

24 outlaws jailed for life in Taherpur cop killing case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Rajshahi

A Rajshahi court yesterday awarded life imprisonment to 24 members of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party for killing a constable and looting arms at Taherpur in 2008.

The court also fined them Tk 20,000 each. In the event of a default on the fine, they will have to serve another six months in jail.

Twenty of those convicted were present in the dock when the judge of Rajshahi Speedy Trial Tribunal delivered the judgment. The remaining four were tried in absentia.

Constable Mizanur Rahman of Taherpur outpost in Bagmara was killed when a group of PBCP operatives attacked a police patrol at Taherpur market and snatched five firearms on May 2, 2008.

Four other cops were also injured in the attack. The gang first stabbed the policemen and then opened fire on them. Police in return fired two shots.

Police pressed charges

against 29 outlaws in connection with the attack. Of the charge-sheeted accused, five were exempted from the case following their death in "shoot-outs" with law enforcers.

Of the 24, Bachchu Islam, Gopal Dev Sharma, Feroz Uddin Boltu, Nazrul Islam, Tota, Chandu alias Matin, Jonab Mia, Osman Ali

Mondol, Yasin Ali Mondol, Babul Hossain, Borhan alias Shanto, Rafiqul Islam, Badsha, Abdul Matin, Shahjalal, Gulzar Hossain, Jalal Uddin, Masud Mondol, Saiful Islam and Abu Bakar are behind bars.

Elahi alias Mithu, Mamun alias Bullet and Shafique alias Pradip are on

the run.

Ratan alias Titas, who was killed in a "crossfire" with Rab in Bagmara on September 9 last year, was shown fugitive convict in the judgment as the court was not informed of his death, said Entajul Haque Babu, public prosecutor of the tribunal.



PHOTO: STAR

Twenty of the 24 people, sentenced to life imprisonment in the case for murder of a policeman and looting arms from Taherpur police outpost in Bagmara upazila under Rajshahi district in 2008, being taken to jail after their conviction by a Rajshahi court yesterday.

NILPHAMARI CIVIL SURGEON'S OFFICE

Appointments flouting rules

EAM ASADUZZAMAN,
Nilphamari

Surprisingly though, a 42-year-old man and a 16-year-old girl, also a class ten student, have joined as cook cum *moshalchi* in Domar and Dimla upazila health complexes, following their recruitment in violation of the government rules about the age limit.

Such incidents, seen as indicator of 'gross irregularities' in recent appointment of third and fourth class employees in several upazilas of Nilphamari district under the government's health department, have given rise to widespread agitation among locals.

A number of affected people alleged that unfit candidates were selected depriving the eligible ones through bribery in Nilphamari district civil surgeon's office.

"Following a complaint from me on behalf of the local freedom fighters, a deputy director of the regional office of the Anti-Corruption Commission conducted an inquiry into the matter early this month," said Zainal Abedin, chairman of Nilphamari district unit of Mukti Joddha Sangsad.

On May 19 this year, health department published newspaper advertisement seeking applications for recruitment to 83 posts of third and fourth class employees under 12 categories, mentioning that applicants must not be less than 18 years and above 30 years of age on June 12 this year, said health department sources in Nilphamari.

After completing all the formalities, Nilphamari civil surgeon (CS), also member secretary of the selection committee, published the final list of 70 recruited candidates under 11 categories on September 10.

Publication of names of rest 13 recruited candidates for office assistant cum computer operator post remained suspended due to a court injunction imposed on September 7 as a candidate from a freedom fighter's family filed a petition with the senior assistant judge's court in Nilphamari, alleging corruption in giving appointments.

Atowar Hossain, son of late Abul Mazid Dewan of village Chhatnai Balapara under Dimla upazila, was recruited as cook cum *moshalchi*, a fourth class post, and he joined Domar upazila health complex.

But the Election Commission's voter list used in last local body election shows that Atowar's date of birth is March 12, 1969. Accordingly, his age on June 12 was 42 years and 3 months. Geeta Rani Bhumali, wife of Ramesh Pal Das of Paschimpara Motukpur village in Domar upazila, was recruited as a sweeper. She joined Domar health complex but the voter list says her date of birth is April 4, 1981. Accordingly, her age was 30 years 2 months and 9 days on June 12.

Parvin Akther, daughter of Md Alinur Rahman of

Baburhat village of Dimla upazila, and a class ten student of Dimla High School, joined Dimla health complex as cook cum *moshalchi*. As per record of Dinajpur education board, her date of birth is October 1, 1995. Accordingly her age on June 12 was 16 years 5 months and 2 days.

