



Artistes perform at a cultural function in front of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in the city yesterday marking the World Rural Women's Day. Equity and Justice Working Group and World Rural Women's Day Celebration Committee jointly organised the programme.

## 5 houses gutted in Ctg fire

CU CORRESPONDENT

Five houses were gutted in a fire in the port city's Bayezid area in the early hours of yesterday.

Sources said the fire broke out at around 3:00am at a semi-pucca house at East Syed Para and soon engulfed four other adjacent houses.

Two fire-fighting units from Bayezid Fire Station rushed to the spot and doused the fire after a two-hour effort.

The fire originated from an oven and the damages were estimated at about Tk 5 lakh, said the sources.

## President seeks Thai help in agro-based industry

BSS, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday sought technical cooperation from Thailand in the field of agro-based industries.

He also underscored the need for enhancing trade and commerce for the mutual benefit of the two countries and called upon Thai businessmen to invest in Bangladesh.

The president appreciated him for his sincere endeavours in

strengthening relations between the two countries during his about three-year tenure in Bangladesh.

Prof Iajuddin apprised the envoy that the upcoming general election would be held in a free, fair and credible manner within the time set by the Election Commission (EC) and invited international observers to observe the election.

He stated that the existing bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Thailand are excellent, which would be further strengthened and deepened in the days to come.

The president apprised the envoy that Bangladesh is committed to promoting and maintaining peace, stability and development in South and South-East Asia through Saarc, BIMSTEC, ASIAN and ACD.

He wished the ambassador and his family good health and happiness, and also successful assignment in Bahrain. He conveyed his sincere wishes and best regards to the King of Thailand and also invited him to visit Bangladesh at his convenience, through the ambassador.

The outgoing ambassador stated that the existing bilateral relations between Thailand and Bangladesh are excellent, which would be further strengthened in coming days.

The envoy also expressed his deep gratitude to the government and the people of Bangladesh for providing support and cooperation in discharging his duties in Bangladesh. He said the people of this country are very friendly, hospitable and courageous.

Military Secretary to the President Major General Mohd Aminul Howlader and concerned officials from both the countries were present.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

SQ Quantum Clothing Limited, a Joint Venture company is looking for experienced, young, dynamic and versatile professionals for the following positions.

The incumbent we are looking for should have the ability to work in a team environment and to demonstrate a personality and temperament suited to a highly motivated and participative work culture.

The company is jointly owned by SQ Group, a socially responsible apparel manufacturer, serving high street retailers in Europe & US, and Quantum Clothing Group Limited, UK having presence worldwide.

### 1. Manager, Accounts & Finance

Responsible for financial accounting, management reporting, treasury functions, banking transactions, tax planning and liaison with government bodies.

Criteria for the position:

Qualified Chartered Accountant, minimum 3/4 years of working experience in the similar field in a large manufacturing company, should be familiar with computerized accounting environment. Excellence in communication in English and report writing is a must.

### 2. Manager, MIS

Responsible for budget, budgetary control, costing & cost accounting, inventory management and implementation and follow up Management Information System (MIS).

Criteria for the position:

Qualified Chartered Accountant / CMA / MBA, minimum 3/4 years of working experience in the similar field in a large manufacturing company. Well conversant in developing systems / procedures and able to introduce the MIS culture in the entity by ensuring relevant and reliable information flow. Excellence in communication in English and report preparation is a must. Experience in handling the Database Management System (DBMS) will be preferred.

### 3. Financial Analyst

Responsible for analysis of the on going operations including financial, technical & operational aspect, preparation of business plans, forecasts and project management of the ongoing new projects of the entity, pre cost and post cost analysis of the export orders.

Criteria for the position:

MBA major in Finance / MIS from reputed university, minimum 2/3 years of working experience in the similar field in a large manufacturing company. Should have ability in developing systems and procedures. Excellence in communication in English and report preparation is a must.

We are open and flexible about compensation packages for the deserving candidates. Interested candidates are requested to apply with complete resume and a recent passport size photograph by November 05, 2007 to the following address.

