

Immigration clearance service in Ctg starts today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
The outbound workers of Chittagong do not have to go to the capital for immigration clearance and smart card since it will be available for them in the port city from today, said Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training sources.

With an aim to ease sufferings of the workers wishing to go aboard, BMET is going to start this service for the first time outside Dhaka, they added. Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Nurul Islam will inaugurate the service today, Mohammad Jahurul Alam Majumder, assistant director of BMET, Chittagong, told The Daily Star over phone yesterday.

All the required services will be provided from the Chittagong office of BMET from now on, he said, adding that the smart cards will be provided within two working days after filing of application. To go abroad for work purposes, immigration clearance and a smart card is compulsory for a worker alongside biometric registration, BMET sources said.

In a smart card, there are 18 kinds of information regarding the outbound worker including their photographs and fingerprints, said AD Majumder. Today seven workers will be provided cards and clearance, he added. According to BMET sources, last year about 32,399 workers went aboard from Chittagong. In the last six months, about 21,973 went to different countries and since 2005 to 2015, about 5.41 lakh workers from Chittagong went abroad.



Taking his harvest of tobacco leaves to the market, the man on the horse-drawn cart is one of the many farmers of Manikganj who have started cultivating the plant for it brings, in his words, "good profits", although a large amount of pesticides and fertilisers have to be used. The photo was taken on Tora Bridge on the Dhaka-Aricha highway recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Rajshahi to get economic zone by 2019

BSS, Rajshahi

Necessary initiatives have been taken to set up specialised economic zone in Rajshahi to elevate its economic condition and eradicate unemployment problems through the best use of existing agricultural potentialities, officials concerned here said. In order to establish agro-based industries, the zone will be set up on around 205 acres of land in Joykrishnapur, Maria, Balanagar, Bhojanipur and Koira areas in Paba upazila of the district. The privately-owned lands will be purchased in fair prices. Ataul Gani, additional deputy com-

missioner (general), said small and medium enterprises along with garments factories will be established in the zone upon successful completion of its necessary process by 2019. Within this time, infrastructure development works will start, he added. Prime Minister's Office and Economic Zone Committee have already completed the site selection process and district administration has submitted the site selection report to the ministry of land. Muniruzzaman Moni, president of Rajshahi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), said the zone will obviously generate massive employment scopes besides attracting many investors

towards establishing industries. Foreign investors will be encouraged to invest here side by side with the local ones. Many foreign investors have contacted us in this regard, he said. A good relation between local and foreign investors will be built which will contribute to a massive economic growth. RCCI has requested the authorities concerned to set up small engineering and garments factories in the zone. "We have demanded 20 percent investment scope for the women entrepreneurs," said Chamber leader Moni. He mentioned that prospects of agro-processing enterprises is bright in

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New law to protect forest resources

Says Amu
BSS, Jhalakathi

Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu yesterday sought special attention of the people to tackle adverse impacts of climate change and save the environment. He also said the government will formulate a law for protecting forest resources to maintain ecological balance. "Environmental degradation is causing serious health hazard which leads to different diseases including cancer, kidney ailment and high blood pressure," he said while inaugurating a three-day fruit bearing tree fair at Jhalakathi Shilpakala Academy. The minister urged all to plant fruit bearing and medicinal trees at home yards considering such health hazards. He also said filling of canals and other water bodies should be stopped to protect the environment. The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) organised the fair. Acting deputy commissioner Manikhar Rahman, district Awami league president Sardar M Shah Alam and divisional forest officer Mohammad Golam Quddus Bhuiyan also spoke on the occasion.

Students discuss with an admission counsellor during the last day of the third India Education Fair held at the capital's The Daily Star Centre yesterday, where 35 premier educational institutions across India participated.



PHOTO: STAR

USTC students confine VC over teacher crisis

CU CORRESPONDENT

Demanding an immediate solution to the crisis of teachers, students of basic medical and pharmaceutical science faculty at University of Science and Technology, Chittagong (USTC) yesterday confined its vice chancellor for an hour.

