

'Reforms in financial sector a must for economic growth'

UNB, Dhaka

Country's financial sector will undergo a massive change as Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday declared the current fiscal year as 'the year of financial reforms' towards battling poverty.

"Bangladesh Bank has initiated some reforms in the financial sector, and I expect these to gain momentum over the course of the year," he told the inaugural session of a financial training course at Hotel Sheraton in the morning.

The Singapore Regional Training Institute (STI) of IMF organised the 12-day "Course on Financial Programming and Policy" in collaboration with the Bangladesh Bank and the Ministry of Finance.

Some 31 senior officials from the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Board of Investment, Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) Academy, Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) and Bangladesh Bank are taking part in the course, first of its kind in the country, conducted by IMF trainers.

"Weakness in the financial sector is a serious constraint, and reforms of the financial sector is essential for the development of the private sector and the improvement of its competitiveness," said Dr Fakhruddin.

He said inefficiency in the financial sector impacts investment in the real sector and also hinders

the growth of economy.

Increased investment in the real sector would have additional impact on reducing poverty by increasing employment in the formal (industrial) sector, he added.

Finance Secretary Zakir Ahmed Khan, IMF Resident Representative Mari Jin Verhoeven, STI Director Parthasarathi Shome and Bangladesh Bank Executive Director Kazi Anwarul Mahbub also spoke at the inaugural session.

Inter-college debate begins in Ctg tomorrow

CU CORRESPONDENT

The 3rd Lifebuoy Gold-Prothom Alo Inter-College Debate Competition begins at the Shilpakala academy auditorium in the port city tomorrow.

Drishya, a cultural organisation, has organised the competition in association with Lifebuoy Gold and the Prothom Alo, a leading Bengali newspaper.

Farid Ahmed Chowdhury, former president of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), will inaugurate the event at 9.30am.

PR Shinha, governor of Lions Club International District - 315-B4, will attend the inaugural session as chief guest while Ekram Hossain, executive vice-president of Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd, Nurul Alam, bureau chief of The Daily Star, and Biswajit Chowdhury, assistant resident editor of the Prothom Alo, as special guests.

BABCF to raise fund for dengue patients

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh American Business and Cultural Forum (BABCF) will hold cultural programme both at home and abroad to raise funds for dengue and flood affected families.

The decision was taken at a meeting on Tuesday with BABCF's chairman Nurul Anwar in the chair.

