

CHILDREN'S SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

# Education in mother tongue a prerequisite

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The government needs to accelerate its mother tongue-based education system by incorporating more ethnic communities into the system, said speakers yesterday.

Tripura, Sadri and Garo. Delivering the welcome speech, Campe Deputy Director Tapan Kumar Das said the government's mother tongue-based multilingual education programme was incorporated in its Education Policy-2010. However, the government could be able to distribute pre-primary text-

chairperson and a teacher of history department of Dhaka University, said alongside Bangla language spoken by the majority of the people, the country has 43 more languages mostly used by ethnic community people.

Poverty and a lack of opportunity are the reasons behind dropout and this phenomenon is higher among indigenous children, he said.

Chairing the meeting, Prof Emeritus Manzoor Ahmed of Brac University said the government should ensure education in mother language as it is the best way for the development of children's learning skill.

He also said the International Mother Language Institute should conduct research and find out the present state of diverse languages in the country.

RAM Obaidul Mukhtar Chowdhury, chief of the parliamentary standing committee on Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, said the parliamentary watchdog has sent a proposal to the government for giving priority on local people while recruiting teachers.

Muktadir, also a ruling Awami League MP, said, "Hopefully, it will be implemented."

books in the above mentioned ethnic languages this year, he said.

Alongside the five ethnic languages, this year the government was supposed to distribute books for the Santal community children, he said. But the initiative remains pending due to "some problems", he added.

Concern remains if the government will take initiative for children who speak in other languages, he said, hoping that the government would extend the multilingual programme up to grade-II.

Prof Mesbah Kamal, RDC



Speakers at the views-exchange meeting. PHOTO: STAR

ment while sufficient learning materials, trained and quality teachers are required for this, they said at a views-exchange meeting.

Research and Development Collective (RDC) and Campaign for Mass Education (Campe) jointly arranged the programme on "Mother Tongue-based Multilingual Education: Expectation and Success" at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

For the first time, the government in January this year distributed pre-primary textbooks in five ethnic languages -- Chakma, Marma,

## Missing in Savar

FROM PAGE 3  
Friday, Ibrahim, 30, after finishing his prayers at a nearby mosque started heading back home in Shahibagh area, but he did not return, said Mohammad Nayeem, his brother-in-law. "His phone was also found switched off."

On Saturday, the family filed a general diary (GD) with Savar Model Police Station.

"Around 6:00pm on Monday, I received a call from his number. An unknown person demanded Tk 60,000 as ransom through a bKash account," said Nayeem. "We paid Tk 30,000. Later, both Ibrahim's and the bKash number were found switched off."

Meanwhile, Salauddin Rubel, teacher of the coaching centre, went out of his house in the same area around 9:00pm the same night and did not return, said his wife Lovely Yasmin. Since then, his phone remained switched off.

Lovely alleged that Rubel had an altercation with a teacher of the coaching centre.

She filed a GD with Savar Model Police Station on Saturday evening.

When asked whether Salauddin knew Ibrahim, who also went missing the same night, Lovely said both of them lived close by and used to know each other.

She also quoted police as saying that Salauddin contacted Ibrahim on the day.

On the other hand, Sharif, the twelfth grader, has been missing since Saturday evening, said his grandfather Shamsul Alam. "He went missing from near his uncle's house in Aukpara Bus Stand area."

His phone was also found switched off from the day. The family filed a GD with Ashulia Police Station on Tuesday. "Around 3:00pm on Tuesday, I got a call from Sharif's number. A male voice demanded Tk 1 lakh as ransom and hung up," he said.

Contacted, Khorshed Alam, additional superintendent of police (saver circle), said, "We are investigating the incidents and trying to find the missing persons."

## Mohiuddin Chy family

FROM PAGE 3  
beloved leader of Chittagong and also for those who were killed and suffered injuries in the stampede on Monday.

Meanwhile, the Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Science University (CVASU) employed Chandana Das, wife of Krisnopodo Das, who died in the stampede, said a press release.

Chandana will work as the office assistant of Bangamata Fajilatunnesa Hall of the university, the release added.

## Children's fundamental

FROM PAGE 3  
understanding (MoU) between the Supreme Court and Unicef Bangladesh at the Judges' Lounge of the SC.

Edouard Beigbeder, Unicef Bangladesh representative, and Md Zakir Hossain, acting registrar general of the SC, signed the extension of the MoU on behalf of their respective sides.

