



Participants at a roundtable discussion on “Building Skills for Disadvantaged Youth: Opportunities and Challenges in the Context of Bangladesh” at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday. Development organisation Swisscontact in association with The Daily Star organised the event that stressed the need for providing the poor and disadvantaged groups with technical training to help them secure jobs.

PHOTO: STAR

HOLDING TAX Mohiuddin 'kept mum' during Monjur's tenure: Nasir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

Criticising Chittagong City unit Awami League President ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury for his stance against reassessment of holding tax, incumbent city Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin said the former was not vocal against the same move during the tenure of immediate past mayor M Monjur Alam.

“Those who are delivering misleading speeches over reassessment (of holding tax) this time were mysteriously silent on the issue during the tenure of former mayor M Monjur Alam,” Nasir, also the general secretary of city AL unit, said in a statement issued yesterday night.

The statement reads: “Though I am the general secretary, several meetings were convened at the residence of city unit president (Mohiuddin) over holding tax without informing me. I think this goes against the party constitution.”

The mayor also claimed not to have received any specific complaint over the reassessment so far.

“I tried to convince several times that a mayor is to act within the law about which former mayors are well-informed,” he said, brushing aside the allegation that the decision of reassessment was motivated to embarrass the government.

Technical training a solution

Swisscontact, The Daily Star roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday underscored the need for providing technical training to the poor and disadvantaged groups to help them secure jobs and improve their livelihood.

They said the disadvantaged groups of people also have to be provided with behavioural training so that they can adjust to the new working environment at home and abroad.

Development organisation Swisscontact in association with The Daily Star organised the roundtable on “Building Skills for Disadvantaged Youth: Opportunities and Challenges in the Context of Bangladesh” at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

Speakers said industry owners, mainly those who are involved in the informal sector, have to ensure due rights of their workers.

Swisscontact has been implementing a project “B-SkillFUL”, jointly funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and European Union, since November, 2015 in Bangladesh. The project aims to provide demand-driven skill training to 40,000 poor and disadvantaged men and women and help at least 70 percent of them get

JOBLESS POOR, DISADVANTAGED GROUPS

jobs by January, 2020.

Matiur Rahman, team leader of B-SkillFUL, said they provided training to 9,808 individuals and helped 2,992 of them secure jobs till June, 2017, against the reality of 20 lakh people entering into the country's job market each year.

The project facilitates entrepreneur-

ship training and financial linkage, and builds awareness among workers and owners about labour rights, he said.

Manfred Frenholz, team leader of Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Development of EU, said more initiative like B-SkillFUL is required from both the government and private sector stakeholders considering the high unemployment rate in Bangladesh.

Moderating the roundtable, Salehuddin Ahmed, adjunct faculty of Independent University, Bangladesh, said government and private stakeholders have to implement their policies at the field-level to get due result.

Nepal Chandra Karmakar, deputy director of National Skills Development Council, said alongside providing skills training, employers should also consider a better wage structure.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Minhaj Chy wins Ashoka Fellowship

CITY DESK

Minhaj Chowdhury, a Bangladeshi origin American-born Johns Hopkins University graduate, has been awarded the Ashoka Fellowship in recognition of his work in building Drinkwell, a social enterprise helping eradicate South Asia's water crisis, said a press release.

Its Hybrid Ion Exchange (HIX) line of resins have been consistently removing arsenic and fluoride from groundwater to meet World Health Organization standards in the most challenging regions in South Asia, thanks to its unique zirconium-based composition, it added.

The zirconium-loaded resins are the first of its kind with a 10 times higher affinity for selectively removing arsenic and fluoride. HIX's raw materials are sourced locally, and a single batch of resins can last up to five years.

The technology requires little to no electricity, recovers 99 percent of input water, and generates only two percent of waste, added the release.

Abdullah Chowdhury Robin, country director of Ashoka Innovators for the Public (Bangladesh), announced Minhaj's fellowship.

Ashoka is a global association of the world's leading social entrepreneurs.

'UPs strengthened thru project'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Union Parishad Governance Project has enhanced institutional capacity of Union Parishads through engaging people in planning and budgeting, speakers told a workshop at the capital's Biam auditorium yesterday.

The UNDP-supported project was implemented from 2011-2017 under Local Government Division. Dhaka University's Prof Dr Salahuddin M Aminuzzaman, LGD Secretary Abdul Malek, UNDP Bangladesh country director Sudipto Mukerjee and UPGP coordinator Oliullah spoke at the programme.

