

Regulatory provisions on IT edn sector suggested

Need Limited launched

BSS, Dhaka

Communication Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda said yesterday that it is high time to impose some government regulatory provisions on the IT education sector to ensure international standard in the arena.

"We have to equip our boys and girls with quality ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) education along with formal education and proficiency in international language like English for making them worthy of competing in the world market," the minister said while inaugurating the Need Limited, an IT education centre, at Dhanmondi.

Vice-Chancellor of BRAC university and leading IT expert Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, former information secretary and chief advisor of Need Limited M. I Chowdhury and managing director of Need Limited Abul Bashir also spoke on the occasion.

Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury said the country badly needs quality educational institution in the IT sector. He said mushroom growth of IT institutions in differ-

ent parts of the country has failed to ensure quality of education.

Every one in Bangladesh talks about replication of India's landable success in the IT sector, he said, adding that but they often forget the fact that over 3.5 lakh high-tech professionals are employed in the Indian software industries whereas only three to four thousand IT professionals exist in Bangladesh.

"Mere declaration of IT as a thrust sector is not enough. We have to improve the quality of education and our English language skills."

Quoting observation of one Microsoft executive, Prof. Chowdhury said although they lauded the

level of IT proficiency, they were critical of the standard of English of our students. He urged the IT education centres across the country not to commit what they cannot deliver.

"It is highly unethical that some IT education centres even pledge to their students about H1B visa needed for serving in the United States," the professor said, adding that "There should be some grievance redress mechanism (for the students, in future regulatory system) also."

He advised the Need Limited to ensure access of the students to internationally recognised on-line certificate systems.

M.I. Chowdhury said, "when I served the country as a bureaucrat, I had observed with deep sorrow that many IT education centres are not properly equipped to ensure internationally standard education. Some of them even cheat the young people and offer them lofty dream instead of quality education."

He urged the government to establish a regulatory framework for setting the international standard of IT education.

1340 more arrested

BSS, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,340 people, including two listed criminals, from across the country and seized nine firearms, six other types of arms and 20 bullets in the last 24 hours ending at 6 am yesterday.



Newly elected leaders of the Kishoreganj Bar Council greeted Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina with a bouquet at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

Drive against unlicensed TV, VCR sets

BSS, Dhaka

Inspection teams from Bangladesh television are carrying out a drive to identify unlicensed television, video cassette recorder and STVR sets from April 16.

The teams are taking legal measures against subscribers without licenses, but they are not seizing TV, VCR or STVR sets or taking those away.

Police forces of concerned districts and magistrates are invariably engaged in the inspection teams, an official handout said.

The members of the BTV inspection teams are carrying identity cards containing their photographs and permission letters with them.

The handout asked all to hand over gangs of cheats, who might attempt to seize TV or VCR sets or threaten people impersonating as BTV inspectors, to nearby police station or law enforcing agencies.

For further information, people have been asked to contact local police station, office of the deputy

commissioner or BTV controller (licence) (phone: 7281188) or BTV director (finance) (phone: 8612212) directly.

The handout also asked those who are yet to procure licences of their TV, VCR or STVR sets or renew the licences to collect those from nearby branches of Janata Bank by depositing fees as per rules.

LETI workshop held

BSS, Dhaka

A daylong workshop on teaching methodology of legal profession was held at the Bar Council Bhaban in the city on Thursday.

Legal Education and Training Institute (LETI) of Bar Council organised the workshop for its resource persons, who enlighten young advocates under different training courses, including bar vocational course (BVC).

IBM-ACE centre to launch ICT courses in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The IBM-ACE Centre at Agrabad, Chittagong, will launch Cambridge courses in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) today.

The launching ceremony will be held at the Engineers' Institute auditorium in the port city at 6.30pm, says a press release.

Commerce Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury will attend the programme as chief guest and Education Minister Osman Faruk as special guest.

Timber worth Tk one lakh seized in Khulna

BSS, Khulna

Detective Branch of police seized a truck loaded with illegal timber worth about Tk one lakh from Chamari area of the city on Thursday.

Police sources said one person was arrested and 380 cft Sundari timber was recovered.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of DB police went to Chamari area and intercepted the truck.

The driver and the helper of the truck, however, managed to escape.

Khulna Medical College to be affiliated with KU

BSS, Khulna

Khulna Medical College will be affiliated with the Khulna University (KU).

"The process of affiliation is at the final stage," said Vice-Chancellor of Khulna University Prof Dr M Abdul Kadir Bhuiyan while a team of Doctors Association of Bangladesh (DAB) called on him at his office on Thursday.

