

Jica too pulls out of Padma

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The minister said 45 days was needed to complete the tender process and another 15 days for its evaluation, adding that construction of the bridge could start in two months. Muhith said this while talking to reporters after formally inaugurating the 17th Annual Sports of Customs, Excise and VAT wing of the National Board of Revenue held at Bangladesh Customs, Excise and VAT Training Academy ground in the port city. "It may need two to three months for mobilisation of construction of the bridge," said the minister in reply to a query. The minister's comment

came two days after the government had formally withdrawn its request to the WB for financing the country's largest ever infrastructure project. Asked about the government's stance on WB assistance, Muhith said the Economic Relations Department had already released a statement about the project funding. "We have told the World Bank that their schedule for implementing the Padma bridge doesn't match with ours. Since it is one of our electoral pledges, we have to do some work on it," he said, adding, the government had so far tried to work with the WB so that it could do something on the

project within its tenure. "It seems it is not possible now. So we have to manage it," he observed. On the co-financing agreement, he said other organisations could come up and the government was also trying to get fund from other donors. "If we fail to get financial assistance, we will implement the project by ourselves," Muhith said. "How long can we wait for implementing a project? It could have started in 2011. Now it is 2013. We have waited long enough," he added. The minister said the government was investigating the graft allegation in the project raised by the WB. "We are probing it in the

way they wanted. As it is not working even after that, now it is time to take our decision," he said, adding that it could be judged after 50 years whether the government's decision was good or bad. "We must implement the project at any cost. If possible, we will construct it with our own fund or with the help of others," he said. Mentioning that necessary work centring the project was on, the minister said they had already acquired land for it and rehabilitation of the displaced had already been completed. **JICA STATEMENT**
Of the four major donors, the government withdrew

the request for WB funding, while Jica and the Asian Development Bank pulled out of the project yesterday. In the \$2.9 billion project the WB's share was \$1.2 billion, the ADB's \$615 million, while Jica was supposed to provide \$450 million. Jica in its statement says its policy is to require the highest standard of ethics. Acknowledging the progress of the investigation into the corruption allegations, Jica says it supports the government's firm commitment to fight corruption, and wishes the Anti-Corruption Commission to continue with a full and fair investigation. The Jica adds the government has informed it of the decision to withdraw the request to the WB for funding. It is regrettable that they could not find the way to go forward under the current financial framework. Jica's effort did not help overcome the difficult situations, although Jica has been intensively consulting with the government and the other co-financiers after WB cancelled the loan last June. The agency continues to commit to assist development and good governance of the country and to deliver the result to the people through financial and technical cooperation, the statement adds.

Do the math

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World Bank, a lead financier of the \$2.9-billion project, on Friday revealed that the government wrote to it to say it was no longer pursuing the \$1.2 billion funding from the Washington-based lender. Mirza Azizul Islam, a former caretaker government adviser, said the impact of the decision would be unfavourable for the country. He said it would not be possible to generate revenues for mobilising about \$2 billion. "We may have to go for drastic expenditure cut elsewhere under the Annual Development Programme, which means, many of the approved projects will be terminated." The government may go for other bilateral parties, which is definitely going to be a lot more expensive, in terms of interest rates and maturity period, said Islam, adding, "It will not be economically rational if we jump into it without a detailed analysis." According to Islam, the foreign exchange component in the project is very high. "So, if we take the foreign exchange liability, it will have a pressure on our exchange rate." The bridge is an import-intensive project with about 75 percent of the total project cost going in imports of goods and services. It will require about \$2.2 billion worth of imports. Islam said the government can start the implementation of the project

anyway. "But it has to keep the conclusion in mind." Islam said he did not see the option for soft loans unless the government withdrew its letter and stated that it was willing to meet all the conditions. "In such case, there will be a loss of face to a large extent." Salehuddin Ahmed, a former central bank governor, said: "It is possible to construct the bridge with domestic resources, but it will not be logical." The economist observed that the government should try to mobilise soft loans and open dialogues with development partners on getting cheap loans. According to him the government's decision to pull out of the discussion will discourage other donors. It is not necessary that this government laid the foundation stone for the project, said Salehuddin, adding, "It should first try to sort out the financial issues." Executive Director of Transparency International, Bangladesh Iftekharuzzaman, said the Padma bridge had become uncertain. What the government was saying was only the initial process. It was political statement. "By shutting the door on discussion with the World Bank, the government has lost an opportunity to demonstrate committed towards its election pledge of fighting graft. "It will also raise question about the government's priority as to whether it has

sacrificed the country and the people's interest in protecting one or two persons," he told The Daily Star. "The government's failure to bring all responsible people to book will encourage more high-level corruption." Ahsan H Mansur, executive director of Policy Research Institute, a respected think-tank, said he saw no possibility of starting the physical work by September this year. He said the government should initiate economic diplomacy and try hard to mobilise funds from other development partners as much as possible. For example, the World Bank's IDA loan carries 0.75 percent per annum service charges, a decade-long grace period, and a repayment period of 40 years.

