

CEC ON PRE-POLLS LAW AND ORDER

Army ready for deployment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The army has been kept ready for deployment to maintain law and order during the general election, said Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad.

"The time as well as number of the army personnel to be deployed will be decided in the meeting with the security forces and returning officers soon," he told reporters at the EC secretariat yesterday.

The army might be deployed one or two days earlier in remote areas than elsewhere in the country, the CEC said expressing hope that the ongoing violence would reduce and law and order would improve soon.

Sources in the EC told The Daily Star that the

meeting with security agencies might be held on December 19.

Rakibuddin once again expressed hope for a political consensus to end the political deadlock.

Replying to a question whether the election would be acceptable without the participation of the BNP, the EC boss said, "We cannot say it so early. We will be able to make comments on it considering many issues like voter turnout rate, polling atmospheres and other things."

About Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad's request for not allocating its electoral symbol plough to any other candidates, he said, "Returning officers will take the decision in this regard."

"If any appeal is filed with the commission against any decision of returning officers, we will

look into it," the CEC added.

Ershad in a letter yesterday requested the CEC not to allocate the party's electoral symbol to any other candidates, saying that the JP would not participate in the polls.

On the meeting with the visiting British Senior Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minister, Baroness Warsi, Rakibuddin said, "We have discussed different technical issues related to the election."

Asked about foreign observers, he said the EC had sent invitations to many international organisations and many of them have responded positively.

The 10th parliamentary election is scheduled for January 5.

ATTACK ON COVERED VAN IN CTG

Injured helper dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Yet another man loses his life to the ongoing mindless political violence.

Md Mahabub Alam, 30, helper of a covered van, succumbed to his injuries early yesterday at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

Hailing from Amtali upazila of Barguna, Mahabub sustained injuries on Wednesday night when pickets hurled brickbats targeting his van on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Lalpool in Feni.

Hit with brick chunks and shards of a broken windowpane, he was rushed to a local hospital in Mirsarai upazila of Chittagong.

As his condition deteriorated, he was shifted to CMCH where doctors declared him dead at around 2:45am, said his neighbour Mohammad Sohel.

The attack also left driver Monir Hossain with minor injuries.

Meanwhile, the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital still wears a look of horror and dismay with burn victims writhing in pain.

Munira Begum, 20, was seen battling with life in the female High Dependency Unit of the burn unit.

She sustained 25 percent injuries with her face severely burnt in Meherpur on November 11 during an opposition-enforced hartal.

"It is better to die than live like this. I have been admitted here [at the burn unit] only thinking of my one and a half years old daughter. Otherwise, I would rather rot to death in Meherpur. My future is ruined in the interest of others," she grieved.

Not only Munira, the faces of all the four ICU patients were heavily burnt and had blackened, saw this reporter while visiting them yesterday.

They also sustained critical injuries to their respiratory organs which, according to Resident Surgeon of the burn unit Partha Shankar Paul, might become life-threatening for the victims.

Al-Amin, a bus driver whose vehicle was set alight in Gazipur on December 3, was found shivering in fever.

His relatives attending him at the hospital said Al-Amin had been running high temperature frequently over the last couple of days.

Kamal Hossain, 35, who sustained 25 percent injuries on November 10 in the capital while travelling in a human haulier, shared the horror of the incident that, according to him, took only a minute or two.

"I was sitting behind the driver's seat and suddenly saw fire engulfing the vehicle. I jumped through the window-like tiny opening. I found other passengers lying on the ground around me and writhing in pain. Later, I came to know that the passenger seated next to me had died," he said.

Thirteen-year-old Shimul, a human haulier helper who sustained burns in Dhanmondi, was lying on the bed next to Kamal. He said he had begged pickets to spare him when they were about to set fire to the vehicle.

"Instead, they shut the door and set fire to the laguna [human haulier] while I was inside," he said.

