2nd Edition

The national education curriculum should be reformed to reflect changing global realities and train students to gain better opportunities in the job market, said participants at a roundtable arranged by Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) yesterday.

Speakers at the event -- joined by educators, development activists, and students -- stressed the need for teaching soft skills, practical skills, and 21st century skills, said a press release.

To facilitate a broader conversation on issues that matter to the youth, BYLC organised a youth leadership summit in 2018 where 350 university students and young professionals cocreated a youth manifesto, outlining the youth's priorities for the future.

The findings of the manifesto, which focused on quality of education and development of relevant skills, were presented at the roundtable.

"The government's role is to act as a catalyst and set the tone for reform in education, and to create an innovative platform for students to express and learn. It's our job to support the government in this



regard," said special guest, Dr Erum Mariam, director of Brac Institute of Educational Development.

Shah Ali Farhad, special assistant to the prime minister, who was also a special guest, stated that in the past, the government worked to fill gaps in basic education infrastructure, but in the last five years, its focus has been on improving quality of education.

The government will work teachers, students, other stakeholders to chalk out a comprehensive plan on education for the next five years, he added.

"It's the collective responsibility development policymakers, practitioners, teachers, and parents to help prepare the youth to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world, while also ensuring their mental and physical wellbeing," said Ejaj Ahmad, president and founder of BYLC.

BYLC, the country's first leadership institute, exists to build connections among youths from diverse backgrounds, equip them with leadership skills, and enable them to have high impacts in public, private, and civil sectors.

Kuet gets new buses for students, staff

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two buses and one mini bus were inaugurated yesterday at Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet), to be used by teachers, officials and students.

Prof Quazi Sazzad Hossain, VC of Kuet, inaugurated the vehicles as the chief guest where students and staff of Kuet were also present. At the event, the VC

said these vehicles would ease travel sufferings of university students and staff.

Prof Mihir Ranjon Halder, president of transport committee, Kazi ABM Mohiuddin, director of planning and development, GM Shahidul Alom, registrar, and Sadman Nahiyan Sejan, member secretary of students' welfare committee, were present and spoke among others at the session.

'Milk Vita is better than imported milk powder'

State minister for co-operatives tells parliament

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no formalin or arsenic in the milk of Milk Vita, State Minister for Rural Development and Co-operatives Division Shawpan Bhattacharjee said yesterday.

"No sign of formalin and arsenic has been detected in the liquid milk of Milk Vita," he said at parliament while participating in a discussion on the proposed budget.

Referring to a recent test report of Dhaka University, he said "unscrupulous" businessmen are perpetuating a propaganda that there is arsenic and formalin in the liquid milk of Milk Vita.

He also claimed that imported milk powder is substandard and not nutritious.

"The milk powder that is being imported into our country is not nutritious. The milk powder is abandoned in Denmark and other European countries. Milk powder

is being imported as bulk milk product -giving only five percent tax," he added.

The state minister said a nefarious effort against sale of Milk Vita continues. After realising this, the prime minister and finance minister have increased import duty on milk power from 5 to 10 percent, which he claimed was "a timely step".

Bhattacharjee said they already went over the test report from BSTI, but formalin was not mentioned in it.

A test has already been carried out in Singapore, which termed the milk of Milk Vita "complete" as nothing harmful was found in it, said the state minister.

"I want to assure the nation through this parliament that the milk of Milk Vita is much better, more acceptable and nutritious than the imported milk powder," he said.

Rehabilitate rickshaw pullers

FROM PAGE 5

MP Shamsunnahar Bhuiyan, general secretary of Jatiya Mahila Sramik League, said rickshaw pullers should be included in the social safety net programmes.

BILS Chairman Habibur Rahman Siraj

her body, and have enough reasons to

"We suspect that after murdering her by

chaired the event, where Bangladesh Sarak

Man held in Sylhet

Paribahan Sramik League General Secretary Insur Ali, Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal General Secretary Nurul Islam Khan Nasim and Rickshaw O Van Malik Samity President Harunur Rashid Khan also spoke.

hanging with scarf, her husband tried to

cover up the incident and took her body to

the hospital claiming she died by suicide.

We will be investigating the matter further

after getting the autopsy report," he said.

