

BFUJ, DUJ demand security for Ctg journalists

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) yesterday urged the government to take up immediate measures for ensuring adequate security for journalists in Chittagong city who were now under continuous threats from different quarters, reports BSS.

They also called upon the concerned authorities not to create any obstacle in the way of disseminating objective news and views by the journalists in Chittagong, a press release of BFUJ said yesterday.

BFUJ president Abul Kalam Azad and secretary general Akhter Ahmed Khan and DUJ president Arafat Mahmood and general secretary Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan in a joint statement yesterday said the situation was now grave in Chittagong due to lack of proper security measures for the journalists in the port city.

"The government has assured proper security and safety of the journalists but they are still in a state of utter insecurity," the leaders said while referring to the recent attack on the journalists on duty at Lalghighi Maidan during a public meeting of the four-party oppositions' alliance. At least 15 journalists were injured during that attack, the press release said.

The BFUJ and DUJ leaders also said those heinous forces also conducted planned bomb attacks on the Press Club and the Daily Azadi office in Chittagong. "Such state of insecurity is not at all desirable by any conscientious person," the leaders said.

Leaders of Muslim countries greet Shahabuddin

Heads of government and state of various Muslim countries have greeted President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, reports UNB.

In separate messages, they greeted the President, government and people of Bangladesh on the occasion.

They also prayed for peace, progress and prosperity of the people of Muslim Ummah.

So far, messages from Amir of Bahrain Hamad bin-Isa Al-Khalifa, Amir of Qatar Hamad bin Khalifa al Thani, President of Iran Sayyed Mohammad Khatami, President of Sudan Gen Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, President of Egypt Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, President of Mauritania Maouya Ould Sid Ahmed Toya, President of Yemen Ali Abdullah Saleh and President of the Maldives Maumoon Abdul Gayoom have been received.

GSS employees yet to get their salaries

By Staff Correspondent
Some 6,000 staff of GSS, a leading non-government organisation of the country, celebrates Eid-ul-Fitr eight months salary still due.

Issuing a statement yesterday, Masud Ahmed Chowdhury on behalf of the GSS Employees Coordination Council, urged all the staff of the NGO to face this difficult situation with utmost patience.



*A family selling *Bhapa Pitha* (steamed rice cakes) in the city. Prepared with a filling of semi-liquid molasses in a steamed rice cup, this *pitha* is one of the most popular in winter. — Star photo

BSEHR recommends issue of licence to control sale of acid

A human-rights organisation recommends issue of licences for both sale and purchase of acid, reports UNB.

The Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) in its recent investigation report put forward a five-point recommendation aimed at stopping the misuse of nitric, sulphuric and carbolic acid.

It said, licence must specify the amount and purpose of acid bought by individuals. The licence of both the seller and the buyer should be subject to be cancelled in case of any misuse.

Seller of acid must produce cash memo and the buyers must preserve it. Besides, the BSEHR recommends raising public awareness about the misuse of acid.

Misuse of acid would not be checked only by filing case

against the offenders unless these recommendations are considered," said the BSEHR.

Considering the deadly misuse of acid to burns and disfigures faces of young women, an investigation team of BSCHR was formed with Advocate Elina Khan as its chief to find out the origins, prices and use of acid.

Generally people can buy acid openly for different purposes including for goldsmith shops, motor garages and laboratories of schools and colleges. Acid is sold openly without any restrictions at chemical shops.

But investigators found that the smaller shops at districts and small towns collect acid from Narayanganj wholesale markets.

In absence of any specific rules for sale and purchase of acids, buyers have easy access to retail acid shops who do not

bother about any compulsions for specifying the quantity and purpose of acid during trade.

Although the wholesalers of Narayanganj possess licence for trading in acid, retailers at village markets do not have any.

A pound of nitric acid can be bought for Tk 30-35 while each pound of sulphuric acid costs only Tk 17-25 at retailer levels.

The investigators reveal that sulphuric acid, because of its low price and easy availability, is widely used and is often the item used to disfigure young girls.

Users are mainly youths who take revenge on girls by pouring acid on them as equal to conjugal quarrels or love offers being spurned or just about any other trivial matter of dispute.

Kibria briefs newsmen

Agri sector only sigh of relief in country's stagnant economy

Agriculture seems to be the only savior for the country's economy that has remained stagnant with lackluster performance in all the major areas during the first half of the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

After the devastating flood of 1998, 1999 was supposed to be a year of recovery. But the economic recovery throughout the year has been slow although an apparent stability prevailed in the macroeconomic scenario.

