

## 20 killed in chemical plant blasts in China

AP, Beijing

The death toll from explosions that ripped through a chemical plant in southwest China rose to 20 yesterday, state media said.

The victims were employees of the plant in Yizhou city in Guangxi province, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Another 60 people were injured in the blasts that started at about 6 am Tuesday and continued until 1 pm, the report said.

The blaze started in a workshop and spread through the plant as containers with flammable chemicals including formaldehyde and acetylene caught fire, Xinhua said.

Fire spread over a nearly 108,000-square-foot area, Xinhua said, citing an unidentified firefighter in the rescue operation.

The government evacuated 11,500 residents in case of further blasts and chemical leaks.

Poisonous gases, mainly sulfurated hydrogen and carbon monoxide, were still coming from the site, Xinhua quoted Ge Xianmin,

Guangxi's toxic substances emergency center director, as saying.

The blast did not seriously pollute air or water in the area, Xinhua said. Rescuers set up four dams at the point where pollutants are discharged from the factory to prevent any from flowing into the nearby Longjiang River, Xinhua said.

Samples taken from the river show it is safe for drinking, it said.

Regional work safety authorities were investigating the cause of the blasts.

Fan Yinfeng, an operator at the fire brigade under the Yizhou Public Security Bureau, said firefighters from nearby towns were mobilized to help.

The plant is in a development zone of Yizhou city and mainly produces chemicals for adhesives and paints, Xinhua said. It is owned by Guangxi Guangwei Chemical Co.

Thousands die each year in China from fires, explosions and other industrial accidents often blamed on insufficient safety equipment and workers ignoring safety rules.



An elderly couple cleans inside a destroyed building in the South Ossetian town of Tskhinvali yesterday. China meanwhile had no comment about Russia recognising the independence of two rebel Georgian provinces, continuing its policy of saying virtually nothing about the situation.

## Georgia downgrades ties with Russia

AFP, Tbilisi

Georgia yesterday announced it was downgrading its relations with Russia as Tbilisi vowed to wage a diplomatic offensive against Moscow over its recognition of two rebel regions.

Foreign Minister Eka Tkeshelashvili told AFP that Tbilisi was pulling all but two of its diplomats from its embassy in Moscow and was seeking Western support for a range of measures against Russia.

"We have downgraded the level of our diplomatic relations with Russia," she told AFP in an interview.

"We will not have an ambassador to Moscow any more, only one senior diplomat and one low-ranking diplomat will be working in our embassy to the Russian Federation."

She warned that the situation would remain under review.

Georgia had already recalled its ambassador from Moscow in April, following a decision by Russia to establish formal ties with rebel governments in the separatist regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

She said Georgia would seek to boost ties with NATO and the EU, and would call for an international peacekeeping force in Georgia.

Parliament is also preparing an "Occupation Act" that will formally declare Georgian territories under Russian control as occupied, Shota Malashkhia, the chairman of parliament's reintegration committee, told Georgian Public Television.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said in a televised address Tuesday that he had signed

a decree recognising South Ossetia -- the catalyst for this month's five-day military conflict with Georgia -- and Abkhazia.

In a televised address to the nation Tuesday, Saakashvili described the move as "the first attempt in Europe after Nazi Germany and the Stalinist Soviet Union... to change the borders of Europe by force."

Saakashvili accused Russia of seeking to "break the Georgian state, undermine the fundamental values of Georgia and to wipe Georgia from the map."

Russia's recognition of the rebel regions prompted immediate censure from the United States, which has been a strong supporter of Saakashvili, and its allies.

Russia on Wednesday warned NATO against building up naval forces in the Black Sea as the US Coast Guard cutter Dallas docked in Georgia carrying aid, one of three ships sent by Washington to deliver relief supplies.



A combo of file pictures shows Libyan leader Moammar Gaddafi (L) at a press conference in the Libyan capital Tripoli on July 9, 2008 and a reproduction of a photo taken in the 1970s of Lebanese Shiite Muslim religious leader, Imam Musa al-Sadr, the founder of the Amal movement, which played a major role in Lebanon's civil war between 1975 and 1990. Sadr, who was the head of the Higher Shiite Council in Lebanon, vanished while on a trip to Libya in 1978. Lebanon has issued an arrest warrant for the Libyan leader over Sadr's disappearance, officials in Beirut said yesterday. Gaddafi was also indicted for allegedly "inciting the abduction" of Imam Musa Sadr, investigating magistrate Samih el-Hajj said in a charge sheet.

