

OC Rafiq's division in jail cancelled

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday cancelled first class division of the then officer-in-charge (OC) of Motijheel Police Station AKM Rafiqul Islam in jail, an accused in the killing of college student Kamrul Islam Momin in September 2005.

Judge Mohammad Rezaul Islam of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-4 passed the order after senior jail super of Dhaka Central Jail Mohammad Towhidul Islam yesterday submitted documents relating to giving division to the OC tampering with the court order.

The jail super in his petition said there was no such provision for giving first class division to a former OC who was not in the position. But it was given as per order from the court.

The court also requested the Metropolitan Sessions Judge to take necessary action against the then Administrative Officer (AO) ADM Abu Al Hossain of Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court for his alleged involvement with tampering with the court order.

The then Metropolitan Sessions Judge ANM Bashir Ullah on June 29, 2009 ordered the District Magistrate to consider the matter of giving first class division to OC Rafique as per jail code following a petition submitted by OC Rafique.

But the AO on July 2, 2009 sent the part of order sheet to the district magistrate asking him to provide OC Rafique with division in jail.

Special Public Prosecutor SM Rafiqul Islam on January 12 this year submitted a petition seeking cancellation of division.

NATIONAL DIGITAL INNOVATION AWARD 2011

ICT improving people's lifestyle

Say speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Use of information and communication technology (ICT) is improving people's lifestyle, said speakers yesterday.

They underscored the need for developing suitable technologies and languages so that the masses can attain maximum benefit.

They were speaking at the launching ceremony of 'National Digital Innovation Award 2011' at Brac Centre Inn in the city jointly organised by Ministry of Science and ICT and Development Research Network (D.Net).

This year, Access to Information (A2I) Programme at prime minister's office is the principal partner of the award with The Daily Star and Prothom Alo as organising partners.

This is the second time the country is witnessing the competition on mobile, e-Content and ICT initiatives based on different categories for online and offline content products and on mobile and relevant technology.

Last year, the award's name was 'e-Content and ICT for



(From left) Mahfuzur Rahman, executive director of Bangladesh Computer Council; State Minister for Science and ICT Yeafesh Osman; D.Net Executive Director Ananya Raihan; and Asif Saleh, policy specialist of A2I Programme; unveil the 'National Digital Innovation Award 2011' logo at Brac Centre Inn in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Development Award 2010'.

Unveiling the award logo at the ceremony, State Minister for Science and ICT Yeafesh Osman said, "Our endeavour is to establish the confidence of people working on information technology."

Usage of technology is transforming country's ancient tradi-

tions, he said, adding that the young generation can and will take the country to a deserving height if inspired.

The minister emphasised on developing mobile content, as mobile phones will be the biggest weapon to change society.

On the award's background,

D.Net Executive Director Ananya Raihan said the award was introduced to trace potential, as many good initiatives in the past were not projected properly.

Any contestant either from any company or organisation or individually can submit one nomina-

tion for each category from February 10 to March 10. An expert jury board chaired by noted educationist Prof Muhammad Zafar Iqbal would select the best nominations, he added.

Raihan said eight initiatives from this year's and last year's winners would be eligible to contest in the World Summit Award 2011 and all finalists would automatically be eligible to participate in Manthan South Asia Award contest in 2011.

Beside promotion in national and international media, the finalists will avail support of potential commercial, non-commercial and government agencies for scale up and financial support, he added.

Mahfuzur Rahman, executive director of Bangladesh Computer Council, and Asif Saleh, policy specialist of A2I Programme, also spoke.

The initiative includes ATN News and Lemon24.com as media partners, Digital Empowerment Foundation as knowledge partner, comjagat.com as online partner and bdjobs.com, intel and Microsoft as sponsors.

SSC exams begin tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and equivalent examinations begin tomorrow with 13,15,002 examinees taking part under 10 education boards including one madrasa and one technical education board.

Last year, 12,06,019 students registered for the exam.

The examination routine was chalked out with upcoming World Cup Cricket fixture in mind so that timing of cricket matches does not coincide with that of exams, said sources in Dhaka Education Board. Moreover, no exam has been scheduled on the day or the day after of match on venues in Bangladesh.

Exams on major subjects would end before February 19 and exams would end on March 10.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid will brief newsmen about the examination at the secretariat at 1:00pm today.

The number of dropout this year is also less than previous year's.

Of the total, 9,91,860 examinees are under eight general education board and 2,39,711 under Madrasa Education Board and 83,431 under Technical Education Board.

The highest number of students is registered under Dhaka Education Board.

Of the total registered, 3,08,098 examinees will appear under Dhaka board; 1,30,688 under Rajshahi board; 1,16,400 under Comilla board; 1,30,638 under Jessore board; 76,959 under Chittagong board; 61,828 under Barisal board; 48,527 under Sylhet board; and 1,25,922 under Dinajpur board.

The examinations will be held in 2,181 centres.

Make practical edn compulsory

President asks universities

UNB, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman has urged all university authorities to make practical education compulsory in their curricula so that the students could acquire knowledge about reality and contribute in the national development.

"Activities and tactics will have to be known to all how the bookish education can be applied in our national development," he said.

The president told the 11th convocation of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) held at

Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday.

Former adviser to the caretaker government ASM Shahjahan was the convocation speaker while AIUB Vice Chancellor Dr Carmen Z Lamagna and AIUB Trustee Board Chairman Dr Anwarul Abedin also spoke on the occasion.

A total of 1,537 students, both graduates and post-graduates, have been conferred degrees at the convocation while three students received gold medals from the Chancellor for their outstanding academic results.

Zillur said the young learners of the universities would have to come out of their air-conditioned class rooms to know how the common people lead their lives and about their sorrows and happiness.

He said the private universities would have to ensure quality education. AIUB Vice Chancellor Lamagna urged the students to follow their dreams and also turn every dream into solutions, cures and new knowledge.

She concluded by saying that AIUB students have the values of creativity, critical thinking and civic engagement.

World Wetland Day on February 2

BSS, Dhaka

The World Wetland Day will be observed across the country on February 2 like elsewhere in the globe to mount campaign for conservation of forests and water bodies.

The theme of this year's day is "Forest for water and wetland". The United Nations has also declared 2011 as International Year for Forest.

Marking the day and year different organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes to observe it in a befitting manner.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest will organise a discussion on the day at Cirdap at 10:00am on February 2.

The Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) will organise a roundtable titled "Forest for water and wetland" at 10:00am on February 1 at Jatiya Press Club.



President Zillur Rahman gives away gold medal to a successful graduate at the 11th convocation of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Last date to submit BCS application on Feb 28

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The last date to submit applications for the 31st Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examination has been set on February 28.

The applications forms (BPSC Form-1) can be collected from 30 branches of Sonali Bank.

The candidates are requested to submit their applications to the district administrator's office and collect their admit cards from there as well.

Candidates can also visit www.bpsc.gov.bd for more information.

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