US envoy launches books for elementary level readers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Dan W Mozena yesterday said books were the best gifts that could be given to children.

He was addressing a book publication ceremony at Edward Kennedy Centre in the capital.Room to Read organised the ceremony where 25 books for readers of elementary level were launched.

Emerging writers and illustrators through the Local Language Publishing Program (LLP) contributed to the books.

"A book is a key to the door that opens to the world, it is a seed of hope for the future, a book is a hammer, we learn from the book to build the future," the ambassador said while reading from one of the books to the children.

Room to Read is an international organisation working in Asia and Africa with the belief that "World Change Starts with Educated Children."



A procession of Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad arrives at Election Commission Secretariat in the capital yesterday to place a memorandum demanding cancellation of Jamaat-e-Islami's registration with the commission.

< You Tube

Pak MPs to propose for apology to Dhaka

Says Hamid Mir

BSS, Dhaka

A number of Pakistani lawmakers including from the ruling party are set to seek a parliamentary resolution apologising to Bangladesh for the 1971 atrocities by its troops, famous Pakistani journalist Hamid Mir has said.

"At least 12 members of the Pakistan parliament assured me of tabling a proposal to apologise to Bangladesh officially," Hamid, executive editor of popular Pakistani television channel Geo TV, told the news agency in an email interview.

Also an acclaimed rights activist, Hamid said, "People [MPs] like senator Hasil Bazinju from Baluchistan, President of Pakistan's Awami National Party Asfandyar Wali Khan MP, former federal minister and leader of Muslim League [Nawaz] Khwaja Sad Rafique, Pakistan Muslim League-Q leader Nausheen Saeed, and Pakistan People's Party leader Samsam Bukhari were there with the initiative."

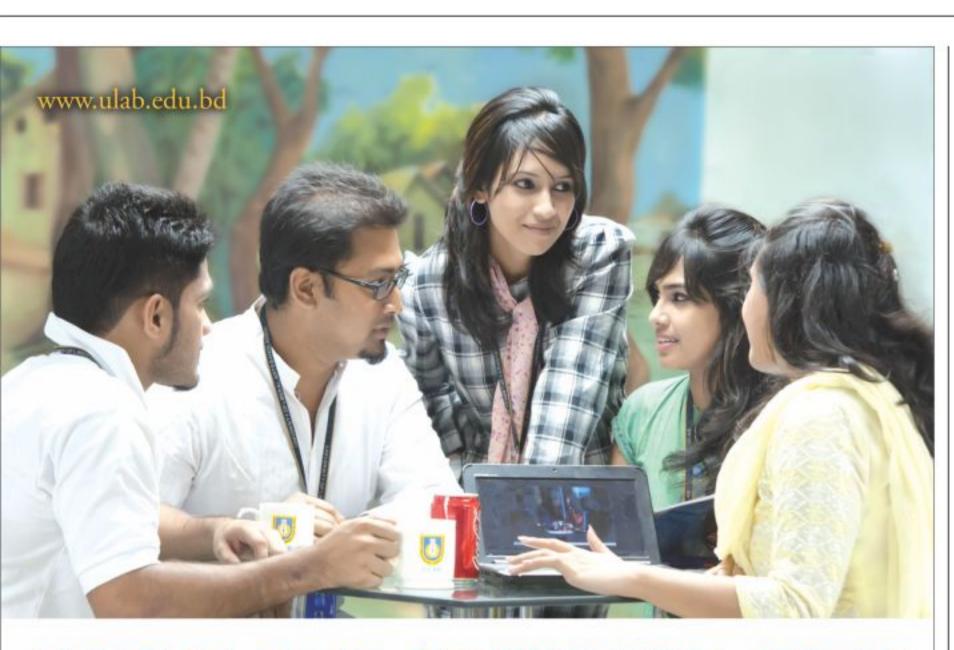
The Pakistani MPs could not be reached immediately for comments.

Bangladesh on December 16 will celebrate its 41st anniversary of victory against Pakistan after nine months of Liberation War.

Dhaka is repeatedly asking for an official Pakistani apology for the 1971 genocides. The demand was raised again last month when Pakistani Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar visited Dhaka.

