

POINTS-BASED MIGRATION

British team arrives today to examine new system

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary delegation from the home affairs committee of the United Kingdom (UK) is visiting Bangladesh from today to examine the impact of the British government's worldwide plans for a new points-based migration system and the introduction of new sponsorship arrangements.

The Committee is a cross-party body of MPs responsible for examining the policy, expenditure and administration of the Home Office and its associated public bodies.

During their 4-day visit in Bangladesh, members of the Committee will visit Dhaka and Sylhet for consultation with the key stakeholders and the users of the visa system.

They will also call on the advisers for foreign and home affairs.

"It is vital that the government effectively manages migration to and from the UK to meet the demands of our economy and manage pressure on our labour market. We therefore wish to examine the government's plans for simplifying the existing migration routes into this country through the new points-based migration system," said Keith Vaz MP, chairman of the Committee.

The delegation is visiting Bangladesh and India, two of the main source countries of immigration to the UK.

In March 2006, the UK Government published a Command Paper called 'A Points-Based System: Making Migration Work for Britain'. The paper set out the UK Government's intention to introduce an Australian-style points-based system for immigration into the UK, based on objective assessment of 'points' earned by the applicants for their qualifications, previous earnings, competence in English language and ability to support themselves and their dependents.

The new system is also aimed to simplify procedures by consolidating the many complex routes for migration to the UK into just five 'tiers' for those willing to come to work, train and study.

Tier 1 (for highly skilled migrants) of the points-based system was introduced in February 2008; Tier 2 (for skilled migrants) and tier 5 (for temporary workers) will be launched in November.

Tier 4 (for students) is expected to be phased in from spring 2009. There is however no plan currently to open Tier 3 (for low skilled workers), though this will be kept under review.

Asia regional edn summit begins in Dhaka today

METRO DESK

The Asia Regional Higher Education Summit titled 'Higher Education's Responses to Global Challenges' begins in Dhaka today.

Around 130 university presidents and vice-chancellors, senior executives of businesses and foundations, and government officials have assembled for this important regional summit to share strategies and explore opportunities for partnerships between universities, multinational firms and foundations.

The countries taking part in the summit include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, the Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, the United States and Vietnam, says a press release.

The three-day summit will address challenges in food security, women's entrepreneurship, teachers' training and natural disaster management and will help spark new and innovative solutions to address key issues facing the region.

The summit has been sponsored by the US Government through the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and co-hosted by the University of Dhaka and the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.

The summit is a follow-up to Global Higher Education Summit held in Washington, DC recently.

The Washington summit was convened by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings and USAID Administrator and Director of US Foreign Assistance Henrietta Fore.

The objective of the summit was to expand the role and impact of US and foreign higher education institutions on worldwide social and economic development.

6th SAF Friendship Camp begins October 12

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The week-long 6th South Asian Foundation (SAF) Friendship Camp is going to be held at National Scout Training Centre in Gazipur from October 12 to 18, says a press release.

Rover Scouts across the country will participate in the programme.

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed is expected to inaugurate the camp as the chief guest.

President Iajuddin Ahmed will attend the youth parliament session of the programme as the chief guest on October 16.

Ahead of the programme, a press conference will also be held at the national headquarters of Bangladesh Scouts at Kakrail in the city.

City road to be renamed after Shafique Ullah

METRO DESK

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) will unveil the plaque of a road at Uttara sector-4 today renamed after Bir Pratik Mohammad Shafique Ullah Road in memory of valiant freedom fighter Col (ret'd) Md Shafique Ullah, says a press release.

DCC Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka will formally inaugurate the name plaque at a programme at the intersection of Road No 16 and 10 at Uttara in the city.

Col Shafique was the treasurer and member of the board of governors of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT).

Vice Chancellor Prof M Alimullah Miyan, students, members of faculty of IUBAT, colleagues and well-wishers of Shafique will attend the ceremony to pay their respect to the liberation war hero.