However, after joining the health complex, Parvin applied to Dinajpur education board through the headmaster of Dimla High School to 'correct' the date of birth as December 1, 1991.

When this correspondent contacted Atowar for his version regarding his date of birth, he refused to talk over the matter.

Geeta Rani and Parvin Akther claimed that they submitted 'authentic documents' regarding their age.

Shahadat Hossain, director of health in Rangpur division, also president of the selection committee, said "Irregularities might have taken place, particularly in case of MLSS posts, as candidates submitted recommendation notes issued by headmasters and birth certificates by union parishad chairmen. In such papers, one's age is often mentioned according to the

will of the people concerned. Irregularities, if any, will be detected soon at the time of police verification."

He, however, added, "In fact, member secretary of the selection committee usually does the main tasks. I just put my signature on papers."

Nilphamari Civil Surgeon Abdur Rashid Akond claimed that all the appointments were made as per rules in a transparent way.

"We do not consider national identity card in ascertaining candidates' age. We only consider class eight pass recommendation notes and birth certificates issued by headmaster and UP chairmen concerned," he said.

Agitating candidates, on the other hand, alleged that the civil surgeon deliberately ignored national ID cards where dates of birth are clearly inscribed although it was specified in advertisement for recruitment that applicants have to submit attested photocopy of national ID card along with other documents.

Cross section of people including freedom fighters have demanded cancellation of the 'dubious' appointments and punishment to the responsible persons.

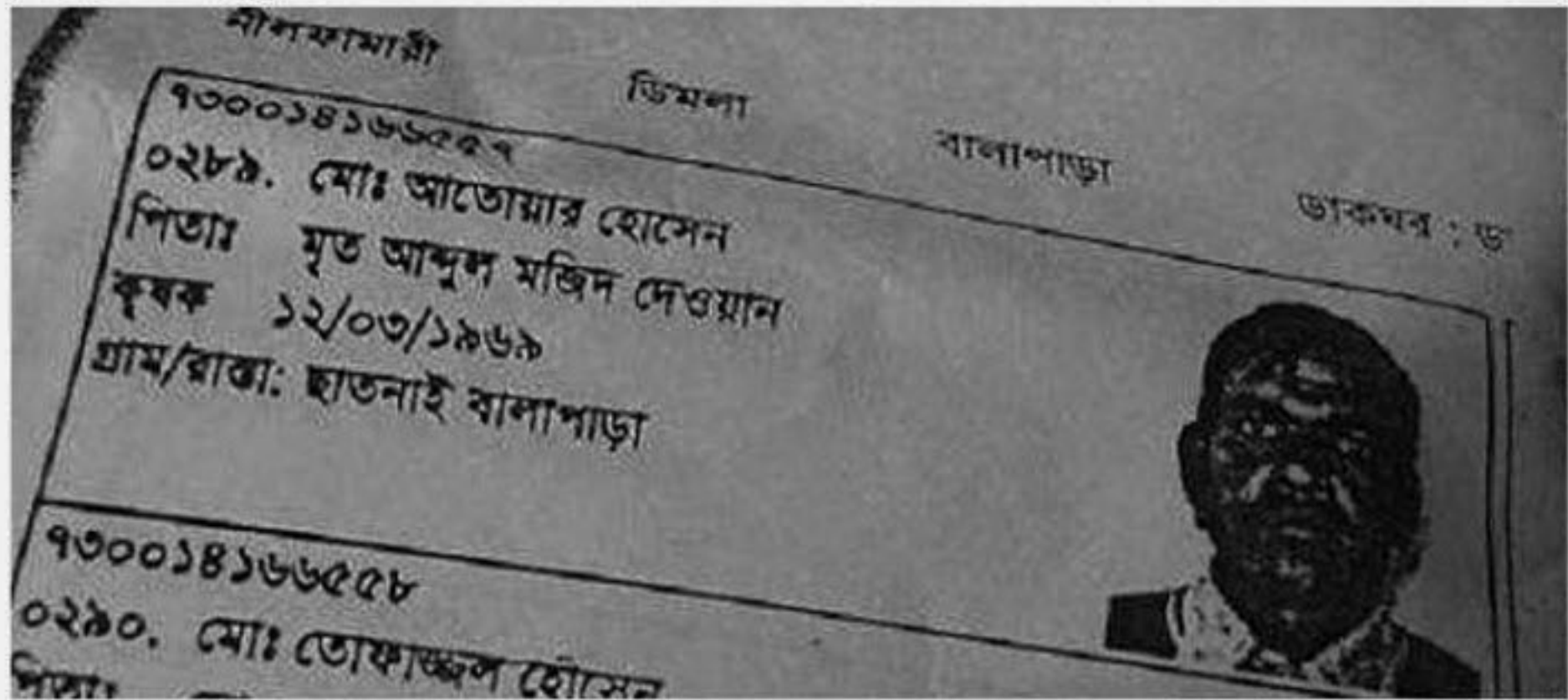


PHOTO: STAR

Md Atowar Rahman, over 42 years of age as per his date of birth inscribed in the voter list used in the last local government election, joined as an MLSS of Domar upazila health complex in Bogra district last month, although the advertisement for the job mentioned 30 years as the candidates' maximum age limit.

