

DUTA polls today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Elections of the Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) will be held today.

About 1200 teachers of the university will cast their votes at the university teachers club from 10:00am to 2:00pm without break to elect 15-member executive body.

Dean of Arts Faculty Prof. Kazi Shahidullah and Prof. Anwar Hossain of Biochemistry Department are candidates of Awami League backed Blue Panel for president and general secretary posts respectively.

Dean of Social Science Faculty Prof. Mohammad Asaduzzaman and Provost of Fazlul Haq Hall Prof. Yarul Kabir are contesting for the posts of president and general secretary respectively from White Panel backed by BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami.

Other candidates of White Panel are -- Vice President Prof. Abul Khayer, Joint Secretary Prof. Lutfur Rahman and Treasurer Prof. Serajul Islam.

Blue Panel candidates are -- Vice President Prof. Hossain Mansur, Joint Secretary Prof. Mizanur Rahman and Treasurer Prof. Khondaker Ashraf Hossain.

Both the panels are also contesting for ten posts of executive committee members of the association.

'Formulate action plan to increase use of clinical contraception'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday expressed concern over the declining trend of use of clinical contraception, the most effective method to reduce the Total Fertility Rate (TFR).

They suggested formulating a plan of action to improve the use of clinical contraception in the country.

The speakers attributed the lack of information and counselling efforts on the part of the government and NGOs at the field level to the declining trend of using the permanent method.

However, the Bangladesh Family Planning Programme has achieved a remarkable success despite all odds, they noted.

Organised by the South-South Centre, Bangladesh in association with the UNFPA, Bangladesh, the workshop on "Clinical contraception: Improving its use in Bangladesh" was held at the BRAC Centre in the city.

Badiur Rahman, secretary of the planning division, inaugurated the workshop as chief guest while Nurul Ameen, Assistant Representative of UNFPA, was special guest.

Dr. Jahir Uddin Ahmed, director of Maternal and Child Health (MCH), and Dr. Aslam Zulfikar Baig of UNFPA presented the keynote paper at the workshop.

Lutfur Rahman Chowdhury, additional secretary of health

ministry chaired the inaugural session while Mahub Hossain Khan, editorial advisor of The Independent, moderated business session of the programme.

Dr. Mizanur Rahman, executive director of Bangladesh Association of Voluntary Sterilisation, and Dr. Ahmed Al Sabir, Director, Research, NIPORT, took part in the discussion.

Dr. Baig said that at present, the contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) is 53.8 per cent with a steady rise of CPR since 1977 while the total fertility rate remained unchanged at 3.3 since 1994-96.

To achieve the target of TFR at 2.2 set by the government by 2005, the CPR must go up to 67 per cent, he said.

Dr. Baig pointed out that there is a mismatch between the CPR and TFR due to the prominence of the temporary methods in the method mix- and high discontinuation rate among the users.

Citing the survey of Bangladesh Demographic and Health survey (BDHS), he said that over the years there is a decline in the clinical methods of contraception as female sterilisation has gone down from 8.5 per cent in 1989 to 6.7 per cent in 1999-2000 while male sterilisation from 1.2 per cent to 0.5 per cent during the same period.

And the use of Intra-Uterine Devices (IUD) has decreased from 2.2 per cent in 1993-1994 to 1.2 per cent in 1999-2000, which indicates the declining trend of clinical contraception, he added.

However, the use of the temporary methods had gone up during the same period, he noted. Addressing the workshop, Badiur Rahman called for taking a holistic approach in the family planning programme targeting the clients.

Earlier, Jalaluddin Ahmed, Director of the South-South Centre, delivered the welcome address.

PM happy over Defence College performance

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed satisfaction over the contribution of the Defence Services Command and Staff College in improving professional standard and enhancing efficiency

of the officers of the armed forces.

She expressed the happiness while speaking at the alumni dinner of Defence Services Command and Staff College at Mirpur on the occasion of the silver jubilee of the higher training institute yesterday evening.

Ministers, MPs, chiefs of Navy and Airforce, diplomats, high civil and military officials and the commandant and faculty members of the Staff College attended the dinner.

The prime minister recalled that late president Ziaur Rahman inaugurated the Staff College on December 30, 1977 to create higher training facilities for officers of the armed forces at home.

"His aim was to build our armed forces as well-trained forces through modern education and time-befitting training. I am glad that the Staff College has succeeded to achieve that goal," she said.