Convener of Col (ret'd) Md Shafique Ullah Bir Pratik Memorial Committee Group Capt (ret'd) MS Zoha has requested all concerned to participate in the programme.

NON-GOVT INSTTS Time for drawing salary extended

BSS, Dhaka

Time for drawing salary of September for teachers and employees of non-government educational institutions, including schools, colleges and madrasas, has been extended up to October 16.

The teachers and the employees, who could not draw their salary of August and Eid bonus, will also be able to draw those within the time, an official handout



A long-haul coach makes its way past Shahbagh around 4:00pm yesterday, flouting daytime restrictions for entry to the city.

Kalyan Party to contest for 60 seats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Kalyan Party (BKP) yesterday announced to contest for 60 seats in the upcoming parliamentary election scheduled to be held in December 18.

BKP Chairman Maj Gen (ret'd) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim announced this at a meeting at the party office at New DOHS in the city.

He also announced to contest from Dhaka-5 constituency (Cantonment-Kafrul) in the election.

Ibrahim demanded the government declare the identified corrupt people disqualified for contesting in the election.

Welcoming the polls date, BKP chairman said we want to talk in the parliament in favour of people, adding that people will shun terrorists and corrupt people in the polls.

He also demanded withdrawal of the state of emergency one month ahead of the national polls and reshuffle of the field-level government officials to create an atmosphere favourable for the polls.

BKP Secretary General Abul Kalam Azad and central leader Sadek Ahmed Khan, among others, also took part in the meeting.

Workers Party applies for registration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers Party of Bangladesh (WPB) has applied for registration with the Election Commission (EC).

Party central committee member Kamrul Ahsan submitted requisite documents to the EC secretariat on September 30, said a party press release.

The party also called on other political parties to register according to the Representative of People Order (Amendment) 2008.

It alleged that the demand voiced by BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami for the repeal of the order was not only unreasonable but also an evil attempt to thwart the election.

"Jamaat has made a stand against the order as its religion-based politics and constitution conflict with the order," said the WPB press release.

The countrymen will resist any attempt to foil the parliamentary election scheduled for December 18, it added.

POST OFFICE (AMEND) ORDN APPROVED

Move to bring pvt operators under legal framework

UNB, Dhaka

The Council of Advisers yesterday approved in principle The Post Office (Amendment) Ordinance 2008 to bring private postal operators under legal framework.

A meeting of the Advisory Council with Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed in the chair approved the Ordinance in principle in the light of discussion and suggestions.

However, the council asked the ministry concerned for placing the draft ordinance again at its meeting after vetting by the law ministry.

The Post and Telecommunications Ministry placed the draft Ordinance proposing to amend two sections of the Post Office Act 1898.

The meeting also discussed the draft Dearness Allowance (Constitutional Post) Ordinance 2008 to provide dearness allowance to persons positioned in the constitutional posts.

It asked the law ministry for re-examining the draft ordinance incorporating all constitutional posts and placing again at the Council of Advisers' meeting.

The meeting also discussed a

proposal on re-fixing the value of lands under Housing and Works Ministry and increase the fees and service charges on transfer of lands and flats.

The meeting asked for placing comprehensive proposals by holding joint meeting of Finance, Law, and Housing and Works Ministries.

Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Syed Fahim Munaim briefed news-men about the outcome of the meeting.

Members of the Council of Advisers attended the meeting at the CA's Office. Cabinet Secretary, CA's Press Secretary and Secretaries concerned were present.

'Eliminate discrimination in education sector'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Educationists at a discussion yesterday called on the government to formulate a pro-people education policy to eliminate all kinds of discrimination in the education sector.

They also stressed the need to form a monitoring cell comprising renowned educationists to bring radical reforms to the education system.

Bangladesh Teachers Association organised the discussion at

Rahmatullah Model High School at Lalbagh in the city to mark the World Teachers' Day.

Presided over by Md Abul Bashar Hawlader, president of the association, the meeting was addressed by its Secretary General Md Matiar Rahman, Md Gausul Huq Mollah, Sheikh Anis Hossain, Md Abul Kashem Khan, Md Rezaul Karim, Md Nurul Amin and Md Lutfur Rahman.

