

Inclusion of Rajbongshis as ethnic group sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There are a total of 47 small ethnic groups in Bangladesh, and 27 of them were included in the government gazette, the state minister for social welfare said yesterday.

Promod Mankin said the process to include the rest was underway.

The state minister gave the information while addressing a discussion at Jatiya Press Club in the capital on the demand for inclusion of the Rajbongshi community in the list.

He assured that he would try to have the group included in the list.

However, the minister urged the Rajbongshi people to get educated. "Without qualifications, their inclusion in the list of small ethnic groups would be meaningless," he said.

The name of Rajbongshi, a plain land underprivileged ethnic group, was dropped from the list during the enactment of the Small Ethnic Group Cultural Institutions Act 2010, the community leaders said, blaming indifference of the bureaucracy for this.

Before enactment of the law, Rajbongshis

were treated as an ethnic group, even in the 1991 population census, and they got all benefits meant for indigenous people, they added.

The south-western region of unit of Rajbongshi Society organised the discussion with assistance of the Research and Development Collective (RDC), which works on the country's ethnic groups.

In his speech, RDC Chairperson Prof Meshbah Kamal said Rajbongshis were an ancient ethnic group in Bangladesh, and their contribution to the Liberation War was noteworthy.

However, their exclusion from the list of ethnic groups is unfortunate, and right now they need government assistance and privileges to make progress, he added.

Indigenous communities are entitled to a number of benefits including quotas at educational institutions and government jobs. The Rajbongshi leaders said they were being deprived in the job sector and education sector because of the exclusion.

Rajbongshis mostly live in the country's south-west including Khulna, Jessore and Narail, and they fish for a living.

Parliament member AKM Fazlul Haque, poet Kazi Rosy, columnist Syed Abul

Control of madrasa

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extremist groups claiming responsibility of many of the recent killings of bloggers and a publisher.

Law Minister Anisul Huq said the cabinet would approve by March an amendment to International Crimes Tribunal Act 1973. He also said the trial of blogger Rajib Haider's murder was expected to be completed this month. Rajib was the first blogger to be murdered in February 2013 for expressing his free thoughts on social media.

When Kabir pointed out Muntassir Mamoon's research on how the government-financed Alia Madrasa's curriculum denounced nationalism and secularism, the minister said he would raise the issue at a cabinet meeting.

National Human Rights Commission Chairman Prof Mizanur Rahman said the trial of Jamaat or banning Jamaat can never be under a "cooked-up" constitution which did not go back to its four original principles of nationalism, secularism, democracy and socialism.

The constitution says Islam is the state religion and the principle of secularism must be relaxed.

Referring to the government's failure to ensure women's equal rights in property and family matters, which are governed by religious laws in the country, freedom fighter Ayesha Khanom asked the government if they were refraining from such changes to appease a certain quarter.

"Those who you are trying to keep in good humour by adopting appeasement policy, have they begun to control us now?" asked Khanom, president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, a women's rights organisation.

Barrister Tureen Afroz, a prosecutor of International Crimes Tribunal, and Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad General Secretary Rana Dasgupta also spoke.

Music week at Shilpakala Academy starts tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Music Week-2015 is scheduled for November 6 and 7 at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in the capital.

The two-day event will feature a conference on music, live performances and a workshop.

The programme was announced at a press conference at the residence of the Norwegian ambassador in the capital. Norwegian Ambassador Merete Lundemo, Senior Adviser of Concerts Norway Sveig Korum and Managing Director of LiveSquare Nafis Ahmed, among others, were present.

The event was organised under the aegis of Norway-Bangladesh Music Cooperation.

Popular bands and singers, including Shironamhin, Chirkutt, Lalon, Minar and Arshinagar, will be giving live performances on November 6. In addition, presentations and performances with rare musical instruments will be

BNP ready to help govt overcome crisis

Says party spokesperson

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday said Bangladesh's law and order situation cannot be called normal when law enforcers are being killed by criminals.

"Panic gripped country's people over repeated incidents of murders and secret attacks," BNP Spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon told a press briefing at the party's Nayapaltna central office.

