

US to help boost edn sector

The United States is keen to assist Bangladesh in its education sector extending technical support by the US universities and professional associations, reports UNB.

The assurance came from a meeting between US Education Secretary Richard W Riley and visiting Education Minister ASHR Sadique at the US Department of Education in Washington, according to a message received in the city yesterday.

Rajuk to hand over 160 acres of land to Tablig Jamaat

Responding to a proposal made by Sadique for US support to Bangladesh's science and technology universities, Riley said direct contact between universities and professional bodies of the two countries would be helpful in this regard.

He asked his colleagues to provide Bangladesh with a list of professional associations, which might provide teaching and other technical support to the Bangladesh science and technology universities.

Housing and Public Works Minister Engineer Mosharrat Hossain visited the jtema on Tongi yesterday as part of the handover process.

Local MP Ahsanullah, Master, Tongi Pourashava Chairman, Majlumatullah and RAJUK Chairman M Azizul Huq accompanied the minister.

The minister directed the authorities to dismantle illegal establishments and houses set up on a portion of the jtema site within 15 days.

Mosharrat also visited the site for 'Ashulia Tourism Centre' to be built alongside Ashulia highway.

Erratum

The photo caption on Page 3 of our yesterday issue should read: the visiting Indian Chief of Army Staff General Ved Prakash Malik accompanied by the Chief of Bangladesh Army Lt Gen Mustafizur Rahman witnessed a demonstration on Assault River crossing staged by the local army division in Jessor. The error is regretted.

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WHO urged to increase health assistance

Health Minister Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim has urged the World Health Organisation and concerned international authorities to evolve ways for increased health assistance, access to drug and health technology for third world countries, reports BSS.

Contemporary times pose certain challenges for us. Declining international assistance and tighter intellectual property rules are a few to name. We must try to evolve mechanisms that would facilitate evolution of consistent professional standards, increased flow of health assistance, greater access to health technology and drugs, he told the 53rd World Health Assembly in Geneva on Tuesday.

Selim said the current trend of reduced public sector role in the social sectors in general and health in particular has had triggered the cost of health services and several other problems. He said despite the private sector can play a useful role in secondary and tertiary health," he said.

The minister said Bangladesh is trying to strike a balance between private and public sector involvement with government focus on broad primary and basic health as safe water and blood, malnutrition and micro nutrient deficiencies, and inadequate financial and human resources were some of its main concerns.

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