

213 incidents of women's repression in April

A total of 213 incidents of women repression took place across the country in April last, says a report of Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha, a rights group of women.

Of them 11 were killed after rape, two after abduction and 16 for dowry. A total of 37 women were the victims of rape, and of them seven were gang raped. Besides four women were the victims of attempted rape.

Nine women were abducted, four made acid victims and four others tortured physically during the period. The report was prepared on basis of stories published in five national dailies.



PHOTO: STAR
Visitors admire the flowers on display at a solo Ikebana exhibition by Jonaky Mahmood at the conference hall of Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO (BNCU) in the city yesterday. The National Association of UNESCO Clubs in Bangladesh organised the exhibition.

'Radical changes in prison management soon'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

LGRD and Cooperatives Adviser Anwarul Iqbal yesterday said radical changes would be brought to prison management in order to help prisoners become productive members of society.

As part of the efforts to this end, small-scale rehabilitation activities, including technical training, have already started in jails to transform prisoners into good citizens so that they can make contribution to the development of the country.

"Arrangements have been made to develop prisoners' technical skills and help them become law-abiding citizens," the adviser said at the annual meeting with prison officials held at the Prison Directorate in Bakshibazar in the city following the inauguration of Prison Week-2007.

The adviser assured the prison staffs of looking into the problems. He also said the government would consider introducing Kara Padak for dedicated members of the prison staff.

He asked all prison staffs to maintain a decent living standard inside the jails and carry out their duties with patience.

"A considerable change has already been taken place in the prison management. The prison will now be considered a reformation centre, rather than just a place of confinement," said Brigadier General Zakir Hasan, inspector general of police, prison.

A total of 87,000 convicts are now serving prison terms in jails across the country against the capacity of 27,000 inmates while 600 women prisoners are in Dhaka Central Jail against the capacity of 134.