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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

PM awards 28 govt officials, two departments

UNB, Dhaka

Twenty-eight government officials and two departments received the “Bangabandhu Public Administration Award-2023” from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday.

The premier conferred the awards at an event in the city’s Osmani Memorial Auditorium on the occasion of the National Public Service Day.

The award, under different categories, has been conferred since 2016 in a bid to encourage efficiency, mindfulness and innovative efforts of public administration officials in various fields.

The food ministry received the award in the “Policy and Administrative System Reform” category and National Heart Institute and Hospital in “Research and Its Use for Human Welfare” category.

The recipients of the awards can use the title “BPAA” at the end of their names. Each recipient was provided with a gold medal (weighing 15 grammes) and a certificate with a state monogram as prizes.

Tk 2 lakh was given for individual contribution, while Tk 5 lakh for team contribution.

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina conferred “Bangabandhu Public Administration Award-2023” to 28 government officials and two departments yesterday. The event was held at Osmani Memorial Auditorium on the occasion of National Public Service Day.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

THALASSEMIA PREVENTION

Form committee for guidelines: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to form a seven-member committee in 30 days to formulate a guideline for preventing Thalassemia.

The court also asked the authorities to submit a draft guideline within the next six months.

In response to a petition, HC bench of justices Farah Mahbub and Muhammad Mahbub Ul Islam asked the concerned authorities to run campaigns among students, general people, government employees, and other professionals about how the disease is spread.

Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh submitted the petition on June 15.

The HC also issued a rule asking the authorities to explain why they should not be directed to take effective steps to prevent the spread of the disease and why they should not be ordered to take steps to record information on Thalassemia among grooms and brides in their marriage registration forms.

HRPB’s President Manzill Murshid argued for the petition, while Assistant Attorney General Abul Kalam Khan Daud represented the state during the hearing. Thalassemia is a genetic blood disorder and is one of the most widespread diseases worldwide.

Brajo Niketan finally a heritage site

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

The government has finally declared the historic Brajo Niketan, located in Dhaka’s Nawabganj, a heritage site.

The development came six and a half months after authorities recovered it from three decades of illegal occupation.

On July 23, Ministry of Cultural Affairs issued a notification declaring Brajo Niketan as a heritage site under section 10 (declaration of protected antiquities) of the Antiquities Act, 1968.

The ministry has also instructed the director



of Bangladesh Forms and Publications Office to publish a gazette in this regard.

On July 9, Department of Archaeology requested the ministry to take necessary steps to declare the century-old British-era palace as a “preserved antiquity”.

Last year, on December 31, Dhaka district administration recovered the Brajo Niketan, which stands on 1.55 acres of land in Kalakopa area, from the clutches of a former district judge

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Majority of doctors lack skills for research

Show BSMMU study findings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A preliminary study findings revealed that around 47 percent of doctors want to conduct research, but most of them do not have the required skills.

Besides, six out of 10 physicians surveyed said they participate in research activities only for promotion at workplace, which, according to experts, highlights a bad mentality.

The study is based on responses from 500 faculties, resident doctors, medical officers and consultants of four major hospitals in Dhaka – Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dhaka Dental College Hospital and Birdem.

It was conducted in July 2023 by the Department of Public Health and Informatics (PHI) at BSMMU to investigate the challenges and opportunities physicians encounter in research activities.

Prof Dr Atiqul Haque, chairman of PHI and dean of Preventive and Social Medicine at BSMMU, presented the study findings at a workshop on the campus yesterday.

Around 57 percent of the study respondents were male.

Nine out of every 10 doctors who responded to the study said they lacked the skills to conduct

We, the senior professors, have lost seriousness and drive. We are busy with other tasks rather than performing academic duties... we are engaged in politics rather than fulfilling our main task.

DR KAMRUL HASAN KHAN
Former vice chancellor of BSMMU

The government is ready to provide more funds for quality research. But unethical practices in utilising funds for research must be stopped. Interest and integrity should be the key traits of a researcher.

PROF ABM ABDULLAH
Personal physician of PM

statistical analyses and submit papers to foreign publications.

