



PHOTO: STAR

Awami Shishu Jubo Shanskritik Jote brings out a procession in front of National Museum in Shahbagh yesterday celebrating the birth day of the Father of the Nation.

Aiming for the quarter

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Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur. But for each and every single person their feelings have oscillated between hope and hopelessness as regards the outcome of the match which has turned into a do-or-die clash for Bangladesh after the West Indies crumpled against England on Thursday.

If someone take the result of the last two matches and the spirited display of the Tigers and of course the advantage of the home conditions, he or she will definitely be looking at something positive. And if they do manage to come out on top it will be a pinnacle in achievement for the Tigers.

But the pressure would be absolutely on the Tigers because only a win in the day match will take them to the quarterfinals from Group B, the group of death in the ICC

Cricket World Cup, and anything else will mean that the World Cup will be over for the Bangladesh team and as well as millions of fans.

On the contrary there is virtually no pressure on the South Africa team and they were found in a relaxed mood while practicing at Mirpur yesterday. They have already confirmed their quarterfinals berth and a win will only keep their supremacy intact.

South Africa is one of the favourites in the tournament, especially their bowling attack has lot of variety, which can exploit any conditions but still Shakib's men can say that no team is unbeatable and anything can happen in cricket: a fact they have proved time and again. The on paper favourite does not always win the matches which Bangladesh team has also proved in the tourna-

ment by beating the mighty England at Chittagong.

It's not only that someone plays with emotion versus reality but the fact is also that Bangladesh has a sweet memory of a 67-run victory over the same opponents four years back in the second round of the 2007 World Cup in Guyana.

Thus Shakib's men not only can take the inspiration from their last two back-to-back victories against England and Netherlands but they can also take it from their great victory in the last World Cup.

Like the 2007 game, Bangladesh have pinned their hopes on the slow bowlers this time also and what will be required is an innings like Mohammad Ashraful's, who hit 87 in Guyana in 2007. He will not feature today even as Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan said that

everybody has to play their part to win.

"It's not as if only Tamim and myself can fire, rather everybody must contribute if we want to win the match," said Shakib.

Pointing out that the spinners squeezed them in 2007, South African skipper Graeme Smith said that they were more careful this time. "We've had a good look at Bangladesh. They've averaged 40-42 overs of spin in a game so we expect to face a lot of spin tomorrow. They also have seven left-handers in their team so we'd also look at that and see how we can benefit," said Smith.

By winning three games in the showcase event, Bangladesh almost achieved their pre-tournament target and now it's time for them to take their game into new heights.

Govt may offer soft loans

FROM PAGE 1
However, the authorities are yet to fix the interest rate of the loan. The affected workers can use this loan either to start a new business or go abroad with jobs sometime later, the secretary told The Daily Star.

The bank is set to commence operation on April 20 with a paid up capital of Tk 100 crore.

Aiming to help expatriate workers at various stages, the present government planned this bank soon after it took over in 2009.

The government has sought World Bank's low interest financing to help the bank start its soft credit programme, sources in the finance ministry said.

Thousands of Bangladeshi expatriate workers are returning home after fleeing Libyan turmoil as its ruler Muammar Gaddafi's force is facing a violent battle from his opponents to stay in power.

The Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), with assistance of the immigration department at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, is keeping record of the returnees. This would help the bank identify the valid candidates for the soft loan, noted a

BMET official.

Around 24,000 expatriates have already arrived home, while 6,000 more are waiting at some refugee camps in Egypt and Tunisia on their way home.

There are about 30,000 workers still staying in Libya. They could return home if the clashes continue, an official of Bangladesh mission in Libya said.

According to the returnees, many of them could not recover the amount they spent to go there. Some of them even sold land and other movable properties to arrange their migration costs amounting around Tk 2.5 lakh.

Salaries of many of the workers are months in arrears as their employers left immediately after the clashes began in mid-February. Looted by unruly Libyans, they are left penniless and could only see a bleak future.

Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) held a meeting on March 10 to find out a way to help the affected expatriates who send home around \$11 billion a year. Many consider this amount as the lifeline to country's economy.

Termining this a national crisis, FBCCI President AK Azad

had announced creating a fund for the workers. But no decision has been made yet in this regard.

Economists and immigration activists said the affected returnees should be provided with some cash immediately so they could overcome the trauma they went through in Libya. Gradually, they could be helped with jobs or finances for business.

In the wake of recent global economic recession, the government provided incentives to several export oriented business sectors. The government also gives subsidy or price incentives to the farmers when prices of agricultural inputs are high.

However, thousands of expatriate workers did not receive any such benefit when they were forced to return home in 2008 and 2009 after losing jobs in the United Arab Emirates, Singapore and Malaysia during the recession.

The government is not planning to give either any immediate cash or healthcare support to the returnees. A worker receives only Tk 1000 on arrival in Dhaka.

