

Grow skills to adapt to new world challenges

CU pro-VC urges Bangladeshi students at inauguration of Model UN Conference on campus
CU CORRESPONDENT

To keep pace with the competitive and challenging world, Bangladeshi students should become skilled and capable as a workforce, said Chittagong University Pro-Vice Chancellor Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury yesterday.

He was addressing as special guest the inauguration of a three-day Model United Nations Conference at CU.

Such conferences would play a significant role in acquiring leadership skills and capability, said Vice Chancellor Anwarul Azim Arif as the chief guest.

The Daily Star is the media partner of the event organised by Chittagong University Model United Nations Association.

BBA Faculty Dean Jahangir Alam was the guest of honour at the ceremony chaired by CUMUNA President Shahriaz Muttakin.

Around 250 delegates from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, India, Nepal and Myanmar took part in the event themed "Empowering youth for green diplomacy".



Dark green foliage adorns roadside trees in Singair upazila of Manikganj, with spring drawing to a close. Deciduous trees in Bangladesh usually shed their leaves in winter. The photo was taken on Singair-Manikganj road on Wednesday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Ex-president Zillur Rahman's 2nd anniversary of death today

BSS, Dhaka

The second death anniversary of former president Zillur Rahman, a veteran politician, a Language Movement hero, an organiser of the Liberation War, and one of the close associates of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, will be observed today.

Zillur died in a Singapore hospital on March 20, 2013.

He started his political career as a volunteer of Awami League and was inducted as the 19th president on February 12, 2009. He discharged his responsibilities as general secretary of AL for 12 years for five different terms.

AL, its associate organisations and socio-cultural and professional bodies will place wreaths at his grave at Banani graveyard in the capital at 9:00am.

His family members will visit his grave and offer prayers there.

Zillur Rahman Smriti Parishad and Janatar Protyasha will organise a memorial meeting in the auditorium of Dhaka Reporters Unity at 10:30am. AL presidium member and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader will attend the discussion as the chief guest.

Besides, memorial meetings and milad mahfils will be held at different places in Zillur Rahman's home constituency -- Bhairab in Kishoreganj.

When life gives you lemon, make lemonade

Crop cultivation on dried riverbeds, char lands becoming popular as main livelihood for landless

BSS, Rangpur

Cultivation of various crops on dry riverbeds and low-lying char lands has become popular as the main source of livelihood for thousand of extremely poor people who have become landless due to river erosion.

These farmers in the northern region of Bangladesh have already started expecting a bumper harvest this year like in the previous years.

The dried-up riverbeds and char lands of Brahmaputra, Teesta, Dharla, Ghaghot, Jamuna and other rivers have producing excellent crop yields.

According to officials of Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) and relevant NGOs, cultivation on these pieces of land was possible due to massive deposition of alluvial soil there brought about by climate change.

Crops like rice (Boro), maize, wheat, onion, garlic, groundnut, 'china', 'kawn', pulses, 'gunji till', tobacco, pumpkin, gourd, corn,



What was once a flowing river has become croplands in Parbatipur upazila under Dinajpur. The Shakhakal River remains dry and sandy most of the time. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

pulses, mustard, and watermelon have grown well on these pieces of land.

The landless char people, small and marginal farmers have brought over 85,000 hectares of land under crop cultivation this year.

Landless people like Abdul Aziz of Nilphamari, Farman Ali of Lalmonirhat, Nur Islam of Kurigram and Manju Rani of Gaibandha also expect bumper harvest of their crops, particularly pumpkin, cultivated on char lands.

They said each of them cultivated pumpkin on 200 sandbars raised on silted-up beds spending Tk 13,000 on an average.

They plan to sell the produce at Tk 30,000 next month to earn a net profit of Tk 17,000.

Manager (Agriculture) of Practical Action Bangladesh Nirmal Chandra Bepari said 14,357 families who have become landless due to river erosion have achieved success by cultivating pumpkin on 5,099 acres of sandy-barren char lands in five greater Rangpur districts alone since 2009.

