

Emphasise voices of the poor: Gowher Rizvi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The voices of those at the bottom of the wealth pyramid should be emphasised during the preparation of the National Governance Assessment Framework, Prime Minister's International Affairs Advisor Gowher Rizvi said yesterday.

He was speaking as chief guest at Dhaka Division consultation programme on National Governance Assessment Framework (NGAF).

The Governance Innovation Unit of the Prime Minister's Office and the United Nations Development Programme, in collaboration with Centre on Budget and Policy, Dhaka University organised the programme at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

The NGAF is a country-contextualised governance assessment framework that aims to assist in creating an inclusive and peaceful society with access to justice for all alongside effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

"In our society we need to create a system for institutions and laws so that every citizen has equal access and opportunity," Prof Gowher Rizvi said.

UNDP Bangladesh National Consultant Radwan Mujib Siddiq; Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Dr Ahmad Kaikaus; Resident Representative of UNDP Sudipto Mukerjee and Development Studies Professor at DU Kazi Maruf Islam also spoke at the opening session.

Rebel

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activists loyal to Nasir are not interested to work for Rezaul as well as their rival group.

Election campaign started from January 8, after months of deferral of the polls due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The previous election date was March 29, 2020.

Two hundred candidates will contest under 41 general wards and 14 reserved wards. However, lone candidate of East Bakalia ward-14 has won the election uncontested.

The intel report also says AL-backed mayoral candidate Rezaul is less known before the public but has a fair political image, but there is no combined effort and enthusiasm from the AL leaders for Rezaul, the senior joint general secretary of the city AL unit.

His BNP counterpart Shahadat Hossain is president of the party's Chattogram city unit.

AL rebel councillor candidate for Firingi Bazar and AJM Nasir follower Hasan Murad said, "I am the candidate of public; they want me. Those who secured party nomination are trying to oppress me through attack and case."

"I have no connection with BNP-Jamaat. People will vote for me and I will contest in the election at any cost," he said.

Lalkhan Bazar ward rebel councillor candidate AF Kabir Ahmed Manik said "I am contesting the election as an independent candidate. People will vote for me. They don't want to be the patron of drug and teenage gangs."

Mahabubul Alam, BNP-nominated councillor candidate for Chandgaon, said, "It is true that everyone wants to get vote from all political parts to win the race. We have no connection with Jamaat now but Jamaat voters may cast vote in the election. Now the question is if they cast votes, who get those votes," he added.

Contacted, AJM Nasir Uddin, AL Chattogram city unit general secretary and member secretary of AL election management committee for CCC polls, said the party is strict in its decision of taking stern action against rebel candidates. "If one wants to stay in the party, they must follow its decision," he said.

Despite repeated attempts, Rezaul was not available over phone for comments.

Citizens, cops

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AL insiders said Nazrul, a follower of late AL leader ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury, was a councillor of the ward between 2010 and 2015 while Quader, a follower of former CCC mayor AJM Nasir Uddin, was elected councillor in the polls held in 2015.

Both of them tried to get party backing this time but Nazrul succeeded, they said, adding that Quader was adamant to vie in the polls, defying party decision.

Locals apprehended more clashes in the area between followers of two in days to come.

"We afraid to go out of home," said a local of Mogoltuli area preferring anonymity. "Gunfight between activists of two rival candidates might have killed an innocent passerby."

"The more polls day is coming closer, the higher the tension is between rival candidates," said another local.

Meanwhile, law enforcing agencies are also worried over the tensions. Sources in police said they were not too worried about tensions between BNP-backed councillor candidates and AL-backed candidates, rather they were worried over issues between AL-backed candidates and their rival candidates from the party.

A total of 12 former ward councillors who did not get support from AL are vying in the polls defying party decision.

Law-enforcing agencies are anxious of violence in those wards, particularly ward-14 (Lalkhanbazar), ward-33 (Firingibazar), ward-28 (Pathantuli) and ward-12 (Saraipara).

