

Dr Salim reappointed as Berc member

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Salim Mahmud has been reappointed as a member of the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (Berc) for another three-year term. The appointment will be effective from May 9, 2013.

Dr Salim, an expert of upstream and downstream policy of energy sector, and its regulatory and legal affairs, he has been working at the Berc since May 2010, said a press release.

He is also a teacher of Dhaka University's law department. He has a PhD on "Energy Law and Policy" from the Center for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral and Law Policy at Dandee University, UK.

Road crashes kill two

METRO DESK

Two people were killed and four others injured in separate road accidents in the country on Saturday night.

Our Brahmanbaria correspondent reports, a person was killed and another injured as an oncoming covered-van rammed a motorbike carrying them in Nandanpur village of Sadar upazila.

The deceased was Tuhin Mia, 21, of Ashuganj upazila. Injured Jihad is undergoing treatment at Dhaka Pongu Hospital.

Police arrested the driver. Our Bogra correspondent adds, an auto-rickshaw driver was killed and three passengers were injured after a truck hit the vehicle in Doshmail area of Sherpur upazila.

The deceased was Suit Mia, 30, of the upazila. The injured were rushed to upazila health complex.

Qulkhwani

METRO DESK

Qulkhwani of Mohammad Sajdar Rahman Malik will be held at his Pallabi residence in the capital today after Maghrib prayers. Sajdar, father of Malik Al Imran, a staff reporter of now defunct the Dainik Bangla, died at his residence on Saturday. He was 81.

He left behind his wife, two sons and well-wishers to mourn his death.



Traffic on Airport Road in Chairman Bari area of Banani in the capital at 10:00am yesterday during a daylong hartal called by Jamaat-e-Islami.

PHOTO: STAR

Problems plague Benapole land port

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Businessmen are losing their interests to do business using Benapole land port because of many problems, including recurrent strikes, labour unrests, and charging of extra fees for delay in clearing goods by customs authorities.

Between March and April this year, export-import activities at the port had faced closures for 30 days because of the reasons, said sources in Benapole port authorities, customs officials and C&F agents.

Due to the closures, customs authorities had failed to earn around Tk 300 crore during this period, said Benapole Customs House Joint Commissioner Akbar Hossain.

Jessore Chamber of Commerce and Industries Executive Member Kaseduzzaman Selim said they were also facing huge losses due to the port's recurrent closures.

Customs authorities charge extra fees to keep their goods for extra period of time at the port, he said.

Aminul Haq Anu, vice-president of Benapole Port Exporters and Importers Association, said many businessmen were losing their interests to use the port now.

Md Badiuzzaman, owner of Bappi Enterprise and also a Benapole port user, said he was now importing goods from India using Bhomra land port in Satkhira.

Katrik Chakrawarty, general secretary of Indian Petrapole port C&F Agents Staff Welfare Association, said several thousand goods-laden trucks often had to remain stuck at Indian side as export-import activities were halted recurrently for poor Internet coverage in the Indian side.

Tofazzal Hossain, director of Benapole port authority, said now only 200 to 250 trucks with goods from India enter into the port a day, while the number was around 350 only few months ago.

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Publish ad for Mueen-Uddin's, Ashrafuzzaman's appearance

ICT-2 directs registrar's office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday ordered its registrar's office to publish an advertisement in two national dailies asking war crimes accused Chowdhury Mueen-Uddin and Ashrafuzzaman Khan to appear before it within 10 days of the publication.

The three-member tribunal passed the order after a police report submitted yesterday stated that the two could not be arrested as they have been residing abroad for long.

As per post-liberation newspaper reports, the duo, now facing 16 charges, were two criminals most wanted for the killings of intellectuals.

According to the formal charges, Mueen-Uddin as "operation in charge" and Ashrafuzzaman as "chief executor" led the infamous Al-Badr force.

They, between December 10 and 15, 1971, "directly took part" in the abduction, torture and killings of 18 people, nine of whom were Dhaka University teachers, six

journalists and three physicians, it said.

The agency formed to probe the 1971 war crimes stated that Mueen-Uddin, of Feni, went to London and Ashrafuzzaman, of Gopalganj, went to New York, USA after the country achieved independence and were supposedly living there ever since.

Yesterday's police report came as per the tribunal's directive on May 2, when the tribunal also issued arrest warrants against the duo after accepting the charges.

Prosecutor Zead Al Malum yesterday prayed that the tribunal holds the duo's trial in absentia.

After directing the registrar, the tribunal said the accused would have the rights and opportunities to defend themselves if they appear before it at any stage of the trial.

The court also fixed May 22 for passing further order in this regard.

Registrar AKM Nasiruddin Mahmud yesterday told The Daily Star that they would publish the ad as early as possible.

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EC able to hold free, fair polls

Govt assures int'l community

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday assured the international community that the Election Commission is capable of conducting a free, fair and credible general election with support from an "interim government comprising elected representatives".

"We are confident that an Election Commission, which held 5,636 elections at different tiers of the government in the last four years without a single incident of controversy or mismanagement, will be able to hold a free, fair and credible election with support from an interim government comprising elected representatives," said Foreign Minister Dipu Moni.

Addressing a diplomatic briefing at the foreign ministry yesterday, she said, "To sustain Bangladesh's democratic culture, it is high time that we take the next critical step towards holding national elections under a political dispensation managed by elected representatives as is the norm of established parliamentary democracies around the world."