NEWSIN brief

Another reshuffle in SC admin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, who is discharging the duties of the chief justice in the absence of Surendra Kumar Sinha, yesterday gave appointments to six posts of the Supreme Court administration.

The appointments were made through transferring six lower court judges, according to a gazette notification issued by the law ministry yesterday.

Faridpur's Chief Judicial Magistrate Sheikh Nazmul Alam was made additional registrar of the Appellate Division, Faridpur's Additional District and Sessions Judge Ruhul Amin and Chittagong's Additional District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Nazrul Islam additional registrars of the High Court, Netrokona's Additional District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Saifur Rahman special officer of the HC, and Munshiganj's Joint District and Sessions Judge Syeda Hafchha Jhuma and Chittagong's Joint District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Abdur Rahman deputy registrars of the HC.

Earlier on October 17, Justice Wahhab Miah appointed Md Zakir Hossain, who was serving as registrar of the Appellate Division, as SC's acting registrar general.

JnU celebrates 12th anniversary

A CORRESPONDENT

Jagannath University (JnU) yesterday celebrated its 12th founding anniversary through colourful programmes.

JnU Vice Chancellor Prof Mijanur Rahman inaugurated the day-long programme hoisting the national and university flags, and releasing pigeons and balloons before the administrative building around 9:30am.

The 159-year-old educational institute started its journey as a university on October 20, 2005. JnU now has six faculties, 38 departments, two institutes and a dormitory. It has 24,000 students and 601 teachers.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the second death anniversary of Alhaj Syed Ahmed Kamal, former mutawalli of Hazarat Shah Kamal (R) estate of Durmut, Jamalpur.

He was the son of late Syed Anisuzzaman, a renowned income tax lawyer, president of Chittagong Bar Association, and chairman of Hoechst Pharmaceuticals, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at Durmut Jame Masjid. Syed Kamal was the father of Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager of Mastercard.



Plea seeks HC order

FROM PAGE 3

remove all the structures from the lands of four rivers -- Buriganga, Turag, Shitalakkhya and Dhaleshwari -- around Dhaka city. The bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice Mohammad Ullah fixed October 29 for hearing the petition, HRPB's lawyer Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star.

The probe report was submitted by the Gazipur chief judicial magistrate to the HC recently. The report contained names of 30 organisations and individuals who built the structures. Following the HRPB petition, the HC on January 5 had directed the chief judicial magistrate to probe if illegal structures were built there and submit a report.

The rights organisation had filed the writ petition with the HC on November 7 last year, a day after The Daily Star ran a report headlined “Time to declare Turag dead”.

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Stores & Material Management

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DATED: 22/10/2017

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S/N	TENDER NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COST OF SCHEDULE
01	DACPF/INTL-TENDER/04/2017-2018 DT. 22/10/2017	COMPRESSOR	01	BDT. 3500.00 OR EQUIVALENT USD

Tender schedule with detailed specifications Terms & Conditions will be available at cash price of BDT. 3500.00 (BDT. Three thousand five hundred only) or equivalent USD per set (non-refundable) at the office of Manager Accounts, Cash & Banking, Balaka, Head Office, Kurmitola and Biman' outstations in Singapore, Bangkok, Dubai & London on all working days up to 09/11/2017. A formal application in bidder's letterhead pad mentioning Tender Number and date shall be required for purchasing the tender schedule. Tender schedule and other related information may also be viewed at Biman's website www.biman-airlines.com.

The date of submission of tender is on 12 Nov 2017, from 0900 to 1200 hrs (LT).

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সম্মানিত করদাতার জন্য জরুরি তথ্য: ০৬

আপনি কোন ব্যবসায় বা পেশায় নির্বাহী বা ব্যবস্থাপনা পদে বেকনভোগী কর্মী (employee) হলে আপনার জন্য আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিল বাধ্যতামূলক।

আপনার আয়কর রিটার্ন জমা দিয়েছেন তো?

