

Metropolitan

BSMMU established to help provide quality healthcare

Health and Family Welfare Minister Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim yesterday said that Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) was established to produce medical specialists to provide quality healthcare for all, reports BSS.

"Providing better medical care for the people is a responsibility of a democratic government," he said while inaugurating a function to mark the second founding anniversary of the BSMMU.

Presided over by Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Dr M A Quadri, the function was also addressed, among others, by Chairman of University Grants Commission Prof ATM Zahurul Haque, Pro-Vice Chancellors Prof M A Tahir, Prof Dr Mahmud Hassan, President and Secretary General of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) Prof Dr Rashid-e-Mahbub and Mostafa Jalal Moinuddin and Treasurer of the university Prof K M Iqbal.

The health minister said that BSMMU is the highest medical institution of the country the government has already allocated Tk 15.5 crore for the overall development of the university, he added.

The minister also called upon the doctors, nurses and other staff of the university to take care of the patients properly.

Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Quadri said there are 23 units under four faculties at BSMMU. He said that a well-equipped one-point service centre would be set up at the university soon.

Transport workers urged to observe May Day

Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Samik Federation called upon the transport workers yesterday to stop plying all modes of vehicles, including buses and trucks, on May 1 in observance of May Day, reports UNB.

In a joint statement, Federation president Wazuddin Khan MP, executive president Shajahan Khan MP and general secretary Habibur Rahman urged all the unions to observe the day with due respect.

The federation leaders expressed deep shock at the loss of lives in the Friday's road accident in Sirajganj district.

All-out efforts needed to combat arsenic contamination

By Staff Correspondent

Experts at a seminar in the city yesterday expressed grave concern over the alarming situation of arsenic contamination in ground water.

Describing the problem as a "big threat to the country's next generation", they suggested that an all-out initiative be taken up to combat the arsenic contamination.

The speakers observed that the entire population of the country would be affected by the problem within a short time if effective steps are not taken right now.

Held at the auditorium of Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensors Organisation (SPARRSO), the seminar on "Arsenic Contamination of Ground Water and Its Mitigation Measure" was organised by Franco-Bangladesh Association of Scholars and Trainees (FBAST).

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury attended the seminar as chief guest while FBAST president Dr A M Shafiqul Alam presided.

Prof Azad said a concerted effort involving government, experts, and NGOs is needed to solve the problem.

To mitigate the problem, Prof Azad said, "we need a long-lasting, cost-effective and easy method which will be acceptable to the villagers who are the main victims."



JCD brought out a colourful rally at the Kuwait Maitree Hall of Dhaka University yesterday to welcome the new students. — Star photo

Workshop on 'Human Rights and Gender'

'Gender discrimination a major obstacle to women development'

Speakers at a workshop in the city yesterday said gender discrimination is still a major obstacle to women development in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Labelling the gender discrimination as a barrier to socio-economic uplift, they said elimination of gender disparity is essential for developing human resources and upholding the human rights in the country.

Bureau of Human Rights, Bangladesh (BHRB) organised the day-long workshop on

"Human Rights and Gender" at the Hamdard auditorium.

Justice M Abdul Wahab said, "In the present situation, we cannot overlook the issue as it is very much related to our overall development."

Gender specialist Mahmuda Rahman Khan identified the gender issue as 'a challenge to the progress of our society as well as development in all aspects.'

Major Gen (rtd) ZA Khan said: "Today gender friendliness is the watchword for success in social and universal en-

lightenment." Nasreen Huq, a feminist activist, said it is not possible to protect the human rights 'keeping the mountain-like discrimination between the male and female.'

Moulana Abul Kalam Azad, a noted Islamic scholar, denied any contradiction in Islam on gender issue. "Rather, Islam is the best protector of human rights," he said.

The workshop was held in several sessions. BHRB president Alhaj Syed M Anwar Hossain took part in the discussion.

NGOs must be accountable

Motia tells conference of Palli Shishu Foundation

Agriculture Minister Motia Chowdhury called upon all concerned to establish transparency and accountability in the NGO activities, reports UNB. "They (NGOs) will have to ensure transparency and accountability by informing people of their activities and budget," she said addressing the annual conference of Palli Shishu Foundation of Bangladesh, a non-government organisation (NGO).

The minister said many NGOs deserve appreciation for their role in poverty alleviation, but many after NGOs also cheat people.

She emphasized the need for genuine non-government initiatives to alleviate rural poverty side by side government programmes.

The function was also addressed by Krishi Bank managing director Dr Shobeb Ahmed and foundation's secretary general Rezaul Karim and joint secretary general Dr Mesbahul Karim.

Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Women and Children Affairs Ministry Prof MS Akbar presided.

Renowned physician Dr To-fael Ahmed established the foundation, which is now providing healthcare facilities to 27 lakh children of 2,114 villages in the country through its 62 centres.

Besides, the foundation has micro credit, afforestation and mass education programmes. It

is also providing legal aid for the poor.

Appreciating the foundation's programmes, Motia Chowdhury stressed the need for intensifying its activities. "Only providing healthcare is not enough, ensure that the children can grow up in a healthy environment. Special emphasis has to be given on their nutrition and education."

Khaleda protests filing of cases against party men

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia has condemned the filing of cases against 125 BNP leaders under Public Safety Act, reports UNB.

In a statement yesterday, she said the filing of cases against opposition leaders and workers under PSA proved that the government enacted this act only to foil the anti-government movement.

She demanded immediate withdrawal of the cases.

In another statement, Khaleda Zia expressed deep shock at the loss of lives in Friday's accident at Konabari.

She prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Begum Zia also demanded that compensation be paid to the family members of the victims.

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Interested candidates are requested to send their application along with C.V. and 2 copies of passport size photograph, photocopy of all certificates to Box No. A-1038, C/o: The Daily Star, 19, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215 by May 15, 2000. Only short listed candidates will be called for interview.

Bangladesh Rice Research Institute

Gazipur-1701

Auction Notice

No. 51 (1999-2000)

Sealed tenders are invited from traders & persons interested to purchase condemned vehicles, agricultural equipment, office machinery & various types of old goods kept at the stores of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Gazipur office as per the undermentioned group list on as it is where it is basis.

Group list basis tender document as per the undermentioned description can be collected on cash payment from the Accounts Department of the Institute's Gazipur office during office hours up to 22.5.2000.

Tender document should be submitted in the tender box kept at the office of Director General, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Gazipur by 12.00 Noon of 23.5.2000 and be opened on the same day at 12.30 PM in presence (if any) of the attending tenders.

Interested purchasers must submit earnest money (refundable) at the rate 10% of quoted amount with the tender in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of "Director General, BRRI, Gazipur." Interested purchasers can inspect all the goods in schedule at BRRI headquarters, Gazipur everyday during office hours.

The group must be superscribed distinctly on the envelope at the time of submitting tender. Detailed description of goods with other terms & conditions can be found in the tender document. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

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Result of Written Test for Recruitment of Probationary Officers (10th Batch)

Candidates bearing the following Roll Numbers have qualified in the Written Test. They are advised to appear before the Interview Committee at Bank's Head Office, BCIC Bhaban (8th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka as per schedule below. Letters to the individual candidates have been despatched. For non-receipt of letters, candidates may contact Bank's Head Office, Administration Division on 10th May, 2000 during office hours. No T.A./D.A. will be allowed.

15th May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 3011, 2955, 1441, 2290, 1130, 1660, 3675, 354, 1602, 275, 3229, 729, 3057, 1285, 2735, 2846, 1361, 976, 3278, 3664, 372, 745, 764, 1114, 2459.

16th May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 2328, 2103, 2180, 1799, 2868, 1416, 1961, 134, 2333, 2934, 119, 84, 1350, 941, 292, 603, 2194, 3092, 9, 965, 1170, 2451, 3521, 642, 88.

18th May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 2306, 724, 1097, 224, 2477, 2933, 3225, 3432, 3627, 202, 1052, 781, 3488, 1643, 2422, 583, 1182, 499, 794, 2825, 3182, 537, 991, 1184, 3383.

21st May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 1296, 1505, 487, 2161, 2822, 3060, 3734, 593, 1604, 2819, 1765, 2101, 2582, 3105, 97, 1411, 1561, 2035, 2259, 187, 326, 558, 610, 832, 1167.

22nd May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 1712, 2681, 3184, 3117, 3500, 1204, 2732, 2804, 279, 1501, 2415, 3272, 174, 619, 664, 1197, 1464, 2711, 2931, 3469, 1856, 2191, 37, 417, 871.

23rd May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 1195, 2120, 2206, 3623, 288, 644, 701, 2859, 249, 613, 2686, 3351, 1126, 2361, 2419, 898, 1922, 2133, 1113, 1827, 1970, 100, 346, 376, 1690.

24th May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 2462, 54, 255, 1074, 1908, 1997, 2057, 2591, 2867, 204, 609, 1179, 1787, 1946, 3065, 79, 218, 1160, 2308, 2352, 2713, 2722, 594, 953, 2143.

25th May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 2223, 2409, 2597, 2721, 707, 1090, 2005, 2212, 3088, 3096, 3190, 3385, 631, 958, 987, 1301, 1600, 1606, 1613, 1733, 2598, 2835, 1117, 778, 1181, 1514.

28th May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 1540, 1626, 3002, 3536, 1972, 474, 604, 1338, 1527, 1981, 2631, 2910, 3298, 3596, 960, 1137, 1383, 1517, 1673, 2178, 2501, 3071, 3414, 3794, 3797, 599.

29th May, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. - Roll Nos. 735, 828, 1089, 2347, 2565, 87, 291, 437, 766, 985, 1310, 1485, 2884, 2950, 3028, 343, 731, 761, 882, 1330, 1401, 1999, 2527, 2677, 2984, 3051.

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At least three years working experience in a reputed organization, preferably in a research/academic organization.

Candidates having a postgraduate diploma or degree in Library and Information Science with excellent knowledge in English, indexing and bibliographic citations, typing skills, and capable of working independently will be given preference.

The incumbent will be required to record, process, coordinate and handle print and electronically-received manuscripts, send hard copies or soft files to reviewers, and follow-up with them for timely review, incorporate editorial corrections in manuscripts with highest accuracy, type or scan manuscripts, comments of reviewers, and graphic materials, prepare layout of publishable papers, send galley-proofs to authors, check bibliographic citations of manuscripts, draft, type and make correspondence, records and prepare minutes of meetings of editorial boards, and independently plan, organize and coordinate day-to-day office functions, and other functions, including secretarial and administrative related activities.

Proficiency in the use of various microcomputer software, viz., MS Word and publication-related software and ability of drafting memos and letters independently.

Excellent command of both written and spoken English.

Applications with bio-data detailing experience and other particulars along with a copy of recent passport size photograph and copies of certificates and testimonials should reach the Personnel Manager, Personnel Department, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 by May 08, 2000.

Candidates in employment should apply through proper channel.

These vacancies are open to applicants of EITHER SEX. Applications from WOMEN are encouraged.