

Deadline for depositing Hajj money extended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The deadline for depositing money for performing Hajj under ballottee and non-ballottee arrangement has been extended up to July 22, said an official handout.

The deadline has been extended to facilitate the international passport collection process of the pilgrims.

Navy chief to visit India

UNB, Dhaka

Navy Chief Rear Admiral Zahiruddin Ahmed goes to India on July 22 for a weeklong visit at the invitation of his Indian counterpart.

The Chief of the Naval Staff called on President M Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban yesterday and apprised him of the forthcoming India tour.

Retirement age for agri researchers to be relaxed

Says food minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will relax the retirement age for scientists and researchers as part of its plan to strengthen research activities in the agriculture sector, Food and Disaster Management Minister Abdur Razzaque said yesterday.

"It takes seven to eight years to complete a research on agricultural activities. A research initiative can be meaningless if the researcher concerned retires before completing it," he said.

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on 'Future of agriculture education and research' organised by Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University on its campus in the city on the occasion of its 8th founding anniversary.

The minister said the scientists and researchers capable of continuing their work even after their retirement age would be allowed to continue research activities under special arrangement.

At present, the retirement age for the government officials is 57.

The minister also stressed the need to give priority to the agriculture sector to make the national economy more dynamic.

"Some 150 crore people across the world go to bed without food every day.

Millions of people in the country also do the same," he said.

The production of food must be raised to ensure food security of all, he added.

Prof Dr Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan presented a keynote paper at the seminar chaired by Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Shah-e-Alam.

Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal MP, the university's first vice chancellor Prof Shadat Ulla, Krishibid Institution Secretary General AFM Bahauddin Nasim and Prof Dr Nurul Islam also spoke.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Prof Abu Nasser Muhammad Abdus Zaher, chairman, Board of Directors of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited, distributes tree plants as the chief guest on the premises of Savar Model College yesterday on the occasion of 'Tree Plantation Programme 2009' under rural development scheme of the bank.

KAFIL UDDIN MURDER

4 to die, 12 get life

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Naganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday sentenced four people to death and 12 others to life imprisonment for killing Awami League leader Haji Kafil Uddin.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Md Jalal Uddin handed down the death sentence to Iqbal Hossain, Zakir Hossain, Joyanal and Zaman. And the lifers are Motaleb, Jasim, Tofazzal Hossain,

Ismail, Haji Shamsul Haque, Tayab Ali, Haji Malek, Kabir Hossain, Shamsul Alam, Masum, Oli and Siraj.

The lifers were also fined Tk 20,000 each. If they fail to pay, they will have to serve one more year in jail.

According to the prosecution, the convicts gunned down Kafil Uddin, a ward AL leader in Siddhirganj, on December 16 in 2003 over previous enmity and establishment of supremacy in the area.

SSC, HSC EXAMS RESULTS

New website soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A separate website will be launched soon to publish the results of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations.

The web address is www.educationboardresults.gov.bd.

The result of this year's HSC examinations will be sent to different educational institutions experimentally

through e-mails.

The decision was taken at a meeting presided over by Education Secretary Syed Ataur Rahman at the education ministry yesterday.

The meeting also said that application for rechecking the exam papers would be received through online or short message service (SMS).

To this end, the applicant will have to apply within seven days after the result is published.

Govt to form new body to monitor NGO activities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is going to form a new organisation comprising all regulatory bodies, including those who provide registrations to different non-government organisations (NGOs), to monitor their activities and ensure accountability.

Social Welfare Secretary Quamrun Nessa Khanam said this in an interview with private television station Channel i yesterday.

"It is really tough for a single department to monitor a large number of NGOs and their vast activities. We had given the registration to Green Crescent organisation of Bhola as a orphanage, but we've recently found that it was an arsenal," she said.

Before starting to work in its local area, any NGO has to take permission from the deputy commissioner's office, the secretary said, adding: "We need help from the home ministry to get the investigation report whether they are doing as per their commitment."

I'm being deprived of duties as gen secy: Jalil

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil yesterday said he is being deprived of his duties as the party general secretary with regard to the upcoming council of the party on July 24.

"I'm the existing general secretary of the party. I think I should be involved in the process of holding the council. Otherwise, it will be unfortunate," Jalil told Channel i, a private satellite TV channel.

Referring to his much-talked-about letter during the caretaker government, Jalil said it was a conspiracy against him.

"Only a letter could not ruin all achievements in my life," he said. "What wrong did I do? I stood by her at that time."

According to the AL constitution, the general secretary would convene the party council on receiving the order or the approval from the party chief and also place a report of the organisation at the council.

But AL spokesperson and joint general secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam is preparing the organisational report and carrying out other council-related activities, party sources said.



Bangladesh Standard Testing Institute (BSTI) and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in a joint drive yesterday seized substandard biscuits and bread from New Bhai Bhai Bread and Biscuit at North Badda in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Govt to withdraw 69 more cases against AL leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday decided to withdraw 69 more 'politically motivated' cases against Awami League leaders filed during the tenures of the four-party alliance and the caretaker governments.

Among the cases, 56 were filed under the penal code and the rest 13 under the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, State Minister for Law Quamrul Islam told reporters after a meeting at the secretariat.

Of the cases to be withdrawn, four are against former state minister for power and energy Rafiqul Islam, one each against AL leaders Tofail Ahmed, Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir and Akhtaruzzaman Babu, three against Mokbul Hossain and two against the daily Janakantha Editor Atiqullah Khan Masud, among others.