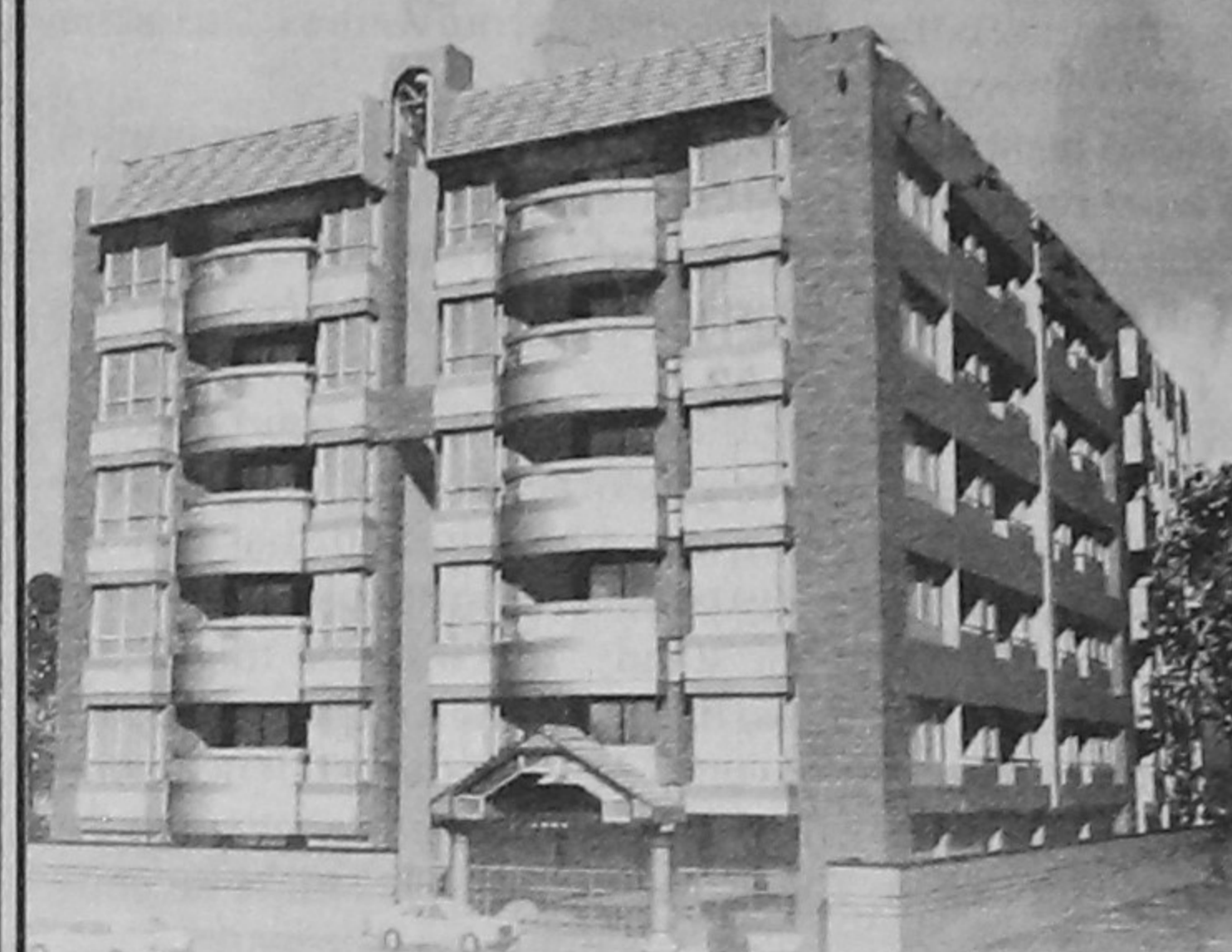
The representatives of DAB proposed to open MBBS course in

Khulna University in the evening shift. The VC said the proposal would be considered.

Treasurer of the University Principal Mazharul Hannan, Registrar (in-charge) Md Amir Ali, Secretary of BMA-Khulna and central member of DAB Dr Rafiqul Haq, general secretary of DAB-Khulna Division and Central Organising Secretary Dr Akteruzzaman and Dr Shohel Mahmud were present on the occasion.

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ActionAid, an international development organization dedicated to poverty eradication and rights promotion in the country, is willing to have the following positions to be filled up immediately.

Manager/Head-Policy Support Unit

Key Responsibilities

This is a Dhaka based senior level position responsible for managing the processes of making ActionAid Bangladesh an influential player in policy advocacy, lobbying, influencing and campaign particularly in the thematic areas of specialisation. He/she will also ensure promotion of rights of the poor and grassroots mobilization for pro-poor issue based advocacy campaign.

Profile

- Post Graduate in Social Science discipline.
- Demonstration of progressive professional growth with at least 3 years of senior mid-level management combined with at least 5-7 years proving experience.
- Highly conceptual and strategic.
- Good research background, particularly in policy. Publications in the relevant field will be an added qualification.
- Familiarity with critical development issues both in Bangladesh and internationally.
- Strong participatory and team management skills being equally comfortable either leading or being led in a team.
- Strong written and oral communication and persuasive skills in English and Bengali.
- Strong contacts and collaborative links (or at least ability to develop these quickly).
- Strong commitment to take challenges.

Information Promotion Officer

Key Responsibilities

This is a unique position requires excellent interpersonal & communication skills both in English and Bangla coupled with a fair knowledge of basic IT functioning. The ideal candidate needs to pursue collection and collation of information for newsletter and the website and intranet as per requirement. In need, he/she must visit partners and regions for collection of information and identifying crucial or important issues for publications or website. Also needs to develop a data base of resources on communications/public relations in order to contact the focal point of both at national and international level.

Profile

- Masters in English or any social science background.
- One year experience in web site management and database development is preferred.
- Familiarity with HTML, Front page, Dream waver, MS Access, Power Point, Photoshop and Corel will be added advantage.
- Excellent communication skills in English - both verbal and written.
- Must be creative and innovative.
- Able to meet deadlines and work under pressure.
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For the above positions, attractive compensation package will be offered for the deserving candidates. If you meet the above criteria, please apply with :

- ✓ A CV along with a copy of recent photograph
- ✓ Contact address of three referees
- ✓ A one page writing (in English, typed, 12 point, 1.5 space) on 'why your candidature be considered for the position applied'.

On or before April 30, 2002 to : The Associate Coordinator - HR & OD, ActionAid Bangladesh, House # CWN (A) 32, Road # 43, Gulshan - 2, Dhaka-1212.

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