Contacted, CMP Commissioner Saleh Mohammad Tanvir said police and law enforcers were alert to thwart any untoward situation in the city over CCC polls.

"We will maintain law and order situation at any cost," he said.

Asked about the incident at Mogoltuli on Tuesday, he said police rushed to the spot immediately and arrested a number of people, who were being quizzed.

11 INCLUDING COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE REMANDED

Meanwhile, a Chattogram court yesterday placed 11 arrestees including Abdul Quader, acouncilor candidate in the polls, on three-day police remand in a case filed for killing of a man in Tuesday's clash.

The court of Chattogram Metropolitan Magistrate Shafi Uddin passed the order after police produced the arrestees before the court with a 10-day remand prayer, said Inspector Shahadat Hossain Khan of Detective Branch of CMP, also investigation officer of the case.

VC, wife

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phone, who arrived in Dhaka at around 3pm Wednesday, adding that his wife was stunned and distraught.

Before leaving, he handed over the charge to the treasurer.

The four-year contractual term of the VC was set to end on January 31.

A tense situation prevailed at the campus for the last couple of days over recruitment, allegedly mostly among students of HSTU and relatives of officials, teachers, and staffers.

VC Dr Abul Kashem said he was pressured to finalise recruitment of 22 officials, 62 teachers, and 50 staffers on an ad-hoc basis. That violated the terms of UGC, said the VC.

Contacted, HSTU treasurer Dr Bidhan Chandra Halder denied the allegation against him, saying he came to know of the VC leaving after coming to office yesterday.

Dr Fazlur Haq, the registrar, also denied the allegation against him.

Want to

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About the holding tax, the mayor said residents of DNCC areas will be able to pay their holding tax from home from March.

He also distributed face-masks among garbage management workers.

After visiting the canal, the mayor went to Mohammadpur BRTC Bus Depot and announced expansion of road demolition of the depot's boundary walls to reduce traffic congestion.

He also visited Tajmahal Eidgah and Shaheed Park playgrounds. BRTC Chairperson Md Ehsan-E-Elahi, DNCC Ward-31 Councillor Shafiqul Islam Sentu and Ward-33 Councillor Asif Ahmed, among others, accompanied him.

Indomitable

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front of my house."

"Many of my friends, relatives and neighbours discouraged me about opening the shop. But I was determined. Now, I am running my shop efficiently. I have even learned to swim, cycle, operate computers and mobile phones using just my legs," he said.

Kamrul's wife Julia Begum was happy with his husband's decision and determination. "We were all very uncertain [regarding finances] after the accident. But his courage, willpower and hard work changed all of that."

Wasa MD

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that the compliance report submitted by Wasa MD did not show that the HC directives had been implemented.

He prayed to the HC to issue a deadline for the Wasa MD to implement the 2011 directives.

On September 14, last year, during hearing the same petition, the HC bench observed that the Wasa MD was not voluntarily implementing its 2011 directives.

The court also said the Wasa MD has been violating his commitments and making delays in complying with its directives by submitting different affidavits to it and seeking times from the court.

HRPB lawyer Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star that Wasa MD Taqsem A Khan had appeared before the HC bench on March 4 last year and apologised to it for not implementing the 2011 directives.

He submitted an undertaking to the HC, saying that he would take steps to fully comply with the HC directives, he added.

Bangladeshi averts it thru'

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both ambient and household, was an extremely high risk factor in the 572,600 deaths in Bangladesh that were caused by noncommunicable disease in 2018.

The court took into consideration the fact that the drugs the man is receiving in France are not available in Bangladesh, and that the Bangladeshi health system can only provide the night-time ventilation equipment he needs for his sleep apnoea in hospital.

It also heard evidence that the man's father had died of an asthma attack at the age of 54, Riviere said, and that since arriving in France and beginning treatment, his respiratory capacity had increased from 58 per cent in 2013 to 70 per cent in 2018.

"For all these reasons, the court decided that sending my client back to his country would mean putting him at real risk of death," the lawyer said. "Respiratory failure as a result of an asthma attack would be almost inevitable."