The prime minister said the unique institution for combined training of three services has bridged a firm bond among the officers of the inter-services.

She thanked the British government and the British military advisory team that helped run educational programmes of the college during its inception and said, "this staff college is the outcome of their untiring labour and merit."

Distribution of JU admission forms from tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

Distribution and submission of application forms for admission to the first year honours courses (2002-2003) of Jahangirnagar University (JU) will begin tomorrow and continue till January 20, university sources said.

The admission tests will start on February 23 and continue till March 6. Results will be published on April 6.

The application forms will be available, each at Tk 250, at Agrani Bank branches on JU campus, National Museum, Shahbagh and Farmgate, Dhaka.

SUST Teachers' Assoc withdraws strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The Shahjalal University of Science & Technology Teachers' Association (SUSTTA) withdrew the strike yesterday.

The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the association with its President Dr Md Yunus in the chair after a meeting with the VC Prof Shafiqur Rahman on December 29.

The VC assured the teachers of taking necessary steps within a month regarding their 3-point demand. The demands include promotion of teachers, regularisation of 63 teachers and appointment of new teachers.

The association went on an indefinite strike from December 15.

Now the classes will resume on January 5, a source said.

Sheltech Award for Rabeya



Author Rabeya Khatun has been nominated for Sheltech Award 2002, says a press release. The award carries Tk 50,000

and a crest. The award giving ceremony will be held on January 2002.

Previously, Poet Shamsur Rahman, singer Kalim Sharafi, artist Qayyum Chowdhury and singer Firoza Begum won the Sheltech Awards.

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■ Admission Test: January 11, 2003 ■ Time: 03.00 pm.

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For further information please contact:
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 House # 13, Road # 7, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205.
 Phone: 8613001, 8613658, Fax: 8613910, E-mail: albar@bangla.net, URL: www.bhuiyanacademybd.com

UCEP-Bangladesh
 (Transforms the Underprivileged Children into Productive Human Resource)
 Since 1972

Senior Staff Vacancy

Underprivileged Children's Educational Programs (UCEP), a large and expanding national NGO having 39 institutions in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi metropolitan cities, is imparting general education upto Grade-VIII level and technical/vocational training in nearly 20 trade courses. UCEP targets the working children, the poverty stricken school drop-outs and other disadvantaged group of children for free education and training in employable skills and places them in gainful employment. Present enrolment in UCEP institutions at any given time is about 24,000 children.

Applications are invited for the following posts:

1. Manager (Human Resource Development)

Educational Qualifications, Experience and other Requirements:

- Minimum Master's degree or equivalent preferably MBA with major in HRM.
- Minimum 7 years experience at senior management position with abilities in Training and Human Resource Development (HRD) in GO/NGO.
- Highly conversant in development planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, assessing training needs, recruitment and job description.
- Should be computer literate.

2. Internal Audit Officer

Educational Qualifications, Experience and other Requirements:

- Should have M.Com/B.Com degree and must be CA course completed from a reputed firm.
- Minimum 5 years experience in a reputed organization.
- Well conversant in internal auditing as well as computerized accounting and related financial management.
- Capable of report writing in English and Bangla.

Applications Addressed to the Executive Director to include:

- C.V.
- Names and addresses of two traceable referees who are not related to the candidate.
- Attested copies of all educational and experience certificates.
- 2 (two) recent passport size photographs.
- Demand Draft / Pay Order (non-refundable) of Tk 200/- in favour of UCEP-Bangladesh.

Applications must reach the **Manager (HRD), UCEP-Bangladesh, Plot # 2 & 3, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216** by 12 January 2003 and Post applied for should be mentioned on the top left side of envelope. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Attractive compensation package will be offered to the ideal candidate. Selection committee reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Female candidates are especially encouraged to apply.
Unsolicited approaches will be taken as disqualification.

Tuition Wanted
 Shawon CA student wants to teach Accounting/Cost & Management Accounting of O/A Level, MBA/BBAM/Com/Hon's & Math for O/A Level. 011-870996, 9005869, 018-119398 (T&T). C-2780

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 Fully furnished self-contained, secure one bedroom spacious luxury flats to-let. Dhanmondi, Road 7. Ideal for expatriates. Ring: 011 803631 or 0171 536352. C-2779

V-sat Equipment for Sale
 25 watt ODU (Comtech) Cisco: AS5300 Router Tel: 956-6900, 956-5876, 018-219961.

