

# Ending the shame surrounding menstruation

## Pad Bank providing free sanitary napkins

MD MIZANUR RAHMAN HIMADRI

Fourteen year old Jhorna Akhter started getting her period recently. Along with physical changes during puberty, she is faced with change in emotional state as well.

She and her friends are often teased when their uniforms accidentally get stained during their monthly cycle, leading to a sense of deep embarrassment.

But the "All For One Foundation" has brought about a dramatic change in the lives of these disadvantaged girls in their formative years.

"I am relieved to know that our school now has a 'Pad Bank', " said Jhorna, a class VII student of Dhamalkot Ideal High School and College in Mirpur in Dhaka.

"The foundation has taught me that menstruation is not a matter of shame."

"I was never informed about the do's and don'ts of menstrual hygiene because I was raised in a poor, uneducated family. My mother taught me to use an old piece of cloth each month and that is what I

followed. Thanks to all the members of 'All For One', who are helping girls to be confident during their vulnerable time," Jhorna said.

Female hygiene products are still a prized commodity for underprivileged adolescent girls in Bangladesh. Using unclean cloth can lead to fungal infection, urinary and reproductive tract infection, and even make women vulnerable to infertility.

Kamrun Nesa Mira, a graduate from University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh in Media Studies and Journalism, started the initiative on March 26 last year.

With the slogan "Her period is the power", the aim of the organisation is to provide sanitary napkins and break the taboo surrounding a basic monthly hygiene issue.

Jhorna says she was always stressed about getting her periods suddenly at school. "But now I feel free, as I can easily get a sanitary napkin from the small

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Kamrun Nesa Mira, centre, with girls at Dhamalkot Ideal High School and College in Mirpur. She launched an initiative called "Pad Bank", under which disadvantaged schoolgirls get free sanitary napkins.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Opposition or government?

Meeting today to decide Jatiya Party's role, says Ranga  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Secretary General Moshiur Rahman Ranga yesterday expressed dissatisfaction over election results, saying that the party was supposed to win in more seats.

Ranga also said the party's high-ups in a meeting will decide whether they will remain as the opposition or be part of the government.

"We're not happy with the election results as Jatiya Party was supposed to win more seats," he said at a discussion at the party's Banan office.

Saying that a joint meeting of Jatiya Party's presidential members and newly elected MPs will be held at the party chairman's office SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

## The Daily Star 20th 'O' & 'A' Level Awards Presentation Ceremony, 2017-2018

### Announcement for 'O' & 'A' Level Private Candidates and Schools

#### Private Candidates

Private candidates who fulfill the criteria described below are requested to register their names at The Daily Star office for inclusion as awardees. The criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

#### Criteria for 'O' Level

Minimum 6 (six) 'A' grades in two consecutive sittings within May/June 2017 to May/June 2018 and November 2018

#### Criteria for 'A' Level

Minimum 3 (three) 'A' grades in two consecutive sittings within May/June 2017 to May/June 2018 and November 2018

Eligible candidates are requested to contact Mr. Mahbub Ahsan Rashid at The Daily Star, 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Level-5, Dhaka-1215, with their original results certificates and a photocopy and 2 (two) passport-size photographs in person from 21st January to 31st January, 2019, anytime between 11:00 am to 5:00 pm (Except Fridays and Saturdays)

#### Schools

Any school that has students meeting the above criteria but has not been contacted by The Daily Star (i.e. has not been informed of the first scheduled meeting through regular post, email or phone) is requested to contact Mr. Mahbub Ahsan Rashid at The Daily Star (64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Level-5, Dhaka-1215), on the aforementioned dates and times or email him at [o.alevel.tds@gmail.com](mailto:o.alevel.tds@gmail.com) by 30th January, 2019, with:

• The name of the school, phone number of a responsible representative and a valid email address that is checked regularly.

The schools are also requested to promptly prepare a list of the candidates meeting the above criteria, the number of 'A' / 'A' grades obtained by each candidate, and photocopies of results certificates for each candidate.

No registration will be allowed or accepted after 5:00 pm of 31st January, 2019.

NOTE: If you know of any private candidate(s) or school(s) that may be unaware of this, please pass on the above information to them so that we may include them in this ceremony.

### DHAKA-8 Petition seeks cancellation of polls result

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party candidate for Dhaka-8 constituency Advocate Md Eunus Ali Akond yesterday filed a writ petition with the High Court, challenging the election result of the constituency.

In the petition, he sought an HC directive upon the Election Commission (EC) to cancel the result of Dhaka-8, citing irregularities.

According to the petition, Eunus also prayed to the HC to order EC not to include Rashed Khan Menon as the elected candidate in the gazette notification.

Menon, AL candidate of Dhaka-8, won the December 30 general election from the constituency.

Agents of other parties except AL were not allowed in the polling centres during the election, Eunus Ali told The Daily Star.

The voter turnout was very low, but the result said SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

### Four youths 'missing' since eve of polls

Families say they were detained by law enforcers; police, Rab deny allegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four university students remain missing since they were allegedly picked up by plainclothes men in the capital's Farmgate area on Saturday, the day before national election.

Their families yesterday held a press conference at Crime Reporters' Association Bangladesh, demanding safe return of the youths.