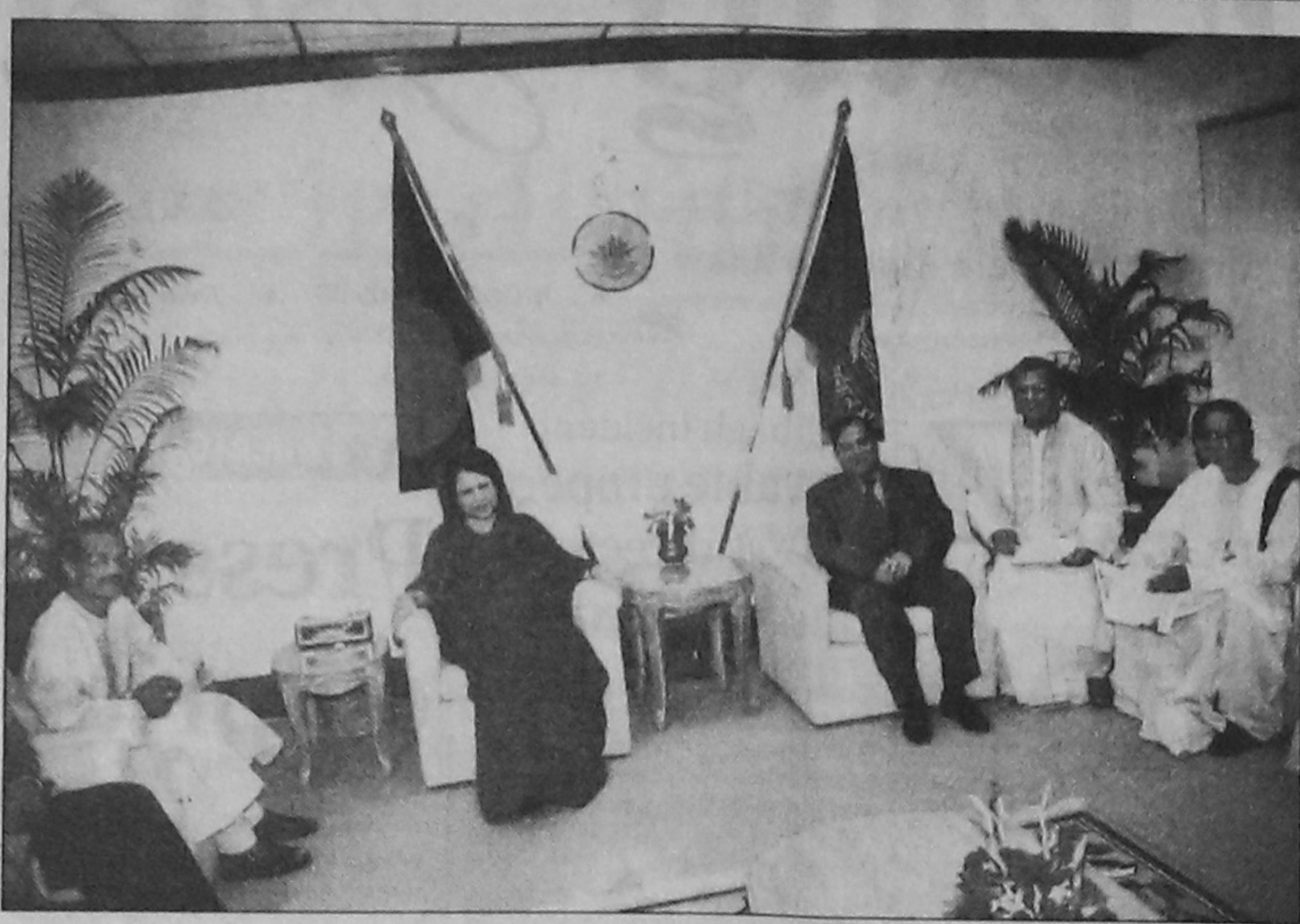
The meeting expressed grave concern over the dengue fever that has turned into an epidemic form, a press release of the organisation said yesterday.

Reza takes over as media officer of EC Delegation

Syed Ishtiaque Reza has taken over as Media and Communication Officer of the Delegation of the European Commission to Bangladesh, says a press release.

Reza will be the first full-time Media and Communication Officer of the Delegation.

Prior to his present job, Reza was working in the Ekushey Television as News Editor.



A delegation of the Janmastomi Udjapan Parishad in Chittagong called on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office in the city yesterday.

Tariqul for united union of newsmen

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Information Minister Tariqul Islam called upon the journalists to be united for realising their salaries as per Wage Board Award.

You won't be able to protect your legitimate rights with a divided union, the minister said.

While addressing members of Metropolitan Union of Journalists (MUJ) yesterday evening, he said only four or five newspapers published from Dhaka have implemented the Fifth Wage Board Award. Other newspaper owners are yet to implement the wage board award as there is disunity within the journalist community, he told the Khulna-based reporters of national dailies.

He said unity among journalists is a must for demanding salaries as per 'Wage Board Award'.

Earlier, at a meeting at the VIP conference room of Press Club, Tariqul stressed the need for a united movement to curb crimes.

Journalists have a great role to play in resisting violence in the society by joining hands with the government. He also urged the journalists to create mass awareness in this regard.

Accompanied by DCC Mayor Sadek Hossain Khoka, the Information Minister visited Khulna Press Club yesterday evening.

Presided over by Press Club president Manik Saha, the meeting was also addressed by Dainik Purbanchal Editor Alhaj Lyaquat Ali. BTV correspondent Sheikh Didarul Alam and KUJ president Shamsul Alam.

