

Time for free birth registration extended

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Jahangir Kabir Nanak yesterday said the time for free birth registration for under-18 children has been extended for one more year to make the universal birth registration programme for all a success. For people above 18 years of age, fee would be payable at a fixed rate, Nanak said at a function on 'Birth Registration Day' at Osmani Memorial auditorium in the city.

The Local Government Division organised the function in observance of the Birth Registration Day at national level.

Earlier, Dhaka City Corporation (DCC)

brought out a colourful procession from the Nagar Bhaban. After parading different roads, the procession ended on the premises of Osmani Memorial auditorium.

This year's theme of the day is "Birth registration a right: Responsibility for all to implement it."

State Minister for Science and ICT Ministry Architect Yeafes Osman, Unicef Acting Country Representative Dr Iyrolumun Uhaa and Birth and Death Registration Director AKM Saiful Islam Chowdhury also spoke at the function with Secretary of Local Government Division Manzur Hossain in the chair.

Nanak urged all lawmakers under the city corporation to make the birth registration programme a success.

He said almost cent percent people in 36 districts were registered under the programme while 90 percent in 16 districts, 80 percent in seven districts and 70 percent in five districts until March this year.

Nanak laid emphasis on raising mass awareness about the universal birth registration programme.

Other speakers said 13,84,31,277 people were registered under the birth registration programme in the country till March last.

Later, Nanak distributed certificates among the winners of essay competition on universal birth registration programme.



Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) takes out a colourful procession from Nagar Bhaban in the city yesterday in observance of the Birth Registration Day.



ICDDR,B Bangladesh scientist gets 2nd top position

BSS, Dhaka

Dr Abbas Bhuiya has been appointed Deputy Executive Director (DED) of International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). He is the first Bangladeshi scientist to get the second top position of the international health research institution, sources at ICDDR,B told the news agency yesterday.

Bhuiya, a leading public health professional and researcher, got the appointment at the recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of the organisation.

He has been working at ICDDR, B for the last 30 years in various capacities. Prior to his new assignment, he was the head of Social and Behavioral Sciences Unit and Poverty and Health Programme of the institution.

He obtained his BA (Hons) and MA in Statistics from Chittagong University and MA and PhD in Demography from the Australian National University.

He has over 100 articles published in scientific journals and books. He is an adjunct professor at the BRAC University's James P Grant School of Public Health.

Bhuiya holds position in numerous high level national and international committees including the National Council for Population, the highest level policy body for population in the country.

4 killed in Gopalganj road crash

UNB, Dhaka

At least five people were killed and 25 others injured in separate road accidents in Gopalganj and Dinajpur yesterday.

Gopalganj correspondent reports: Four people were killed when a passenger bus hit a three-wheeler 'Nasimon' on Dhaka-Khulna highway at Bahadur Shah Mazar crossing in Muksedpur upazila yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Arun Shah, 45, of Chandibordi village, driver Mahabur, 19, of Krishnadia village and Hasib, 15, a student of class eight of a local high school of the village in Muksedpur upazila and Majibur Rahman, 40, of Kamardia village in Nagarkanda upazila.

Police said the accident occurred at 11:30am when a Gopalganj-bound bus of Dola Paribahan from Dhaka dashed the Nasimon from behind, killing its four passengers, including the driver, dead on the spot.

In Dinajpur, a local leader of Jubo League was killed and 25 others were injured in separate road accidents in Birganj and Parbatipur upazilas yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Pradip Kumar Saha, organising secretary of Birganj thana Jubo League and resident of Jagdal village in Birganj upazila.

Saha, who was riding a motorcycle, was injured as a goods-laden truck hit his motorbike at Kabiraj Hat in Birganj upazila on Friday night.

He was admitted to upazila health complex and succumbed to his injuries on the way to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital early yesterday.

In another incident, a Rangpur-bound bus from Dinajpur fell into a roadside ditch at Madhyapara in Parbatipur upazila while giving side to a tractor coming from opposite direction, leaving its 25 passengers injured at 9:00am.

The injured were rushed to Phulbari upazila health complex.

Navy seizes 2,686 bottles of wine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Navy seized a boat with contraband 2,686 bottles of foreign wine in the Bay of Bengal near Kutubdia of Cox's Bazar on Thursday.

They also arrested eight crews of the boat.

The approximate value of the seized items are worth of Tk 1.425 crore, said a press release of Inter-Services Public Relations.

The items were handed over to the Drug Control Authority and the arrested crews to Patenga Police Station.

BIT graduation ceremony held

METRO DESK

Bangladesh International Tutorial (BIT), a renowned English medium school, organised a graduation ceremony for the GCE ordinary and advanced level classes at the Red Brick School at Uttara in the city recently, says a press release.

Founder principal of the school Lubna Choudhury in her speech said, "Wherever you go from here, you take the school with you -- the ethics and teachings that we have tried to impart to you all these years. Always remember your roots -- and hold fast to the motto of the school -- to serve the nation."

