

CITY CORPORATION



ELECTIONS 2015



From left, pro-BNP mayoral candidate Manjur Alam conducts an election campaign in Chittagong city's Bhatiyar yesterday ahead of the April 28 city corporation polls. The ruling Awami League-backed mayoral candidate AJM Nasir Uddin does the same in the city's Bahaddarhat.



PHOTO: STAR

UNDP to host dialogue among youths, mayor candidates of DNCC on Wednesday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will host the first-ever Youth Dialogue with the mayoral candidates of Dhaka North City Corporation on Wednesday.

The programme, to be held with the theme "Raising Young Voices!" at Spectra Convention Centre in the capital's Gulshan, will provide a platform to the participants to voice their concerns and queries about the upcoming city corporation's mayoral elections, said an official in Bangladesh.

A UNDP release said the UN Youth Advisory Panel selected 20 questions, from over 150 coming from different youth organisations and social media

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Unfair polls to create fresh crisis

Civil society members warn from Election Working Group roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Terming the upcoming Dhaka and Chittagong city corporations' polls a gateway to overcome the ongoing political stalemate, civil society members yesterday asked the Election Commission (EC) to create a level playing field, saying failure to hold it perfectly would result in a fresh crisis.

They were addressing a roundtable, "Credible City Corporation Elections 2015", Election Working Group (EWG) organised in the capital's Cirdap auditorium where EWG Director Md Abdul Alim presented a keynote.

Asking contestants to train and educate their polling agents on vote manipulation detection, former election commissioner Brig Gen (ret'd) M Sakhawat Hussain suggested that the EC provide hourly vote counts to the agents for detection of anomalies.

Moreover, the EC should seek from police the list of people facing arrest warrants so that innocents can avoid police harassment. "Arrest warrants should be specific...if any candidate faces arrest warrants, he or she should surrender to courts to participate in campaigns," he said as chief guest.

Shushashoner Jannoy Nagorik Secretary Badiul Alam Majumdar said though it was not a political election, political parties have expressed favouring candidates which was a violation of the electoral code of conduct.

He criticised the EC for staying mum and suggested it deploys the army to resist manipulation.

Masud Hossain Alkaderi, a mayor contestant in the

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Khokon makes smooth traffic top priority

Unveils manifesto

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League-backed mayoral candidate for Dhaka South City Corporation Sayeed Khokon made easing traffic congestion in the city his top priority.

Promising a modern and developed Dhaka city, Khokon unveiled his election manifesto at a press conference under the banner of "Shahosro Nagorik Committee" at the Institution of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh in the capital.

Among the 15 commitments of the mayor aspirant, easing traffic jam, ensuring a pollution free Buriganga, ensuring adequate supply of water, gas and electricity, creating a clean, pollution free and healthy Dhaka city and declaring a war against corruption, extortion and criminal activities are his top five.

On easing traffic, Khokon,

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Khaleda to introduce Dhaka mayoral picks on Wednesday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will introduce mayoral aspirants backed by her party for elections to the two Dhaka city corporations on Wednesday.

The party has already given support to Mirza Abbas for Dhaka South City Corporation polls (DSCC) and Tabith Awal for Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) polls.

She will also introduce councillor aspirants supported by the party. Adarsha Dhaka Andolon convener Prof Emajuddin Ahmed informed this to the media at a programme at Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Meanwhile, pro-BNP lawyers formed three committees for conducting election campaigns supporting BNP-backed mayoral candidates.

Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum, a body of pro-BNP lawyers, formed the committees led by Jamiruddin Sircar, Khandker Mahub Hossain and AM Mahub Uddin Khokon at a meeting at the Supreme Court Bar Association auditorium in the afternoon, JAF Office Secretary Ragib Rauf Chowdhury told The Daily Star.

Mayor aspirants, supported by different political parties, spent a busy day yesterday conducting electoral campaigns.

AL-backed candidate for DSCC Sayeed Khokon unveiled his election manifesto. He later exchanged views with city residents in Motijheel and with AL leaders and activists at Dhanmondi. He also participated in a roadside rally in Lalbagh.

BNP-backed DSCC mayoral candidate Mirza Abbas' wife Afroza Abbas campaigned on Bailey road and in different parts of Old Dhaka. With 60 cases against him, Mirza Abbas is yet to appear before the public. Mirza Abbas yesterday submitted three separate petitions to the High Court

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BNP demands deployment of army a week before polls

2 more mayoral candidates make solving waterlogging their top priority; EC sends letter to CMP enquiring about its steps regarding Saturday's attack on BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong unit BNP leaders in the port city yesterday demanded that the army be deployed one week before the polls to the city corporation to ensure a free and fair election.

Meanwhile, two mayoral candidates announced their manifestos with solving waterlogging their top priority.

Moreover, the Election Commission (EC) sent a notice asking Chittagong Metropolitan Police Commissioner Abdul Jalil Mandol of steps taken regarding Saturday's attack on BNP activists in the city.

Besides, the EC last night removed an arch containing banners of

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