Telecom Limited (JTL), Banglaphone, Westeck Telecom Limited, Dominix Limited, GEP Telecom and Dhaka

Since almost all the private opera-

tors will offer connections through

WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) tech-

nology which is the cheapest tech-nology being used in Public Switched

Telecom Network (PSTN), also

known as fixed line land phone,

frequency therefore has become the

single most important requirement

for investment. The WLL technology

has become popular especially in the developing countries. Unless a com-pany gets the frequency, there is no

way a company can open a letter of

credit (L/C) in the banks for import-

ing telecom equipment.
RanksTel and Telebarta have made

preparations for investment in all

tions Ltd (OneTel) signed a contract to purchase all-IP CDMA network

technology from UTStarcom, a global

leader in IP access networking and

services. Bay-phones, a joint venture project of Westeck.com Inc. USA and Westeck Limited, Bangladesh will

operate its services in Chittagong,

Chittagong Hill Tracts, Noakhali and

Comilla areas at an initial stage

targeting one lakh subscribers from

February this year. The line-rent will

be Tk 150 and call charge Tk 1.50 for

first five minutes. The rate of phone

ur regions. OneTel Communica-

Telephone Co Ltd.

(VoIP) has been legalised and the

submarine cable connection to

global information super highway (SEA-ME-WE-4) will be ready for

rvice soon with 1.28 terabits per

second. It will link 14 countries from

Singapore to France via Malaysia,

Thailand, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka,

India, Pakistan, UAE, Saudi Arabia,

Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Italy with 16 landing points. It would mitigate our elite reliance from the expensive

satellite-based solutions for interna-

tional voice and data communica-

tions. It has been deploying SDH technology without closing the

transmission loops. It is like building

end-to-end roads without

provisioning the traffic diversion

been a growth in companies dealing with VSAT communication primarily

using SCPC technology. SCPC point-

to-point connectivity is a trustworthy

solution that can be afforded by a few

multinational companies and ISPs operating in Bangladesh primarily

due to monetary strength, but is not a

cost-effective solution that can be

afforded by most of the market. To further emphasise, DNS as a com-

pany has already installed and is

running almost 70 percent of the VSAT circuits currently operating in

Established in November 2001 to

provide nationwide connectivity

SatComm, sister concern of DNS

group established the Earth Station in

Gazipur, In November 2002 SatComm

received nationwide licence from

BTRC, being is the first operator to be

issued such a license by the telecom watchdog in Bangladesh.

smooth telecom vendors like Ericsson

AB, Siemens, Motorola, NOKIA Net-

works Limited, Huawei Technologies, ZTE Corporation, ALCATEL,

UTStarcom are working to provide technical solutions to these wireline

that the telecommunications mar-

ket in Bangladesh is moving

onwards which is a very good sign

for our telecommunications infra-

Md. Saifur Rahman, a former Lecturer at IUB and

From the above review it is vivid

and wireless telecom carriers.

To make this development more

the Bangladesh Market.

Over the last few years there has

during congestion or disturbance.

Telecom moving onward

MD. SAIFUR RAHMAN

UCH of the world has, at best, inadequate access to basic telephone service. Bangladesh, of course, is no exception to this tenet. Bangladesh ranks among the most densely populated countries on the globe, but its teledensity is still the lowest in South Asia, according to the statistics of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Only 1.56 among 100 people have access to telecoms facility, the 2003 data of the UN telecoms watchdog say. The need for telecommunications sector investment and growth is palpable. Bangla desh is currently served by only 900,000 fixed lines and has only approximately 3.5 million cellular service customers from its four

The formal introduction of state-run BTTB mobile phone is seen as a milestone in our telecom account. Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) would release SIM cards for 2.5 lakh mobile connections of GSM (Global System for Mobile) technology in the first phase, out of targeted 10 lakh connections under the scheme.

cellular mobile operators namely GrameenPhone, AKTEL, CityCell and Banglalink. This need is particularly so if Bangladesh intends to participate and coexist economically and socially in a larger informationintensive world. This article tends to review the recent developments in telecommunications market in Bangladesh.