Saidur Rahman, country manager of Edexcel International, urged the students to work hard in studies for good results.

Some of the guardians in their speech thanked the principal as well as the teachers for their efforts and dedication to their children to bringing them up as a competent person for the next level in their education.

The students received their graduation certificates at the function.

Later, students, teachers and guardians enjoyed cultural programmes performed by the students.

'Each house to be centre of dev'

BSS, Chittagong

Primary and Mass Education Minister Dr Afsarul Amin yesterday said the government wants to alleviate poverty from the rural area turning each house into a centre of development in the country under 'One House One Firm' project.

Considering the socio-economic condition of the rural people, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has taken the project to change the lot of the people giving priority to the poverty alleviation, the Minister said.

"I am confident that the lot of the poor of our country will change as per goal of the 'Vision 2021' announced by Hasina because the Bengali nation has the strength to achieve it," he said while speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural function of an orientation workshop on "One House, One Firm" project at the local Circuit House.

Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong Faiz Ahmed presided over the function.

Dr Afsarul said, "We have to usher in a revolution for economic emancipation of the poor people to attach the nation with global development race."

"There is no alternative to turn each house into a firm for achieving the desired economic growth and changing the scenario of Bangladesh by the year 2021," he said.

District administration sources said 16,800 houses from Chittagong district will be given supply of cattle, poultry birds and nursery goods after imparting training them in next month.

Nearly 200 participants, most of whom are public representatives, participated the workshop.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Nazim announced grand winner

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The grand finale of "reality show" on photography titled "Lumix Click to Fame" was held at a hotel in the city on Friday evening.

Azfar Ibn Nazim, among the three finalists, was announced the grand winner while Md Farhad Rahman and Raisul Islam Tanim were selected the first and second runner up of the competition respectively.

Najim received a Lumix GH1 camera and a cash reward of Tk 1.50 lakh. He was made the brand ambassador for Panasonic Lumix and will get opportunity of a photo exhibition and internship in two magazines.

Robert Khan, CEO of Maccam, an event management partner, said they formed the platform to pick up talent photographers of the country.

Asraf Bin Taj, business director of ACI Limited, a sister concern of Panasonic, said they have selected the talents from all parts of the country and he hopes that it will encourage everyone working in the area.

The event started with a fashion show highlighting the city's lifestyle. Later, names of the winner were announced.

"We started at the era of analog photography. [But] they [the participants of the competition] are lucky as they have got a big platform," said Md Rashed-un-Nabi, one of the members of the jury board.

Other members of the jury board are renowned photographers Munira Morshed Munni, Dr Md Rashid-un-Nabi (EFIAP), Hasan Saifuddin Chandan (EFIAP) and Khademul Insan. Eminent photographer Anwar Hossain was the online judge of the event.

The event started with registering name of the participants from March 16. Ten photographers were selected at the second phase of the competition through a three-day photography exhibition.

Hasan Safiuddin Chandan, a jury, said the ten finalists have been selected considering their outstanding works.

The photography competition is termed "reality show" as the total event was broadcast by Channel 1, organiser sources said.



A delegation led by Sister Prema, Director of Mother Teresa Centre, calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Gono Bhaban in the city yesterday.

Hasina's human qualities have similarity with Teresa

Says Sister Prema

BSS, Dhaka

A 13-member delegation led by Sister Prema, Director of Mother Teresa Centre, yesterday called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Gono Bhaban in the city.

Sister Prema gave an album to the Prime Minister containing her photographs with Mother Teresa.

Describing various human qualities of Hasina, she said the human qualities and activities of Hasina have similarities with Teresa.

The delegation will visit 13 monasteries run by Mother Teresa Centre on the occasion of the 100th birth anniversary of Mother Teresa.

Paying deep respect to Teresa, Hasina said Teresa served the mankind as an expatriate leaving her motherland. The people of the whole world will remember her with profound respect throughout the ages for

her qualities, she added.

Referring to different programmes taken by her government for welfare of the persons with disabilities, Hasina said separate beds have been arranged for the persons with disabilities in hospitals. Besides, better healthcare facilities have been ensured for children in every hospital, she added.

The prime minister said her government has a plan to set up a centre at each division like Paralysed Rehabilitation Centre at Savar.

Chief Sister of Bangladesh Mother Teresa Centre Olivet, Sister Madeline, Archbishop Thionias and Principal of Notre Dem College Benjamin Kosta were present on the occasion.

Ambassador at-large Ziauddin, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister MA Karim, Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad and Special Assistant Abdus Sobhan Golap were also present.

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Students of Bangladesh International Tutorial (BIT), an English medium school, pose for photograph with its founder principal Lubna Choudhury at a graduation ceremony for the GCE ordinary and advanced level classes at the Red Brick School auditorium at Uttara in the city recently.

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