

'3 lakh infected with TB a year in Bangladesh'

BSS, Dhaka

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said yesterday that about 300,000 people, mostly economically insolvent, were being infected with the tuberculosis every year in the country causing huge loss to national economy.

"About 300,000 of our working people are being attacked by the tuberculosis annually and losing working capability. They are causing huge loss to the country's economy," he said.

The minister was addressing an advocacy meeting at Shaheed Dr. Milon auditorium of Dhaka Medical College (DMC) arranged in observance of the World TB Day 2002, theme of which was "Stop TB, Fight Poverty."

Dr Mosharraf underscored the need for behavioural change of the

people to stop spitting in public places for controlling transmission of the infectious disease.

Main reasons of spread of the tuberculosis are spitting everywhere and ignorance of the patients regarding full-course treatment," he said, urging all stakeholders to go for Directly Observed Treatment-Short Course(DOTS).

The minister said the government has launched a National TB Control Programme in line with the DOTS under which free services are being offered in all 460 Upazilas and four metropolitan cities through 570 medical centres.

Earlier, a colourful procession was brought out in the city from National Press Club to DMC. Ministers, doctors, students, officials and cross section people took part in the procession.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia with the recipients of Independence Award for 2001 and 2002. The prime minister gave away the awards at a function at the Osmany Memorial Auditorium in the city yesterday.



PHOTO: PID

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IIUC convocation on March 28

CU CORRESPONDENT

The first convocation of International Islamic University, Chittagong (IIUC) will be held at its permanent campus at Kumira in Chittagong on March 28.

Chancellor of the university, President AQM Badrudduza Chowdhury will be present in the convocation as chief guest while Justice Latifur Rahman, Chief Advisor to the former caretaker government as convocation speaker.

Vice Chancellor of the university, Prof Mohammed Ali said this at a press conference at a local

restaurant in the port city yesterday evening. Prof Ali read out a written statement while Pro-VC Abu Bakar Shamim, Prof Dr. Nurul Islam, Prof Dr. Harun-ur-Rashid, and Badiul Alam were present at the press conference.

The IIUC was established in August 1995. About 2400 students are now studying in the university under five faculties.

A total of 195 graduates in Quranic science, BBA, Computer science and MBA programme will be given certificates in the convocation.

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On or before April 4, 2002 latest to : The Associate Coordinator-HR/OD, ActionAid Bangladesh, House # CWN (A) 32, Road # 43, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212 or e-mail to: shirin@actionaid-bd.org

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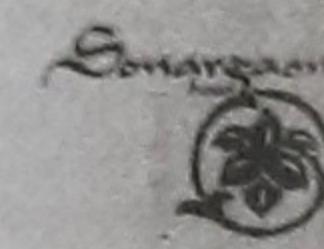
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