## RETIRED ARMED FORCES OFFICERS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION (RAOWA) NOTICE INVITING APPLICATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

01. Retired Armed Forces Officers' Welfare Association (RAOWA) has decided to pre-qualify the interested Construction contractors / firm for Construction of Project "RAOWA Complex" at Mohakhali, Dhaka.
02. Documents containing terms and conditions, instruction to applicant and Prescribed form will be available in the office of the undersigned on payment of non-refundable amount of Tk.10,000/- (Ten thousand) only in the form of pay order / bank draft in favour of RAOWA during office hour on all working days including Saturday between September 01, 2008 and September 10, 2008.
03. The updated information in Prescribed Form with required documents & certificate shall be submitted in the office of The President, Technical Committee for Construction of RAOWA Complex Building, VIP Road, New DOHS Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206 on all working days during office hour on or before September 15, 2008.
04. Eligibility of Contractors: The Contractors should have the experience in construction of High-rise Commercial Building (at least 12 storied) with at least Double Basement and having an Average Annual Turn-over of Tk.50.00 (fifty) crore during last 03 (three) years.
05. The authority reserves the right to reject or accept any application without assigning any reason thereof.

Maj Gen Mustafa Kamaluddin, ndu, psc (Retd.)  
President, Technical Committee for Construction of RAOWA Complex

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Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

## Israel jails Hamas mayor for six years

AFP, Jerusalem

An Israeli military court has sentenced the Hamas mayor of the occupied West Bank town of Jenin to six years in prison, the military said on Tuesday.

Hatem Jarrar, a 62-year-old orthopaedic surgeon, was among a string of elected officials from the Islamist movement detained by the Israeli military following the capture of Corporal Gilad Shalit in a deadly cross-border raid from Gaza after talks with President Hosni Mubarak.

Jarrar, who was elected mayor in January 2005, was convicted at a hearing in Salem, outside Jenin, last Thursday of membership of a "terrorist organisation, an army statement said.

The presiding judge said he considered the fact that the accused was a doctor "expected to save human lives" was an aggravating factor when he handed down sentence, the statement said.

Jenin deputy mayor Ali Chati told reporters that the proceedings had "no legal value" coming as they did after Jarrar had spent more than two years in custody without charge or trial.

Israel, like the European Union and the United States, regards Hamas as a terrorist organisation despite its upset win over the Western-backed Fatah movement of president Mahmud Abbas in January 2006 Palestinian parliamentary elections.

## Tropical Storm weakens after 5 killed in Haiti

AFP, Port-au-prince

Tropical Storm Gustav stalled over Haiti yesterday, lashing the impoverished island with heavy rain after striking it with hurricane force and killing five people.

The US National Hurricane Center warned that Gustav could regain hurricane strength on Thursday once it moves away from Haiti.

The storm was blowing winds of 60 miles per hour (95 kilometers) as it "stalled" over Haiti about 125 km west of Port-au-Prince, the center said in its latest report.

Gustav made landfall in Haiti Tuesday as a Category One hurricane -- the lowest on the five-level Saffir-Simpson scale.

At least five people died and seven were injured in southeast Haiti as roofs flew off houses and electricity pylons were ripped away by violent winds, authorities said late Tuesday.

## Israel says no peace deal by end of year

AFP, Alexandria

Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak said on Tuesday that he cannot see a peace deal being reached with the Palestinians before the end of the year, despite US optimism on such an accord.

"We would like to see a breakthrough in the negotiations with the Palestinians before the end of 2008," Barak told journalists in the Egyptian port of Alexandria after talks with President Hosni Mubarak.

But "I cannot tell you that I feel confident it will be accomplished in that timetable," he said. "I wish something will come out of it but I cannot tell you honestly that I see a peace agreement emerging within the next few months."

The declarations came after US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, on a visit to Israel and the Palestinian territories, and Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni both voiced optimism over the peace

talks.

