## Invest in democracy

Visiting US official tells political leaders

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh needs to make the best of the opportunity in the spirit of "accom modation and compromise", said US Deputy Assistant Secretary for South Asia Atul Keshap yesterday about the political situation in the country.

"So, there's a moment that has come in the political life of Bangladesh and the political life of Bangladeshi people ... America is urging, as a friend of all Bangladeshis ... seize the moment, find the opportunity," he said, adding that it would be an opportunity to show the world that Bangladesh is investing in its democracy and respecting democracy.

The US official who arrived in Dhaka on Saturday on a four-day visit also said seizing opportunities was the essential ingredient of leadership.

Keshap came up with the remark at a press conference held at the American Centre yesterday evening. US Deputy Chief of Mission Jon Danilowicz and Press and Information Officer Kelly McCarthy were also present.

# Shibir 3rd among top

FROM PAGE 1

has rapidly increased in just five years.

It adds, "The epicentre of 2013 activity was in the Middle East, with significant pockets of violence radiating out to neighbouring regions in Africa and South Asia."

The Communist Party of India-Maoist stands fourth, al-Qaeda in Iraq fifth, al-Shabaab sixth, Colombia's FARC seventh, New People's Army of the Philippines eighth, Syrian Jabhat al-Nusra ninth and Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist 10th on the list, according to a press release posted on the IHS website on February 13.

Shibir, the student body of the Jamaat-e-Islami, was known as the Islami Chhatra Sangha before the emergence of Bangladesh.

It was the Chhatra Sangha's leaders and members who formed the notorious auxiliary force Al-Badr Bahini and killed Bangalee intellectuals towards the end of the Liberation War in 1971. The Chhatra Sangha's operations came to a halt when newly inde-

pendent Bangladesh banned five communal parties, the including Jamaat-e-Islami. The Jamaat regrouped after the ban was lifted by the Ziaur Rahman

regime. Chhatra Sangha was reborn in February 1977 as the Islami Chhatra Shibir. In the 1980s and 90s, Shibir became known for the ferocity of its attacks in

signature. In February last year, soon after the pronouncement of the war crimes verdict against Jamaat leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee, Shibir activists

unleashed terror in different parts of the country. Throughout 2013, they hogged the headlines by beating up policemen, torching public vehicles and properties, exploding bombs, felling trees and

uprooting railway tracks. In addition, they ran smear campaigns online against the war crimes trials,

and instigated religious violence.

## Killed; obviously in 'shootout'

FROM PAGE 1

A joint team of Mymensingh and Tangail police took the handcuffed Rakib there "on information that some JMB men were hiding there", Officer-in-Charge Golam Mostofa of Mirzapur Police Station told our Tangail correspondent.

He claimed that JMB men sprayed bullets on the police team to snatch Rakib away again. The police retaliated and Rakib got seriously injured during the half-an-hour-long gunfight, he claimed.

Rakib was hit by three bullets and was taken to Mirzapur Kumudini Hospital, where he was declared dead, the OC claimed.

Interestingly, nobody else had any bullet injuries. The three policemen -- Golam Moula, Mohammad Asaduzzaman and Mozammel Haque -- who were allegedly injured were admitted to Tangail Police Hospital, the OC said, adding that a shotgun, one bullet and three bullet shells had been recovered from the scene.

Rakib's killing happened amid an outcry of right activists at home and abroad against extra-judicial killings.

Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Chairman, National Human Rights Commission, said the practice has continued even after the NHRC repeatedly raised its voice against it. He said the law enforcement agencies must explain what they achieve in such operations in which arrested persons accompany them.

Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh, said, "Judging by recent trends, I'm not at all surprised, though deeply disturbed, by the latest killing by crossfire. The law enforcement institutions have been doing everything possible to lead to the sharp erosion of public trust in them. This is very unfortunate and extremely damaging for the prospect of rule of law, justice and democratic accountability in the country."

