



Bangabandhu Sangkritik Jote formed a human chain in front of the National Press Club yesterday demanding trial of the killers of intellectuals who were martyred in 1971.

TO-LET

A Luxurious Apartment in 3rd floor of the house at Plot-2, Dutabash Road, Baridhara, Dhaka with 2675 sq ft area having 3 beds, 1 drawing room, 2-balcony, 3 toilets, family room with dining, servant room with toilet and other modern amenities with 2 car parking areas is ready for rent.

Contact: 8827322, 8825055.

C-1922

To-Let

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Contact: 8811544, 603399.

C-1919

BNP govt rejected Russian MIG-29 offer at Tk 250 crore: Altaf

BSS, Dhaka

The previous BNP government of Khaleda Zia had turned down an offer by Russia to supply eight MIG-29 aircraft for Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) at a cost of only Tk 250 crore in 1994 in the national interest and technical grounds.

But, later Awami League government purchased them for Tk 620 crore in 1999, Home Minister Air Vice Marshall (Retd) Altaf Hossain Chowdhury who was a former Chief of Air Staff, said yesterday.

Russia initially offered BAF a squadron of eight fighter jets of MIG-29 at a higher price and after negotiations the offer came down to Tk 250 crore," he said.

But he said the then prime minister Khaleda Zia turned down the offer of purchase of MIG-29 aircraft considering the difficulties and experiences with regard to non-availability of spare parts and maintenance of MIG-21 aircraft inducted by BAF early seventies.

"The then prime minister also pointed out that it was contrary to our defence policy as Bangladesh

does not believe in arms race," said Altaf Chowdhury.

"The aircraft were operationally, technically and strategically not suitable of us. The spare parts are also not available anywhere in the world other than the supplier."

He said, "If the relations between the two countries don't remain 'smooth,' they usually stop supplying spare parts making the maintenance of aircraft difficult rendering them useless."

The former air chief in this context, said they behaved in the same manner in the case of MIG-21 after supplying them in the seventies.

He said, "The then Russian Ambassador in Dhaka Ebuad Chevchanko at a function informally offered me to supply MIG-29 aircraft for BAF and I asked him to submit a formal proposal, which I sent to evaluation committee headed by the then assistant chief of air staff Jamaluddin Ahmed (Later on he became chief of air staff)."

"After receiving the final evaluation report, I went to the then prime minister Khaleda Zia who had turned down the proposal after thorough discussions with me," Altaf said.

But during the Awami League government, Jamaluddin Ahmed, who was made air chief and whose service was extended for two years, took initiative again to buy the Russian made MIG-29 aircraft directly involving the defence ministry and by-passing the office of the Director General of Defence Purchase, the apex body for all defence purchases, he said.

He said Jamaluddin Ahmed received the rejected proposal after allegedly persuaded by local agent of the supplier and 'convinced' former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to buy the redundant aircraft from Russia at a higher price of Tk 620 crore, which is Tk 370 crore more than the offer made in 1994.

The present government after taking over power in October this year asked the Bureau of Anti-Corruption to investigate the irregularities of MIG-29 purchase.

The Bureau after a month-long investigation on MIG-29 purchase, filed a corruption case against former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, former Defence Secretary Syed Yousuf Hossain, former Air Chief Jamaluddin Ahmed and others.

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IUCN - The World Conservation Union was founded in 1948 and brings together 79 states, 112 government agencies, 760 NGOs, 37 affiliates, and some 10,000 scientists and experts from 181 countries in a unique worldwide partnership. Its mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

Director Finance & Operations, IUCN Bangladesh

IUCN Bangladesh is currently searching for a Director Finance and Operations, who will be responsible for establishing capacity in the Finance function in terms of structure, resources, policy, systems and procedures enabling IUCN Bangladesh to carry out its operations smoothly, efficiently and effectively.

The job will involve effective implementation of existing financial activities, control of operational costs, recommendations for improvements to financial planning and budget preparation, adequate funding and control investment of cash resources. It would include reporting to internal management and to the HQ through the Asia Regional Office.

The incumbent will also provide oversight and supervision to Head of Administration and Personnel of IUCN-BD Office in all aspects of administration and human resources management with particular attention to systems development.

This position will be based in Dhaka and will report directly to the Country Representative IUCN-BD. The ideal candidate should:

- be a member of a recognised accounting body (ACA or equivalent) having at least 10 years of relevant post qualification experience
- have a proven track record of professional, technical, managerial and negotiation skills
- reflect sensitivity to gender issues;
- have strong facilitation, communication and interpersonal skills, and be computer proficient.