Export and revenue targets could not be met in the July-December period of the current financial year. Massive duty reduction on capital machinery and raw materials could not induce the desired growth in the industrial sector. Reduction in bank's lending rates has not yielded any good results in private investment.

A bumper boro and aman crop has given the overall economy some respite, but there is no sign of recovery in industrial sector despite an incentive package including drastic tax reduction on raw materials has been offered in the current budget.

With very little or no logistic support, farmers have harvested two successive good crops helping inflation rate to 3.42 in November.

Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria, while briefing newsmen on the state of country's economy, could cite only one sector, agriculture, that has still maintained the bloodline of the country's economy.

He said the government's pragmatic measures like reduction of import tax of agricultural inputs and timely and efficient disbursement of expanded credits has resulted in bumper harvests. He said the government took up a procurement drive to give price support to the farmers.

Agriculture is the sector where lending agencies and donor countries have been continuing to discourage any sort of subsidy.

The finance minister however did not come up with any statistics about the industrial sector that enjoys lot of policy supports of the government.

Meager growth in the manufacturing sector badly affected the export trade, that fell largely behind the target till November. Even a three per cent devaluation by the central bank at a stroke in November could not add impetus to the export that showed only 7 per cent growth instead of a double-digit growth in FY 1998.

Import maintained a status

quo during the July-December period of the 1999-2000 fiscal year, but revenue from imports dropped significantly due to drastic withdrawal of tariffs, leading to a poor revenue collection.

In presence of the finance minister, National Board of Revenue Chairman Abdul Muviad Chowdhury painted a grim picture of revenue collection in July-December period of the current fiscal year.

Revenue shortfall would amount Tk 933 crore during the period with customs sector alone accounting for Tk 825 crore.

Poor revenue collection forced the government to borrow Tk 2231 crore from the banking system between July and December 1999 to maintain its development and revenue expenditures.

The finance minister justified the public borrowing saying it was necessary to give impetus to the economy. He also ridiculed the observation that massive public borrowing would squeeze the private sector access to credit. He said banks have enough liquidity to finance the private sector. The government can't force private sector to borrow if they are not willing," Kibria said.

Notice Inviting Tenders

(RHD) Road Division

- Tender Notice No : 14 E.E/DRD/1999-2000.
- Name of work : Constn & re-constn of Charkai-Birampur SO's Section Office & Quarter damaged by the heavy rain/flood under Dinajpur Road Division during the year 1999-2000.
- Estimated cost : As per schedule.
- Earnest money : As per schedule.
- Time allowed for completion of work : As per schedule.
- Eligibility of contractor : As per schedule.
- Name of offices where tender documents will be sold : 1. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Dinajpur/Thakurgaon/Nilphamari/Panchagarh.
- Name of offices where the tender bids will be received : 1. Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Dinajpur. 2. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Divn., Dinajpur/Thakurgaon/Nilphamari/Panchagarh.
- Last date of selling tender documents during office hours : Up to 18.1.2000.
- Last date and time for receiving tender bids : Up to 12-30 PM on 19.1.2000.
- Date and time of opening tender box : At 12-45 PM on 19.1.2000.
- Date and time of opening tender bids (at the office of undersigned) : At 11-00 AM on 20.1.2000.
- Date of lottery (if any) : At 11-30 AM on 26.1.2000.

Md Abdul Halim Miah
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Dinajpur.

DFP-63-3/1
G-43

Call for 'reinforcement' of pro-liberation forces

Leading intelligentsia and leaders of different professional groups on Thursday called for a 'reinforcement' of the pro-liberation and progressive forces to counter the opposition campaign which they said was launched against democracy and development, reports BSS.

Participating in a Bangabandhu Parishad discussion at the TSC of Dhaka University, they said after the election of Awami League in 1996 general elections as a democratic and progressive government, a distinct polarisation between the pro and anti-liberation forces became more vivid. The opposition alliance and campaign was in fact targeted against the democratic process.

Leading academicians, lawyers, economists and journalists took part in the discussion attended by Prime Minister's Political Affairs Adviser Dr S A Malek Justice K M Sobhan was in the chair.

Dr Malek said as Awami League was voted to power in 1996, the polarisation in the country's political arena had become distinct and now with the alliance of "autocrats and fundamentalists" and their campaign against "a democratic process," it became more vivid. But, he admitted that a gap between the government and

the intelligentsia was developed in recent time and said it must be bridged for the sake of democracy.