About the killing of Rakib in a "shootout", Home Secretary CQK Mustaq Ahmed said Rakib was a convicted

notorious criminal. "Incidents [shootouts] take place whenever police conduct a drive to recover firearms based on their information. If we don't conduct drives to capture them and seize their weapons then the situation will be more precarious."

A three-member medical board led by Rafigul Islam, resident medical officer of Tangail General Hospital, conducted Rakib's autopsy. Firoz Mahmud, a first class magistrate in Tangail, did an inquest at Mirzapur Kumudini Hospital.

Rakib's body was handed over to his father Abdus Sobhan around 5:20pm. His body was taken to his village home in Beltoil of Melandaha upazila in Jamalpur.

JMB Majlish-e-Shura members Rakib and Salauddin Ahmed alias Salehin were on death row for the murder of Joseph Gani Gomez Mandal, a medicine trader of Melandaha in Jamalpur.

Rakib, Salauddin and JMB explosives expert "Boma Mizan" were snatched from police in the ambush at Trishal. The ambush left a policeman dead and two other cops injured. Superintendent of Police Moinul Haque of Mymensingh

told our correspondent there that 10 teams of joint forces were conducting drives in Mymensingh to capture Salauddin and "Boma Mizan". Meanwhile, Zakaria Islam and Mohammad Rasel, who were arrested in Tangail after the ambush, were placed on a

Arms Act and the other under the Explosive Substances Act -- filed with Sakhipur Police Station. At least 40 people were killed in "gunfights", cop-firing and torture in different parts of the country since January this year, say statistics of the rights organisation Ain O Salish

20-day remand each yesterday in two cases -- one under the

Kendra (ASK). In 2009, the number of extrajudicial killings stood at 229, in 2010 at 133, in 2011 at 100, in 2012 at 91 and in 2013 it was 208, says an ASK report.

Talking to The Daily Star, former election commis-

sioner M Sakhawat Hussain said, "Affidavits are con-

sidered as legal documents of different sorts of infor-

mation of the candidates. Once submitted to the EC,

the commission doesn't have any jurisdiction to

cancelled if he gives false information in affidavits as per

the Representation of People Order (RPO) and it will be

considered as a punishable offence under section 181 of

snatching of the three JMB men, Fakhrul said adequate

security had not been ensured when the police were taking

Meanwhile, BNP Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir

Rizvi Ahmed said the militancy issue being thrust to the fore

ahead of the upazila election was mysterious. He added the

government was staging a drama with an ulterior motive.

'Shootout' a govt bid

the militants to a Mymensingh court from Gazipur.

It was totally a failure of the government, he added.

Besides, candidature of a lawmaker aspirant can be

receive any revised copy of it."

Bangladesh Penal Code, he added.

## Ruhal's wife 'mistakenly shown'

Citing an example, he said if an SSC examinee makes a mistake in an answer script and later writes to the board chairman for correcting the mistake, it would be meaningless.

Following newspaper reports on the astonishing increase of wealth of Ruhal's wife, the former minister applied to the EC in the second week of last month seeking correction in his wife's wealth statement.

According to the wealth statement submitted to the EC in 2008, Ruhal's wife had property worth around Tk 97 lakh, which has increased to around Tk 7.53 crore in last five

Ruhal had property worth Tk 4.99 crore, which has soared to around Tk9 crore during the same period.

The ACC on January 22 launched preliminary probes into corruption allegations against three former ministers, League, including Ruhal.

The graft watchdog has already quizzed AL lawmaker (Cox's Bazar-4) Abdur Rahman Bodi and former state minister for water resources Mahbubur Rahman on the same allegation.

two former and two incumbent lawmakers of Awami



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### Tender Notice

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www.siblbd.com for detailed specification and related (Md. Akbar Ali)

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

# 2 more testify against Quasem

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two prosecution witnesses yesterday testified that Al-Badr men tortured them at an Al-Badr torture camp in Chittagong following the instructions of Jamaat-e-Islami leader Mir Quasem Ali during the Liberation War. Mohammad Salauddin and his

uncle Mohammad Zakaria of Golamali Najirbari area of Chittagong said Al-Badr men took them from their homes and tortured them inside the camp for several days to get information about freedom fighters.

