

# 'Form labour courts at dists'

## 265 die at workplaces in 2009

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Labour rights activists yesterday demanded formation of labour courts at district level to increase workers' access to justice.

At present, there are only seven labour courts in the country -- three in Dhaka, two in Chittagong and one each in Rajshahi and Khulna, they said at a seminar.

They also stressed the need to amend Bangladesh Labour Act 2006 in line with ILO conventions to ensure protection of workers from unacceptable risks of death and injuries at workplaces.

The Safety and Rights, an NGO, in collaboration with Manusher Jonno Foundation organised the seminar on 'Legal reform to prevent workplace death and injury' at the National Press Club in the city.

Sekender Ali Mina, programme director of Safety and Rights, presented a special report on workplace injury and death.

He said about 265 labourers died at

workplaces in 2009. About 35 percent of them died in construction industry, 32 percent in manufacturing industry and 39 percent were electrocuted.

About 91 percent of the victims were male labourers aged between 21 and 30 and about 20 percent of deaths occurred in Dhaka district.

The speakers urged the government to include detailed health and safety obligations in The Bangladesh Labour Act (BLA) 2006 so that every worker are entitled to compensation.

The provisions should also include training and supervision, safe system of work, risk assessment, personal protective equipment, avoidance of fire and medical surveillance, they said.

The speakers recommended allowing NGOs to initiate criminal proceedings in relation to the violations of Labour Act 2006.

At present, only government inspectors, trade unions and workers can initiate such action. However, since the enactment

of Labour Act 2006, very few prosecutions relating to safety and health have been taken to court, they said.

Minister for Labour and Employment Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said that amendment of Bangladesh Labour Act 2006 is on the cards and special provisions for child workers engaged in hazardous occupations and other workers in informal sectors will be included in the Act.

Labour policy will also be formulated soon, he added.

He also said conflicts between the employers and workers are a major barrier to ensuring the rights of workers.

Rokia Afzal Rahman, president of Bangladesh Employers' Federation, Md Israfil Alam MP, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on Labour and Employment, Dr Wajedul Islam Khan, general secretary of Bangladesh Trade Union Kendra, and Khushi Kabir, chairperson of Safety and Rights, also spoke at the seminar.



Minister for Labour and Employment Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain speaks at a seminar at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. On his right are Rokia Afzal Rahman and Dr Wajedul Islam Khan and on his left is Khushi Kabir.

# CASE AGAINST KHALEDA HC extends stay order for another year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High (HC) yesterday further extended for a year its order that stayed the proceedings against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in Barapukuria coalmine corruption case.

Upon an extension prayer moved by Nasima Khatun, a lawyer for Khaleda, the HC bench of Justice MA Wahhab Miah and Justice Md Abdu Razzaque passed the order.

On October 16 in 2008, The HC first stayed for three months the proceedings against Khaleda in the case filed by the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) and extended its order for a year on April 27 last year.

Khaleda's counsel Barrister Mahbubuddin Khokon yesterday told The Daily Star that Khaleda Zia is now in bail in the case.

# Rabindra Bharati to honour Selina Hossain

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata will confer honorary D Lit degree on eminent writer Selina Hossain at a convocation on May 8 in recognition of her contribution to Bangla literature.

The convocation will be held on the university campus at Jorasanko in Kolkata.

Selina Hossain's writings are included in the syllabus of a number of Indian universities, including Rabindra Bharati, Jadavpore, Burdwan and Guwahati universities.

The writer will also be present as the chief guest at the Ananda Puroskar presentation ceremony in Kolkata later this month.

"It's an honour for me to receive the D Lit degree from Rabindra Bharati University and to be the chief guest at prestigious Ananda Puroskar presentation function," the writer told this correspondent over phone from her Shyamoli residence in Dhaka yesterday.

# 'Use a UK Vote' launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A campaign called 'Use a UK Vote' was launched in the country yesterday to influence the candidates in the general election of the United Kingdom scheduled for May 6.

Give Your Vote - UK and the Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (equitybd) jointly launched the campaign at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Union auditorium.

The campaign aims to persuade the UK politicians to change their policies that affect the Bangladesh people with regard to different issues like climate change, migration, and trade, said the organisers.

Mostafa Kamal Akanda of equitybd, Clemmie James of 'Give Your Vote - UK' and Atiqul Chowdhury of 'Use a UK Vote' were present at the press conference.

Similar campaign was also launched in Afghanistan and Ghana.

'Use a UK Vote' is a campaign for a more democratic world that offers Bangladeshis a chance to vote in the UK elections.

They will use votes donated by British citizens to decide which one of the UK's three major political parties - if any - get their support.

UK participants will cast their votes on behalf of individuals in the countries of Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Ghana in an act of solidarity and protest.

Over the next three weeks Bangladeshis will be able to pose questions to UK political candidates via the website -- www.useaukvote.org. Depending on the answers from the politicians, they will decide who to vote for.

# Obituary

METRO DESK



Nowshin Nahar Chowdhury, a student of class-VI of Maple Leaf International School and only daughter of Hedayetullah Chowdhury, passed away at a city hospital on April 7 at the age of 12, says a press release.

