

BDB, SAMYABADI DAL LEADERS EXCHANGE VIEWS

'Build nat'l consensus to resolve problems'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) and Samyabadi Dal yesterday called for building a national consensus in order to resolve various problems facing the country.

Leaders of both the parties also urged the government to start the proposed dialogue with the political

parties without delay.

They made the call at a joint press conference after a meeting at the BDB office at Segunbagicha.

The leaders said a vacuum has been created in the political arena after 1/11 and that election is the only way out of the present crisis.

"We will take a common stance at the proposed talks with the govern-

ment," BDB Secretary General Maj (ret'd) MA Mannan told reporters after an hour-long meeting with Samyabadi Dal.

He also said that his party would exchange views with other political parties except the religion-based parties.

BDB and Samyabadi Dal leaders urged the government to hold the

election according to the roadmap to establish the people's rights.

They also called for necessary measures to ensure that corrupt people cannot come back to power again.

They also called on the government not to harass honest politicians in the name of anti-corruption drive.

BDB leaders Arshad-uz-Zaman, Sajju Kamal, Samaul Haq Niru and

Kartik Thakur and Samyabadi Dal leaders Dilp Barua, Abu Hamid Shahabuddin, Harun Chowdhury and Moshahid Ahmed were present at the meeting.

BDB has already held meetings with Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Inu) and Workers Party of Bangladesh at KC Memorial Clinic at Baridhara in the city recently.



Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) recovered one AK-47 rifle and 16 bullets from Noapara village in Raozan and seized a huge number of beer cans from near the St Martin's Hotel at Agrabad in Chittagong city yesterday.

\$62.6m IDA aid to revitalise agri technology

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh yesterday signed a loan agreement with International Development Association (IDA) under which it will receive 62.6 million US dollar to improve agricultural productivity and farm income by revitalising the national agricultural technology system.

Additional ERD Secretary Mohammad Mesbahuddin and World Bank acting country director Mohamed Alhousseyni Toure

signed the agreement for their respective sides at the NEC auditorium.

The National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) is designed to promote generation, dissemination, adoption and use of appropriate agricultural technologies through a number of policy reforms, institutional development and investment to support agricultural research, extension and supply chain development.

The development of supply chains will focus on strengthening farmer-market linkages, knowledge management and human resources development.

The credit from the IDA, the World Bank's concessionary arm, has 40 years to maturity with a 10-year grace period and carries a service charge of 0.75 percent.

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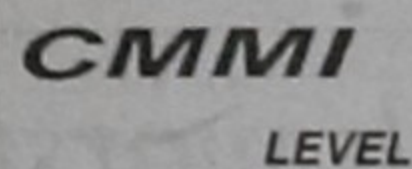
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Send your resumes within March 7, 2008 and don't forget to mention the position on the envelope or in the subject.



BRAC UNIVERSITY

Video Conference on Bird Flu

Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) at BRAC University.

An Inter-Regional Knowledge Sharing Series by Video Conference on Avian and Human Influenza 19th March 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

BRAC University GDLN Center is proud to announce that The World Bank and its partners are pleased to offer a series of inter-regional knowledge and learning seminars through the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) by Video Conference on Vaccination against Avian Influenza: Issues and Strategies within the Context of an Overall Control Program. This distance learning seminar organized by the World Bank, FAO, OIE and the Tokyo Development Learning Center will be connecting through Real Time Video Conference with Cotonou, Abuja, Cairo, Dhaka (BRAC University GDLN Center), Jakarta, Paris, Rome (FAO) Tokyo (TDLC) and Washington DC (GDLN Studio). More details can be found at <http://www.worldbank.org/avianflu>

Registration: "FREE" (on First-come-first-serve basis)

Only 20 Seats Available for Professionals

For information about and to register for the event to attend, please contact:

ALI SALMAN
GDLN Coordinator, BRAC University
66 Mohakhali C/A Dhaka 1212. Mobile: 01911365208 (Email: salman@bracu.ac.bd)

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Interviews to be held in Dhaka, dates will be intimated upon shortlisting of applications.

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