

# TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR

## Spring in National Botanical Garden

Winter is our main birding season as migrant bird species arrive here from colder climates. At the end of winter, most birders – including myself – feel a touch of sadness at the departure of the migrants.

But this week I was pleasantly surprised when I visited the National Botanical Garden in Mirpur, Dhaka. Established in 1962, its 87 hectares are home to 68000 plants of all sizes and shapes. Naturally, it is a haven for numerous birds.

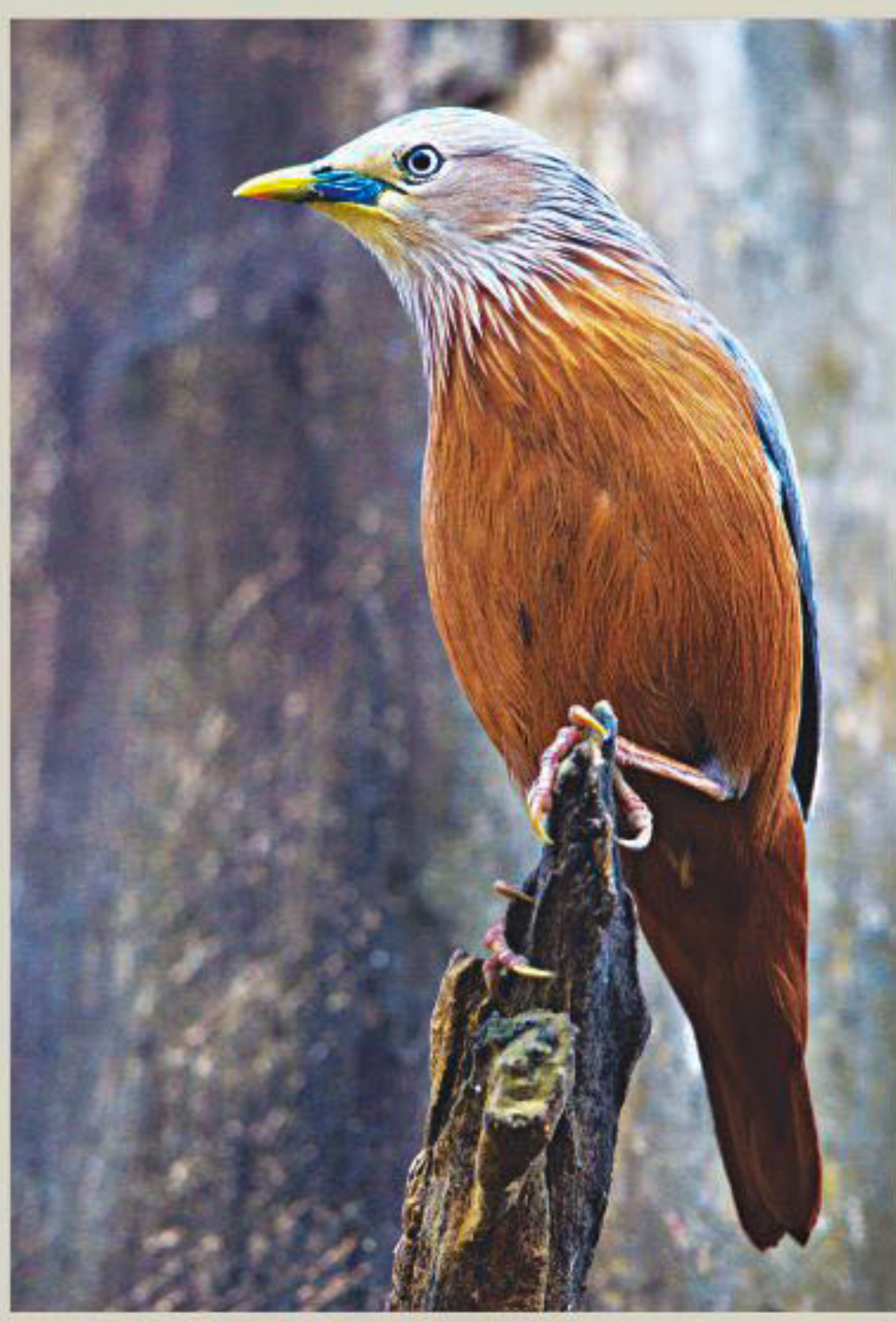
After spending a morning here, I realized anew that our resident birds are no less appealing than our migrants. At springtime, they fly around with renewed energy, not afraid to show themselves as they search for a mate during breeding season.