Ripon reiterated BNP's call for a national dialogue with all political parties, civil society members and other stakeholders to find a solution to overcome the current situation and "crisis". He said BNP is ready to assist the government overcome the situation.

Dev programmes should

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community based organisations organised by Oxfam and some associate organisations in the capital.

State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Narayan Chandra Chanda, Mukul Mia, Maltee Rani, chairperson of Sudin-3 in Satkhira and Eamoinn Taylor, CEO of SHIREE, also spoke at the event with Snehal V Soneji, country director of Oxfam GB, in the chair.

IWM to assess flood damage digitally

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guest, and Satya Brata Saha, an additional secretary at the disaster management and relief ministry, attended it as guest of honour.

IWM Deputy Executive Director Dr AFM Afzal Hossain chaired the inaugural session, while Giriraj Amarnath, project leader and

senior researcher at IWMI, Sri Lanka briefly described the concept of the index-based flood insurance project.

A total of 74 major flood events occurred between 1980 and 2015 in Bangladesh, killing 12,669 people and affecting 250 million others during the period, the speakers said.

3 more ABT men

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remand prayer. On September 8, two other ABT men -- Touhidur Rahman, a Bangladesh-born UK citizen, and Aminul Mallick -- were shown arrested in the case.

Ananta was hacked to death by a group of masked miscreants in Sylhet city's Subid Bazar area on May 12.

Investment

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became issues of concern in Bangladesh.

They said an integrated approach was required to fight malnutrition so that at all stages of food production, distribution, marketing, and consumption, authorities have coordination among various ministries -- agriculture, food, health, and education.

Dr Tahmeed Ahmed, director at the Centre for Nutrition and Food Security at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr), said anaemia among the women of their reproductive age was alarming, and it was linked to low birth weight of children.

"Thirty to thirty-five percent of children's birth weight is low in Bangladesh," he said. "Unless we take care of women's nutrition, child nutrition would not be good."

Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive director at the Power and Participation Research Centre, said though the stunting rate of under-five children declined, number-wise it was still very high.

Extreme poverty, much of what occurs in urban slums, remains the greatest challenge to fight malnutrition, he said, adding that since Bangladesh was aspiring to become a middle income country, this level of malnutrition was not acceptable.

"The country will not make progress if workers' productivity does not increase [due to malnutrition]," he said.

Prof Nazma Shaheen, director at the Institute of Nutrition and Food Science of Dhaka University, cautioned against indiscriminate pesticide use in food production, saying pesticide residues could affect human health gravely.

Abdul Mannan, state minister for finance and planning; Roxana Quader, additional secretary at the health ministry; Dr Lalita Bhattacharjee, senior nutritionist at the Food and Agriculture Organization; Dr A Atiq Rahman, executive director of the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, also spoke.

E-Tender Notice

HEOEP

e-Tender will be invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of Scientific Equipment (Phase-3) (Due to system error it was not published on 02-Nov-2015)

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description	Online tender notice publication date	Online tender closing date
35535	UGC/HEOEP/DU/Physics/CP-3233/Procurement/G9-2015	OTM	05-Nov-2015 10:00	29-Nov-2015 11:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for last selling/downloading the e-Tender documents from the e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to date and time.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Dr. Ishtiaque M. Syed
SPM, CP-3233, HEOEP (AIF-III), W-1
Department of Physics
University of Dhaka

GD-3482

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আজ হৈ নভেম্বর জনাব কাজী মাহবুবউল্লাহ-এর ৬ষ্ঠ মৃত্যু বার্ষিকী



- বেগম জেবুন্নেছা ও কাজী মাহবুবউল্লাহ জনকল্যাণ ট্রাস্ট, বনানী, ঢাকা।
- কাজী মাহবুবউল্লাহ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কলেজ, ভাংগা, ফরিদপুর।
- কাজী ওয়ালীউল্লাহ উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়, কাউলীবেড়া, ভাংগা, ফরিদপুর।
- কাজী শামসুন্নেছা পাইলট উচ্চ বালিকা বিদ্যালয়, ভাংগা, ফরিদপুর।
- বেগম কাজী জেবুন্নেছা উচ্চ বালিকা বিদ্যালয়, সদরপুর, ফরিদপুর।
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- বেগম আরোফাতুন্নেছা বালিকা মাধ্যমিক বিদ্যালয় ও কলেজ, দশমিনা, পটুয়াখালী।

