

Int'l Day of Disabled Persons today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 13th International Day of Disabled Persons will be observed today in the country and around the world with a renewed commitment to ensuring equal rights and privileges of the disabled in the society.

The government as well as different organisations will observe the day through seminars, discussions and rallies in Dhaka and across the country.

Newsletters will publish special articles while Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television will broadcast special programmes to mark the day.

Social Welfare Ministry, Social Service Department, National Foundation of Disabled Development and National Forum of Organisations Working with the Disabled will jointly bring out a colourful rally on the occasion.

Blind Education and Rehabilitation Organisation (BERDO) will hold a discussion and stage a cultural function this morning on its campus at 3/1 Road 11, Rupnagar, Mirpur, Dhaka. State Minister Aman Ullah Aman will attend the function as the chief guest.

President Prof Dr Tajuddin Ahmad and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia in separate messages called upon people to help the disabled become worthy citizens.

In a separate message, Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina said that it was the moral responsibility of the society to stand beside the disabled.

DU English deptt alumni get-together Jan 7

The English Department Alumni Society of Dhaka University (DU) will organise its annual Alumni Get-together 2004 at the department on January 7 next year, says a press release.

Registration fee, including the annual membership fee, is Tk 500 for each alumna and an additional Tk 200 for each accompanying guest.

Alumni have been requested to contact the department on or before December 30 for registration or more information (Telephone: PABX: 9661920-59 Ext. 4260).



Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas speaks at a discussion in the city yesterday, organised by Maulana Bhasani Memorial Trust to mark the 28th death anniversary of Maulana Bhasani.

'Ensure justice to establish global peace'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at an Islamic conference yesterday stressed the need for ensuring justice to establish global peace.

They said Islam believes in tolerance and peaceful coexistence. The International Islamic Conference for World Peace was organised by the Institute of Hazrat Mohammad (SAW) at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the city.

"There is no place for terrorism and fundamentalism in Islam," said Moudud Ahmed, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. Speaking as chief guest Moudud said, "In the present global context if

Muslims start to think that the war on terror was a war against Islam, the consequences would be disastrous."

Former Army Chief Lieutenant General (Retd) Nuruddin Khan, chief advisor of the institute, said, "Islam continues to suffer mostly at the hands of the misled followers and misinformed detractors."

He said any deviation from the point that Islam "stands for promotion and protection of peace" would be "A negation of the tenets of Islam."

Ahmed Farid, former ambassador and secretary, proposed a stronger UN, specially a more influential Security Council, to prevent further

"illegal wars".

Daoud Rosser-Owen, president of the Association for British Muslims, said, "There cannot be peace without justice."

The conference was moderated by the President of the institute Major General (Retd) Syed Md Ibrahim.

Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and Palestinian Ambassador Md Shahta Zarab, Pakistani High Commissioner Manzar Shafiq, Chairman of the Bangladesh Islamic Council Moulana Md Aminul Islam, Editor of the daily Inqilab AMM Bahauddin, and Editor of the daily Nayadiganta Alamgir Mahiuddin also attended the conference.

1,216 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,216 people, including two listed criminals, on various charges from different parts of the country in the last 24 hours till 6.00am yesterday.

During the period, the law enforcers recovered 21 firearms, six other weapons, 143 bullets and a cocktail and filed 12 cases against 21 people under the Arms Act, says an official release.

SARI TRADER MURDER

3 get death, 4 life

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced three people to death and four others to life term imprisonment for killing a sari trader in Tangail district.

The convicts with death are Shamsul Haq, Mozammel Haq and Delwar Hossain while Lal Mahmud,

Tofazzal Hossain, Ainal Haq and Aziz Miah were given life in jail.

Of them, Ainal and Aziz were tried in absentia while the rest were present in the court during the delivery of the verdict.

Judge Shahed Noor Uddin of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 gave the judgement at a jam-packed courtroom.

In the case filed with Kalihati Police Station, it was alleged that Mohammad Mozuruddin, a sari trader in Tangail district, was killed by a group of assailants led by business rival Shamsul Haq at about 8:30pm on March 3 last year.