The two were released after their family members made a deal with the Al-Badr that they would give information about freedom fighters regularly.

Salauddin and Zakaria, the ninth and 10th prosecution witness in turf wars on university campuses. Severing the tendons of rival activists is its Quasem's case, gave almost identical descriptions before the International

Crimes Tribunal-2 about their detentions and ordeals.

Quasem, a member of Jamaat's central executive committee, is facing 14 charges for his alleged involvement in crimes against humanity committed in Chittagong during the war.

Salauddin, during his 30-minute testimony, said he had been working as an artist in Chittagong's Chawkbazar during the war and on the morning of November 30, Al-Badr men surrounded their house and detained him and his uncles Zakaria and Iskandar Alam Chowdhury, and cousin Nazim. Salauddin said they were taken to

the Dalim Hotel Al-Badr camp on a truck and kept confined to a room blindfolded. After two or three days, he was tor-

tured severely and after four or five days, one man took him to the first floor.

"When I was brought before Mir

Quasem Ali [on the first floor], he asked me where the arms and freedom fighters were. If I don't give the information, I would be cut to pieces and dumped in the Karnaphuli river," said Salauddin.

Salauddin said when he didn't answer, Quasem asked Al-Badr men to torture him more and his orders were carried out.

During his captivity, his father and another uncle went to Dalim Hotel and met Quasem. Al-Badr men had produced him before Quasem and his father and uncle, said Salauddin. "Then Mir Quasem Ali said 'you are

spared just because of your father. You go home, collect information about freedom fighters and provide us with the information'," he added.

After his testimony, Quasem's counsel Mizanul Islam completed crossexamining him before Zakaria testified and was cross-examined.

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS

#### Introduction

UNICEF intends to update its local suppliers' and Institutional service providers' database within Bangladesh. To the greatest extent possible, UNICEF shall endeavor to obtain competitive bids directly from suppliers in the following preferred order:

- Local manufacturers of goods
- 2. Authorized or duly appointed local representatives of manufacturers
- Local wholesalers or general traders where the requirement involves the supply and set packing of a wide range of products.

Interested local suppliers of goods and services who meet the criterion below are requested to complete UNICEF supplier profile form and return for assessment and for possible registration into the UNICEF supplier and service providers' database.

#### Requirements for consideration

Prospective local suppliers and companies duly registered to operate business in Bangladesh should submit a completed UNICEF supplier profile form together with:

- Company Profile which should include:
- Company structure
- Company line of business · Number and type of employees
- Trade License (Copy of the original attested)
- Trade License (English Translated) · Certificate of incorporation (if applicable) TIN Certificate
- VAT Registration Certificate
- If manufacturer, site of factory · Number and types of equipment employed
- Monthly and annual production capacity
- Description of quality control systems applied
- Copy of ISO certification if available. Local Bank Account details Audited company accounts for two financial years
- appropriate government authority to operate a business in Bangladesh At least three references of major customers/clients

- Suppliers have at least five years' operating as a business

· Any other licenses or authorizations issued by the

- concern in Bangladesh - Suppliers must accept UNICEF's General Terms and
- Conditions Suppliers must have sufficient financial resources to
- maintain its business in Bangladesh Suppliers must not have prior record of inappropriate conduct in ethical, social or environmental issues (corporate responsibility).
- A. CATEGORIES OF COMMODITY UNDER GOODS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

### **EDUCATION SUPPLIES:**

- Classroom Supplies (stationery & consumables, text/reading books, learning materials, truck/metal box, cupboard, education kit, etc.)
- Handcraft supplies (scissors)
- Physical Educations (sport items, balls, nets, whistles, tabards, skipping rope, etc.) Play materials (wooden and plastic blocks and toys)
- Students' Supplies (carrier bag, slate, geometry set,
- exercise book, colouring pencil, crayon, erasers, pencil, sharpener, ball pens, etc.) Training and Learning kit (TLM)

WATER AND SANITATION:

MEDICAL KITS (first aid kit, thermometer, etc.)