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH

Purchase Department

Plot # 16, Block # B, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara, Dhaka 1229. Tel: 8431645-53

Tender for Vehicle

Sealed quotations are invited from bonafide importers / suppliers for supply of a Toyota Reconditioned Sedan Car (AC), 1500 cc and a Toyota Reconditioned four door Noah Microbus (dual AC), 2000 cc. Interested importers / suppliers are requested to send sealed quotations with price including VAT, IT and Registration cost latest by 2:30 pm, November 17, 2015. The sealed quotations will be opened on the same day at 2:45 pm in front of the bidders who wish to remain present.

The university authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason whatsoever and also is not bound to accept the lowest quotation.

PUBALI BANK LIMITED

ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION
HEAD OFFICE, 26 DILKUSHA C/A, DHAKA-1000.

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the eligible Tenderers who can participate in any or all of the following tenders but in separate envelope as defined in the tender documents of the under mentioned works as per terms & conditions stated below.

1. Procuring Entity	Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division Head Office, 26, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
2. Tender Name	i) Civil, Electrical & Networking works at Proposed Premises of Noapara Branch, Munshigonj. ii) Civil, Electrical & Networking works at Present Premises of Ashugonj Branch, Brahmanbaria. iii) Civil, Electrical & Networking works at Proposed Premises of Bhabanigonj Branch(New), Rajshahi. iv) Supply, installation & commissioning of Brand New Air Coolers at Noapara Branch, Munshigonj, Ashugonj Branch, Brahmanbaria and Bhabanigonj Branch(New), Rajshahi.
3. Price of Tender Document	Tk.1200.00(Tk. One thousand two hundred) only for Sl. No. (i), (ii) & (iii) for each Branch and Tk.1000.00 (Tk. One thousand) only for each work of Sl. No. (iv) (non-refundable).
4. Eligibility of Tenderers	i) Minimum work experience of 3(Three) years in building renovation/interior works for Sl. No. (i), (ii) & (iii) and in AC works for Sl. No. (iv) above. ii) The tenderer must have experience during 3(Three) years in completion of work(s) in same nature costing minimum Tk. 10.00(Ten) Lac in a single work order for Sl. No. (i), (ii) & (iii). iii) Having valid trade license, up to date Income Tax clearance certificate and VAT registration certificate. iv) Must be financially solvent.
5. Time for completion of the work	20(Twenty) Calendar days for each branch (who are not capable to do the works in the schedule time need not participate).
6. Amount of Earnest Money	2.5% of total bid amount in the form of Payment Order favouring Pubali Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka - 1000. No tender will be considered without Earnest money.
7. Name and address of the office from where tender documents will be obtained & to be dropped.	Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division (12th floor), Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka - 1000.
8. Last date & time for selling tender document	Up to 6.00 PM (BST) on 10.11.2015
9. Last date & time for tender submission	Up to 11.15 AM (BST) on 11.11.2015
10. Date and time for tender opening	At 11.30 AM (BST) on 11.11.2015 in presence of bidder (if any)
11. Special Instructions	i) Tender document along with an MS Excel Calculation sheet to be submitted in sealed envelope. ii) Pubali Bank Limited reserves the right to accept partly or fully any quotation or reject any or all quotations without assigning any reason whatsoever and is not bound to accept the lowest quotation. iii) Lowest price is not the only criteria to accept the bid. Quality job with competitive price shall be appreciated.

Sk. Golam Mohammad
General Manager

HOUSE FOR RENT

Individual house for rent in Gulshan 2 near United Hospital. The house was previously rented to major embassy and international organization. For more information, please contact: 9559454, 01712794967

Bride Wanted

Educated, smart beautiful bride wanted for a Canadian citizen with engineering background. Preferable age (25-30, 5'-4"), and business family. Contact: farid700128@yahoo.com C-619