Later, victim's brother filed a murder case accusing Shamsul Haq and nine others the same day.

Persuade our neighbour to stop unilateral withdrawal of water

Minister urges FAO director general

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Minister for Environment and Forest Tariqul Islam yesterday sought the UN assistance to protect the country from the adverse effects of climate change and persuade a neighbouring country to stop unilateral withdrawal of water from the common rivers.

"We have already been facing various problems such as salinity, desertification and arsenic contamination in groundwater in vast areas of the country mainly because of scarcity of water in the dry season, caused by withdrawal of water by a neighbouring country," he said during a meeting with Director General of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Jacques Diouf.

Salinity in Sundarbans and many other areas is posing a threat to biodiversity and forest, the minister said, adding that the climate change is also boosting flood and drought.

Tariqul Islam also expressed concern over a massive project of river-linking in the neighbouring country as it might further damage the environment of Bangladesh.

The FAO DG said his organisation would try to help ensure transboundary flow of water for the benefit of nations.

He suggested forming an international technical body to assess the impacts of water control and recommend measures for the best use of water resources.

Jacques Diouf also called for constructive dialogue among the nations for proper and maximum utilisation of water resources.

He assured that the FAO would

work with Bangladesh and other nations to help protect environment, boost agriculture and preserve biodiversity.

The FAO chief also discussed the FAO-assisted programmes in the environment and forestry sectors.

Lauding the FAO assistance in Bangladesh, the minister listed various steps taken for protection of environment and biodiversity.

He said the environment ministry has taken up a massive project to plant one crore coconut saplings in the coastal belt to save the areas from natural calamities and about 72 lakh saplings have already been

planted. The government has a plan to set up an International Institute on Medicinal Plant in the country, Tariqul said and sought cooperation from the FAO in this regard.

He said the government has introduced participatory forestry programme to increase forestry in the country as well as alleviate poverty. Under this programme, Tk 29 crore has been disbursed among the participants this year.

Quoting a World Bank report, the minister said the level of pollution in the capital city has declined drastically following a ban imposed on

two-stroke vehicles. The government also banned harmful chemical pesticides and fertilisers, he added. He also mentioned steps to recover and protect water bodies and ensure safe habitat for animals.

Tariqul said the environment ministry has finalised the National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan and Bio-Safety Guidelines. State Minister for Environment Jafrul Islam Chowdhury, Secretary Dr Shoab Ahmed and FAO Country Director Bai Thi Lan were present at the meeting.



Sabu, Badsha elected DRU president, secy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shafiqul Karim Sabu of Bangladesh Hossain Badsha and Shakhawat Hossain Badsha of the Daily Inqilab have been elected president and general secretary of Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU).

The election was held on November 30.

Shafiqul Karim Sabu was elected unopposed.

Other office-bearers are Mahmuda Chowdhury (vice-president), Shawkat Osman Rachi (joint secretary), Saif Islam Dilal (finance secretary), Sajjad Alam Khan (organising secretary), Aminul Haque Bhuiyan (publicity and publications secretary), Moniruzzaman Uzzal (training and research secretary), Monwar Haque (sports secretary), Hasan Mahmud (cultural secretary) and Gelman Shaif (office secretary).

The newly-elected members are Sohail Sunny, M Mojibur Rahman, Rasel Akhter, Enamul Haque Enam, Ekramul Kabir Tipu, Monirul Bari Nayan, Ahmed Shabbir Romeo, ASM Zakir Hossain and Abu Bakar.



Parbattya Bangali Parishad forms a human chain demanding an end to discrimination between the hills people and Bangalis, top, while Pahari Chhatra Parishad brings out a procession for autonomy of the CHT, bottom, at Muktaghara in the city yesterday.

Nat'l Computer Programming Contest from today

The National Computer Programming Contest 2004 is set to be inaugurated at 6:00 pm today at the Kumira Campus of International Islamic University of Chittagong (IIUC).

The two-day event is being jointly organised by the Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) & the Ministry of Science, Information and Communication Technology (MOSICT).

