

Speakers tell seminar

Eliminate gender discrimination from the society

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar yesterday urged all to help eliminate gender discrimination from the society to enable the country to face the challenges of the new millennium.

The seminar on "Gender and Public Administration" was jointly organised by Ministry for Women and Children Affairs and Public Administration Reforms Commission (PARC) in association with the Policy Leadership and Advocacy for Gender Equality (PLAGE) Project.

Minister for Food and Agriculture Begum Matia Chowdhury attended the seminar as chief guest while Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad Prof. Khaleda Khanom was present as special guest.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Prof. Zinatunnesa Talukdar and Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Prof. Tahmina Hossain also spoke at the seminar held at CIRDAP auditorium in the city. ATM Shamsul Haq, Chairman of PARC, presided over the function.

Agriculture Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury in her speech called upon men and women to come forward in curbing gender discrimination.

Listing various measures of the government in this regard, she said the government is planning to take steps for the inclusion of mother's name

along with the father's in the admission forms while enrolling children in school.

Instruction has already been given to the authorities to include parents' name in the passport particulars, the minister said.

She praised the role of different voluntary organisations and Non-Government Organisations (NGO) in creating awareness among women about their rights.

Prof. Khaleda Khanom said the government is taking steps

Property worth Tk 1.5 lakh gutted at Gazipur

GAZIPUR, Dec 21: A fire at a poultry farm at Bagherbazar in Sadar thana gutted its property worth over 1.5 lakh today, reports BSS.

The fire originated from an electric short circuit engulfed four sheds of the farm at 5 am.

Local people and firemen from Gazipur Fire Service rushed to the spot and extinguished the blaze after three hours of frantic efforts.

Official sources said 1,000 layer chickens and 8,000 chicks were burnt in the fire.

for the empowerment of women and establishing women's rights in the society.

She referred to the last Union Parishad election in which 1,400 women were elected in direct voting, and said this victory of women was a 'silent revolution'.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Prof. Zinatunnesa Talukdar in her speech focused on different initiatives taken by the government and said the government has been playing a active role for the development and empowerment of women.

Pointing out the impact of positive role of mass media, she called upon the media to play an active role to eliminate gender discrimination.

Earlier, three papers on Public Administration with the research results and recommendations were presented in the morning session of the seminar.

Transfer in jobs, lack of day-care centres for children of working women, insecurity, habitat problems, and negative attitudes of male workers have been identified as the key findings of the research.

PARC Chairman ATM Shamsul Haque said these recommendations will be incorporated in the commission's final report and it will be submitted to the government for its consideration.



The long road to Gausia

The journey to Gausia and Chandni Chawk, one of the busiest shopping centres of the city, seems to be getting longer by the day as a large section of Dhakaites flock to the area for their Eid shopping, leaving the already notorious traffic in shambles. Increase in the number of illegal hawkers trading on the main road itself has only worsened the situation, making it appear like a veritable bedlam at times.

— Star photo

Combing operation

959 held, 15 arms seized

A total of 959 persons were arrested and 15 illegal arms, 35 bullets and 16 explosives seized on the 243rd day yesterday of the countrywide combing operation by police, Bangladesh Rifles and Ansars, reports BSS.

The combined force arrested 531 wanted persons and a listed terrorist from across the country including four metropolitan areas and seized the arms, ammunition and explosives. They also arrested more 422 persons on different charges during the operation.

One hundred twenty-four people including 27 wanted persons were arrested with one illegal weapon and 16 explosives from Dhaka Metropolitan area while 38 persons were arrested with two illegal weapons from Chittagong Metropolitan area.

Twenty-nine people including three wanted persons were arrested from Khulna Metropolitan area while three people from Rajshahi Metropolitan.

A total of 218 persons including 127 wanted persons and a listed terrorist were arrested with four illegal weapons and 22 bullets from Dhaka range while 209 persons including 162 wanted persons and a listed terrorist were arrested with two arms and two bullets from Chittagong range.

Modern technology vital for dev, says Khasru

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Abdul Latif Khasru yesterday said that modern technology and efficient management were essential for economic development of the country, reports BSS.

"The role and importance of cost management accounting is gradually gaining importance with the expansion of economic activities including trade and commerce," he said while distributing certificates and crests among new cost management graduates in the ICMA auditorium here.

Presided over by president of the Institute of Cost Management and Accounting of Bangladesh Muzaffar Ahmed, the function was addressed, among others, by secretary of the Institute Mamunur Rashid and chairman of ICMA, Dhaka branch Jasim Uddin Akand.

