in

our votes," said a Rajshahi leader. "The Hefajat's campaign against the government as a protector of atheists also saw our votes going down."

Local AL leaders also blame the organisational weakness of the party in the four city areas.

AL leaders in Khulna say party councils have not been held for long to elect new leaders for thana-level committees. Associate and front organisations, including Chhatra League, Jubo League and Swetchhasebak League, have not had committees in the city for quite some time, let alone their committees at the ward level.

Thus, in the end, a mixture of all this led to the disastrous outcome of the AL losing in all the four cities.

But the story does not end there. AL leaders fearfully recall what had happened at the 2008 city elections when the party won in all the cities and then the subsequent national polls by a landslide.

This time the BNP has won the city polls.

"The election results of the four city corporations are an ominous sign for us. We need to take corrective measures to prevent a recurrence of such a debacle at the next parliamentary election," said AKM Sanaullah Nannu, chief of Khulna's Khalishpur thana unit of the AL.

What went wrong for them?

Badar Uddin

FROM PAGE 16

The immediate past mayor and AL-backed candidate Kamran did not do anything in this regard despite repeated appeals from the Manipuri people, he added.

He claimed that the community had around 8,000 votes in the city corporation areas.

Several members of the Hindu community also made similar allegations against Kamran.

A leader of Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad said the people did not forget the incident of land grabbing at Gopal Tila Temple by ruling party men in 2011.

Besides, Hindus, who hailed from Sunamganj's Derai and Shulla, and later settled in Koror Para, Akhali, and some other parts in the city, had angst over the killing of a Hindu youth, Jagatiyoti, around a month ago.

A Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) man was arrested in connection with the killing.

Although they thought that Kamran would come forward in their security-related crises, they got little response from him, alleged many of them.

Asit Bhattacharya, Sylhet district unit general secretary of Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad, said they had around 45,000 votes.

Expressing his gratitude to the Hindu community, mayor-elect Ariful Haque Chowdhury yesterday morning said, "I promised the central leaders while receiving the nomination that I would earn votes from all communities, and I have done this. I thank the members of the Hindu community."

The city dwellers also alleged that Kamran did not take effective measures in solving waterlogging and traffic jam, which had been longstanding problems in the city.

They said the quality of Kamran's development works was substandard as his aides did not care for rules and regulations.

Kamran, however, claimed that he had spent over Tk 500 crore in development work during his tenure.

AHM Khairuzzaman

FROM PAGE 16

BNP leader.

Many BNP leaders and workers had not even expected such a victory against one of the best performing mayors in the country.

Coming out of the country's traditional political culture, Liton tried to work with all parties by taking a neutral look on every issue, right from awarding tenders for development works and maintaining a congenial atmosphere at the educational institutes.

Unfortunately, that too boomeranged against him.

Party leaders and workers, who had high expectation of getting benefits from Nagar Bhaban, were dis-

heartened.

Liton awarded most of the big tenders to newcomers in the party, ignoring senior and dedicated party men.

He also did not favour grassroots activists while providing benefits as he wanted to stay away from politicisation, one of his election pledges.

All such moves went against him and he was deserted by many.

From beginning to end, there was a half-hearted campaign for Liton against an aggressive electioneering campaign for Bulbul by an allied force of BNP-Jamaat-Shibir and other religion-based parties.

AL-Chhatra League-Jubo League and some leftist

parties started campaigning for Liton only a week before the poll. But it never acquired momentum due to lack of sincerity among them.

The Daily Star talked to dozens of voters, political leaders and analysts since Saturday and got the impression that there was no question about Liton's performance.

The religious campaign, launched since the flushing out of the Hefajat men from Motijheel on the night of May 5, played a crucial role in the election as it portrayed the AL government to be anti-Islamic and anti-Quran-Sunnah, they believe.

"We can see the development activities of Liton...But

all went futile due to the influence of national political issues," said a voter of Kadirganj.

Prof Abul Kashem of Rajshahi University said, "It is a total rejection of the government for a number of issues, including share market scandal, BDR carnage and of course the issue of religion."

