

Give compensation

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other families yet," said MA Rahim at the press conference.

At Thursday's programme, DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon said of the victims, only 31 applied for compensation, and that is why they were giving compensation to them.

He said bureaucratic process has taken them a long time to hand over the compensation to the victim families.

Ashik Uddin, a cousin of Wasi Uddin

Mahid who was killed in the fire, said, "None of us who are here is a chemical expert. We do not know what harmful chemical was stored inside Hazi Wahed Mansion, which resulted in the fire ripping through the structures and its surrounding ones so severely."

He urged landlords not to rent out any more houses for storing such chemicals for money.

Later on the day, the victim families also formed a human chain there.

Breaking the barrier

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our mother tongue," he said.

Bangladesh lawmaker Sheik Afil Uddin presided over the event. He hoped such a gathering would bring people of the two countries closer.

Swapan Bhattacharjee, state minister

for Local Govt, Rural Development and Cooperatives, also paid tributes to the language heroes.

Several socio-cultural and political organisations also took part in the programme.

Of pride and inspiration

FROM PAGE 3
an Ekushey Padak make up the display of his personal items.

"Names of Salam, Barkat, Rafique, Jabbar, Shafur... are synonymous to Ekushey February. I've read about them in textbooks. But visiting this place helped me understand their struggle, how they stood up for what's right and made the ultimate sacrifice for our mother tongue," said Saima while looking at a photo of students at the historic Amtala.

There is also a digital information booth beside the stairs, which leads to the second floor, and a balcony-like library where shelves are stacked with books on the Language Movement and Liberation War.

Readers can utilise the reading space or buy books at 10 percent discount, said Md Abdul Mumin, security in-charge. He said around 20-25 people visit the place every day on an average. The number goes up in February. "It is also open for all," he added.

Enamul Haque, an official at the museum, said, "We also arrange programmes in observance of Ekushey February."

Standing on the second floor, Khairul Alam, a student of social sciences at DU, was looking at the ground floor wall.

It contains a wall-to-wall painting of the events of the day -- protest, police brutality, portraits of the martyrs and nation paying homage to language heroes at Central Shaheed Minar.

"Every time I come here, I feel a sense of responsibility towards my culture and

heritage," Khairul told this correspondent. His friend, Mohaimanul Islam of Titumir College, was visiting the memorial for the first time. He said he was feeling melancholic, yet grateful at the same time.

Contacted, Dr Abu Md Delwar Hossain, director of the memorial, said, "Like every year, we have arranged a three-day programme to observe Amar Ekushey."

He said they also host events for children with Down syndrome.

"Usually, we organise the events on February 22-24. But we had to change the dates to 27-29 as it was colliding with Charukala's (Faculty of Fine Arts) programmes," said Prof Delwar, also dean of the Arts faculty.

"We have already notified schools in this regard," he added.

Meantime, Shahana and her daughter were about to leave the museum.

"Ekushey is not just about a nation's struggle for its right; it's also about enhancing awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions and to protect and promote linguistic diversity," said Shahana. Shahana was right. Ekushey is also an achievement.

Such a passionate saga of sacrifice to establish an innate and sacrosanct right to a people's mother tongue was recognised as International Mother Language Day on November 17, 1999 by Unesco, and thanks to that, it has today become a source of inspiration worldwide for linguistic diversity and the right to express in one's own voice.

Heroes honoured

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They placed wreaths one after another with due honour.

In the morning, students and socio-cultural organisations, carrying colourful banners, festoons and placards, placed wreaths there as well.

Rangpur also saw its residents paying tributes to our heroes. Thousands of people of all ages participated in the daylong programmes that started at midnight.

Local political leaders, heads of different government departments and non-government organisations, educational institutions and common people placed their wreaths at the city's Shaheed Minar to pay homage.

City streets were decorated with miniature national flags inscribed with Bengali alphabets.

A poetry festival on the Language Movement, War of Liberation and Bangabandhu; documentary screenings; and competitions for children on drawing, essay-writing and handwriting were arranged.

Besides, local newspapers published special issues and Rangpur Betar Kendra aired special programmes, narrating the significance of the day.

Residents, organisations and educational institutions in Rajshahi observed the day with a renewed pledge for building a happy, prosperous and non-communal Bangladesh.

Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) and the district and police administration organised elaborate programmes on the

day. The programmes include art and literary competitions for students at Shishu Academy and Shilpakala Academy, and documentary screenings on the Language Movement.

