

Call for more budgetary allocation in edn sector

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday called for more allocation for the education sector in the national budget for its proper development.

The education sector has never received the highest allocation in the budget although the successive governments claimed to have allocated the highest amount for it, said Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil.

The Women Affairs sub-committee of the AL organised the seminar on 'Education policy and the budget' at the National Press Club.

Abdul Jalil criticised the education system at Madrassa, saying that many such institutions teach students distorted Liberation War history in the name of Islamic studies.

Former education minister ASHK Sadeque said the previous Awami League government had taken a mass literacy project to make all literate but the alliance

government was showing no interest in executing it.

The Awami League government also took an initiative for registration of English medium schools and modernisation of Madrassa education, headed.

Reviewing the national budget for fiscal 2004-05, former finance minister Shah AMS Kibria said it would bring no good for the economy.

"Although Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman said there would be no new tax burden on people, he set a target to realise Tk 5340 crore revenue in the budget," Kibria said.

He also criticised the government for imposing income tax on poor people.

The reduction of import duty will also hinder the growth of local industry, he added.

Presided over by Dr Sultana Shafi, the seminar was also addressed by Vice-President of Bangladesh Chhatra League Marufa Akter Popi and Mahila Jubo League President Nazma Aktar.

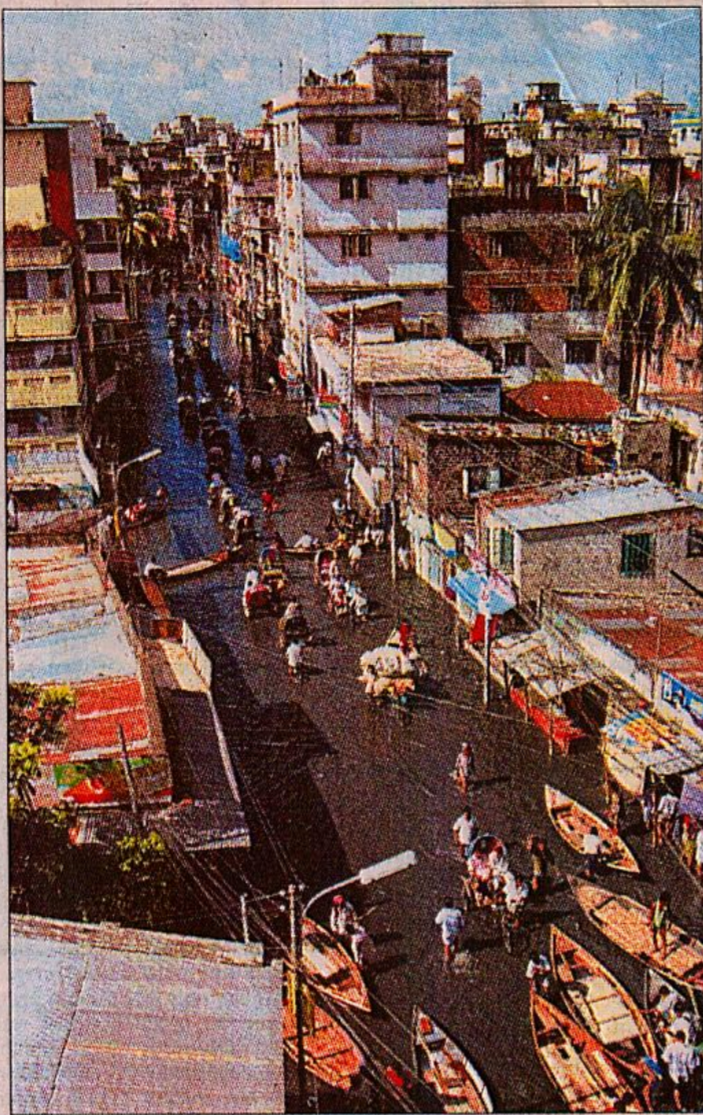


PHOTO: STAR

Boats have replaced other vehicles as the road from Khilgaon to Goran is now reeling under floodwaters.

Declare floods a nat'l disaster

B Chy urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) President AQM Bodruddoza Chowdhury yesterday called on the government to declare the devastating floods a national disaster and appeal to the international community for urgent assistance.

He also suggested forming a central national disaster management committee to tackle the floods effectively.