Vice President of Bangladesh Bar Council, Barrister Amirul Islam said Awami League assumed power following a prolonged campaign, which now needed a "reinforcement" to face the opposition politics.

He identified "terrorism" as the main problem of the present society saying it was encouraged to create a social anarchy.

Economist Qazi Khuliquzzaman Ahmed said it would be unwise to ignore the problems in economic and other sectors and suggested formation of expert groups for every sectors to identify and remove the problems.

Dr Ashrafuddin Chowdhury of Economics Department of Dhaka University said the ruling party must review its election pledges including the issue of autonomy for the state-run radio and television.

He said the growth in economic sector was higher in the past several years compared to the history of the country's 150 years of history of the sector and added that this success became a headache for the opposition.

Journalists A B M Musa said

the commitment of the government was an important factor on the question of facing the anti-liberation and fanatic forces.

Acting Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Shahadat Ali said the opposition campaign was aimed at protecting the killers of Bangabandhu and opined that after the completion of their trial process, the political unrest and violence would tame down.

Vice Chancellor of Open University Prof Amirul Islam called for strengthening the organisational activities of Awami League at grassroots and highlighting the government's success properly.

Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury of Management Department of Dhaka University said it appears that the opposition would try to intensify their campaign but the progressive forces should make it clear to all that they have no issue to justify their movement.

Muktijoddha Sangsad Chairman Principal Ahad Chowdhury, Advocate Gazul Haque, Razia Motin Chowdhury, Mahbubuddin Ahmed Bir Bikrom, Golam Kuddus, Kamal Haidar, Prof Harunur Rashid and Dr Ali Asgar among others, spoke on the occasion.

Government of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Faridpur PWD Division

Tender No 80 of 1999-2000
Memo No 2220 Dated:-28.12.99/14.9.1406 Bang

Notice Inviting Tenders

Sealed tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No 2911 from the approved special class-I/class-I bldg contractors of PWD, Class-II Bldg. contractors of PWD Zone, Khulna & class-III bldg. contractors of PWD Circle. Jessore for "Constn of Conversion of Sarkari Shishu Sadan into Shishu Paribar — One at Faridpur Phase-II (S.H. Constn. of approach road and site improvement)" and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Magura, Jhenidah, Jessore, Kushtia, Chuadanga, Meherpur, Narail and Rajbari on their respective offices up to 12-00 Noon of 25.1.2000. The estimate cost of the work is Taka 6,79,044/00 only and the earnest money is Taka 13,581/00 in TC/PO/BD from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh or Pratiksha Sanchaya Patra, Bonus Sanchaya Patra. 5 yrs BD Sanchaya Patra must accompany each tender duly endorsed to the Executive Engineer, PWD Divn, Faridpur. Otherwise his/their tender shall be declared informal. No tender form, schedule of items, additional terms and conditions etc will be sold after 24.1.2000. The tender paper schedule of items, additional terms and conditions etc may be obtained from the office of the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Magura, Jhenidah, Jessore, Kushtia, Chuadanga, Meherpur, Narail and Rajbari on all working days during office hours on payment of usual charge of Tk 400/- (Taka four hundred) only per set of the tender schedule and a sum of Tk 25/- (Taka twenty-five) per copy of Tender Form No 2911 (both non-refundable).

Details may be seen from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

DFP-101-3/1
G-45

Md Syedur Rahman
Executive Engineer
Faridpur PWD Division.

Bakhrabad Gas Systems Limited

(A Company of Petrobangla)

প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাস একটি সীমিত সম্পদ
এর অপচয় রোধ করুন

Tender Notice

| 1. | Subject | Cost of tender schedule (non-refundable) | Earnest money |
|-----|---|--|-------------------------------|
| (a) | Supply of Personal Computer (Re-Tender) | Tk. 1000.00 (Per set) | As mentioned in the schedule. |
| (b) | Supply of Stationery Materials. | Tk. 500.00 (Per set) | 2.5% of the quoted value. |

2. Place of selling, receiving & opening of tender for Personal Computer:

- BGSL, Head Office, Chapapuri, Comilla.
- BGSL, Sales Department, 137/A, CDA Avenue, Sholashahar, Ctg.
- BGSL, Liaison Office, House No-3, Road No-2/A, Banani, Dhaka-1213.
- BAPEX, HBFC Bhaban (9th floor), 22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka.
- SGFL Chiknagool, Horipur, Sylhet.
- GTCL, Road No-12, Sector No-3, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka.
- RPGCL, BSEC Bhaban, 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.
- BGFCL, Court Road, PO Box No-8, B'baria.
- JGTDC, Pathantula, Sylhet.
- Petrobangla, Petro Centre, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka.
- TGT&D Company Limited, 105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.