TESTIMONY AT WAR TRIBUNAL

Khokon, his accomplices killed 3 of a family

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prosecution witness yesterday gave a description of how fugitive war crimes accused MA Zahid Hossain Khokon along with Razakars and Pakistani army had shot dead his mother, brother and sister during the Liberation War.

The 16th prosecution witness, Kalom Sheikh, 65, told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that Khokon along with other Razakars and Pakistani army had gone to their Ishwardi village in Faridpur on May 30, 1971.

Kalom said he had hidden in a bush north of their house. "My mother Boru Khatun, brother Salam Sheikh and sisters Srimoti and Fulmoti ran to a jute field to save their lives," said the witness.

Kalom broke down in tears saying Khokon, Razakars and Pakistani army had gone to the jute field and opened fire on them.

After they had left, Kalom recovered their bodies from the field. His another sister Fulmoti was shot in the back but survived after treatment.

During cross-examination, defence counsel Abuds Shukur Khan made a suggestion that Khokon had not shot his family members.

Getting excited at hearing the sentence, the witness shouted, "I saw Khokon shoot my mother."

The proceeding of the case has been

adjourned until December 23.

FAKHRUL CONTEMPT

The tribunal-1 yesterday deferred hearing of a contempt of court proceeding issued upon war crimes convict Salauddin Quader Chowdhury's counsel Fakhrl Islam to January 12, 2014.

The notice, issued following a petition Fakhrl submitted on December 30, 2012, asked why contempt of court proceedings would not be initiated against him for maligning the tribunal's reputation.

In the petition, Fakhrl asked whether ICT-1 had known about the alleged Skype conversation between former ICT-1 chairman Justice Nizamul Huq and an expatriate legal expert, Ahmed Ziauddin.

Fakhrl was arrested on November 20 and is now in police custody for his alleged involvement in leaking the draft verdict in war crimes case against the BNP lawmaker.

The defence counsel had earlier offered 'unconditional apology'.

Prosecutor Zead Al Malum told the tribunal there was no need of hearing as Fakhrl had offered 'unconditional apology' and there were many instances to that end.

The tribunal led by Justice ATM Fazle Kabir asked Malum to submit at least two instances of contempt of court proceedings where the Appellate Division had

taken action even after 'unconditional apology' was offered.

TRIBUNAL-2

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 has meanwhile closed cross-examination of Sikdar Habibur Rahman, 18th prosecution witness in the case against Jamaat-e-Islami leader AKM Yusuf, as one of his junior counsels expressed inability to cross-examine him in the absence of senior colleagues.

The tribunal on Wednesday cancelled the vokalatnama [power of attorney] of Yusuf's conducting counsel Syed Mizanur Rahman, as he had been absenting from the proceedings since November 25.

It also asked his other counsels to inform the tribunal about the appointment of new counsel within yesterday.

Yusuf's junior counsel Gazi MH Tamim yesterday said they could not appoint a new lawyer.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Obaidul Hassan had earlier closed the cross-examination of five prosecution witnesses as Mizanur Raman didn't show up and Tamim expressed his inability to cross-examine the witnesses.

The court, however, fixed Sunday for passing orders regarding defence petitions for recalling the cross-examination of 12th, 13th and 14th

Jamaat appeals

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national polls.

In the appeal, Jamaat prayed to the apex court to scrap the HC verdict, saying the party amended its constitution in December last year in line with the Representation of the People Order (RPO).

The EC did not object to the amendment that time, the appeal added.

A total of 21 points had been mentioned in the appeal to turn down the HC judgement, the party lawyer Belayet Hossain told The Daily Star.

He said the hearing of the appeal might be held in January next year, as the court would go into a vacation from tomorrow [today].

It will reopen on January 2.

Following a writ petition, a three-member special bench of the HC by a majority view declared Jamaat's registration illegal and unlawful on August 1, mentioning that the registration had no legal effect.

The HC released full text of the verdict on November 2.

The court came up with the verdict as many provisions of the charter of Jamaat, which got registered with the EC in November 2008, run counter to the country's constitution and the RPO.

