

INDIGENOUS CHILDREN

'Introduce primary edn in mother tongue'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will have to play the key role in introducing primary education in mother tongue for indigenous children, speakers at a workshop said yesterday.

They said a number of organisations of the indigenous people and other non-government organisations (NGOs) are working on this issue and that the government can consider their recommendations while working on it.

Stressing the need for coordination among the NGOs, they said the government has to take the lead in this regard.

Research and Development Collective (RDC) in association with Oxfam organised the daylong workshop titled 'Primary

education of indigenous children in their mother tongue, the role of the state and non-government organisations' at the National Planning and Development Academy in the city, marking the Global Action Week on Education.

Three separate group discussions were held in the workshop.

Speaking on the occasion, Rasheda K Chowdhury, executive director of Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), said the government can consider the experiences of the non-government organisations working on this issue.

She also urged all to cooperate with the government to implement the National Education Policy immediately, as a quarter is conducting a campaign against it.

Fazle Hossain Badsha MP said the government can start the work for the indigenous communities which have maximum representation.

Prof. Mesbah Kamal, general secretary of RDC, said it is the right of every citizen to receive education in their mother tongue, no matter how small their community may be.

Edward Manna Mandal, country director of SIL Bangladesh, presented a keynote paper and Prof Dr Abdul Malek of the Institute of Education and Research of Dhaka University presided over the workshop.

Pragyananda Mahathera, chairman of Monoghor, a renowned educational institution in Chittagong Hill Tracts, and indigenous leader Nirola Tansong also spoke.



A group of people coming from Vision Apparels attack agitating workers of other garment factories at Mirpur-13 in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 16)

PHOTO: STAR

40 Jamaat men held for blocking roads for rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The police arrested some 40 leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir in the city's Paltan area yesterday afternoon as they tried to hold a rally obstructing traffic and causing suffering to the people.

Several hundred Jamaat and Shibir activists also brought out a procession in the area after Asr prayers demanding immediate steps to resolve water, gas and power crisis.

As they tried to hold a rally blocking the roads in Paltan, Topkhana and Jatiya Press Club areas, the police prevented them, resulting in a clash, witnesses said.

During the clash, traffic movement came to a halt for about half an hour, causing a severe traffic jam in the area.

Sub-inspector Shah Jalal of Paltan Police Station said they detained 27 Jamaat and Shibir activists while Officer-in-charge of Shabbagh Police Station Rezaul Karim said they picked up 13 others during the clash.

They said the Jamaat-Shibir activists attempted to hold a rally without police permission.

Jamaat Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed, however, claimed that the police attacked their rally.

He demanded immediate release of the party men.

Flooding in haor areas to affect food supply

Warn citizens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Citizens from a gathering yesterday warned that the flooding of haor areas would affect the rice production, which might affect food supply in the country.

They mentioned that one-fifth of the total rice production of the country is cultivated in the haor areas. Most boro rice production also comes from the areas and majority of its population is depended on agriculture. The recent flooding that started around 40 days ago has serious implications, they added.

They urged the government to take urgent steps to repair the embankments in the areas. Putting the blame on Water Development Board and politically affiliated contractors, they said massive corruption is the reason behind the dilapidated condition of the embankments.

They also called for long-term rehabilitation projects for haor (marshland) areas, declaring the areas disaster-affected, says a press release.

Nagorik Sanghati organised the gathering in front of the National Museum in the city. Speakers at the gathering said about Tk 12.80 crore was allocated to the WDB to repair 131 km long embankment in Sunamganj, which was not properly done by the contractor leaving it in a poor state.

Crops on around 70,000 hectares of land in Sunamganj and 23,000 hectares in Netrakona went under water by the floodwaters.

Among others, Nagorik Sanghati President Prof ASM Atikur Rahman, its General Secretary Sharifuzzaman Sharif, columnist Syed Abul Maksud, former director general of Haor and Wetland Development Board Inamul Haque, Secretary General of Paribesh Bachao Andolan Kamal Pasha Chowdhury and Dr Niaz Pasha addressed the gathering.

No obstacle to Rohingya repatriation

Says Moriarty

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

US Ambassador to Bangladesh James F Moriarty yesterday said there is no obstacle to repatriation of Rohingya refugees to their homeland in Myanmar.

"If the Myanmar government had sincerity the repatriation process could start right now," the US envoy told journalists after a view exchange meeting with government and non-government officials in Cox's Bazar.

The meeting was held during a visit by ambassadors of eight countries posted in Bangladesh to a Rohingya refugee

camp at Kutupalong in Ukhia upazila of Cox's Bazar. The UNHCR organised the diplomatic visit.

The ambassadors of Canada, France, the UK, Denmark, Switzerland and Germany were the other members of the delegation.

