

FLB talent hunt kicks off today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A nationwide talent hunt programme titled "Future Leaders of Bangladesh (FLB)", first of its kind in the country, will begin in the city today.

The programme is organised by Bangladesh Enterprise of Education and Technology (BEduTech) Solutions in cooperation with prothom-alojobs.com and Brac University.

The organisers announced the opening date of FLB at a news conference at the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday.

Robi Axata Ltd, a telecom company, is the main sponsor and Radio ABC is the media partner of the FLB competition.

The aim of the programme is to equip students and young executives with the information and skill necessary to ensure that their personal and professional exposure does not detract from the real world productivity of their commercial effort or the image of their employer, said the organisers.

The registration will start today and remain open till June 9.

Anybody doing graduation or post-graduation (bachelor and master's programme) on business studies from any recognised university, college or institution can sign up at the registration booths to be set up at major public and private universities in the city.

A total of 150 final competitors, after a number of screenings, will participate in a two-day summit followed by a business case competition.

A jury board will judge the business cases and nominate the winners.

The final programme will be held on June 24-25.

The registration form is available on www.pipilika.com, www.prothom-alojobs.com, and www.facebook.com/fblbz

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Govt praised by Int'l rights body HRW

UNB, Dhaka

Human Rights Watch (HRW) has lauded the government's efforts in bringing those responsible for the 1971 atrocities under trial.

It is an "important and long overdue step" to achieving justice for the victims, the New York-based rights group said in a letter to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday.

The HRW also put forward a set of seven suggestions regarding the trial under International Crimes (Tribunals) Act 1973.

"The Bangladesh government has an unprecedented opportunity to hold those responsible for the 1971 atrocities to account in credible trials and, in doing so, to show it is firmly committed to the rule of law," said Brad Adams, Asia Director of HRW, in the letter.



A worker clears an underground sewer passage without having worn any safety gear risking life. The photo was taken on Dhaka University campus yesterday.

WOMEN DEV POLICY

Opponents were involved in 1971 sex violence

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday said the anti-liberation quarter, which is opposing the women development policy, was involved in providing Bangladeshi women to Pakistani occupational forces in 1971.

The quarter collaborated with Pakistani military to humiliate over two lakh women of today's Bangladesh during the liberation war, said Prof Dr SM Anwara Begum, chairperson of political science department, Jagannath University (JnU).

The anti-liberation forces deemed handing over Bangladeshi women to Pakistani military as their holy task, said Dr Anwara while addressing the seminar on "Women's right: In the context of national women development."

"Not only that the quarter also tried to confine women at home. They even tried to prevent birth control and vaccination programme terming it anti-Islamic."

Dr Anwara also said that though they [anti-liberation forces] have been trying to thwart the progress of the country over periods, their attempts remain foiled.

Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, vice chancellor of Dhaka University, said as a citizen of a democratic country every person irrespective of gender has the right to enjoy basic rights.

"Islam has provisions of equal rights for both male and female. The antagonists of women development policy lack proper knowledge about Islam," he said.

"The antagonists led massacre during the liberation using Islam," he added.

Dr Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury, state minister for women and children affairs, reiterated that there is nothing in the women development policy contradictory to Islam.

Prof Dr Mohammad Abdul Wadud, chairperson of Islamic studies department of JnU, presented the keynote paper at the seminar organised by the university at its auditorium.

Also addressing the programme were Momtaj Begum, chairperson of National Mahila Sangstha, and Prof Dr Kazi Nurul Islam, chairperson of world religion and cultural department of DU.

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The antagonists of women development policy lack proper knowledge about Islam

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Send your comments & contribution to

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RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Call to implement UN declaration

BABUL NOKREK, from New York

The 10th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues commenced in New York, USA on Monday with a call to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon inaugurated the session.

More than 1,300 indigenous representatives from across the world as well as state representatives, civil society members, academicians and representatives from inter-governmental organisations are attending in the two-week long session that is scheduled to be ended on 27 May.

Ban Ki-moon in his speech said the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples should be implemented to address the endless discrimination and violations of human rights of indigenous peoples around the world.

Dr Myrna Cunningham, chairperson of the 10th session, presided over the inaugural session while Under-Secretary-General Sha Zukang, distinguished members of the permanent forum on indigenous issues attended it.

From Bangladesh, Raja Devasish Roy, Binatamoy Dhamai, Sudipta Chakma, Goutam Dewan, Mrinal Kanti Tripura, Tandra Chakma, Agraprotap Chakma, Wasif Nazreen, Mangol Kumar Chakma and Lina Lusai attended the session.

Hearing on charge framing against Tarique, Mamun June 7

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned till June 7 the hearing on charge framing against BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman and his business partner Giasuddin Al Mamun in a money laundering case.

Judge Mohammad Mozammel Hosain of the Special Judge's Court-3 passed the order following an application submitted by Tarique's lawyer Barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokan seeking adjournment of the hearing.

In the petition, Khokan said they had earlier filed a review petition with the Supreme Court (SC) against its earlier judgment.

In the judgment delivered on February 9 this year, the SC ruled that the proceedings of money laundering case against Tarique cannot run under the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2009 as the alleged offence took place before its enactment, Khokan said.

It, however, said the trial can proceed under the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2002 as the reported incident took place after its enactment, he added.

CASE AGAINST KOKO Court records statement of three PWs

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday recorded statements of three prosecution witnesses (PWs) in a money laundering case filed against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's younger son Arafat Rahman Koko.

After recording statements of NBR official Nafiz Ahmed Akhter, two Passport Office officials -- Miah Abdullah Al Zehad and Abdur Razzak -- Judge Mohammad Mozammel Hosain of the Special Judge's Court-3 fixed May 30 and 31 for the next hearing.