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গ্রামীণ শক্তি

গ্রামীণ ব্যাংক ভবন (১৯ তলা), মিরপুর-২, ঢাকা-১২১৬।

দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ

২৩/০৬/২০১৯ তারিখে প্রকাশিত দেশের বিভিন্ন দৈনিক পত্রিকায় ঋণ খেলাপী শীর্ষক সংবাদের প্রতি আমাদের দৃষ্টি আকৃষ্ট হয়েছে। এই সংবাদে 'গ্রামীণ শক্তি' কে শীষ ১০ ঋণ খেলাপীর তালিকায় অর্ন্তভুক্ত করা হয়েছে। তথ্যটি সম্পূর্ণরূপে সঠিক নয়।

গ্রামীণ শক্তি ইডকলের সোলার প্রোগ্রামের আওতায় সম্পৃক্ত হয়ে ২০০২ সাল থেকে ডিসেম্বর ২০১৮ সাল পর্যন্ত সফলতার সাথে ১৭ লক্ষ সোলার হোম সিস্টেম স্থাপন করেছে। এই সংখ্যা এযাবতকালে ইডকলের আওতায় বাংলাদেশের গ্রামাঞ্চলে সৌরবিদ্যুৎ প্রসার করার জন্য স্থাপনকৃত সোলার হোম সিস্টেমের প্রায় ৪০ শতাংশ এবং সারা বিশ্বে স্থাপনকৃত সোলার হোম সিস্টেমের প্রায় ২৫ শতাংশ সোলার হোম সিস্টেমের কাজে ঋণ ও অন্যান্য সহায়তা দানের জন্য সরকার ইডকল সৃষ্টি করেন। এযাবত এই কর্মসূচির আওতায় গ্রামীণ

শক্তি ইডকল হতে ১৯০০.৩৮ কোটি টাকা ঋণ হিসেবে গ্রহণ করে। তার মধ্যে ১৩৪৪.০৭ কোটি টাকা ঋণ হিসেবে এবং ৫০৫.২৫ কোটি

টাকা সুদ হিসেবে অর্থাৎ মোট ১৮৪৯.৩২ কোটি টাকা পরিশোধ করে। বর্তমানে মূল ঋণ, সুদ এবং সম্প্রতিকালে সমন্বয়সহ গ্রামীণ শক্তির কাছে ইডকলের পাওনা আছে ৫৩৮.৫৪ কোটি টাকা। বর্তমানে ইডকলের সাথে এই ঋণ সংক্রান্ত কিছু গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বিষয় আলোচনাধীণ থাকায় এবং তা এখনও সুরাহা না হওয়ায় গত মার্চ ২০১৯ কোর্য়টার হতে গ্রামীণ শক্তি সর্বশেষ ০২টি কিন্তির ৬৭.৩৭ কোটি টাকা প্রদান স্থগিত রেখেছে। ফলে গ্রামীণ শক্তির একাউন্ট এখন

ক্লাসিফাইড অবস্থায় রয়েছে। এই ক্লাসিফাইড অবস্থা থেকে SMA তে পরিবর্তনের জন্য ৭৭ কোটি টাকা এবং SMA থেকে সম্পূর্ণ নিয়মিতকরণের জন্য ১৪৫ কোটি টাকা প্রদান করতে হবে; যদিও গ্রামীণ শক্তির Debt Service Reserve Account (DSRA) এ ১৪৬ কোটি টাকা গচ্ছিত আছে - যা ইডকলের কাছে লিয়েন করা আছে। সুতরাং দেখা যাচ্ছে যে, গ্রামীণ শক্তির DSRA এতে গচ্ছিত টাকাই বর্তমানে বকেয়া ঋণ প্রদানে যথেষ্ট

গ্রামীণ শক্তির কাছে মোট আদায়যোগ্য ঋণের পরিমাণ ৫৩৮.৫৪ কোটি টাকা। ইডকলের কাছে DSRA হিসাবে গ্রামীণ শক্তির ১৪৬ কোটি টাকা জমা আছে। যেকোন সময় এই টাকা ঋণ পরিশোধে ব্যবহার করা যেতে পারে। এই টাকার সঙ্গে আরো ৩৯২.৫৪ কোটি টাকা পরিশোধ করলেই মোট ঋণ পরিশোধ হয়ে যাবে। ৬০১ কোটি টাকা ঋণ খেলাপী হওয়ার সংবাদটি মোটেই তথ্য নির্ভর নয়।

World Health Organization Bangladesh

VACANCY NOTICE

World Health Organization (WHO) invites applications from the interested and eligible candidates for the following positions under Special Service Agreement modality:

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- Coordinator for MOHFW Coordination Centre in MOHFW, DGHS and DGFP in Dhaka, (SSA8)
- Field Coordinator- Operations, (SSA8)
- Public Health Specialist, (SSA7)
- Public Health Officer, (SSA7)
- Monitoring and Reporting officer, (SSA7)
- Immunization and Outbreaks Officer, (SSA7) Field Monitoring Supervisor, (SSA5)
- Admin Assistant, (SSA5)

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Ready Flat for Sale | Hill people's

FROM PAGE 3

said Babul Chowdhury, chairman of Lakkhichhari upazila. FROM PAGE 5 Rise of local armed groups has created obstacles and by suicide, but we found injury marks on

posed threats to people's lives in recent times, said Rangamati Sadar upazila Chairman Shahiduzzaman Mohsin.