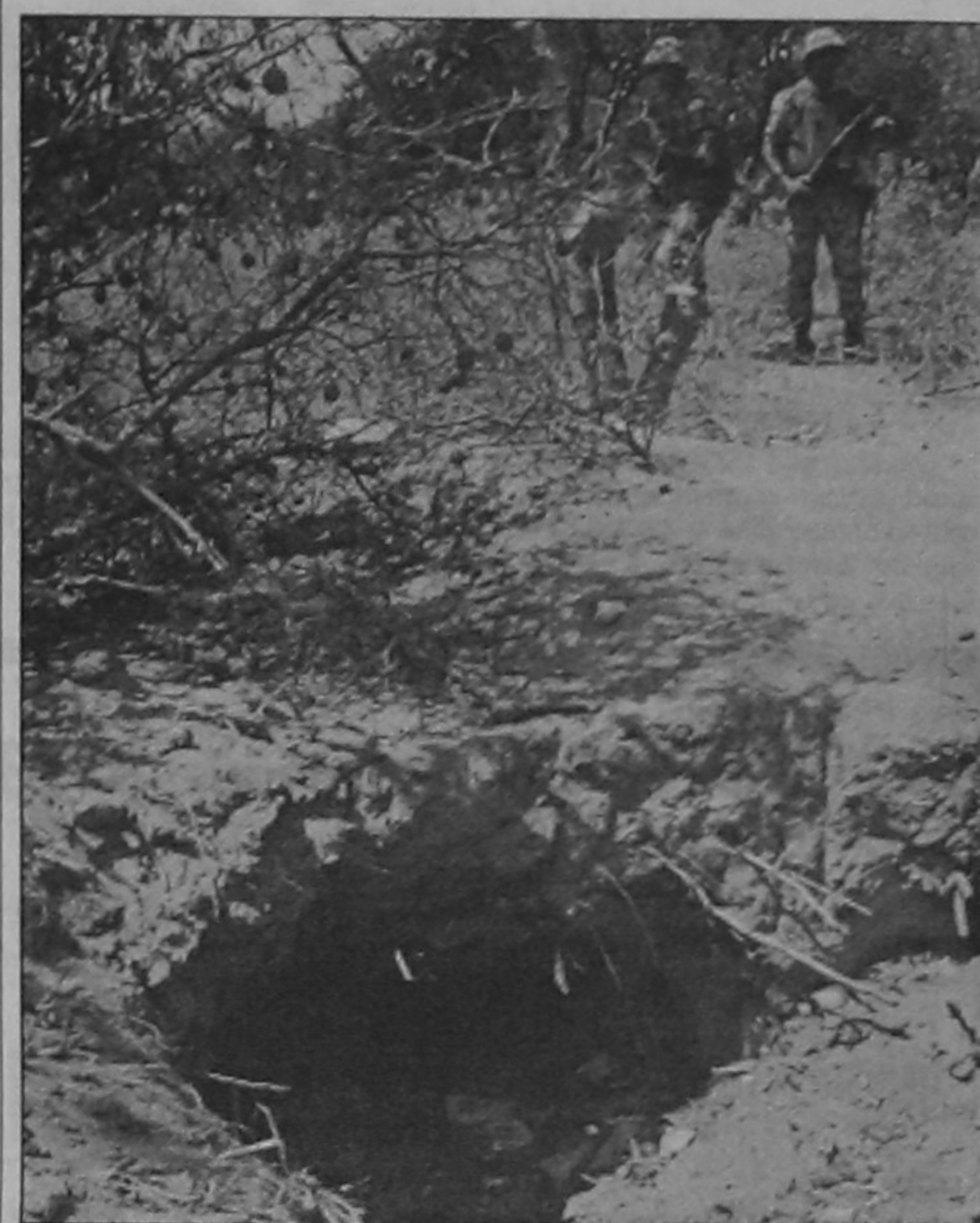
"We continue to find the way to reach an agreement between Israel and the Palestinians," Livni told reporters. "Even in these hectic days we continue to negotiate."

On her way to the region, Rice said that "We continue to have the same goal which is to reach agreement by the end of the year."

In Israel, Rice said progress was being made despite difficulties, and she was "very heartened by the fact that the negotiations are serious and they are intensive."

"In fact I believe that the parties have succeeded in moving their understandings of what needs to be achieved and indeed their positions somewhat closer together over this period of time," Rice said.

The two sides formally relaunched the peace process after a seven-year hiatus at a US-hosted conference last November, with the goal of signing a full peace deal by the time President George W. Bush leaves office in January 2009.



Egyptian border guard stand next to a newly discovered tunnel close the Rafah border crossing with the Palestinian Gaza Strip on August 19 2008. Egyptian police have found a cache of weapons and explosives in the Sinai desert, which they believe was destined for the Gaza Strip, a security official said yesterday. A tip-off led police to the cache where they found two plastic bags filled with 100 kilos of TNT explosives, as well as 15 hand grenades, five mortar rounds and nine anti-tank mines, the official told AFP.

## Opposition slates Mugabe's plans

AFP, Harare

Zimbabwe's opposition said yesterday it will not join any new government with President Robert Mugabe until power-sharing talks are concluded, after the 84-year-old declared he would name his own cabinet.