The fixed line telecom sector is invigorating for an enormous sprint in

tion to all 19 private licensees

Dhaka city, Jinjira, Savar, Narayangan headquarters and Tongi.

Absco Limited, qualified for one licence each. QC Telecom had received approval for another licence earlier in the first round. In the first round, the BTRC had

connection will be Tk 9000 and potential subscribers will get phone connections within 48 hours. The formal introduction of staterun BTTB mobile phone was on 28° December 2004 which is seen as a milestone in our telecom account. Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) would release SIM cards for 2.5 lakh mobile connections of GSM (Global System for Mobile) technology in the first phase, out of targeted 10 lakh connections Besides this the Voice over IP FUNDAMENTALS

Jinjira and Savar Of the remaining two, Westec

BTRC, the 19 private companies will get frequencies in 1800 and 1900 Mega Hertz. The spectrum department of the BTRC has recently allocated the frequency to 10 companies among the 19 companies. Those local heavyweights are Bashundhara Communications Network Limited (BCNL), RanksTel, OneTel Communications

investment, as the telecom watchdog has finalised the frequency distribu-

The telecom watchdog, Bangladesh Telecom Regulatory Commission (BTRC), which was set up in January 2002, has divided the country into five zones namely Central, South-East, North-East, South-West and North-West. It awarded licenses for four zones except the central zone comprising district headquarters, Gazipur district

Of the 23 approved applications, Dhaka Telecom Limited, has been selected to have licences for all the four zones. Other companies who have been approved for four licences each are Telebarta Limited, National Telecommunications Network and Peoples Telecom. Keari Telecom and another company named GEP Telecom Limited bagged approval for two licences each. Of them GEP Telecom Limited was awarded licence in August 2004 for providing services in Chittagong Sylhet regions. Three companies -- Dominus Telecom Limited, QC Telecom Limited and OneTel Telecommunications Limited, a joint venture of Nitol Group and

approved 10 licences for fixed phone networks. Of them eight licences have already been issued to four companies -- four licences to Bashundhara Communications Network Limited, two to Ranks Telecom Limited, a venture of Rangs Group, and one each to Jalalabad Telecom Limited and Bangla Phone, i joint venture of Nitol Group, Technoheaven Co Ltd and Bengal Communications International Inc. The JTL would launch operations in North-East zone including Sunamganj, Sylhet, Habiganj; Moulvibazar, Sherpur, Jamalpur, Netrakona, Mymensingh, Kishoreganj, Tangail, Munshiganj, Manikganj, Narayanganj excluding the district headquarters, Gazipur excluding the district headquarters, Tongi, Dhaka excluding Dhaka city,

Limited, a project of an internet service provider and QC Telecom Ltd will launch service in South-East Zone consisting of Brahmanbaria, Comilla, Chandpur, Lakshmipur, Noakhali, Feni, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Khagrachhari, Rangamati and

Ltd. (OneTel), Telebarta, Jalalabad

SAARC, MDGs and Bangladesh

UMMEE SAILA

OUTH Asia is a densely popu-lated region with 1.4 billion people. Majority of them are poor and illiterate. Their living standard and per capita income are very low. Poverty, illiteracy, gender inequality, lack of awareness about health, sanitation and pure water are almost typical of this part of the world. The status of women and the condition of children are not sound at all. An estimation shows that over the last 30 years trafficking for sexual exploitation alone has violated some 30 million Asian women and children. Every year one to two million people are trafficked worldwide of which 225,000 are from South Asia.

HIV/AIDS is classified as the deadliest epidemic of our time. Over 22 million people have lost their lives for and almost double are currently living with HIV/AIDS. As South Asia is densely populated and most of the people of this region are poor and illiterate, there is a great chance for AIDS to spread in this region and cause social and economic disaster. Bangladesh is still fortunate to be a low prevalent country. Having 136 million population the reported cases of HIV/AIDS in Bangladesh is very low (363reported cases as of Dec, 2003). However, according to WHO/UNAIDS report, an estimated 2500-15000 HIV infected people were there in Bangladeshat the end of 2003.