Koko is now abroad for treatment while another accused Ismail Hossain Saimon, son of former shipping minister late Akbar Hossain, has been absconding.

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed the case against Koko on March 17 in 2009 with Kafrul Police Station.

In the case statement, the anti-graft body said the accused had laundered money they received from China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd and Siemens for helping them win government contracts.

The ACC pressed charges against Koko and Saimon on November 15 in 2009.

DAWN-TO-DUSK STRIKE IN NORTH CTG

Transport movement on 28 routes disrupted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Transport owners and workers observed a dawn-to-dusk strike on 28 inter-district routes of north Chittagong yesterday to press home 11-point demand, including reducing price of motor parts and exclusion of murder case filing prohibition against any road accident.

Other demands include establishing separate bus terminal, stopping vehicle requisition system, repairing roads, steps to cut road accidents as well as deploying high way police to stop robberies.

North Chittagong Transport Owners

Workers Association called the strike in North Chittagong, including Khagrachhari and Rangamati.

Vehicular movement on the roads were suspended during the strike causing immense suffering to the commuters.

Jafar Alam, convener of the association, said "We have placed our demands to the government in different times but got no result."

He said if the demand is not met within May 20, they would call another strike on May 21 in greater Chittagong taking supports from all organisations of transport sector.

SHARE MARKET SCAM Statements' legality challenged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked Khondker Ibrahim Khaled and five others to explain about statements to the media regarding stock market irregularities involving some individuals and enterprises.

The court also asked them to explain within four weeks why Ibrahim Khaled's statements to the media should not be declared illegal.

The other respondents are governor of Bangladesh Bank, finance secretary, secretary of banking division and chiefs of Anti-Corruption Commission and Securities and Exchange Commission.

The HC bench of Justice Farid Ahmed and Justice M Shawkat Hossain issued the rule after Abul Hashem, a Supreme Court lawyer,

filed a writ petition on Sunday in this regard.

Hasem in the writ petition challenged the legality of Ibrahim Khaled's statements that different newspapers and TV channels had carried.

He prayed to the court to direct Ibrahim Khaled to withdraw his statements.

Ibrahim Khaled, chief of the four-member probe committee, submitted the report to the finance minister on April 7.

The petitioner served a legal notice on Khaled on April 27, asking him to resign from the office of chairman of Bangladesh Krishi Bank within 10 days for disclosing the contents of stock market scam probe report to the media.

Advocate Dr Kazi Aktar Hamid appeared for the petitioner while Additional Attorney General MK Rahman stood for government.



Officials of Korea International Cooperation Agency (Koica) exchange documents with officials of Economic Relations Division (ERD) and Ministry of Agriculture after signing a Koica grant of US \$ 2 million for Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) at ERD in the city on Wednesday under the "Development of Research Capacity of BRRI" project.

s.Oliver®

Career Opportunity

s.Oliver, one of the largest and fast-growing fashion companies of Europe, has following career openings in apparel sourcing at their Bangladesh Liaison Office:

Sustainability Coordinator (Ref: SC)

Candidate should be masters in any discipline with 4 - 6 years experience of which at least two years should be in handling social compliance requirements of any reputed European / American brand.

Candidate should be well versed with local labour laws and should be able to independently handle auditing of large apparel manufacturing units and sub-suppliers as per company's audit procedures and guide factories on corrective measures. The position requires regular co-ordination with other sourcing offices of s.Oliver for reviewing of auditing procedures and systems.

Merchandiser – Product Development (Ref: MPD)

Candidate should be a fashion / textile design graduate from a reputed institution with about 5-6 years experience in sampling / product development function in a reputed buying house. Should have understanding of different product groups (wovens, denim, knits) and should be able to independently coordinate with the designers and factories on development samples.

Merchandiser – Sweaters (Ref: MFK)

Candidate should be apparel / textile graduate with 5 – 6 years experience in merchandising of sweaters in a reputed buying house / garment factory. The position requires good understanding of production of sweaters and ability to liaise with technicians and factory on all production related topics. Candidate should be able to actively follow up on all pre-production approvals and production to manage planned delivery schedules.

Merchandiser – Accessories (Ref: MA)

Candidate should be graduate with 3 – 5 years of work experience of which at least two years should be in handling procurement of accessories at a reputed buying house or garment manufacturing company. Should have good knowledge of production / sourcing of garment accessories and should be able to coordinate on buying / approval of nominated accessories. Knowledge and awareness of restricted substances will be an added advantage.

Human Resource and Administration officer (Ref: HRA)

Candidate should be MBA from a reputed institution with specialization in human resources and about 2 - 3 years of related experience in a multinational company. Main responsibilities include maintaining employee database, implementing employee welfare and HR policies and supporting office administration and maintenance.

Quality Auditor – Central Inspection Facility (Ref: QA-CIF)

Candidate should be graduate with about 8 years experience of which 3-4 years should be in similar capacity at a reputed buying house. Should have production experience of different product groups and experience in auditing T-shirts, sweaters and woven tops and bottoms based on AQL standard.

All above positions require computer proficiency and effective communication and reporting skills in English.

Company offers a challenging work environment and an attractive remuneration package. Interested candidates please forward your resumes (clearly marking the reference code of the position applied for) within 7 days by e-mail/fax/post to: s.Oliver Overseas Ltd, 10th Floor, Uday Tower, 57 & 57A Gulshan Avenue Circle 1, Dhaka 1212. E-mail: hr@bd.soliver.com Fax: 9894134