

Workshop on seismic design of structures on Aug 21

A workshop on 'Seismic design of structures' will be held at the RAJUK auditorium in the city on August 21, says a press release.

The RAJUK and Bangladesh Earthquake Society (BES) have jointly organised the workshop beginning at 9.30am.

Interested engineers, architects, planners, developers and related professionals have been requested to register with the organisers for participation by August 20.

For details, contact the following persons: M Emdadul Islam, superintending engineer of RAJUK, Tel: 9552663, 011-866854, e-mail: serajuk@bangla.net; and Dr. Mehedi Ahmed Ansary, member secretary, Bangladesh Earthquake Society, and associate professor of BUET, Tel: 0171-343288, 9665788, e-mail: ansaryma@yahoo.com.

Khaleda to attend WSIS in Geneva

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will attend the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) scheduled to be held in Geneva in December.

The summit aims at eliminating digital division and creating a common platform for the growth of ICT in developing countries.

"The prime minister decided to attend the summit in response to a personal invitation from UN

Secretary General Kofi Annan," said Bangladesh Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (BTRC) Chairman Syed Marghub Murshed at a press briefing yesterday.

Heads of the states and governments of about 50 countries including high powered delegation from 130 countries will participate in the summit, said Karar Mahmudul Hassan, secretary of the ministry of science and information and communication technology.

Describing the importance of the summit, Hassan said it will try to create a link between the developed and developing countries in the field of ICT.

"We will try to foster a greater growth in ICT, especially in software through this summit," he said adding that participants from the civil society and NGOs are also expected to play a pivotal role at the summit.

He said Bangladesh is preparing a country strategy paper to present at the summit.

A committee with Science and Information and Communication Technology Minister Dr Abdul Moeen Khan, and Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan as co-chairmen, has been formed to prepare the country paper. The committee also

includes the BTRC chairman and ICT secretary, he added.

Describing the aim of the WSIS, the BTRC chairman said the summit would work for eliminating the differences between the developed and the developing countries in the field of ICT.

Murshed, who is also the chairman of Bangladesh Working Group on WSIS, said the role of civil society including non-government organisations has been recognised along side the government in the preparatory process for the WSIS which will showcase the Rio Earth Summit and Beijing World Women Conference under the auspices of the UN.

Reza Selim, member secretary of Bangladesh Working Group on WSIS, briefed on the country's position in the upcoming summit and its preparedness.

Later, the BTRC chairman and ICT secretary inaugurated the working group secretariat at the BTRC premises.

BTRC Commissioners NH Chowdhury, Khandaker Mohammad Abu Bakar, Rezaul Haque were present on the occasion.

Obituary

Dr Abdul Mannan, father of Faizul Kabir, senior media manager, Unitrend Ltd, died at the National Heart Institute in the city yesterday morning at the age of 72, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, sons, daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

His qulkhani will be held at Sobhanbagh Jam-e- Mosque after Asr prayers on August 15.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhani and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Dr Abdul Mannan hailed from Mehendi Nagar village of Sathia upazila in Pabna district.

Death anniversary

The 9th death anniversary of Engr Taimur Hussain, former director of Kallol Electronics, will be observed today, says a press release.

Qurankhwani, milad mahfil and feeding of the destitutes will be held at the residence of his mother at Dhanmondi and Martyred Intellectuals Graveyard at Mirpur.

Taimur Hussain was the youngest son of former secretary T Hussain of Jhenidah.



PHOTO: STAR

Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad stages a demonstration at Muktangan yesterday protesting the move to make employees of different state-owned mills and factories redundant.