

'Knowledge in language, culture a must for foreign job'

BSS, Dhaka

Necessary knowledge in language, culture and industrial law is indispensable for getting foreign employment, especially in Korea that has high potential for export of Bangladeshian manpower.

This was expressed at a view exchange meeting organised yesterday by renowned Korean enterprises NH Company Ltd and Chung Chul Uh Ram (CCUR) which is going to set up a Korean Language Center in Dhaka to educate Korean language, culture and industrial law.

This will be the only affiliated training programme center under the Human Resource Department (HRD) of Korean Ministry of Labour, the organisers said. Moon Ju Kang, Managing Director, Kim Mi, HWA, Director, M Sayeduzzaman, Chief Executive Officer, Rubayat Mohammad, Country Manager, Md Moniruzzaman, General Manager and Sk Arifur Rahman, Special Assignment Officer of NH-CCUR were among others, took part in the meeting.

They said the NH-CCUR would invest huge amount of money as by 2008 to build an international school, technological university, landmark business and apartment complexes in Bangladesh.

The organisers informed that apart from Bangladesh, the NH-CCUR has already started executing schemes to develop such Employment Permit System and Language Proficiency Test (EPS-LPT) standardisation training programme in Nepal, Myanmar, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, East Timor and China.

However, Dhaka would be the main center of this potential programme, they said.

They said the prime objective of the proposed training center would be to provide the learners on social responsibilities, culture, industrial laws and hygienic patterns of intended Korean workers.

The NH-CCUR will also provide assistance in training module, quality training and will ensure experienced trainers from Korea to serve the purpose. It would also provide highest management and logistic support to succeed the mission.

The organisers said that their main thrust would be to ensure genuine education of international standard to enrich human resources in Bangladesh that would be fit for competitiveness in the international market.

The proposed center would work not only to explore employments for Bangladeshis in Korea but also to contact international jobs for Bangladeshis by creating a latent employment market in the globe.



President of Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh Mukarram Husain Khan gives away the key of a car to Haji Md Shahjahan, the first prize winner of the raffle draw of REHAB Fair 2007, at Sheraton Hotel in the city yesterday.

'Increase regional cooperation to utilise biotech potentials in agriculture'

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a seminar yesterday stressed the need for increasing regional cooperation among the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Saarc) member countries in biotechnology research for utilising its potential in agriculture production.

"Though some memorandum of understanding (MoU) on biotech research between some Saarc countries have been signed but these are not enough, we need to do something concrete for enhancing the research," they said.

The seminar titled 'Biotechnology: A Cutting-Edge Technology for Agricultural Development' was organised by the Saarc Agriculture Centre to mark the Saarc Charter Day in the conference room of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC).

The Saarc member countries, including Bangladesh, yesterday observed the 22nd anniversary of the signing of the Saarc Charter with a view to raising awareness about the regional forum and its activities.

Agriculture Secretary M Abdul Aziz presented the keynote paper at the seminar, while BARC Executive Chairman Dr M Nurul Alam was in the chair.

Director of Saarc Agriculture Centre Dr Wais Kabir, Member Director (Crop) of BARC Md Abdur

Razzaque and Prof Dr M A Khaleque of BSMRAU spoke on the occasion.

Aziz said biotechnology is a supplementary and complementary tool in agricultural development but the need of this technology should be in place to face the emerging challenges of the agricultural sector.

"We must use those biotech crops which following the biosafety guideline for Bangladesh, finalised by the Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology in 1999," he said.

The national biotechnology policy has been approved paving the way for maximising the positive inputs and minimising possible negative inputs of biotechnology, he said.

Aziz said the country is now in a position to critically assess potentials and challenges as per its need, opportunities and aspirations and improve its capacities and infrastructure.

"We could not make any general comments that all Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) are bad or good, we will accept those crops which can prove itself safe in the field test," he said.

The secretary made some recommendations on biotechnology in his keynote papers.

The recommendations included undertaking a systematic and sequential plan of action under the overall direction of National Task Force on Biotechnology of Bangladesh (NTBB) to implement the National Policy of Biotechnology.

He also suggested initiating a manpower development programme to train scientists and teachers in different aspects of biotechnology and establish a network of biotech laboratories within the country and with those in the developed countries to facilitate mutual exchange of research findings.

Bangabhaban employee killed in road accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A caretaker of Bangabhaban was killed in a road accident in the city's Tikatuli area yesterday.

