

# 'Media cell needed at all ministries'

UNB, Dhaka  
Close coordination between the Information Department and the media was underscored at a meeting of the information officers at the secretariat yesterday for implementation of government policies and development programmes.

People should be properly informed of the government policies and programmes. It is equally important that the government gets the feedback of people's views of its policies and development programmes, Information Secretary Zamil Osman told the information

Officers.  
He said information officers could best achieve the objective by maintaining cordial relations with the media.  
He felt every ministry should have an information cell for quick and proper dissemination of information to the media and also receive feedback from the people about government policies and programmes.  
He assured that the information officers attached to the ministries would be provided with computer and internet facility for their effective functioning.  
PIO Iftekar Hossain also spoke at the meeting.



Publication ceremony of two books titled '2 No. Sector Ebong K Force Commander Khaleder Katha' and 'Feni-Bilonia: Ronangoner Ek Prantor' was held in the city yesterday. From left are Lt Col (ret'd) HMA Gaffar, Maj Gen (ret'd) Jamil D Hsan, Maj Gen (ret'd) Amin Ahmed Chowdhury and Lt Col (ret'd) Zafar Imam. (Story on Page 2)

## EC seeks Tk 570cr for elections

FROM PAGE 1  
mainly to price hike of materials, devaluation of money, introduction of transparent ballot boxes, increased number of voters and polling stations and more manpower engaged in the polls process.

A significant amount of the proposed funds will be spent for security forces to ensure law and order ahead of and after the election.

This is for the first time, the EC Secretariat is going to have a budget with power to spend funds as per its needs, without seeking approval from the finance ministry.

The Council of Advisers has already approved an ordinance to free the EC Secretariat from the control of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), and give it financial autonomy.

The EC Secretariat is now implementing a project titled "Preparation of the voter list with photographs and facilitating the issuance of national identity cards" costing Tk 424 crore. Of the amount, various donor agencies and countries contributed Tk 274 crore and the government allocated the rest.

So, the next parliamentary election is set to involve the largest ever polls expenditure, which may be over Tk 600 crore including the cost of preparing the voter list, EC officials said.

Meanwhile, the EC has said the number of voters will be around eight 8 crore and that of polling stations will not exceed 30,000.

EXPENDITURES FOR PREVIOUS POLLS

According to documents available from the EC Secretariat, the expenditure for holding the first parliamentary election in 1973 was Tk 81.86 lakh, the number of voters was 3.52 crore and that of polling stations 1,584.

The expenditure was Tk 5.60 crore for the second parliamentary election held in 1979 with voters numbering 3.87 crore and polling stations 21,905. For the third parliamentary election in 1986, the expenditure was Tk 5.26 crore, with 4.78 crore voters and 23, 279 polling stations. In the fourth parliamentary election held in 1988, the expenditure was Tk 5.16 crore with the number of voters being 4.98 crore and polling stations 22, 393.

Expenditure for the fifth parliamentary election in 1991 was Tk 25.56 crore while the number of voters was 6.20 crore and that of polling stations 24, 154. The sixth parliamentary election held on February 15, 1996 cost Tk 65 crore and the number of voters was 5.61 crore.

The seventh parliamentary election held on June 12, 1996, cost

Tk 71 crore, with the number of voters being 5.67 crore and polling stations 25, 952. Expenditure for the eighth parliamentary polls held on October 1, 2001 was Tk 95 crore and the number of voters was 7.49 crore and that of polling stations 29, 978.

The EC Secretariat had spent around Tk 146 crore for holding the ninth parliamentary election in January last year but the polls could not be held due to political turmoil that forced the president to declare the state of emergency. The number of voters was 9.30 crore and that of polling stations was around 30,000 for the stalled polls.

The expenditures for the previous parliamentary polls have been calculated excluding the cost for preparing voters lists.

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 A presentation and individual counselling sessions will be held by the University's International Officer for Bangladesh at  
**Venue:** Falcon Education and Consultancy Services (Official representative)  
 Dhanmondi Plaza, Road no: 6 (Mirpur Road), 18/A DRA  
 Dhaka- 1205, Bangladesh  
**Date:** February 18, 2008  
**Time:** 11 a.m - 5 p.m

For more information please contact:  
 Phone: +88 02 8650862, 8627900, 01712736505  
 Email: falconbd@dhaka.net Url: www.falconedu.com/bangladesh

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Sealed Tenders in the Prescribed Forms are invited for supply and installation of equipments in (i) **Wet Processing Lab** and (ii) **Mechanical Engineering Lab** of **Primeasia University**. Interested Manufacturers / Suppliers are requested to collect Tender Schedule on payment of tk.500.00 each from the Registrar's Office, HBR Tower 9, Banani C/A, Dhaka-1213 on all working days from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm up to **Monday, February 25, 2008. Last date** of dropping Tenders is **Wednesday, February 27, 2008.**

Registrar

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BRAC, one of the leading development organizations of the world works with people whose lives are dominated by extreme poverty, illiteracy, diseases and other handicaps with multifaceted development interventions. BRAC invites applications from eligible individuals for the position of **Medical Officer** who are interested to train health human resources at district levels for its Health Program.

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BRAC Guest House  
 House # 68, Road # 03, Block # B, Niketon Housing Society, Niketon,  
 Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212

Please bring the following documents with you during the walk-in-interview:  
 - Your resume with cover letter  
 - All of your original academic certificates and photocopies including internship and BMDC registration certificate

Please enlist your name before the interview starts.

The result of the walk-in-interview will be published on **Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** at the same venue. Selected candidates will have to attend a short briefing session after publication of the result. Please mention the position and ad no # 09/08 on top of the cover letter.

Women and people from ethnic minorities and different abilities are encouraged to apply

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