Jamaat's charter contains provisions including the call for establishing the rule of Islam, and refusal to accept parliament's plenary power to enact laws.

The provisions do not conform to Bangladesh's constitution and the RPO.

Take position

FROM PAGE 1

stalemate in Bangladesh over the next parliamentary elections.

"I urge the government and the people of India also to express solidarity with the world community showing respect to the sentiments, feelings and demands of the overwhelming majority of people of Bangladesh," the leader of the opposition said in a press statement.

"I thank the governments of the US, the UK, Canada, Australia, China and Japan and the European Union and other friendly countries as they have continued to call for a consensus to resolve the crisis," said the statement signed by Khaleda's Press Secretary Maruf Kamal Khan.

The BNP chief also thanked UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon saying that he had been making hectic efforts to resolve the prevailing political impasse in Bangladesh and sent his special envoy Oscar Fernandez-Taranco in this regard.

Khaleda said new hopes have been created among people as the two sides (ruling Awami League and opposition BNP)

agreed to sit for talks.

"I hope they [government] will move forward to the path of peace and understanding taking into consideration people's expectations and giving up stubbornness," said the BNP chairperson and chief of the 18-party alliance led by her party.

Blaming the Awami League-led grand alliance government for the political impasse, Khaleda said it has hit hard the country's industries, commerce and economy.

The RMG sector is on the verge of destruction due to planned conspiracy and subversive activities, she said, adding that a stalemate has been created in every sector due to the government's obstinate policy to stick to power.

Khaleda warned that the government would have to shoulder the responsibilities for these "subversive and violent activities" in the country.

She asked the opposition leaders and activists to remain cautious round-the-clock so that no innocent person gets hurt during the anti-government movement.

No plough, please

FROM PAGE 20

He communicated the message to Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmed in two separate letters, forwarded by Ershad's special adviser Bobby Hajjaj.

"Jatiya Party has decided to cancel the nomination papers of all the JP candidates...", the JP chief said in one of the letters.

Party insiders told The Daily Star that most of the JP aspirants, including Ershad, have withdrawn their nomination papers.

"We will be able to give you specific information tomorrow, the last day for withdrawing the nomination papers, if

anyone violates the party decision," said JP treasurer Maj (ret'd) Khaled Akhtar.

He confirmed that Ershad has withdrawn his nominations for the Dhaka-17, Rangpur-3 and Lalmonirhat-1 constituencies.

JP Secretary General Ruhul Amin Howlader said yesterday that the party will stick to its decision even if the ruling Awami League offers them 60 seats.


Replying to a question, he said he knew nothing about JP presidium member Raushan Ershad's recent initiative to participate in the polls.

Ershad had announced on December

3 that his party would boycott the elections due to the absence of a level playing field. As such, he directed his party men to withdraw the nomination papers by December 13.

Meanwhile, the EC yesterday completed hearing the 138 appeals against cancellation of candidatures by the respective returning officers. It allowed 40 of the candidates to contest the polls.

Information Minister and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal President Hasanul Haq Inu sent a letter to the CEC, asking him to step up security for him and his family.



Military Engineer Services
Directorate of Works & Chief Engineer (Army)