Interested candidates should send their CV, the names of two referees and a cover letter explaining their interest by January 05, 2002 to: IUCN Asia Regional Office, 302 Outreach Building, AIT, Klong Luang P.O. Box 4, Pathumthani-12120, Thailand. Tel: ++ 524 6745-9; Fax: ++ 662 524 5385; e-mail: iucn@ait.ac.th

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Executive Secretary

IUCN is looking for an Executive Secretary, for the IUCN Bangladesh Country Office in Dhaka.

The successful candidate will have graduate qualifications; at least 5 years work experience as an executive secretary; an excellent command of English. The candidates should be around 35 years of age, have good interpersonal skills; be proficient in MS Office, particularly Word, Excel and Powerpoint; very well organised, able to handle correspondence, documentation and filing efficiently and independently.

Knowledge of conservation issues and experience of working in an international organisation will be of advantage.

Interested candidates should send their CV, the names of two referees and a cover letter explaining their interest by January 05, 2002 to: IUCN Bangladesh Country Office, House # 3/A, Road # 15(New), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209. E-mail: zhnsiam@citechco.net

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IUCN Bangladesh Office seeks to recruit a self-motivated, good professional for the position of:

Head of Administration and Personnel, IUCN Bangladesh

Reporting to the Director, Finance and Operations, the Head of Administration of the Bangladesh Office will be responsible to support the optimum cost-effective, efficient delivery of the IUCN Bangladesh Programme through the development and implementation of administrative systems and processes, and monitor for compliance. To develop and administer personnel systems which interface with the Asia Regional and Global system and monitor for compliance.

This will mainly include:

- Establishing administrative policies and procedures for the smooth functioning of the IUCN Bangladesh Office
- Oversee travel, accommodation and transportation arrangements for IUCN staff.
- Make arrangement for visa extensions, security clearance, immigration etc.
- Monitor insurance taken out by the office including medical/life for local staff to ensure compliance and administer claims.
- Carrying out all personnel and HR work in the IUCN-BD office, including contract management, leave administration, performance appraisals, recruitment etc.

The successful candidate will have good experience in administrative matters and sound computer knowledge (software and hardware). A good command of spoken and written English is essential. The suitable candidate will have a Bachelors Degree in Administration from a recognised educational institution. At least 5 years of relevant post qualification experience with proven managerial skills. The candidates should be around 35 years of age. A competitive remuneration will be paid commensurate with qualifications and experience

Interested candidates should send their CV, the names of two referees and a cover letter explaining their interest by January 05, 2002 to: IUCN Bangladesh Country Office, House # 3/A, Road # 15(New), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209. E-mail: zhnsiam@citechco.net

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Dacoity at city house

BSS, Dhaka

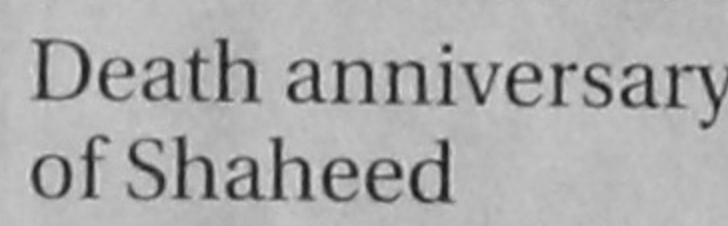
Dacoits looted cash, gold ornaments and other valuables worth about Taka three lakh from a house in Maniknagar area under Sabujbag Thana in the city last night.

Family sources said a gang of six dacoits entered the Maniknagar residence of Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury at about 10 pm on Wednesday night identifying themselves as the relatives of Chowdhury.

Police said Rafiq recently returned home from abroad.

The dacoits looted 36000 in cash, six tolas of gold and other valuables from the house at gunpoint.

A case was registered with Sabujbag Police Station in this connection.



Death anniversary of Shaheed Dr Azad today

The 30th anniversary of death of Prof Dr Md Abul Kalam Azad, a martyred intellectual, will be observed today, says a press release.

Shaheed Azad was killed by Al-Badr gangsters at the fog end of the Liberation War. His body was recovered from the mass grave at Rayer Bazar on December 16, 1971.