Of boat, culture

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one of 10 fast growing cities of the city -- District Shilpakala Academy at Dampara, Alliance Française de Chittagong (AFC) at Chawk Bazar, Bishod Bangla at Mehedibagh, the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) and Taratari Shipyard at Kalurghat. Only the concluding event on February 9 will be held at Sonadia Paschim Para School in Cox's Bazar. The gala will include film show, folk song, recitation, "slow-food" festival, conference and photo exhibition. At a press conference at AFC yesterday, Raisul Huq Bahar, Chittagong bureau chief of the English daily, and Samuel Berthet, director of AFC, gave details of the festival. The newspaper made the effort with AFC this year to fulfil its pledge to continue promoting history, culture, heritage and economic potentials of Chittagong, Raisul said. Although Chittagong is

directed by Ritwik Ghatak will be screened at the academy at 7:00pm. Tomorrow, a number of films will be screened at AFC. In the conference session, Samuel, director of Alliance Française, will present a paper on Bengal maritime history in perspective; Jean-Françoise Salles, professor of archaeology of Lyon University, France, on the Bay of Bengal and the ancient maritime routes; Momin Chowdhury, supernumerary professor of history department, Dhaka University, on "History of Bengal: a maritime perspective" and Yves Marre on "Boats of Bengal yesterday and today" at the venue. Bangopasagar is the title of the second day. On the third day titled "Kon Kon Zabi", Manzoorul Kibria, a teacher of Chittagong University, will present a paper on the Haldia river and Shahhaj Leena, a researcher of University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh, on "Sea and sky wisdom of

Chittagong mariners" at AFC. A book exhibition will be organised at Bishod Bangla. A concert by Abdul Gafur Hali and Babul Jal Das and a recitation programme by Proma Abritti Sanghat will also be held at Shilpakala Academy. The fourth day's events are a conference at CCCI at 11.00am and a film show at AFC. It is titled "Egiye Cholo". On Thursday, a photography exhibition and a food festival will be held at AFC in the evening. The day is titled "Shutki Khao". The sixth day is titled "Sampanat". Minister for Textiles and Jute Abdul Latif Siddiqui will inaugurate the first ever fibre boat in Bangladesh at Taratari Shipyard in Kalurghat. France Ambassador to Bangladesh Michel Trinquier will be present there as chief guest. On Saturday, the festival will be concluded through a visit to Sonadia Paschim Para School at Sonadia in Cox's Bazar.

JUSTICE IMPEACHMENT
Sri Lanka blocks int'l probe
AFP, Colombo
Sri Lanka has blocked entry of a London-based group of lawyers who planned to probe the controversial impeachment of the island's chief justice, the International Bar Association said yesterday. The group expressed "serious concern" over the withdrawal of visas for the Human Rights Institute lawyers, who were due to visit Colombo for 10 days starting Friday. The institute is a branch of the bar association.

BIRDEM GENERAL HOSPITAL
(An Enterprise of the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh)
Ibrahim Memorial Diabetes Centre, 122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000.

Notice

For post graduate training "Trainee Resident Doctor" will be selected in BIRDEM in the following department.

Sl#	Name of the Department	Required qualifications for this training
01	(i) Gynae & Obs. (ii) Anaesthesiology	MBBS or equivalent degree from any Medical College or Institute recognized by BMDC with One year of Internship training and registration from BMDC. Preference will be given to the candidates having FCPS Part-1/MD Part-1/MS Part-1 or equivalent.

This will be non practicing and whole time. For this honorarium will be paid according to rule.

Applications to be submitted in prescribed form, obtainable from Cash Counter # 15 & 22, BIRDEM, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000, on all working days (from 9-00 A.M. to 12-30 P.M). The price of each application form is Tk. 400/-. Name of the trainee posts with speciality should be clearly written on the envelope. One copy of money receipt must be attached with the application form. The application along with required papers (as per instruction on the application form) should reach on or before **18.02.2013** either dropped in the box placed in front of room # 230 or sent by post. Only short listed candidates will be called for interview. Incomplete applications may be rejected. Applicants who are in service should apply through proper channel.

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Employment Notice

Applications are invited from the citizen of Bangladesh for the following posts.