The man arrived in France in 2011 after fleeing persecution in his home country, The Guardian reported. He settled in Toulouse, found work as a waiter, and in 2015 was given a temporary residence permit as a foreign national requiring medical treatment.

In 2017, however, doctors advising the French immigration authorities recommended that his condition "could

be adequately treated in Bangladesh", and two years later the local Haute-Garonne prefecture issued an expulsion order.

A lower court in Toulouse overturned the deportation order in June last year, purely on the grounds that the relevant drugs were not in fact available in the man's home country. The Bordeaux court also rejected the prefecture's appeal, saying that the environmental criterion must also be taken into account.

Dr Gary Fuller, an air pollution scientist at Imperial College London, said this was the first case he was aware of in which the environment had been cited by a court in an extradition hearing. "The court has effectively declared that the environment -- air pollution -- meant it was unsafe to send this man back," he said.

Fuller said the case fed into a steadily growing broader agenda about the right to a healthy environment. "There's a UN rapporteur on this issue, and people around the world -- particularly in countries with less developed environmental and health laws -- who are developing thinking about declaring a right to a healthy environment."

Many countries set standards for air and water quality, for example, but "stop short of actually saying you have a right to be protected from environmental harm," Fuller said.

Cops allowed to conduct dope test

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Prevention Act after his 17-year-old daughter, an O-level student, was allegedly raped and murdered in the capital's Kalabagan area.

According to the case statement, Dihan tricked the schoolgirl into going to his flat and raped her when his family members were away from home. The victim bled profusely and fell unconscious. Dihan then took her to a hospital to deflect blame, the plaintiff alleged.

On January 8, Dihan gave his confessional statement before a Dhaka court. He is now behind bars.

Meanwhile, the victim's family yesterday demanded exemplary punishment for those involved in the incident through holding a speedy trial of the case.

The parents of the schoolgirl said attempts were being made to divert the investigation by blaming their daughter.

"I want no other parents to lose their beloved child like we did," the victim's mother said at the press conference, organised by Bangladesh

Mahila Parishad (BMP), at the Jatiya Press Club.

She alleged that her daughter was abducted by Dihan and his associates on January 7. "She was tortured, raped and murdered brutally at Dihan's home. I went to the hospital and saw Dihan and his three companions sitting there. Dihan begged me to save him."

The victim's mother further complained that police did not record the case the way they expected to file it. She said a quarter was trying to save Dihan and his associates and assassinate her daughter's character.

On behalf of her family, the mother placed four demands before the government. The demands are: bringing criminals to justice, transferring the case to a speedy trial tribunal, conducting a transparent DNA test, and making sure that the family is not harassed.

Maksuda Akhter, director of BMP, read out a statement at the event.

It said unwarranted statements were being made on social media denigrating the victim. The victim's family was worried over a fair and

neutral investigation into the incident as the physicians concerned and the police administration were making unwanted remarks from the very beginning, the statement added.

Mahila Parishad also expressed concern over the involvement of increasing number of teenagers and youths in various sexual offenses, including rape. It demanded the authorities take effective measures to control pornography and increase activities for mental development of children and youths.

Speaking at the press conference, BMP acting president Fauzia Moslem said the family, society and the state should take the responsibility for Dihan being spoiled. Blaming of the victim over any rape case or violence against a woman should be stopped, she observed.

Showing a photo taken by the victim's mother, Fauzia said the autopsy did not find any sign of torture on the schoolgirl's body. But the photo shows that there were injury marks on her waist, she added.

The schoolgirl's father was also present at the press conference.

PK Halder's aide Abantika arrested

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institutions (NBFIs) abroad.

Contacted, ACC Deputy Director Md Salahuddin said Abantika owns a flat in Dhanmondi. "The property was actually bought by PK Halder," he added.

The graft watchdog last week arrested Halder's another aide, Shankha Bepari, over owning a flat bought by the former.

The ACC investigation officer seized Halder's two flats and six acres of land following a court order in this regard last month.

