

'Establish gender friendly workplace'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Every institution should have a functional gender policy and gender sensitive procedure to ensure a suitable working environment, said the speakers at a workshop yesterday.

They said there should be 30 percent women members at the decision-making committee of any organisations and their staff should include at least 15 percent women in line with the government quota.

The workshop was organised by the Capacity Building for Gender Mainstreaming Project in the city.

The speakers called for establishing a gender friendly environment to reduce harassment towards women and men in the workplace.

Dr Nazmus Sahar Sadiq, assistant resident representative of the UNDP, said no country can go ahead if there is no developed concept on gender equality and no practice of gender mainstreaming.

Moniruzzaman Khan, additional secretary of the establishment ministry, said the output of the workshop should be incorporated in the national training policy now under review.

Secretary of the women and children affairs ministry Mortuza Hossain Munshi said gender is not only women but also the relationship of social and cultural power between man and women.

The workshop was also addressed by Dr Shirley Randell, project implementation specialist of the UNDP, and representatives of different government agencies.

Arrest of killers of Ahsanullah Master demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a condolence meeting yesterday demanded immediate arrest of and punishment to the killers of Awami League lawmaker Ahsanullah Master, alleging that the ruling alliance had a hand in the killing.

The alliance government was trying to make the country a 'communal state' and destroy the spirit of the liberation war by eliminating the pro-liberation forces, they said.

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote organised the meeting at the Bishwa

Sahitya Kendra in the city.

Ahsanullah, a popular and honest politician, fell victim to the political vengeance of the ruling party, the speakers said and called for toppling the alliance government to put an end to such killings.

The AL lawmaker led a very simple life; he even did not have a house of his own, said City AL President Mohammad Hanif.

Former home minister Mohammad Nasim, Ray Ramesh and Meher Afroz Chumki also spoke.



PHOTO: STAR

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the triennial council of Dhaka district Awami Jubo League at Mahanagar Natya Mancha yesterday.

Diarrhoea claims two, affects 47 in govt shelter in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Two women died of diarrhoea at a government-sponsored shelter for children and sex workers at Godnail on Sunday night as the disease broke out five days ago, affecting 47 others.

The two, Smriti, 20, and Halima, 24, were buried on the same night but the shelter authorities did not inform police or district administration about the incident, sources said.

"We did not inform the police since the women died of illnesses," said AFM Moinuddin Hassan, deputy assistant director of the shelter.

Meanwhile, 26 diarrhoea patients were admitted to Narayanganj General Hospital yesterday morning at the initiative of district administration.

The inmates of the shelter said they urged the authorities to take Smriti and Halima to hospital as their conditions had deteriorated very fast, but in vain.

Those who attended them also fell sick, they added.

The inmates said low-quality foods, lack of proper medical care and contaminated Wasa-supplied water are responsible for the epidemic.

Deputy Commissioner of Narayanganj SM Harunur Rashid said a committee has been formed to investigate the incident.

A medical camp has also been set up inside the shelter to provide medical care for the patients.