

Fire at Ctg embroidery factory

CU CORRESPONDENT

A fire broke out at an embroidery and printing factory near the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) area in Chittagong early yesterday.

An electrical short-circuit sparked off the fire on the first floor of the BHB Embroidery and Printing at around 4:00am, sources said.

Huge quantity of embroidery and printing accessories were burned down in the blaze. The loss was estimated as Tk 10 lakh.

However, there were no casualties.

Four fire fighting units from the city's different fire stations rushed to the spot and extinguished the blaze after a struggle for one and a half hours.

One stabbed to death in Pabna

UNB, Pabna

A young man was stabbed to death at Library Bazaar in the town yesterday morning.

The police said unknown assailants stabbed Nagor, 26, son of Joydul Abedin, at about 8.45am.

Doctors declared him dead when he was taken to the district general hospital. Motives for the killing could not be known immediately.



PHOTO: PID

President Iajuddin Ahmed receives a crest at a reunion of Salimullah Hall Former Students' Association at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday.

Luminaries gather at Salimullah Hall reunion

DU CORRESPONDENT

A grand reunion of former students of historic Salimullah Hall of Dhaka University (DU) was held at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre turning it into a colourful gathering of eminent scholars, intellectuals, bureaucrats, politicians and other distinguished personalities in the city yesterday.

Hundreds of former students who are the prides of the country joined the reunion organised by Salimullah

Hall Former Students Association.

Addressing the reunion as chief guest President Prof Iajuddin Ahmed said his four years as student of the hall was an outstanding period of his life as he witnessed as well as participated in the historic Language Movement in 1952.

He termed Salimullah Hall as an epicentre of the glorious Language Movement and said programmes of the movement were articulated from there.

"The blood-stained shirt of a

martyr was hoisted as a flag for the first time at Salimullah Hall," said the President while reminiscing the incidents of Language Movement.

Prof Iajuddin was also a provost of the hall for eight years.

Educationist Mesbahul Haque Chowdhury, the oldest member of the association, said, "I'm now 89 years old. I will not get back the springtime of my life but it seemed to me that I'm now 30 years old and still a student of Salimullah Hall."

Reminiscing about hall life he said, "I got admitted in Economics department in 1938. I lived in room no 170 which was called as 'Selti room' by other students as three out of total four students of the room hailed from Sylhet.

Former President Abdur Rahman Biswas, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, former minister Matiur Rahman, University Grants Commission Chairman Prof M Asaduzzaman, Parliament Member M Jahiruddin Swapon, Prof Hosne Ara Kamal, Awami League leader Abul Mal Abdul Muhit, Privatisation Board Chairman Inam Ahmed Chowdhury, Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, News Today Editor Riazuddin Ahmad, Poet Al Mujahidi and many other distinguished personalities, who were former students of the hall, also reminisced their memories.

Salimullah Muslim Hall started functioning with 75 residential students and 103 non-residential students of 1921-22 academic session. The present building of the hall was inaugurated on August 11, 1931.

At the end of the daylong reunion, its theme 'Abar Jodi Dekha Holo Sakha Praner Majhe Aai (As we meet again, friend come to the core of my heart) was turned into a reality as former students of the hall returned to their homes with a heavy heart full of springtime memories.

They also celebrate Nababarsha the way others do

MOON MOON SULTANA

Jaowad Hossain, a seven-year old boy, woke up early in the morning yesterday, not for going to school but to attend a Bangla New Year celebration function.

Jaowad reached in time with his parents on a wheelchair as he was born with physical disability.

Like Jaowad, over 30 students of Caring Glory, a special education centre for the children with special needs, flocked together at the Russian Cultural Centre in the city.

Though Baishakh came late to these children, great enthusiasm and spontaneous performance of them could yield new vigour of the Bangla Nababarsha among the audience.

Caring Glory school authorities organised the cultural function titled 'Amar-o Baishakh' with a view to providing the flavour of natural beauty and the festivity of receiving New Year into the physically and mentally challenged children.

Speaking on the occasion, Anis Ahmed, founding president of the institution, said, "In case of these children, social obstacles are greater than physical", adding, "Unlike other healthy children, they are often deprived of celebrating festivals and functions."

The function was organised in an exceptional way honouring the mothers of the students as chief guests.

Jaowad's mother, Zebunnesa Karim who teaches at Mohammadpur Women's University College, appreciated the initiative of holding cultural programme for children with disability.

The students of the school, including Asif, Fahim Kabir, Sumiya, Sauda, Upoma, Kaiser,

Tushar performed in the function with cooperation of their teachers.

Actress and Lawyer Tarana Halim observing the programme said, "If we could view the world through the eyes of these innocent children, the position of the country in corruption would be different."

Actress Shomi Kaiser and actor Tony Dias also addressed the

function.

Speaking as a special guest, Mosharraf Hossain, country representative of Action on Disability and Development (ADD), urged all including the 'uprising' civil society to come forward along with the government and international organisations to work for a social movement considering the disabled people.

AKM Azizul Haque, managing director of Jatiya Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation, Shaheen Reza Nur, feature editor of the daily Ittefaq and Swapna Reza, secretary general of the school also spoke on the occasion.



PHOTO: STAR

A child sings at a special cultural function for physically and mentally challenged children in the city yesterday, welcoming the Bangla New Year.

Union leaders visit injured journo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Leaders of journalists' unions yesterday visited Royal and National hospitals to see photojournalist Anurup Titu and reporter Abhijit Banik, who were injured in a police attack at the Chittagong divisional stadium on April 16.

They inquired about the physical condition and treatment of the two journalists.

Leaders of BFUJ, DUJ and CUJ visited the injured journalists.

The leaders include Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul, Asif Siraj, Samir Barua, Abdul Jalil Bhuyian, Omar Faruk, Shahid Ul Alam, Mostak Ahmad, Reaz Haider Chowdhury, Inamul Haq Babul, Kamal Chowdhury, Nirupam Das Gupta and Shamsul Huda Mintu.