

Number of children with HIV to reach 1m by 1997 globally

The number of children living with HIV, the virus which causes AIDS, will reach one million by the end of 1997 in the world, reports BSS.

An estimated 400,000 children under the age of 15 became infected with HIV bringing the total number of children living with the virus at the end of the last year to 830,000, a report titled 'children with HIV-a crisis matures' said yesterday.

The report prepared by UNAIDS in connection with the World AIDS campaign this year also said that at least 350,000 children were under the age of 15 among the total one and a half million people who died of AIDS in 1996.

AIDS is not the biggest killer of children since diarrhoeal diseases alone killed more than two million children in 1996, the report said adding that the impact of AIDS was concentrated in a smaller number of poor countries but other childhood diseases was affecting nearly all developing countries.

The report quoting the prediction of United States Bureau of Census said that the disease

would wipe out the improvements in infant and child mortality achieved during the last ten years in the sub-Saharan Africa.

If the spread of HIV is not contained by the year 2010, AIDS may increase infant mortality by as much as 75 per cent and under-five mortality by more than 100 per cent in the worst affected regions, the report said.

According to the UNAIDS estimates, about 90 per cent children under the age of 15 years being infected with HIV acquire the virus from their HIV-positive mothers, usually during pregnancy, delivery or breastfeeding.

While not all children born to HIV-positive mothers become infected with the virus, the risk that the child will become infected is much greater in poor countries and in poorer parts of rich countries, the estimates said.

Most studies suggest that the probability of HIV transmission from mother to child known as 'vertical transmission' is between 25 per cent and

48 per cent in a developing country and between 13 per cent and 32 per cent in industrialised countries like Europe and North America.

The report described the childhood AIDS as a more aggressive disease which kills much faster in the developing countries than in industrialised countries of the west.

In Europe, the report said, 80 per cent of the HIV-infected children survive at least until their third birthday and more than 20 per cent reach the age of ten. In Zambia, however, one study suggests that nearly half of the HIV-infected children are dead by the age of two. Another study from Uganda said 66 per cent of HIV-infected children were dead by the age of three.

Poverty is the main reason that children die more quickly of AIDS in developing countries where crowding promotes the spread of tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases, malnutrition weakens immune system and lack of clean water encourages spread of water-borne diseases like diarrhoea, the report said.

Weather

Dry weather likely

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary cloudy sky over the country in next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

No appreciable change in night temperature is likely across the country during the period and a slight fall may occur in night temperature in next two days, Met Office said.

The country's highest temperature was recorded 30.1 degree Celsius at Khulna and lowest 11.8 degree at Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 5:12 pm and rises on Wednesday at 6:30 am.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	morning	evening
Dhaka	29.0	15.8	67	74
Chittagong	29.8	17.4	80	68
Rajshahi	27.4	15.2	77	80
Khulna	30.1	16.8	77	60
Barisal	29.5	15.5	89	-
Sylhet	27.6	15.7	49	74



EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Manager, Ground Services: Applicant for this position should have at least 15 years of extensive background, both in ticketing and in airport traffic handling. This position requires planning, implementation and training skills and the ideal Applicant should have foreign airline experience. This position requires ensuring of consistent quality of ground handling services in all stations in Bangladesh. Attractive package will be offered to applicants from foreign airlines with exceptional background.

Reservation Manager: Applicant must have at least 12 years of experience in ticketing and reservations with a minimum of 3 years as reservation manager of a major airline. Applicant will be required to implement a fully functional manual reservation system and then be required to manage the transition to a computerised system. Applicant must have worked extensively with computerised reservation systems as well as manual reservation systems.

Manager, Administration: Applicant must have at least 15 years experience in administration, preferably with an airline or aviation related firm. Tasks would require regular dealings with airports, civil aviation and other related departments. Applicant must have good knowledge of personnel management and must be able to organise the entire personnel management and administration function.

Accountant: Applicant must have minimum of Masters in Accounting or equivalent and must have worked with Airline or aviation related firm for a minimum of 5 years. Knowledge and experience in computerised accounting packages such as ACCPAC or equivalent is essential. Candidates without computerised accounting background need not apply.

Station Managers: Applicants must have at least 10-12 years of experience in handling airport operations as well as sales and reservations. This position is available for Dhaka, Chittagong, Jessore and Sylhet.

Sales/Traffic Assistants: This is an entry level position for smart young men and women with a positive and friendly attitude and good academic background. Minimum requirement is a graduate degree with at least second division. Applicants applying for this position must be well groomed and must have good command of English. Computer skills and previous experience with ticketing or traffic handling will be an additional advantage. Applicants based in Dhaka, Sylhet, Chittagong and Jessore are encouraged to apply for posting in their respective cities.

Please apply by 15th December in full confidence to:

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Metropolitan

What's on today . . .

Begum Rokeya Day: Ministry of Women and Children Affairs has arranged a discussion session on the occasion of Begum Rokeya Day. Venue: Shishu Academy auditorium. Time: 11 am.

BA discussion: Bangla Academy has arranged a discussion session to mark 'Begum Rokeya Day'. Venue: 'Botomul,' Academy premises. Time: 4 pm.



