

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

Recruitment stuck in graft

Over 20,000 recommendations for 6,000 posts of health assistant; aspirants claim to have paid up to Tk 4 lakh to grassroots AL leaders

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Recruitment of more than 6,000 health assistants has been stalled for the last two months due to allegations of massive corruption in the recruitment process.

The shortage of health assistants is badly hindering primary health care services.

Officials from the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) admitted that the civil surgeon's office and even the union, upazila

and district level Awami League leaders accepted bribes from candidates.

A significant number of candidates who spoke to The Daily Star on condition of anonymity admitted they paid up to Tk 4 lakh to union parishad chairmen.

A candidate said he passed the written test but the upazila parishad chairman demanded bribe from him and two others who hailed from the same area of a southern district.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4



HELLO MAYOR
...
IS THIS OUR FOOTPATH?

Local Awami League leaders have made this thatched house to use as party office right on the footpath adjacent to Telegraph and Telephone Board headquarters at Phulbaria in the city. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

Commentary

For God's sake why...?

How can 'renaming' be a priority for any govt?

MAHFUZ ANAM

People of Bangladesh gave Sheikh Hasina the best gift possible in a democracy--a massive electoral victory of four-fifths majority in parliament. The young voters became enthused hearing of her "Digital Bangladesh". The professionals, civil society and the intellectual community in general suddenly found something to hope for when the Awami League chief proposed a "Politics of Change" (Din

Badaler Rajniti). All this resulted in one of the biggest electoral victories, in December 2008, for any political party in recent history. Even after a year of her being in power, Sheikh Hasina was able to retain much of her support as was revealed by our recent opinion poll.

But just as her electoral victory was grand, her decision to change Zia International Airport's name and remove the former President's name from most public buildings was small, mean and

vindictive. Yes, we recall how Khaleda Zia's government changed the name of Bangabandhu Bridge (renamed Jamuna Bridge), Bangabandhu Conference Centre (renamed Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre) and even tried to do the same with Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University till better sense prevailed. We also remember that after the assassination of Bangabandhu in August 1975 till the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

RU VIOLENCE Rajshahi city Jamaat GS among 14 held

STAR REPORT

Rajshahi city unit Jamaat-e-Islami general secretary was arrested yesterday in connection with Rajshahi University violence on February 9 while its detained assistant general secretary was placed on a five-day remand.

Rajshahi police also arrested seven Shibir activists while six more Jamaat-Shibir leaders and activists were arrested at the capital and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Unruly students to be listed

DMP asks for info about troublemakers from colleges, universities in Dhaka

MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

Dhaka Metropolitan Police is going to draw up a list of troublesome college and university students of its eight crime zones.

DMP Commissioner AKM Shahidul Hoque in a letter on February 16 asked deputy commissioners (DCs) of all the eight crime zones to prepare the lists of such students and send them to the DMP office within three days.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

RELIGION-BASED POLITICS AL, allies to campaign for a ban

HASAN JAHIID TUSHER

Ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance and its different associated organisations are planning to launch a massive campaign demanding a ban on religion-based politics in the country.

Dhaka City unit 14-party will hold a series of meetings in all 15 constituencies in the capital soon to create public awareness, especially against the theocratic politics of

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Grassroots want JCD free from corrupt, Shibir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Grassroots-level leaders of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal yesterday urged BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to make the organisation free from the corrupt, non-students and Chhatra Shibir men.

They, at the extended meeting of Chhatra Dal, demanded reconstituting the organisation with regular and dedicated students dissolving all expired committees. They also demanded Chhatra Dal committees be freed from the influence of BNP leaders.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

MACHINE-READABLE PASSPORT, VISA Stopgap measures to meet April 1 deadline

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is desperately looking for a temporary measure to start producing machine-readable passports and machine-readable visas from April 1, deadline set by the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

However, the temporary measure, whatever it may be, would deal with urgently-needed passports only.

Officials of the home ministry, the depart-

ment of immigration and passport and Malaysia-based IRIS Corporation Berhad are now meeting regularly and discussing temporary measures to be taken to meet the deadline.

"We will soon find a way to go for production of machine readable passports [MRPs] on April 1 to protect the country's reputation and its citizens from hassles during international travels," Project Director Brig Md Refayet Ullah told The Daily Star.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

Massive plan on roads, bridges unveiled in JS

8 projects to expand road network; 4-lane second Dhaka-Ctg highway; Dhaka bypass reconstruction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in parliament yesterday rolled out her government's massive plans for construction of bridges, roads and railway lines to have an effective and sustainable communication network.

