



Train staff boards the last scheduled Eurostar train from London to Paris ahead of travel restrictions imposed by the French government on the UK, amid the coronavirus disease pandemic, in London, Britain on Sunday night.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Bangabandhu

FROM PAGE 12
down their lives are materialised.
The cause for which they died is partly realised. The people of Bangladesh have achieved their political independence, but the economic emancipation of the people is yet to come. So, the prime minister urges all to come forward to the service of the common man. A society free from exploitation must be established. Every man must be ensured of two square meals and of all the basic necessities of life.
DOCUMENTARY FILM ON BANGABANDHU
Famous Japanese film director Nagisa Oshima is now busy making a lengthy documentary film on the life and achievements of Bangabandhu. The film would be shown on television in Japan and other countries.
DHAKA-BUDAPEST JOINT INDUSTRIAL VENTURE
Hungary is likely to participate in the joint ventures in the industrial field in Bangladesh. A nine-member trade delegation, which recently visited Bangladesh, expressed their keen interest to participate in joint ventures especially in pharmaceutical manufacturing, food processing and canning, ginger processing and other fields of mutual interests. Bangladesh and Hungary are already negotiating for further expansion of barter trade.
Source: December 23, 1972 issues of *Dainik Bangla, The Bangladesh Observer and Ittefaq*.

CMCH doc dies

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Parkview Hospital and was undergoing treatment at its ICU since December 6, said Dr Faisal Iqbal Chowdhury, general secretary of Bangladesh Medical Association, Chattogram chapter.
Dr Faisal added that Hasan Murad died around 5:00am yesterday.
Hasan, hailing from Chattogram's Satkania upazila, was a student of 35th batch MBBS at CMC, said Faisal, adding that with this death, a total of 13 doctors have died of Covid-19 in Chattogram so far.

Mercury may rise

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dry, with temporary partly cloudy skies over the country. Moderate to thick fog may occur at places over the country's river basins and light to moderate fog may occur at places elsewhere over the country during midnight to morning," it added.
In the next 72 hours, the bulletin forecast that the temperature may rise further.
Our correspondents from different districts reported on the cold wave.
In Thakurgaon and Panchagarh, people of low-income groups are facing difficulties due to chilly weather.
"We cannot stay indoors as severe cold wind enters our rooms made of bamboo walls," said Majiran Nesa, 65, of Khalpara slum in Thakurgaon town.
The adverse weather hits businesses too.
"People don't want to go outside home due to cold weather. So, sales have dropped significantly," said Omar Ali, a grocery shop owner.
Cold-related diseases are spreading in the districts.
In Lalmonirhat and Kurigram, many people are suffering from food shortage as they cannot go out for work.
"Our livelihood earners cannot go outside home due to the biting cold. So, we are suffering from a shortage of food," said Kohinor Bawa, 86, of Char Kulaghat in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.
There is also a lack of warm clothes.
"We don't have enough warm

clothes. No one has given us any blanket. We are passing hard days," said Akkas Ali, 65, of Char Kodalkati in Kurigram's Rajibpur upazila.
Contacted, Roumari Upazila Nirbahi Officer Al-Imran said they already started distributing blankets among the poor.
Low temperature hits low-income people, especially in the char areas in Bogura. Normal life has been affected by dense fog and bitter cold. Besides, cold-related diseases are increasing in char areas.
Mozzafal Hossain Pramanik, 60, of Batir char in Bogura's Sariakandi upazila, said, "In the last 10-15 days, severe cold affected our lives. We cannot work on the cropland due to the extreme cold."
Mamun Mia, 35, of Dakatmara char of the same upazila, said, "We are low-income people. We don't have sufficient warm clothes. This year, no one has given us warm clothes yet."
Rabiul Islam, medical officer at Sariakandi Upazila Health Complex, said, "Patients with cold-related ailments are rising since last week. Some 30-40 patients, mostly children and aged people, are taking treatment at our outdoor services for diarrhoea, dysentery and breathing problems daily.
On the other hand, 88 children are undergoing treatment with cold-related diseases at Bogura Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical Hospital, said Abdul Wadud, assistant director of the hospital.
[Our correspondents from Thakurgaon, Lalmonirhat and Bogura contributed to this report]

