

BYLC hosts virtual graduation for 2020 cohort of leaders

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC) on Friday hosted a virtual graduation ceremony for its 2020 batches of Building Bridges through Leadership Training (BBLT) and Building Bridges through Leadership Training Junior (BBLTJ).

The programme, supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation and UK Aid, featured 199 students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds from English and Bengali medium schools and Madrassas who graduated from the BBLT and BBLTJ programmes last year from Chattogram and Chattogram Hill Tracts, said a press release.

Participants selected for the programmes went through rigorous sessions of virtual training for both the programmes.

During her speech at the ceremony, Shaheen Anam, Executive Director, Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), said, "What BYLC is doing with young people is most important to our society because they are working to build social harmony, teaching young people to be responsible citizens and helping them develop a mindset of accepting different views," the press release said.

"Seeing the graduates of our leadership programmes gives me hope that Bangladesh has a bright future," said Ejaj Ahmad, President of BYLC.

Aside from leadership training, students also worked in small groups to apply their lessons in social service projects. They designed and implemented small but realistic, measurable, and results-driven projects to serve impoverished communities, the press release said.



The paper-laden truck lost control and turned over by the road near Dhaka-Aricha Highway's Savar bus stand area. With a cold wave sweeping over the country, visibility can be low on roads especially during the early hours of the day, and demands extra caution from drivers of heavy vehicles to avoid such accidents.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Language veteran Ali Taher no more

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

Language Movement veteran Ali Taher Majumder passed away yesterday morning.

Following a guard of honour and Namaz-e-Janaza at Chaygram Eidgah, he was buried at his family graveyard at Chandpur village of Cumilla.

Born on 12th February, 1917, Ali Taher Majumder took part in the movement against British rule by unrooting railway tracks at Haillar Jolla in 1942, before joining the Language Movement.

Ahsanul Kabir, a writer and researcher of Cumilla's history, said, "Ali Taher Majumder spent his life striving against British rule and Pakistani oppression till the independence of Bangladesh. His contribution in language movement was profound. At one point, he became chair of District Farmers League."



A divine

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The team contacted the couple, informed them of the situation, called them to check their claims, and handed the child's care over to them. On the verge of losing hope, Shilpi and Masum broke down on getting their beloved back.

However, although this paints a success story of RMP, the same body came under fire for the breach, along with Ansar and the hospital security. Despite their combined security sphere -- consisting of a police contingent, some 100 members of Ansar, and 75 CCTV cameras -- Mousumi still managed to steal the infant, which shows negligence on all their parts.

And this is not the first time such an incident has occurred. Two infants had gone missing from the hospital in 2013 and 2014, none of whom could be rescued.

"It was a bit of good luck and prompt action of police that helped with the rescue," DB's DC Abdullah Al Mamun said last afternoon.

When contacted, RMCH Deputy Director Dr Saiful Ferdous said though it's unfortunate, sometimes miscreants do manage to breach the security measures. "The incident occurred despite our efforts," he said.

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Stop sand-filling

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National River Alliance Convener Sharmin Murshid said, "The responsibilities to save rivers fall on DCs. It is assured by the constitution and the existing laws say about it too. The time has come for the DCs to face legal challenge. They have to be accountable as to why they are not implementing the law properly."

Bapa Joint Secretary Prof Ahmad Kamruzzaman Majumder said, "The country's rivers have been disappearing over the years, and the current sand filling and road construction at the Koheliya is one of the examples of how a river can be lost."

"We're not against development, but if anyone wants to destroy rivers in its name, we will protest," he said.

Bapa Joint Secretary Humayun Kabir Sumon said, "Demarcation pillars are not set up properly to protect the country's rivers. If the section 18 (a) of the constitution is followed properly by the district administrations, the nature can be saved."

National River Alliance founding member Sayeeda Roxana Khan was also present at the programme.

Contacted, the project director (RHD) Shyamal Kumar Bhattacharya, said, "We are not filling up the river. We are constructing a road beside it and some portions of the river had to be filled as the road is going to work as a dyke too." "Sand might have fallen into river water but it is temporary. We'll remove those once everything's implemented. But we never hampered the river's flow," he added.

