

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Overhaul is the answer

Say experts, cite heavy curriculum, complex textbooks, low standard of question papers as reasons for quality fall

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Secondary school students are increasingly turning to guidebooks and private tuition due to heavy curriculum and complex textbooks, say leading academics and educationists.

The question papers of public examinations at secondary level are faulty and of low standard, they said at a view-exchange meeting yesterday.

They also suggested making the curriculum and textbooks simpler and imposing

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

- ### RECOMMENDATIONS
- Simplify curriculum and textbooks
 - Abolish MCQ system in all exams
 - Set up a question bank
 - Reform creative question system
 - Increase budgetary allocation
 - Provide more training to teachers
 - Rethink primary terminal and JSC exams



COLD AND UNFEELING

A woman holds a saline bag as her son, who fell under train wheels while collecting old bottles at Gopibagh, lies on a stretcher at DMCH yesterday noon. Rabbi, 10, was bleeding and that's why none of the auto-rickshaw drivers there would give them a ride to another hospital as referred by DMCH doctors. The ambulance drivers were doing the same as the mother had no money. She screamed for help for more than half an hour until she could collect some money from strangers to hire an ambulance. What happened next couldn't be known.

PHOTO: RAFIUL ISLAM

REEL TO REAL

'Bangladeshi Bajrangi Bhaijaan' braving it out to reunite a 'trafficked' Indian boy with his family

MOKAMMEL SHUVO and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY, Dhaka and SUBRATA ACHARYA from Kolkata

Remember last year's Bollywood blockbuster Bajrangi Bhaijaan? Where its protagonist tries to take a mute six-year-old Pakistani girl back to her homeland to reunite her with her family?

A man with a magnanimous spirit, Bajrangi (Salman Khan) eventually completes his mission with the help of a Pakistani journal-

ist, though after many ordeals.

Now meet the real-life Bajrangi Bhaijaan (Brother Bajrangi) from Bangladesh. Jamal Ibne Musa, a 52-year-old man from Barguna, has made all the arrangements to reunite an Indian boy, apparently trafficked, with his family.

But at a high price. From rescuing Sonu, 12, from the clutches of his alleged captors to finding his family in New Delhi, Musa went through a hell lot. He had to stand accused in

four "false" cases, serve more than a month in jail and lose his job as a result.

In the end, however, the process of taking the boy back home is underway. The boy is now at Jessore Kishore Unnayan Kendra, a government correction centre.

According to Musa and an official at the centre, Rahima Begum and Aklima Begum of Geramardan village under Betagi upazila in

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Sonu, an Indian boy, and Bangladeshi man Jamal Ibne Musa, inset. Sonu is about to reunite with his parents in New Delhi by Musa who also rescued the boy from "abductors" in Barguna.

PHOTO: STAR

N'ganj teacher did not demean Islam

Says ministry probe body; school managing committee forced him to resign

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An education ministry probe has found that the Piyaar Sattar Latif High School committee had forced headteacher Shyamal Kanti Bhakta to resign with unproven allegation that he had hurt the religious sentiment of the Muslims.

The allegation brought against Shyamal of demeaning Islam was not found to be

true, the probe body said, adding that relevant rules were not followed in suspending Shyamal and therefore he could be reinstated.

The three-member probe committee handed over its report to the attorney general's office yesterday for placing it before the High Court, which on May 18 issued a suo moto rule asking the authorities

RELATED STORY ON PAGE 2 SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

One killed as villagers clash with police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhalakathi

A youth was killed and around 30 others were injured in a clash between villagers and policemen when cops arrested a Chhatra Dal leader from Janatabazar village in Bhola's Sadar upazila last night.

The dead, Noman Jamaddar, 30, was the son of Bellal Jamaddar of the village, Nizam Sikdar,

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

TOP QUOTE

"Such a huge pass rate [in SSC] has called into question the entire education system ... People are losing faith in the system."

PROF ABDULLAH ABU SAYEED
FOUNDER OF BISHWO SHAHITTO KENDRO
AT A PROGRAMME ON HOW TO ENSURE QUALITY EDUCATION AT SECONDARY LEVEL

Where are they?

Families of 19 missing people urge govt to bring back their dear ones

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Before her father disappeared, Rayta was a bright and cheerful girl. Now she is often depressed and spends most of her time at a corner of her home.

Her mother and aunts are regularly taking her to a therapist. The 12-year-old hardly goes to school or studies.

Her father Sajedul Islam Suman had gone missing from the capital in December 2013.

"She is very attached to her father, we don't know if she will ever become normal again," said her aunt Ferdousi Islam.

The worlds of many children and families have shattered with the disappearances of their loved ones.

From January last year to April this year, 80 people were forced to disappear, according to rights body Ain O Salish Kendra.

Of them, 14 people were found dead, seven returned, and seven others were later shown arrested by law enforcers, it added.

The rest remain unaccounted for, it said.

Mayer Dak, an organisation of 19 such families, yesterday formed a human chain under the banner "Mayer Dak" in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the capital, seeking the prime minister's intervention to get back their loved ones before Ramadan. Many children of the people who had disappeared joined the human chain braving the scorching heat.

Since the disappearances, the families had written to the

PHOTO ON PAGE 17 SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

ALLEGED MOSSAD LINK Aslam sued for sedition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday filed a sedition case against BNP leader Aslam Chowdhury for allegedly hatching a conspiracy with Israel's Likud Party and its intelligence agency Mossad to oust the government.

The case was filed with Gulshan Police Station in the evening, said Sheikh Nazmul Alam, deputy commissioner of the Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

AKM Shahidul Hoque, inspector general of police, said Aslam had a financial contract with Likud Party politician Mendi N Safadi for trying to topple the government.

Police have evidence of Aslam's involvement in the conspiracy, he told reporters yesterday afternoon after attending a

SEE PAGE 17 COL 5

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