In Khulna, Talukder Abdul Khaleque, the city's mayor, along with the district's people paid their tributes at the Shaheed Minar situated in the city's Shaheed Hadis Park.

Singing, drawing and essay-writing competitions for children, and sports events for students were held along with documentary screenings.

Meanwhile, speakers in different discussion meetings stressed the need for using Bangla at all levels.

In Natore Sadar upazila, a free medical camp was held yesterday at a remote village, marking International Mother Language Day.

Agdigha Bitarkadhara, a voluntary social organisation, arranged the camp at Agdigha village.

Over 50 doctors specialised in various medical fields provided treatment. Pathology, X-ray, ultrasound and echocardiography tests were also provided for free.

Dr Shirin Akter Setu, assistant surgeon of Singra Upazila Health Complex and member of the organisation, provided treatment to 150 impoverished people of different villages of the upazila.

Jahurul Islam, the organisation's president, said they are also providing free medicines to patients.

Children cover

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area. They started construction work some seven days ago, said Sajib Khalifa, one of the initiators of the project. The children built the replica monuments using bricks, wood and paper.

Manisha Chakrabarty -- member secretary of Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal, Barishal unit, and organiser of Bigyan Andolon Mancha -- said they started the initiative to spread the message of "Ekushey February" among the area's slum children.

The programme started four years ago and has gathered pace by the day, said Maruf, one of the children who poured his labour into the endeavour.

M'singh road crash

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and the driver of the auto-rickshaw.

They were rushed to Halaughat Upazila Health Complex, from where they were referred to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) after their condition deteriorated, the OC said.

Later, doctors at MMCH declared Mizanur and Shariful dead. Police recovered and sent the deceased's bodies to MMCH morgue for autopsy.

Police managed to seized the vehicles but the bus driver fled the scene. A case has been lodged with Halaughat Police Station in this regard.

Acting coordinator of BNP Halaughat upazila unit Md Ali Asgar said all four of the deceased were activists of BNP and its front organisations of Beeldora union. They were on their way to the BNP office at Halaughat Uttar Bazar for an Ekushey February programme.

Around the globe

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Deputy High Commission of Bangladesh, Mumbai observed the day with due respect at the city's President Hotel. The programme was attended by Maharashtra government's State Chief Information Commissioner Sumit Mallik as chief guest and ex-Vice Admiral of Indian Navy Vishnu Bhagwat, said a press release.

Along with hoisting of the national flag at half-mast, observing one minute's silence for the martyrs, and singing of the Ekushey eley, the programme also featured projection of documentary film "My Mother Tongue".

Deputy High Commissioner Md Lutfor Rahman, Consul General of Ireland Gerry Kelly, Consul General of Italy Stefania Costanza, along with diplomats, government representatives, expatriate Bangladeshis, media representatives, mission staff etc. also attended the programme.

In Colombo's historic Independence Square, Bangladesh High Commission in Sri Lanka hosted a grand Language Day programme attended by Sri Lankan PM Mahinda Rajapaksa, Education Minister Bandula Gunawardane, other ministers, ambassadors, and almost 350 school students.

The programme featured prize giving for the art, essay, and poetry competition that was held around the country for the last two months. At the end of the ceremony, artists from Colombo-based Russian Cultural Centre, Maldivian Educational And Cultural Centre, China Cultural Centre, Alliance Française, and other organisations participated in a cultural programme.

PM Rajapaksa and the ministers lauded the Bangladeshi ambassador and High Commission for such a grand and creative initiative.

In Japan, Bangladesh Embassy in Tokyo observed Language Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language day with due respect yesterday, reports UNB.

Around 7:30am, Dr Sahida Akter, charge d' affaires, Masato Saito, vice mayor of Toshima city, and embassy officials placed wreaths at the Shaheed Minar situated at Ikebukuro Nishiguchi Park in Toshima city as tribute to the language heroes, said a press release.

Bangladesh High Commission in Singapore yesterday arranged a daylong programme to observe "Shaheed Dibash and International Mother Language Day", reports BSS.

The daylong programme started with hoisting of the national flag at half-mast by High Commissioner Md Mustafizur Rahman while officials of the High Commission and expatriate Bangladesh community members were present.

A discussion on the significance of the day was held at the hall room of the chancery.

In Greece, the Embassy of Bangladesh in Athens hosted a cultural programme to mark the day. The event was attended by various dignitaries.

BNP vows to

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The BNP leader said, "The rights of people have been snatched, and there's no rule of law and justice in the country. On this day, we are vowing that we will ensure release of our party chairperson."

According to the country's constitution, she deserves bail, but she is not getting it, Fakhru added.