Hamid said it was time for his country to apologise officially to the people of Bangladesh, saying, "only brave people accept their mistakes and it is the time to show some bravery. Our apology will not weaken Pakistan but will strengthen it".

Pakistan recognised Bangladesh in 1974, when Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman visited Lahore to join the OIC Summit.



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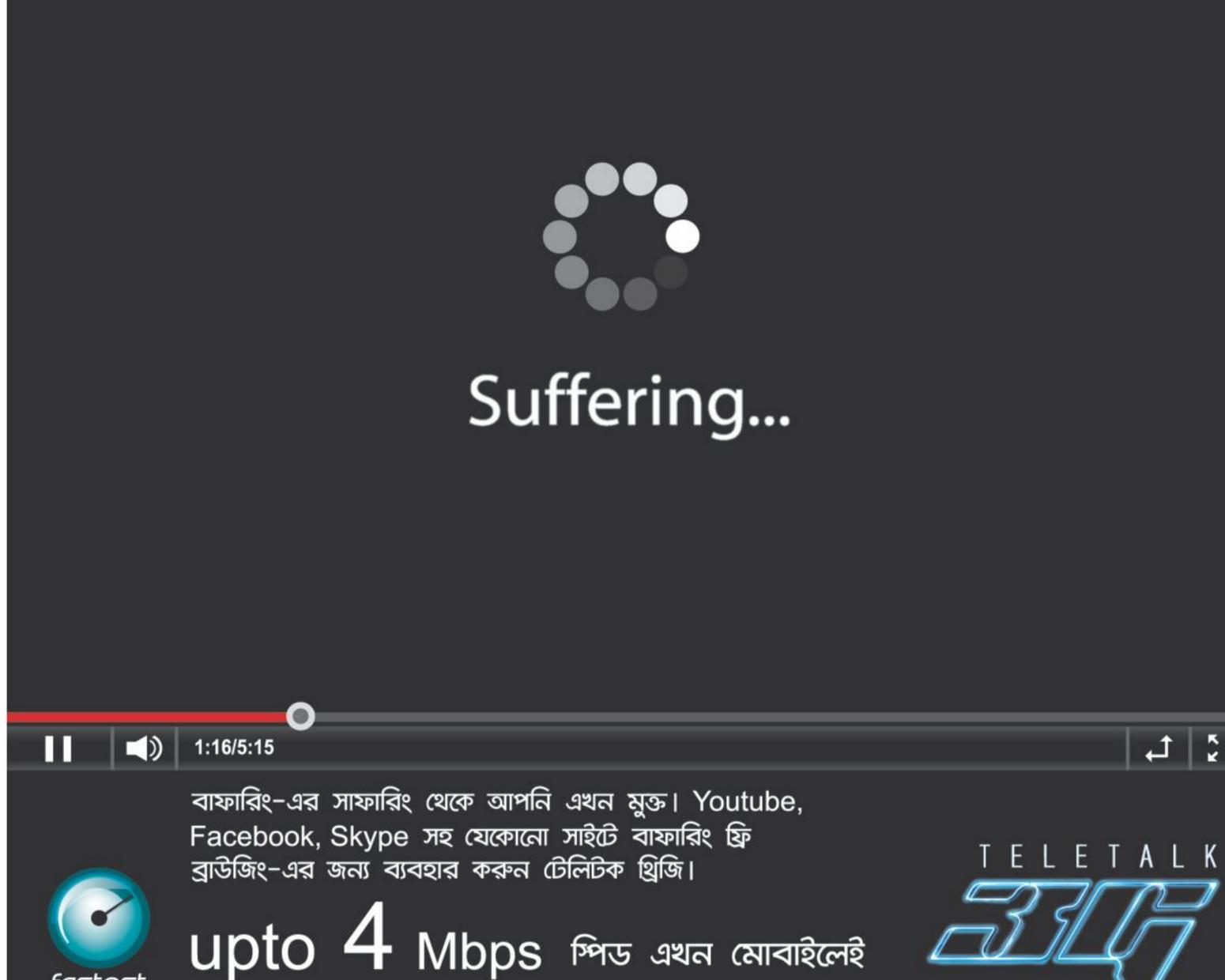




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