

Non-govt primary teachers demand job nationalisation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers of non-government primary schools yesterday demanded nationalisation of their job and urged the government to increase their basic salary and other allowances at a national council in the city.

The teachers under the banner of Bangladesh Non-government Primary Teachers' Association also placed their eight-point demands to the caretaker government.

Several hundred teachers thronged the National Press Club in the city where they demanded that all primary schools will have to be nationalised and pay scale like government schoolteachers will have to be provided.

Besides, the government should provide other facilities including house rent, medical allowance, time scale, dearness allowance and increment like government schoolteachers, they added.

Dhaka University Teachers Association (Duta) former president AAMS Arefin Siddique was present at the council as chief guest. President of the association Aminul Islam Chowdhury, Secretary General M Mansur Ali and leaders Abu Bakar Siddique, Babu Mohit Chandra Gobindra and Abdus Sattar also spoke at the programme with its former president Golam Mohammad in the chair.

BISHESH SHIKKHARTHEE SANGSKRITIK SANGHA LAUNCHED AT DU

'Make their simple dreams come true'

DU CORRESPONDENT

They cannot see, speak or walk but they dream, a long-cherished dream of performing on a stage amid a huge round of applause.

A group of physically challenged Dhaka University (DU) students dream that the word 'disabled' will no longer be used for them.

To make their simple dreams come true, students with disabilities launched the journey of a cultural organisation titled "Bishesh Shikharthee Sangskritik Sangha" (a cultural union of special students) at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) auditorium at DU yesterday.

"We want to see the word 'handicapped' is being omitted gradually. We want to be familiar with our work and performance. Maybe we cannot see or walk but want to build our world ourselves -- want to disclose our latent talents in music, dance and so on," said Sarif Ahmed, a visually challenged student while addressing the launching ceremony.

Sarif, also the coordinator of the newly launched organisation, said, "We have started our journey. Now we want support from people of all ages so that we can reach our destination."

He demanded a room at the TSC to continue their cultural activities throughout the year.

DU Treasurer Syed Abul Kalam addressed the ceremony as chief guest while Prof Biswajit Ghosh of Bangla Department, Bangladesh Organisation for Disabled Advancement Executive Director M Khalilur Rahman and TSC Director Alamgir Hossain also took part.

Prof Kalam said maybe some people were born with less physical facilities but that does not mean



PHOTO STAR

Visually challenged students of Dhaka University render songs at the launching ceremony of Bishesh Shikharthee Sangskritik Sangha, a cultural union of special students, at TSC auditorium yesterday.

that they will get fewer facilities in the society.

People, who are physically challenged, have the right to get similar facilities from the society, he added.

He called on the students with disabilities to feel free in the univer-

sity, saying, "You are not different in the university. You all deserve the same facilities as a normal student enjoys here."

He assured them of allotting a full floor of the proposed ten-storied extension building of TSC.

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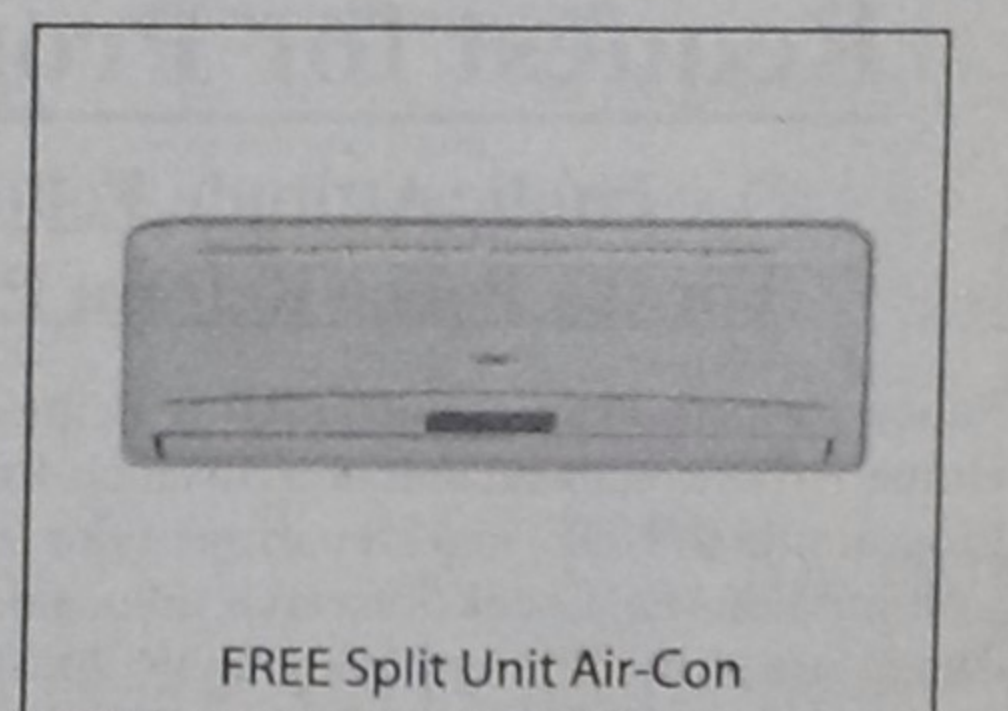


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