



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

City corporation workers put bricks over a pothole on Gulshan-Link Road as this part of the road has been in a bad shape for a while. They also sprinkled some sand on top, and satisfied with the patch-up work, left. Meanwhile with potholes and muddy surface, travelling on the road has become quite risky. The photo was taken yesterday.

CU admission test begins

CU CORRESPONDENT

Undergraduate level admission test for the academic session of 2019-20 of Chittagong University will begin today and will continue till October 31.

CU acting Proctor Rezaul Karim said the authorities have taken adequate measures to ensure security during the admission test.

"Police, Rab, Hathazari Upazila Administration and Government Railway Police forces will work together to make the admission test successful," he said, adding that the university has devised several plans to combat all forms of fraud.

Several mobile courts will also work on the campus during the test, he added.

The authorities have reshuffled the schedule of shuttle train and increased trips to and from the city to lessen the suffering of admission seekers.

Trains will depart the Bottoli Railway Station from the city at 6:15am, 7:30am, 8:30am and 9am.

The examinations will be held in two sessions starting at 10:30am and 2:30pm.

The admission tests will start with the exam for B unit and will conclude with the D1 unit exam.

This year, 1,66,870 students will appear at the CU admission test.

All information including the admission test results will be available on the university website (www.cu.ac.bd).

Ensuring access to sexual health services

Unite for Body Rights holds youth conclave

CITY DESK

A national adolescent and youth conclave was held at Bangla Academy in the capital recently by Unite for Body Rights (UBR) Bangladesh Alliance.

Policy support, proper direction and initiatives are vital in creating an environment for adolescents and youths to acquire information on comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and ensuring availability of youth-friendly services, said a press release from UBR.

The conclave was inaugurated by Meher Afroz Chumki, member of parliament and chairperson of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Women and Children Affairs. Harry Verweij, ambassador of Netherlands; Maya Vandenent, health chief of Unicef Bangladesh; Professor Abdul Mannan, director at Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education; Dr Abul Hossain, project director of Multi-sectoral Programme on gender-based violence; Mushfiqua Zaman Satiar, senior advisor (SRHR & Gender) at Netherlands embassy, and Barrister Sara Hossain, executive director at BLAST, attended the programme among representatives from different

national and international organisations and youth leaders.

The conclave informed that the UBR project has been working with adolescents and youths since 2011 to ensure access to SRHR information and services. From the very beginning, the project is striving to realise this objective through providing comprehensive sexuality education and youth friendly services to 10-24 year-olds, with support from the government and development partners. In this context, the conclave was a step in advocacy for spreading the UBR model across the country.

While inaugurating the event, Meher Afroz Chumki said the government is establishing clubs for adolescents in all upazilas. She indicated her commitment towards integrating UBR's beneficiaries in those clubs.

In the closing session, Harry Verweij said, "Quality education improves young peoples' ability to participate in the labour market and significant investment is required to provide better health services, especially sexual, reproductive and mental health services that create a healthy and productive workforce."



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Scaled tenders are invited from the bona-fide contractors/manufacturers/dealers/distributors/suppliers for supply of the following items. The detail Specifications, terms and conditions are mentioned in the Tender Schedule.

SL No.	Name of the items	Quantity	Schedule Price (Non-refundable)
1	Freezer Compressor (10TR)	02 Nos.	Tk. 1000
2	Carpets for Oasis	01 Lot.	Tk. 1000

Interested bidders may obtain Tender Schedule from the Purchasing Department on submission of a letter on their respective letterhead up to November 17, 2019 during the office hours. Tender will be received up to 02:30 pm on November 18, 2019 and will be opened on the same day at 03:00 pm in presence of the bidders, if any.

Tender must be supported by an Earnest Money amounting to 5% of the quoted price in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any Scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favor of Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka.

Pan Pacific Sonargaon authority reserves the right to accept/reject any tender in part or in full or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Purchase Manager, Tel (880) 2 9128008, Extn: 4164

6-century old inscription

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600-year-old Manda Masjid which used to stand there was lost in time. Matiur Rahman Bepary, another descendant, revealed, "Years ago, the mosque was irreparably damaged. After that, it was rebuilt following the trending design of the time, and in 2009, it was further modernised."

Every historic feature of the structure -- its antique design and wall decorations made of valuable stones, its dome, and even its name -- has been erased. There is no way one can infer that a centuries-old mosque used to stand there going by the current structure.