With the latest figure the government recommended for withdrawal of 243 cases including 12 against Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Quamrul said the government had received recommendations for 2,584 cases until yesterday. Of them 209 cases were placed at yesterday's meeting.

The state minister said 92 cases would not be reviewed and sent back while 48 would be placed at the next meeting for further review.

Replying to a query whether they would consider withdrawal of cases against BNP leaders, Quamrul said

they did not get any recommendation to withdraw the cases filed against BNP leaders.

He said the public prosecutor (PP) was asked to send the 'politically motivated' cases against opposition leaders.

He said false cases will be withdrawn without taking into consideration the political identity of the persons concerned.

BNP to hold seminar on Tipaimukh Dam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP, main opposition in parliament, will hold a seminar on the controversial Indian project to build a dam at Tipaimukh on the cross-border river Barak in a bid to create public opinion against the project.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia will attend the seminar as chief guest at a city hotel on Saturday where a group of water experts will make a presentation on the proposed dam.

"We have collected information on Tipaimukh dam from different sources including web sites that would be disclosed in the seminar to make people conscious," said BNP Vice President Maj (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed.

'HORLICKS FUTURE FORCE' CONTEST

Nine remain in the race

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nine competitors remain in the race to clinch the most coveted title in the 'Horlicks Future Force' competition in the camp round in Gazipur as 21 children were excluded from the contest.

The camp round of the competition, the first-ever TV reality show on children in the country, is set to be completed on July 22 with selection of five children for the gala round to be held in the city.

The much-talked-about programme is being organised with a view to providing children with a platform to prove that they are 'Taller, Stronger and Smarter'.

Hasan Arifur Reza Russell, activation in-charge of Grey Advertising, who is also in charge of organising the camp, said: "Our future force would be those who would be both physically and mentally fit to lead the country."

"The competition is gaining momentum day by day as we are receiving the response. The participants are far stronger and sharper than the beginning," he added.

The final three selected children will form the 'Horlicks future force' and will be awarded with a scholarship of Tk five lakhs each.

The competition, spending budget around Tk two crore, was launched on June 14 with 11,710 children aged between 10 and 14 getting registered.

At first, a total of 200 children were selected through physical and mental competitions. After the stiff contests, only 30, including 11 girls, were selected for the camp round.

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ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা	অভিজ্ঞতা
১।	কনসালট্যান্ট (মেডিসিন) (ইবনে সিনা হাসপাতাল, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকার জন্য)	এফ.সি.পি.এস/এম.ডি	অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্নদের অগ্রাধিকার। শর্ত সাপেক্ষে সকাল ও বিকাল চেষ্টার করার সুযোগ প্রদান করা হবে।
২।	মেট্রন	বি.এস.সি ইন নার্সিং	ন্যূনতম ১০০ বেড হাসপাতালে ন্যূনতম ৩ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা। যোগ্যতাসম্পন্নদের বিদেশ থেকে প্রশিক্ষণ করিয়ে আনা হবে।
৩।	এসিস্ট্যান্ট ম্যানেজার হাউজ কিপিং	স্নাতকোত্তর/সমমান।	হাউজ কিপিং এ বিশেষ প্রশিক্ষণপ্রাপ্ত। হাউজ কিপিং-এ ন্যূনতম ২ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা।
৪।	ফায়ার অফিসার	বি.এ/সমমান	ফায়ার সার্ভিস এন্ড সিভিল ডিফেন্স এর স্টেশন অফিসার পদে ন্যূনতম ১০ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা।
৫।	সিকিউরিটি অফিসার	স্নাতক/সমমান	সেনাবাহিনী / বিডিআর এর অবসর প্রাপ্ত জুনিয়র কমিশন্ড অফিসার অথবা সমপদমর্যাদার অবসরপ্রাপ্ত পুলিশ অফিসার। বহুতল ভবনে নিরাপত্তার দায়িত্ব পালনে অভিজ্ঞদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।
৬।	ফায়ার ম্যান	এইচ.এস.সি/সমমান	ফায়ার সার্ভিস এন্ড সিভিল ডিফেন্স এর লিডার সমপদে ন্যূনতম ১০ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা

শর্তাবলী : ১। অগ্রাহ্য প্রার্থীদের পূর্ণ জীবনবৃত্তান্ত, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতার সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি, পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ২ কপি ছবি ও ইসলামী ব্যাংক বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর যে কোন শাখা থেকে ইসলামী ব্যাংক ধানমন্ডি শাখা, ঢাকা বরাবর "ইবনে সিনা ট্রাস্ট" এর অনুকূলে ১নং পদের জন্য ১০০/- টাকা এবং ২-৬নং পদের জন্য ৫০/- টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার (অফেরতযোগ্য) সহ খামের উপর পদের নাম উল্লেখপূর্বক আবেদনপত্র আগামী ৩০.০৭.০৯ইং তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্ন ঠিকানায় পাঠানোর জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

২। আলোচনা সাপেক্ষে আকর্ষণীয় বেতনসহ ইবনে সিনা ট্রাস্টের বিধি মোতাবেক অন্যান্য সুবিধা প্রদান করা হবে।

৩। কেবলমাত্র বাছাইকৃত প্রার্থীদেরকে সাক্ষাৎকারের জন্য ডাকা হবে।

৪। ট্রাস্ট কর্তৃপক্ষ বিজ্ঞপ্তির যে কোন শর্ত বাতিল বা শিথিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

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