One found dead in hotel room in Rajshahi

BSS, Rajshahi

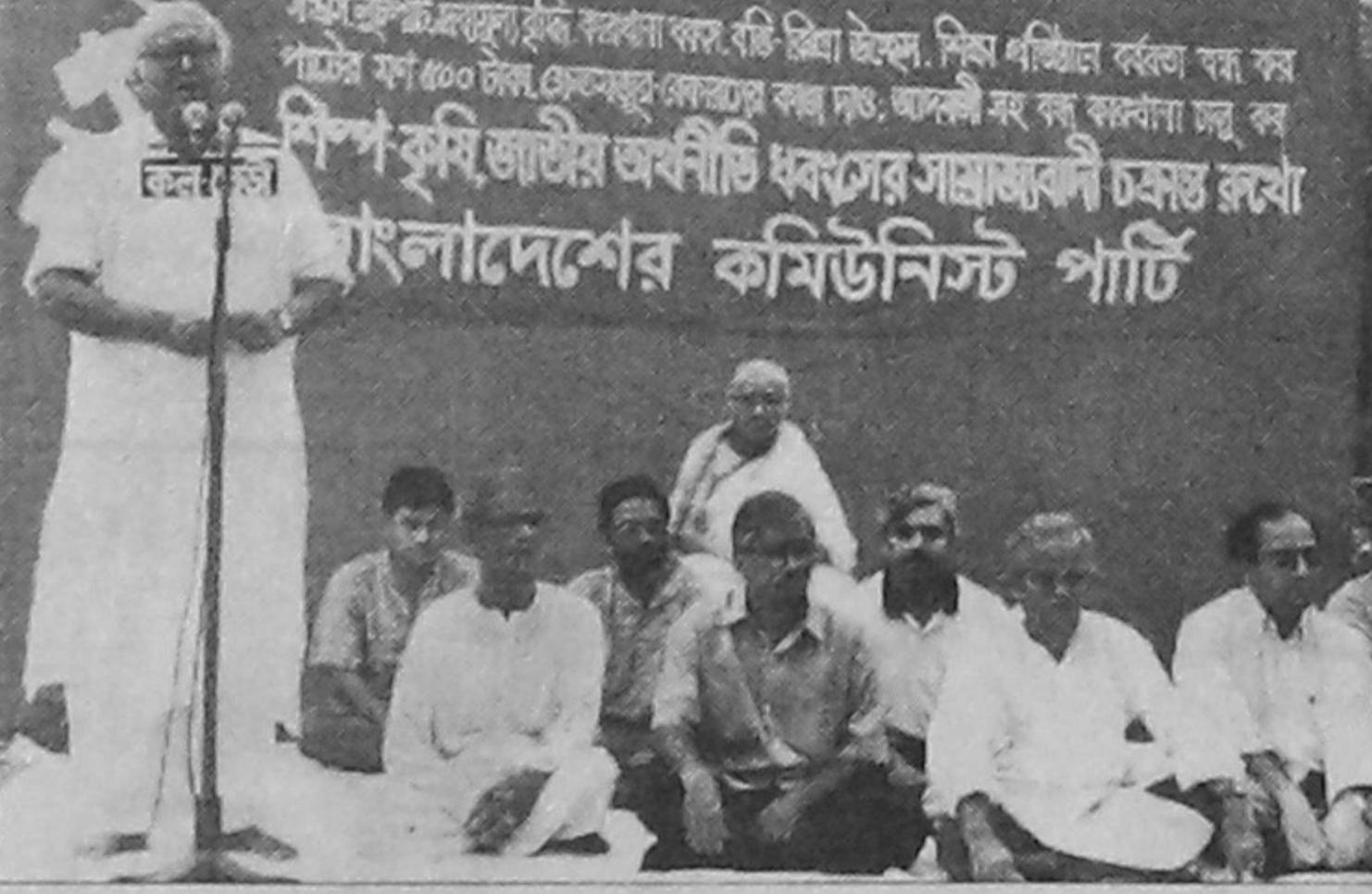
One unidentified youth was strangled in a residential hotel at Shahab Bazar area under Boalia thana in the city yesterday.

Police quoting an employee of the hotel said three youths identified as Abdullah, 15, son of Abul Hossain, Nazmul Huda, 20, son of Abdul Quddus and Selim, 22, son of Mujibur Rahman, all from Bahadipur Colony under Lalpur upazila in Natore district rented a room of the Memory Residential Hotel on August 17.

Since then they were staying at the hotel. Two of them left the hotel depositing the key of the room at about 8.00 in the morning yesterday.