Soon after I entered the garden, I saw two magnificent black kites (*bhubon cheel*) chase one another, flying low over a meadow. On a nearby *krishnachura* tree, a fulvous-breasted woodpecker (*batabi kathkurali*) walked vertically up a dead branch, hitting the wood forcefully with its beak searching for insect-laden cavities. The secret to the woodpecker's vertical walk is its zygodactyl feet: the first and fourth toes face backward while the second and third toes face forward.

Nearby was a teak grove, where a large yellow leaf was moving suspiciously. Sure enough, behind it was a chestnut-tailed starling (*kath shalik*). The morning light accentuated its multi-coloured bill.

A spotted owl (*khuruley pecha*) was perched on another teak branch. Its large eyes quickly sized me up and then continued scanning 360 degrees for insects and small animals.

Nearby, a bauhinia (*kanchon*) tree was blooming with purple flowers. Among them flitted a big tit (*boro tit*.) Propelled by the energy of the insects it gobbles continuously, this tiny black-and-white bird skipped



Chestnut-tailed starling at the Botanical Garden.

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

swiftly from branch to branch, foiling my attempts to photograph it.

Looking around the garden, I saw new leaves on many trees. Two trees with exceptionally beautiful red leaves were *mohua* and *kushum*. The *mohua*'s leaves are smaller and redder than the *kushum*'s. Other trees had sprouted tiny green leaves, but none as pretty as new mahogany leaves which make intricate dancing patterns against the sky.

Black-hooded orioles (*holud pakhi*) flew all over the garden, whistling sweetly. Atop a tall tree, a few early-blooming crimson *mandaar* flowers were scattered. The orioles flew from flower to flower, picking inside for nectar, flower parts and insects.

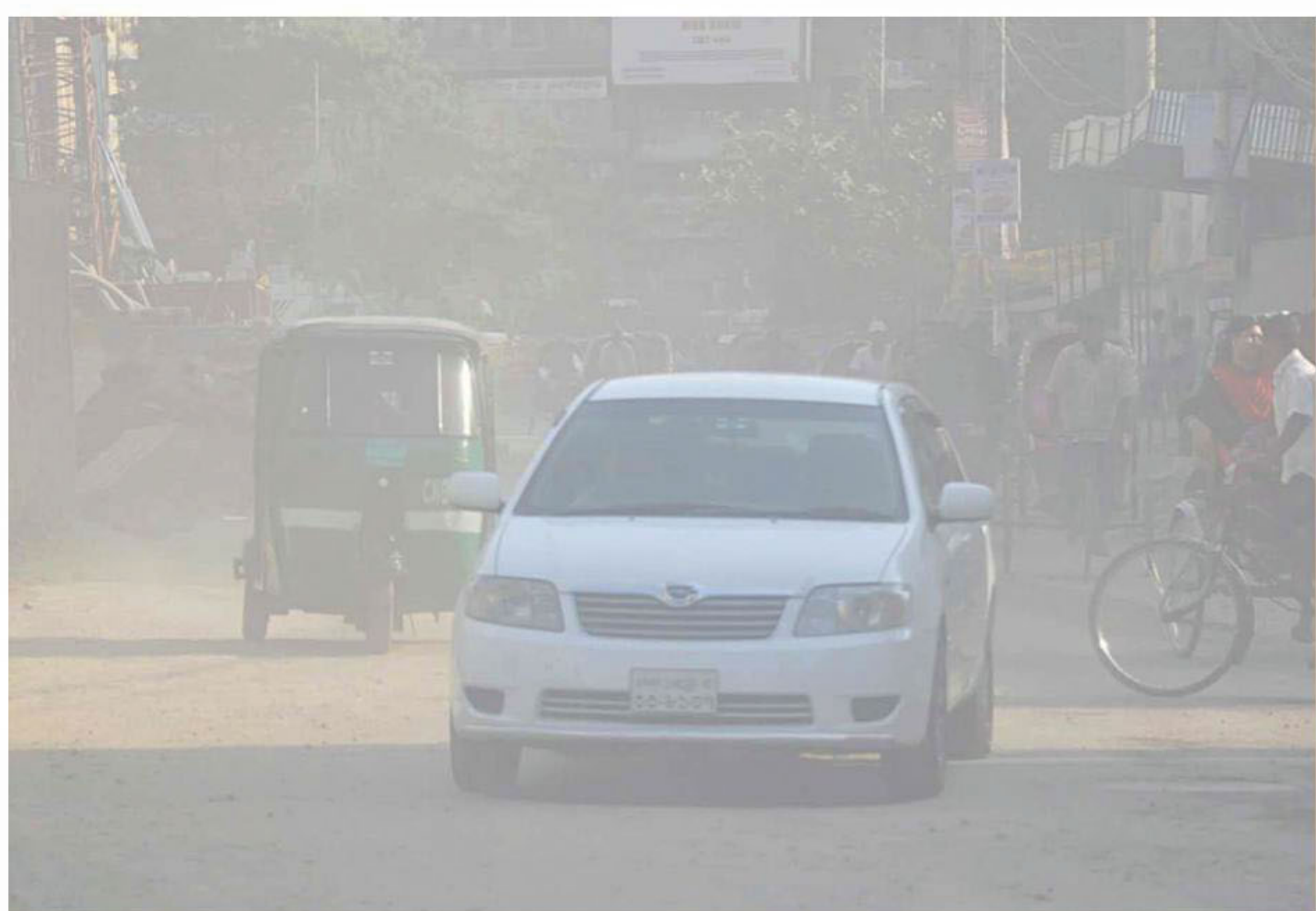
Frustration came in the form of other humans. Behind the rose bushes

