

Alternative food production should be promoted to fight hunger

BSS, Dhaka

Agriculture Minister Moulana Motiur Rahman yesterday urged experts to undertake more research suiting the needs of the country for producing alternative food to fight hunger.

Addressing a seminar on the occasion of the World Food Day at Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) as the chief guest, the minister stressed the need for extending the research outcome to the grassroots level for its proper utilisation by farmers.

Jointly organised by the government of Bangladesh and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the seminar on 'Fight Poverty to Reduce Hunger' was addressed by Food Minister Tariqul Islam as the special guest.

Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture of Bangladesh Agriculture University Dr Lutfur Rahman presented the keynote paper.

It was also addressed, among others, by FAO Representative in Bangladesh Bui Thi Lan and Nu-

trition Advisor of FAO M.A. Qudus and Executive Chairman of BARC Dr Nurul Alam.

The seminar was chaired by Food Secretary Habibur Rahman. Moulana Nizami said the country is in a suitable condition to produce rice and wheat and thanked scientists for their attention to producing alternative food.

He said the four-party Alliance sought people's mandate with a pledge to free the country from hunger.

The minister also sought people's support in implementing the political will of the government into action to eliminate hunger from the country.

Speaking on the occasion as the special guest, Food Minister Tariqul Islam said the country will have to survive the stiff global competition by dint of talent and hard work.

He said to wage an effective war against hunger we will have to give importance to the development of poultry, livestock and fisheries.

Govt suspends BSS board of directors

BSS, Dhaka

The government yesterday suspended the board of directors of the national news agency BSS, an official release issued in the city said.

It said the chief editor and managing director of BSS would run the activities in accordance with his authority.

"Directives relating to constitution of a new BSS board of directors would be given later," the release added.

'Govt committed to restore academic atmosphere on campuses'

BSS, Dhaka

Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruk yesterday called upon the authorities concerned to restore congenial academic atmosphere in the educational institutions.

The minister made the call while exchanging views with the Director General of the Education Department, project directors, chairman of different education boards and principals of government colleges in Dhaka at his office.

Placing emphasis on improving quality of education, the minister said the present government is politically committed to maintain congenial atmosphere in all educational institutions across the country.

State Minister and Deputy Minister for Education A N M Ehsanul Huq and Abdu Salam Pintu, Education Secretary Muhammad Shahidul Alam and Vice-Chancellor of National University Abdul Momin Chowdhury also spoke on the occasion.

9 firearms recovered

BSS, Dhaka

Police seized nine firearms and two other weapons and 74 bullets during the countrywide combing operation in the last 24 hours ending at 6 am yesterday, a police press release said.

They also arrested 1,015 people, including one identified terrorist, from across the country. Nine cases were filed against 16 people under the Arms Act during the drive.

Of the arrested, 483 are wanted by police and 515 accused in cases under investigation.

Police also seized 2800 explosives during the operation.



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina visiting party activist Zakir Hossain at the Mohakhali Chest Diseases Hospital yesterday. Hossain was wounded seriously in an attack recently.

Govt keen to export skilled manpower

BSS, Dhaka

The government will take up a special drive to explore more markets to increase manpower export, the newly appointed Labour and Employment Minister Abdullah Al-Noman said yesterday.

"We will give special priority to export more skilled and semi-skilled manpower as it is one of the major foreign currency earning sectors and one of the main contributors to our national economy," he told a group of journalists at his Secretariat office.

Bangladesh earns around Taka 10,000 crore annually in foreign currency from remittance of its citizens working in at least 40 countries around the world, he said, adding, "But we have been exporting skilled and unskilled manpower officially to just eight countries."

"We have a plan to expand our market to some other countries," including the African countries, and accordingly we will take special initiatives to produce more skilled and semi-skilled manpower through our 36 training institutes with special emphasis on the most prospective of them - the IT sec-

tor," Noman said.

He said a good number of people were trained earlier, but no specific data was maintained regarding that.

"As a result it is not easy to trace them in quick response to urgent demands from some foreign companies, and the recruiting agents used to make use of this chance to export unskilled people in the name of skilled manpower causing damage to the country's image," he said.

"We will stop these recruiting business and destroy such network that tarnish the country's image abroad," the minister asserted.

He said, "If we maintain an exact data of trained manpower and export them as per requirement, the country's reputation will definitely be enhanced and that will help expand the market abroad."

The minister said, "We will try to sort out the problems and harassment being faced by migrant workers and take steps accordingly to solve those and also keep track of the latest trends in the world job market particularly after the US-Afghan developments."

Govt urges all to help maintain law & order during Durga Puja

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Textile Mizanur Rahman Sinha yesterday said the main target of Begum Zia's government is to reflect the hopes and aspirations of the common people by building a terrorism and corruption free Bangladesh.

He urged all including local BNP leaders to help maintain law and order during the coming Durga Puja of the Hindu community.

"The nation will not forgive us if we fail to root out terrorism from the society," he said while addressing the officials of Louhajang upazila and different street meetings there.