2 boys among 4 electrocuted

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Four people including two children were electrocuted in Jhenidah and Gaibandha districts yesterday.

Two boys were electrocuted at Damukdia village under Shaikupa upazila of Jhenidah yesterday, reports our correspondent.

The deceased were identified as Ashkur Rahman Nishan, 7, son of Shamsuzzaman Surjo of Damukdia village and Tuhin, 9, son of Abdul

Wadud of the same village.

Locals and police said, one Ashraf Islam Topu of the village fenced his poultry farm with electric wire to keep the thieves, dogs and jackals away. Early yesterday morning, the two boys came in contact with live wire on the way to madrasa and died on the spot.

Topu's wife Soheli Aktar Baby, arrested by police, said her husband went into hiding after the incident.

In Gaibandha, a man and a woman were electrocuted at Pashchim Kuptola

village in Sadar upazila yesterday, reports UNB.

The deceased were identified as Mozammel Haque and Isovani Begum, wife of Kona Mia of the village.

Locals said, Mozammel was electrocuted at noon. He came in contact with a live wire while returning home with the bundle of grass he mowed from a field near his house.

Hearing scream, his neighbour Isovani went to save him, but she too got electrocuted.

8 injured as fishery owner opens fire

UNB, Moulvibazar

Eight people sustained bullet injuries as they came under gun attack allegedly by the owner of a fishery at Shikrail in Sadar upazila on Saturday.

Local sources said about 200 people went to catch fish at a local river, known as Chhoto Nadi, at about 11:00am.

But a locally influential man, identified as Abdul Mukit and owner of a fishery, prevented them from catching fish.

Mukit fired on them from his licensed gun as the locals started to catch fish ignoring his order, leaving eight people wounded.

Those who came to catch fish hurriedly left the spot following the gun attack. One of the injured, Siraj Mia, 40, was admitted to Sylhet Osmani Medical College and Hospital in a critical condition.

Other injured, Kamrul Islam, Surman Khan, Ruman Khan, Jilkad Khan, Selim Mia, Alamgir Mia and Ruman Mia, were admitted to different local hospitals.