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (medical utensils, wheel chair, trolley, bend, bucket, cabinets, infusion stand, stretcher, oxygen flow meter, oxygen & nitroxide cylinders, lab. equipment, etc.)

ANTHROPOMETRIC EQUIPMENT (weighing scale, spring balance, baby/child height measuring board, ID bracelets, etc.) POWER GENERATORS (Generators, Instant Power Supply (IPS), Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), Anti Voltage

Regulators, Voltage Stabilizers, solar power system, etc. PRINTING (books, booklets, reports, posters, folders, leaflets & flyers, stickers, flipchart, flip book, calendars, stationery, etc.)

#### SHELTER/FIELD EQUIPMENT (bedding, blanket, tarpaulins, tents, folding table & chair, plastic sheets, etc.)

- supplement kit, reusable kit, hand-washing devices, etc.)
- Hand pumps & accessories, fitting & valves, centrifugal, etc.) Water storage tanks (collapsible & non-collapsible, polymer
- containers, etc.)
- Water quality (filters, port. test equipment/reagents, purification tablets, etc.)

## FIBER GLASS BOATS & ACCESSORIES

COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT (GPS receiver & software, audiovisual communication, satellite & telecommunication equipment, PAS, mobile phones, telephone sets, etc.)

**ELECTRICAL GOODS & APPLIANCES (Air-Conditioners,** fans, television, refrigerator, DVD player, etc.)

ICT EQUIPMENT (desktop Computers (hardware, software & accessories), UPS, Printers, Laptop; Digital Sender, Scanners, PDA, Tablet PC, etc.)

Cards, etc.) PHOTO AND VIDEO CAMERA

MOBILE SERVICE PROVIDERS (Internet Modems, SIM

### ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES & FIXTURES (cable, bulbs, etc.)

hanging, file rack, cupboard, etc.)

OFFICE EQUIPMENT (photocopier, fax, de-humidifier, shredder, lamination machine, spiral binders, etc. **MOTOR CYCLES & BI-CYCLES** 

OFFICE FURNITURE (desks, chairs, tables, cabinets, wall

SAFETY AND SECURITY EQUIPMENT (Fire Fighting equipment, security camera, smoke detectors, ladder, flood light, emergency light, flash light, etc.)

OFFICE STATIONERY & CONSUMABLES READY MADE GARMENTS /CLOTHING FOOTWEAR

Recreation, Child Development kits, etc.)

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (Harmonium, toble, dogi, mondira, keyboard, nupur, kongiri, dhol, etc.) UTENSILS (Ceramic, Stainless Steel, Melamine, Aluminum

Cooking Pot, etc.) CHEMICALS (Calcium Hypochloride, Alum, Hydrated Lime,

Ethanol, Hydroxylamine Hydrochloride, Potassium Iodide, Sodium Borohydride, etc.) EMERGENCY & RELIEF GOODS (Family kits, plastics sheet,

CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL (Cement, MS Rod, MS Angles, Corrugated Galvanized Iron Sheets (CGI), paint, etc.) GENERAL GOODS (Umbrella, Souvenir/Crest, Rubber &

- B. CATEGORIES OF COMMODITY UNDER SERVICES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWINGBUT NOT LIMITED TO: Advertisement (Newspaper, Web, etc.)
  - Auditing Service - Logistics Services (Clearing &Forwarding, Packing &
  - Moving, In-land Transportation & Distribution, Warehouse and Inventory Management)

Plastics Products, etc.)

