



Wendy Sherman, under secretary for political affairs of USA, meets Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Gono Bhaban in the capital yesterday. (Story on page 1)

PHOTO: PMO

## No more pvt medical colleges: Dr Ruhul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government would not give permission to open any new private medical college in the country, said Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr AFM Ruhul Huq.

He hoped that a sufficient number of physicians would come out from existing 22 public and 53 private medical colleges within two to three years. Now the population-doctor ratio is 3012:1, he mentioned.

The minister was speaking at a press briefing at his secretariat office yesterday ahead of the World Health Day to be observed on April 7 with a slogan "Ageing and Health."

Asked how the government has given permission to open new private medical colleges without ensuring their infrastruc-

ture and teachers, he said the government would strictly monitor the private medical colleges to ensure quality education.

Ruhul Huq said the government has permitted to open a number of private medical colleges as the number of physicians is very insufficient compared to the total population.

With ageing, the elderly people fall victim to several chronic diseases, but the hospitals in the country lack proper support to them, he said adding that the government would introduce such facilities soon.

The minister suggested involvement of the elderly people in development work as well as creating suitable job and health care facilities in hospitals on priority basis and raising fund for them.

## UK to continue to allow best migrants

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The British government will continue to allow the brightest and best migrants to UK and the annual limit on skilled workers from outside the European Union (EU) will remain at 20,700 for the next two years.

Business and other lobbies in the UK have consistently warned that overseas companies are in danger of pulling out of the UK if they are unable to make long-term plans about staffing, due to a series of changes to the laws on non-EU workers.

A press release of British High Commission in Dhaka yesterday said the government has listened to businesses and maintained the numerical limit at the same level until April 2014.

This will give companies greater certainty

and consistency to make plans for the future, it said.

The visa cap was imposed as part of Home Office efforts to meet the Conservative election pledge to reduce net migration from the current quarter of a million to less than 100,000.

Immigration Minister Damian Green Wednesday said: "The government has been clear that the UK is open for business and our limit has been designed with the industry's needs in mind."

The press release said a number of middle-management jobs such as IT technicians and security managers will no longer be open to migrant workers.

However, highly-skilled occupations such as architects, teachers and chemical engineers will still be available.

## Chittagong delicacies put on show

TAREK MAHMUD, City

A three-day food festival showcasing the delicacies of Chittagong started at MA Aziz Stadium gymnasium in the port city yesterday, on the 7th day of Odommo Chattagram celebration.

Organised by The Daily Star, the Chittagong Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CWCCI) coordinated the food mania. The festival is open to all from 10:00am to 9:00pm every day until April 7.

CWCCI Chairperson Monwara Hakim Ali along with Chittagong Bureau Chief of The Daily Star Raisul Huq Bahar inaugurated the festival around 5:00pm. Shariar Shahid, marketing and business manager of The Daily Star gave the welcome speech.

In her speech, Monwara Hakim said, "Through this festival the women of Chittagong will be able to feature their capability and the local tradition." The Daily Star took a timely initiative to showcase the port city, she added.

A total of 35 renowned entrepreneurs in 40 stalls participated in the festival with traditional foods of Chittagong and the country as well.

The main attractions of the festival are meat and dried fish items of Mezban (traditional public feast of Chittagong), the symbol of the port city.

Some of the exclusive traditional dishes of the country like fish and chicken curries, mashed items, pickles and juice and soft drinks and many other types of snacks are on hand in the festival. There are also arrangements of musical performances to entertain the crowd.

"The festival will also focus on the development of the food sector of the country," said CWCCI Director Mahmuda Hadi, also the convener of the festival committee.

"Women of Bangladesh, especially of the port city, have a good reputation in food business. That is why, we will exhibit our progress in the sector through the festival," said GA Rayhan, business development consultant of CWCCI.

আদম্য চট্টগ্রাম

### SENIOR RESEARCHER POSITION AT ULAB

The newly created **Center for Enterprise and Society** at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) is hiring for a Senior Researcher position to play a leadership role in developing, implementing, and publishing an exciting research agenda on issues of business development, the challenges to entrepreneurship, and responsible business leadership. Interested individuals with strong research and English writing skills, a graduate level degree, and (preferably) strong substantive knowledge of business challenges in Bangladesh should contact Tanzina Akhter at [ces@ulab.edu.bd](mailto:ces@ulab.edu.bd) for more information, or to submit a cover letter and CV. Successful applicants will also have the option of teaching at ULAB.



**UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS BANGLADESH**  
Hs 56, Rd 4A (Satmasjid Road), Dhanmondi, Dhaka 1209  
Phone: 9661255, 9661301



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