Gunmen kill journo

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workers in the country, said on Twitter.
Targeted killings of prominent figures, including journalists, politicians and rights activists, have become more common in recent months as violence surges in Afghanistan, despite ongoing peace talks between the government and the Taliban.
Nekzad's death follows the assassination earlier this month of female news anchor and activist

Malalai Maiwand, who was shot dead with her driver in Jalalabad in an attack claimed by the Islamic State group.
Last month Radio Liberty reporter Aliyas Dayee was killed in a car bomb attack in southern Lashkar Gah city.
Much of the violence has been unleashed by the Taliban as they attempt to gain leverage in peace talks, which opened in September in Doha but are currently on a break until early January.

বাংলাদেশ ওভারসিজ এমপ্লয়মেন্ট অ্যান্ড সার্ভিসেস লিমিটেড (বোয়েসেল)

(একটি মালিকানাধীন কোম্পানি)
প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ভবন (৫ম তলা), ৭১-৭২, ইস্কান গার্ডেন, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০
ফোন: +৮৮-০২-৯৩৩৬০০৮, ৮৮৩১৯২৫, ৮৮৩১৭৫১৫ (পিএবিএক্স)
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নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ দূতাবাস, আমান, জর্ডান এ অনুবাদক (মহিলা) শূন্য পদে সরাসরি জনবল নিয়োগের নিমিত্ত নিম্ন বর্ণনামূল্যী বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে আবেদন আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে:

ক্র. নং	পদের নাম	পদের সংখ্যা	মাসিক মূল বেতন
১.	অনুবাদক/Translator (মহিলা)	০১ জন	প্রতি মাসের বেতন ওয়েজ গ্যারান্টি গুলে ফেকার বোর্ড এর স্থানীয়দের জন্য মঙ্কুরকৃত হারে প্রদান করা হবে। (প্রতি মাসের বেতন সর্বমাকুলে ৮৪০ ইউএস ডলার এবং বেতন বৃদ্ধি ৪০ ইউএস ডলার প্রতি বছর)

যোগ্যতা:

- প্রার্থীকে কমপক্ষে আরবি/ইসলামিক স্টাডিজ/ফাইল/কামিল বা সমমানের স্নাতক ডিগ্রিধারী হতে হবে;
- প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই আরবি ও ইংরেজী ভাষায় বিশেষ দক্ষতা থাকতে হবে (লেখা ও বলা);
- প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই আরবি থেকে ইংরেজী ও বাংলা এবং বিপরীত দিক থেকে লেখার অনুবাদে দক্ষ হতে হবে;
- ব্যক্তিগত বৈশিষ্ট্য, সক্রিয়, গতিশীল এবং বিচক্ষণতার সাথে গোপনীয় বিষয়গুলি পরিচালনায় সক্ষম হতে হবে;
- অত্যন্ত বৈশিষ্ট্যের সাথে অভিবাসী কর্মীদের পরিচালনায় সক্ষম হতে হবে;
- দলগতভাবে কাজ করার ইচ্ছা থাকতে হবে;
- স্মার্ট, পরিশ্রমী এবং ভাল আচরণ এর অধিকারী হতে হবে;
- কম্পিউটার চালানয় দক্ষতা থাকতে হবে (MS Word, MS Power Point, MS Excel), ইমেইল এবং ওয়েব ব্রাউজিং;
- আরবী ভাষী দেশগুলিতে পূর্বের কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা চাকরির ক্ষেত্রে বাড়াই সুবিধা যোগ করবে।

দায়িত্ব:

- আরবি চিঠি ইংরেজী ও বাংলা এবং বিপরীত দিক থেকে লেখা অনুবাদ করতে হবে;
- আরবি চিঠি লিখতে হবে;
- দোআবী হিসাবে দায়িত্ব পালন করতে হবে;
- অনুবাদ/ব্যাখ্যার জন্য আদালত, থানা, জেল, হাসপাতাল ইত্যাদি পরিদর্শন করতে হবে;
- সেবা প্রার্থীদের সাথে বৈধ সহকারে কথা বলতে হবে এবং সমস্যাগুলি সমাধান করার চেষ্টা করতে হবে;
- প্রতিদিন দুতাবাসে আসা অভিবাসী শ্রমিকদের গ্রাহক সেবা প্রদান করতে হবে;
- কর্তৃপক্ষকে প্রতিদিন রিপোর্ট করতে হবে;
- প্রয়োজনীয় শিবি প্রস্তুত করতে হবে, ফাইল এবং রেকর্ড বজায় রাখার পাশাপাশি প্রদত্ত পরিবেশাদিগুলি প্রতিদিনের ভিতরে ভাল ফলোআপ রাখতে হবে।