When a hotel-boy went to the room for servicing, he saw the body on a bed at about 11.00 am.

He was strangled with an electric wire, police suspected. The identity of the dead is yet to be ascertained.



Communist Party of Bangladesh held a rally at Paltan Maidan in the city yesterday to press for their various demands.



The Lions Club of Dhaka Banasree held an introduction meeting at a city hotel recently with Manir Ahmed, president of the club, in the chair.

Call to use surface water as safe drinking water

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion in the city yesterday stressed the need for using surface water as a source of safe drinking water.

They said arsenic contamination has almost destroyed the drinking water infrastructure in rural areas adding that uneven exploitation of ground water with respect to surface water is a major cause of environmental hazard that the country is facing now.

The discussion titled 'Colloquium in Search of Safe Water' was organised by Brotee, a social organisation.

Presided over by noted economist Muzaffar Ahmed, the discussion was participated by Sharmin Murshid, chief executive of Brotee, noted geologist SKM Abdullah, Prof Firoz Ahmed of BUET, journalist Afsan Chowdhury, Prof Dr. Kazi Qamruzzaman and Atiur Rahman.

Prof Muzaffar Ahmed said safe water is a human right and this right has been violated due to arsenic contamination of drinking water.

SKM Abdullah said as nearly 95 percent of ground water is contaminated, alternative surface water supply will have to be arranged by digging ponds and wells.

People of all faiths have equal rights in Bangladesh: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday urged people of all faiths to raise their voice against those who campaign abroad against Bangladesh and its people for narrow political ends.

She made the call when a delegation of Hindu community's Janmastomi Udjapan Parishad met with the prime minister at her office.

"If our image is undermined at home and abroad its responsibility goes to all of us. For this reason, all have to remain active and alert to unitedly uphold the image of the country," she said, in an oblique reference to frequent remarks by her political opponents.

The 24-member delegation of the parishad from Chittagong, led by its president Sujit Kumar Biswas, came to formally invite the prime minister to inaugurate a grand procession in the port city on August 30 in celebration of the birth of Lord Krishna.

The prime minister thanked them for coming all the way from Chittagong with the invitation and said a representative on behalf of her would go to inaugurate the 4-day celebrations as she is preoccupied.

The delegation recalled and

expressed their gratitude to Khaleda Zia as she, as prime minister, went to Chittagong to open the same programme in 1993 braving bad weather.

Speaking to them, the prime minister reiterated that there is no communal discrimination in Bangladesh. People of all religions -- Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and Christians -- are performing their religious rites freely.

"Here all are Bangladeshis. People of all faiths have equal rights, religious and social rights," she told the Hindu community leaders.

Communal harmony, said Khaleda Zia, has been prevailing in Bangladesh and people of all faiths are contributing to its maintenance.

She restated that BNP believes in communal harmony and does not do politics using any religious group for gaining narrow political interest.

In this respect, she pointed out that against the backdrop of the present world scenario fraught with conflicts, Bangladesh had been recognised as a liberal democratic country having communal harmony.

She reminded that it is the duty of all to protect and uphold this

image and project it both at home and abroad.

"As we have gained our independence by fighting shoulder to shoulder in 1971, so we will have to work unitedly for the country's development. If the country is developed, all will enjoy its fruits," she said.

Responding to a demand of the delegation for effectively repealing the Vested Property Act, the prime minister assured them of examining the act.

The members of the delegation appreciated the present government's various initiatives and steps for the welfare of common people and further attaining the confidence of the international community.

Chief advisor of Janmastomi Udjapan Parishad Prof Ranjit Kumar Chakravarty, general secretary Mridul Kanti Dey and Dilip Dutta were among the delegation members.



Appeal for help

Reza Mahmudur Rahman, a BBA student of Asian University, is suffering from Thalassemia, says a press release.

Twenty-two-year-old Reza is a meritorious student who got star marks in SSC and first division in HSC examinations from Notre Dame College.

He was diagnosed with Thalassemia at an early age and had been undergoing blood transfusion.

His doctors have advised him for immediate bone marrow transplantation for permanent cure. But the treatment is highly expensive which Reza's father, a lawyer, cannot afford.

