

Govt assurance

FROM PAGE 5
general language used in higher education."

Save the Children Adviser (education sector) Habibur Rahman advocated for recruiting and training teachers and developing elements of the languages.

Prof Prosanto Kumar Tripura said, "Many indigenous languages have been lost. So the initial efforts should be on preserving the

remaining ones...inclusion of only five indigenous languages might discourage children of other communities."

Naba Bikram Kishore Tripura, secretary, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Affairs, said the government should take steps for the continuation of 332 village education centres in CHT as their funding from United Nations Development Programme will no longer continue from next year.

It's BNP's fault

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Pakistan National Assembly resolution criticising war criminal Abdul Quader Mollah's execution.

"It hurts her (Khaleda) to speak up against Pakistan. She does not want an independent Bangladesh. So, she need not stay here. She should go to Pakistan," said the premier.

On Khaleda's warning to take to the streets to intensify the ongoing anti-government movement, Hasina said Khaleda must cite reasons for staying silent before starting the movement.

She again urged BNP to cut ties with Jamaat-e-Islami, saying that a fresh election would be held after dissolving the 10th parliament if consensus is reached. "Talks are going on and it will continue," she added.

Hasina reaffirmed her government's firm stance to carry on the trial of war criminals. "We faced many obstacles for holding the trial. I

received several phone calls from the highest places telling not to execute Quader Mollah. But I do not fear for my life. I will do everything required for people's welfare," she said.

On the opposition's ongoing agitation, she said blockades were being enforced only to save war criminals. She urged people to build up resistance against the blockade.

AL General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam vowed to reinstate the constitution of 1972 if AL came to power again. "We have made the constitution more democratic by bringing amendments," he said.

AL leader Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury presided over the discussion, attended by other leaders including Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed, Sanjnit Sengupta, Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Ahmad Hossain, Hasan Mahmud and Asim Kumar Ukil.

35 hand bombs

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Friday's recovery, the elite force decided to raid the camp again yesterday morning, he said.

"We suspect that miscreants might have hidden the bombs and other objects there to carry out subversive

acts during the ongoing political violence," he said.

Meanwhile, Rab recovered 14 petrol bombs abandoned in Agargaon water tank area in the afternoon, four hours after the raid in Geneva Camp, said Rab official Raihan Uddin.

US senator briefed

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on composition of the election-time government.

The government's intention to uphold people's right to franchise through holding of free and fair elections in terms of the constitutional provisions also figured in the meeting.

Senator McCain inquired about the status of Bangladesh's government

before the election, the judicial system and its independence while touching upon safety issues of the garment workers.

The talks centred round Senate Resolution 318 regarding "the critical need for political reform in Bangladesh" recently approved at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

RMG workers

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an altercation with him.

Managing Director Arif Moinuddin said the workers joined their works after lunch hour.

Our Narayanganj correspondent adds, the workers of Harvest Reach Ltd in Rupganj upazila blocked the Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Aukhaba area around 11:45am demanding their arrears for two months.

Quoting witnesses, police said the workers also demonstrated at the factory over the matter.

Comprehensive

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"We are very much frustrated about the draft of the broadcasting policy, as the writers do not have practical knowledge."

The government should have worked with the academics while framing the policies so that the interests of the investors, journalists and the government could be addressed, he said.

Zakaria Kazal, head of news of Jamuna Television, said the policy should create a win-win result for all the stakeholders where government was a stakeholder, not a controller.

Deferment of Jan 5 polls

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His opinion comes against the backdrop of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's statement on Thursday that a fresh election would be held after dissolving the 10th parliament if an understanding is reached.

That too will happen only when BNP shuns violence and severs ties with Jamaat-e-Islami, she said.

Imam and another discussant, Supreme Court lawyer Tania Amir, termed advice from abroad over the election "pressure" for an independent country like Bangladesh.

However, Faruk and another participant, former ambassador Humayun Kabir, said friendly countries can give advice for the betterment of the country.

Tania said the government should pressure Pakistan through the United Nations and other channels for the trial of the 195 Pakistani soldiers released in 1974.