They had confined VC Prof Pravat Barua from noon to 1:00pm to his office and also protested the authority's decision to shift the faculty to the university's newly constructed 18-storey building, said witnesses.

"We will not shift there unless the authority solves the crisis and install lifts in the building," said a protester, seeking anonymity. Students alleged that the building's construction work was yet to be completed but the faculty was being forced to move to the building's fourth and sixth floors.

Contacted, VC Barua told The Daily Star that these problems were solvable. "There are 23 teachers in the department now. Of them, 11 are permanent," he said.

He said that they were shifting the faculty as they had decided to expand the USTC hospital. "The new academic building has one lift and we will install two more within August," he said, adding, "Some politically motivated students might have incited the students."

PSC, JSC exams now under primary education ministry

Says primary and mass education minister
BSS, Dhaka

Primary and Mass Education Minister Mostafizur Rahman yesterday said the Primary School Certificate (PSC) and Junior School Certificate (JSC) examinations would now be held under his ministry from this year.

"The PSC and JSC examinations will be held under the ministry of Primary and Mass-education from this year. The education boards will provide all logistic supports in this regard," he said while addressing a workshop of PSC and JSC examinations at primary education directorate's auditorium in Mirpur of the capital.

Referring to the government's decision to raise primary education level up to class eight, the minister said, "Although it is a big challenge, we would be able to overcome it with help of all concerned."

He urged all concerned to work together to ensure the development of the country's education sector. Director General (DG) of Primary Education Directorate Mohammad Alamgir presided over the programme.

Secretary to Primary and Mass-Education Ministry Humayun Khaled, Additional Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan and DG of Compulsory Primary Education Implementation Monitoring Unit Ziauddin Ahmed also spoke.

NEWS IN brief

Youth wearing earphones killed as train hits him in Tongi

BSS, Dhaka

An unidentified youth was killed as a train hit him while he was walking across the rail track putting on earphones at Boubazar Rail-crossing in Tongi yesterday. Witnesses said the Kamlapur-bound train hit the youth, aged around 21, while he was walking across the rail line with his earphones plugged in his ears. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy. Around 20 people were killed as moving trains hit them in different parts of the capital in last seven months, police said. The accidents took place at different venues under

Jamalul president, Tofiqul general secretary of Kindergarten Samity

CITY DESK

Jamalul Islam Jamal and Tofiqul Islam have been reelected president and general secretary respectively of Bangladesh Kindergarten Samity (BKS) for two-year term. An 11-member executive committee was formed following the election at the central office of BKS yesterday, said a press release. Other office bearers include, Vice-president Sirajul Islam, Assistant General Secretary Abul Kalam Azad Kajal and Treasurer Minhajul Islam Polish.



Jamalul Islam Tofiqul Islam

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) for Chilled Water Plant

Project name and tender name	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 100,000 L/H capacity chilled water plant
Source of fund	Own fund
Tender package no:	BPD-BDFP/01-16
IFT Ref. no. and date	IFT/BRAC/BPD-BDFP/16-03 27 July, 2016
Price of the tender documents	BDT 2,000.00 (Taka two thousand only) non refundable
Pre-tender meeting time and place	09 August 11.00 am at 6th floor conference room
Tender document available	BRAC Procurement Department (ground floor) BRAC Centre 75, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 For study purpose please visit procurement.brac.net
Date and time for selling documents	01 August to 22 August 2016 between 10.00 am to 2:00 pm
Tender dropping place, date and time	Tender box-3, BRAC Procurement Department, ground floor, 23 August 2016 between 10.00 am to 2:00 pm
Tender opening place, date and time	BRAC staff canteen (4th floor) BRAC Centre 23 August 2016 at 2:30 pm

BRAC, BRAC Centre, 75 Mohakhali Dhaka-1212
Phone: 9881265 Ext: 3021, 3789

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Govt to popularise

FROM PAGE 3
and Tourism Council (WTTC), the ministry officials said some 11,38,500 people are directly or indirectly involved in the country's tourism sector. According to the WTTC, Bangladesh's position is now 60 among 184 tourism-enriched countries and the government hopes to see Bangladesh in the 18th position after 10 years.

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি

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