কর্মক্ষেত্রের অবস্থা:

- স্থানীয় (ফেল্টাইম)।
- চুক্তির মেয়াদ ১ (এক) বছর (ছুটি নয়ানয়োগ্য)।

সকল আবেদনপত্র ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, বোয়েসেল, প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ভবন, (৫ম তলা), ৭১-৭২ ইস্কান গার্ডেন, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০ বরাবর আগামী ২০.০১.২০২১ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে প্রেরণ নিশ্চিত করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্র ডাকযোগে/কৃত্রিমের সার্ভিস -এর মাধ্যমে পাঠাতে হবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখের পরে কোনো আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

কোম্পানি সচিব
বোয়েসেল।

World's oldest

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dating back to around 4300 BC.
Prior to the recent discovery, experts had placed the first rice paddies some 3,000 years ago.
Rice is found in a number of cultures around the world, but has been a way of life for the Chinese for thousands of years.
Rice paddies, or wet rice farming, survive in stable conditions that are not too hot or cold.
The fields are flooded to supply water during the growing seasons and without modern technology, harvesting crops by hand is time consuming and grueling work.
Previous studies have analyzed DNA of ancient rice dating back nearly 2,000 years and compared the results with that of today's.
The findings showed that early humans dined on a variety of rice, instead of the two domesticated varieties, japonica and indica, we consume today.
The latest discovery was announced by the Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology and the Ningbo Cultural Heritage Management Research Institute, CGTN reports.

Interpol expects

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enforcement across its 194 member countries, warning them to prepare for organised crime networks targeting Covid-19 vaccines, both physically and online.
"As governments are preparing to roll out vaccines, criminal organisations are planning to infiltrate or disrupt supply chains. Criminal networks will also be targeting unsuspecting members of the public via fake websites and false cures, which could pose a significant risk to their health, even their lives," said Interpol secretary general Juerger Stock.

Railways

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However, the project cost would be finalised later.
A committee, led by Railways Ministry Secretary Salim Reza, yesterday gave the go-ahead to a preliminary development project proposal (PDP) of "Procurement of Meter-Gauge and Broad-Gauge Accident Relief Crane for Bangladesh Railway."
Apart from procuring the cranes, 12 BR engineers would receive one-month foreign training under the project.
Around Tk 1 crore would also be spent on procuring transport vehicles for the project.

Now, the proposal would be sent to the Planning Commission for approval and then it would be sent to the Economic Relations Division for managing foreign fund for the project. Project Director Md Burhan Uddin told The Daily Star yesterday.
The 3,018km railway network is covered by the accident relief cranes stationed at 12 sheds in two railway's zones.
Some 91 train accidents took place during 2018-19 fiscal year. Of them, 78 were train derailments and in 10 incidents trains crashed into things, according to railway information book-2019.
After any accident is reported, relief cranes from the nearby shed is called for conducting the rescue operation, but in some cases, the authorities have to call cranes from far away due to lack of capability of nearby cranes, a railway official said.
"In many cases, rescue operation takes more than usual time as most of the cranes are outdated," the official, who has long experience in railway operation, told The Daily Star, wishing not to be named.
Burhan Uddin, also the chief mechanical engineer (development), said the addition of three cranes would ensure quick salvage operation after any accident to restore rail communications.

About the financing in the project, he said as per their proposal, 70 percent of the project cost would come from foreign funds and 30 percent from the government funds.
Once the PDP is approved, they will prepare and submit development project proposal (DPP) for getting approval from the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecnc) to start implementation of the project, he said.
"We hope to add the three cranes to our fleet within the next two years," he said, adding that the cranes would be stationed in Dhaka, Rajbari, and Chattogram.

