

## President, PM greet Birendra

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed greeted Nepalese King Birendra Bir Bikram Shahdev on the occasion of his 54th birthday, reports APB.

In a message, the President termed the existing relations between Bangladesh and Nepal as excellent and hoped that it would further broaden and deepen to the mutual benefit in the days to come.

President Shahabuddin extended his best wishes for the King's good health and happiness and continued peace, progress and prosperity of the people of Nepal.

In another message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina greeted King Birendra, wishing his good health, happiness and long life and also continued peace, progress and prosperity of the people of Nepal.

Sheikh Hasina expressed her belief that the bond of friendship between Bangladesh and Nepal would further strengthen in the years ahead.

## Munshiganj Press Club polls held

MUNSHIGANJ, Dec 27: The election of the 13 member executive committee of the Munshiganj Press Club was held at its premises yesterday.

Iqbal Hussain (Ittefaq) and Mohammad Selim (Ajker Kago) were reelected president and secretary respectively.

Principal of Munshiganj Govt Mahila College, Mansur Ali Mollah conducted the polls.

## What's on today....

**Seminar:** The Institute of Chartered Accounts of Bangladesh has organised a mandatory CPE seminar on 'IAS 30 - Disclosure in the financial statements of banks and similar financial institutions'. Venue: ICAB auditorium, Chartered Accountant Bhaban, 100 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 3 pm.

**AGM:** The 3rd annual general meeting of the Gulf Foods Limited will be held. Venue: Priyanka Community Centre, House No: 50, Road No: 6/A, Dhanmondi. Time: 3 pm.

**JP council:** The unity council of the Jatiya Party will be held. Venue: Engineers' Institute auditorium. Time: 11 AM.

**Rotary Club meet:** The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 4:30 PM.

## Weather

### No change in night temperature

Weather may remain dry over the country in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged across the country during the period, according to Met Office.

Country's highest temperature 29.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and the lowest 9.8 degree Celsius at Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 5:20 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:40 am. Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Max	Min	Humidity in Percentage
Dhaka	27.4	14.7	64
Chittagong	28.0	15.6	66
Khulna	27.2	14.8	71
Rajshahi	25.2	11.8	78
Barisal	27.0	12.0	79
Sylhet	28.5	14.5	77
Cox's Bazar	29.0	16.0	74

## UP chairmen urged to carry forward development projects

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman yesterday urged the Union Parishad (UP) chairmen to carry forward the government's development programmes in their respective areas with utmost sincerity and devotion for the overall development of the country, reports BSS.

"You as the representatives of the people at the grassroots level can play a vital role for the development of the country by improving the condition of the rural areas and the people," he said.

He was addressing as the chief guest at a prize giving ceremony of the best chairmen of the Union Parishad across the country at the LGED Bhaban yesterday. State Minister for Shipping Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Bir Bikram, LGRD Secretary Hasnat Abdul Hye, among others, spoke on the occasion while Firozur Rahman addressed the function on behalf of the chairmen.

Besides, State Minister for Social Welfare Dr Mozammel Hossain and Deputy Minister for Food Dharendra Devnath Shambhu were also present at the function.

## PM's call to build facilities for hosting NAM summit

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed all in the concerned ministries to remove bottlenecks and work in unison to build the requisite facilities for hosting the next NAM summit, reports UNB.

The next meeting of heads of state or government of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) countries is scheduled to be held in Dhaka in 2001.

Prime Minister Hasina gave the directive while presiding over a high-level meeting at her office, which discussed means of successful holding of the conference of the forum of Third World nations.

The meeting discussed specific arrangements like accommodation for huge guests including dignitaries, conference centres, media centre and security measures.

## Ershad concerned at rising prices of essentials

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad has expressed concern over the rising prices of essentials, including baby food, in the city market, reports APB.

A party press release said the former President visited New Market and its adjacent kitchen market yesterday to see for himself the price situation of the daily necessities.

In course of the visit and his talks with the shopkeepers, the release said, the JP leader came to know that prices of most essential items had gone up beyond the reach of the common people.

He also expressed his dissatisfaction that the government had failed to keep the prices of daily necessities under control during the month of holy Ramadan.

The JP Chairman was informed that one kilogram of low quality rice was being sold Tk 17/18. Powdered milk of Dano brand was being sold at Tk 535 against its earlier price Tk 490.

The LGRD minister said, "development of the rural areas is a must for achieving overall development of the country and it is not possible without the development of the villages," he said.

Referring to the development of the women folk, he said the present government is pledged to empower the women and involve them in the development activities of the government.

"The present government for the first time in the country has initiated quota system in the electoral process with reservations of women seats at the Union Parishad level to ensure empowerment of women," he said.

Zillur urged all to come forward for the development of the country to build 'Sonar Bangla' as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Earlier, the minister distributed gold medals and certificates among the country's 45 chairmen who won the prizes for their outstanding performances in the Union Parishad activities.

## Khaleda demands release of city BNP leader

By Staff Correspondent

Opposition Leader Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday demanded immediate release of Dhaka city BNP leader Abu Mohammad Mainuddin.

In a statement, she said Mainuddin was released on bail recently, but police arrested him again. He was also arrested two times in the past, but the court released him on bail.

