

Call to formulate nat'l chemical safety policy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts at a workshop yesterday called on the government to formulate a national chemical safety policy to control chemical hazards and ensure proper management of chemical wastes.

They also stressed the need to raise awareness among chemical users about the impacts of chemical hazards on human health and the environment.

The users could avoid health and physical risks by adopting proper and absolute methods of chemical management, they said.

10 HC judges sworn in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ten High Court (HC) judges, who were reappointed on Tuesday, were sworn in at the judges' lounge of the Supreme Court yesterday.

Chief Justice (CJ) MM Ruhul Amin administered the oath where all the judges of the Appellate Division and HC Division were present.

The judges are Md Abdus Salam, Md Mamtazuddin Ahmed, Md Shamsul Huda, Faruque Ahmed, Hasan Foez Siddique, Md Abdul Hye, Md Abdur Razzaque, Marzi-ul Huq, Md Nizamul Huq and AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury.

RTI workshop from Mar 28

METRO DESK

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) is going to organise a training workshop on 'Exercising Right to Information (RTI): Civil Society and Citizen's perspective' from March 28 to 30 at CCDB Hope Centre in Savar, says a press release.

Different partner organisations of MJF will take part in the workshop.

MJF has already developed a training module and handbook in order to mainstream the RTI issue into different projects and programmes.

The main objective of the training is to share the draft module and handbook with the partners and finalise this with their valuable input and comments.

Bangladesh Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Foundation (OSHE) organised the workshop on 'Chemical hazards and management at workplace: Problems and challenges in Bangladesh' at the National Press Club in the city.

Presenting the keynote paper, Prof Ahmad Ismail Mustafa suggested using three types of measures to control chemical hazards -- engineering control, administrative control and personal protective equipment.

Poor management and unsafe use of chemicals in various industries are causing harm to workers, children, pregnant women, poor people and other vulnerable groups, he observed.

He also called for amendment to Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006 to include clear description about the use of personal protective equipment in workplaces with chemical hazards.

Delivering the welcome address, OSHE Chairperson Saki Rezwana said, "Chemical hazards and its management should be included in the Bangladesh Labour Rules for which a draft has been made recently."

Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Director M Belayet Hossain, Secretary of Industrial Safety Board of Bangladesh Taibur Rahman and Executive Director of Teladeta Marine Solutions Ltd Md Hafizur Rahman also spoke.

Diarrhoea situation deteriorates

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The city's diarrhoea situation is taking a serious turn as most of the hospitals here yesterday witnessed huge number of diarrhoea patients with serious condition.

A total of 566 diarrhoea patients were admitted at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases and Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) till yesterday evening.

About 64 per cent of the patients were adults while the rest of the patients were children of different ages, said Prof Shahadat Hossain, scientist and head of longer stay unit of ICDDR,B.

He said most of the patients are coming from Mohammadpur, Adabar, Khilgaon, Sabujbagh and Badda and their adjacent areas that get contaminated and stinky water supply from Wasa.

The rising temperature and drinking of contaminated water caused the early diarrhoeal outbreak in the capital, he added.

Besides, a large number of diarrhoea patients from Tongi, Joydevpur, Munshiganj, Savar and Keraniganj have also been admitted to the hospital this year, he said.

It said a total of 1,476 diarrhoea patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country till yesterday.

Around 50 diarrhoea-attacked children were admitted at the Dhaka Shishu Hospital till yesterday evening. Most of them are children aged below one year, sources said.

2 BCL men shot in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists of Tejgaon College unit sustained bullet injuries at the college hostel gate in the city's Tejgaon yesterday as some unidentified criminals opened fire on them.

The injured were identified as Mithun Dhal, joint convener of BCL Tejgaon College unit, and Mehedi Hassan.

They were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

JCD seeks Duta's help to realise demands

DU CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday sought assistance from Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) to realise their six-point demand, including peaceful coexistence at the residential halls.

They placed their demands before Duta at a view exchange meeting at Duta office.