Senior Manager, HRD

SQ Group

North Tower (11th Floor), Plot # 107, Sector # 7, Uttara Commercial Area, Dhaka -1230, Bangladesh or E-mail: jobs@sqgc.com

Ride the Wave...



## Bangladesh-US joint air exercise begins

UNB, Dhaka

A weeklong joint air exercise of Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) and US Marine Force began at the BAF Base at Kurmitola in the city on Wednesday.

The main objective of the 'Exercise Sumo Tiger-2007' is to maintain peace and stability in the world through mutual cooperation, said an ISPR release.

One hundred members of Bangladesh Air Force and US Marine Force are taking part in the exercise along with six F-18, one C-130 and one KC-130 aircraft of USAF, and F-7 BG and F-7 MB aircraft of BAF.

Enhancing cooperation between the United States and Bangladesh, exchange of training and skill, improvement of training standard of BAF and presenting the skills of BAF on the world stage are the main purpose of the exercise.

Practice Diversion, Air Interception, Force Package Mission and Dissimilar Air Combat Training are included in the exercise.

Fear of the disease, which often causes rejection and exclusion from one's home and community, can often do more damage than the

disease itself, speakers said at the seminar.

Leprosy-affected people have to face different types of discriminations even after being cured from the disease as most of the people do not have clear knowledge about the disease, Bishwajit Kendra founder Prof Abdurrahman Abu Sayeed said.

He urged the government, NGOs and human right organisations to take concerted efforts for creating mass awareness about leprosy.

Rev Martin Adhikary, director of Advocacy & Promotion of TLMB, said that there are around 30,000 leprosy patients in the country while poverty and dirty environment are the main causes for the disease.

Bert van der Waal, country director of TLMB, said leprosy is a chronic infectious disease caused by a bacteria Mycobacterium leprae and over 95 per cent people are immune.

Dr David Khan, director of TLMB, said the first outward sign of leprosy is a patch on the skin, usually associated with the loss of feeling.

"Yes! leprosy is curable with Multidrug Therapy (MDT), a powerful combination of two to three drugs: clofazimine, rifampicin and dapsone. Mild, non-infectious cases of leprosy need treatment with two drugs for six months. More severe infectious cases need all three drugs for up to a 24-month period," he said while presenting a keynote paper on the causes and consequences of leprosy.

Every year two lakh to four lakh new cases of leprosy are found around the world. 70 per cent of which are in India.

In 2005 the World Health Organisation reported over 296,000 new cases of leprosy.

In Mozambique, Indonesia, DR Congo and Brazil new cases of leprosy continue to increase each year.

