

Strengthen local govt for rural uplift

Speakers tell workshop

RU CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday stressed the need for strengthening the local government bodies for rural uplift and institutionalisation of democracy.

The workshop on the 'Role of journalist, good governance and development of local government' was organised by Journalist Forum of Local Government Development at Barendra Unnayan Forum auditorium.

At least 60 journalists from print and electronic media, civil society members, teachers, lawyers, NGO workers and UP members took part in the workshop.

Dr Badiul Alam Majumder, country director of The Hunger Project, was present at the workshop as main speaker.

Hasan Millat, convenor of Rajshahi unit of the forum, delivered the welcome speech.

The inaugural session was addressed by the Editor of the Daily Barta SMA Kader, President of Rajshahi Union of Journalist Mustafizur Rahman Alam, Prof ANM Saleh of Rajshahi University, NGO leader SK Lalon and Director of Barendra Unnayan Forum Faizullah Chowdhury.

In the concluding session, an open discussion was held where media men identified major obstacles against the

strengthening of the local government. These included non-cooperation of law makers with local government representatives, violation of the UP manual by both the law makers as well as the officials of the central government, tendency to keep woman representatives non-functional, apathetic attitude towards the representatives of the opposition political parties and insolvency of administrative institutions at the grassroots level.

The workshop was moderated by SM Shaju, member-secretary of Rajshahi unit of the forum and Rajshahi bureau chief of daily AmarDesh.

CPB to observe Dec 11 as Militancy Resistance Day

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) will observe December 11 as 'Religious Militancy Resistance Day', says a press release.

They will also hold a mourning rally tomorrow to commemorate the people who died in the recent bomb attacks in Chittagong and Gazipur.

CPB President Manjurul Ahsan Khan and Secretary General Mujahidul Islam Selim in a statement urged the party leaders and activists to observe the day.



PHOTO: STAR

The Chhatra Union forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday to protest the move to introduce unified education system at the secondary level.

'Save all canals in city'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a rally yesterday urged the government to save all canals in and around the city including Atir Khal from the ongoing grabbing and pollution.

They said the vested quarters have become active again to grab the canals taking the advantage of present political unrest in the country.

The rally was organised by the Save Environment Movement at Rayer Bazar BIWTA Ghat in the city.

The speakers also urged the government to remove the embankment near Bosila.

Save Environment Movement Convenor Abu Naser Khan, Abdul Matin, Ikma Hossain, Advocate Abul Kalam Azad and Amir Hossain spoke at the rally.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina speaks at the party's Central Working Committee meeting at the party's Dhanmondi office yesterday.

