

Metropolitan

Businessmen bodies slate tax measures

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Babshayee Sangathan Samannoy Parishad, a platform of different sector-based trade organisations, has criticised various tax measures in the proposed budget for 1996-97...

that a chaotic situation might arise in the business arena due to imposition of VAT at grass-roots level.

Due to withdrawal of cottage industries' facilities from small industries sector, prices of various items would go up and hundreds of factories would be closed, he added.

The parishad leader demanded withdrawal of VAT from engineering sectors; air conditioner and refrigeration parts and products of hosiery industries.

He said though the textile sector is free from VAT, the hosiery industries are being affected by the VAT.

Addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, Convener of the parishad Ameer Hossain Khan said the fate of small and medium industries and business organisations has become uncertain due to expansion of Value Added Tax (VAT) network.

Ameer Hossain said the government should reduce administrative expenditure, subsidies and wastages through rapid privatisation and thus increase its earnings.

He criticised withdrawal of cottage industries' facilities from small industries sector, and imposition of VAT at production and sales level.

Demanding thorough reform in VAT collection system, Ameer Hossain further said

Coordinators of the parishad Monzur Ahmed and Akhtaruzzaman Monju answered various questions from newsmen while President of Bangladesh Refrigeration and Air Condition Traders Association Delwar Hossain and President of Bangladesh Shoe Manufacturing Association Sirazuddin Malik were present, among others.



Bangladesh will receive about Tk 587 crore from Japan under the ODA Loan Package '97 for implementing 3 projects. Dr Masihur Rahman, Secretary, Economic Relations Division (ERD) and Yoshikazu Kaneko, Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh signed the exchange of note on behalf of their respective governments at NEC Bhaban yesterday. — PID photo

HERE and THERE

Square Pharmaceuticals

Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd organised a two-day long Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme on 'Update on ophthalmology' at Islamia Eye Hospital from June 23 to 24.

On the first day Prof Mustafizur Rahman and Dr Paul J Foster, Consultant, Singapore National Eye Centre delivered their lectures on visual rehabilitation and management of glaucoma respectively.

Society of pathologists

Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf yesterday urged the pathologists of the country to put in their best efforts in improving the health care services as the government is committed to ensuring health care services to all by the year 2000, reports BSS.

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at the 15th annual conference of the Bangladesh Society of Pathologists at the BIRDEM auditorium.

BRCS

A fortnight long basic training course on 'first aid and institutional development' yesterday at the national headquarters of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BRCS), a BRCS press release said, reports BSS.

A total of 22 officials from different district units of BRCS participated in the training course. Secretary general in-charge of BRCS A S M Akram distributed the certificates among the participants.

Bandhan

Bandhan, a voluntary blood donation organisation, has introduced 'Esha Khan Memorial Award' to a student for his/her contribution to social welfare, reports UNB.

The award after the name of its founder member and a college teacher late Esha Khan will be given every year.

For this, a selection committee has been formed with Bandhan's senior Vice-president Amanullah Khan as advisor and General Secretary Ali Niyamat as convener.

Interested persons have been requested to contact English Department of Dhaka University (room-2075) every Saturday in this regard.

BASC

A workshop on Communication Skills organised by Business Advisory Services Centre (BASC) was held at its training hall. The four-day workshop covered process of communication, verbal and non-verbal communication, listening, reading, writing and presentation skills, says a press release.

SMA Chowdhury (Baby Chowdhury), a noted journalist and the teacher of Dept of Mass Communication & Journalism, University of Dhaka distributed certificates among the participants.

Participants from World Concern-Bangladesh, Micro Electronic Ltd, Module Diagnostica, Rahimafroz (Bangladesh) Limited, World Vision of Bangladesh, Property Group, Rainbow Associates Limited, Dhaka Community Hospital attended the workshop.

Rabindra Adhayan Chakra Rabindra Adhayan Chakra



Bangladesh Babshayee Sangathan Samannoy Parishad held a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. —Star photo

Mugda dwellers hold rally today

A committee formed for resisting the closure of Mugda-Kamalapur connecting road in the city will hold a rally on the Biswa Road near Mugda at 9 am today.

APARTMENT TO LET

Luxurious apartment beside Lake at Gulshan # 1, House #20, Road #129, on 2nd floor (north side) around 3150 Sft. 4 bedrooms, attached bath, dining, long family lounge, lift, standby generator & full time security. Please Contact: Mr. Shawkat Ali, Tel : 9344967

Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology Dhaka Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the undersigned in the prescribed form from the bonafide and experienced Class-I Contractors who are enlisted with PWD/Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous bodies for (1) Construction of Architecture Office building (2nd floor) and its electrification (2) Painting and Polishing of windows and doors of the building at Bakshi Bazar R/A (3) Security grill fencing and brick works in tin shed no. 18.

University Engineer D-797 (Incharge)

UCEP shows poor children have talent to change their lives

By Sadia Afroza Nazmi

Nadira, a 15-year-old girl born and brought up in a filthy slum in Dhaka, never thought of going to school. Not to speak of a career to earn a livelihood.

UCEP is serving for the children and adolescents of very poor families living in urban slums and squatter settlements. It started work on the basis of a research work on child workers in Dhaka city in 1972.

The education here is different from the non-formal education offered by some other NGOs as the students are also required to learn a trade such as tailoring and carpentry.

The UCEP picks up the children mainly from the slums. These are the children who earn for their families doing various odd jobs ranging from selling drinking water to pulling rickshaws.

each session having 135 school days. Less schooling period increases the efficiency. A total of 14,500 children — 45 per cent are girls — are enrolled in its non-formal education.

