

LANGUAGE MOVEMENT IN PABNA

Two female heroes still not recognised

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

In 1948, when Dhirendranath Dutta's proposal to recognise Bangla as one of the state languages of the then Pakistan was rejected in the parliament, protest raged like fire all over the erstwhile East Pakistan.

Students, both male and female, took to the streets demanding the right of Bangla as a state language.

In Pabna, too, a number of female revolutionists took part in the Language Movement between 1948 and 1952 alongside their male counterparts. Unfortunately, none of them have yet been recognised.



SELINA BANU



SABERA MUSTAFA

Pabna Edward College in 1945 and graduated in science from the same institution in 1949.

While a student, she joined a left leaning student group and took part in social work during the famine of 1943. She was the President of Pabna District Students Federation from 1946 to 1948.

"As in other districts, students of Pabna organised protests, demanding Bangla as the state language of Pakistan. Hartal was observed in the district on February 29, 1948, and a mass rally was arranged at Pabna Edward College for the recognition of the mother tongue," recalled Ranesh Maitra, a language veteran, who took part in the protest.

"Aminul Islam Badsha and Mahabub Ahmed Khan were joint conveners of Rashtia Bhasa Sangram Parishad in Pabna, but from the college the most significant roles were played by Selina Banu and Sabera Mustafa," he said.

Ranesh said the women did not join the procession as it was not possible to do so in the conservative atmosphere that existed in Pabna at that time.

Both of the revolutionists, however, motivated young people and students to hold the protest rally, he added.

Selina continued the role of an organiser throughout the movement that climaxed in 1952, forcing the then Pakistani government to give in to the demands and recognise Bangla as a state language, Ranesh said.

Later in the 50s, Selina joined the Awami Muslim League and then the National Awami League. The unsung Language Movement veteran died on January 26, 1983, at the age of 56, leaving behind an illustrious political carrier.

While Selina pursued a political career, Sabera shifted her focus more towards cultural activities.

Born to an educated family in

Pabna Sadar Upazila's Gobinda village as Sabera Khatun Shamsun Ara in August 25, 1934, she later married another language activists and journalist KG Mustafa and left the district before the Liberation War.

In the mid-1950s, Sabera became one of the first women in the former East Pakistan to act on stage. She also worked as a teacher for four decades teaching at different colleges in Dhaka, Rajshahi, Barisal and Sylhet. Sabera died on April 15, 2012, at the age of 78.

Professor Dr Abdul Alim, head of the Bangla department of Pabna University of Science and Technology, also a researcher of the Language Movement in Pabna, noted that the role women played during the Language Movement has remain largely untold.

He said Selina Banu and Sabera Mustafa's name have been mentioned in different books on the movement but there is no consolidated work on the female revolutionists.

"In my opinion, female revolutionists should be given due respect and state recognition to present the authentic history of the Language Movement to the new generation," he added.

Locals of Pabna also feel the same way. Amzad Hossain, a resident of Pabna's Gobinda village, urged the government to take initiatives in Sabera's hometown to inform the future generations of her contributions in the Language Movement.



PHOTO: STAR

As most of the Boro saplings turn yellowish, a farmer couple at Kamlabari village in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila is sorting saplings.

BORO SAPLINGS CRISIS

Lalmonirhat farmers face setback

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Boro farmers in the district are facing serious problem in the peak Boro cultivation season due to shortage of saplings, following damage of seedbeds during the prolonged cold wave coupled with dense fog this year.

Although Boro cultivation started in full swing, many farmers in the district have left their land vacant due to acute crisis of saplings.

They are now rushing from here to there to collect their required Boro saplings.

Farmer Ranjit Chandra Barman of Kamalabari village in Aditmari upazila said he prepared Boro seedbeds on 10 bighas of land this year, but half of the saplings have damaged and turned yellowish due to prolonged cold accompanied by dense fogs.

"Though I have planted Boro paddy on seven bighas of land. I am trying to collect more seedlings from others as three bighas of my land still remained uncultivated," Ranjit said.

Another farmer of the village Mohammad Ali said due to acute sapling

crisis, he planted Boro paddy on four bighas out of six bighas land this year.

"About half of my Boro seedlings on 10 decimals land have been completely damaged. If I failed to collect the saplings in time, I won't be able to cultivate Boro paddy this season," said Nazrul Islam, a farmer at Harati village in Sadar upazila.

"I covered my entire seedbed with polythene in a bid to save the saplings, but still many of those got damaged," he said, adding that, now he is trying to collect seedlings from his neighbours and relatives.

Officials at Lalmonirhat Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) said this year they have set a target to cultivate Boro on 70,000 hectares of land in five upazilas of the district.

Farmers said transplanting of Boro seedlings will be completed by the end of this month.

Lalmonirhat DAE Deputy Director Bidhubhushan Roy said many farmers planted Boro seedlings on more land than they require and those who are in crisis will be able to collect their saplings from others.

Dormitory lies unused for 9yrs

Fund crisis is blamed for not using the Tk 3.29 crore building for children in Rangamati's Kawkhali upazila

ANVIL CHAKMA, Rangamati

There are bushes inside the boundary wall. The playground has almost become a jungle. Doors and windows are broken.