The country is now facing serious management crisis in every sector, the law minister said. "We have enough resources and potentials but we are lacking in skilled manpower and effective cost management accounting system," he said, adding the industries and factories of the country are incurring huge losses due to mismanagement.

He urged the cost management accountants to work with sincerity and honesty to make the industries and factories profitable using their knowledge and experience.

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Contact: 7318508, 7319894, 7317184.

Road Division, Patuakhali
Notice Inviting Tender in Sealed Cover in BD Form No 2908

1. Tender Notice No	:	PRD 15/1999-2000.				
2. Name of work	:	Group list.				
3. Estimated cost	:	Tk Group list				
4. Earnest money	:	Tk -do-				
5. Time allowed	:	-do-				
6. Eligibility of contractor's RHD	:	-do-				
7. Name of offices from where the tender documents will be available	:	Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Barisal/Bhola/Pirojpur/Jhalakhati/Barguna/the undersigned all Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, under Road Division Patuakhali during office hours on all working days.				
8. The officers who will receive the tenders in sealed cover	:	1. Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Barisal. 2. Executive Engineer, RHD, Barisal/Barguna, and 3. The undersigned.				
9. Last date & time of selling the tender	:	Up to 27-12-99AD/13-9-1406 BS during the office hours.				
10. Last date & time of receiving the tender	:	Up to 12-30 PM, 28-12-99AD/14-9-1406BS.				
11. Date & time of opening the tender box	:	At 12-45 PM, 28-12-99 AD/14-9-1406BS.				
12. Date & time of opening the tenders	:	At 11-00 AM, 3-1-2000AD/20-9-1406BS.				
13. Date & time of lottery (if necessary)	:	At 11-00 AM, 5-1-2000AD/22-9-1406BS.				
Group No	Name of work location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of contractors RHD	Time allowed	Chargeable head
1 (one)	Supplying 2nd class bats local sand for repair of different ferry ghat under Patuakhali Road Division during the year 1999-2000.	Tk 4,47,125/=	Tk 8,943/=	"A" to "E" (General) category	30 days	168-RBF
2 (two)	Supplying of 1st class bricks & bats peagravels, stone chips, shingle, Rock Kachi at different location for emergency repair of different roads & ferry ghat of Patuakhali Road Sub-Division-II under Patuakhali Road Division during the year 1999-2000.	Tk 4,30,270/=	Tk 8,605/=	-do-	25 days	-do-

Md Abdul Bari
Executive Engineer, RHD (CC)
Road Division, Patuakhali

DFF-27999-15/12
G-2140

Call for improving nutritional status of women, children

A two-day national seminar began yesterday with a call to take more effective measures to reduce malnutrition among the mothers and children, reports BSS.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf inaugurated the seminar on the "State of the art in nutrition of mothers and children in Bangladesh" at Hotel Sonargaon.

The seminar is being jointly organised by Directorate of Family Planning (DFFP), Integrated Community Family Health Development Programme (ICFHPD), Bogra and the National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT). It is being supported by the Bangladesh-German Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

Addressing the session as the chief guest, the health minister emphasised on taking measures to improve the nutritional status of women to prevent malnutrition and early death of children as the growth and development of children are affected by their mothers' past nutritional history and the precautions taken during pregnancy.

He said over half of the children under the age of five in the country suffer from chronic malnutrition, while 18 per cent are acutely malnourished.

Massive programme to eradicate illiteracy

The government has taken up a massive programme aimed at removing illiteracy from the country involving people of all strata, public representatives and NGOs, reports UNB.

This was disclosed at a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education Ministry yesterday with its president Nurul Islam Nahid in the chair.

The meeting was told that the government is pledge-bound to build up an illiteracy-free Bangladesh by implementing "Education for All" programme.

The meeting also discussed the activities of primary and mass education department.

The Non-formal Education

Directorate has launched a literacy programme for over 16 lakh people under non-formal education project-1 and project-2.

Besides, non-formal education directorate has also launched a literacy programme for working children and juveniles (8-14 age group) in six divisional headquarters under non-formal education project-3.

It has also launched a literacy programme for 70,650 children through 57 NGOs in Dhaka city and for 31,050 children in Chittagong city through 34 NGOs.

Apart from this, 52 thanas of 14 districts have been brought under Total Literacy Programme (TLM) under non-formal education project-4.

The Total Literacy Movement (TLM) programme is being implemented involving local administration and people as well.