To free the world from the curse of poverty, illiteracy, HIV/AIDS, in 2000, 189 member countries of United Nations had set eight goals to achieve in the millennium summit. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are: 1) eradication of poverty by 50% by the year 2015; 2) ensuring universal primary education by the year 2015; 3) eliminating gender disparity from all level of education by 2015; 4) child mortality should be reduced to two third by the year 2015; 5) maternal mortality should be decreased to three-quarter by the year 2015; 6) ensuring sustainable environment and increasing the assurance of safe drinking water and basic sanitation by

50 percent; 7) halting HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other major diseases by 2015; 8) developing a global partner-

ship for development. Four years have past after the MDGs were summitted and no one can say that it is a very short time to make the 189 member countries get aware of MDGs. But we have to say with great regret that MDGs are limited only in the seminar paper. Mass media have failed to ensure participation of mass people in MDGs. After 9/11, elimination of terrorism became the prime objective of the developed countries. History says that economically advanced countries have been dominating in the world politics. They have given birth to the concept of 'human rights', 'sovereignty', 'democracy' etc. The devel-oped countries volunteer the major activities of the United Nations also. As developed countries are apparently not very much concerned with Millennium Development Goals, attention of other countries is also diverted from

MDGs to other issues like security. It is natural that the destination of development of developing and under developed countries will be different from economically advanced countries. So, the developing, least devel-oped and under developed countries should identify their own goals. The government of the countries of South Asia must be aware of MDGs because these goals reflect the need of the mass people in this region.

The 13th SAARC summit will take place in Bangladesh next month. As the concept of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation was first introduced by Bangladesh, it can play a leading role in making a strategy to achieve the MDGs in South Asian countries. Developing countries should extend their cooperation to achieve the goals. Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) was signed in Islamabad during the 12th Summit. After implementation (January, 2006) of SAFTA, it is expected that it will increase the trade in this region from 4 percent to 60 percent. We hope the 13th SAARC summit will also present us with something special to help MDGs to be achieved in this

Ummee Saila is a freelance writer.



13, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawranbazar, Dhaka.

The Oriental Bank Ltd

Head Office, T.K. Bhaban

The Oriental Bank Limited Intends to sale its property measuring 220 katas (approx) of land along with structure thereon at Plot No.182, 183, 184 and 185 at BSCIC Industries Estate, Tongi Industrial Area, Gazipur (Known as Tobacco Industries Limited).

BANK'S PROPERTY SALE

Interested buyers are requested to submit their offer addressed to the Company Secretary on or before 26th January 2005, during office hours.



BCIC International **Tender Notice**

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অর্থগতির প্রতীক

Sr General Manager (Purchase), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (12th Floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A., Dhaka invites sealed quotations against Tender Enquiry No PUR-3.1745/2004-2005 dated 05-01-2005 for import of 15,000 MT ± 10% Rocksulphur on C&F (C) Chittagong on Liner term basis under Cash Foreign Exchange. Offer shall be received up to 11.00 AM on 23-02-2005 and be opened immediately thereafter. Tender documents with detailed terms and conditions will be available on payment of Tk. 750.00 per set (nonrefundable) from (i) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (2nd floor), Dhaka and (ii) General Manager, BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A., Chittagong.

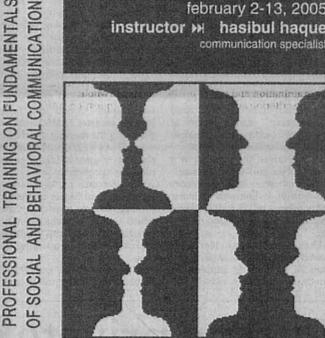
Earnest money is Tk. 18.00 (Eighteen) lac only. No tender documents shall be sold on the date of opening and no late offer shall be accepted. The buyer reserves the right to accept or to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