সম্মানিত করদাতা, দেশের উন্নয়নের জন্য যে রাজস্ব প্রয়োজন তার বড় অংশ আসে আপনার দেয়া আয়কর থেকে। তাই একজন করদাতা হিসেবে আপনি দেশের উন্নয়নের একজন গর্বিত অংশীদার।

আপনি কোন ব্যবসায় বা পেশায় নির্বাহী বা ব্যবস্থাপনা পদে বেকনভোগী কর্মী (employee) হলে মোট আয় যা-ই হোক না কেন, এ বছর (২০১৭-২০১৮ কর বছর) আপনাকে আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিল করতে হবে।

আপনার এ বছরের আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিলের শেষ দিন ৩০ নভেম্বর ২০১৭। বিগত বছরের ধারাবাহিকতায় রিটার্ন দাখিলের সময় আর বাড়বে না।

রিটার্ন দাখিল বাধ্যতামূলক অথচ রিটার্ন দাখিল করেননি এমন কাউকে পরিশোধিত বেকন ভাতা নিয়োগকর্তার কর নির্ধারণের সময় অনুমোদনযোগ্য খরচ হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে না। এতে নিয়োগকর্তার করদায় বেড়ে যাবে। ফলে একজন সূনাগরিক ও দায়িত্বশীল কর্মী (employee) হিসেবে নির্ধারিত সময়সীমার মধ্যে রিটার্ন দাখিল করুন।

৩০ নভেম্বরের মধ্যে রিটার্ন দাখিল না করলে ডিসেম্বর মাস থেকে আপনার বেকন-ভাতাদি পেতে অসুবিধা হতে পারে। বিলম্বে রিটার্ন দাখিলের জন্য জরিমানা ও বিলম্ব সুদ আরোপযোগ্য হবে। এছাড়া, রিটার্ন দাখিলে ব্যর্থ হলে কর আইন ভঙ্গ হবে। এতে এক বছর পর্যন্ত জেল অথবা অর্থদণ্ড অথবা উভয় শাস্তির বিধান রয়েছে।

জরিমানা, বিলম্ব সুদ ও শাস্তি এড়ানোর জন্য নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে আপনার রিটার্ন দাখিল করে রিটার্নের প্রাপ্তি স্বীকারপত্র বুঝে নিন।

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Quader seeks lawmakers'

FROM PAGE 3

initiatives -- enforcing speed limit, banning unfit vehicles, training drivers and prohibiting driving on the wrong side -- to bring discipline and ensure safety on roads, but none of those was implemented properly.

As a result, accidents and deaths have become imminent on the roads.

According to the BRTA, around 1,794 people died in about 1,837 road accidents across the country in the first eight months of this year, and 2,463 deaths occurred in 2,566 accidents in 2016.

Obaidul Quader said influential people often do not obey traffic rules and drive their vehicles on the wrong side. If they obey rules, others will learn from them.

Those who will violate rules by driving on the wrong side should be punished even if they are powerful. He also condemned the Dhaka University students for such violation.

Regarding enforcement of traffic laws, he said the ministry had to go through a delayed process by sending letters to different government bodies for implementing any initiatives. The delay eventually reduced effectiveness, he said.

About National Safe Roads Day, the minister said it was not observed like it could have been as the finance ministry allocated only Tk 50,000 to organise the programme.

“Such a half-hearted observance is useless. I do not support it. The day should be observed wholeheartedly to create awareness,” he said.

“I have been working continuously over the last five and a half years... I did not get the desired results yet,” said Quader. “The roads should have been made safer for the future generation. We are trying relentlessly. People will have to be patient and cooperate...,” he said.

MAN Siddique, secretary of the ministry; actor Ilias Kanchan, also chairman of Nirapad Sarak Chai; Mashhur Rahman; chairman of BRTA; and Monirul Islam, a member of the parliamentary standing committee on the ministry; also spoke.

In Brahmanbaria, the district administration and BRTA organised a rally and a discussion to mark the day, reports our correspondent.

On June 5, the cabinet approved a proposal to declare October 22 as National Safe Roads Day, recognising Kanchan's long and ceaseless campaign on road safety under the banner of Nirapad Sarak Chai.

HC full verdict reveals

FROM PAGE 4

of awarding her sentence to death with a fine of Tk 5,000/- [five thousand]” it said in the full verdict.

Oishee's lawyer Advocate Sujit Chatterjee yesterday told The Daily Star that his client would have to serve in jail for 30 years from the date of her landing in it (since 2013) under the relevant provision of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Oishee would appeal before the Appellate Division to reduce her life imprisonment, he also said.