

Sabmeher Day observed Call for stricter laws to stop forced prostitution

Speakers at a discussion in the city on Saturday called for enactment of stricter laws to stop forced prostitution, cruelty and oppressions on women, reports BSS.

Held at the ICMA Auditorium, the discussion was arranged by Bangladesh Nari Adhikar Andolan in observance of Sabmeher Day.

Sabmeher, who was forced to prostitution was brutally killed at the infamous Narayan-ganj Kandhupatty brothel a few years ago as she refused to become a prostitute.

Prof Hosne Ara Kamal and journalist Rasheda Amin attended the discussion as chief guest and special guest respectively while organisation's chief Prof Chamanara presided.

The discussion was also addressed, among other, by lead-

ing women activists Dr Habiba Chowdhury, Dr U K Raohjatur Rumman and Anwar Idris.

The speakers called upon the government to make the draft rule of 1994 into law, which bars forced engagement of women into flesh trade and physical assault on women. The draft rule suggested death penalty for such offences.

The meeting suggested that the photos of oppressed women should not be published in newspapers. Rather, the photos of the oppressor should be published so that social hatred would generate against the offenders.

The meeting demanded for making provisions for enjoying pension benefit of one's husband till a widow would become self reliant.



Cooperative way to get to work during hartals

'BNP govt believes in politics of dev'

RAJSHAHI, Apr 9: State Minister for Establishment Aminul Haque Friday said the present BNP government believed in the politics of development and was fulfilling all its election pledges one after another, reports BSS.

He was addressing as the chief guest a public meeting organised by Godagari thana BNP at Shahapania Government Primary School premises under Godagari thana of the district.

The state minister said, the period of four-year is not a long time for a nation but in this short time the present government had constructed innumerable roads and high-ways, culvert-bridges, school and colleges making a revolution in the education sector.

The annual development budget of 1990-91 fiscal year was Taka 5500 crore which was completely dependent on foreign exchange but in the current fiscal year the annual development budget was Taka 11,500 crore which was being financed by 38 per cent from local resources," he added.

Presided over by the chairman of Mahanpur union, the meeting was addressed, among others, by joint secretary of district BNP Shis Mohammad and Godagari thana BNP president Md Aminul Islam Panjab.

Earlier, the state minister laid the foundation stone of a new bhaban of Dhurail High School under Mohanpur thana and a new bhaban of Shanidhara Primary School under Tanore thana of the district. The high school would be constructed at a cost of Taka about eight lakh and the primary school would be constructed at a cost of about Taka four lakh.

Training course on role of NGOs

A four-day training workshop titled "SAARC Forum on the Role of NGOs in Drug Demand Reduction" begins in the city today, reports UNB.

The Department of Narcotics Control and the Colombo Plan Bureau are jointly organising the forum at Sheraton Hotel.

Bangladesh envoy to supervise hajj management

The newly appointed Bangladesh Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin will personally supervise the managements of Hajj this year, according to a message received here from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, reports BSS.

He will be in Jeddah Hajj terminal on April 13 to receive the first batch of Bangladesh Hajjis.

The Ambassador who visited Bangladesh Consulate in Jeddah on Saturday met officers and staff members there.

He urged them to work with honesty and sincerity, the message said. The Ambassador also asked them to work to boost economic relations between the two countries, particularly in increasing Bangladesh exports to kingdom.

Mir Nasir Uddin also met the locally recruited hajj workers. He called on all concerned to do their best for the wellbeing of the hajjis especially for those who are elderly.

The Ambassador is now in Makkah to enquire about the arrangements of hajj and also for conducting the whole management in a new perspective.

JU Economics dept team meets Biswas

A delegation of final year MSc students of the Economics Department of Jahangirnagar University (JU) called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Talking to them, the President said as future economists they had special responsibility in alleviating poverty and contributing to country's prosperity and people's welfare.

"For rapid socio-economic development of the country, you should acquire the theoretical knowledge of economics along with its practical applications," he told them.

"We must equip ourselves to meet the challenges of the years ahead with our knowledge of economics, science and technology. Other countries of South and South-East Asia are achieving significant economic progress and we cannot lag behind," he said.

He hoped that their ensuing visit to SAARC countries would provide them ample opportunities to know about economic development of those countries through meetings and interactions with the students and teachers of those countries.