KOICA

Korea International Cooperation Agency

Request for Expression of Interest for Construction Services

Date: **November 05, 2015**
Contract No.: **KOICA Bangladesh 2015-02**

- The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Bangladesh Office invites qualified contractors to express their interest in Construction Services for the **Project for Modernization and Strengthening of Training Institute for Chemical Industries in Bangladesh.**
- The Project is to be implemented with the Grant Aid of the Government of Republic of Korea.
- Description of Project
 - Bid Title: Building Construction Works for the above mentioned Project
 - Summary of Construction
 - Building works: 1 (one) Academic Building (1,016.05 sq.m) & 1 (one) Pump Shed(16.56 sq.m)
 - Vertical Extension up to Level 6(GF+5F) shall be reflected.
 - Duration: 18 months from the effective date of Contract
 - Site : TICl Complex, Narsinghdi, Bangladesh
 - Budget: Approx. **USD 933,600.00 (VAT included)**
 - *The final budget will be announced at the bid explanation.
- Bid Process
 - Employer : Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Bangladesh Office
 - Bid Type : Open Competitive Bidding With Pre-Qualification (PQ)
 - Applicant will submit their LOI(Letter of Interest) to KOICA Bangladesh Office: **Nov. 09, 2015, 17:00 p.m.**
 - KOICA will send Pre-qualification Application Form by e-mail to the Applicants.
 - Only Pre-qualified bidders are to be invited to the Bidding Explanation Meeting.
 - Selection of the Successful Bidders : Selection by Negotiation among Pre-qualified Bidders.
 - Eligible tenders are selected by conducting a technical proposal evaluation.
 - After a price quotation evaluation of eligible tenders in open bid meeting, a bidder which obtains the highest points total (technical points: 80%, price points: 20%) shall have the highest priority for negotiation
- RFP including Drawings, Technical Specifications, BOQ shall be provided to eligible bidders who attend a bidding explanation meeting, and the eligible bidders will be informed the final fixed budget of the bid.
- Place, time and date of submission of a PQ : **KOICA Bangladesh Office in Dhaka by Nov. 15, 2015, 17:00 p.m.**
- Send Invitation letter to bidders: **Nov. 17, 2015**
- Bid Explanation Meeting: **Nov. 19, 2015, 11:00 a.m., at KOICA Bangladesh Office**
- Bid Submission Place : **KOICA Bangladesh Office**
- Time, Date of Submission: **Dec. 20, 2015, 17:00 p.m.**
- Place of Opening: **KOICA Bangladesh Office**
- Time, Date of Opening : **Dec. 23, 2015 11:00 a.m.**
- Name of Currency: USD

5. The available budget for this procurement assignment is Approx. **USD 933,600.00 (VAT included)** and Bidders'

WORLD FRIENDS KOREA

Proposals should not exceed this budget. Any bid exceeding this project budget may result in rejection of its bid.

- The RFP includes the following documents:
 - Chapter 1. Instruction to Bidders
 - Chapter 2. Conditions of the Contract
 - Chapter 3. Contract Form
 - Chapter 4. Attachments
- (*Note: The Drawing, BOQ, RFP, Complement or Additional Explanation will be distributed to participants at the Bidding, if applicable. Please contact the KOICA Bangladesh Office for more information.)
- The Joint Venture may not be granted for this project.
- Language of Proposal: English
- The KOICA Bangladesh Office requires that Bidders and Contractors observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of such contracts. In pursuance of this policy, KOICA;
 - will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the Bidder recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question.
 - will recognize such a Contractor as ineligible, for a period determined by KOICA.
- The **KOICA Bangladesh Office** will invite sealed bids from eligible Bidders (who pass the PQ process) via an invitation letter.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information on the bid form and inspect the bidding documents at the KOICA Bangladesh Office.
- KOICA will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.
- Interested bidders should visit **KOICA Bangladesh Office** or send LOI via E-mail to obtain "Pre-Qualification Application Form" by **Nov. 09, 2015, 17:00 p.m.**
- Failure to furnish all information required by the bidding documents, or submission of a bid not substantially responsive to the bidding documents in every respect, shall be at the Bidder's risk and may result in the rejection of the bid.

Address (current)
Level 10, Doreen Tower, 6A North Avenue, Commercial Area, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212

Address (from 01 December 2015)
Level 5N, Grand DELVISTAA, House CES(A) 1A, 113 Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212

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