



This photo taken on December 24 shows people riding scooters on a section of a parched river bed along the Yangtze River in Wuhan in China's Hubei province.

PHOTO: AFP

Taliban ban on women staff

More NGOs halt Afghan work

AFP, London

Christian Aid and ActionAid yesterday became the latest foreign aid groups to suspend operations in Afghanistan after the country's Taliban rulers ordered all NGOs to stop women staff from working.

Announcements by the two groups take to six the number of bodies who have paused their operations in the country.

Christian Aid was "rapidly seeking clarity... and urging the authorities to reverse the ban", head of global programmes Ray Hasan said in a statement.

"Whilst we do this, we are unfortunately pausing the work of our programmes," he added.

ActionAid said that if women were banned from working with the group it would "prevent us from reaching out to half of the population that are already reeling from hunger".

"ActionAid has made the difficult decision to temporarily halt most of its programmes in Afghanistan until a clearer picture emerges," it said in a statement.

On Sunday Save the Children, the Norwegian Refugee Council and CARE all announced they were putting their operations on hold.

The International Rescue Committee, which provides emergency response in health, education and other areas and employs 3,000 women across Afghanistan, also said it was suspending services.

"Millions of people in Afghanistan are on the verge of starvation," Christian Aid's Hasan said on Monday.

"Reports that families are so desperate they have been forced to sell their children to buy food are utterly heartbreaking," he said, adding that a ban on women aid workers would "only curtail our ability to help the growing number of people in need".

‘Deadliest year’ for Rohingyas at sea: UN

REUTERS, New Delhi/Dhaka

The possible sinking of a boat in recent weeks with 180 Rohingya Muslims on board could make 2022 one of the deadliest years at sea in almost a decade for the community, a UN agency said, as refugees try to flee desperate conditions in Bangladesh camps.

Nearly 1 million Rohingya from Myanmar are living in crowded facilities in Bangladesh, including tens of thousands who fled their home country after its military conducted a deadly crackdown in 2017.

The number of Rohingyas leaving Bangladesh in boats this year has jumped more than five fold from a year earlier, rights groups estimate. It is not clear if the lifting of Covid restrictions in Southeast Asia, a favoured destination, has led to the rush of people.

In Buddhist-majority Myanmar, most Rohingyas are denied citizenship and are seen as illegal immigrants from South Asia.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said it feared that a boat that set sail at the end of November was missing, with all 180 on board presumed dead.

The UNHCR said the vessel,

which was not seaworthy, may have started to crack in early December before losing contact. It added it was not clear where the boat started, but three Rohingyas men, including one whose family were onboard, said it set off from Bangladesh.

Nearly 200 Rohingyas were already feared dead or missing at sea this year. "We hope against hope that the 180 missing are still alive somewhere," said UNHCR spokesperson Babar Baloch.

Thai authorities said four women and one man were found floating near Thailand's Surin island and another woman at Similan islands and were rescued by fishermen. Authorities had not yet confirmed their identities.

A local fisherman told Reuters he and his crew had rescued people hanging onto a floating water tank.

UNHCR's Baloch said 2022 was one of the worst years for dead and missing after 2013 and 2014, when 900 and 700 Rohingyas died or went missing in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal after

inter-communal violence forced them to flee.

Sayedur Rahman, 38, who fled to Malaysia in 2012 from Myanmar, said his wife and three teenaged children were among the missing on the vessel.

"In 2017, my family came to Bangladesh to save their lives," Rahman said. "But they are now all gone ... I'm totally devastated... We Rohingyas are left to die ... on the land, at sea. Everywhere."

Bangladesh has in the past arrested people smugglers. The densely populated country has also asked the international community to help it ease the load of hosting so many refugees.

Earlier this month, two Rohingyas activist groups said that up to 20 people died of hunger or thirst on a boat, carrying at least 100 people, that was stranded for two weeks off India's coast, before possibly drifting to Malaysian waters.

India's coastguard had no immediate response. The UNHCR said it was a separate boat to the one carrying 180.

On Monday the International Organisation for Migration said that 57 Rohingyas reached Indonesia's Aceh Besar district on Sunday after nearly a month adrift.

Indonesian officials did not respond to a request for comment.

Two boats carrying a total of 230 Rohingyas, including women and children, landed on the shores of Indonesia's Aceh province in November, while this month, Sri Lanka's navy rescued 104 Rohingyas.

S Korea fires at North drones after incursion

AFP, Seoul

South Korea accused the North of flying several drones across their shared border yesterday, prompting Seoul's military to deploy warplanes to shoot them down -- with local media reporting one of the planes later crashed.