Court accepts charge sheet

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OC Pradeep Kumar Das and suspended inspector Liaqat Ali of Baharchhara Investigation Centre.
Yesterday, the senior judicial magistrate's court also accepted the final reports in two cases, filed by Teknaf police after the murder of Sinha, and cleared lone accused Shahadul Islam Sefat of arms and drug charges. The two cases were also probed by the Rapid Action Battalion.
Sinha was killed at an APBn checkpoint on the Cox's Bazar-Teknaf Marine Drive on the night of July 31. Local police said suspended inspector Liaqat's team had taken over the check post from three APBn officers before the killing incident.
Sharmin Shahriar Ferdous, elder sister of Sinha, had filed the murder case with a local court on August 5. Later, Rab was tasked with its investigation.
The retired army officer was shooting videos for his YouTube channel in Teknaf's Marishbunia before he was shot. He had been residing in the area for a month for filming.
RAB PROBE
Speaking at a press conference at the

Rab media centre in the capital on December 13, Rab Director (legal and media wing) Lt Col Ashiq Billah said, "The conspiracy [of murder] was hatched by OC Pradeep, Inspector Liaqat, and local police sources Nurul Amin, Mohammad Aiyas and Nizamuddin."
Liaqat, SI Nandadulal and three APBn members then executed the plan, he said. The APBn members are: SI Mohammad Shahjahan and constables Md Rajib and Mohammad Abdullah.
"Besides, other policemen from a nearby camp, namely SI Liton Miah and constables Safanur Karim, Kamal Hossain Azad, Abdullah Al Mamun ensured that a wounded Sinha bled to death ...," said Ashiq.
Constables Sagar Deb and Rubel Sharma staged an act of recovering narcotics from Sinha's vehicle, the Rab director told reporters.
The charge sheet named 83 people as witnesses.
A total of 14 people were arrested between August and September in the case. All the arrestees but OC Pradeep and constable Rubel made confessional statements before court.

Top HK court upholds emergency protest mask ban

AFP, Hong Kong

The Hong Kong government's decision to use a colonial-era emergency law to ban face masks at protests last year was both proportionate and legal, the city's top court ruled yesterday.
The ruling is a blow for democracy supporters who had been hoping the Court of Final Appeal would side with a lower court and overturn the order.
It also confirms that Hong Kong's chief executive -- a pro-Beijing appointee -- has the power to enact any law in a time of public emergency without needing the approval of the city's partially elected legislature.
But its practical consequences were unclear, given that the government has made masks compulsory in public areas to combat the coronavirus pandemic.
Hong Kong was convulsed by seven straight months of huge and often violent pro-democracy protests last year.
They were eventually quashed by mass arrests, a virus-related ban on public gatherings and Beijing imposing a new national security law on the city in June.
Face masks became ubiquitous to reduce the risk of identification and prosecution for those taking part in peaceful marches, or violent clashes with police.
In October last year Chief Executive Carrie Lam banned anyone covering their face at public rallies, using the Emergency Regulations Ordinance, a British colonial law from 1922.

Opposition lawmakers challenged both the use of that emergency law and the ban on wearing masks at permitted rallies.
They argued the move breached Hong Kong's mini-constitution, the Basic Law.
A lower court had agreed with those bringing the challenge and expressed concerns about the emergency law and the proportionality of the mask ban.
But yesterday, a panel of top judges unanimously backed the government.
"The ambit of the power to make subsidiary legislation under the ERO in a situation of emergency or in circumstances of public danger, although wide and flexible, was not unconstitutional," the judges ruled.
Banning face masks at both illegal and legal rallies was proportionate because it was aimed at "the prevention and deterrence of violence before a peaceful public gathering had deteriorated into violence".
Antony Dapiran, a Hong Kong lawyer who has written books about the city's protest movement, said the judges' conclusions could prove controversial.
"Most striking is the extent to which the Court of Final Appeal judgment privileges one narrative -- of 'violence and lawlessness' -- over any other, and without the broader context in which those incidents occurred, in reaching their conclusion," he told AFP.
Hong Kong's judiciary has come under significant pressure in the politically polarised atmosphere that has blanketed the city.

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