During the visit, the diplomats also talked with the Rohingya refugees staying in the camps. Besides, they visited schools with computers for Rohingya children set up at different training centers.

The envoys went to Nayapara Rohingya camp at Teknaf by road. After

staying there for about two hours they returned to Cox's Bazar.

About 28,000 Rohingya refugees are living in the two camps at Ukhia and Teknaf. Repatriation of the Rohingya refugee have remained stalled for about four and a half years due to non-cooperation by Myanmar and unwillingness of the refugees to return to their homeland.

Earlier on Wednesday, the ambassadors met with the deputy commissioner of Cox's Bazar.

Sylhet journo stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Regional Correspondent of the Shaptahik 2000 in Sylhet Foteh Osmani, who was stabbed by muggers 11 days ago, succumbed to his injuries at Apollo Hospitals in the capital Wednesday night.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held on Chowkidekhi mosque premises in Sylhet after Juma prayers today.

Agitating locals put up a barricade on the Airport Road at Chowkidekhi for three hours yesterday noon.

They also took out a procession and held a rally demanding immediate arrest of the killers.

Armed muggers swooped on Foteh Osmani, 50, and his co-rider with sharp weapons in the early hours of April 18. He was rushed to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital. The following day he was shifted to Dhaka. As his condition deteriorated, he had been kept in life support for the last five days.

Two days after the incident, locals caught Saddam, known as Tiger Saddam, a mugger of the area, and handed him over to the police as a suspect. But there had been no progress in the investigation yet although 11 days had passed.

Rotary Palliative Care Centre opens

METRO DESK

Mukhles Memorial Rotary Palliative Care Centre opened at Mohammadpur in the city recently to provide a holistic management to patients suffering from pain and distress, says a press release.

Rotary Club of Dhaka Midtown, Rotary Club of Dhaka Premier and Brig Gen (ret'd) Dr Suraiya Rahman along with Ashar Alo has opened the centre.

Rotary DG AKM Shamsul Hada, past DG Rafiq Ahmed Siddique and other member of Rotary Clubs inaugurated the centre.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 25th death anniversary of Sirajuddin Ahmed, founding chairman of

Elite Paints Group of Companies, former president of Chittagong Industries and Traders' Association and Bangladesh Tea Traders Association, says a press release.

On the occasion, doa and milad mahfil will be held at his Gulshan residence and Chittagong residence today.

Relatives, friends and admirers are requested to attend the milad.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Comrade Advocate Syed Golam Mostafa, a senior member of Bangladesh Workers Party of Lohagara upazila in Narail, passed away due to old age complications yesterday at the age of 72, says a press release.

He left behind his three daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon and General Secretary Anisur Rahman Mallik in a statement condoled the death and conveyed sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

Qulkhwani

METRO DESK



Qulkhwani of Farhana Khandaker (Kakoli), wife of banker Khandaker Rais Ahmed and daughter-in-law of former IGP AR Khandaker, will be held today, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at her Banani residence in the city after Asr prayers.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the doa mahfil.

Kakoli passed away on April 26 in Singapore.

বিশ্ব পরিবেশ দিবস উপলক্ষে
রচনা লেখা ও পোস্টার আঁকা
প্রতিযোগিতা-২০১০

রচনার বিষয়

- পরিবেশ বিপর্যয় রোধে বাণিজ্যিক বনায়ন সিনিয়র গ্রুপ (স্নাতক থেকে স্নাতকোত্তর) (সর্বোচ্চ ২০০০ শব্দের মধ্যে)
- পরিবেশের ভারসাম্য রক্ষায় চাই পরিকল্পিত বনায়ন জুনিয়র গ্রুপ (অষ্টম থেকে দ্বাদশ শ্রেণী) (সর্বোচ্চ ১৫০০ শব্দের মধ্যে)
- পোস্টারের বিষয় আমাদের পরিবেশ রক্ষায় গাছ মাধ্যমে জলবায়ু সাইজ : ২০' X ১৩ সবার জন্য উন্মুক্ত

রচনা প্রতিযোগিতার জন্য পুরস্কার

১ম পুরস্কার : ৩০,০০০ টাকা
২য় পুরস্কার : ২০,০০০ টাকা
৩য় পুরস্কার : ১০,০০০ টাকা

পোস্টারের জন্য পুরস্কার

১ম পুরস্কার : ৫০,০০০ টাকা
২য় পুরস্কার : ৩০,০০০ টাকা
৩য় পুরস্কার : ১০,০০০ টাকা

জমা দেয়ার শেষ তারিখ : ১৫ মে ২০১০

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More information on:
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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Application along with copies of Academic Certificates, Transcripts two copies of passport size photograph and Pay Order / Bank Draft of Tk. 300/- in favor of Registrar, BUBT should reach BUBT within **May 13, 2010**.

Registrar