Only one piece of evidence of its existence remains: the tablet with the inscription, which is still conserved at the National Museum. The authorities recovered the tablet from Manda before 1965, when Dhaka Museum was in Nimtoli.

The black basalt tablet, which contains four lines in Arabic, mentions Sultan Jalal al-Din Muhammad Shah. Jalal al-Din was a Sultan of Bengal in the 15th century. He ruled for 16 years in two periods -- from 1415 to 1416, and then from 1418 to 1433.

The first two lines of the inscription praise God and his messenger. "The mosque was built in the name of the sultan," reads the third line.

The final line reads, "Muzaffar Muhammad Shah al-Sultan; may Allah perpetuate his kingdom and sovereignty. [Built by] Ulug Khan Muazzam Dinar Khan...Shiqdar of Affairs Nayk Muhammad copied [it] on Jumad-al-Awwal, 836 AH (January 3, 1433)."

Bengal grew in wealth and population during Jalal's reign. He had commissioned construction of many mosques and buildings, combining Bengali and Islamic architecture.

He died in 1433 and was buried at Eklakhi Mausoleum in Pandua of India's West Bengal. The year of his death coinciding with that of the structure's construction indicates that Manda Masjid was possibly built to mark his demise.

As the centuries passed by, Jalal's kingdom was gone, his structures demolished, and his name gradually became obscure. Only some vestiges, like the tablet and his tomb, are left to remind us of a ruler who was once considered to be the greatest of all greats.

Hope for endangered

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Acting on the findings in August 2017, IUCN, in collaboration with the Department of Forest and authorities of the zoos in Rajshahi and Dhaka, arranged an exchange of gharials for initiating captive breeding.

Gorai, a male gharial of Dhaka Zoo, was brought to Rajshahi to meet Jamuna. In similar fashion, another female gharial of Rajshahi was taken to Dhaka.

"The exchange was necessary for increasing the numbers of the critically endangered reptile," Sarowar Alam said.

Since the exchange, the Rajshahi pair began laying eggs for the first time.

The enclosure of Rajshahi Zoo, where Gorai and Jamuna live, needs a renovation, Sarowar Alam observed.

He said the circular enclosure lacked the required slope around its banks so that the gharials can bask.

The enclosure has a circular sand covered island in the middle, but it gets submerged in water in rainy season -- making it difficult for the gharial to lay eggs and hatch them, he said.

The zoo in-charge Dr Farhad said the enclosure also lacks facilities of extraction of excess water. He said the zoo authorities began pumping out extra water from the enclosure after they found the eggs were being damaged.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, IUCN Country Director Raquibul Amin said, "Our experts are inexperienced, but they are working towards success."

All murderers must

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alleged that terrorists and corrupt persons have been sheltered in Jubo League and Chhatra League since 1996.

"Public university authorities are not taking any step against Chhatra League as they give priority to political affiliation," he alleged.

He said all murderers must be punished. "Otherwise, the verdict in Feni Madrasa student Nurmat murder case would seem like an eyewash to the countrymen," he said.

He stressed on enhancing independence of Election Commission to hold a free and fair election in future.

He urged people to join his recently-formed platform "Jatiya Muktimancha" to realise their 18-point demand, including

the release of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

Among others, former lawmaker and Jamaat leader Hamidur Rahman Azad, Bangladesh Kalyan Party Chairman Syed Muhammad Ibrahim, LDP Secretary General Redwan Ahmed also spoke at the discussion.

LDP was formed on October 26, 2006 by former president AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Oli Ahmed and 24 other former members of parliament and ministers from the Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Soon after its formation, Badruddoza Chowdhury left LDP with his followers and joined Bikalpa Dhara again. Thereafter, Oli Ahmad was elected president of the party.

Litter-free Dhaka still

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maintenance and public awareness are the key reasons behind failure of this initiative.

Talking to the news agency, Prof Nazrul Islam, a renowned urban expert, said the situation is getting worse gradually for lack of good governance and irresponsible attitude of the city corporations.

He said people are also not aware and they throw waste everywhere without thinking about its negative impact. "If you look around, you'll find trash everywhere. We must raise awareness among people to change their habit."

Stating that littering is a social crime which affects the environment, Nazrul said the government should enforce law and fine those who litter. Also, shop owners have to keep their premises clean.

"This problem does not exist in the cantonment area as people there obey the law and are aware of the adverse effects of littering," he said.