At least four armed groups are involved in extortion in different areas, he alleged.

Rafiqul Alam, mayor of Khagrachhari municipality, said questions still remain whether initiatives taken for bringing peace in the region have worked.

conflicts still happening?" he questioned. Although significant development has been made and people's living standards have also changed, peace still

"If the initiatives worked, why are bloodshed and armed

remains elusive in CHT, he said. Speaking as chief guest, CHT Affairs Minister Bir Bahadur Ushwe Sing said at present development projects worth

The prime minister has directed to speed up the peace process there, he said, adding that recently rules for the CHT Land Dispute Resolution Commission Act has been

Chairing the roundtable, Muhammad Zamir, former ambassador and chairman of ICLDS, said CHT has great

"The region's importance comes to the fore significantly in light of present day regional and international politics, especially 'potential risk' imposed by Myanmar on Bangladesh like the Rohingya crisis, increase of maritime importance of the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean, and because of the rise of both China and India as well as their 'rivalry'," said Prof Delwar Hossain of Dhaka University's international

Indigenous community leader Sanjeeb Drong said, "To bring peace, hill people's problems should be seen from

Referring to increase in violence against women, Prof Amena Mohsin of DU's international relations department said mutual respect for each other is necessary to ensure coexistence of hill and Bengali population. Presenting a keynote paper, former caretaker government

adviser CM Shafi Sami said slow implementation of the CHT Accord was a reason for delay in bringing peace to Moderating the roundtable, Editor of Bangla daily

Bhorer Kagoj Shyamal Dutta said they would arrange similar roundtables in the CHT districts soon. Bhorer Kagoj and private television channel Ekattor TV

FROM PAGE 3

Secretary Shunil Shuvo Roy on Wednesday while talking to this correspondent.

take some time for him to recover."

Meanwhile, participating in a discussion on the proposed budget for 2019-20 fiscal, opposition chief whip Moshiur Rahman Ranga told the parliament that Ershad's condition is not stable enough to take him abroad for better treatment.

Quader as party chairman in his absence and a day later, he donated his assets to a trust.

Since formation of the current parliament, Ershad could attend the maiden session only once.

Phone: **01755-749376** about Tk 8,500 crore are underway in the CHT region.

finalised and it will be formulated soon.

potential and destabilising the region should not be allowed.

relations department.

their perspective.

were media partners.

Ershad's condition

low hemoglobin, and high bilirubin," said Ershad's Press Quader, Ershad's younger brother, yesterday said, "It'll

Due to his poor health, Ershad on April 6 reinstated

The five-time MP flew to Singapore's National University Hospital for medical treatment on January 20 and returned to the country on February 4.

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The World Bank

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- knowledge to NBR staff to operate and maintain the system 4. Prepare requirements for user-defined reports expected from the IVAS.
- 5. Orient the NBR ICT officials, at-least on quarterly basis, about the VIP and
- SPEMP scope, identify potential needs and demand for WBG support 6. Organize and support IT related training and capacity building events in coordination with the VAT / Domestic Resource Mobilization Advisor;

7. Undertake any tasks and duties, as may be required from time to time. The consultant should have an academic degree in areas of Computer Science, Systems Engineering or similar field. S/he should have at least three to five years of professional experience in the relevant fields. Prior experience in developing information systems plans for the public sector, and/ or complex enterprise software systems implementation, and / or extensive knowledge in

informatics management and current technology trends is required. Knowledge

on SAP would be an added advantage. Interested candidates are requested to send a CV and a statement of interest to the undersigned by July 10, 2019.

Umme Saima Sadia

The World Bank Office in Bangladesh e-mail: usadia@worldbank.org

Canada lauds

Canada is worth 1.58 billion Canadian dollars. Bangladesh has opportunity to export leather and jute products. Canada exports mostly wheat, pulse, fertiliser and aerospace products and technology to Bangladesh. Préfontaine said while

FROM PAGE 3

private sector to explore businesses in Bangladesh, they ask about the infrastructure, gas and transport system. "I want to increase exchanges between Canadian and Bangladeshi

schools and universities.

This should include

students, teachers and

he tells the Canadian

researchers," he said. DCAB President Raheed Ejaz and General Secretary Nurul Islam also spoke.

VACANCY NOTICE



United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a post of UN Clinic Physician (ICS-10 equivalent to NOC) with United Nations Staff Dispensary (UNSD), Cox's Bazar Office.

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