

Remove communal content from textbooks

Speakers tell roundtable on combatting violent extremism

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Removal of all content in textbooks that may propagate communalism, practicing religious and moral values in family and social life, and teaching children about safe internet use are key in preventing youths from getting involved in violent extremism, speakers at a roundtable said yesterday.

They also recommended addressing youths' alienation, engaging them in cultural activities and teaching them tolerance towards differing opinions.

Exposure, an event management organisation, association with Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) and The Daily Star arranged the programme titled "Role of Families and Religious Values in Preventing Violent Extremism" under

Madrasa students have religious knowledge but they are financially disadvantaged, while private university students have no financial problems but lack religious knowledge. The militants know very well how to motivate target groups

> **Towhidul Islam Junaeid** student at Govt Alia Madrasa

the Sampreeti project at The Daily Star

"Communal content was added in our textbooks.... Who was behind it? This is not how things are supposed to be, especially in this day and age," said educationist Rasheda K Choudhury.

A student is learning to distinguish between people based on their faith. "I'm Muslim, he is Hindu, and he is different from me -- this is what they are learning," she said.



Discussants at the event at The Daily Star Centre.

PHOTO: STAR

She further said students are and religious getting certificates in the exam-based recommended. education system but time has come to ask whether they are at all acquiring to prevent extremism and violence knowledge.

"Our children have to go through studies." This system does not leave adequate time for healthy cultural practices and playtime, she opined.

Highlighting the role of family and educational institutions in preventing extremism, security expert Maj Gen (retd) Abdur Rashid also questioned how and why communal content to made its way into textbooks.

"There is concerning patronage of extremism from home and abroad. We must stop this," he added.

AKM Shahidul Hoque said most of the arrested militants were motivated

He stressed the need for strong militant counter-narrative against the internet, propaganda on particularly social media. These messages should also be disseminated in families, society, schools, colleges

institutions,

Emphasising on social cohesion against woman and children, MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam said four public exams to go for higher youths are not inclined to extremism. A quarter with vested interest is driving them to militancy, mostly through

> "We have to address their alienation, their despair in family and social life," she said.

social media propaganda.

She stressed on teaching children accept diversity, including religious and social backgrounds, in educational institutions and society.

The government has reined in militant activities after the Holey Former Inspector General of Police Artisan attack in 2016. "We have to root it out for good, so that not a single person gets involved with it," she added.

Prof Dr M Shamsher Ali of suggested Southeast University parents to spend more time with their children. He further recommended not broadcasting any advertisement that SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

'She was asked indecent, objectionable questions'

Barrister Suman testifies against Sonagazi OC JNU CORRESPONDENT

Prosecution witness Syed Sayedul Haque Suman yesterday gave his statement before a Dhaka court against Moazzem Hossain, former officerin-charge (OC) of Sonagazi Police Station, in a case for recording a video of Feni madrasa student Nusrat Jahan Rafi and posting the footage on social media.

Supreme Court lawyer Suman, also the complainant of the case, told the court, Sonagazi OC Moazzem Hossain violated laws by recording a video of Nusrat while questioning about her sexual harassment by madrasa principal Siraj Ud Doula, on March 27.

"Later, the video was circulated on YouTube and social media," he said. "I saw the video on April 11 at around 9:30am, while I was at the High Court's Shamsul Haque Chowdhury Hall Room," he said.

"The video footage shows Moazzem asking Nusrat indecent, embarrassing and objectionable questions. At one stage of questioning, he even disclosed her name and identity," Suman said.

"When the video footage spread across the country after Nusrat's death, a social unrest ensued. And a possibility of law and order deterioration arose. So, as a conscious citizen, I filed the case seeking July 28, when the capital and others districts justice," he added.

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Health minister comes under fire

The Daily Star | 3

JS body not happy over Zahid Maleque's trip abroad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday expressed dissatisfaction over Health Minister Zahid Maleque's trip to Malaysia at a time when the country is reeling from dengue. The parliamentary standing committee

on public assurance asked why the health minister is abroad when people are suffering from dengue. Meanwhile, amid criticism over the ministry's failure in controlling dengue

outbreak, Maleque decided to cut his trip short and returned to the country early today, sources at the health ministry said.

He is expected to hold a press conference today at the ministry.

Zahid went to Malaysia with family on were witnessing rise in dengue cases.

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'A humanitarian crisis'

Quader terms dengue outbreak, urges united efforts

UNB, Dhaka

Terming the dengue situation a "humanitarian crisis", Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said everyone should work together to tackle the crisis.

"Cleanliness drives will continue in every neighbourhood of the country. The government will be successful in combatting dengue like other challenges," he said while inaugurating a three-day cleanliness and awareness drive of Awami League at Jhigatala in the city.

Asked about the health minister's Malaysia trip, Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, said, "The main point is whether necessary steps have been taken for combatting dengue, no matter who's at home or who's abroad."

He also said Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad will conduct free blood tests to diagnose dengue if needed.