Sinha said the present government does not believe in words, it believes only in action.

As the people have given their mandate in favour of the BNP-led four-party alliance in the election on October 1, a vested quarter is now trying to disturb the alliance he added.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

An International Organization invites application from qualified candidates for the following position: **Technical Officer for Field Unit.** Masters in Social Sciences, Public Health preferably with three-years experience in providing technical assistance and training in Family planning, MCH and reproductive health program, excellent communication skill in Bangla and English are required. Computer skill in word-processing and spreadsheet applications is required for the job. The position is field based located in Bogra district headquarters. The job requires undertaking field visits to the Upazila and below to provide technical assistance for efficient management implementation of Essential Services Package.

Persuasion in any form during recruitment will automatically disqualify candidacy. The closing date is October 28, 2001. Interested candidates should send their CV with a recent photograph to **The Advertiser, The Daily Star Box-A-3822** Candidates, who earlier submitted their CV for this position need not apply.

Admission

Applications are invited for admission into the following degree programs in Spring semester starting in January 2002

Undergraduate Programs

- BBA
- BS in Computer Science
- BS in Economics
- BA in English
- BA/BS in Environmental Studies

Waiver of admission test and tuition for candidates who stood first or second in HSC exams in Arts, Science or Commerce group.

Admission Test: 16 November 2001
Application Deadline: 13 November 2001

MBA Program

Following the guidelines of the AACSB, the highest accreditation body of business schools in USA.

- All MBA faculty have Ph.D. from North American or equivalent universities
- Exclusive computer lab for MBA students
- Financial assistance
- Evening classes
- Flexibility in course choice

Admission Requirement

- A four-year Bachelor or a three-year Honors degree or a Master's degree in any discipline.
- At least Second Class (45% or above) in all exams or a minimum CGPA of 2.50 on a 4-point scale.
- Acceptable scores in NSU admission test or minimum score of 550 in both TOEFL and GMAT.
- Work experience preferred.

Admission Test: 25 November 2001
Application Deadline: 23 November 2001

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY

12 Banani Commercial Area, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka 1213
Phone: 9885611-20, Fax: 8823030
E-mail: registrar@nsu.edu.com; Web: http://www.northsouth.edu

CARE JOB VACANCY

Applications are invited from qualified candidates for the position of **Technical Officer (M&E)** for Flood Proofing Project under the Integrated Food Security Program (IFSP) based in Kurigram.

Position: **Technical Officer (M&E)-01**

The incumbent is responsible to implement the M&E plan at field office level, including progress monitoring and follow-up of project activities on a regular basis. S/he will directly participate, assist and supervise the implementation of Baseline Survey, Seasonal Survey, Qualitative Surveys, Participatory M&E and other M&E activities. S/he should ensure timely collection of data/information and keep control on data collection process, data quality checking, delivery of data, information and required reports to M&E, Coordination Unit. S/he needs to assist in data analysis and brief observation report preparation. S/he will also be responsible to take part in refinement of M&E tools, plans whenever necessary and provide support to field staff to collect, quality checking, interpret, coding and manipulate the data. S/he will assess the training needs of the staff and arrange training accordingly.

Requirements:

- Masters in Statistics, Economics, Anthropology or any other subjects relevant to Social Sciences. However educational qualification may be relaxed for highly experienced candidates.
- At least 4 (four) years working experience in the collection, processing, analysis and presentation of statistical data.
- Minimum 2 (two) years M&E experience in Development Projects.
- Having skills on Training and Facilitation.
- Good command in written and spoken English.
- Computer skill at least MS Word, MS Excel.

Compensation take home package is Tk.14,855.00. Also other admissible benefits as per organizational policy.

Interested candidates are requested to apply with a forwarding, detailed bio-data, a copy of photograph mentioning name of two professional referees, expected gross salary to the advertiser, **Box no. A-3823, C/o. The Daily Star** within **October 28, 2001.**

(QUALIFIED WOMEN CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR THE POSITION)
ANY PERSUASION WILL BE TREATED AS THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Clinical contraception cases on the decline

UNB, Dhaka

Despite substantial increase in contraceptive prevalence in last five years, proportion of clinical contraceptives, excepting injectable, is decreasing under Bangladesh's family planning programme making those dearer.

Use rate of clinical contraceptives, mostly injectable, rose above 53.8 per cent in 1999-2000 while it was 44.6 in 1993-1994.

But most successful method of mid-eighties, sterilisation, declined to about 60,000 cases on average annually from 500,000 in 1984/85.

The shortcomings were revealed in a brainstorming session on "Improving Clinical Contraception Use in Bangladesh" in the city on Tuesday where Health and Family Planning Secretary M Fazlur Rahman termed the trend "alarming".

UNFPA country representative Suneeta Mukherjee inaugurated the session jointly organised by United Nations Population Fund and Engender Health, Bangladesh, at IDB Bhaban.

Concerned government officials and representatives from NGOs and development partners attended the session and reviewed the means of strengthening the

use of clinical contraception in Bangladesh.