(the Garden sports 300 rose varieties), on a dark slope, I spotted an orange-headed thrush (*komla dama*.) It scampered when it saw me, flew and sat on a branch. Alas, just when I had it in my camera's viewfinder, two men appeared arguing loudly, frightening it away.

After three hours of carrying and lifting twelve pounds of camera gear, I was tired and ready to head home. On my way back, I found another surprise at the teak grove. A baby spotted owl sat outside its cavity, eyes closed, looking like a mummy. Presently, it sensed me and opened its eyes. Taking its time, it retreated into its home in the tree. Watching its hesitant movements, I wondered whether it would survive the sharp eyes of *cheels* or other raptors.

As I left for home, I realized how lucky we are to have these wonderful bird species living year-round in our country.

www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir.



Clouds of dust generated from the ongoing construction of a flyover engulf adjoining areas in the capital's Mouchak-Malibagh, an indication that a directive on the construction company to regularly spray water to end the nuisance for the locals and passers-by is falling on deaf ears. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

## Judges' shortage hampers trials

This situation emerged in Appellate Division after some judges retired; lower courts suffer similarly amid burden of pending cases

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

At the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, more than 15,000 cases have remained un-adjudicated for a long time, and four vacant judgeships have made the situation worse.

Backlogs are a massive problem in the country's judiciary—higher and lower courts alike—particularly because of a perpetual shortage of judges.

After Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha took the office of chief justice, he laid stress on doubling the number of judges across the country to solve the problem.

Around 3.65 lakh cases are pending in the SC--over 3.5 lakh in the High Court

Division-- and 26 lakh cases in district courts around the country.

"It is evident that the number of judges is quite disproportionate to that of pending cases," Justice Sinha said, speaking at a reception on January 18.

The vacancies were created in the Appellate Division after some judges retired.

The 11 appellate judges, including the chief justice, can preside over cases in three benches, but due to the shortage, one bench is totally inoperative.

The last recruitment of appellate judges took place on March 31, 2013.

A dire strait had persisted in the High Court

## Woman burnt alive in fire

UNB, Munshiganj

A woman was burnt to death and 12 other people were injured in a fire that broke out in Nitira village of Munshiganj yesterday noon.

The deceased was identified as Raju Begum, 90, a resident of the village.

Police said the fire started due to a short circuit in the house of one Rahim Master. The fire also led to a gas cylinder explosion ultimately burning down about six houses.

Rahim's mother Raju Begum who was sleeping in the house was burnt alive. Villagers suffered injuries when they were trying to put out the fire.

Abdul Malek, officer-in-charge of Tongibari Police Station, confirmed the incident.

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Immortalised through the works of poet Jibanananda Das, the Dhanshiri river in Jhalakanthi is now losing out to encroachment, siltation and a decrease in navigability. Boats now find it hard to traverse along routes where just a decade ago several vessels including cargo ships could ply in parallel. Apparently the authorities concerned are oblivious of the situation. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

## Set pillars rightly to demarcate 230 rivers

Demands Bapa

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (Bapa) yesterday demanded that the government take immediate steps to set up boundary pillars accordingly to save the country's rivers from grabbers.