## 'Raise mass awareness to deal with leprosy'

Speakers tell seminar

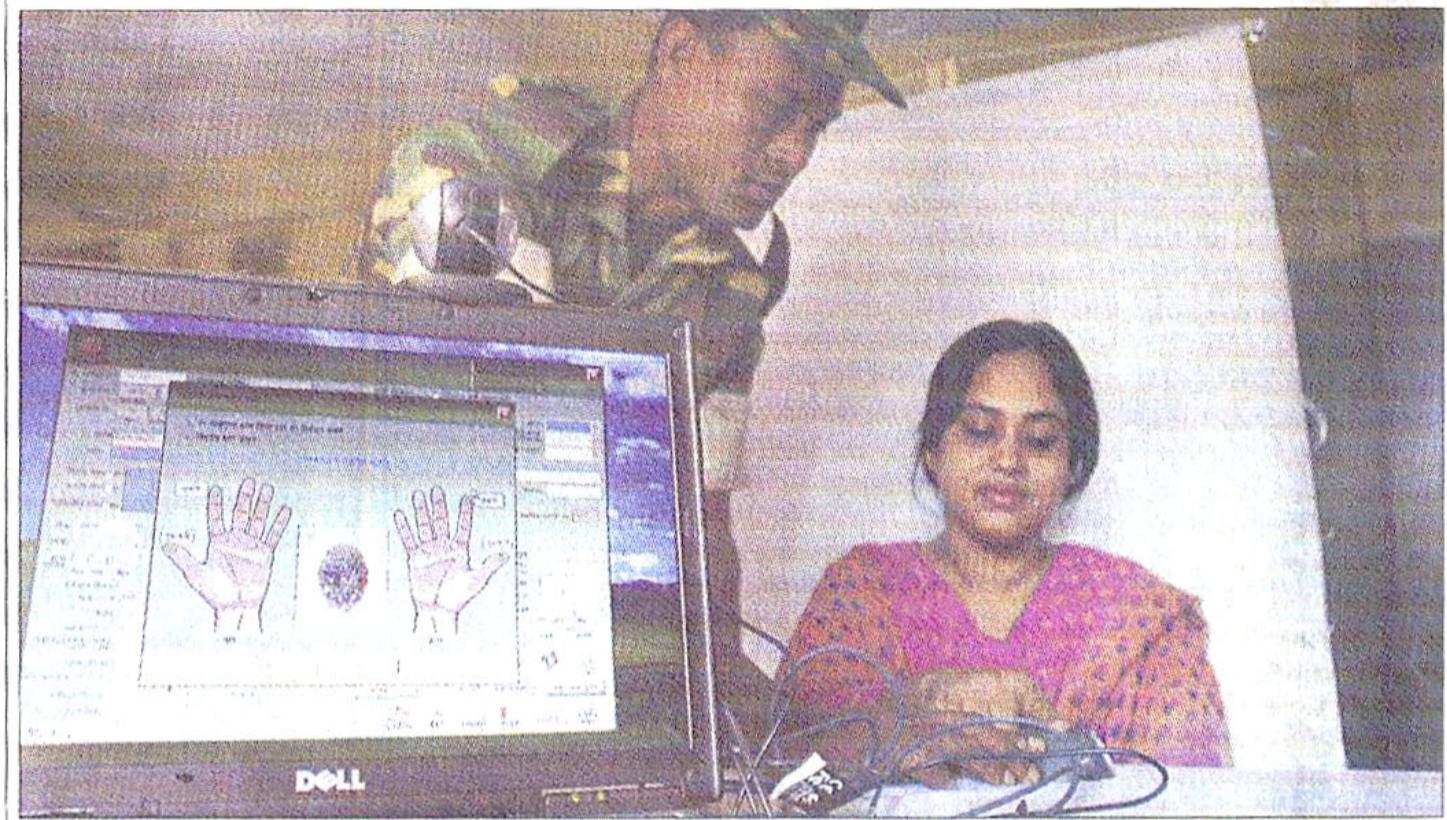
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts yesterday underscored the need of mass awareness about leprosy, a chronic infection disease caused by bacteria, as the disease is still surrounded by social stigma and false fear among the people.

Leprosy is curable with medicine but the healing process remains incomplete until the leprosy-affected people regain the social and economic status that allows a dignified life, they said at a national advocacy seminar.

The Leprosy Mission Bangladesh (TLMB) organised the seminar on 'Leprosy is Curable: Social Discriminations Has no Place' at Mohammadpur YWCA Bhaban in the capital.

The fear of the disease, which often causes rejection and exclusion from one's home and community, can often do more damage than the



An eligible voter gets her fingerprint recorded at a voter registration centre at Dania University College in the city as voter listing with photographs started in the area yesterday.

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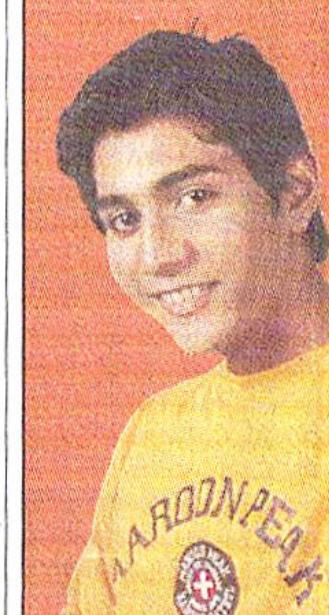
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see inside page for details



আমরা ভালো আছি  
আপনি ভালো আছেন কো?