Under the programme, five districts - Lalmonirhat, Chuadanga, Rajshahi, Magura and Gazipur - have already been declared free from illiteracy.

The meeting expressed the hope that all the districts will be free from illiteracy by the year 2002.

Amendment No 1 (One) Amendment of International Tender Notice No Pur-254/99

Dated: 9.11.99

1. Receiving date of the International Tender Notice No Pur-254/99 dated 9.11.99 shall be on 16.1.2000 instead of 29.12.99.

All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.

Director, Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka
Biddut/Jan-98(5)/99-2000
GD-1219

Warm clothes to be distributed in N-dists

The government on emergency basis has sanctioned warm clothes for the distressed people of the 12 northern districts through the Relief and Rehabilitation Directorate, reports UNB.

The districts are Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Nilphamari, Kurigram, Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Joypurhat, Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi and Sirajganj.

The clothes sanctioned by the government include 973 pieces of blankets, 226 cartons of old garments and 68 cartons of garment clothes against the Deputy Commissioners of the districts.

Meanwhile, the government through the directorate has taken necessary steps to collect 25,000 pieces of blankets to distribute.

DU MBA admission test tomorrow

The admission test of the MBA Programme of the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) Dhaka University will be held at 10 am tomorrow as per the seat plan given below, says a DU press release.

Admit nos 5001-5536-IER Building, admit nos 5537-5967 IBA Building, admit nos 5968-7237 Faculty of Business Studies (FBS) Building, admit nos 7238-7987 Kala Bhaban (Entrance North Gate), admit nos 7988-8127 Kala Bhaban (Entrance South Gate) and admit nos 8128-8400 Lecture Theatre.

Detailed seat plan will be available on the bulletin board of the respective exam centres on the day. Candidates have been requested to report to their respective examination halls by 9:30 am sharp.

AL Executive Committee meet today

The executive committee (EC) of Bangladesh Awami League will meet at Ganobhaban at 3 pm today with party president and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair, reports BSS.

All members of the EC have been requested to attend the meeting on time, a party press release said here tonight.

Rangamati PCJSS unit formed

RANGAMATI, Dec 21: A 19-member committee of the Rangamati district unit of Parbatya Chattagram Jano Sanghat Samity (PCJSS) was formed here with Gunendu Bikash Chakma and Nil Chandra Chakma as president and general secretary respectively, reports BSS.

The committee was formed in a meeting held at PCJSS Rangamati office on December 18.

General secretary of the central unit of PCJSS, Chandra Shekhar Chakma attended the meeting as chief guest while president of Tripura Kalyan Foundation Nirmolendu Tripathy and adviser Sagonika Roza were present as the special guests.

Another 17-member committee of Rangamati thana unit of PCJSS was also formed in the same meeting with Subma Chakma and Bibendu Bikash Chakma as president and general secretary respectively, the press release added.

BCIC Tender Notice
[বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক]
Managing Director, Jamuna Fertilizer Co Ltd, Tarakandi, Jamalpur invites sealed quotations against tender No. 1232 & 1233 dt 6.12.99 for appointment of handling contractor at Gaibandha & Kurigram Buffer Godowns. Tender will be received up to 11:00 AM on 30.12.99 in the tender box kept at the office of the (i) General Manager (Commercial), JFCL, Tarakandi, Jamalpur (ii) General Manager (FMC), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (18th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and simultaneously will be opened immediately thereafter in presence of tenderers (if any). Tender documents with detailed terms & conditions may be purchased from (i) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka & (ii) General Manager (A&F), JFCL, Tarakandi, Jamalpur on payment of Tk 400/- (Tk four hundred) per set (non-refundable) on all working days. No tender documents will be sold on the opening day. JFCL Management reserves the right to accept or reject all the tenders fully or partly without assigning any reason whatsoever.
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BCIC International Tender Notice
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Managing Director, Urea Fertilizer Factory Ltd, Ghorasal, Narsingdi, Bangladesh invites sealed quotation on two envelope system for supply of two set Tube Bundle Assembly with Shell and Channel Cover Complete Unit for Air Compressor (ATB) No. 1 and No. 2 Inter Cooler under Tender No. UFFL/FP-PM/15/98-99/534 on C&F (C) Chittagong Sea Port basis. Tender will be received up to 11:00 AM on 07-2-2000. Tender documents will be available at Taka 500/- (Non-refundable) from (1) Accounts Division, BCIC, 30-31 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, (2) BCIC, 6. Agrabad C/A, Chittagong & (3) UFFL.
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