The main opposition Movement for Democratic Change described Mugabe's intention to form a government regardless of the opposition as "a declaration of war against the people."

Mugabe's move leaves the power-sharing negotiations -- stalled for the past two weeks -- in tatters, and outlines the scale of the task facing mediator Thabo Mbeki, the South African president, to get them back on track.

Mugabe spoke at a lunch Tuesday after the opening of parliament, when he was still apparently rattled by the jeers with which the opposition drowned out his ceremonial opening speech.

"We shall soon be setting up a government. The MDC does not want to come in apparently," the government newspaper, The Herald, quoted him as saying.

The comments drew an angry response from the both factions of the opposition.

"It's very clear that if he announces

the new cabinet it's a declaration of war against the people. You can't just have a cabinet without a mandate," MDC spokesman Nelson Chamisa told AFP.

Chamisa accused Mugabe of trying to "hijack the leadership" of Zimbabwe and said the veteran leader was trying to ride roughshod over his political opponents.

"He should wait for the conclusion of the dialogue together with the MDC, and Mr Tsangirai, on the way forward. Otherwise what he is doing is a recipe for disaster."

Chamisa said the talks remained stalled and appealed to Mbeki and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) which appointed him mediator to urgently intervene as Zimbabwe was "sliding and gliding into anarchy".

Edwin Mushoriwa, spokesman for the smaller MDC faction with whom Mugabe's ZANU-PF party could conceivably form a majority in parliament, said it would not join a Mugabe government.

On Wednesday, police were still holding five MDC deputies in custody following their arrest this week, and a bid by the opposition's number two Tendai Biti to dismiss treason charges brought ahead of the presidential run-off vote in June, was postponed.

## Hillary's speech helps Republicans: Giuliani

AFP, Denver

Former New York mayor Rudolph Giuliani crowed yesterday that Hillary Clinton's showstopping convention speech would help Republicans defeat the Democrats in the White House race.

"I think she gave a very good speech from her point of view and our point of view, but not necessarily for Barack Obama's point of view," he told Fox News.

"She never really answered the key question, is he prepared to be president? Which is the issue she put out there, rather dramatically, during the primaries."

Clinton brought the Democratic convention at Denver to its feet late Tuesday with a powerful speech ordering her supporters to unite behind Obama, who defeated her in the nominating contests.

Her speech sought to end the

party divisions after the bruising primary race, and Obama said afterwards he thought it was an "outstanding" address.

"She gave a great speech last night," agreed Giuliani, who failed in his own bid to carry the Republican crown into the November 4 elections losing to John McCain.

"Why isn't she the vice-presidential candidate. Why isn't she the presidential candidate," he added, once again picking at the Democrat's wounds with many Clinton supporters still distraught after defeat.

He said on Fox and Friends he had been convinced that Obama would pick Clinton as his running mate and "I couldn't understand why he would organize a convention to give the Clintons two nights and then diss Hillary as vice-president."



## নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আর্মড ফোর্সেস মেডিক্যাল কলেজ

ঢাকা সেনানিবাস

১। প্রতিরক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের অধীনস্থ সশস্ত্র বাহিনী কর্তৃক পরিচালিত আর্মড ফোর্সেস মেডিক্যাল কলেজের বিভিন্ন বিভাগে চুক্তিভিত্তিক বেসামরিক লেকচারার নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে জনস্বস্ত্রে বাংলাদেশী পুরুষ ও মহিলা নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

পদের নাম	বেতন	ন্যূনতম শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা
লেকচারার	সর্বসাকুলো বেতন ১২,০০০/- এবং অন্যান্য সুযোগ সুবিধা চুক্তি অনুযায়ী প্রদান করা হবে।	বাংলাদেশ সরকার স্বীকৃত যে কোন মেডিক্যাল কলেজ হতে এমবিবিএস ডিগ্রি, এক বৎসর ইন্টার্নশীপ প্রশিক্ষণ সমাপ্ত এবং বাংলাদেশ মেডিক্যাল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল হতে রেজিস্ট্রেশন প্রাপ্ত হতে হবে। মেডিক্যাল কলেজে শিক্ষকতার অভিজ্ঞতা অতিরিক্ত যোগ্যতা হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে। প্রার্থীর বয়সসীমা সর্বোচ্চ ৩২ বছর এবং শারীরিকভাবে সুস্থ হতে হবে। যোগ্য প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে বয়স শিথিলযোগ্য।