Through Affidavit
 My name and my son's name were corrected as Ekias Uddin Chowdhury and Zahurul Islam Chowdhury respectively. Ekias Uddin Chowdhury, Vill Rajaganj, PS Kanaihat, Dist Sylhet. C-2781

Happy 78th Birthday to Prof KA Latif
 May Allah Bless You.
 Dearest Abba, Nana Bhai, Dada & Bhaijan Your Sons & Daughters: Hena, Azhar, Shibly, Rana, Selim, Rupu, Lina, Shupta.
 Granddaughters: Miti, Katusha, Tanwi, Aashna. Grandsons: Imon, Asif, Anik, Shayam & Shayok Beloved. Sister Afula & Brother Ashab & Your Wife. C-2778

CAREER OPPORTUNITY
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Interested candidates may apply with full Bio- data with Photographs.
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 126-131 Monipurpara, Tejgaon Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.

DELTA BRAC HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD. DBH
 BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE 2002

	2002 Taka	2001 Taka
Capital & Liabilities		
Share capital	200,040,000	200,040,000
Share premium account	99,960,000	99,960,000
Statutory reserves	28,472,916	16,517,163
Loan loss reserve	22,238,858	14,783,608
Other reserves	7,025,771	7,025,771
Unappropriated profits	10,325,689	4,502,676
Loan funds	1,939,397,702	1,105,688,469
Current liabilities and provisions	381,609,705	295,242,661
	2,689,070,641	1,743,760,348
Properties & Assets		
Fixed assets less depreciation	15,306,399	13,679,541
Investment at cost	20,000,000	20,000,000
Housing loans	2,196,539,607	1,458,360,748
Current assets	457,224,635	251,720,059
	2,689,070,641	1,743,760,348

Published in compliance with Sec 11 of the Financial Institution Act 1993

The day that shocked nation

BSS, Dhaka

The killing of 18 innocent people in bomb explosions in four movie houses at Mymensingh on December 7, a day after the Eid-ul-Fitr, was the much talked about tragic incident of 2002.

The planned bomb attacks that also crippled 20 people and injured over a hundred have shaken the conscience of the nation.

The series of blasts in four cinemas -- Purabi, Ajanta, Chhayabani and Alaka -- took place within 45 minutes from 6.30 pm, sending a shock wave across the nation.

The killers made such heinous attacks at a time when the people were celebrating the Eid-ul-Fitr, the greatest religious festival, amid festivity and enthusiasm.

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia strongly condemned the attack, saying it was a deep-rooted conspiracy against the country.

Soon after the accident, a section of the press tried to give distorted information with a view to misleading the people about the attacks.

The international news agency Reuters dispatched a news item that falsely quoted Home Minister Alaf Hossain as saying "al-Qaeda might be involved in the attack."

Many news media across the world gave wide coverage of the false and fabricated news item which was the brainchild of a part-time reporter of Reuters Enamul Hoq Chowdhury, who made the reports without having any talks with the home minister. Stories of the incident were also credited on December 8 worldwide by the Reuters.

The news media of neighbouring country India also published news on the incident from their point of view which has tarnished the image of Bangladesh abroad.

The Reuters reporter went into hiding when the home minister claimed that he never talked to any Reuters journalist over telephone or by any means.

Referring to the audio-tape of his telephonic conversation with other persons, the home minister challenged the journalist to present documents in support of his report.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia accompanied by two other of cabinet colleagues -- Home Minister Alaf Hossain and State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources A K M Mosharrar Hossain -- rushed to the places of the occurrences a day after the incident to see the condition of the injured persons.

In her reaction, the prime minister said the bomb attacks was a well-planned terrorist act. Those who are spreading propaganda against the country and are out to tarnish its image abroad are visibly linked with the attacks, she said.

A team led by Dr Kamal Hossain also visited the spot the same day. Later, at a press conference Dr Kamal said the bomb explosions at Mymensingh was a part of the internal and external conspiracies against the country.

The ruling four-party alliance organised a protest rally and brought out procession in the capital in protest the bomb attacks.

On December 8, police rounded up 32 people, including president of Awami League, Mymensingh district unit, Principal Matiur Rahman in connection with the incident. However, 21 persons were released later.

