

KOLKATA HOSPITAL FIRE

Six charged, toll rises to 91

AGENCIES

Six senior executives were charged yesterday with culpable homicide and violating safety norms over a hospital fire in Kolkata that killed at least 91 people.

The six executives are from the two companies that co-owned the hospital where poisonous fumes spread from a blaze in the building's basement. The charges, if proved, could result in a maximum 10-year imprisonment.

Javed Khan, head of the fire service in West Bengal state -- of which Kolkata is the capital -- suggested the incident pointed towards gross negligence and serious violations of safety norms.

"There was a fire in 2008 in the same hospital and we are trying to probe how the authorities got their fire licence renewed," Khan told AFP.

On Friday, patients were lowered down the outside of the hospital on ropes after the fire broke out in the early hours of Friday at the privately-run AMRI hospital, engulfing the multi-storey premises in thick smoke.

Firefighters and staff smashed glass



Social activists hold a silent rally for the victims of the hospital fire that killed 91 people in Kolkata yesterday.

PHOTO:

windows to evacuate some of the 160 patients, with local media alleging that fire alarms and extinguishers had not been working.

Initial investigations suggested the fire might have been started by a short circuit

in the basement, which was used to store oxygen cylinders, plastic pipes, fibre coils, chemicals and medical equipment.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh voiced his "shock and anguish" at the heavy loss of life.

Karzai will not seek third term

AFP, Kabul

Afghan President Hamid Karzai is not secretly planning to change the country's constitution to seek a third term in power, his spokesman insisted yesterday.

Recent media reports, citing a document set out by Germany's foreign intelligence service, said Karzai was seeking special dispensation to guide the country through uncertainty after Nato ends its combat mission in 2014.

But Aimal Faizi said Karzai, the only leader in Afghanistan since the 2001 US-led invasion brought down the Taliban, was not planning to change the constitution, which allows two terms as president.



Remya Rajan

at the AMRI Hospitals in Kolkata a few months ago.

And the news of Vineetha's death came as a severe jolt to her family that had rejoiced over the first savings she had sent from her salary last month. She had joined the hospital only two months ago after completing general nursing from a private nursing college in Andhra Pradesh.

Addition of a new earning member to the family had brought relief to her father Kunjunmon and mother Mary.

But the tragedy had little mercy on them who till the last minute kept their awareness of responsibility.

They died to save patients

THE HINDU ONLINE

Even as the Kolkata hospital fire news was flashed by the visual media, Kottayam district of Kerala, home to one of the largest numbers of paramedical personnel in India, mostly nurses, was caught in a grip of anxiety. And their fear came true.

Two nurses from Kerala, PK Vineetha and Remya Rajan, died after fighting a valiant battle to save patients. They both worked in the female general ward.

"There were nine patients in the ward and they could save eight of them. Both the girls had gone up to save the ninth patient, who had suffered a fracture, but succumbed to smoke and heat. Only one patient died in the ward," said Deputy Nursing Superintendent Sumini over telephone.

Early in the morning, Remya had told her mother Usha over phone that the building was on fire. She was not clear whether she would be able to escape. She disconnected the call in haste as she had to join the rescue operations.

Usha stayed alone in her house at Uzhaboor. Rajappan, her husband and a daily wage earner, died nearly five years ago. She admitted Remya in a nursing course in a private college in Andhra Pradesh with the help of a bank loan. Remya passed out last year and was urgently in need of a job as she had to repay the loan. She got the job at the AMRI Hospitals in Kolkata a few months ago.

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Govt cheated us: Hazare

Day-long fast today

PTI, New Delhi

On the eve of day-long fast to protest against the parliamentary standing committee report on Lokpal Bill, Anna Hazare yesterday said government has "cheated" the entire country and that he will carry on his campaign till next Lok Sabha elections to create awareness against UPA govt.

The social activist said he suspected that Congress general secretary Rahul Gandhi was behind standing committee rejecting even Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's promise to include the Citizen's charter.

