



PHOTO: PID

National Education Commission Chairman Prof Maniruzzaman Mian submits the Commission Report - 2003 to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

Theft of Tagore's Nobel medal protested

DU CORRESPONDENT

Teachers and students of Bangla department of Dhaka University staged a demonstration on the campus yesterday protesting the theft of Rabindranath Tagore's Nobel prize medal and his memorabilia.

Thieves stole the medal of poet Rabindranath Tagore from a museum at Shantiniketan University in the West Bengal of India last Thursday.

The teachers and students marched in a silent procession and held a rally on the campus. They called on the international community to help recover the priceless medal and other memorabilia.

Expressing deep disappointment, Dr Soumitra Shekhar of Bangla department said all the achievements of Bengali nation were being stolen gradually.

'Seven in one lakh visually impaired'

BSS, Dhaka

As many as seven people in one lakh are visually impaired in the country. Of them 80 percent are affected with cataract.

State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mizanur Rahman Sinha yesterday said this as chief guest while addressing a workshop on childhood blindness.

The workshop was jointly organ-

ised by Bangladesh Vision 2020 Forum, Ophthalmologic Society of Bangladesh (OSB), International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH) and Childhood Blindness Project of Bangladesh (CBPB) at BRAC Centre here yesterday.

Professor MA Matin, MP, was the special guest while eminent eye specialist Professor Dr Saleh Uddin chaired the workshop.

Dr Clare Gilbert and Dr MA Muhit

of ICEH presented keynote papers on child blindness.

Sinha said nearly 40 thousand children have been falling victim to visual impairment every year in the country due to lack of awareness.

"If we can create awareness among the people about the reason behind visual impairment and arrange for timely and effective ophthalmologic surgery for the affected child," he said. Recovery from cataract is possible

through a simple and low cost operation, he added.

Referring to the initiatives taken by the government to ensure proper treatment for the eye diseases he said construction work of a 250-bed Eye Hospital and National Eye Institute is progressing smoothly.

He also called upon all concerned to ensure effective implementation of the programme for eradicating blindness by 2020.