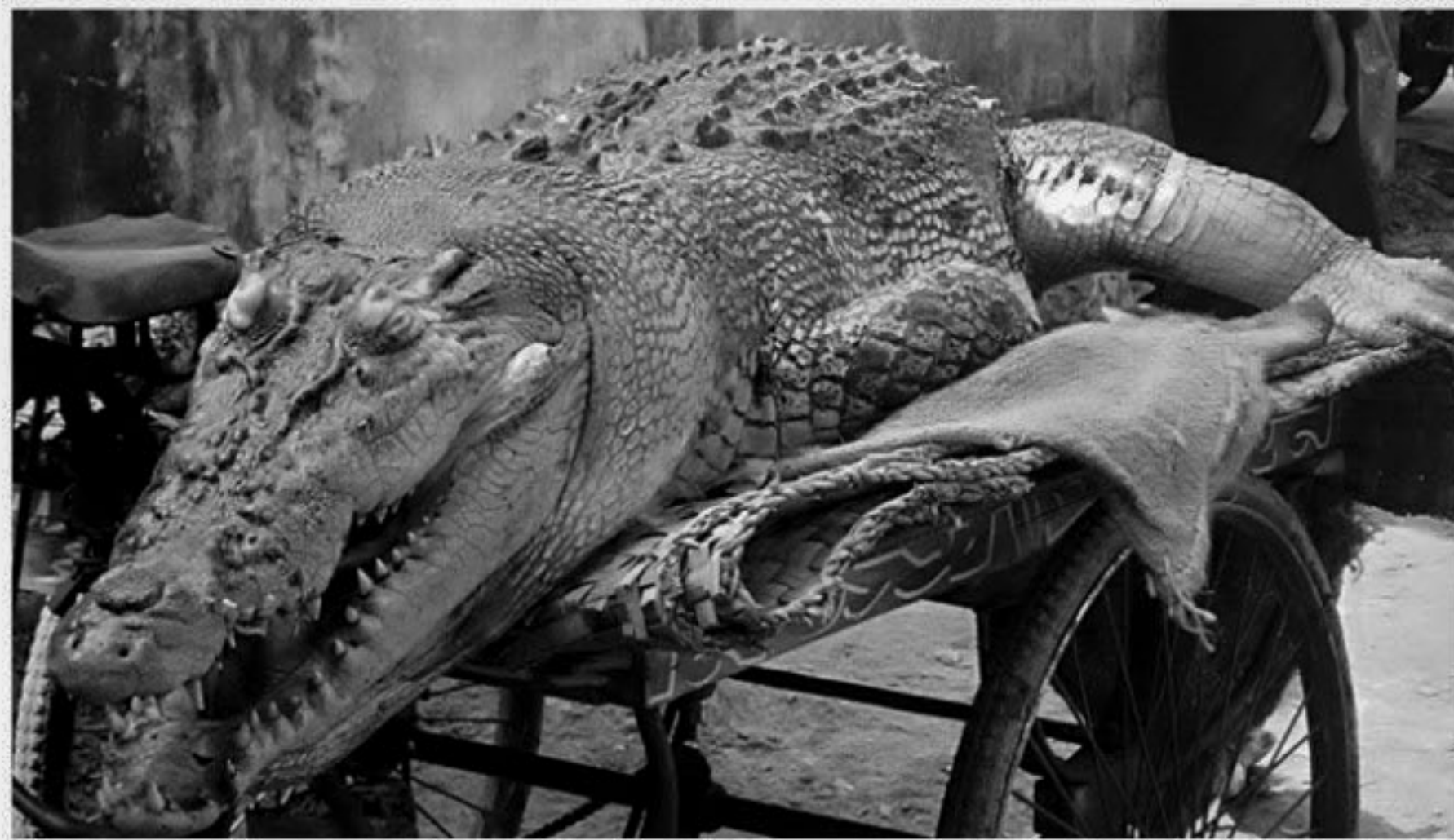


PHOTO: STAR

This saline water crocodile of Khan Jahan Ali shrine was allegedly beaten to death while laying eggs on Friday night.

Croc 'Rocket' was beaten dead?

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Khulna

'Rocket', a saline water crocodile belonging to the *dighi* (large tank) of Hazrat Khanjahan Ali shrine in Bagerhat Sadar upazila, was allegedly beaten to death on Friday night when she was laying eggs on the bank of a pond owned by a *khadem* (caretaker) of the shrine.

Surprisingly, *khadem* Sher Ali shifted the white colour crocodile to his personal pond from the

dighi in July this year, said FM Mostafa, another *khadem* of the shrine.

"There are injury marks in the body of the crocodile. Findings of post mortem report will reveal real cause of the death of this 30-year-old reptile," Bagerhat Sadar upazila livestock officer Dr Lutfar Rahman said.

Legal action will be taken through conducting proper investigation into the incident after receiving post mortem report to

confirm if Rocket was beaten dead or poisoned to death, said Bagerhat Sadar upazila nirbahi officer Md Shariful Islam, also a member of Khanjahan Ali shrine committee.

"The crocodile was a bit naughty by nature and two people were injured as they came under attack by Rocket two months ago on the bank of the pond," said Bagerhat Sadar police station officer in charge Moazeem Hossain.

Manoroma Basu, the undying flame

25th death anniversary observed

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Barisal

The 25th death anniversary of Manoroma Basu, a legendary women's rights activist, was observed here yesterday.

On the occasion, Jatiya Nari Sramik Trade Union Kendra arranged a discussion on the life and works of the political and women's rights activist in the city yesterday.

Paying tributes to Manoroma Basu, popularly known as 'Masima', the discussants recalled her contributions to the inde-

pendence of the Indian subcontinent from the British colonial rule and the movement for establishing women's rights.

Manoroma was born to Nilkantha Roy and Promoda Sundari Roy at Narottampur village under Banaripara upazila of Barisal district in 1897. At the age of 14, she was married to Chintaharan Basu, zamindar of Bakai in Barisal.

Manoroma took part in the freedom movement and set up a branch of Sarojnini Mahila Samity for safeguard-



ing women's rights. In 1930, she became a Congress worker. She joined the non-cooperation movement and was imprisoned in 1932. She established an educa-

tion centre for females at her house in Kawnia area of Barisal city in 1932. She founded 'Matri Mandir', an institution to rehabilitate the destitute girls, at her residence in Barisal town in 1933-34.