The general schooling consists of 30 general schools, 14 of them located in the slum areas of Dhaka, 8 in Chittagong, 6 in Khulna and 2 in Rajshahi districts.

A 3-year course of basic learning brings the children to an academic standard equivalent to Grade-5 in the public school system.

To achieve gender balance, a 50:50 male-female ratio is maintained. Average student attendance rate of the general schools is 92.40 per cent compared to that of the preceding session (90.15 per cent) which reflects an increase in attendance rate by 2.25 per cent.

A total of 785 (4.42 per cent) students (4.59 per cent boys and 4.23 per cent girls) dropped out from the general schools during the session. However the dropout rate came down by 0.58 per cent against its target of 5 per cent.

The major reasons for dropout were migration, full and general fitting, auto repair, textile training and export-oriented garment.



Underprivileged working children at the classroom of a UCEP school in the city. — News Network photo

The poor parents of these 10 plus year-old children think they have little or no choice but to send the children to work. On the other hand, these children have no or little access to education to lead a better life.

UCEP is trying to break this vicious circle by bringing the children into school which is based on the principle that poor children must get education plus. This means that the children must learn a trade so that they can start a career.

The non-formal schooling and skills training programme of UCEP is improving the condition of child labour where it cannot be totally eliminated under the present socio-economic conditions of our country.

The UCEP project consists of four components; general schooling, vocational education, training and job placement. UCEP runs two academic sessions in one calendar year,

time job, early marriage and others like family problem, sickness and malnutrition, transport problem. To solve the transport problem UCEP are giving free bus services to the technical school students.

About 16,821 students (99.63 per cent) of different grades appeared at the final examination and out of them 16,447 (97.78 per cent) qualified in the last year. The rate of success increased by 0.23 per cent per cent compared to that of the previous session (97.55 per cent).

The UCEP Vocational Education Component consists of three vocational training centres located in Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna, each school runs 2 shifts a day. The training centres offer 'hand on' vocational training in the fields of electronics, repair of refrigerators and air conditioners, offset printing, carpentry, welding

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় সিনেটে ২৫ জন রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেট প্রতিনিধি নির্বাচনের জন্য ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেট হিসাবে তালিকাভুক্ত

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য এতদ্বারা জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, কমপক্ষে তিন বছর পূর্বে ফলাফল প্রকাশিত হয়েছে ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের এরকম সকল গ্যাজেট নির্ধারিত রেজিস্ট্রেশন ফি প্রদান করে রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেটদের রেজিস্ট্রেশন তাদের নাম তালিকাভুক্ত করতে পারবেন। ১৯৯৭-৯৮ সেশনে ১৯৭৩ সালের ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের আদেশের ২০(১)(ক) অনুচ্ছেদের অধীনে রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেটদের মধ্য থেকে সিনেটে ২৫ জন প্রতিনিধি নির্বাচন অনুষ্ঠিত হবে ১৯৭৩ সালের ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় আদেশের অধীনে প্রথম-সর্বধিকার ৪৬ ধারার (১) ও (২) উপ-ধারা অনুযায়ী যাদের নাম আজীবন রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেট হিসাবে রেজিস্ট্রেশন তালিকাভুক্ত আছে এবং ৩১শে জুলাই, ১৯৯৭ এর মধ্যে যারা আজীবন রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেট হিসাবে অথবা এক্ষেত্রে তিন শিক্ষাবর্ষের জন্য তালিকাভুক্ত হবেন, কেবলমাত্র তারাই নির্বাচনে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন। ৩০শে জুন, ১৯৯৬ তারিখে যাদের রেজিস্ট্রেশনের ৩ বৎসর মেয়াদ শেষ হয়ে গেছে, নতুন রেজিস্ট্রেশন ব্যতীত তারা এ নির্বাচনে অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন না। উপর্যুক্ত যে, যারা ১৯৯০-৯১ শিক্ষাবর্ষে ৩ বৎসরের জন্য রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেট হিসাবে তালিকাভুক্ত হয়েছিলেন তাদের রেজিস্ট্রেশনের মেয়াদ ৩০শে জুন, ১৯৯৬ তারিখে শেষ হয়ে গেছে।

নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদনপত্র এবং নির্ধারিত ফি ৩১শে জুলাই, ১৯৯৭ তারিখ দুপুর ২-৩০ মিনিটের মধ্যে সকল কার্যদিবসে জনতা ব্যাংক টিএসসি শাখা, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে গৃহীত হবে। প্রশাসনিক ভবনের ২০৭ নং কক্ষে এবং জনতা ব্যাংক, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ক্যাম্পাস শাখা থেকে, প্রতি কপি দুই টাকা মূল্যের বিনামূল্যে দরখাস্তের ফরম পাওয়া যাবে। (১) দরখাস্তের সংগে ডিগ্রী সার্টিফিকেটের সত্যায়িত কপি এবং দুই কপি সত্যায়িত পাসপোর্ট সাইজ ফটোগ্রাফ অবশ্যই জমা দিতে হবে। এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের গ্যাজেটেশন ফল প্রকাশের তারিখ হতে তিন বছর আগে ডিগ্রী পাস না করলে দরখাস্ত করতে পারবেন না। অন্য কোন বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের গ্যাজেটেশনও দরখাস্ত করতে পারবেন না। (২) যারা আজীবন রেজিস্টার্ড গ্যাজেট হিসাবে তালিকাভুক্ত আছেন ৩১-৭-৯৭ইং তারিখের মধ্যে তাদের দুই কপি সত্যায়িত পাসপোর্ট সাইজ ফটোগ্রাফ অথবা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের রেজিস্ট্রেশনের নিকট পাঠানোর জন্য এতদ্বারা তাদেরকে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।