

UNION PARISHAD ELECTIONS 2016

EC admonishes Satkhira SP, 5 OCs

Asks them to arrest offenders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission yesterday admonished superintendent of police in Satkhira and officers-in-charge of five police stations in the district for negligence in discharging duties of cops who were deployed in Union Parishad election areas.

The EC also asked the police officers to immediately arrest the offenders involved in electoral irregularities, EC sources said.

The ballot boxes were stuffed in 14 polling stations in Satkhira at night, few hours prior to voting, which started on March 22 in the first phase of UP polls. Police in some UPs remained silent during the incidents.

Finding the allegations true, the EC suspended voting to the polling stations and asked police to sue the candidates whose supporters stuffed the boxes.

Later, the EC in a letter on Monday asked the SP and five OCs to appear before the commission and explain how ballot boxes were stuffed in the presence of law enforcers. Following the directives, the six police officers came to the EC yesterday.

"We have brought their (cops) faults to their notice and they have realised it. They promised to arrest the criminals immediately," Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz told reporters after the hearing.

The EC directed the police officers to submit charge sheets in this regard within 15 days, EC sources told The Daily Star.

While briefing reporters at his office at the EC secretariat yesterday, Shah Nawaz warned of taking action against law enforcers and polling officials, if their negligence is found during the next phases of UP polls. Elections to 646 UPs will be held tomorrow in the second phase.

Elections to 712 UPs were held on March 22. Around 621 UPs will go to polls on April 23 in third phase and 743 UPs on May 7 in the fourth phase and around 1,400 more UPs in two other phases till June.



MI Cement Factory Ltd (Crown Cement) Chairman Mohammed Jahangir Alam speaks at a reception accorded to three freedom fighters -- Lt Col (retd) Abu Osman Chowdhury, Shiv Narayan Das, and Gitasree Chowdhury -- by the company at its office yesterday. Jahangir Alam and the company Managing Director Md Khabiruddin Molla jointly handed over crests and gift vouchers to them. Additional managing directors Md Alamgir Kabir, and Molla Md Majnu and Director Md Mizanur Rahman Molla also spoke.

GRAFT CASE HC okays resumption of trial against Mirza Abbas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for resuming trial proceedings against former housing and public works minister Mirza Abbas and two others in a corruption case filed over allotting a plot.

Rejecting a petition filed by Abbas seeking cancellation of the trial, the HC also ordered the lower court to finish the trial in one year. The HC lifted its 2008 order that stayed the proceedings.

The Anti Corruption Commission filed the case on July 15, 2007 against Abbas, former BNP lawmaker Ali Asgar Lobi and Mahfuzul Islam, a government official. In the case statement, the trio were made accused of illegally allotting the 19.44 katha plot in collusion with each other in Tejgaon Industrial Area for Pacific Chemicals Ltd, owned by Lobi in 2006. Without having no-objection certificates from the Board of Investment and the Department of Environment, the land was allotted as an industrial plot, it said.

ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan said Abbas and Lobi are now bail in this case while Mahfuzul is absconding.

FIGHTING EXTREMISM Washington will be beside Dhaka

Says US Asst Secy of State Nisha Desai Biswal marking Bangladesh's Independence Day

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United States said it will remain beside Bangladesh in the ongoing fight against violent extremism and terrorism.

"The American people have long been with Bangladesh. And, today, I'm here to underscore that we'll remain by your side," said Nisha Desai Biswal, US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs, while addressing a function at Bangladesh Embassy in Washington, DC on Tuesday, marking Bangladesh's Independence Day.

Biswal said when working side by side the people of the two nations can solve any problem.

"We'll be there in the long struggle against the effects of climate change," she added.

She said the US will be there in support of freedom of speech, religion, and an honest and fair election in Bangladesh, as democracy lives in the DNA of both of the nations.

In the past few decades, Biswal said, Bangladesh has developed from a food importer to a food exporter. "Its homegrown organisations like Brac and Grameen Bank are showing all how to follow Bangladesh's impressive development model."