According to the case statement,

Halder invested about Tk 123.54 crore in Lipro International. He purchased 589 decimals of land for Tk 1 crore in Mymensingh.

During the enquiry, the ACC found that he invested about Tk 67.35 crore in eight companies.

Besides, documents show that Halder has moveable properties worth Tk 32.25 crore. The total amount of his moveable property stands at Tk 99.61 crore, which he amassed directly and indirectly using others' names, reads the FIR.

The graft watchdog found that Halder, now staying abroad, has a legal income of about Tk 12.48 crore against his total wealth, including moveable and immovable properties, of Tk 287.39 crore.

"He has amassed Tk 274.91 crore beyond his known sources of income," it said.

Halder had joined NRB Global Bank as its managing director in 2015. Several enquiries over embezzlement of crores of taka from NBFIs by Halder are now pending with the ACC.

To light from dark spiral

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surrender programme.

Earlier, seven militants were brought back to normal life under a pilot project, Rab said. Of the seven, one was at an extreme stage of militancy but is now leading a normal life.

That person will deliver a speech at the programme today.

Relevant sources said the possibility of de-radicalisation is kept till extremists cross a certain limit. If that limit is exceeded, legal action is inevitable.

There are usually five stages leading to the peak of extremism, culminating in violent activities. Initially, the target is sympathetic to extremism. In the second stage, he or she becomes a supporter of extremism.

In the third phase, the person takes part in extremist activities and in the fourth, they become extremists. In the final stage, they carry out violent extremist activities.

According to Rab, arrangements have also been made to repatriate militants who are willing to surrender. For this, everyone is

being helped to return to the right profession for them.

One young woman who was about to surrender went abroad to study. But her family did not know that she returned to the country as part of a militant group. Now, after returning to normal life, an initiative is being taken for her to finish her studies. In this manner, some are being given cows for farming, while others are given power trailer machines.

Col Sarwar said, "We have considered what can be done other than handing over those involved in extremism to the law. It is difficult to solve this problem by knocking them down only through campaigns."

In addition to operational activities, Rab has started de-radicalisation activities to eradicate militancy, he said. "That is why we have involved people from different walks of life."

As a result of the concerted efforts of all, it will be possible to get rid of the so-called ideology of militancy, said the Rab ADG.

Six killed as three wheeler

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the injured were taken to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital.

The people carrier flipped over after it was hit at Madandanga Bus Stand area, and another truck rammed it within moments, the officer added.

A bystander said the second hit was the hardest. The workers were returning home from Abdalpur, Kushtia.

Medical Officer Rezona Parvin of Jhenidah Sadar Hospital said four of the victims were admission to the hospital and three of them were in critical condition.

All-women pilots complete

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"I'm extremely proud to be a part of this and I have been personally preparing for more than a year for this flight," she said.


"The view from the North Pole is superb," said her co-pilot, Captain Thanmei

Papagari, who flew the second half, adding that as women, they "had a point to prove that we can do the job."

They were joined by two first officers: Captain Akansha Sonaware and Captain Shivani Manhas.

হারিয়েছে
আমার রাজউক পুরানো নতুন শহর প্রকল্প এলাকায় ৫নং সেক্টরের ৩০নং বাজার ০০৬নং গ্রেটের ক্ষুদ্র ক্ষুদ্র ব্যবসায়ীদের ক্ষয়পত্র হারিয়েছে। কোভিড-১৯ের কারণে বানা কুমিল্লার তারিখ নং-১১০২/১৭, তারিখ ১৯/০১/২০১৭খ্রিঃ। কাজী মহিদুর রহমান, পিতাঃ মৃত কাজী আবদুল মতিন, মাতাঃ মৃত হাসনাতের সোহা, গ্রামঃ কালিকাপুর, পোঃ বাজার দেয়ারা-৩৫০০, কোভাওয়ালি, কুমিল্লা আদর্শ সদর, কুমিল্লা।

IN MEMORIAM



Thirtieth Death Anniversary of
Late Abul Qasem FCA (1919-1991)
Founder President (ICAB),
Former President (DCCI),
Founder, A. Qasem & Co., Chartered Accountants
In Fond Remembrance
Shakil, Farzana, Sohel, Jabeen, Sanjida, Mostaq Sadaat, Sajid, Navid, Sadaaf, Omair, Ahnaf, Afraz &
All Partners, Directors, Staff and Students of A. Qasem & Co.

