

Bangladesh Sangjukt Sramik Federation forms a human chain in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday, demanding that the government fix Tk 10,000 as the national minimum wage for workers.



PHOTO: STAR

Organic farming stressed for food safety in Asia

Proposed BARI model lauded at int'l workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts from 11 member countries of Asian Food and Agriculture Cooperation Initiative (AFACI) at a workshop stressed the need for introducing sustainable organic farming in the countries to ensure food safety.

A model on small scale organic farming proposed by the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) was presented at the inaugural day of the three-day workshop titled "Construction of the Asian Network for Sustainable Organic Farming Technology (Ansoft)" in the capital's BRAC Centre Inn yesterday.

The model has been developed primarily for Bangladesh as the country's 98 percent of the land holdings are of small scale. But experts from other countries lauded the Bangladeshi model and showed interest to introduce it in their countries, Dr M Nazim Uddin, a researcher of BARI, told The Daily Star.

Organic farming follows completely natural procedure of crop cultivation and does not allow use of any synthetic or chemical elements, said Dr Nazim.

He said the researchers will further dis-

cuss the proposed model today at the workshop which is being organised by BARI with financial assistance from AFACI.

Secretary General of AFACI Dr Cho Yang-hee said the organic farming is a requirement of present day to save fertility of the soil as well as to protect environment.

Experts also emphasised a sustainable marketing chain of organic foods—from farming to marketing—under a law to encourage farmers.

Participants from the member countries—Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and Republic of Korea also emphasised strengthening network among the countries in developing knowledge on organic food and its global demand.

Hyeon-Jin Jee, representative from South Korea, said his government would strengthen cooperation among member countries through technical support in future.

Wais Kabir, executive chairman of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), chaired the event while Dr Khalequzzaman Akand Chowdhury was the keynote speaker.

Mobarak destroyed Hindu idols in B'baria in 1971

Prosecution witness tells war crimes tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prosecution witness yesterday told International Crimes Tribunal-1 that war crimes accused Mobarak Hossain along with other Razakar men destroyed all idols at Anandamoyee Kalibari temple in Brahmanbaria during the Liberation War.

The witness, Nani Gopal Mallik, 62, also said Mobarak forced one Ashu Ranjan Dev to drink urine before Ashu was shot dead on the bank of Kurulia canal in Brahmanbaria.

Mobarak, who had been Awami League's organising secretary of a union in Akhaura, Brahmanbaria for 16 years, was a commander of the Razakar, an auxiliary force of the Pakistani army, in 1971.

As the seventh witness of the war crimes case, Mallik said he was assigned to collect information about the movement of the

Pakistani army in 1971, and he learnt about these incidents during his assignment.

Mobarak is facing five war crimes charges including genocide. He was produced before the tribunal yesterday.

One of the charges reads Mobarak and his accomplices grabbed Anandamoyee Kalibari temple and looted goods from the Hindus. They destroyed all the idols in Kalibari and set up a Razakar camp there. Mobarak was the commander of that camp.

Mallik said all the idols were made of white stone.

Defence counsel Ahsanul Huq Hena later cross-examined the witness. When Ahsanul suggested that his claim of feeding Ashu Ranjan urine after torture by Mobarak was not true, the witness stood by his claim.

The proceeding was adjourned until August 26.

DEATH, INJURY DURING POLLS DUTIES EC plans to create fund for compensation

PANKAJ KARMAKAR

The Election Commission (EC) plans to create a special fund for providing compensation to electoral officials and law enforcers in case of injury or death due to violence or accidents in the course of duty during elections.

The EC Secretariat has already formulated a draft policy that allocates Tk 1 crore to the fund, said officials.

If an election official or law enforcer sustains injuries while discharging his or her duty during any election, he or she will get Tk 50,000, according to the draft policy.

In case of severe injuries, the person will receive Tk 1 lakh. In case of death, family members of the deceased will get Tk 2 lakh.

Tk 2 lakh will be also given if the official becomes physically challenged due to severe injuries, according to the draft.

The draft will be placed in an upcoming EC meeting for final approval.

Currently, the EC has no policy or rule regarding the matter. If any election official or employee becomes a victim of violence or accidents, the commission compensates through discussions.