Khondker Md Mesbahul Islam, horticulture specialist of the DAE, said crop cultivation on these lands has been taking place due to drying up and silting up of rivers with emergence of shoals following adverse impacts of climate change.

Despite better crop production on dried up riverbeds, there is no alternative to reviving water flows in the rivers for a better future, environment, agriculture, biodiversity and ecology, said Agriculture and Environment Coordinator of RDRS Bangladesh Mamunur Rashid.

Battery-run rickshaws in Ctg must go off road by Monday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Metropolitan Police yesterday directed owners and drivers of battery-run rickshaws to remove batteries from their vehicles or take those off the roads by March 22.

Police warned them of legal action if the order was not followed. The decision came at a meeting between police and the owners and drivers in the headquarters of CMP.

Masud Ul Islam, deputy commissioner of CMP Traffic (north), said they made the decision as a High Court verdict that stayed any action against such vehicles expired on March 18.

Khairul Islam Shaju, general secretary of Chittagong Battery-run Rickshaw Chalak-Malik Sangram Parishad, said they would appeal to the HC as soon as it opens to extend the stay order. The HC is closed till April 2.



President Abdul Hamid awards a graduate at the 14th convocation of East West University on its campus in the capital's Aftabnagar yesterday. A total of 1,445 students were conferred degrees, and two of them won gold medals.

ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LTD.
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria-3402, Bangladesh
Telephone : 08528-74033, Fax: 08528-74044
E-mail: procurement@apscl.com, Website: www.apscl.com

"Invitation For Re-Tender"

01.	Ministry / Division	: Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Power Division.		
02.	Agency	: Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.		
03.	Invitation for	: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of CCTV Camera for APSCL.		
04.	Invitation Ref No.	: APSCL/Pro-02/2015/440		
05.	Invitation Date	: 18 March, 2015.		
06.	Procurement Method	: Open Tendering Method (National)		
07.	Source of Funds	: APSCL'S Own Fund.		
08.	Tender Package No.	: GRL-020		
09.	Tender Last Selling Date & Time	: 28 March, 2015 during office hour.		
10.	Tender Closing Date & Time	: 29 March, 2015 at 12.00 BST.		
11.	Tender Opening Date & Time	: 29 March, 2015 at 12.15 BST.		
12.	Name & Address of the Offices	:		
a.	Selling Tender Documents.	: (i) Asst. Chief Engineer (Generation), Bangladesh Power Development Board, WAPDA Bhavan (First floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka. (ii) Manager (Finance), APSCL, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria.		
b.	Receiving & Opening Tender Documents	: Office of the Manager (Procurement), APSCL, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria		
13.	Eligibility of Tenderer	: Renowned Supplier having experience of Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of CCTV Camera as specified in the Tender Document.		
14.	Tender Document Price	: BDT 1,000.00 in the form of Pay order/DD in favor of Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd. from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh (Non refundable).		
15.	Identification of Lot	Location	Amount of Tender Security	Completion time
a.	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of CCTV Camera for APSCL.	Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.	BDT 75,000.00	15 days from the date of Contract Signing.
16.	Name & Designation of official Inviting Tender	: Md. Rafiquddaulla, Manager (Procurement)		
17.	Address of official Inviting Tender	: Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd. Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria		
18.	Contact details of official Inviting Tender	: Tel : +88 08528 74033, E-mail: procurement@apscl.com Website : www.apscl.com		
19.	The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender or to reject any or all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings without assigning any reason.			

18/03/2015
(Md. Rafiquddaulla)
Manager (Procurement)
APSCL, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria
Phone: +88 08528 74033



Firefighters try to douse a fire which gutted five shops in Rahmatullah Market of the Savar bus stand area and left injured three locals who joined efforts to extinguish it early yesterday. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained. Scan the QR code to watch the video online.

PHOTO: STAR