"The United States is a proud partner of Bangladesh in many of its successes...Our USAID mission in Dhaka invests nearly 200 million dollars every year to help Bangladeshis live healthier, longer, more productive lives," she said.

No other country buys more of Bangladesh's products than the United States, every year Americans purchase more than 5 billion dollars' worth of goods made in Bangladesh, Biswal said.

Bangladesh Ambassador M Ziauddin, Ambassador Peter Selfridge, Assistant Secretary Ann Richards, and Peter Lavoy, former ambassadors, including ambassadors Tezzie and Howie Schaffer, Dan Mozena, and James Moriarty were present.

Quader bemoans devious politics, journalism

Attends Ctg Union of Journalists' general meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Walls are being built instead of bridges in politics and in journalism in the country, Road, Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader remarked as a programme's chief guest at Chittagong Press Club yesterday.

"We are building the Padma bridge but we have not been able to build political bridges...Divisive journalism is like divisive politics. Today you will see hybrid politics...for which real people are cornered. I am seeing an increase of hybrids in journalism," he said.

"Neither politics nor journalism nowadays requires education...and for this the

standard is decreasing," he told the Chittagong Union of Journalists' biannual general meeting.

He said journalism without mass communication was as dangerous as politics without any links with people, but expressed hope, saying some youths were taking up journalism after attaining a "good" education.

He said the Dhaka-Chittagong elevated expressway's construction would begin in 2018 and cost Tk 70,000 crore and the Karnaphuli tunnel project within a few days after a loan agreement was signed with China Exim Bank.

Advertisement for 'দি ইনস্টিটিউট অব ব্যাংকিং, বাংলাদেশ (আইবিবি)' (The Institute of Banking, Bangladesh) with details about courses and contact information.

Advertisement for 'বিজেএমসি'র দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি' (BJMCI Tender Notice) with a table listing tender details.

Advertisement for 'Suppliers Enlistment' by Eminence, listing various supply categories like Laboratory and Medical Equipment, Food, Fish, Meat, and Fruits Service, etc.

Three small advertisements for 'পুট বিক্রয়' (Plot Sale) with details about land parcels and contact numbers.

Monika president, Rintu gen secy of SCF faction DU CORRESPONDENT

Naima Khaled Monika and Snehardi Chakrabarti Rintu were elected president and general secretary respectively of a faction of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF), a student organisation of Bangladesh Serajul Islam Chowdhury.

* দরপত্র জমার পূর্বদিন অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত সিডিউল ক্রয় করা যাবে। যাবতীয় তথ্যাদি সিডিউলে বর্ণিত আছে। * জমার তারিখে দরপত্র ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত গ্রহণ এবং ১২.৩০ মি: দরদাতাগণের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র বাজা খোলা হবে। * দরপত্র সিডিউল বিজেএমসি প্রধান কার্যালয়ের হিসাব বিভাগ, মিলের হিসাব বিভাগ, মিলের রগানী অফিস এবং খুলনা অঞ্চলের মিলের ক্ষেত্রে খুলনা জোনাল অফিস থেকে ক্রয় করা যাবে।

Advertisement for 'Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh' with details about a vacancy announcement for Deputy Governor, Bangladesh Bank.

Advertisement for 'World Health Organization' with a 'REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)' section listing five projects related to water safety, climate variability, health system assessment, and blood group directories.

Sara Hossain FROM PAGE 3 Since its inception in 2007, nearly 100 women from 60 different countries have been honoured. Sara Hossain, daughter of eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain, is a lawyer of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and the honorary executive director of Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust.

Interested candidates are requested to send an application with CV (both hard and soft) attaching two copies of coloured passport size photograph and contact details of three references no later than 13 April, 2016 during office hour (5:00pm) to the following address (by hand or by e-mail). Please note that only short-listed candidates will be notified and invited to participate in the selection process. Address for mailing CV & related documents: Gokul Chand Das, Additional Secretary, Bank & Financial Institutions Division, Building No. 7, Room No. 326, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.