

Open history subject at all edn levels

Teachers tell confec
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

History is the most overlooked subject in the country's college and university levels for lack of teachers and students' interest to take this course, said history teachers at a conference yesterday.

They demanded opening history department at every college and university and making history subject compulsory up to intermediate level.

The young generation will not be able to know about the country's history, culture and heritage if the government does not take steps in this regard soon, they said.

Out of 253, around 98 government colleges and most of the private universities do not have history department, while the subject is not taught at madrasas, they said.

History teachers of different colleges and universities gathered at the conference at RC Majumder Conference Centre at Dhaka University (DU) where they suggested making the curriculum modernised and creating more job opportunities for graduates in history and incorporating the subject in social science faculty in the country's universities.

Prof Mezbah Kamal, a teacher of history department at DU, said the country failed to move forward to the level it should have been after the independence for negligence to this subject.

Muntassir Mamoon, a teacher of history department at DU, said, "A nation becomes rootless and meritless if it ignores the practice of history."



Fishermen show a five-foot long Indian mottled eel locally known as Bamus or Bane Hara. They caught this endangered species of eel on Thursday from Sadhur Khal, a water body, in Rajoir upazila of Madaripur.

PHOTO: NITYANANDA HALDER

Housewife 'kills herself' in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife allegedly committed suicide hanging herself from a ceiling fan in the capital's Shyampur area yesterday.

The deceased, Ratna Begum, 22, was wife of Obaidur Rahman, assistant sub-inspector of police (Dhaka Range).

Quoting relatives of the victim, Abul Kalam Azad, officer-in-charge of Shyampur Police Station, said Ratna had been suffering from depression since her first child was born two years back.

She hanged herself from the ceiling fan in her bedroom around 3:00pm, added the OC.

Later, relatives of the victim recovered the body and informed police.

Left parties protest power tariff hike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Protesting the recent power tariff hike and asking the government to withdraw it, leaders of left-leaning political parties yesterday said the rise would cause the rich to pay less while the poor to spend more.

Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission, on Thursday increased the retail power tariff by 15 percent to Tk 5.75 per unit.

The leaders were addressing separate rallies on the power tariff hike organised by Communist Party of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal and Ganosanghati Andolon in front of Jaitiya Press Club in the capital, says press releases.

Widening the tariff slabs to six from three

will force moderate users to pay more and increase the price of essential commodities, adding insult to the injury of the common people, said the leaders.

The government could solve the problems related to electricity by setting up new power plants or repairing the existing plants. But it opted for the quick rental power plants to loot people's money, they added.

Ganotantrik Bam Morcha, a platform of left-leaning parties, declared to besiege Bangladesh Power Development Board on September 25 while National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports will besiege the Ministry of Energy on September 30.

Domestic help killed after 'rape'

A CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

A twelve-year-old domestic help's body was found with her throat slit after she was allegedly raped in her employer's residence in Sarishabari upazila of Jamalpur Thursday evening.

The victim Sarufa was the daughter of late Sohrab Ali of Kawamara village in the upazila.

In connection with her death, police arrested Sarufa's employer Md Benjamin Hossain, a lecturer of Pingna Sujat Ali Degree College, and his mother Sahara Bewa on the same night.

Hena Begum, the victim's mother, had filed a case against the two and Benjamin's younger brother Harun ur-Rashid.

On Thursday, Sarufa was alone at home as Benjamin and his family was out and Sahara was at a neighbour's house. When Sahara returned to the house at about 6.30pm, she found the girl lying in a pool of blood and started screaming that someone had raped the girl and killed her, locals said.

However, in the case statement, Hena alleged that Harun had raped Sarufa and in order to hide the crime, he along with his family members killed her.

"We are trying to find out what actually happened," said AKM Kamrul Ahsan, officer-in-charge of Sarishabari Police Station.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Jamalpur General Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

Three killed in road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Three people were killed and four others injured in separate road accidents in Chittagong on Thursday and yesterday.

Nazma Khatun, 65, wife of Abul Khair of Noakhali, died as a bus hit her in front of Basurhat counter at Alanker Circle yesterday morning.

She was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where she was declared dead.

In another incident, a truck plunged into a roadside ditch in Ananya Residential Area under Chandgaon Police Station on Thursday night, killing two day labourers and injuring another.

The deceased were Md Harun, 40, of Comilla, and Md Sobhan, 40, of Phirojpur while the injured was Delwar, 50.

Yet another incident, four people were injured as a bus rammmed a CNG-run three-wheeler, carrying them, from the opposite direction on Dhaka-Chittagong highway near Panthichhila Bazar in Sitakunda upazila yesterday afternoon.

They were Daisy, 25, Shawkat Hossain, 20, and identity of the remaining two could not be known immediately.

Locals took them to the CMCH.



Islamist organisations stage demonstration in front of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in the capital yesterday in protest of a US film mocking Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (pbuh). (Story on Page 2)

PHOTO: STAR

VIOLENCE OVER SUBHAN'S ARREST
Six cases against Jamaat men filed

Half-day hartal in Pabna Sunday

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Police yesterday filed six cases against activists of Jamaat-e-Islami in connection with the Thursday's violence in Pabna.

Police also have been deployed in different points in the town to prevent any untoward situation following the arrest of Jamaat Nayeb-e-Ameer Maulana Abdus Subhan on Thursday night in a case of violence.

At the night, district unit Jamaat had announced a three-day agitation programmes, including a half-day hartal in the district on Sunday, in protest of Subhan's arrest.

On Thursday, protesting Subhan's arrest, activists of Jamaat and Islami Chhatra Shibir staged demonstration in the town. They at one stage hurled brickbats at the law enforcers that led a clash with police injrung about 20 people.

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This week Star Campus, a weekly publication of The Daily Star, will present its readers with an array of mind-boggling articles. The Spotlight is about a project held by the British Council in various countries, including Bangladesh, being linked with London on different river related issues. The Extra Credit section is all about the power of new media and how the current and upcoming generation have a right to free information. The Star Chat this week is with Guitarist Emon Chowdhury as he shares his dreams and future plans with the readers. Do not forget to grab your copy of Star Campus as it hits the country tomorrow, Sunday. And, as always, have a great read!

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