

LPG CYLINDER EXPLOSIONS

38 killed, 72 injured in the country: Nasrul Hamid at JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 38 people have been killed and 72 injured so far in liquefied petroleum gas cylinder explosions since its usage in the country began, State Minister for Power Nasrul Hamid told the parliament yesterday.

In reply to a query from Bangladesh Workers Party MP Lutfun Nesa Khan elected in reserved seat, the junior minister said incompetency and lack of awareness in using LPG gas cylinders led to the explosions.

In a written reply, Nasrul stressed

activities of the Department of Explosives and awareness to prevent LPG cylinder explosions.

The measures include regular inspection of cylinder stores and its testing centres.

While responding to another query from treasury bench MP Shahiduzzaman Sarker from Naogaon-2, the state minister told the House that system loss in electricity distribution dropped to 9.35 percent from 14.33 percent in the last 10 years.

"Such system loss was 14.33 percent in 2008-09 fiscal year, which came down to 9.35 percent in 2018-19 fiscal," he said in a scripted answer.

Childhood lost

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As time goes by, they resort to various criminal activities to get money for drugs," Mamun added.

Dr Abul Hossain, project director of the ministry's Street Children Rehabilitation Programme, said the ministry does not have any programme that addresses or rehabilitates drug-addicted street children.

"Although our ministry looks after issues related to women and children, we don't have any mechanism to introduce a large scale service for the drug addicted children," he said. "But we can coordinate with the narcotics department."

"Since the management of addicted children is different, it is risky to allow them to stay with other kids. They can be referred to the Central Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (CDATC) in Tejgaon, which offers 10 beds for the treatment of addicted street children since 2013," he added.

But CDATC too is failing to treat those children, as there is no system in place to send the children there.

From 2016-18, under an MoU with CDATC, Dhaka Ahsania Mission used to send children there for rehabilitation but there is no such arrangement at the moment.

"We don't have any designated staff here for this matter and this is not our responsibility either. The narcotics department's staff who work to control drug trade, sometimes bring children here and after giving necessary treatment, we send them to the government shelters," said Syed Imamul Hossain, chief consultant of CDATC.

According to Ahsania Mission's Programme Officer Wadud Rahman Emon,

the MoU ended as it was too costly for their organisation. "We had to bear the cost of their clothing, hygiene, transportation and other activities," he said.

A PRIVILEGE THEY CAN'T AFFORD

On the other hand, according to media reports, two government rehabilitation centres for drug-addicted street children at Dhaka's Hazaribagh and Karail slums were closed down in 2014, as donor agencies refused to continue funding the project.

Reports claim that those rehabilitation centres performed poorly and failed to rehabilitate enough children during three years of operation.

Wahida Banu, executive director of national child rights organisation Aparajeyo Bangladesh, said the few organisations that work on the rehabilitation of children are for those from well-off backgrounds, who can afford long-term treatment. In comparison, there are very few NGOs that work for street children.

The government does not have any recent, complete consensus of homeless children, let alone the number of them who are being exposed to drug abuse. Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum conducted a survey a decade ago, where they found that 85 percent of street children are addicted to drugs.

Prof Dr Arup Ratan Chowdhury, founder of the Association for the Prevention of Drug Abuse, explained, "Dandy actually works as a gateway drug which later leads children to take more harmful substances."

"Since their addiction is not as severe as adults, they can be treated without any detoxification. They just require isolated rehabilitation and psychological counselling from professionals," he added.

Probe body to look

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missing during the last few months. Besides them, five more returned to the centre few months ago after they had fled.

Children of the centre told The Daily Star that seniors often punish juniors, even beat them up, if they don't listen to the seniors.

A 16-year-old a tenth-grader of Water Development Board School and a resident of the centre, confessed to law enforcement agency that he shackled and beat the two teens, as they had broken into a room and smoked there.

"We seniors have to supervise juniors and punish when they break the rules," he added.

One of the victims, confirmed the incident, saying after the punishment, the other victim fled.

Basudeb Das, the centre in-charge, said, "Sometimes, a few boys manage to flee and some come back...We only advise seniors to take care of their juniors, not torture them. We only came to know about the incident after the news was published."

DC Ajar said, "The centre was established by renting a house, and the environment is not suitable for sheltering minors accused in criminal cases."

The district administration asked authorities to inform the court about the centre's situation --which they already did -- and steps will be taken as per the court order.