The health and family planning secretary said the dropout has two major implications—ending up with huge wastage of national resources and impact on the total fertility rate.

"Within the perspective of informed choice and volunteerism we need to build up awareness of our people on long-term and permanent method," he suggested.

The session noticed problems behind the trend of sterilisation decline, which were identified, among others, as trouble in service organisations, as trouble in service organisations at district and thana level, management problem from top to bottom, absence of performance monitoring apart from fear and misconceptions and lack of behaviour change communication.

However, the use trend of vasectomy and IUD usage remains more or less steady.

It was said that there had been no change in total fertility rate in last six years and remained static at 3.3 per cent and infant mortality declined from 87 to 82 per 1000.

Still huge people remained out of the range of family planning programme due to their ignorance as well as lack of sufficient behaviour change information.

Interpreter Wanted

A joint venture company invites application from the Bangladeshi citizens for the post of **Interpreter.**

The incumbent must be fluent in **English and Mandarin** language and also be able to read and write Mandarin characters. Salary negotiable.

The interested candidates are requested to apply with a complete curriculum vitae, contact address, telephone number and a recent passport size photograph to **Box No # A- 3812 C/o The Daily Star, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215** by **30th October, 2001.**



Have a great birthday
To Jasmine my wife. Hope you strike the highest note of success and your days are full of the harmony of love.
With best love on your birthday.
Thanking by your Husband
Khasrul Alam. C-1607

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Long established multinational company in the service sector is looking for the following position from Bangladeshi nationalities:

The candidate for the post must have the following pre-requisites:

- **Secretary (female)**
- Minimum 5 years experience in similar position
- Good and accurate typing skill
- Computer literacy (Microsoft office, Power point etc.)
- Age between 30 and 35 years.
- Good interpersonal skills
- Good English written and oral communication skills.

If you think you are the right person that we are looking for, then send your CV along with a recent passport size photograph within 15 days from the date of publication to the following address

Crédit Agricole Indosuez (The Bank), 47, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Pentsoft wants Business Partners for its world-class I-Media centres at Dhaka and all over Bangladesh.

YES...PENTASOFT AND YOU COULD BE BUSINESS PARTNERS IN CHAMPIONING THE IT REVOLUTION IN BANGLADESH.

PENTASOFT TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED (INDIA) IS A:

- US\$ 130 million international leader in software export, multimedia & software training.
- Omnipresent globally in 24 Countries including USA, UK, Japan, Australia, UAE, Canada, Singapore, India, Malaysia, Thailand etc.
- Committed and competent in providing complete training, marketing and Placement support for specialized, hi-profile career-oriented courses in the IT field...

ONLY 2000 SFT. SPACE AT A CONVENIENTLY PRIME LOCATION AND HAVE THE CAPACITY TO INVEST BETWEEN TK. 20-35 LACS.

PLEASE CONTACT: **MR. BIDYUT MAJUMDER / MR. KUSHAL GHOSH** WITH PRIOR APPOINTMENT BETWEEN 25th OCTOBER & 10th NOVEMBER 2001 ON ANY WORKING DAY AT HOUSE # 71, ROAD # 17/A, BLOCK-E, BANANI, DHAKA-1213, BANGLADESH. TEL: (02) 604868/011-803586 (CELU)

PENTAMEDIA GRAPHICS HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRODUCTION OF MOVIES LIKE SINDBAD, TERMINATOR, JEANS AND MANY MORE AND HAS ITS OWN STUDIOS IN USA, SINGAPORE AND INDIA.

The First ISO-9002 Certified Company
In Pre-Engineered & Pre-Fabricated Steel Building System in Bangladesh, with the Technical co-operation of **BHP Australia**

Colorbond Zinalume
Registered trademarks of BHP Steel (JLA) Pty. Ltd.
Leading edge solutions for Commercial Industrial, Residential and Infrastructure Sector.

The advantages

- * Thermal efficiency
- * High strength
- * Recyclable
- * Wide color choice
- * Durability/Security
- * Design flexibility
- * Hi-Tech Production

Scancem Cement.
Kanchpur, Narayngonj

Octagon Fibers & Chemicals Ltd.
Tongi, Dhaka

Al-Amin Sweets & Crackers.
Maizidhee, Noakhali

Raquef Apparels Ltd.
Savar, Dhaka

KYCR Industries Ltd.
Chittagong

Cemex Cement Bangladesh Ltd.
Narayngonj

Paksy Bridge Project.
Ishardi

Pran Agro Ltd.
Natore

Rahmat Textiles Ltd.
Mouchak, Gazipur

McDonald Steel Building Products Limited

"Your Partners In Quality Steel Solutions"

Head office: Anchor Tower (6th floor), 1/1 Sonargaon Road, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh.
Tel: 9661072-4, 8618869 Fax: 880-2-8618878, E-mail: mcdnlid@bangla.net
Factory: Bahadurpur, Gazipur, Dhaka. Mobile: 017-347691