Discussion: In observance of 'Rokeya Day', Nari Progoti, Dhaka University unit, has arranged a discussion session. Venue: DUCSU Bhaban, DU. Time: 12 noon.

Seminar on HR: A seminar on 'Human Rights in Bangladesh Today' will be held in observance of UN Human Rights Day. Organiser: The Institute of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Bangladesh. Former VC of Dhaka University Prof M Moniruzzaman Mia and UNB Chairman Amanullah Khan will present 2 papers on the factual and legal position on HR in Bangladesh. Venue: VIP Lounge, National Press Club. Time: 4 pm.

Discussion on HR: A discussion on 'Human Rights: Bangladesh Perspective' will be held marking UN Human Rights Day. Organiser: Democratic Lawyers Association of Bangladesh. Venue: No: 1 Hall of Bangladesh Supreme Court Lawyers Association Bhaban. Time: 4:30 pm.

Confce on computer: The inaugural session of a 2-day first National Conference on Computer and Information Systems will be held. Venue: Auditorium of Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka. Time: 9:30 am.

Seminar: A seminar on 'social rights of disabled persons' will be held. Organiser: Bangladesh Organisation for Advancement of the Disabled. Venue: BIRDEM auditorium. Time: 3 pm. A cultural function by disabled artistes will follow.

Video documentary: The opening screening of 'Voices of Children,' a 30-minute video documentary on working children will be held. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi. Time: 4:30 pm.

Conference: The conference of the Institution of Textile Engineers and Technologies, Bangladesh will be held. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 5 pm.

Rotary Club of Ramna: The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Shahbagh: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Officers Club, Baily Road. Time: 6 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka New City: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: FICCI, 35/1 Purana Paltan Lane. Time: 6 pm.

Rotary Club of Motijheel: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Hotel Purbani. Time: 5:30 pm.

Tk 38cr sanctioned to construct annex bldg of SC

The government has sanctioned Tk 38 crore to construct the annex building of the Supreme Court and of the amount Tk 10 crore has already been released, reports UNB.

Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru made the disclosure while addressing the inaugural function of the upgradation work on the Supreme Court Bar auditorium yesterday.

The Law Minister said law, lawyers, judges and judicial infrastructure are the essential and important components of judiciary.

The government, he said, has launched a comprehensive reform programme with the financial assistance of the World Bank for coordinated development of the four components of judiciary.

Khasru said computerised system and electronic filing method will be introduced in the day to day proceedings of the Supreme Court in phases.

A total of Tk 110 lakh will be spent with the financial assistance of the World Bank for the upgradation of the Supreme Court Bar auditorium.

The Law Minister also sanctioned Tk five lakh for the improvement of the Supreme Court Bar Library for holding conference of the Supreme Court lawyers.

Police seize jeep used in attack on residence of journalist

Police yesterday seized a Nissan patrol jeep in which a group of terrorists went to the office and residence of journalist Profulla Kumar Bhakta Saturday night and threatened to kill him, reports UNB.

Local people chased the jeep (Dhaka Metro Ja 5661) in which a group of youngmen were patrolling Chamelbagh area in the city yesterday evening. At one stage, the men fled the scene, leaving the vehicle behind.

On receiving information, police rushed to the spot and took the jeep to Motijheel thana. BRTA sources said the jeep belongs to Messers Ambee Pharmaceuticals of 62-63 Motijheel Commercial Area.

On Saturday night, the terrorists had attacked the Chamelbagh residence of Profulla Kumar Bhakta, a senior reporter of Dainik Sangbad.

They pelted stones at his house, damaging windowpanes, and threatened to shoot and kill him. Earlier, they went to the Sangbad office to look for Bhakta.

Teenage girl commits suicide

By Staff Correspondent
A teenage girl allegedly committed suicide at Rayerbazaar under Dhanmondi thana in the city yesterday.

Police said the dead was identified as Rahela Begum, 15, daughter of Tota Mia.

Rahela was found hanging from a beam inside a room of their house on Sultanganj Road at about 12 pm. Police suspected that she killed herself following a feud with her mother.

Rahela's body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. An unnatural death case was lodged with Dhanmondi thana in this regard.

Film session postponed

A session of films on the Indian Subcontinent, organised by Zahir Raihan Film Society and scheduled for Dec 8-11, has been postponed, says a press release.

The films, 'Kim,' 'Jungle Book,' 'India song' and 'The Deceivers,' will now be screened Dec 17-20 at the Indian High Commission auditorium in Dhanmondi.

Newspaper holidays Dec 15, 16

All newspaper and news agencies offices will remain closed on December 15 and 16 (Monday and Tuesday) on the occasion of holy Shab-e-Barat and the Victory Day, reports UNB.

Therefore, no newspaper will be published on December 16 and 17 (Tuesday and Wednesday), said an announcement of Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad (BSP) yesterday.

PM shocked at loss of lives in road accidents

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed her profound shock at the loss of lives in two road accidents in Jhalakathi and Manikganj yesterday, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister now in Tehran to attend the OIC Summit condoleed the death and expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved families.

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Thu	SV 0001	Dhaka	Jeddah	1200	1635
Fri	SV 0011	Dhaka	Riyadh	1200	1540

* All in local time. This flight schedule is effective from 28th October '97 upto 28th March '98.

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