### ২। প্রার্থীর অযোগ্যতাঃ

- (ক) সরকারি চাকুরী হতে শৃংখলাজনিত কারণে বরখাস্তকৃত।
- (খ) কোন ফৌজদারী মামলার আসামী বা আদালত কর্তৃক দণ্ডপ্রাপ্ত।
- ৩। এ ব্যাপারে বিস্তারিত তথ্য অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (০৭৩০-১৪০০ ঘটিকা) এএফএমসি'র জিএসও-২ (প্রশিক্ষণ) এর দপ্তর হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।
- ৪। অগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণকে বিস্তারিত জীবনবৃত্তান্ত (মোবাইল/টেলিফোন নম্বর)সহ আবেদনপত্র আগামী ১৫ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০০৮ তারিখের মধ্যে সোনালী ব্যাংকের যে কোন শাখা হতে ৩০০/- (তিনশত) টাকার অফেরতযোগ্য ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার সোনালী ব্যাংক কর্পোরেট শাখা, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস এর অনুকূলে অধ্যক্ষ, আর্মড ফোর্সেস মেডিক্যাল কলেজ বরাবর সংযুক্ত করে অত্র কলেজের প্রশিক্ষণ শাখায় ডাকযোগে অথবা সরাসরি জমা দিতে হবে।
- ৫। আবেদনপত্রের সাথে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্র অবশ্যই সংযুক্ত করতে হবেঃ
  - (ক) সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি।
  - (খ) ০৩ (তিন) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রসিদ সত্যায়িত ছবি।
  - (গ) ইন্টার্নশীপ সমাপ্তি সনদের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি।
  - (ঘ) বিএমএন্ডডিসি রেজিস্ট্রেশনের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি।

৬। মৌখিক পরীক্ষাঃ প্রার্থীদের শুধুমাত্র মৌখিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণ করা হবে। আগামী ২৩ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০০৮ তারিখ মঙ্গলবার এবং ২৪ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০০৮ তারিখ বুধবার সকাল ০৯০০ ঘটিকায় অত্র কলেজে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ নির্দিষ্ট তারিখে মৌখিক পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত না হলে উক্ত পরীক্ষা পরবর্তী কর্মদিবসে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। পরীক্ষার প্রবেশপত্র ২১ এবং ২২ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০০৮ তারিখে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (০৭৩০-১৪০০ ঘটিকা) অত্র কলেজের প্রশিক্ষণ শাখা হতে সংগ্রহ করতে হবে। প্রবেশপত্রে মৌখিক পরীক্ষার তারিখ এবং সময় উল্লেখ থাকবে।

৭। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার ফলাফলের মেধাক্রমানুসারে বিভিন্ন বিষয়ে নিয়োগ প্রদান করা হবে এবং ভবিষ্যতে পদ খালি হওয়া সাপেক্ষে শূন্য পদে নিয়োগের জন্য প্যানেল তৈরি করা হবে।

৮। চাকুরীর স্থায়িত্বঃ এই নিয়োগ সম্পূর্ণ অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে ০১ (এক) বৎসরের জন্য হবে। পরবর্তীতে কলেজ কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতি সাপেক্ষে চাকুরীর মেয়াদ বৃদ্ধি করা যেতে পারে। সেনাবাহিনী তথা এএফএমসি'র শৃংখলা পরিপন্থী কোন কাজ বা সামরিক বাহিনীর নিরাপত্তা বিঘ্নের কোন কাজে লিপ্ত হলে কোন কারণ প্রদর্শন ব্যতিরেকে তৎক্ষণিকভাবে অস্থায়ী নিয়োগ বাতিল হবে। নিয়োগকৃত চিকিৎসক যেচ্ছায় চাকুরী হতে অব্যাহতি চাইলে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষকে অবশ্যই ০১ (এক) মাস পূর্বে লিখিতভাবে অবহিত করবেন। তবে কোন অবস্থাতেই ০১ (এক) বৎসর পূর্বে চাকুরী হতে অব্যাহতি চাওয়া যাবে না।

৯। নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি এবং এই সংক্রান্ত যে কোন তথ্য/সিদ্ধান্ত কলেজ কর্তৃপক্ষ পরিবর্তনের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।

অধ্যক্ষ

আইএসপিআর/সেনা/০৮/১৫৯৬  
জিডি-৩৯০৭

আর্মড ফোর্সেস মেডিক্যাল কলেজ  
ঢাকা সেনানিবাস