They also submitted a brief description of the cases where JCD men were tortured by Bangladesh Chhatra League since the ninth parliamentary elections.

Duta General Secretary Prof ABM Obaidul Islam told The Daily Star that they listened to the demands of the JCD leaders and assured them that Duta will discuss the issues with the vice chancellor.

'Address issue of injecting drug users with priority'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The issue of injecting drug users (IDU) should be addressed with high priority since the prevalence of HIV in Asia is IDU-driven, Abul Kalam Azad, additional secretary to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, said at a workshop yesterday.

"HIV prevalence is also high among the IDU population in our country especially in the capital and it is spreading outside the city day by day," he also said adding that the implementation of IDU intervention is a must.

Care Bangladesh organised the workshop on 'National harm reduction strategy for injecting drug use and HIV, progress, opportunity and challenges' at the auditorium of Brac Centre Inn in the city.

Dr Ishaque Khan, line director (NASP and SBTP) of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), stressed mutual support, negotiation and collabora-

tive initiatives to overcome the challenges regarding smooth implementation of IDU intervention.

He also underscored the need for establishing self help group and alliances among the public, utilisation of limited resources and involvement of law enforcement agencies to make it a success.

Shamsul Alam, deputy secretary of Narcotics Control Department, stressed the need for introducing HIV/AIDS prevention committee at upazila and union level.

Local religious and political leaders have to be included in the committees to create awareness among the people to prevent HIV, he said.

He suggested setting up treatment centres for drug addicts in the central jails across the country for better treatment of the addicted detainees.

He also underscored the need for making short films on the issue and their screening for creating awareness among the mass people.

BSMMU to be made centre of excellence

Says Prof Pran Gopal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Pran Gopal Dutt, the newly appointed vice chancellor of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), yesterday pledged to make the institute a centre of excellence by enhancing the standard of its services and professionalism of doctors and staffs.

With the approval of the BSMMU syndicate, the authorities would introduce the evening shift of outdoor patient department and take steps to gradually stop private practice by the doctors, he said at a press conference on the first day of his joining the new assignment.

"We will do something exceptional unlike in the previous 10 years. We will work together to improve medical services and researches," he said.

Improving the standard of medical services, research and training would get the highest priority from now on, Prof Pran Gopal said and sought cooperation of all in updating various departments.

On the probe committee report on corruption at the university, the new VC said he would discuss the issue in the syndicate and take action accordingly.



Army men arrange supply of water for local residents in Moghbazar Wireless area yesterday as they were facing acute water crisis.

PHOTO: STAR



Dr Saw Huat Seong, cardiothoracic surgeon, Dr EC Tan, urologist, and Dr Lye Wai Choong, nephrologist, of Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore gave a talk on 'Heart, prostate & kidney diseases' at a seminar organised by Gulshan Club and Parkway Health Singapore, the owning company of Mount Elizabeth, Gleneagles and East Shore Hospital, in the city recently. Steven Mok, country manager, Parkway Health; Zahid Khan, director, Dhaka Liaison Office, Parkway Health; Meno Liew, marketing manager, Parkway Health; and M Faizul Islam Selim, president, Gulshan Club Limited, were present at the seminar.

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Civil Aviation authority of Bangladesh
ATS & Aerodrome Division
HQ, Kurmitola, Dhaka

Revised Date for Pre-bid Meeting
Sub: Security Scanning of Export Cargo at Zia International Airport Cargo Village, Dhaka.

Due to unavoidable circumstances, the scheduled date 25.03.09, time 11-00am for pre-bid meeting on the above tender has been revised as follows:

(1) Date : 29.03.09.
(2) Time : 14-30hrs.
(3) Venue : Conference Room, CAAB HQ, Dhaka.

Representatives (preferably 1 from each tender schedule buyer) are requested to attend in the meeting as per the revised schedule.

Thanking You,
CAAB/PR-3/2009/301
Date: 25-3-2009
GD-1845

Director (ATS & Aerodrome)
CAAB, HQ, Kurmitola, Dhaka

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