Similarly, three out of every four doctors lacked the ability to explain research, and almost two out of every five doctors lacked the ability to write manuscripts.

The study showed that only 25 percent of the surveyed doctors authored research while 29 percent co-authored research, published in different journals.

On their motivations, 16 percent respondents said they were interested in research for a career abroad, 35 percent for pursuing higher studies abroad, and 41 percent for being praised.

The survey also identified a total of 24 types of challenges faced by physicians while doing research, which includes professional pressure (73 percent), lack of research-related knowledge (70 percent), not having a grant (68 percent), no prior knowledge on research (50 percent), lack of support at workplace (36 percent), private practice being more profitable (29 percent), no professional benefit in research activities (29 percent), and non-cooperation from colleagues (14 percent).

Discussing the survey findings, experts said there is a need to establish and promote a research

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This year’s DSCC budget Tk 6,751cr

Tk 46.75cr allocated for mosquito control

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation yesterday announced Tk 6,751.56 crore as its annual budget for the fiscal 2023-24, allocating Tk 46.75 crore (0.69 percent of the total budget) for mosquito control activities.

Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh announced the budget at a press conference at Mayor Hanif auditorium.

The current year’s budget allocates Tk 38.50 crore for the purchase of mosquito medicines in mosquito control activities and Tk 3.75 crore for the transportation sector, related to loggers, wheels, and sprays. An additional Tk 4.5 crore has been allocated for the purchase of mosquito equipment.

The current year’s budget allocates Tk 38.50 crore (Tk 9.18 crore more than the previous year) for the purchase of mosquito medicines used in mosquito control activities and Tk 3.75 crore (up by Tk 2 crore) for the transportation sector, related to loggers, wheels, and sprays.

An additional Tk 4.5 crore has been allocated for the purchase of mosquito equipment.

Apart from the mosquito control efforts, the budget also designates Tk 30 crore for cleaning canals, water bodies, and sewers.

Taposh said, “Mosquito proliferation, especially

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AL’s income reduced by Tk 10.52cr

Shows financial statement submitted to EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League has Tk 73.28 crore in its fund, showed the party’s annual financial statement submitted to the Election Commission for the 2022 calendar year.

A delegation led by the party treasurer, AHN Ashiqur Rahman, submitted the report to the EC Secretary Jahangir Alam yesterday.

The statement said the party had an income of Tk 10.71 crore in the year and its expenditure was Tk 7.87 crore. It has a surplus of Tk 2.85 crore.

“The main sources of income came from sale

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AL holds protest rallies in Dhaka

Chalks out month-long Mourning Day events

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka city (north) Awami League held its sit-in and protest programmes in the capital yesterday in a lacklustre manner.

Although the city AL announced to hold such programmes in every ward and thana units of the capital, most of the units did not organise their events.

The Dhaka city (north) unit has 26 thana units, of which only three units – Kafrul, Badda, and Mohammadpur – brought protest processions and held brief rallies.

A comparatively fewer number of activists attended those movements where none of the party’s central leaders were present.

Sources in the city AL said there was no instruction from the central leadership to hold yesterday’s programme strictly. Some demonstrations were held at thana level. However, there was not much emphasis on holding programmes in wards, they added.

Requesting anonymity, a leader of the Dhaka city (north) unit AL said, “We were instructed to keep an

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A man walks over traffic cones and other equipment dumped on the footpath by workers developing the road beneath Moghbazar flyover in the capital. A bulldozer and several other machines were also kept occupying a significant portion of the busy road, further exacerbating the local’s sufferings. This photo was taken yesterday near the area’s Rail Gate intersection.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

BNP cannot air speech of convicted persons at rally: DMP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police yesterday permitted BNP to hold its rally in the capital’s Suhrawardy Udyan on 26 conditions, including a bar on broadcasting speech by any convicted persons.

Syed Mamun Mustafa, special assistant to the DMP commissioner, said DMP added three new conditions to the 23 it had imposed on the party’s Nayapaltan rally on July 28.

The two other new conditions are: loudspeakers should not be pointed towards the court; and rally participants cannot engage in any activities that disrupt court functions.