METROPOLITAN

Enact new law to stop human trafficking

Speakers tell workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new law should be enacted to address all forms of human trafficking without hindering safe migration, speakers said at a workshop in the city yesterday. Speaking as chief guest Dr

Kamal Uddin Ahmed, joint secretary (political) to the home ministry, said the government is working closely with national and international non-governmental Protocol" at Biam auditorium. organisations and UN agen-

cies to prevent the trafficking. He said the recommendations of the workshop would help the government draft a comprehensive law to deal with all forms of human traf-

ficking.

human trafficking without a concerted effort, said Dr

USAID/Winrock International, Dhaka, Centre for Women and Children Studies (CWCS) organised the programme titled "Assessment workshop to address challenges of national legislation on human trafficking in line with UN Palermo

Addressing the workshop as a special guest, Advocate Salma Ali said Bangladesh is ahead of many other countries in combating the human trafficking.

She also pointed out the Saarc convention on prevent-It is not possible to combat ing and combating trafficking

prostitution.

"It'll help address the With the support of repatriation and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking and prevent the use of women and children in international prostitution networks, particularly where the Saarc members are the countries of origin, transit and destination,"

> Lisa S Hammond, chief of Party, Winrock International said in recent years the trend of human trafficking has been changing globally.

She appreciated the initiatives taken by the Bangladesh government to make effort in combating human trafficking.

CWCS President Prof Ishrat Shamim said the purpose of

in women and children for the workshop is to learn the comparative analysis between UN Palermo Protocol and existing national laws and necessity of incorporating relevant articles of Palermo Protocol with our national laws to combat human trafficking effectively.

Mahbuba Nasreen, Vice-President of CWCS, said women and children are comparatively vulnerable during disaster to be trafficked. Therefore, it is important to work more intensively during the time of catastrophe.

About 40 participants including government officials, police, public prosecutors, lawyers, NGOs, INGOs and UN agencies attended the workshop.



SC STAYS HC ORDER

Mahmudur has

to submit

wealth info

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A team of DPDC and a mobile court snaps electricity connections during a drive against illegal connections and bill defaulters in the city's Bashabo, Nondipara, Madartek and Goran areas yesterday.

One killed in Persons With Disabilities roof collapse 'Double budgetary in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A construction worker was killed and four others, including a contractor, were injured when the roof of an underconstruction building collapsed in Dani Lonkhola area of Bandar upazila yesterday.

Three units of fire service in two-hour effort recovered the body of the worker.

The roof of one storey building collapsed when contractor and mason Liton, 32, workers Feroz Miah, 32, Abdul Jalil, 32, Tara Miah, 26 and Sabuj Miah, 38, went to work on it.

Owner of the building is one Hasina Begum of Lonkhloa

Sabuj Miah died on the spot and Liton, Feroz Miah, Jalil and Tara Miah were injured. The injured were admitted to Narayanganj Hospital. Jalil was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated.

Deputy Assistant Director of Narayanganj Fire Service and Civil Defence Ahsanul Kabir said the roof collapsed due to fault in the construction work.

allocation'

Persons with disabilities (PWD) yesterday demanded double allocation for them in the upcoming national budget.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In the budget for 2009-2010, the government allocated only 0.1 percent for their cause out of the total Tk 1,13,819cr, which they termed too insignificant to ensure their rights.

They were speaking at a press conference jointly organised by Action of Disability and Development (ADD), National Grassroots Disabled Organisation (NGDO) and National Council of Disabled Women (NCDW) at the National Press Club in the capital.

Highlighting the social discrimination against them, Akter Hossain, chairperson of NGDO, said, "Previously many government

announced special benefits for PWDs but it only remained in the talks. We are hoping that this government would work to ensure the rights of the PWDs as announced in its election manifesto."

There is no national census on persons with disability. According to a survey conducted by World Health Organisation in 2000, ten percent of the total population is disabled in Bangladesh. However, only four percent of them receive formal education, speakers at the press conference informed.

Focusing largely on education, they demanded allocation of 10 percent of the educational budget for the PWDs.

Joy Chand Karmoker, deputy capacity building coordinator of ADD, said, "The current government announced that every child with disability will be enrolled

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday stayed for 10 days a High Court (HC) order that stayed the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in school by the year 2011. notice asking the daily Amar Only enrolment will not edu-Desh acting editor Mahmudur cate these children. The gov-Rahman to submit his wealth statement to it (ACC). ernment must ensure reading

materials such as brails.

in the SME sector for PWDs, Tk

50 crore for production and

distribution of assistive tech-

nology, Tk 10 crore to provide

legal support for women with

disability facing various forms

of violence, increasing the

amount of stipend for dis-

programme manager of

Manusher Jonno Foundation,

and Ferdowsy Begum Ruby,

Deputy Programme

Coordinator of ADD, also

Nazrana Yasmin Hira,

abled students.

disabled student."

Teachers must receive trainthe Appellate Division Justice Md Muzammel Hossain passed ing to understand sign lanthe order. guage and how to handle The chamber judge also asked the ACC to file a regular Their demands also include allocation of Tk5 crore

After hearing a petition filed

by the ACC, chamber judge of

leave to appeal petition with the apex court against the HC order during this period. Advocate Khurshid Alam

Khan, lawyer for the ACC, told The Daily Star that Mahmudur has to submit his wealth statement to the ACC as per its earlier notice following the chamber judge's order.

The ACC issued the notice on April 13 asking Mahmudur to submit his wealth statement to the commission within seven days.

filed by Mahmudur, the HC on April 27 stayed for three months the ACC notice and issued a rule upon the anti-crime watchdog to explain why its notice should not be declared illegal.

SAMSUNG

Following a writ petition

Prime Minister and Defence Minister Sheikh Hasina attends her office at Armed Forces Division (AFD) at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

Trader dies in rooftop fall

STAFF CORRESPONDNET, Ctg

A businessman died after falling from the rooftop of a four-storied market building at Reazuddin Bazar in the port city yesterday. The deceased identified as

Mohammad Jashim, 25, son of Saleh Ahmad of Sahirpara

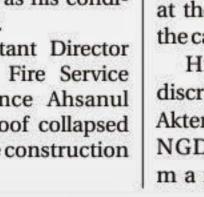
under Satkania upazila, was a partner of a video shop Meem Video on the first floor of the market. Police quoting locals said Jashim went to the rooftop of Royal Plaza to have a bath around 6.00am.

Later, he was found lying on an extended portion of the

building on the second floor with half of the body tangled in telephone wires.

Kotwali police recovered the body around 9.30am.

Sub Inspector (SI) Shahidul Islam Chowdhury said they were investigating whether it was an accident or murder.



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