SRCTRC was established in 2012. The four-storey building is currently accommodating 76 boys. Another building, which houses 86 girls, is situated opposite to the boys' building. The Ministry of Social Welfare had adopted a project titled "Disability and Children at Risk (DCAR)", under which 13 such rehabilitation centres, including SRCTRC, are being operated across the country.

Rohingya children to learn

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facilitating education, he said, this project will support 3,000 children of the host community as they are also very vulnerable and have limited access to education. "Rohingya children will learn in their mother tongue," he added.

The results of a survey completed in December 2018 on 180,000 Rohingya children ages 4-14 showed the extent of the need for education.

Rangpur commuters

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every day for job. "The workers of private bus operators often locked in altercation with passengers over fares, which made me switch to BRTC buses. Besides, the double-deckers have designated seats for persons with disabilities, freedom fighters, and elderly citizens, but there is no such courtesy in private buses," he said.

An homage

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"I have bought the graphic novel 'Mujib' from here, and will send it to my younger brother as a gift," said Rezwan Habib Rafsan, a student of Institute of Education and Research at Dhaka University.

CRI officials told The Daily Star that the seventh edition of the novel is based on "The Unfinished Memoirs", an autobiography written by Bangabandhu, during his time as a state prisoner between 1967 and 1969.

Meanwhile, a big cutout of the book cover of "The Unfinished Memoirs" has drawn book-lovers at the stall of University Press Limited (UPL) on Suhrawardy Udyan premises.

Stalls including Mizan Publishers, Bangabandhu Foundation, Joy Bangla Prakashan, Matribhumi and Kothaparakash have also decorated stalls in line with the fair's theme, aside from publishing books on him.

Focusing on Bangabandhu, architect Enamul Karim Nirjhar has drawn up the overall plan of the book fair.

Meanwhile, a total of 81 books arrived on the third day of the fair.

8 killed

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a third-grader of Trimohoni Govt Primary School in Sadar upazila. They were hit by the truck as they were trying to cross the road.

In Rajshahi, two people were killed and 10 others were injured as a bus turned over after its driver lost control at Buraburitol in Tanore upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased were identified as Rajjuddin (55) and Habibur Rahman (45), reports UNB.

In another accident in Sathkira, Dipjoy Sadhu (19), a first-year student of Patkeighata College, was killed in a motorbike collision at Shakkah area under Tala upazila yesterday morning.

In Dhaka, at least 10 people, including Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinees, their guardians and teachers, were injured when a bus carrying them fell into a roadside ditch.

The accident occurred at Batulia on the Dhamrai-Balia regional road in Savar upazila yesterday morning, reports UNB.

BANGLADESH-INDIA RELATIONSHIP

Media contest opens call for entries

CITY DESK

With the aim to recognise talented media professionals of Bangladesh and encourage quality reports and features, Indian Institute of Mass Communication Alumni Association, Bangladesh (IIMCAA,B) has announced its "IIMCAA,B Media Award 2020", a press release said.

This year, awards will be given for best report, feature, or analysis pieces published in Bangla and English language on the theme of Bangladesh-India bilateral relationship published or broadcast from January 1 to December 31, 2019.

The award will be given in three categories: print media (daily newspapers -- national, regional, local), electronic media (television and radio), and online news portals (independent news sites as well as digital sites of newspaper and electronic media).

To be eligible for the awards, interested media professionals must submit their publication, audio/video, and content to the organisation by February 29, the press release added.

HC questions whether

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Yesterday, the HC also issued a rule asking the authorities concerned to explain in four weeks why they should not be directed to take steps for scrutinising thesis proposals by IT experts, before finalising theses of students, in order to prevent forgery in achieving PhD and equivalent degrees.

The education secretary, UGC chairman and DU VC and others concerned have been made respondents to the rule.

Deputy Attorney General Abdullah Al Mahmud Bashir represented the state.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

An established buying house seeks a Product and Development Technician. Should be experienced in Garments (Knitting & Dyeing) sector. Pls apply with CV & 2 copies of recent passport size photograph along with educational & experience certificate within 20 February, 2020 to Managing Director, First Textile (BD) Ltd., Hamid Tower (10th Floor), Plot # 24, Gulshan # 02, Dhaka, Bangladesh. 0-27



INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) for Lifts and Escalators