3. Place of selling, receiving & opening of tender for Stationery Materials:

- BGSL, Head Office, Chapapuri, Comilla.
- BGSL, Sales Department, 137/A, CDA Avenue, Sholashahar, Ctg.
- BGSL, Liaison Office, House No-3, Road No-2/A, Banani, Dhaka-1213.

- Time limit of selling tender documents : 18-01-2000 to 30-01-2000.
- Date & time of receiving tender : 31-01-2000 up to 12 Noon.
- Date & time of opening tenders : 31-01-2000 at 12.10 PM.

BG-94/Dec 99
DFP-76-3/1

G-42



রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

ভর্তি পরীক্ষার বিজ্ঞপ্তি
১ম বর্ষ স্নাতক সন্মান
শিক্ষাবর্ষ ১৯৯৯-২০০০

নং-৭-১৯৩৩-৪-২-১(৯৯-২০০০) তারিখঃ ৩০-১২-৯৯

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতি ও কার্যকরিতার জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ১৯৯৯-২০০০ শিক্ষাবর্ষে ১ম বর্ষ সন্মান কোর্সের ভর্তি পরীক্ষা নিম্নরূপ সময়সূচি অনুযায়ী অনুষ্ঠিত হবে-

| তারিখ | সকাল ৯টা-১১টা | দুপুর ১২টা-২টা | বিকেল ৩টা-৫টা |
|-----------|---|---------------------------|--|
| ১-২-২০০০ | পদার্থবিজ্ঞান | হিসাব বিজ্ঞান | গণিত |
| ২-২-২০০০ | রসায়ন | ফাইন্যান্স ও ব্যাবিকিং | ফিলিত পদার্থবিজ্ঞান ও ইলেকট্রনিক্স |
| ৩-২-২০০০ | ফিলিত রসায়ন ও রাসায়নিক প্রযুক্তিবিদ্যা | ব্যবস্থাপনা | পরিচয়গান |
| ৫-২-২০০০ | ১. শ্রাণ-রসায়ন ২. ফার্সী | মার্কেটিং | ভূ-তত্ত্ব ও বর্নিবিদ্যা |
| ৬-২-২০০০ | ফার্মেসি | আইন | কম্পিউটার সায়েন্স এন্ড টেকনোলজী |
| ৭-২-২০০০ | প্রাণিবিদ্যা | বালা | উদ্ভিদবিজ্ঞান |
| ৮-২-২০০০ | সমাজবিজ্ঞান | সমাজকর্ম | মনোবিজ্ঞান |
| ৯-২-২০০০ | ইংরেজি | ইসলামের ইতিহাস ও সংস্কৃতি | রাষ্ট্রবিজ্ঞান |
| ১২-২-২০০০ | অর্থনীতি | ইতিহাস | গণযোগাযোগ |
| ১৩-২-২০০০ | ১. পপুলেশন সায়েন্স এন্ড হিউম্যান ডেভেলপমেন্ট ২. সংস্কৃত | ১. লোক প্রশাসন ২. আরবী | ১. জেনেটিক্স এন্ড ব্রিডিং ২. চাকরলা |
| ১৪-২-২০০০ | ইসলামিক স্টাডিজ | ফোকলোর | ১. উদ্ভিদ ২. কৃষিবিজ্ঞান |
| ১৫-২-২০০০ | ভূগোল ও পরিবেশবিদ্যা | সঙ্গীত | গৃহশাসন ও উদ্ভাবিত |

"চাকরলা" বিষয়ের জন্য সময়কাল ৩ ঘণ্টা এবং বিকেল ৩-৬ ভর্তি পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

বিদ্যে ভর্তি পরীক্ষাসহ ভর্তি সনাক্তকৃত যাবতীয় বিষয়/তথ্যাদি সংশ্লিষ্ট বিভাগ থেকে ছাত্র-ছাত্রীকে নিজ দায়িত্বে জেনে নিতে হবে।

নং-০০১০৪(৬)/২০০০/বিজ্ঞা/পঞ্জ
(৪, ১, ২০০০)

রেজিস্ট্রার
রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়