Maple Leaf International School has expressed shock at her death.

# Prof Fazlul Halim's anniversary of death today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 14th death anniversary of former Dhaka University vice-chancellor Prof Dr Fazlul Halim Chowdhury, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at his village home in Kunjashreepur under Choudhagram in Comilla after Juma prayers.

Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the milad.

# Dr Shamsuddin Ahmed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

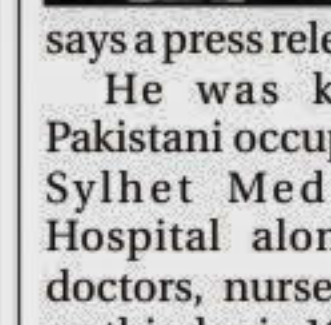


Today is the 39th death anniversary of martyred intellectual Prof Dr Shamsuddin Ahmed, says a press release.

He was killed by the Pakistani occupation forces at Sylhet Medical College Hospital along with other doctors, nurses and relatives on this day in 1971.

# M Atiqur Rahman

METRO DESK



Today is the 24th death anniversary of M Atiqur Rahman, former deputy director of Bangladesh Water Development Board, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at Baitut Tawab Jame Masjid Road No. 7/A, West Dhanmondi in the city after Juma prayers today.

# Mir Noor Uddin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the second death anniversary of Mir Noor Uddin, former deputy secretary of Dhaka Education Board and senior vice-president of Kishoreganj Samity, Dhaka, says a press release.

On the occasion, Qurankhwani and milad mahfil will be held at his residence at Hazratnagar in Kishoreganj after Asr prayers.

# Chehlum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Chehlum of Md Fazlur Rahman, father of Md Majibur Rahman, in charge of Entertainment Page of the Dainik Janata, will be held at his residence at House # 74, Jalkuri Uttarpara at Shiddhirganj in the city after Juma prayers today, says a press release.

# Strong local govt a must for sustainable democracy

## Speakers say at book launching ceremony

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Strong local government system and the people's empowerment should be ensured for sustainable democracy and development, speakers at a book launching ceremony said yesterday.

They also said the lawmakers should have a role to play in preparing the national budget.

The launching ceremony of the book titled 'Local Government and Political Reforms: Keys to Poverty Reduction' by Dr Badiul Alam Majumder, secretary of Shujan (Citizens for Good Governance), was held at the Jatiya Press Club.

Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain said the empowerment of people at grassroots level is a century-old dream of the nation. Empowering the people will strengthen our

democracy, he added.

Eminent economist Prof Muzaffer Ahmad said it would be possible to ensure development of the country and reduce poverty if grassroots people become the source of all power.

Dr Akbar Ali Khan, former adviser to a caretaker government, said the country doesn't have a strong local government system. A strong system is a must for real empowerment of the people.

Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui presided over the book launching ceremony.

The book is a compilation of columns and essays written by Badiul Alam Majumder.

It contains eight chapters on various issues including local government, constitutional provisions, challenges to create a system of true local democracy, electoral system, parliament and the role of civil society.

# Danish Minister Pind arrives tomorrow

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Danish Minister for Development Cooperation Soren Pind will arrive here tomorrow on a four-day official visit to Bangladesh.

Pind will open a programme of the Danish business delegation on 'Energy and clean technology' on Sunday together with the minister for commerce and the energy adviser to the prime minister and attend the inaugural session of a conference on 'Energy for growth' organised by ICC Bangladesh on April 13, says a press release.

Besides, a delegation of 12 Danish companies will arrive here today on a 5-day visit to explore opportunities for business cooperation with Bangladeshi companies in the energy and environment sectors.

# Listed criminal found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A listed criminal was found dead in Gulshan Lake at Badda in the city early yesterday.

The dead was identified as Faruq Hossain, 22, of Link Road in Madhya Badda.

Badda police station officer-in-charge Kazi Wazed Ali said Faruq was wanted in different cases.

"He might have been killed

# Shawkat asked to appear before trial courts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed BNP chairperson's adviser Shawkat Mahmud to surrender before the trial courts within eight weeks in connection with three defamation cases filed against him in Dhaka and Khulna.

The court also asked the trial courts to consider bail prayers of Shawkat, also president of National Press Club, on his surrender and asked the government not to harass or arrest him within the eight weeks period in the cases.

The HC bench of Justice MA Wahhab Miah and Justice Md Abdur Razzaque passed the orders after hearing three separate bail petitions by Shawkat.

# Weather

UNB, Dhaka

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in the next 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Mild to moderate heat wave sweeping over Khulna and Barisal divisions and the regions of Dhaka, Madaripur, Rangamati, Srimongal, Rajshahi and Ishwardi may continue.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:18pm today and rises at 5:42am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 39.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 23.5 degrees Celsius at Hatiya.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	37.0	26.6	73	50
Chittagong	32.6	25.6	81	82
Rajshahi	39.8	26.7	76	60
37.5	25.5	73	43	
Khulna	37.2	25.2	83	65
Sylhet	35.0	23.9	60	60
Cox's Bazar	34.0	25.0	73	79

# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ICDDR,B invites applications from suitable candidates for the position of **Assistant Engineer, Electrical with the Electrical & Telecommunication Engineering Unit of Infrastructure Services** under the Executive Director's Division. The appointment will be made on a fixed-term basis for 2 years, which may be extended for further period depending on satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

**Duty Station** - Matlab, Chandpur

**Salary** - Annual Tk.309,700/- inclusive of house rent and conveyance allowances with other admissible benefits.

**Benefits/facilities** -14.8% retirement fund contribution by the Centre, Children allowance @Tk.1,420/- per child per month, medical facilities for dependent spouse and children, free group life insurance, and subsidized canteen.