Explaining the defeat, an AL lawmaker, who was involved in Liton's election campaign, said, "There was no serious campaigning for Liton. There were not even party people at many polling centres to seek votes for him."

In terms of spending money, Liton was far behind Bulbul, he added.

Abdul Khaleque

FROM PAGE 16

Several local AL men noted that at the previous mayoral election Khaleque had maintained good relations with Jamaat leaders, which helped him win the polls. But this time no Jamaat vote was cast in his favour, they claimed.

"Besides, the Jatiya Party candidate also cost us some votes. If he [JP candidate] along with his supporters had worked for him, it would be better," said a Jubo League leader in Khulna.

To add insult to injury, national issues like the war crimes trial, Padma Bridge and other scams appeared as a major setback as they did not have proper answers to those issues,

insiders say.

"People believe the government has failed to work out a satisfactory solution to the Padma bridge and Hall-Mark issues. They have expressed their dissatisfaction through the ballot," said a government school-teacher in Khulna, asking not to be named.

Although there was not much internal feud in Khulna, disallowing party men of many facilities, including development activities, came as a curse for the ruling party-backed candidate, insiders observe.

Most significantly, making former speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali chairman of Sammilita Nagorik Committee, under which Khaleque had conducted his electioneering, enraged several party lead-

ers as Razzak was a former central leader of the main opposition BNP.

Talking to The Daily Star, city dwellers alleged that Khaleque's misbehaviour with common people had also accounted for his debacle.

"In many cases it was noticed that some people, being in trouble, went to Khaleque for help but were dealt with rudely," said Sheikh Ashrafuzzaman, president of Greater Khulna Development Action Coordination Committee.


Video footage of the beating up of a man allegedly by Khaleque was available on Facebook and mobile phones in and around the city.

A number of politicians said over one-third of the total voters in KCC had

migrated from Barisal, Bagerhat, greater Faridpur [Gopalganj], Shariatpur, Madaripur, Rajbari) and other districts. Many of these voters and the minority community did not vote for Khaleque.

Khaleque lost the battle in some minority-majority areas like Tutpara Gachhola Temple. Insiders observe that the government's failure to ensure protection of the minority communities during the attacks by religious fanatics a couple of months ago might be a reason for that.

Khaleque's inaction against the move to acquire land at Rampal [from that constituency he was elected a lawmaker] for establishing a coal-fired power plant was also



Uttara Export Processing Zone
Shangolshi, Nilphamari

No. 03.389.00.00.00.137.2013-161

Date: 06.06.2013

Re-Tender Notice
No. 01/2012-2013

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the eligible contractors for the following works as per terms & conditions stated below:

1	Ministry/Division	Prime Minister's Office.
2	Agency	Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA).
3	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer (Civil).
4	Procuring entity district	Nilphamari.
5	Invitation for	Works (multiple lot).
6	Invitation Ref. No. and date	01/2012-2013 date: 06.06.2013
KEY INFORMATION		
7	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
FUNDING INFORMATION		
8	Budget and source of funds	Self-finance of BEPZA.
9	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
10	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable.
11	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable.
12	Tender package name	Not applicable.
14	Tender publication date	On or before June 13, 2013
15	Tender last selling date	July 03, 2013 during office hour.
16	Tender closing date & time	July 04, 2013 at 12:00 noon.
17	Tender opening date & time	July 04, 2013 at 2.00pm for SI No. 23(i) and at 3.00pm for SI No. 23 (ii).
18	Name & address of the offices	
Selling of tender document (principal)		i) Accounts Section, Uttara EPZ, Nilphamari.
Selling of tender document (others)		ii) Office of Deputy Commissioner, Nilphamari. iii) Accounts Section, BEPZA, BEPZA Complex, House No. 19/D, Road # 06, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205
Receiving of tender document		i) Executive Engineer (Civil), Uttara EPZ, Shangolshi, Nilphamari. ii) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Nilphamari.
Opening of tender document		Executive Engineer (Civil), Uttara EPZ, Nilphamari.
19	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	June 24, 2013 at 11.00am in the Conference Room of Uttara EPZ.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
20	Eligibility of tenderer	The invitation for tender is open to all eligible tenderers who satisfy the following: a) Tenderer must have successful completion experience of at least 01 (one) bituminous road construction/repair work in a single contract amounting not less than Tk. 8.00 lakh for SI No. 23 (i) and for SI No. 23 (ii) must have successful completion experience of at least 01 (one) civil construction work in a single contract amounting not less than Tk. 60.00 lakh during last 05 (five) years in govt./semi-govt./autonomous bodies. The works certificates shall have to be issued by the officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent officer of concerned department/organization. b) The required minimum average annual construction turnover is Tk. 40.00 lakh for SI No. 23 (i) and Tk. 100.00 lakh for SI No. 23 (ii). All works completion certificates must be enclosed with the tender. c) The required minimum liquid asset is Tk. 10.00 lakh for SI No. 23 (i) and Tk. 50.00 lakh for SI No. 23 (ii). d) Black-listed/debarred bidders from any govt./semi-govt./autonomous organizations will be treated as ineligible to participate in the tender. e) Update trade license, income tax clearance certificate, VAT registration certificate shall be submitted. f) Other required conditions and documents of the tenderer are shown in the TDS of tender documents must be fulfilled. g) All other criteria will be taken according to the Public Procurement Act-2006 and its amendments.
21	Brief description of related works	For SI No. 23 (i) bituminous carpeting, seal coat, painting etc and for SI No. 23 (ii) pre-cast gutter, mass concrete, brick work, PVC pipe, sand filling, MS rod, RCC work, plaster etc.
22	Price of tender documents	Tk. 500.00 for SI No. 23 (i) and Tk. 1,000.00 for SI No. 23 (ii).
23	Lot No.	Identification of lot
i		Repair & seal coat of damaged roads (part) at the east side of factory bay and Sector # 01 of Uttara EPZ
ii		Construction of footpath & drain along main road (2 nd Lane) at Uttara EPZ
Location		Uttara EPZ, Nilphamari
Tender security amount (in favour of BEPZA)		Tk. 45,000.00
Completion time		60 days
Do		Tk. 3,00,000.00
180 days		
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
24	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Nurul Haque Khandaker.
25	Designation of official inviting tender	Executive Engineer (Civil).
26	Address of official inviting tender	Uttara EPZ, Shangolshi, Nilphamari.
27	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 0551-61586, Fax: 0551-61468 E-mail: nhaque1961@yahoo.com
28	Special instruction:	
a)		Eligible firms/authorized representative may purchase tender documents from the offices mentioned in SI No.-18 on submitting written request in their letterhead pad.
b)		Any false, forged, fabricated and misleading documents furnished by tenderer shall result in rejection of the tender.
c)		In case of any confusion arises due to printing mistakes or other reason the Public Procurement Rules-2008 will be governed.
d)		Tender should be submitted in origin and one duplicate copy and it should be mentioned on the cover sheet.
e)		Tender shall be valid for a period of 90 (ninety) days from the date of opening the tender(s).
29	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceedings.	
Md. Nurul Haque Khandaker Executive Engineer (Civil) Phone No: 0551-61586 E-mail: nhaque1961@yahoo.com		

GD-2358

UN awards

FROM PAGE 1

the incidence of hunger and the number of ultra-poor in the target year 2015 from that in the base year 1990.

Bangladesh along with 19 other countries received the FAO award at the UN body's 38th conference held at its headquarters in Rome with participants from 194 countries.

Food Minister Mohammad Abdur Razzaque received the award from FAO Director General José Graziano da Silva, said an official release issued in Dhaka yesterday.

During the period from 1990 to 2012, Bangladesh's population below the poverty line dropped to 29 percent from over 58 percent and the percentage of ultra-poor dropped to a little over 16 from 37.

The number of ultra-poor in Bangladesh was 3.72 crore in 1990 and it dropped to 2.53 crore in 2012, the release added.

Earlier, in a press release issued from Rome on June 12, FAO declared that 38 countries have met internationally-established targets in the fight against hunger, achieving successes ahead of the deadline 2015.