Addressing a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity, Dr Mohammad Abdul Matin, general secretary of the organisation, said some of the pillars marking the boundary of Turag and Buriganga were set up right beside the water violating a High Court verdict. He added that other pillars were set up on the bank or foreshore of the rivers.

Bapa demanded that the government implement the HC order properly and reset the pillars of rivers Turag and Buriganga.

The organisation also requested identification of those government officials who are responsible for setting up the pillars in the wrong places.

Matin said the district administrators are

not following the HC verdict or instructions of the prime minister or the task force.

He said the pillars would have to be set up in places allowing 50 metres of foreshore, as per the HC verdict.

Matin added that setting up pillars too close to the rivers allow opportunistic grabbers to "legally" occupy land belonging to the rivers.

The general secretary said the government will set up boundary pillars marking territory of 230 rivers across the country but if they are set up in the wrong places then river grabbing will be done through the district administrators.

Rasheda K Chowdhury, former adviser to a caretaker government and also the vice president of Bapa, said general people want rivers free from grabbing but a section of people are looking to grab river land.

Bapa also demanded removal of illegal structure from territory of rivers across the country immediately.

## Schoolboy killed in road accident

UNB, Dhaka

A schoolboy was killed as a motorcycle hit him at Hatirjheel in the capital yesterday.

Nurul Islam, 13, son of Julhas Bepari of Ambagan area in Moghbazar, was a class VI student of National Bank Public School and College.

Witnesses said Nurul was watching kite flying near Paglar Mazar of Hatirjheel under Ramna Police Station in the afternoon. When he was crossing the road around 4:30pm, the motorcycle ran him over.

The schoolboy succumbed to his injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The body was sent to the medical college morgue for autopsy.

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### OUR MANAGEMENT TRAINEE POLICY: YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Management Trainee Officer (MTO) is the first leg of the Executive's Job in 'Core Banking Cadre (CBC)' who will receive opportunities to move to Senior Management levels with gaining of experience in banking and professional competencies over the years. They will also have the opportunity to move to different business portfolios within the bank
- We define MTs as high potential fresh graduates who usually are quick learners and intellectually rigorous with the capability to meet targets and produce results and demonstrate leadership qualities to progress in future Senior Management positions
- Management Trainees will pass through a planned trainee period of 02 (two) years from the date of entry. MTs will be exposed to (a) General banking (b) Credit portfolios and (c) Foreign exchange portfolios, besides training & development through in-house and external programs to make the MTs physically & mentally sharp, alert and to be able to meet challenges in the banking and financial sector. Our nominated experts will guide them, coach them and train them to shape-up their operational expertise, knowledge and behavioral competencies

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On successful completion of 02 (two) years trainee period, Management Trainees will be confirmed as "Principal Officer" in the Core Banking Cadre.

### SALARY AND BENEFITS

Attractive consolidated package during the trainee period.

### SELECTION PROCESS

- Screening and shortlisting of candidates who meet qualifying requirements
- Candidates appear for a competitive written test
- Face to face interview
- Medical test
- Final shortlisting, selection and offer

### JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Academic Profile**  
MBA, MBM, Masters in Economics, Finance, Accounting, Commerce & other Business Studies with CGPA not less than 3.5 (on a scale of 4) from any recognized local or foreign university that is who are UGC approved. However, Masters in Science with a minimum of 3.5 (on a scale of 4) may also apply
- Computer Knowledge**  
Must have a minimum knowledge on MS Word, Spread Sheet, Excel and Power Point presentation
- Other Qualifications**  
In addition to the required CGPA at post-graduation level, candidates must have at least two first divisions or equivalent CGPA in their academic feat in public examinations, but no 3rd division or equivalent CGPA at any level is acceptable. Candidates aged over 30 years as on March 1, 2015 will not qualify to apply
- The applicants must produce original/ provisional certificates and mark sheets at the time of final selection

### GENERAL ADVICE FOR THE APPLICANTS

- Only candidates having self confidence with passion to build career in Banking who satisfy the job requirements are invited to apply
- Complete CV along with a scanned recent passport size photograph should reach us using the Website: [www.bdjobs.com](http://www.bdjobs.com) on or before **March 26, 2015**
- The candidates are requested to provide a contact phone number and address in their CV
- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for the written test
- Candidates with incomplete academic qualification at the time of final selection shall not be eligible for recruitment (e.g., appeared or pursuing internship).
- Non compliance of any of the above conditions will disqualify a candidate
- Candidates must be willing to work anywhere in Bangladesh

Please note, canvassing in any form will disqualify a candidate.

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