A milad mahfil and qurankhwan will be held at the residence of Shaheed Azad's brother Habibul Bashar, editor of the Daily Morning Post, at House No. 35/B, Road No. 7, Block-G, Banani, at 11.00 am today.

Another milad mahfil will also be held at the office of the Daily Morning Post, 29/B East Panthapath, after Asr prayers.

Friends, relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the milad mahfil.

AL condemns govt decision to stop ads to Janakantha

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League's acting President Abdus Samad Azad and General Secretary Zillur Rahman yesterday censured the government for its decision to stop giving official advertisements to the Daily Janakantha.

"The government decision is tantamount to a naked interference in press freedom," they said, adding that the daily has been publishing reports faithfully on the incidents of murders, repression, loot, occupation, rape and arrest across the country since the government assumed power.

The AL leaders said newsmen working in the Janakantha have been reporting barbaric acts by the government-backed terrorists, defying threat and intimidation.

The AL leaders demanded withdrawal of restriction on official advertisements for the Janakantha.

To-Let

Large ultra modern 3200 sqft well-lighted secured house (ground floor) for immediate occupancy. Four bedrooms 40'x15', drawing, dining, rare lush green surrounding, adjacent to Ishpani Colony: 8318400, 9345901. C-1920

Land for Sale

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WANTED TO BUY

5 to 8 kathas of Land at Baridhara with or without Building. Only Real owner is wanted to contact. S.D. Chowdhury Tel: 7200783

Corrigendum

Legal notice in matter No-96/2001 and matter No-97/2001 published on 13.12.2001 in The Daily Star in 6th column at page 2 and in 4th column at page 7 to the effect "if any member of the Company" are incorrect. It should be read "any person interested" in both the matters.

Sultan Ahmad Advocate

C-1923



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বাংলাদেশ রেড ক্রিসেন্ট সোসাইটি
জাতীয় সদর দফতর
৬৮৪-৬৮৬, বড় মগবাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৭
বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রদান করা যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ রেড ক্রিসেন্ট সোসাইটির ২৯তম বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভা আগামী রবিবার, ৩০ ডিসেম্বর, ২০০১ সকাল ১০-০০টায় ১নং ইফ্রাটন গার্ডেন রোড, ঢাকাস্থ হলি ফ্যামিলি রেড ক্রিসেন্ট মেডিক্যাল কলেজ মিলনায়তনে অনুষ্ঠিত হইবে। উক্ত সভায় ১৯৭৩ সনের রত্নপতির ২৬ নং আদেশের ১৪(১) ধারায় বর্ণিত মতে বিষয়বলী বিবেচিত হইবে।

সোসাইটির এ্যাড-হক ম্যানেজিং বোর্ডের সদস্যবৃন্দ, ইউনিটসমূহের ডেলিগেটবৃন্দ, স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ, দুর্গোপ ব্যবস্থাপনা ও ত্রাণ, সমাজ কল্যাণ এবং প্রতিরক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের প্রতিনিধিদের নিয়ে গঠিত সোসাইটির জেনারেল বডি-এর সকল সদস্যকে অনুরোধপূর্বক উক্ত সভায় যোগদানের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

মেজর আলী হাসান কোরেশী (অবঃ)
ডি-৮৭৭ সেক্রেটারী জেনারেল

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Director Programme, IUCN Bangladesh

IUCN Bangladesh Country Office seeks a Director of Programmes to help consolidate, develop and streamline programme activities. Based in Dhaka, the incumbent will work under the overall guidance and direct supervision of the Country Representative (CR) to perform duties which include the following:

- facilitate and help programme units to conceive and develop project and programme activities;
- assist the CR to develop, formulate and implement short and long term programmes;
- develop and implement systems and standards for the monitoring and evaluation of programme activities in cooperation with programme units;
- assist the CR in resource mobilising for IUCN Bangladesh programmes of high national and global significance;
- liaise with IUCN Offices in the region and with the Asia Regional Directorate as required.
- liaise with the government, members and NGO partners as required

The ideal candidate should possess: At least 10 years experience in natural resources management or sustainable development, 5 of which should be at senior level; PhD or Masters Degree in a related subject; Excellent managerial, interpersonal and team building skills; Demonstrated skills and practice in strategic planning, policy, project/programme cycle management, performance management and M&E; Demonstrated skills in training and facilitation in programme planning, project cycle management and M&E; Experience in the use of computer systems for programme management; Fluency in written and spoken English

