

Metropolitan

II-The Daily Star — Student dialogue Students deplore state of nat'l politics

By Staff Correspondent

In the second of the three dialogues with our young citizens, The Daily Star asked the students to state their views on student politics, national politics and political leaders. Following is a brief report, the detailed version of which will be published tomorrow in the FOCUS page (P-5).



Mahfuz Anam, Editor, The Daily Star seen with the participants of the 'DS-student dialogue on student politics', held at the office of the daily recently. — Star photo

BWDB to introduce new water level monitoring system

Star Report

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) is introducing a tele-monitoring system for instant recording of rise and fall of water levels of various rivers, according to officials of the Board.

The officials said, the system, equipped with modern technology, would be introduced in 14 monitoring centres in the zones of flash flood areas for instantaneous monitoring.

The centres were established with a project cost of 535 million Japanese yen and financed under the Japanese debt relief grant.

Compared to the old system, the officials said, the present water level monitoring arrangement would help them analyse flood situation across the country from the control office in Dhaka.

Besides, it would also help read the actual position of flood level at any given time and improvise the accuracy of the forecast, they said.

Prominent among the 14 centres are Mill Barrack on the Buriganga, Mirpur on the Turag, Jatrapur on the Brahmaputra, Jakuganj on the Kushiari and Pankha on the Padma.

The system installed in the centres would automatically record the rainfall and the rise in water level and transmit the data collected to the control station at Dhaka.

Mahfuz Anam, Editor, The Daily Star seen with the participants of the 'DS-student dialogue on student politics', held at the office of the daily recently. — Star photo

The quality of the teachers and curriculum of the education system at all levels should be improved in order to prepare the nation to meet the 21st century, a group of students said.

At a discussion on "Education in the 21st century" organised by The Daily Star Tuesday its participants emphasised on creating a non-government education board consisting of teachers and experts for a political intervention-free curriculum updating system.

The students said that the education should be made more appropriate for the context of Bangladesh, application oriented, and aided by computer technology.

It was emphasised that the curriculum should be made more interesting to make the students feel that education is fun. Besides, both private tuition and students' politics should be discouraged.

Moderated by The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, the discussion was participated by Sharhan Islam of Dhaka University, former student of the Holy Cross College Shama

Parveen, former student of Vigarunnisa Noon College Ifat Anjum, Shazia Naurin and Saudha Saha of Udayan Bidyalaya, Sakib Hamid Pratyaya and Ahsan Zamil of Government Laboratory School, Rasha Tabassum of Vigarunnisa Noon School, Syed Mustafa Khelat Bari and Tanvir Zubayer Islam of Dhaka College, Sadat Mannan of St Joseph High School, Joy Alamgir of Notre Dame College and Nabonita Chowdhury.

"We can't expect to change the whole education system in the next four years," said Shama Parvin. "But we could emphasise on informal education and English at primary levels."

The disparity of education curriculum between the Bangla, English and Madrasa medium should go and a common standard should be set for all," said Nabonita Chowdhury. "We should introduce a subject called moral science instead of religious studies."

Students of class eight and upwards should be given more choice of subjects. Science students should not be restricted from taking subjects like Economics," said Joy Alamgir. "Compulsory subjects like History should be made optional," he added.

He also suggested that besides the text-book board there should be a private body to conduct the SSC and HSC examinations in order to set competition between the two and improve the test system.

Sakib Hamid Pratyaya pointed out that brain-drain to the western countries from Bangladesh should be taken as a serious problem and the government should take diplomatic measures to ensure return of students going abroad for studies.

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