Reza needs around Tk 40 lakh for undergoing operations in Singapore or USA.

So his parents have made a fervent appeal to affluent section of the society for financial assistance. Contributions can be sent to: Shafia Islam, Savings Account No 1397, Sonali Bank, Distillery Road, Dhaka.



Moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Rajshahi, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Khulna and Barisal divisions with moderately heavy falls at places during the next 12 hours till 6pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.4 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 23.5 degree at Sayedpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:26pm today and rises at 5:36am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Table with columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

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International Re-Tender Notice for Supply of Petroleum Products during July, 02-Dec, 02

Ref. No. 22.02/1/02-03 Dated: August 19, 2002

- 1. Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) hereby invites offers from International Integrated Oil Companies with a proven record of reliability and expertise in the supply and transportation of petroleum products, for supply on C&F Chittagong basis of about 7.625 million barrels plus/minus 10 per cent at BPC's option of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO), Aviation Turbine Fuel (Jet A-1), Motor Spirit (MSO)/High Octane Blending Component (HOB) and High Speed Diesel (HSD) during the period July, 02-Dec, 02 in accordance with the delivery schedule and terms & conditions set out in the tender document.
2. Tender documents will be available on all working days during office hours from (a) Commercial & Operations Division, BPC Head Office, BSC Bhaban (1st Floor), Saltgola Road, Chittagong (b) BPC Liaison Office, 1/1, Pioneer Road, YMCA Bhaban, (2nd Floor), Segun Bagicha, Dhaka-1000 on payment of non-refundable amount of Tk. 16,000.00 or US\$ 300.00.
3. Offers will be received up to 1200 hrs (BST) on September 03, 2002 in a sealed envelope delivered at BPC Head Office, BSC Bhaban (1st Floor), Saltgola Road, Chittagong, Bangladesh. Offers through telex or facsimile will not be entertained.
4. All offers must be accompanied by a bid bond in accordance with the provisions of tender documents and all offers must have validity up to 1800 hours (BST) on September 18, 2002.
5. Bidder shall furnish along with the offer a declaration that the bidder has carefully examined and understood the tender document and his offer is subject to the terms & conditions contained in the tender document.
6. Bidders shall accept all terms & conditions of tender documents, otherwise, their offers may stand rejected.
7. Tenders shall be opened at 1205 hours (BST) on September 03, 2002 at the BPC Head Office, Chittagong, Bangladesh in presence of bidders or their authorised agents who would wish to be present.
8. No rights of any kind shall be created in favour of any person by virtue of having obtained the tender document, nor shall any right be created in favour of any person by virtue of submitting an offer. BPC reserves the right to accept the lowest offer or to reject any or all offers in part or in full without assigning any reason.

Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation BSC Bhaban (1st Floor), Saltgola Road Chittagong, Bangladesh. GD-711

বাংলাদেশ প্রেস ইনস্টিটিউট

৩ সার্কিট হাউস রোড, ঢাকা - ১০০০

সংবাদিকতায় স্নাতকোত্তর ডিপ্লোমা কোর্সে ভর্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

