

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION Parties urged not to nominate 'black money' holders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday urged the political parties not to nominate 'black money' holders and musclemen for the upcoming parliamentary election.

They also called on the people to be more careful about the potential candidates in their respective constituencies.

Sujan, a civil society initiative to promote good governance, organised the workshop on 'Political reforms in Bangladesh and determining responsibilities with regard to the ninth parliamentary election' in the city.

The political parties should decide right now that they would refrain from nominating any 'black money' holder, loan defaulter and person with criminal records for the upcoming election, said Prof Muzaffer Ahmad, president of Sujan.

He also stressed the need for ensuring full transparency in the election-related expenditure of the candidates.

"Voters should also be given enough opportunities to know details about the candidates so that they do not cast their votes in favour of a wrong person," he mentioned.

Presenting a paper, Badiul Alam Majumder, member secretary of Sujan, called for ensuring credibility in the voter list, reducing electoral expenses and providing adequate information to the voters in order to ensure a free and fair election.

He also suggested making the Election Commission stronger and independent.

Badiul Alam said those violating election rules and using muscle power on the day of polling should be dealt with stern and instant punishment.

He also called for making it mandatory for the political parties to be registered.

Sujan representatives from Dhaka region took part in the daylong workshop.

'Discover Japan' ends

BDNEWS, Dhaka

A three-day exhibition titled 'Discover Japan' ended at the National Museum in the capital yesterday.

The exhibition was jointly organised by Bangladesh-Japan Youth Friendship Association and the Japan Embassy.

At the inaugural session on Monday, Japanese Ambassador Matsushiro Horiguchi said Japan is keen to contribute to the cultural and economic development of Bangladesh with a view to strengthening the 34-year-old diplomatic relations between the two countries, said a press release.



Two-day education fair began at the Scholastica School in the city yesterday.

Students display talents at education fair

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Kaykasha and Maysha of class three at Scholastica School made a litter bin with sticks and chart paper where a cautionary state-

ment with colour pencils says 'Please Don't Litter the Street'.

The litter bin, which was highly praised by their Geography teacher in the activity class, is being displayed at the Education Fair that began yesterday.

The two-day fair has been organised to introduce the school's curriculum, teaching methods and students' extra-curricular activities.

"We are the service provider and we want to let people know about our quality service through this education fair," said Deputy Chairperson of the school Wasima Parveen.

Students from Play Group to O Level are taking part in the fair.

Different handicrafts and posters they learnt to make in their activity classes were on display. They are simply outstanding with newsletters and pictures.

A Medieval Castle built by the students of class four with corksheets, chart paper, colour and strings in their English activity class while they were reading about King Arthur was on display at the fair. It tells about the learning with entertainment policy of the school.

Not only the Medieval Castle, the display also includes posters made by the students in their Bangla activity class where the history of Bangladesh from 1947

are depicted with maps and brief description of the historical events.

The achievements of the students in debate competition, quiz contests and other cultural activities are also on display to encourage the tiny tots.

Students along with their parents from five campuses of Scholastica gathered at its main campus at Uttara where the would be students and their parents were also invited to enjoy the fair.

Inaugurating the fair, Chairperson of Scholastica Yasmeen Murshed said the school runs with quality education for the sake of its 5,000 plus students.

It confers scholarships worth Tk 85 lakh every year for brilliant and potential students, she added.

Brushing aside the charge of excessive cost at Scholastica, the chairperson said money is an important factor to provide quality education, and the cost at Scholastica is quite reasonable.

"It does not matter whether the medium is English or Bangla, what matters is how the education is provided at Scholastica," she added.

Deputy Chairperson and Head of Operations, Section Heads, Senior Management members of the school and parents were present at the inaugural function.

JUTA polls Feb 28

JU CORRESPONDENT

The election of Jahangirnagar University Teachers' Association (JUTA) will be held on February 28.

About 50 candidates have submitted their nomination papers for 15 posts on Thursday, the last day of submitting nomination papers, under four panels and independent category.

The candidates can withdraw their nomination papers by Sunday while the final list of the candidates

will be published the same day. More than 300 teachers are expected to cast votes in the election.

The foul panels are 'White Panel' backed by former vice-chancellor Prof. Jasimuddin Ahmad, 'Blue Panel' backed by progressive teachers' forum, a panel backed by left-leaning teachers and another panel backed by incumbent VC Prof. Khandaker Mustahidur Rahman.

Associate Prof. Ali Akand Mamun will vie for the post of general secretary as an independent candidate.

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