- Travel Services
- Vehicle Maintenance
- Security Services Cleaning and Maintenance Services
- Driving Services

Courier Services

- Rent a car Constructions (Renovations, Maintenance
- Repair Works) Electrical and Electro-mechanical Installation
- Event Management, Catering and Venues Graphic Design
- Hotels/Guest Houses/Accommodations Quality Assurance and Inspection
- Insurance Services Interior Design
- Internet Services (wire and potable wireless)
- Media Monitoring Pre-Testing of Materials (Communication/Training) Research, Survey, Monitoring & Evaluation in following

Contractors,

areas: Education, Health, Drowning and child injury prevention, Nutrition, HIV/AIDS, Child Protection, Water & Sanitation, Environment, Health Population, Gender

- Studies (Baseline, Impact Studies, Formative)
- Social Communication Campaign through Electronic, Print & Outdoor Media, Interactive Popular Theatre (IPT) including Social Marketing for promotion through various activities for behavior change Social Mobilization

Training & Facilitation: Administration, Finance & Budget,

Procurement & Logistics, Inventory and Warehouse

- Management, Human Resources, Information Technology, Communication, Monitoring & Evaluation, Health & Nutrition, HIV/ AIDS, Water & Sanitation, Environment
- Private Hospitals/Company/Private Doctors for providing medical services including outreach mobile unit

Write-Up, Feature Articles, Text Brochures, Case Studies,

- Ambulance service, Tele-medicine/E-Health/E-medicine Translation Services
- Concept Papers, Short & Analytical Reports and all other types of Writing Related Services

MIS Development and Maintenance

Architectural Consultancy

- Software/Database Development/Design Data Link/Connectivity services IT Training
- SIP trunk for Cisco Unified Communications Manager (IP PABX) - Web Design, Help Desk Service
- Engineering Consultancy - Land & Property Valuation and Management
- Identification & Signage Calibration and Maintenance of Cold Chain Equipment
- Installation, Commissioning, User Training and Maintenance
- of Medical Equipment
- Repair and Maintenance of Medical Equipment
- Programme, Process Documentation
- Pot Plant rental Photo documentation
- Production of 2D/3D Animation, Video Game, interactive e-Book etc.

Video documentation

- Administrative support services like, Receptionist, Telephone Operator, Creche Supervisor etc.

Gender audit, assessment and related training

#### - Production and broadcasting of TV/Radio drama, talk show and other programme

- Theatre for folk songs, street drama

Collection and return of documents Interested locally registered suppliers who meet the requirements should collect a copy of Supplier Profile Form together with UNICEF General Terms and Conditions from

UNICEF office or download from: weblink: http://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/supply 4912.htm

Duly completed Supplier Profile Form together with all relevant supporting documents including area of specialization (in lever arch file), marked "Expression of Interest", UNICEF Bangladesh, and MUST be received latest by 4.00 pm local time on 17 March 2014 deliveredat: UNICEF Reception, BSL Office Complex, 3rd floor, 1 Minto Road, Dhaka-1000. UNICEF will have the right to request for the presentation of original supporting documentation.

## Battle begins - Hygiene and sanitation (soap, latrine, hygiene kit,

Tamim Iqbal.

many socio-economic problems but when it comes to cricket, they rise to the occasion and the next 12 days should be no exception. Afghanistan, the only Associate Member country, have added new flavour to the tournament as everybody will look forward to see how the newcomers grab the opportunity to do battle with giants like India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the improving Bangladesh.

Can Pakistan defend their title and continue their good recent showing? Can India, a country which is dictating terms off the field, put some balm on their wounds of a winless trek across South Africa and New Zealand without regular skipper MS Dhoni? Can Sri Lanka capitalise on their long stay in the country to pull off their fifth trophy? These are the questions that will be answered over the next few days in the cricket extravaganza at Fatullah and Mirpur, where the final will take place on March 8.

The memory of young Bangladesh captain Mushfiqur Rahim burying his head in the shoulders of Shakib Al Hasan and breaking down in tears after the heartbreak of losing to Pakistan in the final by just two runs is still fresh in the minds of millions. The heart-rending scene won the Tigers countless hearts

But for Bangladesh fans the question would be whether

their beloved Tigers can repeat the brave heroics of 2012?

across the cricketing globe and their rabble-rousing performance -- which saw them vanquish World Cup finalists India and Sri Lanka -- ultimately proved to be the start of a new era for Bangladesh cricket. No one had even thought Bangladesh could pose anyone a challenge in the previous meet and unfortunately the

notion remains the same as a struggling Bangladesh enter

the tournament without their two stalwarts -- Shakib and

unite for children