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Position Vacancy Announcement
Position: **Development Outreach & Communication (DOC) Specialist, FSN-10**
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Bangladesh is seeking applications from qualified Bangladeshi nationals for the position of **Development Outreach & Communication (DOC) Specialist** in the Office of Program (PRO).
Location: USAID/Bangladesh, Deadline for application submission: February 11, 2021.
For a complete job description, required qualifications and detailed information on how to apply please visit www.usaid.gov/bangladesh/work-with-us/careers and www.bdjobs.com

EAST WEST UNIVERSITY
Progoti Foundation for Education and Development
Permanent Sanad Holder

INVITATION FOR TENDER

1.	Tender Name	Construction of Shaheed Minar at East West University			
2.	Source of Funds	East West University Own Fund			
3.	Tender No	EWU (Logistics) 75/2021/15			
4.	Eligibility of Tenderers	This invitation for Tenders is open to all eligible Tenderers as mentioned in Instructions to Tenderers and Tender Data Sheet (TDS)			
5.	Tenderer's Qualification	This invitation for Tenders is open to all qualified Tenderers as mentioned below: (a) The minimum required numbers of years of general experience of the tenderers in the construction works as prime contractor or Sub contractor or Management Contractor shall be 5 Years. Years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper/web site. (b) The minimum specific experience as a prime contractor or sub-contractor or management contractor in construction works of at least 1(one) contract of similar nature of work including situ pile, Pile Cap, RCC frame work brick masonry work, plumbing work, electrical work, arboriculture work, successfully completed in government/Semi Government /Autonomous organization/Private Corporate company of Bangladesh with in the last 5(five) years with a value of at least Tk=100/- (One Hundred) Lac. Years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT on the newspaper/website. (c) The Minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit lines of the tenderer shall be Tk=100/- (One Hundred) Lac. Documents Submitted along with the tender must be issued in between publication date and submission date of tender. Bank statement / letter of Commitment for Bank Undertaking for Line of Credit (Credit must be Approved by the Bank Authority) (d) The required average annual Construction Turnover shall be more than Tk=200/- (Two Hundred) Lac in the last 5 (five) Years. Years counting from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper/website. Payment certificate is to be obtained from the respective Executive Engineer or pay master.			
6.	Price of Tender Document	: Taka 1,500.00 (Taka One Thousand and Five Hundred Only)			
7.	Name and address of the Office(s) Selling Tender Document	: Office of the Director of Finance (1 st Floor, Room# 202)			
8.	Name and address of the Office(s) Receiving Tenders	: Office of the Treasurer (2 nd Floor, Room# 316) in the Tender Box.			
9.	Name and address of the Office Opening Tenders	: Conference room (4 th Floor, Room# 508)			
10.	Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security	Completion Time
	1	Construction of Shaheed Minar at East West University	Aftabnagar, Dhaka	Taka 375,000.00	05 (five) months
11.	Last Date and Time for Selling Tender Document	: During office hours up to 1:00 P.M. within 27 January 2021			
12.	Tender Closing Date and Time	: Up to 12:00 noon of 28 January 2021			
13.	Date and Time for Opening of Tenders	: Tender will be opened on 28 January 2021 at 12:15 PM at the Conference room (4 th Floor) of East West University			
14.	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone No. 0966775577 (Ext: 347, 271)	e-mail: maniruzzaman@ewubd.edu mahzabeen@ewubd.edu		
15.	Special Instructions	(a) The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender without assigning any reason whatsoever. (b) This tender notice is brief and the details of the tender can be seen from the office of the HR & Logistics during office hours.			

Chief of HR & Logistics