A speeding pick-up hit Mamunur Rashid, 45, assistant caretaker of Bangabhaban, when he was crossing a road near the Gate No. 5 of Bangabhaban at around 3:30pm, the police said.

Critically injured Mamun was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at around 6:00pm.

The police seized the vehicle and arrested a person named Faruk Hossain suspecting him as its driver. Faruk, however, claimed that he is not the driver but was travelling in the pick-up.

Proshika provides relief, medical services to Sidr victims

Proshika, one of the largest NGOs of the country, is providing health services, drinking water and warm-clothes to the Sidr victims, says a press release.

More than seven lakh people have been brought under these services.

It has established 20 health camps at the remote areas of 11 worst affected upazilas—Mathbaria, Kawkhali, Pirojpur Sadar and Zianagar, Nazirpur, Patuakhali Sadar and Dhumki, Amtoli, Rajapur, Morelgañ and Rampal in the southeast region of the country. From these camps, the cyclone-hit people receive free treatment and medicines according to their needs.

Besides, 300 water-purifying filters have been set up to provide drinking water to the cyclone victims.

Under this programme, more than 10,000 worst affected people were given warm-clothes.

It has also set up 10 camps for the treatment of cattle and poultry in the cyclone-hit areas.

The programme is implemented with its own resources.

Try war criminals for peace

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

War criminals must be brought to book in order to restore peace in the country, speakers at a roundtable said yesterday.

Demanding a ban on religion-based politics, they also called on the government to enact new laws, if necessary, to put the war criminals on trial.

Sammilita Tarun Peshajibi Parishad, a platform for young professionals, organised the roundtable titled 'Trial of war criminals and use of religion in politics' at the National Press Club in the city in association with the daily Bhorer Kagoj.

Advocate M Enayetur Rahim, former secretary of the Supreme

Court Bar Association, said no governments that came to power after 1975 took any initiatives to try the war criminals.

Terming the war criminals today's 'militant outfit', he called on the caretaker government to take steps immediately to hold the trial.

"The caretaker government must make a list of war criminals and bring them to justice by forming a commission, thereby removing all confusions over the trial," he said.

Members of the Pakistan army's collaborators, Al Badr, Al Shams and Razakars, could also be tried under the existing laws, he added.

Awami League leader Abdur Razzak said the caretaker govern-

ment itself should take initiative to bring war criminals to book as they committed crimes against the entire nation.

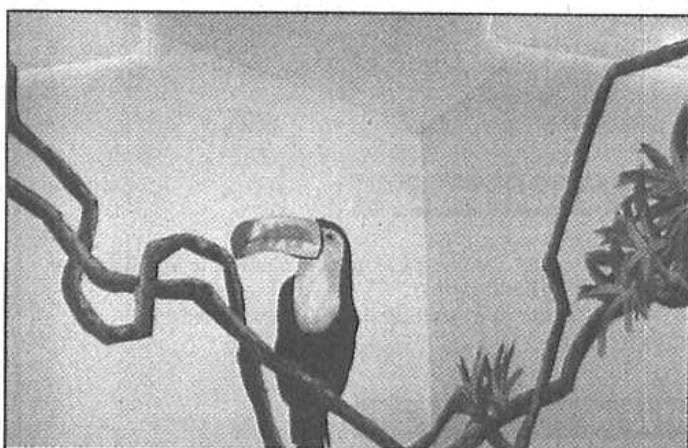
AL leader Col (ret) Faruk Khan called on the media to put pressure on the government to ensure that the war criminals stand trial.

Writer and journalist Shahriar Kabir called for a ban of religion-based politics in order to stop violence against minority community.

Justice Ghulam Rabbani, Prof Abu Sayeed, Jatiya Party leader GM Kader, Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, cultural activist M Hamid, AL leader Suvash Singh Roy and CPB General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim also spoke at the roundtable moderated by Shymal Dutta, editor of the Bhorer Kagoj.



Awami League leader Abdur Razzak speaks at a roundtable titled 'Trial of war criminals and use of religion in politics' at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. On his left is Shahriar Kabir and on his right is Shymal Dutta, editor of the Bhorer Kagoj. Sammilita Tarun Peshajibi Parishad organised the event.



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A team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested two criminals, Hafiz and Masud, in the city yesterday.

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