AL, BNP's annual income on the rise

Financial reports submitted to EC show

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Annual income of Awami League and BNP have been on the rise for the last three years, according to reports submitted to the Election Commission. AL submitted its income and expenditure report yesterday, the last day

of submission. It showed that the party earned Tk 24.23 crore last year and spent Tk 18.88 crore. According to EC sources, the ruling party's income was Tk 20.25 crore and expenditure Tk 13.63 crore in 2017. AL earned Tk 4.84 crore and

spent Tk 3.01 crore in 2016. An AL delegation led by HT Imam, the prime minister's political adviser and co-chairman of the party's election steering committee,

submitted the report to EC. Meanwhile, BNP submitted its report on Tuesday. According to it, the party's income was Tk 9.87 crore and expenditure Tk 3.73 crore last year. A BNP team led by party Joint Secretary General Syed Moazzem Hossain Alal submitted the report.

In 2017, BNP's income was Tk 9.46 crore and expenditure Tk 4.19 crore; and in 2016, the party earned Tk 4.13 crore and spent Tk 3.99 crore.

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DHAKA TODAY

DISCUSSION

On national curriculum & textbook Organiser: Bangladesh Mahila Parishad Venue: Anwara Begum Munira

Khan Auditorium, Segunbagicha Time: 3pm

SEMINAR

Right to Information: Demand **Enhancing Activity** Organiser: RIB & The Hunger Project BD Venue: The Daily Star Centre Time: 9:30am

RERORT LAUNCHING

Climate Change Trend & Its Impact on CHT Organiser: Manusher Jonno

Foundation Venue: Brac Center Inn, Mohakhali Time: 3pm

PROCESSION

Raising awareness for the prevention of dengue Organiser: Sammilito Sanskritik

Venue: Bahadur Shah Park Time: 5pm

DU VC SELECTION

Senate nominates incumbent VC

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University senate members yesterday nominated a three-member panel for the chancellor to appoint one of them as the university's next vice-chancellor. BNP-Jamaatbacked White Panel teachers boycotted the nomination.

The special session unanimously nominated incumbent Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman, Pro-VC (administration) Prof Muhammad Samad and Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) President Prof ASM Maksud Kamal, said a press release of the university.

The names were proposed by the meeting convener Prof Shibli Rubayat-Ul Islam and supported by another senate member Bahalul Majnun Chunnu.

Ninety-three members out of 105 attended the session.

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রাজস্বের প্রবৃদ্ধি টেকসই সমৃদ্ধি

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

এতদ্বারা সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সম্মানিত করদাতাদের সুবিধার্থে অনলাইনে মূসক নিবন্ধন গ্রহণের সময় আগামী ১৪ আগস্ট, ২০১৯ খ্রি: তারিখ পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হয়েছে। সে অনুযায়ী,

- যে সকল সম্মানিত করদাতা ইতোপূর্বে অনলাইনে মূসক নিবন্ধন (৯ ডিজিট) গ্রহণ করেছেন তাঁদেরকে নতুন করে "মূসক-২.১ ফরম" পূরণপূর্বক নিবন্ধন সংক্রান্ত তথ্যসমূহ হালনাগাদ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো;
- যে সকল সম্মানিত করদাতা নতুন পদ্ধতিতে মূসক নিবন্ধন গ্রহণ করেননি অর্থাৎ এখনও ১১ ডিজিট নিবন্ধন ব্যবহার করছেন, তাদেরকেও অবিলম্বে অনলাইনে (www.vat.gov.bd) নিবন্ধন গ্রহণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো ;
- যে সকল সম্মানিত করদাতা ০৭ জুলাই, ২০১৯ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অনলাইনে নিবন্ধনের জন্য আবেদন করেছেন, সিস্টেম আপগ্রেড করার কারণে সেটি বন্ধ থাকায় তাঁদের নিবন্ধনের আবেদন সিস্টেমে গৃহীত হয়নি। তাই, তাঁদেরকে পুনরায় অনলাইনে নিবন্ধনের আবেদন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা २८ना ।

সম্মানিত করদাতাদের মাসিক রিটার্ন দাখিল, আমদানি/রপ্তানিসহ অন্যান্য ব্যবসায়িক কার্যক্রম নির্বিঘ্নে পরিচালনার লক্ষ্যে আগামী ১৪ আগস্ট, ২০১৯ খ্রি: তারিখের মধ্যে নিবন্ধনের তথ্যাদি হালনাগাদ এবং প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে নতুন পদ্ধতিতে নিবন্ধন গ্রহণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

আসুন, সবাই মিলে মুসক তথ্য হালনাগাদ করে রাজস্ব সুরক্ষায় সরকারকে সহায়তা করি।

ভ্যাট সংক্রান্ত যেকোন তথ্যের জন্য কল করুন অনলাইনে ভিজিট করুন

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Canteen staffer beaten dead at BUTEX

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An employee of a canteen at Bangladesh University of Textiles was beaten to death by some students, following allegations of theft, in the capital's Tejgaon area early yesterday.

The deceased, Abdul Mannan, 25, had been working at the university's Aziz Hall canteen for the last 10 years, said Ali Hossain, officer-in-charge of Tejgaon Industrial Police Station.

Two more canteen staffers were injured in the incident, he added.

According to police, four students beat up the canteen workers.

OC Ali Hossain said Atik, a resident student of Shaheed Aziz Hall, lost his mobile phone and suspected that the canteen staffers were involved in theft.

Atik called Mannan along with two other canteen employees to room 318 around 9pm on Tuesday.

"There, four students SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

www.nrbglobalbank.com



Municipality employees from around the country continued their demonstration for the 18th consecutive day,