



PHOTO: STAR
Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka unveils a plaque marking the renaming of Road 12 A at Dhanmondi as 'Abul Mansur Ahmad Sarak' yesterday. On his left are Matlub Anam, Manzur Anam and Mahfuz Anam, the three surviving sons of Abul Mansur Ahmad, a renowned litterateur, journalist and statesman of the sub-continent.

Roads renamed after Abul Mansur Ahmad, Toaha

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka yesterday formally unveiled the plaques marking the renaming of two roads at Dhanmondi as 'Abul Mansur Ahmad Sarak' and 'Language Movement Veteran Toaha'.

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) renamed the Road No. 12 A after Abul Mansur Ahmad, a renowned litterateur, journalist and statesman of the sub-continent, and the Road No. 9 A after language movement veteran Mohammad Toaha.

Speaking on the occasion, the mayor highlighted the revolutionary roles of eminent litterateur, politician and journalist Abul Mansur Ahmad and language movement veteran Mohammad Toaha in upholding the national interest.

"Renaming of the road is nothing but a small tribute to the memory of Abul Mansur Ahmad who made an enormous contribution to independence struggle, the creation of Bangladesh and the advancement of literature and culture," Khoka said as the chief guest.

He said Abul Mansur Ahmad was the foremost satirist of Bangla literature and the author of historic 21-point programme of Jukta Front. His struggle to uphold the interest of Bangalees and contribution to independence is unforgettable, the mayor noted.

"Abul Mansur Ahmad made unparalleled contribution to literature and culture. He was also a great social reformer and a true democrat," the mayor said.

Speaking on the occasion, Mahfuz Anam, son of Abul Mansur Ahmad and the editor and publisher of The Daily Star, expressed his gratitude to the DCC for giving a belated recognition to this outstanding figure in literature, politics and journalism in the sub-continent.

Abul Mansur Ahmad's other sons Matlub Anam and Manzur Anam, their wives and close relatives were also present at the programme.

Inaugurating the other plaque of Language Movement Veteran Toaha Sarak, Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka said Toaha was a revolutionary leader whose ideology inspired the Bangalees to stand up as a nation.

Toaha's relatives, civil society members and DCC officials were also present at the programme.

'Bird flu spreads for lack of proper preventive measures'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Bird Flu Protirodh Nagarik Committee, a citizen platform for creating awareness about bird flu, yesterday said Avian Influenza virus popularly known as bird flu spread out in 32 farms in eight districts because proper preventive measures were not taken from the first affected poultry farm in Savar.

Leaders of the committee alleged that the government and Biman Poultry Farm, the first affected farm by Avian Influenza, did not cull all chickens at the infected farm in Savar.

They also said the government and the poultry farm owners should take the preventive measures prepared by National Avian Influenza and Human Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan 2006-2008.

"Our 25 lakh people depend on

poultry farm business. The government and poultry farm owners will have to strictly follow the preventive measures for safeguarding the most growing business and the people from the attack of Avian Influenza," said Prof Ahmed Kamal, acting convener of the committee, yesterday while addressing a roundtable.

The committee organised the roundtable on 'Preventive Measures to Save Bangladesh from the attack of Avian Influenza' at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

He also said regular surveillance is urgently needed and sufficient number of chickens from all places across the country should be tested to check the disease from epidemic.

Blaming the carelessness of the farm owners and the government, he said Ignorance about Avian Influenza is the main cause of spread in Dhaka, Gazipur, Jamalpur, Narayanganj, Gaibandha, Jessore, Tangail and

Noakhali.

Engineer M Inamul Haque, former director general of Bangladesh Haor and Wetland Development Board, said the government should investigate how the virus of Avian Influenza has entered the country.

He suggested setting up modern laboratory to check the chicken properly.

Dr Rafiqul Hasan said human being might be affected by Avian Influenza if people are aware of it.

Mass awareness programmes should be launched across the country for safeguarding people and poultry business, he added.

Among others the committee leaders Abul Hasan Rubel and Ziaur Rahman also addressed.



PHOTO: STAR
Prof Ahmed Kamal speaks at a roundtable at Dhaka Reporters' Unity in the city yesterday. On his left is Abul Hasan Rubel and on his right is Engineer M Inamul Haque.