Mass Upsurge

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issued separate messages expressing profound respect for those who embraced martyrdom in the historic movement.

The president said the day is a historic one for the country. Following the path of this mass upsurge, the independence and democratic rights of the people were achieved. He called upon all to work together to uphold independence and democracy.

The prime minister, in her message, said the 1969 Mass Upsurge is a significant chapter in the history of Bangladesh.

"We achieved our great independence through the Liberation War following the 1952 Language Movement, charter of emancipation of Bangalees six-point demand, later 11-point and 1969 mass upsurge," she said.

The 1969 mass upsurge still inspires all to fight against mistle and exploitation, said the premier.

She urged all to work together for building a non-communal, prosperous and peaceful Bangladesh imbued with the spirit of Liberation War.

FLAT SALE AT GULSHAN NORTH

At the middle of the Diplomatic Zone in North Gulshan - a brand new flat of 5009 sqft (Single Unit Apartment) with 2 Car Parking, Full Generator Backup, South view open Garden Field, Swimming pool, GYM (incl. Steam and Sauna) & BBQ Zone, Titas Gas Connected.

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Who will

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"There is no reason to avoid the vaccine. At the same time, the government must ensure that it will not affect our health," said Mukter Ali (65), a shop owner at Oitijho Chatrar.

VACCINATION CENTRES

The inoculation programme will be conducted through at least 662 "Covid-19 Vaccine Centres" in eight districts of the division.

They will be set up at three medical college hospitals in Rajshahi, Bogura and Sirajganj; four Combined Military Hospitals in Rajshahi, Bogura and Natore; police hospitals in eight districts; Sadar or general hospitals in seven districts; 67 upazila health complexes, and at 564 unions.

Besides, there will be additional vaccine centres at the offices of civil surgeons in eight districts, and one at Rajshahi City Corporation.

VACCINE STORAGE

According to the health authorities, they would use the facilities of the Expanded Programme for Immunization (EPI) for storing vaccines.

Upon receiving vaccines from Dhaka, EPI cold storages in the districts will be used for storing those.

However, in two districts -- Natore and Chapainawabganj -- this facility is not available, so vaccines would be stored at Ice Lined Refrigerators (ILR).

"There would be no space constraint in the cold storages. We have a capacity of providing vaccines to 1.2 lakh people a day," said the health director.

A UPAZILA VACCINATION CENTRE

During a visit to Paba Upazila Health Complex on Wednesday, this correspondent saw an ILR, capable of storing as much as 8,000 vaccine vials, was being prepared for storing Covid-19 vaccines.

Out of two ILRs of the EPI programme in the health complex, one was allocated for Covid-19 vaccines, said medical technician Zahurul Islam.

He said they planned to carry the vaccines from the district cold storages to the health complex in a cooler that can preserve vaccines for 72 hours.

In the health complex, the vaccines will be preserved in the ILR, which is able to store them for a month. The ILR's temperature is being monitored through a "Fridge-tag 2" machine -- between 2 and 8 degree Celsius.

"For Covid-19 vaccines, there will be no vial monitors to show its condition. So we are instructed to closely maintain the cold chain of Covid-19 vaccines," Zahurul Islam said.

Rezaul for

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vehicles park on the road, creating traffic congestion at peak hours.

"I would take initiative to address the problem after consulting with everyone, if elected mayor," he continued.

"All thoroughfares in the city, including important lanes and by-lanes, would be brought under LED lighting and CCTV surveillance," he added.

Rezaul would also modernise the waste management system to make the city clean.

"I would install a waste recycling plant to produce electricity and fuel from the waste," he said.

"Use of plastic and polythene products would be discouraged, while jute products would be promoted instead."

The mayoral candidate would take initiative to flourish the city's tourism potential, providing all sorts of modern facilities for tourism.

Rezaul would fix holding tax at a reasonable stage and would ensure transparency in tax management.

He would also further expand health services and the education sector to ensure services for all. "The health service system would be digitalised," he said. "Public toilets would be set up in all busy thoroughfares, with separate stalls for women."