BCIC-478-8/1/05 DFP-1156-12/1

Emdad Imam Jahangir General Manager (Purchase) For Sr General Manager (Purchase)

february 2-13, 2005 instructor >> hasibul haque communication specialist

Manager, Ericsson AB.



contact : abdullah al mamun center for asian arts and cultures (CAAC) 62 science laboratory road (near cat's eye) 0189 451755 caacbangla@yahoo.com

Why You Should Get Your Child Admitted to

PEDAGOG

English Medium Schools of International Standard in Greater Mirpur and Mohammadpur-Shyamoli Areas

▶PEDAGOGY opertates on a first-come-first-served basis. Our admission process is sensitive to children rather than being stressful for them. We believe that every child has enormous potential to learn and grow. Thus our policy is not to exclude children through a ruthless competition for admission, but to include them so long as our capacity permits. So, if you have not yet been able to get your child admitted to a school in spite of her/his abilities,

▶ PEDAGOGY has committed and caring teachers. They are post graduates/graduates with an adequate background in English and considerable experience in teaching.

▶ PEDAGOGY teaches in an interactive and learning-friendly environment in which students learn through drawing, painting, story-telling, role-play and debate that help them acquire certain communication skills in English. These exercises also help enhance their imaginative and creative faculty as well as reasoning and presentation skills. Audio-visual materials are used to familiarise them with modern technology and facilitate learning

▶PEDAGOGY lays a special emphasis on the completion of most tasks in the classroom to keep students' homework to the minimum and reduce parents' burden at home.

PEDAGOGY has a well-equipped computer lab for students to access information technology. Each student will have the opportunity to attend one computer class each week besides being able to play computer games everyday. The lab also offers an attractive software language package that enables students to learn on line interactive English.

PEDAGOGY has a comfortable waiting room for the parents/guardians. So, they do not have to wait outside in the open for hours together.

Admission to Play Group, Nursery, Kindergarten, Standard I to V, and Class VI is going on. Admission forms are available between 9 am and 5 pm everyday of the week throughout January at the following addresses:

Principal

PEDAGOGY (Shyamoli) House # 126, Pisciculture Housing Society, Block -Ka, Dhaka-1207 Tel: 912-3244

please contact us immediately.

Principal

PEDAGOGY (Mirpur) House #9/3, Lane #1, Block B, Mirpur, Section 6, (East side of PROSHIKA Bhaban), Dhaka-1216

Mobile: 011812194, 01730113439

Career Opportunity With Global Insurance Limited

Global Insurance Limited a fast growing General Insurance Company in the country aspiring for operating on professional basis is looking for Officers for its Head Office in the following positions:

Principal Officer

Qualification: Master Degree in any discipline but preferably in Commerce.

Good command in English & Bengali. Computer proficiency is mandatory for the position.

iii) Age: Below 35. Computer Operator

Qualification: Master Degree in any discipline but preferably in Commerce.

Computer Proficiency in MS Word, MS Excel, MS Excess, Windows, Trouble shooting and must be acquainted with different Accounting packages. Bengali & English typing skill is essential.

iii) Experience : Minimum 2 years experience as Computer Operator. iv) Age: Below 35 years.

Qualification: Minimum Graduate. Computer Proficiency in MS Word, Excel, English & Bengali typing and communication skill are essential.

iii) Age: Below 35 years.

Officer (Underwriting Dept):

Qualification: Minimum Graduate. Experience: Should have minimum 3 years experience in Underwriting. iii) Age: Below 35 years.

Remuneration will be commensurate with the positions and Experience. Exceptions to the above mentioned criteria in case of otherwise highly qualified/capable candidates.

Applications along with Bio-data, two recent passport size photographs, attested copies of certificates & testimonials addressed to undersigned must reach on or before 31/01/05.

> 5 M Jasim Uddin Ahammed Company Secretary & SVP(Admn)



EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Prime Insurance Co. Ltd., a fast growing professionally managed general insurance company in the private sector having Branches throughout the country invites applications for the following posts:

Vice President (Marketing)- 1 post: MA/MBA having minimum 10 years experience in Marketing. He will provide leadership, motivation and strategic directions to a team of 10 to 15 marketing personnel. He will prepare marketing plan and monitor progress to ensure achievement of company objective.