On December 9, the home minister officially issued a letter to Reuters office at Dhaka protesting its report.

On December 10, the government formed a one-member judicial committee headed by Justice Sultan Hossain Khan. The government also decided to provide financial help to the injured from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

On December 11, police took one Ratan Saha, suspected as an Indian spy, on a six-day remand for his alleged involvement in spying in favour of India. Police also recovered two passports and Indian currency from his possession.

On December 12, the district officials of Mymensingh decided to reopen all cinemas, except the four cinemas which were the targets of bomb attacks, in the district.

The same day, the Reuters withdrew all of its stories on the bomb explosions.

On December 13, police arrested Reuters reporter Enamul Hoq Chowdhury.

On that day, the chief of the judicial commission Justice Sultan Hossain Khan went to Mymensingh and talked to the district officials.

The following day, Justice Sultan Hossain visited the four places of occurrences and hospitals to see the victims. He also recorded the statements of 23 witnesses.

On December 17, Reuters reporter Enamul Hoq Chowdhury was sent to jail after a three-day remand. Criminal Investigation Department (CID) arrested him in connection with the bomb blasts.

On that day, he gave a confessional statement under Section 164.

On December 19, elite of Mymensingh town constituted a fund to rehabilitate the injured persons.

DFID Department for International Development
DFID Bangladesh British High Commission

DISPOSAL OF VEHICLES

The Department for International Development Bangladesh (DFIDB) is disposing of Twenty-Five (25) used official vehicles by sealed bid.

Vehicles can be viewed and inspected at the DFIDB workshop located at 219/220 Tejgaon, Dhaka between 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, from 5 - 9 January 2003.

All bids must be submitted on DFIDB's standard schedule, which could be collected from the above mentioned address. All bids must be clearly marked as VEHICLE TENDER.

All vehicles will be sold as seen.

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<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

BANGLADESH PROPOSED SOCIAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM PROJECT (SIPP) [PROJECT ID P053578]

Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Consultants' Services for Project Appraisal and Supervision Team (PAST)

In substitution of Social Development Foundation's Notification on the same subject published on 22nd December 2002 in "The Daily Star, The Daily Ittefaq and The Daily Prothom Alo".

- This request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for the proposed Social Investment Program Project (SIPP) that appeared in Development Business issue No.588 of August 16, 2002.
- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has applied for a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the proposed Social Investment Program Project (SIPP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of the credit towards eligible payments under the contract for providing services to appraise and supervise community driven small-scale infrastructure subprojects by experienced organizations hereby named as Project Appraisal and Supervision Team (PAST) in this project.
- The project would be implemented in two districts in Bangladesh, namely Gaibandha and Jamalpur. In each district, approximately 700 villages will be covered. One PAST will operate in one district. The expected duration of the services is four years subject to satisfactory performance, which would be reviewed annually. To provide results-oriented incentives, performance based contracts will be used.
- The PAST services would essentially include: a) appraisal of community infrastructure subprojects based on technical feasibility, participation of the poor and women, expected benefits, sustainability and on environmental impact; b) provision of technical assistance and training to the grass root level implementing agencies i.e. Project Management Committee (PMC) of Community Groups (CG) in sub-project implementation; c) supervision of the subprojects; d) certification of work completion; and e) reporting on field level activities.
- Social Development Foundation (SDF) now invites eligible organizations to indicate their interest in providing these activities. Interested organizations must have proven track record in appraisal and supervision of small-scale infrastructure works and community driven development. Interested organizations should provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, knowledge of local issues, community needs, availability of appropriate skills among staff, annual reports). Community Support Organizations (CSO) selected to provide services under this project will not be eligible for this assignment.
- Organizations may associate to enhance their qualifications, but should mention whether the association is in the form of a "Joint-Venture" or of a "Sub-consultancy". In the case of an association, all members of such "association" should have real and well-defined inputs to the assignments and it is preferable to limit the total number of firms including the associates to a maximum four.
- Organizations will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (revised September 1997, January 1999 & May 2002).
- Interested Organizations may obtain further information regarding the assignment from the address stated below between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Saturday through Wednesday) and 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Thursday) on all working days.
- Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below by January 22, 2002.

M. Hafizuddin Khan
 Managing Director
Social Development Foundation (SDF)
 House 3, Road 2A, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh
 Telephone: (880-2) 989-4622, 989-4611, Email: mdsdf@bdcom.com