Sl#	Name of the Post	Qualifications
01	Chief Scientific Officer/Professor (Laboratory) Pay Scale: Tk. 29000-35600/- & all other admissible allowances.	1.(a) MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. (b) Five years experience as Associate Professor with any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/M.Phil/MS/MRC path. or equivalent in relevant subject. (c) Five Scientific Publication in Medical Journals recognized by the BMDC. OR 2. 1st Class MSc or 2nd Class MSc with 2nd Class Hons with PhD or equivalent degree in the relevant subject with 15 years experience of which at least 5 years shall be in the equivalent post of Principal Scientific Officer.
02	Junior Consultant/Asstt. Professor (Internal Medicine) Pay Scale: Tk. 18500-29700/- & all other admissible allowances.	1. MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2. Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/MRCP/MSc in Internal Medicine or equivalent in the relevant subject. 3. Candidates having teaching experience & Publication in the relevant subject will get preference.
03	Asstt. Professor (Histopathology) For Pathology Department Pay Scale: Tk. 18500-29700/- & all other admissible allowances.	1. MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2. Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/M.Phil/MS/MSc/MRC path. in Histopathology or equivalent in relevant subject. 3. Candidates having teaching experience & Publication in relevant subject will get preference.
04	Sr. Research Officer/Asstt. Professor (Microbiology) Pay Scale: Tk. 18500-29700/- & all other admissible allowances.	1.(a) MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. (b) Any of the following post graduate degree recognized by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/MS/MSc/M.Phil in Microbiology or equivalent in relevant subject. (c) Candidates having teaching experience & Publication in relevant subject will get preference. OR 2. 1st class Msc or 2nd class Msc with 2nd class Hons. with PhD or equivalent degree in the relevant subjects, or MPhil/MS/equivalent degree in relevant subjects with 7 years research experience; and 3 research papers published in reputed journals with evidence of continued research activities in recent past."
05	Registrar (Gastrointestinal, Hepatobiliary & Pancreatic Disorders) Pay Scale: Tk. 15000-26200/- & all other admissible allowances.	1. MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2. Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/MRCP/MSc or equivalent in relevant subject.
06	Registrar (Endocrinology) Pay Scale: Tk. 15000-26200/- & all other admissible allowances.	1. MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2. Any of the following Post-graduate degree recognised by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/MRCP/M.Phil/MSc or equivalent in relevant subject.
07	Registrar (Neurology) Pay Scale: Tk. 15000-26200/- & all other admissible allowances.	1. MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2. Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/MRCP/M.Phil/MSc or equivalent in relevant subject.
08	Registrar (Surgery) Pay Scale: Tk. 15000-26200/- & all other admissible allowances.	1. MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2. Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: Phd/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MS/FRCS or equivalent in relevant subject.
09	Asstt. Registrar (Neurology) Pay Scale: Tk. 12000-21600/- & all other admissible allowances. Non-Practicing Residential (Single Accommodation)	MBBS or equivalent degree from any Medical College or Institute recognized by BMDC with One year of Internship training and registration from BMDC.
10	Research Officer (Immunology) Pay scale: Tk. 11000-20370/- & all other admissible allowances.	MBBS or 1 st Class MSc or 2 nd Class M.Sc. with 2 nd Class Hons in relevant subject with one year research experience.

Applications to be submitted in prescribed form, obtainable from Cash Counter # 15 & 22, BIRDEM, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000, on all working days (from 9-00 A.M. to 12-30 P.M). The price of each application form is Tk. 400/-. Age limit for Sl. # 1 is 50 years, Sl. # 4 is 40 years & Sl # 10 is 30 years as on 30.06.2013. Applicants who are in service should apply through proper channel.

Name of the applied post to be clearly written on the envelope. One copy of money receipt must be attached with the application form. The application along with required papers (as per instruction on the application form) should reach on or before **18.02.2013** either dropped in the box placed in front of room # 230 or sent by post. Only short listed candidates will be called for interview. Incomplete applications may be rejected.

D-63 Director General

Build your career with us.

The Premier Bank Limited, one of the most progressive Banks in the country with an excellent working environment and corporate culture is looking for talented, young and energetic individuals aspiring to build career in the Bank and interested to take challenges as a proud member of the Premier Bank family for the position of **Trainee Junior Officer (Cash)**.

Pre-requisite
MBA/BBA/Masters/04 (four) years' Honors Degree in any discipline having no 3rd Class in academic record. Age not exceeding 30 (thirty) years as on 31.01.2013. Must be computer literate. Strong command in English (oral & writing).

Salary & Benefits
The selected candidates will be appointed as Trainee Junior Officer (Cash) and will be on probation for a period of 01 (one) year with a monthly consolidated salary of Tk. 18,000/-. After successful completion of probation period, successful candidates will be absorbed as Junior Officer (Cash) under regular pay-roll of the Bank.

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Interested candidates are requested to apply online through our website (www.premierbankltd.com) within **February 20, 2013**. Only short listed candidates will be called for the Written Test.

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The Management of the Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason.

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