



The visiting World Bank Vice-President Mieko Nishimizu called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Sangsad Bhaban office yesterday. —PID photo

PM donates Tk 2 cr for rehabilitation of repressed women and children

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday granted Tk 2 crore for rehabilitation of the repressed women and children, including those being displaced from Narayanganj red-light zones, reports UNB.

She made the grants in a meeting held at her Sangsad Bhaban office aiming to facilitate the effort being made by people of all walks of life in Narayanganj to rehabilitate the repressed women, said an official announcement.

The Prime Minister also instructed the ministries concerned to hold immediate inter-ministerial meeting for taking necessary steps to bring the repressed women and children back to normal life through proper rehabilitation.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Zinatun Nesa Talukder, State Minister for Social Welfare Dr Mozammel Hossain and State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader were present.

Seminar on anthropology ends at JU

By JU Correspondent

A two-day seminar on different issues of the recent anthropological arena of Bangladesh ended at Jahangirnagar University (JU) yesterday. It was organised by JU Department of Anthropology.

On the second day yesterday, a total three papers on 'Introducing the Ideas of Class and Gender' were presented before the audience in the first session.

Manash Chowdhury of JU Anthropology Department spoke on 'The Love of Sonabandhu and The Decent Discourse of Love'. Prof Helaluddin Khan Arefin, chairman of Department of Anthropology at Dhaka University (DU) presented his paper on 'Middle Class Urban Families: Extended or Ambivalent? Rehnuma Ahmed of JU Anthropology Department presented another paper on 'Women's Awakening: The Construction of Modern Gender Differences Among Bengali Muslims'.

Among the discussants who were present at the first session were Farzana Islam of Department of Anthropology and Anu Muhammad of Economics at JU. Prof Borhan Uddin Khan Jahangir, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of National University coordinated the first session.

In the last session which was designed to cover 'Contemporary Thoughts: Development, Environment and Health', total four topics were discussed. Rumel Haldar of JU Anthropology spoke on 'Studying Anthropology and Environment: A Primary Analysis'. Samsad Mortuza of JU English Department spoke on 'Comparing Cultures: From an American-Indian Perspectives' while Mazharul Islam, a lecturer of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), spoke on 'Walking Softly Through the Wilderness: An Anthropological Encounter on Jhum and other Agricultural Practices in Hill Tracts'.

Monirul Islam Khan of Social Science Department of DU presented his paper on 'Putting Forth a Health Agenda for the Anthropological Research and Study in Bangladesh'. Dr K M Asrafur Aziz of BRAC, Prof Sardar Aminul Islam of Social Science Department of DU, Dr Khaleda Nazneen of Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dr Abdul Awal Biswas, chairman of Department of Anthropology at SUST and Prof S M Nurul Alam of JU Anthropology discussed on the issues. Dr Mohammad Shahjalal coordinated the last session of the exam.

Abu Yusuf's death condoled

Minister for Fisheries and Livestock and President of JSD A S M Abdur Rob yesterday condoled the death of valiant freedom fighter Abu Yusuf, Bir Bikram, reports BSS.

In a statement, Rob said the contribution of Abu Yusuf to the War of Liberation would be remembered for ever.

His contribution to the struggle for establishing an exploitation-free society, the minister said, would inspire the struggling people.

Rob expressed his deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

In a separate statement, Kamal Lohani and Mushtaq Hossain, President and General Secretary respectively of Colonel Taher Sangsad expressed deep condolences at the death of Abu Yusuf.

Yusuf was not only a freedom fighter but also engaged himself in the establishment of an exploitation-free society, they said.

They expressed deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

PM announces stipend for Bogra student

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has announced a stipend of Taka 500 per month to poor and meritorious student Abdul Khaleque of Bogra Sadar from the Bangabandhu Memorial Trust Fund, reports BSS.

Besides, the Prime Minister also donated Taka 50 thousand from her relief and welfare fund to Khaleque.

Abdul Khaleque secured sixth position in the Humanities Group in this year's SSC examinations under Rajshahi Board. He secured 847 marks with four letters.

The news about Khaleque, son of poor Tafer Ali, which appeared recently in some newspapers which drew the Prime Minister's attention.

Govt part of school teachers' salaries sent to banks

The government portion of the salary and allowances of teachers and employees of non-government school, college and madrasah for the month of May has been sent to the authorities of Sonali Agrani, Janata and Rupali banks, reports UNB.

The heads of institutions have been advised to draw the salary under individual accounts of the teachers and employees from the respective bank branches by July 20.

Those institutions and teachers, who could not draw their money from June '98 to April '99 within the specified time, may also draw the same during this period to July 20, said a government yesterday.

Nari Pakkah condemns killing of sex worker

By Staff Correspondent

Nari Pakkah condemned the killing of Jesmin, a sex worker at Tan Bazar, Narayanganj recently.

It organised a rally in the city yesterday protesting the killing and creating panic among the sex workers by threatening of eviction them from Tan Bazar, the largest red light area of the country.

Condemning the incident the speakers at the rally urged the government to solve the problems of sex workers immediately. Members of some other feminist organisations including VHSS, Nari Moltry, Care Bangladesh BWHC also joined the rally, said a press release of Nari Pakkah.

BCL holds protest rally on DU campus

By DU Correspondent

Pro-government student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) held a protest rally on the Dhaka University campus yesterday criticising indecent remarks against some ruling party MPs, including Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah.

Earlier, BCL brought out a procession and paraded on the campus at noon.

Addressing the rally at the *Aperajeo Bangla*, BCL leaders claimed that the opposition leaders hurled abusive remarks about Shamim Osman, MP, Kamrunnabha Putil and other ruling party leaders.

The BCL leaders also urged the opposition to practice the fair politics for the shake of democracy in the country.

Presided over by Bahadur Bepary, the rally was addressed, among others, by Ajay Kar Khokan, Liakat Ali Sikder, Baloram Podder, Sajjad Hossain and AKM Azim.

BFUJ, DUJ demand solution to APB problems

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) yesterday demanded solution of the problems in APB by today, otherwise, the authorities would be responsible for any eventualities, reports BSS.

Salman Rahman, the owner of the APB, the Muktakantha, and the independent addressers have the moral right to be an entourage of the Prime Minister without paying the four months' arrears wages to the several hundred journalists of the organisations, a DUJ statement said.

It demanded the solution of the problems of the APB news agency today, when Salman Rahman was due leave here for London as an entourage of the Prime Minister.

The statement was issued following a joint meeting of BFUJ and DUJ held after a futile discussion between the journalist leaders and BEX-IMCO Media Limited chief Iqbal Ahmed on the APB issue.

The DUJ alleged that Iqbal broke the discussion without giving the journalist leaders any scope for discussion to resolve the problem.

"The APB authorities are trying to let the crisis perpetuate instead of taking steps for its solution," the statement said.

BFUJ secretary general Akhtar Ahmed, DUJ president Altaf Mahmud and general secretary Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan and senior journalist Sheikh Rakib were present in the meeting.

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