Justice Wahhab said, "The predominant concept of juvenile justice system is to treat child as child in the court. It is a very simple idea, not treat them like an adult who committed crime. That means -- no person, no criminal record, no punishment for the children in conflict with law. The mandate of the Children Act 2013 is in commensurate with the same principle."

He also said the act (children act) requires the atmosphere of the courtroom, seat plans, decorations and procedures of the children courts to be informal and child friendly.

Edouard Beigbeder said the Children Act 2013 is a great legal instrument to protect the rights of children.

"However, its success will mainly depend on effective implementation of the act, especially to strengthen access to justice for children," he added.

Justice Muhammad Imman Ali, a judge of the Appellate Division of the SC and chairman of the Supreme Court Special Committee for Child Rights, and Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif, a judge of the High Court Division of the SC and member of the SC special committee, spoke, among others.

## Bangladesh denounces Houthi missile attack in Riyadh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has expressed its deep concern at the recent ballistic missile attacks by the Houthi rebels targeting the residential area of Riyadh which was successfully intercepted by the Saudi air-defence forces.

Bangladesh denounces such unilateral and provocative acts, which could escalate tension in the area and impact adversely upon the peace and stability in the region, said a statement of the foreign ministry yesterday.

"Bangladesh remains committed to stand by the brotherly people and the Government of Saudi Arabia in their efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region," it said.

## Mother fights for custody of baby son

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the paternal uncle and grandmother of a 20-month-old boy, who was taken away from his mother eight months ago, to produce him before it on January 7 for a decision on his custody.

The court will decide on that day whether the baby boy, Mousum Gain Neel, would be sent back to his mother.

Neel's uncle Ripon Gain and grandmother Sushoma Gain were ordered to bring him to the court because they took him away from his mother Farida Yeasmin Moni.

The bench of Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif and Justice Bhishmadev Chakraborty came up with the order after hearing a writ petition filed by Moni, in which she sought an order on the respondents (Neel's father Neuton, uncle Ripon and grandmother Sushoma) to send Neel back to her.

Citing from the petition, Farida told The Daily Star that she married Neuton Gain, a Hindu man, from Dakope in Khulna after they had fallen in love.

Neuton Gain converted to Islam and named himself Neuton Gain Liton after their marriage in March 2015, and their son, Neel, was born in 2016, she said.

The family of Neuton did not accept their marriage, and on April 17 this year, Neuton, his brother Ripon, and their mother Sushoma took Neel away from her after coming to her rented house in Mugda area of the capital, she said.

Moni, however, said she did not know where Neel was staying now.

She also said a dowry case was filed against Neuton as he allegedly demanded Tk 2 lakh from her after taking away her son.

## BGB will soon get choppers

FROM PAGE 3  
Liberation War, responding to the call of Bangabandhu.

She said the EPR members were the first to transmit Bangabandhu's proclamation of independence across the country via their wireless systems and Subedar Major Shawkat Ali along with his four colleagues embraced martyrdom while performing this duty.

Earlier Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan and BGB Director General Maj Gen Abul Hossain received the premier when she arrived at the BGB headquarters.

The prime minister then inspected and took salute at an attractive parade arranged on the occasion of the BGB Day 2017 at Bir Uttam Anwar Hossain Parade Ground. She also witnessed attractive drills conducted by the BGB members.

A group of representatives led by Indian Border Security Force Director General Krishan Kumar Sharma and another group of representatives headed by police commander of Myanmar's Border Guard Police Brig Gen Myint Toe also witnessed the parade.

The prime minister handed over the President's Border Guard Medal (PBG), BGB Medal (BGBM), BGB Medal-Service (BGBMS) and PBGM-Service (PBGMS) to 51 members of BGB for their courageous and brilliant contributions to various activities of the BGB.

She later addressed a "Special Darbar" of BGB members and replied to queries from two of the members.

BGB DG Maj Gen Abul Hossain thanked the prime minister for the overall development of the force under her leadership.

## UNICEF Vacancy Announcement

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill the following Temporary and Fixed Term posts for its Dhaka Office and Field Offices. For detailed Job Descriptions, please visit our website and use the following link to apply for the posts:

<https://www.unicef.org/about/employ/>

**Health Officer (Temporary Appointment)-NOB; Dhaka;**  
**Nutrition Officer (FT)- NOB; Barisal;**  
**Education Specialist (FT)-NOC; Cox's Bazar;**

Application Closing Date: **5 January 2018**

Please note that no applications by email or post will be accepted. You must log on and create your profile with UNICEF global website and register for application. Attractive remuneration including social security and family medical benefits will be available to the selected candidate as per UN policy. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF's selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.