This is the picture of a hostel at Chelachara village in Kawkhali upazila, which has been lying useless since its construction nine years ago due to poor allocation of fund.

An official of Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) said in 2010-11 fiscal year, the three-storey hostel building was built at the initiative of the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education at a cost of Tk 3.29 crore. It has eight rooms for 80 students and a kitchen, a dining room and separate living rooms for staffers.

Five people were appointed as caretaker, nightguard, cook and sweeper in 2013, said a hostel official, adding that they are getting salaries regularly.

During a recent visit to the hostel, this correspondent found bushes inside the boundary wall and some doors and windows broken.

Villagers said when the hostel was being

built, they were assured that children of remote areas would get education from there but it still lies useless due to lack of allocation for food.

Despite repeated pleas, the authorities concerned are yet to take any initiative in this regard, they said.

Santu Chakma, head cook of the hostel, said he is getting his salary regularly but there is no boarder in the hostel.

Ching Chai Thoyai Roaza, head teacher of Chelachhara Primary School, and also the superintendent of the hostel, said the hostel building has been lying abandoned for long. Many students from remote areas are communicating to come to the hostel.

District Primary Education Officer Muhammad Khorshed Alam said if the hostel building lies in such abandoned state for long, it will collapse one day.

"We can't start operation of the hostel as we are yet to get any allocation for food from the ministry," he said.

They have already informed the ministry concerned about the matter, said the education officer.



The three-storey dormitory in Rangamati's Kawkhali upazila lies unused for nine years due to poor allocation of fund.

PHOTO: STAR



THE UNWAVERING SPIRIT OF EKUSHEY...To pay homage to the Language Movement martyrs who laid down their lives 68 years ago, Bangladeshers across the country gather at Shaheed Minars every year on Shaheed Day, the 21st of February, which is also observed as International Mother Language Day. In line with the spirit, students of Azimpur High School in Dinajpur's Biral upazila build a makeshift Shaheed Minar on the school premises yesterday, while a worker paints a mural at the Shaheed Minar in Tangail town, inset.

PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKAR, MIRZA SHAKIL





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ফোনঃ ০২-৭৬৬১৪৮২ ফ্যাক্সঃ ০২-৭৬৬১০২৭

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২০ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২০

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১। বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী কর্তৃক পরিচালিত ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কস লিঃ, সোনাকান্দা, নারায়ণগঞ্জ এ নিম্নলিখিত পদে চুক্তিভিত্তিক জনবল নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে প্রকৃত যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

ক্রঃ নং	পদের নাম	পদের সংখ্যা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা	বেতন	যে সকল জেলার প্রার্থী আবেদন করতে পারবেন
১।	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী	০৬ (ছয়)	ক। বিএসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ইন মেকানিক্যাল/ নেভাল আর্কিটেকচার। খ। ন্যূনতম ৩ বছর কাজের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন।	প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব বেতন কাঠামোঃ ১৭৬০০-৭৮০-২৩০৬০-৮৬০-৩২৫২০	সকল জেলা
২।	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী	০১ (এক)	ক। বিএসসি ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ইন ইলেকট্রিক্যাল/ ইলেকট্রনিক্স। খ। ন্যূনতম ৩ বছর কাজের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন।		

২। মূল বেতন সাথে অন্যান্য ভাতাদি প্রতিষ্ঠানের বেতন কাঠামো, নিয়োগ নীতিমালা ও প্রচলিত নিয়মানুযায়ী প্রদান করা হবে।

৩। নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে বয়স অনুস্ব ৩০ বছর। বিশেষ অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে শিথিলযোগ্য।

৪। অত্র প্রতিষ্ঠানের চিকিৎসা কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত মেডিক্যাল ফিটনেস সার্টিফিকেট সন্তোষজনক প্রতাপাদিত হলে চাকরিতে নিয়োগ প্রদান করা হবে।

৫। অগ্রহী প্রার্থীদেরকে পূর্ণাঙ্গ জীবন বৃত্তান্ত, ০৪ (চার) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রঙিন ছবি, নাগরিকত্ব সনদ, জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্র/জন্মান্বিতন, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা সংক্রান্ত সকল সনদপত্রসমূহের সত্যায়িত কপি এবং ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক বরাবর আবেদনপত্র “ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কস লিঃ, বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী, সোনাকান্দা, বন্দর, নারায়ণগঞ্জ” এর ঠিকানায় আগামী ০৫ মার্চ ২০২০ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ের মধ্যে প্রেরণ করতে হবে।

৬। প্রার্থীকে বাছাই কমিটি কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত পরীক্ষায় অংশ গ্রহণ করতে হবে।

৭। লিখিত/ মৌখিক/ ব্যবহারিক পরীক্ষায় অংশ গ্রহণের জন্য প্রার্থীকে কোন প্রকার টিএ/ ডিএ দেওয়া হবে না।

৮। অসম্পূর্ণ এবং ত্রুটিপূর্ণ আবেদনপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

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