Environment activist and architect Iqbal Habib said littering is considered a crime and people responsible for it are fined in many cities across the world.

The authorities concerned should make it a social crime and penalise people for committing the crime, he added.

Habib said though the two mayors promised to turn Dhaka into a clean and beautiful city, the capital has become an ugly one. "The mayors did not take any well-planned measure or build durable infrastructures to resolve the problem."

He said there are no trash bins within two-three kilometre areas along the road to dump waste. "In Singapore, you'll find

three-four bins within a half kilometer area with warnings of being fined... We need such a system."

He said the city corporations installed faulty and unsuitable trash bins in an unplanned way that is why those were either stolen or got damaged. "Durable trash bins were set up at Hatirjheel in a planned way several years back and all of those still remain intact."

Habib said local community must be involved with the efforts to address the problem. "A community's problem should be resolved with participation of its members. We can create volunteers in every area who will detect people involved in such bad practice and make them aware."

Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Poba) Chairman Abu Naser Khan said littering is largely a cultural problem. He said it is the main responsibility of the city corporations to keep the city clean, but they are not playing their due role in this regard.

"Our government, city corporations and other authorities concerned don't consider littering a serious problem. That is why this problem is persisting and worsening," said the Poba chairperson.

Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (Bapa) General Secretary MA Matin said, "Littering is a serious problem in Dhaka as it's an over populated city, with number of its residents growing day by day. But no effective step has been taken to address the issue."

Matin said littering is not only ruining the beauty of the capital, but also causing air, soil and water pollution. "This issue needs to be taken seriously by both the authorities and city dwellers," he stressed.

REAL ESTATE & HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF BANGLADESH
Memo No: RWF/2019/O:P:D:007
Dated: 27 October, 2019

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

01.	Procuring Entity Name	:	REAL ESTATE & HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF BANGLADESH (REHAB)
02.	Invitation for	:	EVENT, MEDIA & FOOD MANAGEMENT FOR REHAB WINTER FAIR- 2019
03.	Tender Publication Date	:	27 October, 2019
04.	Tender Method	:	Two Envelope System
05.	Tender Package No./ Lot No.	:	03 (Three) Nos.
06.	Tender Package Name	:	A. Event B. Media C. Food
07.	Tender Last Selling Date & Time	:	11 November, 2019 at 05:00 pm
08.	Tender Closing Date & Time	:	12 November, 2019 at 03:00 pm
09.	Tender Opening Date & Time	:	12 November, 2019 at 04:00 pm
10.	Name & Address of the Office(s) Selling Tender Document	:	REHAB, National Plaza (5th Floor), 1/G Free School Street, Sonargaon Road, Dhaka-1205
	Receiving Tender Document	:	Do
	Opening Tender Document	:	REHAB, National Plaza (6th Floor), 1/G Free School Street, Sonargaon Road, Dhaka-1205
11.	Eligibility of Tenderer	:	According to conditions of Tender Data Sheet (TDS) of the work
12.	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender meeting	:	REHAB Secretariat, Date: 07 November, 2019 Time: 05:00 pm
13.	Brief Description of works	:	EVENT, MEDIA & FOOD MANAGEMENT
14.	Name of Official Inviting Tender	:	Engr. Mohd. Shohel Rana
15.	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	:	Vice President (Finance) & Chairman (Acting), Fair Standing Committee, REHAB
16.	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	:	Tel. No. 9677877, 9662482 Fax : 9614606 E-mail: info@rehab-bd.org, Web Site: www.rehab-bd.org.
17.	Price of Tender Document (Non-Refundable)	:	a. Event Part - 40,000.00 (Taka) b. Media Part - 30,000.00 (Taka) c. Food Part - 20,000.00 (Taka)
18.	Lot No	Identification	
	A	EVENT MANAGEMENT FOR REHAB WINTER FAIR- 2019	Venue : BICC, Dhaka
	B	MEDIA MANAGEMENT FOR REHAB WINTER FAIR- 2019	Venue : BICC, Dhaka
	C	FOOD MANAGEMENT FOR REHAB WINTER FAIR- 2019	Venue : BICC, Dhaka

19. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:-
a) If the Tender submission is not possible on the last date fixed in the notice due to unavoidable circumstances the tender submission date will automatically be shifted to the next working day.
b) REHAB reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason.
c) Tender security will be submitted in the form of DD / Pay Order of any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favor of REHAB.

Real Estate & Housing Association of Bangladesh