Manoroma was jailed by Pakistan government for four years from 1948-52. Her husband Zamindar Chintaharan Basu died on May 10 in 1954.

She was the founder of Nari Kalyan Bhaban, Mukul Milon Khelaghar, Palli Unnyan Amrita Pathagar and Matri Mandir School.

Position Vacancy

Reproductive Health Advisor, MCHIP Bangladesh

Department: Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP)
Position Reports To: Chief of Party, MCHIP MaMoni
Positions Supervised: None
Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Overview: The RH Advisor will support the MCHIP MaMoni Chief of Party to oversee and supervise maternal health, family planning, and quality improvement activities for all MCHIP-supported initiatives in Bangladesh at the national and district levels. The RH Advisor will be an integral part of the MCHIP team in Bangladesh and will receive technical support from Jhpiego/MCHIP technical experts as needed to ensure quality assurance. The RH Advisor will liaise directly with MCHIP staff (including the MaMoni Deputy Director, Manager for Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH)/Family Planning (FP), Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) Program Manager, White Ribbon Alliance Bangladesh National Coordinator, and the Mobile Alliance for Maternal Health (MAMA) Coordinator) and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare staff (including the Maternal and Child Health Program Manager, Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) and RH Program Manager, and Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)).

Responsibilities:

- Supervise and provide technical support on reproductive health interventions to the MCHIP-supported MaMoni, MAMA and HSS initiatives
- Support message development for maternal health on MAMA and oversee implementation of MAMA by partner, Development Research Network (D.Net).
- Provide technical support to MCHIP-supported MaMoni and HSS initiative on quality assurance related to MNH-FP-nutrition interventions at national, community, district, and facility levels.
- Provide technical support towards upgrading facilities in MCHIP project areas and ensuring institutionalization of standards-based quality improvement process.
- Provide technical guidance in the development of and implementation of integrated FP activities, with a special emphasis on postpartum family planning (PPFP), ensure application of international best practices in project activities, integrate key FP messages into household counseling community mobilization and other communication channels, and promote the application of lessons learned from the MCHIP Healthy Fertility Study in other MCHIP projects, including MaMoni.
- Serve as an advisor on quality improvement for MCHIP and MaMoni.
- Provide technical support to MaMoni on Maternal Health activities, and liaise with the Directorates of DGFP and DGHS on scaling up of evidence-based high impact maternal health interventions, including:
 - Community-based misoprostol to prevent postpartum hemorrhage
 - Active management of the third stage of labor
 - Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia
 - Quality assurance
- Coordinate the MCHIP effort of development of Maternal Health Standard Operating Procedures under the OIC-USG collaborative initiative.
- Coordinate with key maternal health stakeholders such as, Obstetrical and Gynecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB), Bangladesh Perinatal Society (BPS), EngenderHealth, and White Ribbon Alliance, Bangladesh in promoting and advocating for priority issues in maternal health.
- Work closely with Program Manager-Strategic Communications to ensure documentation and communication of maternal health components of MCHIP projects and, together with Manager-Coordination, to ensure effective coordination between in-country MCHIP components.

Required and Preferred Qualifications/Skills:

- Medical, midwifery or nursing degree required, with specialization in reproductive health preferred.
- Minimum 8 years (10+ preferred) of demonstrated experience working on public health programs in Bangladesh, and preferably reproductive health programs.
- Proven leadership skills, as well as skills in mentoring and coaching required.
- Demonstrated diplomacy and negotiation skills that demonstrate ability to collaborate and coordinate with a range of stakeholders in the context of complex and shifting priorities required.
- Quality improvement and assurance experience is required.
- Ability to work in a complex environment with multiple tasks, short deadlines and intense pressure to perform required.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills required.
- Proven coaching and capacity building skills required.
- Ability to develop productive working relationships with counterparts in other agencies and organizations required.
- Strong decision making skills and results oriented approach required.
- Excellent written and oral English and Bangla language skills required.
- Excellent computer skills and presentation skills required.

Interested candidates are requested to send an application and detailed CV to Jaime Mungia (jmungia@jhpigo.net) by 23rd of October, 2011. Short listed candidates may be called for an interview between 25-27th of October, 2011.

Jhpiego offers competitive salaries and a comprehensive employee benefits package including: medical and dental plans; paid vacation, holidays and sick leave; personal accident insurance; 403(b) retirement plan; life and disability insurance; travel insurance; education assistance plan and more.

Send resumes to www.jobs-jhpigo.icims.com. For further information about Jhpiego, visit our website at www.jhpigo.org

Note: The successful candidate selected for this position will be subject to a pre-employment background investigation.

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