Vice-President (Claims) - 1 post: Masters/MBA with minimum 5 to 7 years experiences in general insurance or retired officers of Sadharan Bima Corporation. Must have thorough knowledge in all kinds of insurance claims. Candidates holding B.I.A or equivalent diploma from any recognized Institute or professional foreign training in underwriting &/or claims have an added advantage.

AVP (Administration) - 1 post: Masters/MBA with 5 to7 years experience in running office administration independently. The applicant must have thorough knowledge on labour laws and in managing and rating personnel of diversified grades. The ideal candidate should have high degree of self-motivation, proven capacity for initiative, negotiation, leadership people management skill excellent in verbal and written communication in English and Bengali and good hands-on computer skill.

Manager (Audit & Inspection) - 1 post: M.B.A/M.Com/B.Com with CA course complete having 5 years experiences in auditing affairs of a financial organization. Proven skill in writing audit reports with hands-on computer skills are essential. Candidate having auditing exp. lences of general insurance company may get preference.

Officers (A. Is & Fin) - 5 posts: M.Com having 5 years experiences in Accounts & Finance in a financial organization. Candidates with CA course complete may get preference.

Attractive pay packets with good career advancement in an excellent working environment await the right candidates. Interested candidates are requested to apply by 29 January, 2005 with detailed resume, contact telephone number and 2 copies passport size photograph to:

The Managing Director, Prime Insurance Company Ltd., (6th floor), 63, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000. Strict confidentiality of the applications will be maintained. Name of the position applied for should be mentioned on top of the envelope.



VACANCY RE-ADVERTISEMENT

Mass-line Media Centre (MMC) is a media focused NGO inviting application for the following position for its DANIDA supported Project.

1. Programme Coordinator: 01

Job summary: The incumbent will be responsible for managerial support to the project and maintain liaise with the donor & government offices. The key responsibilities are :

 Ensure smooth functioning of the project/programme activities and liaise with donor/stakeholders. Ensure programme management appropriately and timely reporting.

 Prepare annual work plan guidelines and operating systems. Required Qualification and Competencies:

rgani Masters in Mass Communication & Journalism or equivalent degree from any recognised Local/Foreign University.

 Minimum 10 years experience in senior management position in the relevant NGO field especially in Human Rights and Good Governance isssues.

Ability to liaise with donor, GOB officials and Local/National level press houses/journalists.

Good networking capacity with excellent written and oral communication skills in Bengali and English. Efficient in project coordination.

Good skill in using computer especially in MS office suit. Salary: Tk. 30,967/- gross per month

2. Director (Finance): 01

Job summary:

The incumbent will be responsible for ensuring smooth financial flow to the project and maintain liaise with the donor & government offices. The key responsibilities are :

· Ensure smooth functioning of the finance activities including budgetary control.

Ensure financial control to maintain appropriate and timely reporting on disbursed funds including formulation

of specialized reports and implementation of audit recommendations.

 Initiative to conduct internal and external audit. Prepare annual operational budget guidelines and fund management systems.

Required Qualification and Competencies: · Masters' in Commerce, Accounting/Finance and CA Inter-mediate (minimum)/CMA from any recognised

University/Institution. However, education qualification will be relax for highly experience persons. Minimum 07 years experience in senior management position in any NGO.

 Ability to liaise with donor and GOB officials for fund raising purpose. · Excellent written and oral communication skills in Bengali and English.

· Good skill in using MS office and Accounting Packages.

Salary: Tk. 27,700/- gross per month Interested candidates above requirements are requested to send with detail CV with a cover letter, 2 copies recent passport size photographs, copies of all academic/experience certificates and name/ addresses, phone of two referees to: Executive Director, Mass-line Media Centre (MMC), 1/20, Humayun Road, Block-B, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207 on or before 5-February, 2005.