"I don't think any aid or donation works effectively. Engaging them in economic

activities could better work," observed Zafar Ahmed Khan.

The World Bank has committed to give \$20-30 million to help the government cover part of the repatriation costs of Bangladeshi workers, a finance ministry official said.

The government can use part of this money to provide credits to the returnees, said Khan.

Besides, the expatriates welfare ministry has asked the Economic Relations Division to find if any development partner could come forward to contribute to the process.

To realise the overdue salaries of the workers, the government is in contact with the embassies of various countries whose companies employed Bangladeshi workers in Libya, sources in the expatriates welfare ministry said.

South Korean, Chinese, Turkish and Pakistani companies employed Bangladeshis in the North African country.

Ali Haider Chowdhury, secretary general of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies, said they have no plan to rehabilitate the returnees but would cooperate with any government initiative.

The high achievers

FROM PAGE 20
Tomorrow".

Intekhab Hossain from South Breeze School was the first to receive the award. The O level student attained 11 A's in one sitting in the session May/June, 2010.

"I realise today that my dreams have come true," he told the audience.

"This is our country. We face many problems like traffic jam... There are hundreds of brilliant minds here," he said calling on the students to work together to

develop the country.

O level student Shahab Saad from Maple Leaf International School and Arif Billah from Manarat Dhaka International College achieved 11 A's in two consecutive sittings.

Inara Sunan Tareque from South Breeze School also got 11 A's in two consecutive sittings in her O level exams.

Ashraf Haque Mahfuze, an A-level student from Mastermind, received six A's in one sitting in the

May/June 2010 session.

"This achievement has been possible due to a large number of people including my teachers, the school administration, my friends, classmates and finally my family members," he said.

The O level students scored the highest grade in English, economics, chemistry, human biology, mathematics, physics, accounting, commerce, Bengali, biology, Bangladesh studies, art and design, pure mathematics

and computing.

The A-level students obtained the highest grade in accounting, business studies, biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics and law.

Many of them secured the highest score in multiple subjects.

A total of 817 O-level and 340 A-level students from 65 schools and private candidates were present at the ceremony.

Ahmad Ullah Hossainy from Sunshine Grammar School and College obtained five A's in one sitting in A-level exams in May/June 2010.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Power Division

Employment Notice

Applications are invited from bonafide Bangladeshi nationals for the following posts under the project titled "Technical Assistance for Implementation of Bangladesh Power Sector Reform (Phase-II)" under the Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources:

Sl No.	Name of the post and salary	No. of post	Qualification, experience and responsibilities
1.	Assistant Director (MIS/IT & e-gov.) (Monthly consolidated salary Tk. 29,375.00)	1	Must have Graduation Degree in Electrical/Mechanical/Computer Engineering/Computer Science/Information Technology/Communication Engineering with at least 5 years professional experience in webpage design, digital interlinks, communication, MIS/LAN/WAN, video conference, ERP solution and e-governance.
2.	Assistant Director (Meter & Performance Monitoring) (Monthly consolidated salary Tk. 18,200.00)	1	Must have Graduation Degree in Electrical Engineering with professional experience in commercial operation, power distribution, planning, design, distribution system study, system operation, power tariff, rationalization, sector reforms, restructuring and corporatization.
3.	Assistant Director (Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency) (Monthly consolidated salary Tk. 18,200.00)	1	Must have Graduation Degree in Electrical/Mechanical with professional experience in renewable energy development programs and conservation of energy.
4.	Assistant Director (Planning & Development) (Monthly consolidated salary Tk. 18,200.00)	1	Must have Graduation in Electrical/Mechanical Engineering with professional experience and should have fair knowledge about project planning, analysis, tariff, power market development, sector reforms, restructuring and corporatization.
5.	Assistant Director (Contract Management) (Monthly consolidated salary Tk. 18,200.00)	1	Must have Master Degree in Law or Graduation Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering with professional experience and should have fair knowledge about power system planning and system metering aspects.

Terms and condition:

- This appointment will be completely on temporary basis; primarily this appointment will be for one year or expiry of the project period whichever is earlier. It may be extended on successful completion of job by the authority. But it will not be extended any way beyond the completion of the project.
- Applications should addressed to the Secretary, Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka, along with 3 (three) attested copies of recent passport size photograph and attested copies of certificates of all educational qualifications and experiences.
- Application should reach this division within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this advertisement. Candidates already in service should apply through proper channel.
- Name of the post must be mentioned on the top of the envelope.
- Power Division will reserve the right to appoint or not to appoint any one or the entire above project personal without showing any reason thereby.

Muhammad Humayun Kabir
Senior Assistant Secretary
Room No. 208, Building No. 6
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
Power Division
Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

30pc deforestation occurs for tobacco manufacturing

UNB, Dhaka

Although the government has given special priority to protection of forests to face the climate change phenomena, about 30 percent of deforestation in the country has occurred due to tobacco manufacturing, according to an expert.