The incursion was the first time in years that North Korean drones have invaded the South's airspace and came hot on the heels of a recent flurry of sanctions-busting weapons tests by Pyongyang.

The South's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said the military first detected a suspected North Korean unmanned aerial vehicle around the airspace of Gimpo at 10:25 am (0125 GMT) and "responded immediately".

"This is a clear act of provocation in which North Korea invaded our airspace," a JCS official told reporters.

The incursion prompted Seoul to fire warning shots and deploy fighter jets and attack helicopters to shoot down the five drones, one of which reached airspace near the capital.

One of the warplanes, a KA-1 light attack aircraft, later crashed in Hoengseong County, Yonhap news agency reported.

The military did not indicate whether the objects had been shot down or had gone back over the border, one of the most heavily-fortified locations in the world.

The South Korean military also deployed its own manned and unmanned reconnaissance assets to areas near and north of the Military Demarcation Line for "corresponding measures".

China to scrap quarantine for overseas arrivals

AFP, Beijing

China will scrap quarantine measures for overseas arrivals starting January 8, health authorities announced yesterday, after nearly three years of strict pandemic border restrictions.

The National Health Commission announced the downgraded containment measures for Covid-19 in an online notice, adding that travellers would only need a PCR test taken 48 hours pre-flight to enter China.

The announcement is the latest move by Beijing to loosen its zero-Covid regime, after it abruptly dropped mandatory testing and lockdowns earlier this month.

The measures will take effect from January 8, when Covid will be downgraded from the top tier of infectious diseases, Class A, to a second tier Class B, the NHC said in a separate notice yesterday.

Unlike most of the rest of the world where people have transitioned to living with the pandemic, China had until recently maintained harsh restrictions and largely sealed itself off.

Since March 2020, all passengers arriving in the country had to undergo at least two weeks of mandatory centralised quarantine, later increased to three weeks.

The measures heavily disrupted international tourism and business travel, further hampering the country's Covid-battered economy.



শিক্ষা নিয়ে গড়ব দেশ
শেখ হাসিনার বাংলাদেশ

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এফ-৪/বি, আগারগাঁও প্রশাসনিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৭
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হতে হবে দক্ষ

স্মারক নং - ৫৭.০৩.০০০০.০০০.২৫.০৩১.২২-৫৭৮ তারিখ: ২২-১২-২০২২ খ্রি.

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের কারিগরি ও মাদ্রাসা শিক্ষা বিভাগের অধীন কারিগরি শিক্ষা অধিদপ্তর কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়নধীন "Accelerating and Strengthening Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET)" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পটির কার্যক্রম জুলাই, ২০২১ খ্রিঃ হতে ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৬ খ্রিঃ মেয়াদে চলমান। উক্ত প্রকল্পের আওতায় NTVQF সেভেল ডিভিক শর্ট কোর্স পরিচালনাকারী সরকারি-বেসরকারি প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে কোর্স পরিচালনার লক্ষ্যে প্রকল্প হতে আর্থিক সহায়তা প্রদান করা হবে।

যেসকল অকুশলশিক্ষার জন্য আর্থিক সহায়তা প্রদান করা হবে তাদের তালিকা:

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IT Support	Baking	Mechatronics Operation
Graphics Design	Tiles and Marble Fittings	CAD CAM
Computer Operation	Cooking	Boiler Operation and Maintenance
Welding	Driving	Hydraulics and Pneumatics
Plumbing	Solar Electrical System	Casting and Heat Treatment
Tailoring & Dress Making	Block Batik and Screen Printing	Rod Binding
Masonry Works	Food & Beverage Service	Beauty Care
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC)	Chemical Analysis and Quality Control- (Chemical Industry)	Wood Working Machine Operation
Web Design/ Development	Carpentry	PLC Operation
Mobile Phone Servicing	CAD Operation	CNC Machine Operation
Automotive Mechanics	Tour Guide	Industrial Water Treatment
Consumer Electronics	Safety and Fire Fighting	Care Giver

প্রকল্পের আর্থিক সহায়তার শর্তকোর্স পরিচালনায় আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠান সমূহকে অত্র প্রকল্পের ওয়েবসাইটে (www.asset-dte.gov.bd) Eligibility নির্ধারণের জন্য Eligibility Application Form পূরণ করতে হবে। ফরম পূরণ করার পর ফরম ডাউনলোড করে ১০ সেট প্রিন্ট কপি আগামী ১২-০১-২০২৩ খ্রি. তারিখের মধ্যে ডাকযোগে/ হাতে হাতে প্রকল্প অফিসে প্রেরণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হল। বিস্তারিত তথ্য এবং Eligibility Application Form পূরণের নির্দেশিকা প্রকল্পের ওয়েবসাইটে পাওয়া যাবে।

২৭/১২/২০২২

মোঃ মহসিন

প্রকল্প পরিচালক (অতিরিক্ত সচিব)

ফোন: ৮৮-০২-৪১০২৪৯৫৩

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GD- 2371



‘Peace formula’ in Ukraine

Zelensky seeks Modi’s help

REUTERS, New Delhi

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy yesterday said he sought India's help with implementing a "peace formula" in a phone call with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The conversation comes at a time when India is seeking to strengthen trade relations with Moscow while Western nations introduce new measures to limit Russia's funding of the war.