The leaders vowed to free the education system from the bureaucratic controls in order to introduce a universal education system.



(From right) Poet Asad Chowdhury, Habibullah Siraji, Hayat Mamud, Rafiq Azad and Rabiul Husain observe a one-minute silence after placing a wreath at the portrait of Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish at a programme at Liberation War Museum in the city yesterday. The museum organised the programme titled 'A Day for Mahmoud Darwish: Worldwide reading in memory of Mahmoud Darwish'.

MILITARY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MIST)

Mirpur Cantonment, Dhaka-1216
Website: www.mist-bd.org

ADMISSION: ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

- Engineering Programs.** BSc in (i) Civil Engineering (ii) Computer Science and Engineering (iii) Electrical, Electronic and Communication Engineering (iv) Mechanical Engineering and (v) Aeronautical Engineering.
- Qualification to Apply**
 - SSC and HSC Examination (or Equivalent).** Science group with GPA 3.50 (without 4th subject) in both the examinations. In HSC examination minimum 'A' minus grade in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry separately.
 - GCE 'O' and GCE 'A' Levels (or Equivalent).** Qualified in minimum 5 subjects in GCE 'O' Level and three subjects (Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry) in 'A' Level obtaining minimum 'C' grades in all subjects.
 - Candidates who have passed HSC/equivalent not before 2007.
- Eligibility for Written Admission Test**
 - Candidates will be short listed based on result of HSC/equivalent examination.
 - All eligible candidates with GCE 'O' and 'A' Levels (or equivalent) background and all candidates against reserved seats.
- Selection Criteria for Admission**
 - Written Admission Test-75% (Mathematics-80, Physics-60, Chemistry-40 and English-20 from syllabus of HSC examination 2008).
 - GPA of HSC/equivalent examination (without 4th subject)-15%.
 - GPA of SSC/equivalent examination (without 4th subject)-10%.
- Required Documents to Submit.** As mentioned in the Prospectus.
- Application Form Collection.** Application form may be collected directly from MIST on cash payment/Pay Order/Bank Draft of Tk 500.00 (Tk five hundred only) in favour of "Civil Students Admission Fund, MIST", Sonali Bank Ltd, Mirpur Cantonment Branch. It may also be obtained by post if a self addressed envelop of 16 inches X 12 inches size bearing postage stamp of Tk 50.00 (Tk fifty only) is sent to MIST along with a Pay Order/Bank Draft of Tk 500.00 (Tk five hundred only).
- Important Dates**
 - Application Form Collection and Deposition.** From 14 October to 13 November 2008 (0800-1400 hours in all working days).
 - Publication of List of Eligible Candidates.** 23 November 2008. The list of eligible candidates to appear Admission Test will be displayed in the MIST notice board and web site (www.mist-bd.org).
 - Admission Test.** At 1000 hours on 30 November 2008 (Sunday).
 - Publication of List of Selected Candidates for Admission.** 06 December 2008. The list of selected candidates for admission to MIST will be notified in the notice board and web site of MIST.

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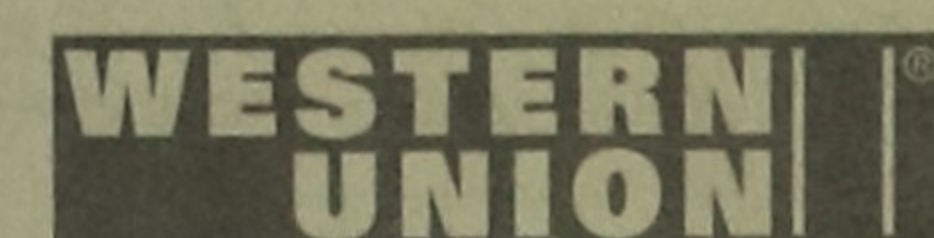
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

We have moved our office to a new location only to serve you better.

Our new office information is:



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