Ensure people's buying capacity

FROM PAGE 5
attendants' knowledge about early initiation of breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of birth could ensure early childhood nutrition.

About central leadership, Dr Tahmeed Ahmed, director of the Centre for Nutrition and Food Security, ICDR, B, said, "The prime minister should do stocktaking of the nutrition and food security and issue necessary directives to the ministries concerned at least once a year."

The speakers also called



Participants at a discussion, "Child Nutrition: Multisectoral Approach for Investing in the Future", organised in the capital's The Daily Star Centre by The Daily Star, Brac and Civil Society Alliance for Scaling Up Nutrition yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Aroj Ali Matubbar

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attended a village maktab, mosque-based Islamic education system, and did not get higher education. He, however, taught himself extensively by borrowing books from libraries.

As a practicing Muslim and pious man, Matubbar spoke up against superstition and fanaticism and tried to restore the balance between science, philosophy and religion, said speakers.

Imam said the government should decide it after discussions with the political parties while Faruk said it was the government's duty to decide and the opposition can provide opinions if it is sought.

Tania said the government should pressureise Pakistan through the United Nations and other channels for the trial of the 195 Pakistani soldiers released in 1974.

However, Comilla and Brahmanbaria received fewer attendees than usual, claimed our correspondents.

Many centers in Comilla saw one-fourth of its estimated attendance.

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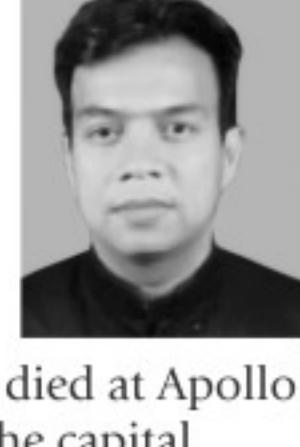
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Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview.

Obituary

UNB, Dhaka



Mizanur Rahman Khan Dipu, Awami League lawmaker of Dhaka-6 constituency, died at Apollo Hospitals in the capital yesterday. He was 49.

Mizanur was brought to the hospital where doctors declared him dead around 6:59am, said Aminur Rahman, duty manager of the hospital.

Another source at the hospital said he died of brain hemorrhage.

Mizanur was buried at Jurain Graveyard around 4:00pm following three namaz-e-janazas at different places, including the South Plaza of Jatiya Sangsads Bhaban.

Meanwhile, President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed deep shock at the death of Dipu.

Dipu was elected MP from the constituency in 2008 and was also in the race for the same seat in the upcoming 10th parliamentary election.

DHAKA TODAY

Conference

Unnayon Shamannay, Bangladesh, and CUTS International, India will arrange a conference on "Addressing Barriers to Rice Seeds Trade between India and Bangladesh"; Venue: Brac Centre Inn, Mohakhali; Time: 9:00am.

Discussion

Punorjoroney Bangladesh will hold a discussion on the current political crisis; Venue: Chayanaut; Time: 6:00pm.

Roundtable

Bangladesh Bandhu Samaj will arrange a roundtable meeting on the country's current situation; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Bridegroom Wanted

Highly educated parents settled in Dhanmondi RA are looking for a suitable bridegroom for their daughter, born in 1985, fair and good looking. She is a BBA from University of Toronto, Canada and Masters from University of Manchester, currently employed with a multinational company in Toronto, Canada. Grooms with similar educational and good family background, suitably employed and living in Canada (or USA willing to move to Canada) may directly contact with bio-data with the guardian at email: colbelal@yahoo.com C-1235

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PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

This is for information of all concerned that Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Co. Ltd. (A concern of Petrobangla) has approved the increase of gas load in the existing factory of RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited from 1,18,839 cft/hour to 1,64,563 cft/hour i.e. from 16,79,879.17 cubic meter/month to 23,26,222.50 cubic meter/month for enhancement of the production capacity of the Company.

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(Muhammad Shahidul Islam ACS)
Company Secretary

Dated: Dhaka
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