"The government should also convene the session of Jatiya Sangsad to discuss the humanitarian crisis and find an effective way to tackle it," Bodruddoza said at a press conference in Narayanganj.

Terming the relief distribution system inadequate, the BDB president alleged that the government was showing an indifferent attitude to flood-hit people in a part of Munshiganj district identifying it as

BDB's area.

"The government should not consider political affiliation while distributing relief materials as every person is the citizen of this country," he added.

Bodruddoza also distributed relief materials among the marooned people in some areas of Narayanganj and inaugurated a round-the-clock healthcare service camp for them at DN Road Adarsha Primary School.

Drama activist dies in road accident

Shahedul Islam Jewel, a drama activist and member of the theatre group Dhaka Padatil, was killed in a road accident in Chittagong on Monday, says a press release.



Farzana Secured GP-A-5 in SSC Exam-2004

Farzana Habib has secured GPA-5(A+) in all the subjects in the SSC Exam-2004 from Holy Cross Girls' High School, Dhaka. Farzana also secured Junior Scholarship in the talent pool in 2001. She is the daughter of Niaz Habib, Senior Executive Vice President, Eastern Bank Ltd and Mrs Mahfuza Habib. She seeks blessings for more success in the future. C-1870



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A different campus

DU CORRESPONDENT

As much of the country are reeling under floodwaters, students of Dhaka University have come forward to mitigate the hardships of the suffering humanity.

Different student organisations and the general students are now busy with collecting and distributing relief for the flood affected people.

The scenario of the campus is totally different from other days.

Ruling BNP's student wing Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) is collecting relief at the Dhaka University Central Students' Union (DUCSU) building and sending it to the flood-hit areas through their activists. The top JCD leaders are seen packing relief for the flood affected people.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the opposition Awami League, began relief operations at the DUCSU cafeteria yesterday.

Awami League general Secretary Abdul Jalil inaugurated the BCL relief activities.

The BCL leaders and activists distributed relief among the flood-hit people of Kamrangirchar on the first day of their relief operations. Bangladesh Chhatra Union

(BCU), student wing of the Communist Party of Bangladesh, have been making bread and saline for the flood victims at Teacher Student Centre (TSC) cafeteria and university gymnasium.

Meanwhile, a group of students under the banner of "Help Centre for Flood victims" are making bread at the DUCSU cafeteria.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) workers are making saline at the games room of TSC and sending foods and medicine for the flood victims.

Different cultural organisations are also collecting foods and medicine on the campus through performing songs and seeking financial help from the passers-by.

Students of different departments are also seeking financial help from the passengers of different vehicles for the flood victims at different points of the campus. On the other hand, different regional and students welfare organisations have also been collecting relief at different dormitories.

3 army officers promoted to major general

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three brigadier generals of Bangladesh Army have been promoted to the rank of major general.

They are Sina Ibn Jamali, director of Military Operations Directorate, Mohd Ishtiaq, commander of 81 Infantry Brigade, and Syed Fatemy Ahmed Roomy, director general of Special Security Force (SSF), said an ISPR press release.

The three officers have been appointed as adjutant general of Bangladesh Army, general officer commanding of 19 Infantry Division and director general of SSF respectively.

Meanwhile, General Officer Commanding of 9 Infantry Division Major general Abu Roshde Rokonuddawla has been posted to army headquarters as quarter master general, Adjutant General of Bangladesh Army Major general Md Aminul Karim as general officer commanding of 9 Infantry Division and General Officer Commanding of 19 Infantry Division Major General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan as general officer commanding of 24 Infantry Division.

SSKOP submits memo to NOAB president

BSS, Dhaka

Sangbadik Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SSKOP) leaders handed over a memorandum, containing a 7-point charter of demand, to NOAB President Mahfuz Anam in the city yesterday.

The memorandum was handed over at a meeting between the Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh (NOAB) and the SSKOP. Treasurer of the NOAB Altamas Kabir and Oikya Parishad leaders Gias Kamal Chowdhury, Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Fazle Imam, Ruhul Amin Gazi, Matiuir Rahman Talukder, Manzurul Ahsan Bulbul, Abul Hashem, Khairul Islam, Elahi Nawaj Khan, Altaf Mahmud, Abdus Shahid and Shah Alamgir were present.

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