Obituary

METRO DESK



Sayed Fakhre A z a m Saleheen, son of late Sayed Fakhre Moslem, of Shantibagh

and former director general of Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BSTI), passed away yesterday due to old age complications at the age of 78, says a press release.

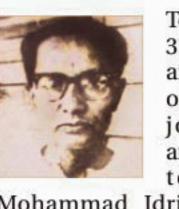
His namaz-e-janaza will be held at Shantibagh Noor Masjid after Asr prayers today.

He will be buried at Azimpur old graveyard.

Death anniversary

Today is the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



37th death anniversary of eminent journalist and litterateur Kazi

Mohammad Idris, says a press release. On the occasion, a milad

mahfil will be held at the residence of his son at 12-A Eskaton Garden Road in the city after Asr prayers.

Qulkhwani

Bss, Dhaka

Qulkhwani of former ambassador Masum A Chowdhury will be held at Gulshan Jame Masjid (near HSBC bank) in

the city at 5:00pm tomorrow. Masum died of cancer on March 17 in Washington at the

age of 69. He left behind his wife, two sons and a host of friends and well-wishers to mourn his death.



PHOTO: STAR

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) demolishes illegal structures in the port city yesterday.

Nahid warns teachers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday warned that the government would act tough against the teachers who were involved in coaching business.

COACHING BUSINESS

He also slammed the teachers for their negligence to students in classrooms.

"We are very careful to end student's dependency on coaching centres in order to improve their creative faculty. In addition, we have already launched a search for the reasons behind the expansion of coaching business and people responsible for it", he said.

The minister made the remarks while talking on "Educational Expenses: Impact on Families and Children" during the 10th session of Child Parliament at the city's LGED auditorium.

About return of extra money charged during admission from guardians, the minister said the government was monitoring the issue and none hadyet complained of any harassment.

Nahid also recognised that educational expenses had increased many times, which was having negative impacts on poor families and their children in continuing academic activities.

"The government has enacted a law and created a fund to financially support poor students so that their educational activities do not stop only for want of money".

Reflecting on the government's initiatives to remove the problems from education sector, Nahid urged teachers to be more attentive in classrooms so that no students feel deprived.

He said 20,000 classrooms would be equipped with multimedia facilities in secondaryschools across the country very soon.

Some negative aspects have been long

nourished in the country's education system, which influence students' mind and prevent their intellect from developing, the minister said. A total of 64 child representatives from 64

districts and 20 representatives from among underprivileged children took part in the Child Parliament yesterday, where they talked of their problems which resulted from increase of the prices of necessary educational equipment.

Manusher Jonno Foundation, Save the Children, and Plan Bangladesh jointly organised the programme.

Girl set ablaze in Sherpur, dies Formulate law to 45, an altercation ensued. When Moziron

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A minor girl, who was set ablaze allegedly by a female neighbour at Nakla upazila in Sherpur, ended her 19-day fight for life as she succumbed to her burn injuries yesterday.

The deceased is Moyna Akhter, 8, a class two student of Huzurikanda Primary School in the upazila.

Sources at the Burn Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) said 40 percent of her body was burnt.

Moyna's father Safur Ali, a day labourer, said on March 3 he and his two daughters went to a bamboo grove near their house in Huzurikanda village to collect some bamboo.

When a bamboo fell on and scattered a pile of straw of their neighbour Moziron Begum,

made a fire on the yard where Safur was removing the bamboos, Safur asked her to put it out. Moziron then became enraged and set fire to Moyna, Safur added.

Moyna was initially admitted to Nakla Upazila Health Complex and shifted to DMCH on March 15.

Dr Samanta Lal Sen, national coordinator for Burn Services in Bangladesh, said different parts of the girl's body were infected when she was brought in to the hospital so late.

Police arrested Moziron after Safur filed a case against her under Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act with Nakla Police Station on the day of the incident.

Moziron denied putting Moyna ablaze, said police.

end discrimination

Dalit leaders urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the Dalit community yesterday placed a ten-point demand, including formulation of a law to eliminate racial discrimination, to protect the rights of Dalits and other deprived communities.

They also drew the prime minister's attention to ending discrimination against them and fulfilling her pledges for the development of these communities.

They were speaking at a press conference organised by National Federation for Dalit Movement, an alliance of seven organisations working for Dalit and Harijan communities, at Jatiya Press Club in the city.

The conference marked the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Manusher Jonno Foundation, Research Initiatives, Bangladesh (RIB), Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) and 10 other non-government bodies were assisting the alliance. "We have been deprived of the rights to education, employ-

ment opportunities, sanitation and accommodation facilities for years. "We want such discrimination to end," said Bangladesh Harijan Oikya Parishad Secretary General Nirmol Chandra Das at the conference. Although the people of Dalit communities have been work-

ing as sweepers and cleaners in different city corporations and municipalities for years, their jobs were not regularised, he said. Bangladesh Dalit Parishad General Secretary Ashok Das said

they were leading inhumane lives due to lack of water, proper sanitation and accommodation facilities. Their other demands include formulation of a policy to incorporate deprived communities in development activities, keeping special quotas for them in educational institutes and

the job sector, including them in different safety net

programmes, allocating Khas land for their accommodation

Venue: Bangabandhu International

11am ~ 9.00 pm

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