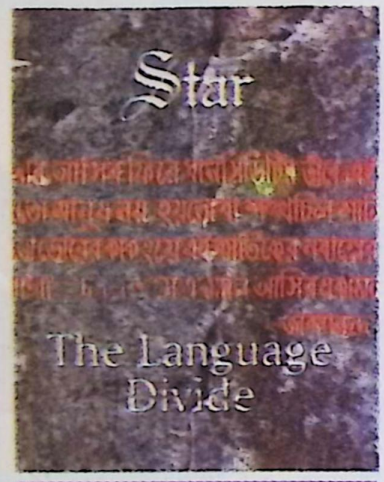


STAR WEEKEND MAGAZINE
Volume 12 Issue 574
February 29

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Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000.

Negligence in Practical Science

Most parents in our country want their children to study science because they want them to become doctors, engineers, scientists and so on. And the students studying science need extra attention in order to make their subject more comprehensible. But the state of practical science in our country is very fragile mainly because of poor educational infrastructure. Theoretical science without practical application is useless. Although the standard of education is slightly better in the urban educational institutions, it is in a very bad condition at the rural level, where a large number of students study.

In most cases, these institutions are bereft of sufficient lab facilities and properly trained teachers. There are some schools and colleges, as we often read in newspapers, which do not even have instruments, let alone a laboratory. Undoubtedly, the students of our country are blessed with immense potential and creativity. But they cannot develop their talent we due to these never ending obstacles. Our neighbouring country India provides all their students including those in the rural areas with modern lab facilities to face the challenges of the 21st century. We need this background in each and every part of our country. To do so, sophisticated teaching methodology and lab amenities are a must. The Government and NGOs should pay special attention and donate more money in this field of science to help our pupils face the 21st century more efficiently.

Sarwar Hussain
Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Chittagong

True Leaders

Some successful people go through life unnoticed simply because they excel in areas that are unable to catch our immediate attention, but in the long run tremendously affect our very lives. Two such people are Saleemul Huq and Atiq Rahman, who have become leaders in the field of climate change by dint of their extraordinary efforts in their research on the adverse effects of climate change.

It feels really good when we see people of our own country conducting leading research in a field relevant to Bangladesh. Although they are already recognised outside Bangladesh, the unfortunate fact that these two people go without due recognition in their motherland is unacceptable. They are the heroes who are relentlessly making a crucial contribution to the purpose of future survival of mankind. SWM has done its part by educating its valued readers through its cover story "Environmental Heroes" (Feb 15, 2008).

Ahmad Ferdous Bin Alam
Department of CSE, DU

SUBMISSION GUIDELINE:

Letters to the Editor, Dhaka Diary and Write to Mita, with the writer's name and address, should be within 200 words. All articles should be within 1,200 words. A cover letter is not necessary, but every write-up should include the writer's name, phone number and email address (if any). While SWM welcomes unsolicited articles and photographs, it cannot accept the responsibility of their loss or damage. SWM does not return unsolicited articles and photos. Response time for unsolicited write-ups ranges from three weeks to two months. All articles submitted are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity.

All materials should be sent to: Star Weekend Magazine, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Fax: 880-2-8125155 or emailed to: <starweekendmag@gmail.com>

It is recommended that those submitting work for the first time to the SWM take a look at a sample copy beforehand. Our website is: http://www.thedailystar.net/magazine