Talking to The Daily Star last night, EC Secretary Muhammed Sadique said, "We usually give compensations but now we want to bring the system under a structure."

The EC in its 45th meeting on June 18 decided to formulate the policy.

Enamul Haque, EC senior assistant secretary, said, "In the draft policy, we fixed the compensation amount consistent with compensation rate of other government departments."

BARGUNA ELECTION
The EC will decide on the schedule for the Barguna by-poll in the next one or two days, said Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz while talking to reporters at his office yesterday.

The constituency fell vacant following the death of Golam Shabur Tulu in a road accident on July 26.

Meanwhile, the commission is likely to upgrade pay scale of 301 upazila election officials as they are reportedly discriminated in comparison to other government officials.

The draft proposal in this regard will be placed in the EC meeting today, said officials.

Gazipur clash over land dispute kills 1, injures 10

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man was killed and 10 others were injured in a clash between two rival groups over a land dispute at Nishchintapur in Kaliakoir upazila of Gazipur yesterday.

The deceased was Anisur Rahman, 40, a worker of JMS Composite Knitwear Limited in the area and son of Isaque Ali Shawdagar in Nabuabagh area of the upazila.

Police arrested four persons - Amir Hossain, 58, Mukul Hossain, 28, Anwar Hossain, 35, and Firoj Miah, 35 - on the spot.

Mauchak police outpost Sub-inspector Syed Azharul Islam said there was a factory, Sunmoon Textile, owned by one Shamsul Haque of Tejkunipara in the capital, beside JMS Composite Knitwear.

Recently Shamsul has sold some portions of his land beside the textile factory to Amir and Anwar, said police.

In the morning, Amir and Anwar along with around 40 people, including Mukul and Firoj, tried to build a boundary wall between the two factories, he added.

The clash erupted when Alamgir Hossain, production manager of JMS Composite Knitwear, resisted the attempt to set up the boundary wall, the police said.

Around 12 workers of the knitwear factory clashed with the 40 people, killing Anisur and injuring the 10 workers of the factory, he added.

Anisur succumbed to his injuries on the way to Kumudini Hospital in Mirzapur of Tangail.

Of the injured - Alamgir Hossain, Jilur Rahman, Sirajul Islam, Rafikul Islam, Shakhawat Hossain and Parvej - were admitted to the hospital.

Following the death, the other workers of the knitwear factory abstained from work and staged a rally.

Sapporo Dental College and Hospital
Plot # 24, Courtbari Road, Sector-8, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230
Phone : 04476151041, 01678026858, E-mail: sdch@bol-online.com
Website : www.sapporodentalcollege.com.bd

Situation Vacant

Applications are invited for the post of **Principal** from registered dental graduates with post graduate qualifications from home or abroad recognized by BMDC. Teaching and research experiences as required for a professor according to BMDC/Dhaka University is essential. Administrative experiences will be an additional qualification. Candidates should be below 65 years of age.

Applications with complete CV and copies of relevant records should reach the office of SDCH on or before 5th September, 2013.

Chairman
Governing Body, SDCH

BANGLADESH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
National Museum of Science & Technology Bhavan, Agargaon, Dhaka 1207
Phone: 911 0425, E-mail: office@bas.org.bd, Website: www.bas.org.bd

BAS-TWAS Young Scientists Prizes 2013

The Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) considering the necessity to foster scientific and technological cooperation among developing countries, have agreed to work together within the framework of the TWAS PRIZES FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS SCHEME.

The candidates working in the different fields of Natural Sciences have to fulfill following requirements.

- The candidate must be below 40 years of age on 01 January 2014
- The candidate must hold a university degree (minimum qualification is a Master's degree)
- The candidate has to work and live in Bangladesh
- The candidate should have a good record of research publications in the internationally recognized journals.

Distinguished Bangladeshi Scientists with notable contribution in research and development will be considered for the Awards. Heads of Research Institutions/respective Deans of Universities/Fellows of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences may nominate candidates for the Awards or candidates themselves may apply through their Heads of Institutions directly. Each nominee/candidate is required to submit 7 (seven) copies of their bio-data, list of publications and patents and a reprint of important publications. Format for application/nomination is available on TWAS website: <http://twas.ictp.it/common/files/files-prizes/twas-prizes-nomform>

Application/nomination for the above Awards must reach the Secretary of the Academy by 22 September 2013 at the latest.

Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed
Secretary

Floor Rent / Sale
Tongi, Cheragali
For Garments/ Factory 2 Lift, 4 Stair, Own
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Location: Gulshan-2, 2600 sq ft, 4 Bed, 4 Bath, South Facing, Roof Top gym and Swimming pool, Servant room with toilet. 2 Garage, Foreigners only.
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Apartment To Let
Ultramodern 3 (three) bed-room apartment in Motijheel area available for rent.
Contact : 01557056772 01712946469

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH
TENDER NOTICE

SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF FIRE DETECTION AND ALARM SYSTEM AT IUB CAMPUS, BASHUNDHARA, DHAKA

- Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide contractors for supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Fire Detection and Alarm System for Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) Campus at Bashundhara, Dhaka. This Invitation is for Technically-qualifying the contractors and accepting the price bids for carrying out the aforesaid Work as per specification, drawings and Bill of Quantities (BOQ).
- 2.5% of the bid amount shall be submitted by the bidder as earnest money together with the tender in the form of Bank Draft/ Pay Order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh validated not less than 6 (six) months from the date of submission of tender in favor of Independent University, Bangladesh without which the tender will be rejected.
- The bidders shall apply in their letterhead to the undersigned along with the following documents in support of their eligibility to obtain tender documents:
 - Attested copies of documents evidencing several years of experience in supply, installation, testing, and commissioning of Fire Detection and Alarm System.
 - Attested copies of satisfactory completion certificates from the Employer for similar nature of work having minimum contract value of not less than Tk. 1.0 crore in a single work order.
 - Attested copies of the up-to-date Trade License, Income TAX Certificate and VAT Registration Certificate.
- Tender document will be available from the office of the undersigned on payment of non refundable cash of TK. 1000/- (Taka One Thousand) between **25th August 2013 and 1st September 2013** during office hours.
- The tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned up to 2.00 p.m. of **15th September 2013** and shall be opened at 2.30 p.m. on the same day at the same place in presence of the bidders who may like to attend the tender opening event.
- The Technical Offers will be opened first and evaluated based on the procedure adopted by the authority. The financial offers of only technically qualified firms will be opened at a later date with prior notice in presence of their representatives, if any.
- The IUB authority reserves the right to accept only the technically responsive tender and not to accept the lowest bidder and can reject any or all tenders without mentioning any reason whatsoever.

Director, Operations & Maintenance
Independent University, Bangladesh
Plot # 16, Block-B, Bashundhara, Dhaka
Tel: 8401645-53

STALL BOOKING

24th Bangladesh Apparel & Textile Exposition (BATEXPO-13)
Date : 10-12 October, 2013
Venue : Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka
Organizer : BGMEA
(BANGLADESH GARMENT MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION)
"Leading Bangladesh to Prosperity"

BGMEA BGMEA Complex (4th floor), 23/1, Panthapath Link Road, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215
Tel: 8140310-20 Ext. 297,220,290,303. Fax: 8140322-23
Web: www.bgmea.com.bd & e-mail: fair@bgmea.com

The Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition (BATEXPO-2013) the premier Apparel & Textile show of the country, will be held on 10-11-12 October, 2013 at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka. It will give opportunity to display producers product, services and help to meet both Foreign & Local Buyers. **Mentionable that renowned Apparel Buyer of super chain stores from Europe, USA including Latin America, Canada, South Africa, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore are expected to visit the fair this year.**

Stalls are available in the Grand Ball Room at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka for the Members of BGMEA, Manufacturers of Yarn & Fabrics (Local & Foreign) Manufacturers of Garment Accessories (Local & Foreign) Service Organizations like Shipping Lines, Airlines, Courier Services, Computer Pattern & Design, Garment Machineries, Bank & Insurance etc.

The stall allocation Forms will be available both at BGMEA Dhaka & Chittagong Office during office hours. Interested companies/organizations are requested to collect stall allocation Form & submit the same to Fair Cell, BGMEA, Dhaka Office by **25 September, 2013** along with full amount of stall rent in the form of DD/Pay Order to be drawn in favour of BGMEA. For further details please click on web side: www.bgmea.com.bd

Secretary General