Interested candidates should send their CV, the names of two referees and a cover letter explaining their interest by January 05, 2002 to: IUCN Asia Regional Office, 302 Outreach Building, AIT, Klong Luang P.O. Box 4, Pathumthani-12120, Thailand. Tel: ++ 524 6745-9; Fax: ++ 662 524 5385; e-mail: iucn@ait.ac.th

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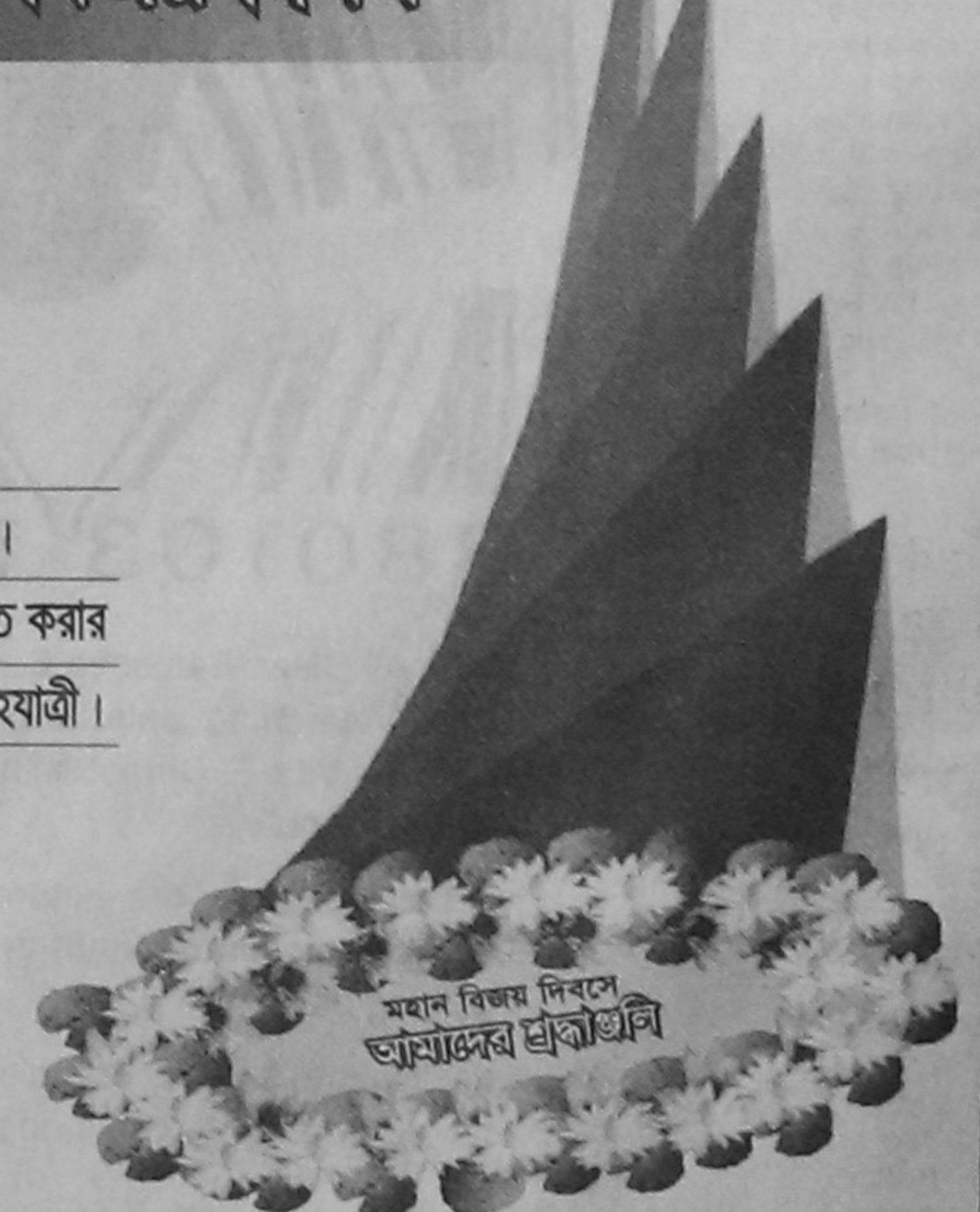
১৬ ডিসেম্বর মহান বিজয় দিবস

বিজয়কে সুসংহত করার

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প্রয়াসে আমরা আপনার সহযাত্রী।



রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
উত্তম সেবার নিশ্চয়তা