Project Name	BRAC
Name of Tender	Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of Lifts and Escalators
Source of Fund	Own Fund
Item of Tender	1. Lift (4 set) 2. Escalator (5 pair)
Time of Delivery	As per Tender Schedule
Price of tender schedule	BDT 5,000.00 (non-refundable)
Tender security	As per tender document
Tender Schedule Available	BRAC Procurement Department (Ground Floor) BRAC Centre, 75, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212. For study purpose please visit: procurement@brac.net
Date and time for selling schedule	06 February 2020 to 23 February 2020 between 09:30 am to 3:00 pm.
Tender dropping place, date & time	Tender box-3, Procurement Department, (G.F.) 24 February 2020 between 10:00 am to 2:30 pm
Tender opening place, date & time	BRAC staff canteen (4th floor) 24 February 2020 at 3:30 pm

Procurement Department, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Phone: 9881265 Ext: 3796, 3021

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Pubali Bank Limited, the largest online commercial Bank in Bangladesh is hereby inviting **Tender** from the eligible Tenderers for Supply of 03(Three) units 100% Reconditioned **Hybrid Toyota Noah-X Microbus**, CC: 2000, Color: Silver, Manufacturing Year: 2016, Auction grade 4 and above, push start with remote key, all auto power switch, power Door, DVD player, Alloy Rim, New Tyers, Low Milage, Standard tools with spare wheel, etc.

Tender to be submitted in their own pad. Please visit our website- <https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.asp> for more details. Interested parties may submit Tender in the Tender Box by **19 February, 2020** (before 11:00 A.M.) & Tender will be opened on **19 February, 2020** at 11:30 AM. in presence of bidders (if any).

(DILIP KUMAR PAUL)
General Manager

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PUBALI BANK LIMITED
Establishment Division
Head office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.

EAST WEST UNIVERSITY

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Permanent Sanad Holder

Vacancy Announcement

East West University, a leading private university and an equal opportunity employer, invites applications for the following full-time teaching positions:

- Department of Economics**
(a) Position: Professor/Assistant Professor
Minimum Degree: Ph.D.
(b) Position: Senior Lecturer/Lecturer
- Department of English**
Position: Assistant Professor/Senior Lecturer/Lecturer
Minimum Degree: Ph.D. for Assistant Professor
- Department of Law**
Position: Professor/Associate Professor
Minimum Degree: Ph.D.
- Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE)**
(a) Position: Associate Professor/Assistant Professor
Minimum Degree: Ph.D.
(b) Position: Senior Lecturer/Lecturer
- Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering (EEE)**
(a) Position: Associate Professor/Assistant Professor
Minimum Degree: Ph.D.
(b) Position: Senior Lecturer/Lecturer
- Department of Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology**
(a) Position: Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor
Minimum Degree: Ph.D.
Bachelor degree in Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology/Biotechnology/Genetic Engineering
(b) Position: Lecturer
Masters with Bachelor degree in Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology/Biotechnology/Genetic Engineering
- Department of Civil Engineering**
Position: Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor
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For required qualifications and details please visit East West University (EWU) Website (www.ewubd.edu)

- * Highly qualified teachers already holding positions of Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor in any of the disciplines mentioned above, are encouraged to apply.
- * Candidates must obtain academic degree from reputed university.
- * No 3rd class/division will be acceptable at any level.
- * Attractive salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications and experience.
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- * For the position of Professor/Associate Professor-Please send your application with a complete CV including all academic results, copies of academic and experience certificates and two passport size photographs to the Vice Chancellor, East West University, Plot-A/2, Jahurul Islam Avenue, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Dhaka-1212 OR you may also apply through East West University website (jobs.ewubd.edu).

Application Deadline: 20 February 2020

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Applications are invited for the following positions-

- Laboratory Assistant:** Department of Civil Engineering
Qualifications: Diploma in Civil Engineering. Experience in Lab will be preferred.
- Office Assistant:**
Qualifications: Bachelor degree with administrative experience and having good command over English language with drafting capabilities and computer proficiency in MS Excel and Word processing. Experience in relevant field will be preferred.
- Laboratory Attendant:** Department of Civil Engineering
Qualifications: HSC (Science), Trade Course in the relevant field and experience in Lab will be preferred.
- Messenger (on Contractual Basis):**
Qualifications: Must have SSC. Two (2) years' experience in any university or educational organization will be an added advantage. Age not below 20 years.

Applications along with UAP CV format (CV format available at UAP website www.uap-bd.edu/vacancy/Vacancies.php), copies of relevant certificates and mark sheets/transcripts, NID and other relevant documents should reach at the Office of the undersigned (either by e-mail to jobs@uap-bd.edu or by post) by **18th February 2020**. Incomplete applications or without relevant documents are not acceptable. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview.

Registrar