

Reach consensus on scrapping Vested Property Act: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina urged the country's Hindu community leaders to reach consensus among them about annulling the Vested Property Act so that government can take a decision.

She informed that the Vested Property Restoration Bill is lying pending with the parliamentary standing committee. No decision could be taken about it as their views widely differed on the measures provided in the proposed law.

Hasina was exchanging greetings with a group of the Hindu Community leaders who met her at her office yesterday. They met her on the eve of Janmastami, birth anniversary of Hindu

God Sri Krishna, which will be celebrated on September 1.

A joint delegation of Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad, Dhaka and Janmastami Udjapan Parishad-1417, Chittagong met the premier.

About the Vested Property Act, the PM said the government is giving its best efforts to settle the issue of vested property. But the leaders of Hindu community are disunited about it. She asked them to reach consensus.

Hasina said many of the leaders prefer to form a tribunal to establish rights of the Hindus while many others suggest for mutual understanding.

She assured the Hindu community of taking effective steps to solve their prob-

lems for land registration process including fees complexity. Assurance was also given for protecting the "Debtortar" property.

As advocate Subrata Chowdhury, president of Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad demanded for setting up separate ministries for Hindu and each of other religions, the PM said the present Religious Affairs Ministry is not only for the religion of Islam. It works for all other religions. People of the Hindu community should not think they are minority.

In 1971, people of all religions fought together to earn the country's independence. Every person as the citizen of the country has equal right and dignity to live on, she added.



Tamak Birodhi Nari Jote stages a demonstration in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday demanding ban on tobacco cultivation in order to increase food production.

Int'l standard curriculum for higher edn stressed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday called for formulating a modern, international standard and contemporary curriculum for the higher education as the standard of higher education in the country is not up to the mark to compete at the global level.

They said the libraries and laboratories in the higher educational institutions should be modernised and well-equipped.

They were speaking at a roundtable titled 'Quality of higher education in Bangladesh: Our responsibility' organised by Green University on its campus in the city with former vice chancellor of

Dhaka University Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury in the chair.

Lawmaker Rashed Khan Menon in his speech as the chief guest said the higher education should be improved for creating a generation of skill and competent manpower.

Menon, also chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education Ministry, said there are many tracks in the country's education system, which is creating disparity and depriving a section of people in the society of higher education and jobs.

Prof Anwarullah in his keynote paper recommended that stress should be given to English in the higher education and the higher educational institutions

should be free from partisan politics. He underscored the need for taking extra classes to end session jams in the educational institutions.

Former adviser of caretaker government Dr Akbar Ali Khan called for introducing 'rating system' for evaluating performance of all public and private universities so that people can know the quality of each of these educational institutions.

Former VC Prof Moniruzzaman Miah, Information Commissioner Prof Sadika Halim, former DG of Bangle Academy Prof Monsur Musa, World University of Bangladesh vice chancellor Prof Abdul Mannan also spoke at the discussion.

Trader shot, mugged Tk 42,000 in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A gang of muggers shot and injured a trader, snatched Tk 42,000 from him at capital's Pallabi on Dhaka-Ashulia highway yesterday.

The injured chicken trader of Ashulia Bazar Alamgir Hossain, 35, was going to Hazaribagh by a CNG-run auto rickshaw at around 6:15pm when three snatchers stopped his vehicle at Birulia cross dam of Pallabi.

Witnesses said the muggers' shot him in the right leg and took away the money though the trader tried to resist.

Local people sent Alamgir to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Alamgir said he was going to Hazaribagh to buy a chicken-dressing machine.

However, Officer-in-charge of Pallabi police station Iqbal Hossain said they did not receive any complaint in this regard but police were looking into the matter.



Students of Dhaka University adorn their palms on the final round of the inter-hall Hena Festival (Mehedi Utsab) and Competition ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr. Dhakabashi organised the competition at TSC yesterday.

Advertisement for The Pink City Xeno Valley Model Town Limited, featuring a modern house and contact information.

Advertisement for Nokia touchphones, showing various models like Nokia 5233, 5530, and X6-00, along with Ovi store and promotional offers.

Advertisement for ColorPlus Chinos, showing a blue and white checkered shirt and a pair of khaki chinos.

Advertisement for The Raymond Shop, featuring a blue and white checkered shirt and a pair of khaki chinos, with contact information for various branches.