"There is somebody behind... Who is bigger than the Prime Minister?... We suspect Rahul Gandhi could be behind this..." Hazare said, alleging that their intentions are "not good".

Hazare, who will hold a day-long fast at jantar mantar on December 11, said he will resume his anti-corruption agitation from December 27 and then carry on this for next two years till the Lok Sabha elections.

Recruitment of a Communications Specialist

Cowater International Inc. is the implementing agency for a project of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), "Strengthening Comptrollership and Oversight of Public Expenditure" (SCOPE). This is a capacity development project, working with the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG) of Bangladesh. We are seeking applicants for a full-time consultant as the Communications Specialist. The primary responsibilities of the Communications Specialist will be to assist the SCOPE project, working closely with OCAG and an international Parliamentary Relations Expert to:

- Further develop and refine external communications strategies and action plans, including a Public Relations Handbook, PAC Handbook and Media Handbook;
- Further develop and refine internal communications strategies;
- Lead orientation workshops and seminars for OCAG;
- Strengthen the OCAG Communications Cell;
- Provide advice with respect to the further development of the OCAG website; and
- Provide ongoing assistance to OCAG with respect to their communications activities, including press releases;
- Develop relationships with the OCAG, the Public Accounts Committee and other committees of parliament regarding media and communications matters

Desired qualifications include the following:

- Relevant University education at the graduate level;
- At least 10 years of directly relevant experience;
- Experience in developing or improving handbooks, guides, and other tools;
- Very good understanding of the public sector in Bangladesh
- Demonstrated skills and experience in facilitating workshops and other training events;
- Fluency in English; and
- Excellent communication and writing skills.

The position is full-time for one year and may be extended. Applications are being sought from individual consultants only, not from firms and other organizations. Please send your CV and remuneration expectations by 1 January 2012 to:

Peter J. Armstrong
Field Project Manager

SCOPE Project
2nd 12-Storied Government Building
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Applications can also be sent by fax or by email:

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

FARS Hotel & Resorts a newly built 4 star Standard hotel is going to be opened shortly in the center point of the Dhaka City. Now, we are looking for some good young people (male & female) having great smile, energy, self-motivation, enthusiasm & ambition for the following positions:

SI.	Position	Educational Qualification	Experience & Skills
General Staff:			
01	Accountant	Masters in Accounting.	5 years experience in similar position preferably in Hotel Industries. Should have skills on hotel software operation, MS Excel & good command over English.
02	Admin & IT Officer	Masters/Graduate.	5 years experience in similar position. Should be able to work with Hotel Management Software & trouble shooting of all computer application packages/ IT problems.
03	Purchase Officer	Masters/Graduate.	2 years experience in similar position.
04	Store Keeper	Commerce Graduate.	2 years experience in store management. Should be able to work with the hotel software & fluent in English.
05	Security Officer	HSC/SSC	5 years experience as security in charge. Must be able to speak, read and write English.
06	Security Guard	Class eight	2 years job experience. Retired armed forces personnel will be given preference.
Front Office:			
07	Front Office Manager	Masters/Graduate.	5 years experience as Front Office Manager in any 3-4 star rated hotel. Should be able to work with the hotel management software, other computer usages & good command over English both spoken & written.
08	Front Office Supervisor (Male / Female)	Masters/Graduate.	2 years experience as Front Office Supervisor in any 3 star rated hotel. Should be able to work with hotel management software having good communication skills & fluency in English both spoken & written.
09	Front Office Executive/ Telephone Operator. (Male/Female)	Masters/Graduate.	2 years experience in 3 star rated hotel/International Deluxe Hotel. Should be able to work with the hotel management software having good communication skills, positive attitude & fluent in English.
10	Bell Captain	HSC	5 years experience in 3 star rated hotel/Intl. Dlx. Hotel. Must be able to speak, read & write in English.
11	Bell Man	HSC/SSC	2 years experience in 3 star rated hotel/Intl. Dlx. Hotel. Must be able to speak, read & write in English.
12	Door Man	SSC	2 years experience in International Deluxe Hotel. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
13	Driver	SSC	5 years job experience preferably in hospitality sector. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
Food & Beverage Service:			
14	Restaurant Manager	Masters/Graduate.	5 years experience as a restaurant manager in any 3/4 star rated hotel. Should be able to work with the hotel management software & fluent in English.
15	Banquet Manager	Masters/Graduate.	5 years experience as a restaurant / banquet manager in any 3/4 star rated hotel. Should be able to work with the hotel software & fluent in English.
16	Restaurant Supervisor	Graduate/HSC	3 years experience as a restaurant supervisor in any international standard hotel. Should be able to work with the hotel software & fluent in English.
17	Cashier	Commerce Graduate	2 years experience as a cashier in any international Deluxe hotel or restaurant. Should be able to work with hotel management software & fluent in English.
18	Sr. Waiter / Waitress	HSC/SSC	3 years experience in any international Deluxe hotel or restaurant. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
19	Waiter / Waitress	HSC/SSC	1 year job experience in any international Deluxe hotel or restaurant and training received from any recognized institution. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
Food & Beverage Production:			
20	Executive Chef	HSC	5 years experience as executive chef in any 3/4 star rated hotel. Must be able to speak, read & write English. Computer knowledge will be an added advantage.
21	Head Cook (Thai, Chinese, Continental, Indian, Bangladeshi & Cold Kitchen)	SSC	5 years experience in any International Deluxe hotel/Restaurant. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
22	Cook (Thai, Chinese, Continental, Indian, Bangladeshi & Cold Kitchen)	SSC	5 years experience in any International Deluxe Hotel/Restaurant.
23	Cook Assistant (Thai, Chinese, Continental, Indian, Bangladeshi & Cold Kitchen)	Class Eight	2 years experience in any International Deluxe Hotel/Restaurant.
24	Dish Washer / Steward	Class Eight	2 years experience in any International Hotel/Restaurant.
House Keeping:			
25	Executive House Keeper	Masters/Graduate.	5 years experience in any 3-4 star rated hotel. Should be able to work with hotel management software & good command over English.
26	House Keeping Supervisor	HSC/SSC	2 years experience in any international deluxe hotel. Should be able to work with hotel management software & fluent in English.
27	Room Attendant	SSC	2 years experience in any international deluxe hotel.
28	House Man	SSC	2 years experience in any international deluxe hotel.
29	Gardener	Class Eight	2 years experience required.
30	Cleaner	Class Eight	2 years experience required.
31	Electrician	Class Eight	5 years experience required.
32	Plumber	Class Eight	5 years experience required.
33	Laundry in Charge	HSC/SSC	5 years experience in international standard laundry industry. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
34	Washing Man	Class Eight	2 years experience required.
35	Pressing Man	Class Eight	2 years experience required.
36	Laundry Helper	Class Eight	2 years experience required.
Club & Recreation Center:			
37	Club Manager	Masters/Graduate.	5 years experience required in similar. Should be able to work with the hotel software & fluent in English
38	Gym & Game Instructor	SSC	2 years experience required in international standard gym/physical fitness center/health club. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
39	Pool Attendant	SSC	2 years experience in any international hotel or international club. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
40	Barber	SSC	5 years experience in any international hotel/posh area saloon/barber shop. Must be able to speak, read & write English.
Sales & Marketing:			
41	Manager, Sales & Marketing	Masters/Graduate.	5 years experience in any international deluxe hotel/3 star rated hotel. Should have very good communication skill as well as to be able to work with the hotel operation software & good command over English.
42	Executive, Sales & Marketing	Masters/Graduate.	2 years experience in any international deluxe hotel having good communication skill and should be able to work with hotel management software & fluent in English.

FARS Hotel & Resort Ltd offers an excellent opportunity for rapid carrier growth in this segment of hospitality management. Interested Candidates are invited to submit their CV along with necessary papers in following address on or before December 20, 2011.

FARS Hotel & Resort Ltd. | Corporate Office: Akram Tower (15th floor), 199, Shahid Syed Nazrul Islam Sharani, Dhaka-1000.