"Smoking also results in costs associated with fire damage and damage to the environment from the manufacturing and packaging of tobacco products," said Taifur Rahman, Campaign for Tobacco Free-Kids (CTFK) media and advocacy coordinator, at a workshop yesterday.

"PROGGA" and "Campaign for Tobacco Free-Kids" in collaboration with the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) organised the workshop titled "Training Course on Media for Tobacco Control in Bangladesh" at the PIB auditorium in the city.

Advocate Syed Mahbul Alam, policy analyst of WBB Trust, and Hasan Shahriar, training officer of PROGGA, among others, spoke at the workshop.

Speaking at the workshop, Taifur Rahman said Bangladesh is one of the vulnerable countries across the world due to the rapid rise of its tobacco users.

"About 10 percent of world's tobacco users are in Bangladesh. Tobacco users have increased 7.5 percent in five years from 2004 to 2009," he said.

Highlighting the global scenario of tobacco use, Taifur Rahman said five million people die of tobacco related diseases all over the world every year.

"If the trend continues, tobacco will kill eight million people by 2030 and one billion by the end of the current century," he added.

According to a fact sheet, tobacco exacts a high cost on society and indirect costs of tobacco are estimated at US\$ 652.86 million (loss of income from death or disability due to tobacco-related illness).

Facebook group

FROM PAGE 20
Shahbagh.

"We stand united in solidarity with the Grameen family and Dr Yunus to show respect in this period of crisis," the group said in a written statement.

The Facebookers denounced the central bank's decision to remove Yunus from Grameen as managing director "in the name of keeping formalities, forgetting the spirit behind the creation of the bank".

The demonstration came at a time when Yunus is fighting a legal battle at the Appellate Division to overturn a High Court order that upheld his removal from the microfinance institution by Bangladesh

Bank.

The Facebook group, a non-political platform, says: "While we respect the appropriate rule of the law, we hope that the government and the Supreme Court will bestow the rightful honour back on Dr Yunus and Grameen Bank."

"We have seen with pride how Grameen Bank became the flagship carrier of microcredit movement worldwide, and has successfully changed the livelihood of many families for the better over the last three decades."

More than 5,000 users have signed up for the group created on March 3 in the wake of an unfolding trouble that caught up with Grameen and its founder.

বড়পুকুরিয়া কোল মাইনিং কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী)
Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

Invitation for Tender

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

1.	Ministry/Division	Energy and Mineral Resources Division
2.	Agency	Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Limited (BCMCL) (A Company of Petrobangla).
3.	Procuring entity name	Deputy General Manager (Purchase).
4.	Procuring entity code	None
5.	Procuring entity district	Dinajpur
6.	Invitation for	Goods
7.	Invitation Ref No.	BCMCL/10/1/94(wood)/1341
8.	Date	13 March 2011.
9.	Procurement method	Open tendering method.
10.	Budget and source of funds	Company fund.
11.	Project/programme code	Not applicable.
12.	Project/programme name	Not applicable.
13.	Tender package No.	UG-11-2010-11
14.	Tender publication date	14 March 2011
15.	Tender last selling date	27 March 2011
		Date Time
16.	Tender receiving last date and time	28 April 2011 11:30am
17.	Tender opening date and time	28 April 2011 11:45am
18.	Selling tender document	Tender documents are available in the following offices during office hours: 1. Accounts Division, BCMCL Head Office, Chowhati, Parbatipur, Dinajpur. 2. Accounts Division, Petrobangla, 3, Kawran Bazaar C/A, Dhaka.
	Receiving & opening tender documents	Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Limited, Head Office, Chowhati, Parbatipur, Dinajpur.
19.	Eligibility of tenderer	1. Valid trade licence, 2. Latest Income Tax return certificate, 3. Valid VAT registration certificate, 4. Other qualification as described in TDS.
20.	Brief description of goods	Log wood for Underground Mine Production. Specification detailed in tender document.
21.	Price of tender document	Tk 1000.00 (one thousand) only.
	Identification of goods	Location Tender security amount (Tk) Completion time
22.	Mentioned above: Para No. 20	BCMCL Store/Residential Area, Chowhati, Parbatipur, Dinajpur Tk 75,000.00 (seventy five thousand) 85 working days (delivery should be started within first 3 working days) from the date of signing of the contract agreement delivery schedule detailed in TD.
23.	Name of the official inviting tender	Mir Md. Abdul Hannan.
24.	Designation of official inviting tender	Deputy General Manager (Geology & Purchase).
25.	Address of official inviting tender	Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Limited, Chowhati, Parbatipur, Dinajpur.
26.	Contact details of official inviting tender	01730429340
27.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.	

Mir Md. Abdul Hannan
Deputy General Manager (Geology & Purchase)

GD-1315