The foreign minister also assured the international community that Bangladesh will remain open to any support to ensure the credibility of the entire election process.

She also suggested that international observers be present during the run-up to the election and not just during the election itself. "We will continue working with UNDP and other organisations to facilitate these visits in due course," she added.

After Dipu Moni's speech, ambassadors of Germany, EU and Italy and the high commissioner of Canada spoke about the collapse of the nine-storey Rana Plaza which killed more than 1,000 people. They called for improving workers' rights and working conditions in Bangladesh as well as amendment of labour laws as these are directly involved with the reputation of Bangladesh.

Applications for UK visas to go online

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The British High Commission in Dhaka yesterday announced that all applications for UK visas will be made online from May 19 to improve the application process.

Applications, including those for dependents, under the points-based system of the UK will go online from May 19 while all other applications will be made online from June 2.

Manually completed applications will not be accepted after the stated dates, said a British High Commission press release.

To apply, people simply need to visit www.visa4uk.fco.gov.uk and submit their applications online following the guidelines available in both Bangla and English.

Applicants will then need to print out a copy of their completed application form and bring it along with other necessary documents to their nearest visa application centre in Dhaka and Sylhet. No appointment is needed unless a premium service is used.

They can submit their application and supporting documents at the same time, avoiding the need to visit the centre twice. Full instructions on how to access the website and submit an application form will be on display.

Applicants without access to a computer connected to the internet and printer can arrange in advance to use equipment provided at the centre by the UK's commercial partner, VFS Global, for a small fee.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Regional Advisor: Link Up Programme, Asia

The International HIV/AIDS Alliance supports community action on HIV, health and human rights to end AIDS. Our vision is a world in which communities have brought an end to HIV transmission, and secured their health and human rights. Since 1994, the Alliance and its partners have supported over 3,000 projects, in over 40 countries, reaching millions of people. The Alliance has its Secretariat in Brighton, UK, in addition to offices in: Washington DC; Delhi; Brussels; Geneva; and regional posts in: Argentina; Kenya, Morocco, Senegal; South Africa; Uganda; Ukraine and Thailand. Our current strategy, HIV and Healthy Communities voices the collective will of these Linking Organisations and the Secretariat in our vision of a world in which people do not die of AIDS. A new Alliance Strategy 2012-2020 is currently being finalised and will build on our existing strategy with an emphasis on 'sustaining the HIV response'.

Link Up is a global programme, implemented in partnership with international and national partners, designed to make a significant contribution to the integration of vital SRHR interventions in Bangladesh, Myanmar, Burundi, Ethiopia and Uganda. It will bring SRHR interventions to existing community-based HIV programmes for young key populations and will create linkages with public and private SRH providers and will generate important evidence to aid the broader SRHR/HIV integration movement.

The International HIV/AIDS Alliance is seeking a Regional Advisor to provide technical oversight and support to the delivery of the Link Up programme. The successful candidate will ensure that project-specific objectives, strategies and technical support, are relevant to the entire portfolio of Alliance HIV/SRH efforts in the region. Importantly, the Regional Advisor will be responsible for the strategic and operational oversight of the programme in their region.

The ideal candidate will be highly motivated, flexible, capable of working both independently and as part of a team. A strong commitment to HIV, Health and Human Rights is essential, along with the ability to represent the Alliance at a senior level.

Location: Bangladesh or Myanmar, subject to the successful candidate's preference

Salary: Competitive salary and benefits package

Contact Period : 2.5 years contact

How to apply:

For more details on this post, including Job Description and Person Specification please visit our website www.aidsalliance.org and click on 'jobs'. Previous Applicants need not apply.

Application deadline : Midnight UK time on Sunday 19 May 2013

Interviews : Weeks commencing 27 May and 3 June 2013

The International HIV/AIDS Alliance is committed to equal opportunities and welcomes applications from appropriately qualified people from all sections of the community. Qualified people living with HIV are particularly encouraged to apply.

DHAKA KOLKATA DHAKA 3 FIGHTS A WEEK EFFECT MAY 16, 2013



DAY	ROUTE	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL
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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Project Coordinator

Arannayk Foundation (AF) is going to recruit a 'Project Coordinator' for 'Alternative Livelihoods to Support Forest Communities' component of 'Climate resilient participatory afforestation and reforestation project' funded by Bangladesh Climate Change Resilient Fund (BCCRF). It is project based staff position at AF. Under this component, about 6000 forest dependent households from nine coastal and hill districts namely Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Noakhali, Laxmipur, Feni, Barisal, Barguna, Bhola and Patuakhali will be supported to improve their livelihood. Two partner NGOs (PNGOs) will implement field level activities. The 'Project Coordinator' will provide backstopping support to the PNGOs for proper implementation of the project. The detail ToR for the position is available at: <http://www.arannayk.org/torforpc.html>.

The Project Coordinator must have a post-graduate degree preferably in natural resource management or in relevant discipline with minimum five years of relevant experience. The position is based at Dhaka with frequent visit to the project sites.

The deadline for submission of the application is 02 June 2013 either by post or through email: info@arannayk.org

N.B. Arannayk Foundation reserves the right to cancel the whole process or to reject all or any application without assigning any reason.

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