The missing are: Abu Khaled Mohammad Jabed, 25, a third year student of Bangla at Asian University; Borhan Uddin, 26, English student at Stamford University; Rezaul Khalek, 24, final year student of Pharmacy at Manarat University; and Syed Maminul Hasan, 27, former student of a Unani Ayurvedic Medical College.

"We are very anxious about their fate, as we have been out of contact with them for two days," said Jabed's brother-in-law Yeasin Karim at the press conference.

He urged law enforcers to rescue the youths or to produce them before the court if they were detained for any crime.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

### 'USING MONEY TO INFLUENCE POLLS' 3 arrestees sent to jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Services Trust Ltd, a company owned by Mia Nuruddin Ahmed Apu, who was a Jatiya Oikyofront candidate from Shariatpur-3 constituency. He was defeated in the December 30 election.

On December 26, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) filed the case with Motijheel Police Station accusing six persons, including Mia Nuruddin, a day after the trio was arrested by the elite force.

Speaking at a press conference in front of United Corporation in Motijheel on the day of the arrest, Rab Director General Benazir Ahmed had said they seized Tk 8 crore and several cheques worth around Tk 10 crore from their possession.

He claimed the three had distributed about Tk 150 crore in various constituencies to instigate violence and influence the polls.

Rab sources said acting on information, they raided United Corporation and arrested Ali Haider. Gleaning information from Haider, Rab raided Amena Enterprise and detained two others.

## Career Opportunity in Bank Asia Islamic Banking

**Bank Asia Limited**, a leading Private Commercial Bank of the country having state of the art technology, operates Islamic Banking through five Windows along with its conventional operations in 127 Branches and has more than 2,500 Agent Banking Outlets across the country.

To extend Islamic Banking business portfolio, the Bank is inviting application from the experienced Islamic Bankers for the following positions:

#### Head of Islamic Banking (SEVP/DMD)

The incumbent will be responsible for overall business performance of Bank Asia Islamic Banking. He will have to travel extensively to different Branches/ Agent Points across the country to enhance the business portfolio of Islamic Banking of the Bank. He will be dynamic and assertive to maintain liaison among the distribution channels of the Bank. He should have the ability to plan and organize Islamic Banking budget and achieve the same.

#### Requirements:

- Post Graduate preferably in Banking & Finance/ Economics/ Islamic Banking & Finance/ Business Administration.
- Experience: Minimum 20 years banking experience in the relevant field.

#### Head of Business & Development Wing (VP/SVP)

The incumbent will be responsible for preparing Islamic Banking budget & ensuring achievement of the same. He will supervise the activities of Marketing, Investment and Islamic Agent Banking Department of Islamic Banking Division and should have the ability to achieve budget through different business units.

#### Requirements:

- Post Graduate preferably in Banking & Finance/ Economics/ Islamic Banking & Finance/ Business Administration.
- Experience: 14-16 years banking experience in the relevant field.

#### Head of ICT Support Department (FVP/VP)

The incumbent will be responsible for overall ICT support activities of Islamic Banking including formulation of business logic of different products of Islamic Banking. He should have the capability to supervise Business Support, Software Trouble-Shooting, Product Development and Product Supervision Units of ICT Support Department under Islamic Banking Division. He will act as bridge between Bank's ICT Division and software providers regarding Islamic Banking operations.

#### Requirements:

- Post Graduate preferably in Information & Communication Technology or related discipline.
- Experience: 12-14 years banking experience in the relevant field.

#### Head of Islamic Banking Window (FVP/VP)

The incumbent should have strong managerial capability and wide business relationship network. He will be responsible for overall business activities of Islamic Banking Window. Job Location: Dhaka/ Chatogram/ Sylhet.

#### Requirements:

- Post Graduate preferably in Banking & Finance/ Economics/ Islamic Banking & Finance/ Business Administration.
- Experience: 12-14 years banking experience in the relevant field including Branch Manager Exposure.

N.B.: For highly deserving candidates, conditions and requirements mentioned above may be relaxed.

#### Application procedure:

Interested candidates who meet the above requirements are invited to apply online through <https://www.bankasia-bd.com>>Career>Available Jobs with a recent passport size photograph and apply latest by January 15, 2019.

No hard copy of any application/ résumé will be entertained.

Bank Asia reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason whatsoever at any stage of the recruitment process.

## অভিনব



একাদশ জাতীয় সংসদ নির্বাচনে আওয়ামী লীগ নিরক্ষুণ্ণ সংখ্যাগরিষ্ঠতা অর্জন করায় টানা তৃতীয়বারের মতো প্রধানমন্ত্রী হতে যাচ্ছেন জাতির জনক বঙ্গবন্ধু কল্যাণ শেখ হাসিনা। গত ৩১ ডিসেম্বর, ২০১৮ ইং তারিখে গণভবনে মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী জননেত্রী শেখ হাসিনা কে ফুল দিয়ে অভিনন্দন জানান বাংলাদেশ অ্যাসোসিয়েশন অব ব্যাংকস (বিএবি), এক্সিম ব্যাংক ও নাসা গ্রুপ এর চেয়ারম্যান মোঃ নজরুল ইসলাম মজুমদার।