For detailed job profile and requirements, please visit our website: [www.icddr.org](http://www.icddr.org). Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit an online application by 17 April, 2010.

Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview.

# ICDDR,B

ICDDR,B invites applications from suitable candidates for the position of **Assistant Engineer, Electrical with the Electrical & Telecommunication Engineering Unit of Infrastructure Services** under the Executive Director's Division. The appointment will be made on a fixed-term basis for 2 years, which may be extended for further period depending on satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

**Duty Station** - Matlab, Chandpur

**Salary** - Annual Tk.309,700/- inclusive of house rent and conveyance allowances with other admissible benefits.

**Benefits/facilities** -14.8% retirement fund contribution by the Centre, Children allowance @Tk.1,420/- per child per month, medical facilities for dependent spouse and children, free group life insurance, and subsidized canteen.

For detailed job profile and requirements, please visit our website: [www.icddr.org](http://www.icddr.org). Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit an online application by 17 April, 2010.

Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview.

## EAST WEST UNIVERSITY

### Human Resource Requirements

East West University, a leading private university and an equal opportunity employer, invites applications for the following positions:

- Chief of HR & Logistics - 01**  
**Duties & responsibilities:** Ensure continuous development and implementation of HR policies to support the university goals and ensure compliance with legal requirements. Ensure effective support to both academic and administrative wing. Implement and monitor all HR procedures relating to faculty and admin staff. Ensure compliance with equal opportunities and other legal requirements and provide relevant information on admin staff and university. Prepare job descriptions and person specifications for recruitment and job evaluation purposes. Responsible for all administrative and logistics support to both academic and admin members. Ensure efficient procurement management and administration of all procurement. Act as member/member secretary to various committee as desired by the management.  
**Qualification:** MBA with HRM specialization  
**Experience:** Minimum 15 years experience in a managerial position of educational institutions (preferably) or any business organization.  
**Age limit:** 40 - 50 years (as on 24 April 2010)
- Deputy Admin Officer - 01**  
**Qualification:** MBA (Major in any discipline) from any reputed university with minimum CGPA - 3.00  
**Experience:** Administrative experience may be preferable.  
**Age limit:** 25 - 30 years (as on 24 April 2010)
- PS to Vice Chancellor - 01**  
**Qualification:** Master Degree in English, MBA with good command over English will be given preference. Must be proficient in computer applications.  
**Age limit:** 25 - 30 years (as on 24 April 2010)
- Assistant Librarian: 01**  
**Qualification:** The applicant should have MAM/MS with BA/BSS (Hons.) in Information Science and Library Management from any reputed university.  
 Advanced IT skills, knowledge of Institutional Repository System and MARC 21.  
 Must have good command in English and strong interpersonal skills.  
 Available for any kind of shifting/roaster duty.  
 Flexible to adapt to and work with variety of situations, individuals and group.  
 Candidates who have publications, professional membership will be given preference. Any 3rd division/class or CGPA below 2.50 in academic career is not acceptable.  
**Experience:** Four (4) years work experience in library management in any reputed academic or special library.  
**Age limit:** 29 - 34 years as on 24 April 2010 (age may be relaxed in case of advanced IT experience)
- Library Circulation Officer - 01**  
**Qualification:** The applicant should have Masters with 3/4 years bachelor degree in Information Science and Library Management from any reputed university. At least 2nd division/class/CGPA-3.00 out of 5.00 and/or 2.50 out of 4.00 in all examinations  
 Good command in English and strong interpersonal relation skills are essential  
 Should be available for any kind of shifting/roaster duty.  
 Professional membership in any reputed library is preferable.  
**Experience:** One (01) year work experience in any reputed library is preferable.  
**Age Limit:** Maximum age limit 30 (thirty) years (as on 24 April 2010)
- Secretary to the Coordinator Students Welfare Activities: 01**  
**Qualifications:** M.Com or MBA (Major in Finance & Accounting) with good command over English. Proficiency in computer literacy is desirable. Any 3rd division/class or CGPA below 2.50 in academic career is not acceptable.  
**Age limit:** 22 - 30 years (as on 24 April 2010)

Please send your complete CV to the Chief of HR & Logistics (in-Charge), East West University, 43, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212 with two copies of recent passport size photographs, copies of academic and experience certificates or apply through [prothom-alojobs.com](http://prothom-alojobs.com), EWU website: [www.ewubd.edu](http://www.ewubd.edu) or e-mail to [ewuhr@ewubd.edu](mailto:ewuhr@ewubd.edu).

**Application Deadline: 24 April 2010**