IIUC is the third university in the country to host this prestigious contest.

4th Re-union, Old Cadets' Association of Sylhet (OCAS)

Last date of registration 10 December 2004. Please contact: Mamun # 0171-563416 Arif # 0189-215912, Nasir # 0189-200929 Date: 23-25 December 2004

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Employment A local private organization based in Dhaka will appoint (i) two assistant researchers. Qualifications: masters of any social science discipline, language skills (English & Bengali), and at least two year experience in research work. (ii) one training and program officer. Qualifications: masters of communication and social science preferred. Applications must reach by December 15, 2004 to The Daily Star, Box-No.C-60.

শাখা স্থানান্তর

সম্মানিত গ্রাহক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের সুবিধার্থে বগুড়া জেলাস্থ সোনালী ব্যাংক, বগুড়া বাজার শাখা, বগুড়া আগামীকাল ০৪-১২-০৪ শনিবার বর্তমান ঠিকানা থেকে নতুন ঠিকানায় স্থানান্তরিত হবে এবং ঐ দিন থেকে নতুন অবস্থানে ব্যাংকিং কার্যক্রম শুরু করবে।

বর্তমান ঠিকানা সোনালী ব্যাংক বগুড়া বাজার শাখা, বগুড়া, দাগ নং-১৩৫৯, খতিয়ান নং-১৯০, হোল্ডিং নং-৬১৭, জেএল নং-৮২, মৌজা-সুত্রাপুর, ডাকঘর-বগুড়া, বগুড়া সদর, বগুড়া। নতুন ঠিকানা সোনালী ব্যাংক বগুড়া বাজার শাখা, বগুড়া, হাজী ইদ্রিস মার্কেট, চাঁদনী বাজার, বগুড়া, মৌজা-সুত্রাপুর, বগুড়া, দাগ নং-১৩৭৭/১৩৭৮, এম,আর,আর-খতিয়ান নং-৯৯২, জেএল নং-৮২, ডাকঘর-বগুড়া, বগুড়া সদর, বগুড়া।

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT A National NGO working with different vulnerable communities especially Sex Worker i.e. FSW and MSM in order to build up awareness on health and hygiene promotion to protect themselves from all deadly diseases like HIV/AIDS & STD is seeking application from qualified candidates for the position of Deputy Director for immediate recruitment. Compensation : TK. 26,000/- (consolidated) per month Qualification : Masters in Social Science or Management. Job Requirements: 8 years experience at least 5 years in a senior management position. Should have proven experience on managing development program at field level. Experience HIV/AIDS/STD prevention program especially with MSM population. Skills on property assessment, problem analysis, Institutional analysis, Concept paper and project proposal writing. Excellent written and communication skills in English. Proven skills on designing advocacy tools, conducting advocacy meeting, training module and networking with different service providers. Skills on overall M & E system of Health program. Should have working experience on liaison with National AIDS Committee, National HIV Network and national and International AIDS network. Knowledge on budgeting and financial control including planning, monitoring, imparting training and supervision. Computer proficiency on Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point and Access. Interested candidates who fulfill the above requirements are requested to submit their detailed resume along with cover letter and a recent passport size photograph to: The Executive Director, ODPUP, Management Office Dhaka, House # 498, Road # 09, DOHS, Baridhara, Dhaka-1212 on or before 9th December 2004. Women are particularly encouraged to apply Any persuasion will be disqualify the candidates Internal and external applicants shall be treated equally in the selection process No TA/DA will be allowed for this purpose Only short listed candidates shall be invited for the interview.