"I would be a patron of cultural and progressive activities and would take steps to enhance facilities for them, if voted to mayor," said Rezaul, requesting the city dwellers to vote for him.

AJM Nasir Uddin, former CCC mayor and AL Chattogram city unit general secretary, and Prof Anupam Sen, vice chancellor of Premier University, were present among others.

A vaccine vial monitor is a label containing a heat-sensitive material which is placed on a vaccine vial to register cumulative heat exposure over time while a cold chain is a temperature-controlled supply chain.

From the upazila health complex, vaccines will be taken to health centres at different unions in vaccine carriers that are able to store vaccines for 24 hours, Zahurul said. He said they have four staff members to carry those to unions.

COMMITTEE TO MONITOR SIDE EFFECTS

A 15-member committee has been formed with health experts for managing incidents of side effects from the vaccines, said health officials.

Headed by the director of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, the committee is responsible for conducting investigations, monitoring and advising steps in this regard.

The committee members are scheduled to participate in a two-day orientation beginning from January 27. The World Health Organization will conduct the orientation, to be held simultaneously with health experts from three South Asian countries.

FIELD OFFICIALS APPREHENSIVE

While talking to this correspondent, some upazila level health officials expressed their fear about "rumours of side effects" and lack of security at the vaccination centres.

They said the vaccination centres should have tightened security and health officials should be trained on the side effects.

Dr Rabia Basry, upazila health and family planning official of Paba upazila, shared an experience with the measles and rubella vaccination campaign.

She said a child started to have breathing difficulties six days after he was given the MR vaccine. Some villagers spread rumour that the child was suffering from a side effect and they besieged the health complex.

"I was there at the time, and we managed to make the villagers understand that it was not a side effect. But suppose, a health worker present there was not able to provide a proper explanation... the situation could have spiraled out of control. That's why our health workers need training and security," she said.

Asked, Director Dr Habibul Ahsan said training for health workers -- from civil surgeons to field level staff -- on Covid-19 vaccines would be completed by the first week of February.

About security, he said there will be Ansar and Village Defense Party members at the vaccination centres to assist health workers and avert any untoward situation.

Shahadat promises

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Promising to take steps for Covid-19 vaccination on priority basis, the candidate pledged to form special cells for women, children and people with disabilities at health centres run by CCC. The centres would provide treatment at cheap rates for pregnant women and children aged below five.

He also pledged to build enough public toilets for men and women at suitable locations.

Shahadat said the holding tax would be fixed at a reasonable level and its format would be simplified.

To clean the city, the candidate promised to increase workforce in the conservancy department, procure modern equipment, recycle waste for use in agriculture and ensure waste collection from apartments in residential areas and high-rise buildings.

To build a safe Chattogram city, he will focus on creating a round-the-clock IT command centre for ensuring safety and disaster management, ward-based community policing to assist law enforcers, and setting up footbridges near schools, colleges and important locations.

Making 17 pledges for building an aesthetic, tourist-friendly city, Shahadat said he wants to modernise the city and attract tourists by utilising rare resources like the hills, sea and river.

To do this, he promised to take different tourism-related projects following public private partnership. He also mentioned steps like introducing a modern bus service, building aesthetic open parks with modern amenities, and turning lakes and ponds into tourist spots.

To get rid of traffic congestion, his pledges included building separate bus and truck terminals, constructing multi-storied parking and creating separate lanes for slow vehicles.

Mentioning about establishing an IT park, the candidate promised introduction of free internet service in educational institutes under CCC. He assured of introducing an online system for getting birth and death certificates, and paying holding tax, trade licence and other fees.

Addressing the conference, BNP Standing Committee Member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury urged journalists to be alert, so city dwellers can cast their votes.

BNP Central Committee Joint Secretary General Habib-un-Nabi Khan Sohel, Publicity Secretary Shahid Uddin Chowdhury Anee, Chattogram Divisional Organising Secretary Mahbubur Rahman Shamim and Chattogram City Unit Member Secretary Abul Hashem Bakkar were present among others.