"I had a phone call with PM Narendra Modi and wished a successful G20 presidency," Zelenskyy wrote on Twitter. "It was on this platform that I announced the peace formula and now I count on India's participation in its implementation."

Zelenskyy asked the Group of 20 (G20) major economies last month to adopt Ukraine's 10-point peace formula and to end the war. India holds the G20 presidency for a year.

The Indian government said in statement late on Monday that the two leaders discussed opportunities for strengthening bilateral cooperation.

"The Prime Minister explained the main priorities of India's G20 Presidency, including giving a voice to the concerns of developing nations on issues like food and energy security."

শিক্ষা নিয়ে গড়ব দেশ
শেখ হাসিনার বাংলাদেশ

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স্মারক নংঃ ৫৭.০৩.০০০০.০০০.২৫.০২৯.২২-৫৭৭ তারিখঃ ২২ ডিসেম্বর ২০২২খ্রিঃ

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের কারিগরি ও মাদ্রাসা শিক্ষা বিভাগের অধীন কারিগরি শিক্ষা অধিদপ্তরধীন "Accelerating and Strengthening Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET)" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের আওতায় অপ্রাতিষ্ঠানিক শিক্ষার মাধ্যমে অর্জিত অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন ১,২৩,০০০ জন প্রশিক্ষণার্থীকে পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতার স্বীকৃতিস্বরূপ RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning) সনদায়ন করা হবে। RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning) কার্যক্রম পরিচালনার জন্য প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে প্রকল্প হতে আর্থিক সহায়তা প্রদান করা হবে। RPL সনদায়ন কার্যক্রমে আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে প্রকল্পের ওয়েবসাইটে (www.asset-dte.gov.bd) Eligibility Application Form (EAF) পূরণ করতে হবে। Eligibility Application Form (EAF) পূরণ করে Submit বাটনে ক্লিক করার পর ডাউনলোডযোগ্য আবেদনের ফর্ম এর একটি কপি আবেদনকারীর ই-মেইলে যাবে। উক্ত ফরম ডাউনলোড করার পর প্রতিষ্ঠান প্রধান কর্তৃক স্বাক্ষরিত ফরম এর হার্ড কপি (০৫ কপি) আগামী ১৯/০১/২০২৩খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রকল্প অফিসে প্রেরণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হল।

অকুশলশিক্ষার 1. Baking 2. Cooking 3. House Keeping 4. Food & Beverage Service 5. Tour Guide 6. Graphic Design 7. Food Processing & Quality Control 8. IT Support 9. Web Design 10. Machine Operator Foot Ware	11. Electrical Installation & Maintenance, (Transport) 12. Electrical Installation & Maintenance (Civil Construction) 13. Motor Cycle Servicing 14. Swing Machine Operation 15. Consumer Electronic 16. Auto Mechanics 17. Machine Shop Practice 18. Welding 19. Fitting 20. Refrigeration and Air Conditioning	21. Plumbing 22. Care giving 23. Solar Electrical System 24. Tailoring & Dress Making 25. Wood Working Machine Operation 26. Mobile Phone Servicing 27. Masonry 28. Tile Work	29. Carpentry 30. Block Batik & Screen Printing 31. Beauty Care 32. Lacquer Polishing 33. Upholstery Works 34. Embroidery Works 35. Automotive Mechanic 36. Lathe Machine Operation
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শর্তসমূহ

- প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের বাংলাদেশ কারিগরি শিক্ষা বোর্ড/এনএসসিএ এর এক্সিলিয়েন্স/নিবন্ধন থাকতে হবে
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- প্রশিক্ষার্থীর ভাতা
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যোগাযোগঃ

১। জনাব সবুজ আলম
উপপ্রকল্প পরিচালক

২। মোনালিসা পপি
প্রোগ্রাম অফিসার

২৭/১২/২০২২

মোঃ মহসিন

প্রকল্প পরিচালক (অতিরিক্ত সচিব)

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