Prof Khandaker Mustahidur Rahman, Chairman of the Department led the team. Among others, Saiful Islam Sohel, Rafiqul Islam, Shariful Islam, Zahiruddin Ahmed, Nazifa Anjum, Zakia Shamsunnahar, Awald Hossain, Runa Laila, Abdur Razzak, Jahir Uddin and Saiful Islam Babu were present.

Newspaper holiday Apr 14

All newspapers will remain closed on April 14 on the occasion of Bangla New Year, Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad said in a press release yesterday, reports BSS.

No newspaper, however, will be published on the following day, April 15, the press release added.

Death condoled

The Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mohammad Hanif condoled the death of Latifa Khatun, mother of Mizanur Rahman Minu, Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation, reports BSS.

SAARC CJs to form permanent forum

The chief justices of the SAARC countries have unanimously decided to make their forum a permanent one with the objective of strengthening cooperation among the SAARC countries in the judicial field, reports BSS.

According to a Supreme Court press release Saturday, the decision was taken at the first conference of the chief justices of the SAARC countries in Kathmandu during the course of the fourth SAARC Law Conference held there from March 31 to April 2.

JS body on Public Accounts meets

A meeting of the Jatiya Sangsad's standing committee on Public Accounts was held at the Sangsad Bhaban Saturday with its chairman L K Siddiquee in the chair, reports BSS.

Some audit objections raised in the report of Comptroller General of Audit and Accounts regarding 1984-85 accounts of Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (FDC) and Bangladesh Press Council under the administrative umbrella of Information Ministry were discussed in the meeting.

The members of the committee decided to resolve some objections and asked to resolve others through joint meetings of the concerned parties.

The committee members expressed their concern for publication of untrue and motivated news about the Bangladesh Press Council in a section of the press.

They also recommended for strengthening the Press Council so that it could take effective measures in this regard.

Committee members Sayed Manzur Hossain, Mohammad Shahjahan Omar, Anwarul Hossain Khan Choudhury and Mohammad Shahjahan were present at the meeting.

Besides, the Comptroller General of Audits and Accounts K M Hossain chairman of Bangladesh Press Council Justice Sultan Hossain Khan and Information Secretary Dr Ekram Hossain were present.

The conference held under the initiative of the Chief Justice of Nepal was attended by the Chief Justices of Bangladesh, India, Nepal while Pakistani and Sri Lankan Chief Justices were represented by their nominees. The Chief Justices of Bhutan and Maldives, however, could not attend the conference.

It was agreed at the conference that greater interaction among the chief justices and justices of the SAARC countries was mutually beneficial and helpful in better understanding of the judicial systems of the regional countries. It was also beneficial for fostering cooperation and friendly ties among the members of the judicial fraternity, the conference upheld.

It was further agreed at the conference that access to justice should not be denied to anyone on account of socio-economic imbalances and on account of a person being underprivileged. "Every effort should be made to ensure that every member of the society respects the rule of law and justice is done in accordance with the rule of law."

Bangladesh team returns

The seven-member Bangladesh delegation returned to Dhaka Saturday night after attending a 5-day international workshop on "curriculum for renewable energy" which concluded recently in New Delhi, reports BSS.

Thirty-eight experts, scholars and scientists from Germany, United Kingdom, Australia, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka participated in the deliberations of the workshop. It was sponsored by German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) in collaboration with Waterballs Institute of technology Transfer in New Delhi.

Dr Aminul Huq, director, Centre for Energies, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), who led the Bangladesh delegation, presented a keynote paper at the workshop.

Barak Long March Apr 12

People of greater Sylhet district, mainly peasants from villages, will hold "Barak Long March" on April 12 to protest against construction of a barrage by India on the river Barak, near the border of Sadar Sylhet, reports UNB.

Jatiya Krishak Party president Sirajul Hossain Khan will lead the 22-mile long march from Charkhai in Beanibazar thana to Barathakuria in Zakiganj thana.

Khan is one of the organisers of the Farakka Long March led by late Moulana Abdul-Hamid Khan Bhasani in 1976.

River Barak originates from Lusat Hills in Mizoram state of Eastern India and branches out into Surma and Kushiara rivers near the village Barathakuria. The Barak barrage is being built three miles up on the Indian side.

Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Nazim Uddin, private secretary of the finance minister, who died of a heart attack on April 7 will be held on April 13 after Asr prayers instead of April 11 at the deceased's 2/1701, Eskaton Tower residence in the city, reports BSS.

A NEW PACK.
THE SAME GREAT TASTE.

PLAYER'S
GOLD LEAF

A TASTE APART.