



Participants from different districts line up at the playground of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College during the 'HSBC-Prothom Alo National Language Competition' yesterday.

Jabbarer Boli Khela in Ctg on Apr 25

Bss, Chittagong

The traditional wrestling competition and Baishakhi fair named after renowned social worker Abdul Jabbar Sowadagar will be held at Laldighi Maidan in Chittagong on April 25.

The event popularly known as "Jabbarer Boli Khela" takes place every year amid much enthusiasm and festivity.

Social worker late Abdul Jabbar introduced the wrestling competition at the flag end of the British rule to inspire the youth to join the anti-colonial movement.

The competition and fair will be held for one day this year instead of three days due to the changed situation, organising committee sources said.

Chittagong Metropolitan Police Commissioner Md Moinur Rahman Chowdhury will be present as the chief guest while acting Mayor Manjurul Alam as the special guest at the competition.

HSBC-PROTHOM ALO LANGUAGE COMPETITION Vow to uphold dignity of mother language

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The final round of 'HSBC-Prothom Alo National Language Competition' was held in the city yesterday with several hundred students making a vow to uphold the dignity of mother language.

Prof Anisuzzaman and Tahmina Khanam, principal of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, jointly inaugurated the event by hoisting national flag and releasing balloons at 9:30am at the playground of the school.

"This programme will encourage our young generation to attach priority to the mother language," said Tahmina Khanam in her speech at the inaugural session.

The competition, aimed at enriching individual's knowledge of mother language, was jointly organised by Hongkong and

Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and the daily Prothom Alo.

The two-month-long language competition was earlier held in seven zones across the country, which drew thousands of competitors from different schools and colleges. A total of 382 contestants, who were selected from zonal competitions under four categories ranging from primary level to college level, took part in the final round yesterday.

"This day brings hope, pride and delight for us as we have got so many youngsters participating in a competition on mother language," said Matiur Rahman, editor of the Prothom Alo, at the inaugural session.

"Education teaches us how to convey various thoughts and emotions to others easily.

Education builds the ability of an individual to determine what is good and what is evil, thereby helping them build a better future," said Prof Zillur Rahman Siddique at the prize giving ceremony.

A total of 52 students won prizes.

Prof Anisuzzaman, secretary of the competition quiz committee, poet Bashir-Al-Helal, Prof Hosne Ara and Syed Azizul Hoque were also present at the programme.

Like many others, Zahir Uddin, a telecommunication expert, turned up with his son Rofiuddin Jamil, a class five student of Bluebird School at Sylhet, who was awarded special prize.

"Our mother language is very easy but it requires practice to master it -- this is the message I have learnt from the competition," said Rofiuddin.

'Ensure safe movement of water transports'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nagrik Sanghoti (NS), an environmental group, yesterday urged the government to set up inland shipping safety administration (ISSA) to ensure safe travel by inland water transports.

Addressing a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity auditor-

rium, NS General Secretary Sharifuzzaman Sharif urged the government to form a central control room in Dhaka for safer movement of water transports.

"Inefficiency of the launch master, excessive passengers, faulty design of water transports and irresponsibility of the concerned government bodies are the

main reasons for accidents," Sharif said in a written paper.

He also called for taking actions against the syndicate of water transport owners, as they did not follow the prevailing rules and regulations.

"Defying rules and regulations the syndicate runs faulty water transports and carry extra-

passengers on transports beyond their capacity," he added.

NS President ASM Atiqur Rahman, Prof Robeet Ferdous of Dhaka University, Inamul Haq, a river expert, and General Secretary of Shipping and Communications Reporters Forum Ashish Kumar Dey were present at the press conference.

Criminal held in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) held a criminal in Chittagong yesterday.

Syed Osman Gani alias Sona Babu was arrested from his village at Nanupur under Fatikchhari upazila in the afternoon.

Rab brought him to its headquarters at Patenga for interrogation, sources said.

Sona Babu was an aide to former Awami League MP Rafiqul Anowar who was arrested by the joint forces in Dhaka and released a few days back.

4500 kg smuggled urea seized

CU CORRESPONDENT

Members of Bangladesh Coast Guard seized over 4500 kilograms of smuggled urea fertiliser from Anwara upazila in the district yesterday.

On information, a squad of the Coast Guard recovered the fertilisers in 91 sacks from East Fakirhat area on the bank of the river Sangu at around 3:00am.

Sensing the presence of the Coast Guard members, the smugglers managed to flee the scene.

Children art show begins tomorrow

Bss, Dhaka

The four-day 3rd Children Art Exhibition will begin at the Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum in Dhaka at 3:30pm tomorrow.

Jointly organised by Zainul Abedin Art School of Tongi and Gazipur, the exhibition will be inaugurated by former adviser to the caretaker government Sultana Kamal and Managing Director of Prime Bank M Shahjahan Bhuiyan.

The show will remain open from 11:00am to 4:00pm everyday.