Invitation for Tender

1.	Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Defence.				
2.	Agency	:	Military Engineer Services.				
3.	Procuring entity name	:	DW & CE (Army) Dhaka Cantt.				
4.	Tender name	:	Different E/M Works under Works Programme of Bangladesh Army for the financial year 2013-2014 (As per ser no. 14).				
5.	Invitation for tender No.	:	11 of 2013-2014/E-4 Dated 04 December 2013				
6.	Procurement method	:	Open tendering method.				
7.	Source of funds	:	GOB.				
8.	Tender publication date	:	15 December 2013.				
9.	Tender last selling date	:	05 January 2014 upto 1430 hours.				
10.	Tender submission date & time	:	06 January 2014, 1200 hours.				
11.	Tender opening date & time	:	06 January 2014, 1230 hours.				
12.	Name & address of the office(s)	:					
	Selling tender documents	:	a.	Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW & CE (Army) at GE Army Project, Dhaka Cantt.			
		:	b.	DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt.			
	Receiving tender document	:	Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW & CE (Army) at GE Army Project, Dhaka Cantt.				
	Opening tender document	:	Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW & CE (Army) at GE Army Project, Dhaka.				
13.	Eligibility of tenderer	:	(a)	Contractors enlisted in MES Class 'C' & 'D' having experience in doing similar work.			
		:	(b)	Contractors enlisted in other govt/semi-govt/ autonomous organisations in similar capacity having necessary security clearance.			
14.	Description of works	:	Location	Price of tender document (non-refundable)	Amount of tender security (Taka) (In the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of DW & CE (Army))	Time of completion of Wks	
	a.		Supply & installation of Lift (3x Passenger type & 1x Cargo type) for under construction 1x 104 Folowor's (Qtr incl. ancillary works for Sta HQ at Shaheed Mostofa Kamal line area Dhaka Cantt.	Dhaka Cantt	Taka 5,000.00	Tk 7,75,000.00	06 (six) months
	b.		Installation of 75x50 mm dia 50 PSI external gas line connection and internal line with ancillary works at BB area under Shaheed Salahuddin Cantt.	BBSS Cantt	Taka 4,000.00	Tk 5,72,000.00	06 (six) months
15.	Contact details	:	Phone: 8752680 Extn 2680, Fax: (02) 8752684 Website: www.army.mil.bd				
16.	Special instructions	:	a. Tenderer shall submit copy of letter of valid enlistment & security clearance with application on company letterhead when purchasing tender. b. Detailed requirements are mentioned in Tender Data Sheet of tender documents. c. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.				
ISPR/Army/ 2013/2217 GD-4736							
DW & CE (Army)							

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Agriculture
National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP): Phase 1
Supply Chain Development Component (SCDC)
Hortex Foundation, Sech Bhaban (3rd floor), 22 Manik Mia Avenue
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
Tel- 9125181, 9141331, 8123433, Fax- 9125181

Call for Proposals
to Strengthen Existing Tissue Culture Laboratory for the Production of plantlets of High Value Horticultural Crops. (Package No. GD/Hortex/57/2013-14).

Memo No. HF/NATP/SCDC/237
December 12, 2013
Hortex Foundation is implementing the Supply Chain Development Component (SCDC) of National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) funded by The World Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Government of Bangladesh.
The Supply Chain Development Component (SCDC) intends to facilitate selected tissue culture lab/s by providing need based equipments, chemicals, small green house, poly house and glassware etc for the production and marketing of plantlets of horticultural crops with particular emphasis on flowers, banana and papaya to promote their quality production at the project sites.
Interested organizations having established tissue culture laboratory and business are invited to submit proposal along with the following information and appropriate documentary evidences:
1. Current year's Trade License, VAT Registration Certificate, Income Tax Clearance Certificate, Bank Solvency Certificate from any scheduled Bank , Experience Certificate of similar nature of works,
2. Status of the lab including the list of major equipments
3. Detail of the green house (if there are any).
4. List of products and their market status (last 3 (three) years).
5. Proposed production and market plan of different plantlets for the next 3 (three) years.
6. List of items along with required quantity and budget for strengthening lab.
7. Annual turnover of the company for the last 3 (three) years.
8. Audit report of last 3 (three) years.
The organization should submit One (1) original and four (4) copies of proposal with all relevant documents by 5.00 pm on or before December, 26 2013, in sealed envelope (Proposal for Tissue Culture Lab on the top) to the Managing Director, Hortex Foundation, Sech Bhaban, 22 Manik Mia Avenue, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
The procurement entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all demand Proposals received without assigning any reason thereof.
Interested Organization may visit www.hortex.org for detailed background information or may collect that from the Hortex Foundation office with a written request to the Managing Director.
Sd/-
Managing Director
Hortex Foundation.