



PHOTO: PID  
Outgoing Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassir Husain calls on President Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday.

## President receives PSC annual report

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday said the members of Public Service Commission will have to perform their duties with more sincerity in selecting fittest, meritorious and talented candidates for the public administration.

"It has to be ensured that our public administration can face the challenges of 21st century with skill," he said this after receiving the PSC's annual report for the year 2006.

PSC Chairman Prof Dr ZN Tahmida Begum submitted the annual report to the President at Bangabhaban. The President thanked the PSC chairman and members for submitting the report in time.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Tahmida requested the President to give necessary directive to raise the minimum pass marks by PSC for the BCS examinations and to reduce the

rate of quota reservation.

She informed the President that at present, the number of applicants has increased substantially than in the past. "As a result, the duties and responsibilities of the members of the Commission have increased, but facilities relating to physical infrastructure have not been raised," she said.

PSC members Prof M Mahfuzur Rahman, M Abdur Rouf, Latifur Rahman, Prof Dr M Ashraful Islam Chowdhury, Col. (Hon) Prof Dr Mahmudur Rahman, Muhammad Ashraf, Prof Dr KAM Shahadat Hossain Mondal, MAnwarul Haq and Prof Dr M Fazlul Haq were present on the occasion.

Military Secretary to the President Maj Gen M Aminul Karim, Secretary to the President's Office M Sirajul Islam and PSC Secretary MAbdus Sattar were also present.



PHOTO: STAR  
Writer Selina Hossain unveils the cover of a book titled 'Shirshadash' of Ananya Publication on the Bangla Academy premises in the city yesterday.

## 5,000 NGOs seek MRA licences

UNB, Dhaka

Around 5,000 NGOs sought licences from the Micro-credit Regulatory Authority (MRA) as the deadline for submission of applications ended on Monday.

"We're now scrutinising the applications," said a senior official. He said around 7,000 NGOs had collected the application forms.

According to the official, the applicants, having 1,000 and above borrowers, will be provided with the licenses soon while the NGOs having less than 1,000 clients will be given one year time to raise their clients to 1,000 to qualify for the licences.

He, however, added that the NGOs having less than 1,000 clients would be able to run micro-credit operation without licences for the time being.

## Education UK Exhibition begins today

UNB, Dhaka

The 9th Education UK Exhibition 2007, organised by the British Council, begins at Hotel Sheraton in the city today.

Dhaka University Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz will inaugurate the three-day fair at 11:00am.

The exhibition will provide an opportunity for prospective students and their parents and teachers to find out more by talking directly to the UK institutions and their representatives.

Delegates from 27 UK universities and colleges will take part in the exhibition. Visa Services of British High Commission will also participate in the fair.

The exhibition will be open to the public from 3:00pm to 9:00pm today and tomorrow and from 1:00pm to 7:00pm on Saturday.

The British Council will also hold a two-day education exhibition at Hotel Peninsula in Chittagong from March 5. It will remain open for visitors from 3:00pm to 9:00pm on March 5 and from 1:00pm to 7:00pm on March 6.

## 'Around 50 lakh people suffering from diabetes in Bangladesh'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 50 lakh people across the country have been suffering from diabetes that is preventable and the main reasons of diabetes are changes in food habit, lack of physical exercise and obesity, the experts said at a discussion.

They also said life style of people have changed due to urbanisation and

their physical activities have also decreased that leads to diabetes.

They said lack of awareness and non-treatment of diabetes are leading to blindness and paralysis and causing death to many people.

The discussion was held at Birdem auditorium in the city yesterday to mark the Diabetes Awareness Day with Vice President of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (DAB)

Moyeedul Islam in the chair.

Moyeedul said diabetes is not a disease but it leads to other diseases if not controlled. He suggested all to walk more and laugh more.

DAB Secretary General Prof AK Azad Khan, DAB Member National Council Prof Hajera Mahtab and Director General of Birdem Major General Ziauddin Ahmed also spoke on the discussion.

Fields for playing of children and physical exercises of all are extremely needed, the speakers observed.

Crests have been distributed to 10 diabetic who are living a healthy life by controlling diabetes, though their diabetics were diagnosed years ago.

In observance of Diabetes Awareness Day as well as the 51st anniversary of Diabetic Association

of Bangladesh several programmes, including rally, blood donation and free diagnosis of diabetes were held at different parts of the city and a question-answer session on diabetes was held at Birdem auditorium.

A total of 20 crore people across the world have been suffering from diabetes that was only three crore in 1985 and would rise up to 30 crore

by 2025 if not prevented.

Compared to the developed countries, diabetes is increasing rapidly in the developing countries, the experts said.

Frequent urinating, excessive thirst, weight loss, feeling of hunger all the time and feeling of weakness are among the preliminary symptoms of diabetes.