



WELCOME, LITTLE ONE...

One of the two ostrich chicks at Chittagong zoo. The three-month olds have been brought from Africa. The photo was taken on Sunday when their cage was unveiled for visitors.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

More govt support needed for autism care

MOSTAFA YOUSUF, Ctg

Although the numbers of parents who now forego superstitions and instead go to doctors and institutions to avail treatment and guidance to bring up their autistic children have risen, the number of facilities from where to avail such guidance and help has not increased in the port city.

Official figures state that there are 12,083 autistic children in Chittagong but only a few private organisations -- mostly run by parents -- in the city offer specialised help.

Dr Dhananjoy Das, assistant professor of Institute of Autism and Child Development in Chittagong, told The Daily Star that his institute has diagnosed around one thousand children with some form of autism between 2005 and 2017.

The doctor, however, lamented that lack of government facilities in

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

Nurse their talents

Says PM about people with autism

UNB, Dhaka

Stressing the importance of changing the mentality towards the persons with disabilities, including those with autism, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said these people should get the opportunity to flourish their talent.

"Let's not neglect the people with autism. They're part of society. They might have much more talent than the normal people. We've to give them opportunity for flourishing their talent and we've to create a nice place for them in society," she said.

The prime minister was addressing a programme at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, marking the 11th World Autism Awareness Day.

Social Welfare Minister Rashed Khan Menon chaired the programme organised by his ministry.

The theme of this year's day is "Empowering Women and Girls with Autism".

Hasina said people must change their age-old attitude towards persons with disabilities, including those with autism. "We have to show more sensitivity and sympathy towards them and give them more love and affection for bringing them closer to us. We have to help them so that their hidden talent could be flourished."

Underlining the importance of being more aware of autism, she said all have to stand by people with autism.

The prime minister also said the government has taken a number of projects and programmes to make persons with disabilities and autism worthy citizens of the country.

Hasina said whatever greeting cards she sends to people on the occasion of various festivals like Eid and New Year are prepared by children with disabilities.

She urged the people of all classes and professions to extend their helping hands to such people.



SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Admission - Summer 2018

MBA and EMBA

SUCCESS DEFINED!

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) offers MBA and EMBA for students, management professionals and entrepreneurs who are ready to take charge, expand their expertise, make high-level strategic decisions with confidence and become dynamic & innovative leaders...

Application deadline: Wednesday, April 4, 2018
Admission test: Friday, April 6, 2018
Forms are sold: All days of the week from 10.00 am to 8.00 pm

Where dreamers turn to doers [Imagine](#) [More](#)

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH

Graduate School of Business
Plot-16, Block-B, Bashundhara R/A, Dhaka-1212, Room No-2025. Hotline: +880 9612 939393
Tel: 8431645-53, 8432065-76 Ext- 2111, 2133. Fax: 8431991. e-mail: gsb@iub.edu.bd

No crisis of water this time

Says Wasa MD

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Except for some "isolated incidents", the city dwellers will not face any severe water crisis during this dry season and upcoming Ramadan, said Taqsem A Khan, managing director of Dhaka Wasa.

"There will be no water crisis in the capital... we have taken all out preparations," he said at a meeting with reporters at its Karwan Bazar office yesterday.

The Wasa has a maximum capacity to produce 244-cr litres of water daily against a maximum demand for 240-cr litres, he said.

They have kept a total of 445 electric generators stand by to run 810 deep tube wells for uninterrupted mining of underground water.

Apart from this, they have dual electricity connections to 200 water pumps so that those remain operational even in case of power rationing, he said.

Moreover, they have 52 water-carrying lorries and 20 trolley-mounted tractors to

address urgent water crisis in any locality, said the Wasa MD.

The fall of water table during dry season and pollution in the Shitalakhya river pose a challenge to the usual water supply, said Khan.

Wasa currently extracts 78 percent of its production from underground aquifer with deep tube wells and the rest from five surface water treatment plants, he said.

Regarding the capital's storm drainage system during monsoon, he said the natural drainage system in the city is all destroyed.

The city canals have been either grabbed or clogged with solid wastes, he said.

"We will ensure that the city does not remain water-submerged more than three hours," said the MD in reply to a question.

They are doing routine maintenance of storm drains and pump stations and have excavated some canals, he said, adding that they would start cleaning the canals and storm drains before the monsoon sets in.



Introducing MUFG Bank

A new era starts with a new name.

Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ is now MUFG Bank.

Your trust, your future, our commitment

Building on our rich heritage as a trusted global bank with an unyielding focus on lasting relationships, the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ is now known as MUFG Bank. The name change represents not only a new beginning, but an even stronger commitment to harness our presence in over 50 countries to provide fresh ideas and seamless services to clients.

A new dawn awaits as we strive to be the world's most trusted financial group.

For enquiries, please call 880-2-911-8982.

MUFG Bank, Ltd.
A member of MUFG, a global financial group

www.mufg.jp/english

©2018 Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group