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### Finance Officer

**Salary:** BDT.45,000-60,000/month with PF, bonus, gratuity and welfare fund  
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## Tender Notice No. 13/2017-18

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for supply, installation, testing & commissioning of split type air-conditioners at different locations of Biman, HSIA, Dhaka from bonafide & experienced AC Contractors/AC Firms/AC Importers/Agents or Dealers of quality brand AC those who successfully completed the supply, installation, testing and commissioning of reputed brand split type air-conditioners in govt./semi-govt./autonomous/multinational/ corporate bodies amounting Tk 10.0 (ten) lac only in a single work order during last 03 (three) years.

Tender papers with detail schedule of works, terms & conditions will be available in the Office of Manager Accounts Cash & Banking Section, Ground Floor, Balaka Bhaban, Kurmitola, Dhaka on cash payment of Tk 2,000/- (two thousand) only (non-refundable) on all working days up to 14/01/2018 during office hours.

Tenderers shall have to submit 2.5% of quoted price as earnest money in favour of Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd. in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/ Bank Guarantee with tender, without which the tender will not be accepted.

Tenders will be received in Room # 409, Project Section, 3rd Floor, Balaka, Kurmitola, Dhaka up to 14.00 hrs on 15/01/2018 and will be opened on the same day at 1430 hrs. in presence of tenderers (if any).

Biman Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Md. Azizul Islam**  
General Manager P&W

GD-2787

**IWM INSTITUTE OF WATER MODELLING**  
HOUSE-496, ROAD-32, NEW DOHS, MOHAKHALI, DHAKA-1206.

## INVITATION FOR TENDER

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Water Resources			
2. Agency	Institute of Water Modelling(IWM)			
3. Procuring Entity Name	Md. Hazrat Ali, Senior Specialist, IWM			
4. Procuring Entity District	Dhaka			
5. Invitation for	Supply and Installation of Fenestration System of 07-storied plus 2 basements of Institute of Water Modelling Headquarters Building			
6. Invitation Ref. No & Date	42.07.007.10.04.0934.2017/1879, Date:20/12/2017			
7. Procurement Method:	Open Tendering Method (OTM)			
8. Budget and Source of Funds:	GOB			
9. Project Name	Supply and Installation of Fenestration System of 07-storied plus 2 basements of Institute of Water Modelling Headquarters Building			
10. Tender No. & Date:	IWM/PW-01/2017, Date:20/12/2017			
11. Tender schedule price	TK. 5,000/- (non-refundable)			
12. Tender Schedule Last Selling Date	15-01-2018 upto 3:00 PM			
13. Tender Submission Date & Time	16-01-2018, upto 3:00 PM			
14. Tender Box Opening Date & Time	16-01-2018, 3:30 PM			
15. Name and Address of the Offices for Selling the Tender Documents:	Institute of Water Modelling(IWM), House-496, Level-4, Road-32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206			
16. Name and Address of the Offices for Receiving the Tender:	Institute of Water Modelling(IWM), House-496, Level-4, Road-32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206			
17. Tender Opening Date, Time and Place:	16-01-2018, at 3:30 PM Institute of Water Modelling(IWM), House-496, Level-2, Road-32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206			
18. Eligibility of Tenderer	Interested Tenderer shall submit a letter confirming the conditions and information specified in the Tender Document.			
19. Brief Description of Package:				
Package No-01	Description of materials	Price of tender document(Tk)	Tender Security (Tk)	Completion time (days)
	(i). Structural Glazing Curtain Wall, (ii). Single Floor Glazing Panel, (iii). Point Fixing Glazing System, (iv). Glass Swing Door Wall, (v). Glass Railing, (vi). Stationary Louver System	5,000/- (Five thousand)	20,00,000/- (Twenty lakh)	135 (one hundred & thirty-five) days from the date of issuing work order.
20. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Prof. Dr. M. Monowar Hossain, Executive Director, IWM			
21. Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone:02-9842105-6, ext. 112, Fax: 02-9847901			
22. Special Instruction	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any cause.			

(Prof. Dr. M. Monowar Hossain)

Executive Director, IWM

Date:20/12/2017

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