

Anti-Corruption
Day tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

The International Anti-Corruption Day will be observed in the country tomorrow as elsewhere across the world.

The United Nations declared December 9 as Anti-Corruption Day to strengthen the anti-graft movement across the world, said a press release of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday.

The TIB has undertaken a five-day programme, including an anti-graft cartoon exhibition that began at Dhanmondi Drik Gallery yesterday and a seminar in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Commission at Bangladesh-China Conference Centre at 3:00pm tomorrow.

A four-day inter-university anti-graft debate competition will also begin tomorrow, the press release said.

Besides, ACC and TIB will launch an anti-graft campaign with the slogan "Rise People, Rise Against Corruption" which will continue till December 9 next year.



Banglalink, a mobile phone operator, organised a concert titled 'Banglalink Desh Music Fest 2007' at Kamalapur Stadium in the city yesterday to raise funds for cyclone-affected people.

Deplorable condition
prevails in jute mills

Says BJMC chairman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

BJMC Chairman Md Ataharul Islam yesterday said production in the jute mills must be increased for the greater interest of the national economy.

The jute mills must be self-sufficient to pay wages and salaries to workers and employees, he added.

The BJMC chief said efforts are on to pay festival bonus to workers before the Eid-ul-Azha.

But the government has not yet allocated any separate fund for the payment of arrears to workers who had retired at 57 years of age, he said.

Admitting to present deplorable condition of jute mills, the BJMC chairman said there would be no badli (casual) workers in any jute mill from now on.

If necessary, workers on daily-wage basis at the rate of Tk 115 would be hired instead of previous rate of Tk 300 per badli worker, he added.

The BJMC chairman said he would consult with the authorities concerned to resolve the present crisis prevailing in Khulna-Jessore

industrial belt particularly regarding payment of arrears to workers.

Earlier in the morning, he presided over a high level meeting at Khulna Circuit House.

Secretary to the Ministry of Jute Abdur Rashid Sarker was the chief guest at the meeting.

It was attended by all high officials of army, civil and police administration, project directors of all jute mills in Khulna and Jessore and CBA leaders.

Matters relating to demands of workers and employees, policy to increase production and maintenance of law and order in the industrial belt were discussed in the meeting.

It may be mentioned that lay-off period of Alim Jute Mills was extended for the fourth time for 26 days with effect from Thursday morning.

Besides, over 1200 retired workers of seven jute mills threatened self-immolation on December 4 in protest against non-payment of their dues.

But they withdrew the programme following a discussion with the officials of joint forces.



Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman Lt Gen (retd) Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury, left, inaugurated a five-day exhibition of anti-corruption cartoons at Drik Gallery in the city yesterday. Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) organised the exhibition.

France Bangla
chamber to raise
funds for
Sidr victims

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The France Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry will hold its annual gala event tomorrow at the Radisson Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka to raise funds for the Sidr victims.

"We want to show our respect and sympathy to the victims. The event is mainly dedicated to the people in the cyclone-affected areas," said Syed Farhad Ahmed, president of the chamber, at a press conference in Dhaka on Thursday.

The devastating cyclone Sidr, surged by tidal waves, swept over the southern coastline on November 15, killing over 3,000 people.

The joint chamber, which has been organising the annual cultural event since 1996, will raise funds by auctioning paintings by renowned artists during the event.

FILLING UP SSC FORMS
Dhaka board
extends time

Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Dhaka has extended the deadline for filling up forms of secondary school certificate (SSC) examinations up to December 10, says a press release.

The board has taken this decision considering the suffering of students in the cyclone-affected areas.

Branch Shifting

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InterSpeed/BSS/2007

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