হলি ফ্যামিলি রেড ক্রিসেন্ট মেডিকেল কলেজ ১, ইকটন গার্ডেন রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০। ফোন-৯৩৫৩০০১, ৯৩৩২৩৪। ২০০৪-২০০৫ শিক্ষাবর্ষে মেডিকেল কলেজে এমবিবিএস কোর্সে ভর্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি হলি ফ্যামিলি রেড ক্রিসেন্ট মেডিকেল কলেজে ২০০৪-২০০৫ শিক্ষাবর্ষে ১ম বর্ষ এমবিবিএস কোর্সে ভর্তির জন্য কলেজের নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদন আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। আবেদনকারীর নিম্নোক্ত শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা থাকতে হবে: ১. আবেদনকারীকে বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক হতে হবে। ২. (ক) যে সকল ছাত্রছাত্রী ২০০১ সনের পূর্বে এসএসসি/দাবি/ও-লেভেল/১০ম গ্রেড/সমমান পরীক্ষায় পাস করেছে তারা আবেদনযোগ্য হবে। (খ) যে সকল ছাত্রছাত্রী পদার্থ বিদ্যা, রসায়ন বিদ্যা ও জীববিদ্যাসহ এইচএসসি/আর্টিম/এ-লেভেল/১২তম গ্রেড/সমমান পরীক্ষায় ২০০৩ এবং ২০০৪ সনে পাস করেছে তারা আবেদনযোগ্য হবে। ৩. শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা নিম্নরূপ: এসএসসি এবং এইচএসসি পরীক্ষায় প্রাপ্ত জিপিএ-এর যোগফল ন্যূনতম ৭০০ থাকতে হবে। তবে কোন অবস্থাতেই এসএসসি এবং এইচএসসি পরীক্ষায় জিপিএ ৩.০০-এর নিচে গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না। ৪. (ক) মোট ২০০ নম্বরের ভর্তি পরীক্ষা হবে। (খ) এসএসসি এবং এইচএসসি'র ফলাফলের জন্য=১০০ নম্বর, এসএসসি=৪০ এবং এইচএসসি=৬০। এসএসসিতে প্রাপ্ত জিপিএ'র ৮ (সাত) জন এবং এইচএসসিতে প্রাপ্ত জিপিএ'র ১২ (বার) জন। (গ) লিখিত পরীক্ষা (এসসিকিউ পদ্ধতি)=১০০ নম্বর। লিখিত পরীক্ষার বিভাজন: পদার্থবিদ্যা (এইচএসসি)=২০, রসায়নবিদ্যা (এইচএসসি)=২৫, জীববিদ্যা (এইচএসসি)=৩০, ইংরেজী=১৫, সাধারণ জ্ঞান=১০। ৫. যে সকল ছাত্রছাত্রী বিদেশী শিক্ষা কার্যক্রমে এসএসসি ও এইচএসসির সমমান পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ হয়েছে, তাদের মার্কস সার্টিফিকেট জিপিএ-তে পরিবর্তন করে ন্যূনতম শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা নির্ধারণ করা হবে। \*ও-লেভেল এর জন্য ৬টি বিষয় (Best Six) এবং 'এ' লেভেল-এর জন্য ৩টি বিষয় (Biology, Chemistry & Physics) বিবেচনা করা হবে। নির্ধারিত ফি প্রদান পূর্বক স্বাস্থ্য অধিদফতর হতে Equivalence Certificate সংগ্রহ করতে হবে। ভর্তির আবেদনপত্র ও প্রশংসাপত্র ১০০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা (আবেদনযোগ্য) পরিমাণ সাপেক্ষে পরিকার বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের পর হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (সকাল ৮টা হতে দুপুর ২টা) অত্র কলেজ অফিস হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। আবেদনপত্র নিজ হাতে পূরণ করতে হবে এবং প্রয়োজনীয় দলিল পত্রাদির সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি আবেদনপত্রের সঙ্গে দাখিল করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ৩০ ডিসেম্বর, ২০০৪ এবং ভর্তি পরীক্ষা ৭ জানুয়ারি, ২০০৫ অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। লিখিত পরীক্ষার নির্ধারিত সময়: ৬০ মিনিট। লিখিত পরীক্ষায় প্রাপ্ত নম্বরের ভিত্তিতে মেধা অনুযায়ী চূড়ান্তভাবে ভর্তির জন্য নির্বাচিত করা হবে। অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মোঃ শাহীন চৌধুরী ভারপ্রাপ্ত অধ্যক্ষ