

Harry Potter in Bangla

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ankur Prakashani, Dhaka has published the Bangla translation of world famous children's novel 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by JK Rowling, says a press release.

Sohrab Haider has translated the book in Bangla.

Only two publication houses of this subcontinent have got the rights for translating the novel - Ankur Prakashani, Dhaka in Bangla and Oxford University Press, Lahore in Urdu.

'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' has been translated in 58 languages and over 20 crore copies have so far been sold across the world.

The novel has created a sensation across the world.

Maintain quality of education

Prime minister tells private universities

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday called upon the private universities to maintain quality of education and make education affordable to all.

She made the call when a five-member delegation of the Moulna Bhasani Science and Technology University (MBSTU) called on her at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

Khaleda Zia appreciated the objectives of the private university named after the late leader of the downtrodden, Moulna Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani, and assured all out cooperation of her government for its development and welfare.

added.

The delegation apprised Khaleda Zia of different aspects of the university and sought government's support for development of its infrastructure. They urged the prime minister to allocate land to the university at a token price.

The delegation also requested her to provide the university with some quality manpower at the initial stage.

Khaleda advised the university authorities to send a proposal on the demands to the ministry concerned and gave the assurance that the proposal would be considered.

The MBSTU delegation comprised Vice-chancellor Prof Dr Yusuf Sharif Ahmed Khan, Bhasani

sided.

Dr Saleemul Huq, chairman of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), emphasised on long-term strategy to cope with the adverse effects of climate change, particularly sea level rise.

He said that the green house effect is causing the global warming that leads to rise of the sea level, threatening to submerge vast coastal areas throughout the world.

ANH Akhtar Hussain, chief engineer, Bangladesh Water Development Board, said the country has weather forecasting system not the climate forecasting system.

He called for installing climate forecasting system for effective disaster management and policy planning.

Dr A Atiq Rahman, executive director of BCAS, warned that 20 to 25 million people of Bangladesh will become victims of climate change if adaptation measures are not taken

Trust chairman Prof Yusuf Zahid, Trust member-secretary Syed Irfanul Bari, Trust member M Shamsul Haq and registrar Shah M Sarwar Islam.

As the delegation apprised the prime minister of various aspects of the university, she lauded the features of the MBSTU and said it could be a model for other private universities.

She said the government will do everything possible, in line with its programmes for education, for the development and welfare of the university. Besides, she said, she would watch over the university personally.

The MBSTU it will offer stipend to the poor and meritorious students. English will be the only

medium of teaching and the university will follow the international standard of education, including semesters and credit hours along with academic calendar, the delegation numbers said.

They said the MBSTU will give emphasis on the subjects Computer Science and Information Technology (IT). The focus will be on human resource development through constant and appropriate linkage with the job market.

The university set up on 58 acres of land will have highly experienced and qualified full-time teachers and it will hire, if needed, internationally reputed teachers from home and abroad, they added.

Call for adaptation measures to offset global climate change

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Climate experts and environmentalists yesterday called for synchronisation of political efforts at local and international levels and adaptation measures to offset the impacts of global climate change.

The climate change is now a global phenomenon and it would affect the developing countries like Bangladesh badly, although the developed countries create this problem, they said at a lecture session on 'Climate Change and Development in Bangladesh'.

Bangladesh have to come up with solutions of their own, as the developed nations find out solution for them only, the experts said.

Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) organised the lecture, first of a series, to mark its 20th founding anniversary. FEJB Chairman Quamrul Islam Chowdhury pre-

sided.

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Dr A Atiq Rahman, executive director of BCAS, warned that 20 to 25 million people of Bangladesh will become victims of climate change if adaptation measures are not taken

immediately.

He said that although the developed countries are responsible for this hazard, they are avoiding their

responsibilities.

Deputy secretary of Ministry of Environment and Forest Dr. Mahfuzul Haque also spoke.

Smuggled goods worth Tk 44 cr recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Navy personnel have recovered smuggled goods worth over Tk 44.15 crore in Chittagong and Khulna coastal areas since March 23.

During their anti-smuggling, anti-piracy and fishery protec-

tion patrol, the navy personnel also arrested 60 smugglers and seized 53 boats and trawlers used for smuggling.

The contraband include fishing net, fertilisers, nylon rope, electronic goods, sundari timber and Jatka and other fishes, says a press release.

The items were deposited with the authorities concerned and the smugglers were handed over to the police.

She prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family, said an official handout.

The deceased is survived by three daughters and two sons.

She was buried at Mirpur intellectual graveyard yesterday.

Obituary

UNB, Dhaka

Momtazuddin Ahmed, father of Ahmed Musa, Director of Folk and Handicraft Foundation, died of old age complications here early yesterday.

In a message of condolence, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Begum Selima Rahman has expressed deep shock at the death of Momtazuddin.

She prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family, said an official handout.

Rahima Ahmed

BSS, Dhaka

Rahima Ahmed, wife of late Tayebuddin Ahmed of Jhikha, Manikganj, died at a city clinic early yesterday due to kidney failure at the age of 70.

The deceased is survived by three daughters and two sons.

She was buried at Mirpur intellectual graveyard yesterday.

Death anniversary

Today is the 5th death anniversary of Prof ABM Abdul Majid, former acting controller of examination of Bangladesh Madrassah Education Board, says a

press release.

A mild mahfil will be held at his family residence at Dhamondi after Maghrib prayers.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the

'English for Executives' course

'English for Executives' course was inaugurated at City University on July 20, says a press release.

Prof Dr M Shamsul Haque, vice-chancellor, inaugurated the course at Banani campus in the city.

He emphasised the over-riding importance of English in the context of globalised economy.

City University has established an English Language Institute to sharpen the skill of the executives in spoken and written English.

Twelve senior executives of GlaxoSmithKline Bangladesh Limited are taking part in the course.

Concerned faculties and officers of the university were present on the occasion.

Chehlu

Chehlu of Ayesha Begum will be held at her residence at 15/8 B, Modhubag, Mogaibazar in the city on 25 July after Asr prayers, says a press release.

Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the mild mahfil and pray for her departed soul.

Dina secures GPA 5 in SSC exam

Badrunnahar Dina, a student of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, secured GPA 5 (A+) in the SSC examination this year, says a press release.

In a statement, the Mohila League expressed concern that the government has not yet taken any action against the attackers although 12 months have elapsed since then.

She aspires to become a physician.

Dina is the only daughter of Md Wahidur Rahman, superintending engineer of LGED, and Sofia Khatun, assistant manager of BJMC.

Instead, the government has rewarded some of them, it alleged.

The League also expressed concern over the delay in publishing the probe committee report on the incident.

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