- বাংলাদেশ প্রেস ইনস্টিটিউট পরিচালিত এবং জাতীয় বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধিভুক্ত এক একাডেমিক বছর মেয়াদী 'সংবাদিকতায় স্নাতকোত্তর ডিপ্লোমা কোর্স'-এর ২০০২-২০০৩ শিক্ষাবর্ষে ভর্তির জন্য আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। চলতি শিক্ষাবর্ষে ৩০ জন শিক্ষার্থী ভর্তি করা হবে। ভর্তির ক্ষেত্রে কমপক্ষে ৬০% আসন কর্তর সংবাদিক/গণমাধ্যম কর্মীদের জন্য সংরক্ষিত থাকবে। সুগৃহে ৫ দিন (কর্মদিবস) ক্লাস অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। প্রতিদিন বিকেল ৫টা থেকে সন্ধ্যা ৭.৩০ মিনিট পর্যন্ত ক্লাস চলবে।
১. আবেদন করার যোগ্যতাঃ দেশের যেকোন বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় থেকে কমপক্ষে স্নাতক বা সমমান ডিগ্রি।
২. আবেদনপত্রের সঙ্গে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
ক. এসএসসি / দাখিল / সমমান ও এইচএসসি / আলিম / সমমান এবং স্নাতক ডিগ্রি অথবা সমমান পরীক্ষার নম্বর ফর্দ ও পরীক্ষা পাশের সনদপত্র।
খ. পরীক্ষা পাশ সংক্রান্ত সর্বশেষ শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান প্রধানের প্রশংসাপত্র।
গ. প্রথম শ্রেণীর কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র।
ঘ. সংরক্ষিত আসনের ক্ষেত্রে সংবাদপত্র, সংবাদসংস্থাসহ বিভিন্ন গণমাধ্যম প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং জনসংযোগ ও বিজ্ঞাপনী প্রতিষ্ঠানে গণমাধ্যম সংক্রান্ত কাজে নিয়োজিত প্রার্থীদের ভর্তির সময় নিয়োজকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতিপত্র দিতে হবে।
ঙ. সদ্য তোলা দু'কপি পাসপোর্ট আকারের সত্যায়িত ছবি।
চ. ২১-০৮-২০০২ থেকে ০২-০৯-২০০২ পর্যন্ত সর্বস কমন্স সনদপত্র ৯-৩০ থেকে বিকেল ৩-৩০ পর্যন্ত ১০০/= (একশত) টাকা পে-অর্ডার/ডিভি/পোস্টাল অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে মহাপরিচালক, পিআইবি (ডিপ্লোমা কোর্স)-এর অনুকূলে জমা দিয়ে ডিপ্লোমা পাঠ্যক্রম বাবস্থানায় কমিটির সচিব এর কাছ থেকে আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবে এবং পূর্ববর্ত আবেদনপত্র সচিব-এর কার্যালয়ে উল্লিখিত সময়ে জমা নেয়া হবে।
৩. নির্বাচিত শিক্ষার্থীকে এককালীন ৮০০০.০০ (আট হাজার) টাকা পে-অর্ডার/ডিভি/পোস্টাল-অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে মহাপরিচালক, পিআইবি (ডিপ্লোমা কোর্স)-এর অনুকূলে (এর মধ্যে ভর্তি ফি ৫০০০.০০ (পাঁচ হাজার), মাসে ২০০.০০ (দুই শত) টাকা করে ১০ মাসে ২০০০.০০ (দুই হাজার) টাকা ডিউশন ফি এবং ১০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা সেমিনার ফি বাবদ) প্রদান করতে হবে। এ ছাড়াও প্রয়োজন শিক্ষার্থীদের কোর্স চলাকালে নির্ধারিত কোর্স সামগ্রী ক্রয়, লাইব্রেরী ও কম্পিউটার ল্যাবের সেবা গ্রহণ এবং আনুষঙ্গিক ব্যয় প্রদান করতে হবে।
৪. নির্বাচিত শিক্ষার্থীদের কোর্স চলাকালে কমপক্ষে ৮০% ক্লাসে উপস্থিত থাকতে হবে এবং নিজ বাবস্থানায় ঢাকায় অবস্থান করতে হবে।

মহাপরিচালক বাংলাদেশ প্রেস ইনস্টিটিউট GD-716

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Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) Paribahan Bhaban, 21, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka-1000

যানজট ও দুশমনমুক্ত ঢাকা-আমাদের অঙ্গীকার বিআরটিসি রাস্তায় সম্পদ-একে রক্ষা করার দায়িত্ব আমার আপনার সকলের

Tender Notice No BRTC/45/2002-03 for Purchase of 500 CNG Four Stroke Three Wheeler Vehicles

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from reputed suppliers/manufacturers/agents for supply of complete built-up new 500 CNG four stroke three wheeler vehicles 150 to 250 cc. Tender schedule containing detailed technical informations, financial terms and conditions may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of Tk 2,000/= (two thousand) only (non-refundable) to BRTC Accounts Department, Head Office at 21, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka-1000. The offers will be received on 2nd September 2002 up to 12-00 hours & no schedule will be sold on that date. The corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders in part or full without assigning any reason.

Manager (Purchase) BRTC