

UNDP to offer micro-credit for self-reliance of street children

RU CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a function yesterday said more than 25000 street children are living in Rajshahi.

They are forced to carry drugs and firearms and engaged in other inhuman activities due to poverty.

The function was organised for distribution of clothes among the street children under the Appropriate Resources for Improving Street Children's Environment (ARISE), a project of social welfare department of the government, at Rajshahi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) auditorium yesterday.

The function was addressed by Central Project Director Muhammad Iqbal, Divisional Coordinator Abdus Sobhan, UNDP Programme Officers Martina Loker and Karina Liza and RU teacher Nazrul Islam while Rajshahi social welfare department Deputy Director Aftab Uddin Sheikh was in the chair.

The speakers said more than one lakh street children of the country are living in a vulnerable condition and their rights are not being protected properly.

They apprehended that if the rights of ill-fated street children are not protected, the children of normal environment cannot be safe.

The UNDP representatives said they have undertaken a long-term programme in Bangladesh to rehabilitate the street children by establishing their rights in the society like other children.

Inspired by the Nobel winning organisation Grameen bank, they also agreed to offer micro-credit for self-reliance of the street children.

Later, some clothes and sandals were distributed among 60 street children who are being rehabilitated by different NGOs and government.



PHOTO: STAR
Sammilita Nagorik Andolon forms a human chain in front of the Supreme Court in the city yesterday demanding electoral reforms and resignation of the chief election commissioner.

Allow private channels to use terrestrial facilities

Experts urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Academics and media professionals at a roundtable urges the government to allow private satellite channels to use the terrestrial transmission facilities so that they can reach the grassroots people.

The roundtable titled 'Role of the Media in Ensuring Right to Information to the Grassroots People' organised by Mass-line

Media Centre (MMC) was held at LGED auditorium in the city yesterday.

Speaking at the programme, Director (news) of Channel i Shykh Siraj said the media should focus on the needs and aspirations of common people, who are living in the remote areas of the country.

In his keynote paper, he also underscored the need for training the journalists on specific subjects so that

they can highlight the needs of common people at the national level.

Editor of The Daily Observer Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury said if political crisis is not resolved, people's right to information might be violated in the long run.

Prof Sakhawat Ali Khan of Dhaka University (DU) said the media should broadcast and publish news in a simple language so that ordinary people can easily understand the messages and act accordingly.

Executive Director of MMC Kamrul Hasan Manju conducted the programme while Robayet Ferdous, a teacher of Journalism and Mass Communication of DU, and local journalists also spoke.

Distribution of Buet admission form begins

BSS, Dhaka

Distribution of undergraduate admission forms of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) began on the campus here yesterday.

A total of 1,435 forms have been sold on the first day, official sources said.

The sources said distribution of forms, which will remain closed between October 19 and 27 on the occasion of Eid vacation, will continue till November 11.

Meanwhile, classes of the next academic term of the university will begin on November 11.

Campus sources said the ongoing term final examinations of the university will end today.

Students have to complete their course registration between November 8 and 9, said Buet Registrar M Shahjahan.



PHOTO: STAR
A run-down manhole with no cover in the middle of a road at Rokeya Sarani, Shewrapara, in the city poses danger to pedestrians as well as passengers.