Immediate

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Later, Suruj and his men beat up Babul and his younger brother Mobarak Hossain on December 25, said Shuely.

Babul succumbed to his injuries at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. His wife lodged a murder case with Mymensingh Kotwali Police Station against seven people and Suruj was made the prime accused.

"We're being pressurised to withdraw the case," said Shuely. This correspondent could not contact Suruj for his comments as his phone was found switched off.

Khaghdahor UP Chairman Anwar said no action has been taken against Suruj yet.

Farid Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station, said they are conducting drives to arrest all the accused who are on the run.



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TENDER INVITATION

Tenders are invited from the bonafide/intending suppliers/firms for the following items/works:

- a) Procurement of False Ceiling Board at different Blocks of EWU
- b) Ceiling and Electrical works for Students' Toilets of EWU
- c) Supplying, Installing and Commissioning of Auto Sanitary Napkin Vending Machine for Female Students' Washrooms of EWU
- d) Procurement of Sanitary Napkin Pad for Female Students' Washrooms of EWU
- e) Re-tender for procurement of 83 units 56" Sweep Ceiling Fan for rented Academic Building-3 (AB#03) of EWU
- f) Re-tender for procurement of 01 unit Oven (225 Litres) for Transportation Engineering Lab for the Department of Civil Engineering


The schedule of the items / works with terms and conditions can be obtained from the Finance & Accounts Department of the University (hard copy for all items) up to **07.02.2021** during office hours (**up to 01:00 p.m.**). In case of SI no. (f) only, the schedule will also be available in the website (<http://etender.exwbd.edu>). The price of the tender schedule (non-refundable) is **Tk.300/-** (excluding online service charge for e-tender process) for each item mentioned (a) to (f) above.

The interested bidders are requested to submit the tender schedule either through hard copy or e-tender process (as mentioned in the schedule) by 08.02.2021 within 12:00 p.m. Hard copy of the tender must be dropped in the tender box kept at the 2nd floor of the Office of the Treasurer (Room No-316) of the University. Tender(s) submitted within the deadline will be opened on the **same day (08.02.2021) at 12:15 p.m.** at the Conference Room (4th floor) of East West University in presence of the bidders (if any) by **ensuring health safety.**

The bidders must mention the **"name of the items"** at the top of envelop, otherwise the bid document will be treated as cancelled.

East West University authority reserves the right to accept any tender in full or part of it or reject all tenders without mentioning any reason thereof.

Chief of HR & Logistics



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ITB No: RrBD/2021/UNICEF-HC/ITB/001

Room to Read Bangladesh invites sealed tender from reputable and eligible printers having relevant work experience with large organizations including UN agencies, INGO and other international organizations in supplying printing books for Room to Read Bangladesh implementing schools in Pekua, Chakaria, Teknaf & Ramu upazillas under Cox's Bazar district. Bidding is open to all bidders from registered companies with Bangladesh Government.

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A	50 RrBD Reprint Titles. (For UNICEF Host Community Project)	2,07,600 pcs of 50 titles Each title 4152 pcs X 50 = 2,07,600	By 25 March 2021. Total 207600 Pcs books Distribution in Cox's Bazar, Ramu, Pekua, Teknaf & Chakaria upazila Office in Cox's Bazar district

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- B) Able to meet the timeline specified above
- C) Able to deliver the printing books in the specified location

Interested bidders who satisfy the above-mentioned criteria may collect the bid form by paying Tk 500 (Non-refundable) for the tender at the address given below from Sunday 24 January to Sunday 7 February 2021 (Except Govt. holiday) during working hours. Pre-bid meeting will be held on Sunday 31 January 2021 at 11.00am. Interested bidders can send a request to Bangladesh@roomtoread.org for meeting.

A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be collected by interested bidders upon submission of a written application on bidder's letterhead. Bids must be delivered to the address below by Sunday 7 February 2021 no later than 3.00 pm. Any bid after the deadline will be rejected. All bids will be opened on **Sunday 7 February 2021 at 3.00pm** in presence of bidders' representative & Room to Read purchasing committee.

Room to Read reserve the right to accept or reject all bids without any reason whatsoever.

Administration

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