Bangladesh is among the 20 countries which have reached MDG-1, it said.

Eighteen other countries were congratulated for reaching both MDG-1 and the 1996 World Food Summit (WFS) goal, having reduced by half the absolute number of undernourished people between 1990-92 and 2010-2012.

Shawkat Hossain

FROM PAGE 16

the development of the Barisal launch terminal, construction of Muktiyoddha Park, building footpaths, expanding roads and improving living conditions in slum areas.

Despite all this, he lost to Ahsan Habib Kamal by over 20,000 votes.

Talking to more than 50 people in Barisal, The Daily Star has learnt that the most significant reason for his defeat is the level of seriousness of the main opposition. The BNP took the mayoral polls as a battle against the ruling Awami League and the

government.

Secondly, by creating the image of a self-centred local party leader after becoming mayor, Hiron annoyed many of his party colleagues in the region. Prominent AL leaders, including stalwarts Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed and Abul Hasnat Abdullah, neither took part in his campaign nor voted for him.

Thirdly, the June 12 police firing on a body-guard of BNP-backed candidate Kamal and subsequent misbehaviour with him tainted Hiron's image. Kamal, on the other hand, drew public sympathy.

Fourthly, AL's rebel candidate Mahmudul Haque Khan Mamun

worked against Hiron by telling voters if they did not want to vote for him, they should not vote for Hiron either.

Many believe Mamun had control over several thousand "pro-Islamist" votes as he donates in mosques and other religious institutions. But they cast their ballots for Kamal.

Hiron deployed some controversial persons, including his brother Mamun, to spearhead his campaign, only to irk voters. His brother Mamun set fire to three campaign offices of the BNP in Nuria High School area where Hiron had cast his vote.

Bangladesh Chhatra

League of Barisal Medical College Hospital unit forced around 2,000 students to join the campaign for Hiron. The students just threw around the leaflets and did not vote for Hiron.

Finally, whipping up people's religious sentiments, the BNP portrayed Hiron and his men as "drunkards".

Supporters of the Qawmi madrasa-based organisation Hefajat-e Islam as well as radical Islamist figures like the Pir of Charmonai, the Pir of Sharshina and Quayes Pir led campaigns from different city mosques, saying Hiron neither went to mosques nor paid donations.



VACANCY NOTICE

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a vacancy for the following position with **"Improving Kiln Efficiency in the Brick Making Industry (IKEBMI), GREEN Brick Project"**:


1. Research Assistant
(Service Contract, SB-2 Level)

- 1 (One) position

The duration of the Service Contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply for the above position, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than on **Monday, 01 July, 2013.**

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, Bangladesh (Component A)

Invitation for Bid for Procurement of Crop Seeds
Credit No. 4507 – BD, Project ID No. UTF /BGD/ 040 /BGD, Bid Package No.3G36.C

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Procurement of 5 different types of Crop Seeds. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of 155,631.25 Kgs (23,475 bags) of various Crop seeds under Procurement Package No. 3G36.C. Bidders having a minimum of 3 (three) years of experience in the supply of the tendered items are only encouraged to participate. The delivery period is 8 (eight) weeks from the date of issuance of the Notification of the Award.

Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, (current edition), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents from the ECRPP office of FAO Representation in Bangladesh (Hs. # 27, Rd. # 9/A, Apt. # A-1, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka – 1209, Telephone 8130758/104) during office hours i.e. 08:00 to 16:30 hours. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk. 2,000.00. The method of payment for the tender document will be in cash against a written receipt.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security for an amount of Tk. 400,000.00 (Four Hundred thousand) only.

Bids shall be delivered to the address below by 14:00 Hrs. on **10 July 2013**. They will be opened immediately thereafter, in the presence of bidders' representatives, who choose to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected.

FAO Representation in Bangladesh
House # 37, Road # 8
Dhanmondi , Dhaka-1205
Tel: 880-2-8118015
Fax: 8802-2-811 3446

The publishing of this notice and the receipt of bids does not commit FAO in any way to any party.