Begum Zia said police misbehaved with the family members of Mainuddin when they conducted a raid on his house to arrest him.

She also demanded release of Kotwali thana Chhatra Dal president Ishak Sarker.

Meanwhile, Khaleda Zia has expressed her profound shock at the death of Jagpa vice president Dr AK Abdul Aziz who died early yesterday.

In a message of condolence, she prayed for salvation of the departed soul and expressed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

The meeting of the 7-party alliance held at 29 Minto Road yesterday also condoled the death of Dr Abdul Aziz.

## Teacher demoted for negligence of duties

A school teacher was demoted as ordered by the Election Commission for negligence of duties as presiding officer during the last year's Union Parishad elections in Jhenidah, an Election Commission press release said here, reports BSS.

It said Abdul Wahab Zoardar has been demoted to the post of senior assistant teacher from his previous position as the Assistant Head Master of the United High School in Kaliganj thana of the district, according to the Election Officials' Act of 1991.

The press release said due to a mistake by Zoardar, the name of one Saleha Khatoun was wrongly published in the gazette as a woman member from reserve seat, instead of the real winner Mosammam Azizunnahar.

## DU English deptt get-together Feb 5

The Annual Get-together 1998 of the English Department Alumni Society, Department of English, University of Dhaka, will be held on February 5. Interested alumni are requested to register by January 31, says a press release.

## Urs held

CHITTAGONG, Dec 27: Urs Mubarak of Hazrat Shah Chinki-Mostan (RA) was held at his Dargah Sharif 'Chinki-As-tana' in Mirersarai here on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Dargah Sharif of Hazrat Shah Badal-Mostan (RA), one of the Baro-Aullas (twelve-saints) is situated at the same place.

## BFUJ meet today

A meeting of the executive committee Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) will be held today at 11 AM at the Jatiya Press Club, reports BSS.

Secretary General of BFUJ Abul Kalam Azad has requested all members to attend the meeting on time.

## VACANCY

### Short term IT Consultant

SCF-UK Bangladesh programme is looking for a person with IT skills, for developing and implementing search engines for an electronic filing system in the Dhaka office. It will be a short term consultancy spread over a period of 3 months. Remuneration package is negotiable. The person we are looking for fulfills the following requirements:

- ◆ S/he is a computer graduate/qualified programmer
- ◆ S/he has good experience of scanner and search engines
- ◆ S/he is able to design a system to handle huge amount of data
- ◆ S/he has a good command of English
- ◆ S/he has experience in using LAN

If you fulfill the above requirements, please send application and full CV, to address below. Deadline for applications: 07 January, 1999. We will only respond to short-listed candidates.

The Save the Children Fund - UK, IT Team

House 28, Road 16 (new),  
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## Situation Vacant World Health Organization Bangladesh

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Bangladeshi Nationals for the following positions under the WHO Programme BAN DHS 001: Support of Primary Health Care Development in Bangladesh through District Health System.

**Title of Position:** PHC Organizers.

**Duration:** One year with possible renewal (based on performance).

**Qualification:** Basic qualification in health and/or related fields and preferably post-graduate qualification(s) in Public Health.

**Experience:** Candidate(s) should have a minimum of 5 years experience in a supervisory public health capacity. Leadership experience in planning and implementing comprehensive Primary Health Care Projects/Programmes will be a major factor in the selection of PHC Organizers.

**Duty Station:** District Headquarter (According to posting).

**Job Description:**

The job of PHC Organizers entails field trips to PHC intensified areas and in required, non intensified areas of Bangladesh. It is, therefore, important that applicants are in a suitable state of health to cope with field trips. Selected applicants will be posted to district headquarters. Candidates will be administratively responsible to WHO and will work under the technical guidance and supervision of the Programme Officers — BAN DHS 001 (Medical Officer and Technical Officer). The PHC Organizer will be responsible for the following tasks:

1. To support all activities related to Primary Health Care Intensification/District Health System Development in selected Districts and Thanas based on a package of essential services as envisaged in the Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) of HPSP;
2. To assist in organizing, conducting and evaluating training workshops for different categories of health personnel/officers of health related sectors, community leaders and village health volunteers;
3. To assist in planning, organizing, implementing and evaluation of community based primary health care activities at thana, union and village levels based on the Essential Services Package (ESP);
4. To assist in mobilization of intersectoral action and organization of different groups in the community for their participation in activities related to health development;
5. To assist in the development, implementation and utilization of community based information system;
6. To assist in the planning and participate in the conduct of regular monitoring and assessment of the progress of implementation of primary health care activities through supportive supervision and periodic evaluation;
7. To report regularly to the Director, Primary Health Care and Diseases Control, Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Programme Officers—BAN DHS 001; and
8. To carry out any other duties/activities assigned to by the Director, Primary Health Care and Diseases Control and the WHO Programme Officers — BAN DHS 001.

Application with full bio-data and two PP size photographs should reach the WHO Representative in Bangladesh (Attention: WHO Programme and Administrative Officer), House # 12, Road # 7, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka-1205 by 31st January, 1999.

Candidates who are currently working for the Government or donor/partners for similar programmes need not apply.

Applications from WOMEN are encouraged.

D-672

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