She said the government has approved a 20-year Road Master Plan and taken steps to attract investment in this sector.

Preparation for formulation of a coordinated transport policy is at the final stage, she said in a scripted reply to BNP lawmaker Harunur Rashid's query.

"Since assumption of office on January 6, 2009, the

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

RID'S TOXIC PARACETAMOL Cop faces music over inaction

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The drug court will decide over the fate of the officer-in-charge of Brahmanbaria Sadar Police Station, as he did not submit any report on execution of the arrest warrant against three absconding accused of Rid Pharma Ltd even six months after the case was filed.

The drug court fixed today for giving order against the police officer after the special public prosecutor yesterday appealed to the court to take stringent action against the officer-in-charge.

Special Public Prosecutor Mahmud Hossain Jahangir in his

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

US BUSINESS IN BANGLADESH

Come Visit **US Trade Show 2010**

a wide range of AMERICAN Products and Services on Display

February 18 19 20 2010

10 am to 8 pm Open for all

Dhaka Sheraton Hotel

Entry fee Tk 20.00 (Free Entrance for Students)

Cosponsored by:
American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh
The US Embassy in Bangladesh

Courtesy:
RAHIMAFROOZ Independent Representative of Bell Helicopter
BEI Helicopter A Textron Company

US TRADE SHOW 2010

Announcement

M. A. Hashem
Elected Chairman of UCB
February 16, 2010

Mr. M. A. Hashem, Sponsor Director of United Commercial Bank Ltd. and Chairman of Partex Group was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank. This was unanimously decided in the 294th Board Meeting of the Bank held on 16 February 2010. He is one of the key Sponsor Directors of UCB.

Mr. Hashem, son of Late Al-Haj Abdul Aziz, was born in a respectable Muslim family of Wasaapur, Begumganj in the district of Noakhali. He was a former Member of Parliament.

A reputed Industrialist and philanthropist, Mr. Hashem is actively associated with many educational and socio-cultural organizations of the country. He is a Director of Janata Insurance Co. Ltd. He is also the founder member of North South University, Founder of M.A. Hashem Diabetic Hospital Chowmuhani, M. A. Hashem University College, Kazirhat, Begumganj and Al-Haz Abdul Aziz Lillah boarding & orphanage at Chowmuhani, Noakhali. He has been patronizing a number of social, cultural, charitable & sporting organizations of the country.

ভাষা আন্দোলনের সকল সংগঠন-সংগঠক,
সৈনিক ও অমর শহীদের প্রতি আমাদের
গভীর শ্রদ্ধাঞ্জলি

আশিয়ান সিটি

আপনার অভিজাত ঠিকানা

কম্পোজিট অফিস ইন্ডিয়ান প্রাইভেট লিমিটেড (৫ম-৭ম তলা), ৪০/১ নর্থ এডিলিট, তলশান-২, ঢাকা-১১১২
ফোন: ৮৮৩২৮৫২-৫ ৮৮৩২২০৪, ৮৮৩২২০৭, ৮৮৩২২৬৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৪৫৬
০১৭১০৪২০৭৩৪, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৩৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৩৬, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৩৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৩৮, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৩৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪০
০১৭১০৪২০৭৪১, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪২, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪৩, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪৪, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪৬
০১৭১০৪২০৭৪৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪৮, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৪৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫০, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫১, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫২
০১৭১০৪২০৭৫৩, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫৪, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫৬, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৫৮
০১৭১০৪২০৭৫৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬০, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬১, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬২, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬৩, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬৪
০১৭১০৪২০৭৬৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬৬, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬৮, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৬৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭০
০১৭১০৪২০৭৭১, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭২, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭৩, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭৪, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭৬
০১৭১০৪২০৭৭৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭৮, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৭৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮০, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮১, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮২
০১৭১০৪২০৭৮৩, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮৪, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮৬, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৮৮
০১৭১০৪২০৭৮৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯০, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯১, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯২, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯৩, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯৪
০১৭১০৪২০৭৯৫, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯৬, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯৮, ০১৭১০৪২০৭৯৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৮০০

সাইট অফিস ফোন: ৮৮৩২৮৫২, ০১৭১০৪২০৪৫৬, ০১৭১০৪২০৪৫৭, ০১৭১০৪২০৪৫৮, ০১৭১০৪২০৪৫৯, ০১৭১০৪২০৪৬০

www.ashiyancity.com