Khaleda has been receiving treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University since April 1 last year. She was convicted in the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case and was sent to jail on February 8, 2018. She was convicted in another corruption case later in 2018. BNP maintains that both cases are politically motivated.

Govt trying

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Islam Alamgir's allegation that the government had established a one-party rule also said BNP leaders, especially its secretary general, always talk like this, reports BSS.

"BNP did politics only for their own interest... They just talk about the release of their leader Khaleda Zia but they have no programmes for the welfare of people," he said, adding that there is no option to release Khaleda except through a legal process.

Awami League presidium member Abdur Rahman; organising secretaries -- Ahmed Hossain and Afzal Hossain; cultural affairs secretary Ashim Kumar Uki; office secretary Biplab Barua and deputy publicity and publication secretary Aminul Islam Amin were also present, among others.

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The spirit carries

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language martyrs. Therefore, I've decided to buy a biography on one of them," said Nowrin Islam, a first-year student of Dhaka University.

"They are the real heroes for whose sacrifices we now speak in our mother tongue. These sacrifices can't ever be repaid," she said, holding a biography of language movement martyr Abdus Salam written by Shahida Akhter.

However, there are almost no new books on the movement. Though some publishers have a few books catalogues, most were published years ago. Yet, people sifted through them, engrossing themselves in the history.

Humayun Kabir, publisher of Charulipi Prokashon, said, "There is a demand for Language Movement books from students, researchers and conscious readers. However, few publications release such history-oriented books."

"As we don't get good manuscripts, we can't publish books on the movement," he said, adding that Charulipi has an old collection titled "A Short History of The Language Movement" by MA Banik.

Bangla Academy is selling biographies on language martyrs, including works on Gaziul Haque, Abdus Salam, Rafiq Uddin Ahmed and Shafur Rahman.

A total of 508 books hit the book fair yesterday.

Bangladesh

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Bank stand ready to support their efforts."

Mercy Tembon, WB country director for Bangladesh and Bhutan, said, "For Bangladesh, improving road safety is a national development priority, which will help the country boost economic growth."

"Bangladesh must take urgent steps to address road safety and minimize this tragic loss of human capital," Tembon added.

To better monitor the effectiveness of road safety efforts, the report recommends a shared regional initiative to harmonise crash data management and analysis systems across South Asia.

7-day book fair begins in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A seven-day book fair began at Hemayetpur in Savar on Thursday.

Marking "Mujib Borsho", Tetuljhora Union Parishad Chairman Fakhru Alam Somor organised the fair, inaugurated by State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Dr Md Enamur Rahman.

The fair will remain open for all from 3pm to 7pm on Hemayetpur Eidgah field.

A total of 23 stalls were set up at the venue.

Md Shanto, a university student who along with several other youths set up a stall, said it is the first ever book fair in the area.

"We have sold around 50 books in three hours after inauguration," he said.

Anjuman Ara, who brought her third-grader son to the fair, said, "We sometimes can't go to the book fair in Dhaka. An initiative like this is praiseworthy."

The organisers also set up a "temporary museum", where nearly 500 pictures on Language Movement, Liberation War are being displayed.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Manikganj
www.lqed.gov.bd
Reference No. 46.02.5600.000.07.001.19-605 Date: 20/02/2020

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13	429974	GDP-3/MA-47	Improvement of Kavlia Asapur Road at Ch. 0.00-2500m under Singuri union Upazila Chhor District: Manikganj (Road ID No. 356224004) (4th call)	
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15	429976	GDP-IV/MAN/SHIB/W R-38	1) Improvement of Barongail College Mohadebpur Girls School Mohadebpur Union Degree College Barongail-Mohadebpur Girls High School Road by BC Ch. 00-706m road ID-356785007 under upazila Shibalaya District Manikganj 2) Improvement of Shimulia UP office Binoli Jme Mosque Barongail GC via Roghunathpur road by BC Ch. 2370-5322m road ID-356783006 under upazila: Shibalaya District: Manikganj [Salvage cost Tk 1579218] (3rd call)	
16	430322	GDP-IV/MAN/HORI/W R-34	(1) Improvement of Diabani Chala UP-Pirdangi via Kochua Bazar road by BC Ch. 00-1750m under Harirampur Upazila District Manikganj (ID No. 356283007) (2) Improvement of Sonakanda Chourasta Farm-Bangala Road by BC Ch. 710-1710m under Harirampur Upazila, District Manikganj (ID No. 356284023)	
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GD-334

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Principal
Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College, Sylhet