PHOTO: STAR

Editors of national dailies and senior journalists inaugurate "Muktijuddho Corner" at the library of Jatiya Press Club yesterday. The corner contains shelves stacked with some 100 books on the country's Liberation War, published at home and abroad. The press club authorities said they are procuring more books to enrich their collection.

'Ensure freedom on campuses'

Speakers tell discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many teachers and students still do not have adequate freedom on campuses, though protecting their freedom is the spirit of the country's independence, speakers at a citizens' rally said yesterday.

A group of rights activists and lawyers were speaking at the rally on "Stand for freedom in educational institutions as human rights" at the auditorium of Bishwo Shahitto Kendro in the capital.

Law Life Culture (LLC), a rights body, organised the event, marking Martyred Intellectuals' Day.

Presenting a keynote paper, LLC researcher Rezaur Rahman Lenin urged authorities concerned to ensure freedom of teaching, publishing results of research, expressing opinions and freedom of raising voice against irregularities in educational institutions.

Quoting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco), Lenin, also a rights activist, said the right to education is an internationally recognised human rights.

"But unfortunately intellectuals and university professors are being forcibly disappeared, beaten, arrested, and thrown into jail due to their dissenting opinion, and students are being brutally attacked when they protest any irregularity," he alleged.

He further alleged that promotions of dissident teachers have been halted illegally, while some have been

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Focus on sexual and reproductive health

Speakers tell roundtable on prevention of STDs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Improving the integration of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) into HIV-related programmes can better tackle the sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs), speakers at a roundtable said yesterday.

Terming lack of literacy on SRH among adolescents alarming, they also stressed for integrated and multi-sectoral approach to make the best use of resources.

Bangla daily Prothom Alo organised the roundtable at it office, titled "Necessity of sexual and reproductive health service in HIV prevention programme and to-do", in association with Save the Children and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

"SRH literacy among adolescents is still 12.5 percent. This is concerning," Shamim Jahan, director of HIV-AIDS sector of Save the Children, said.

Speakers at the discussion also stressed for bringing the entire population under integration, rather than focusing only on target groups like sex workers.

Dr Ahmedul Kabir, professor of medicine at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said HIV is mostly a sexually-transmitted disease, and that needs to be recognised first.

"We are not thinking about people who take services from sex workers,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

India's NRC threat to Bangladesh

Says Mirza Fakhrul

UNB, *Dhaka*

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in India's Assam is a threat to Bangladesh's independence and sovereignty.

"We've been saying from the start, we're very worried over India's NRC," he said.

The BNP leader made the remarks while talking to reporters after placing wreaths at Martyred Intellectuals Memorial in Mirpur, marking Martyred Intellectuals' Day.

Fakhrul together with party senior leaders placed wreaths around 9:30am.

He said the NRC will destabilise the entire region.

He alleged that the government has destroyed the dream of freedom fighters and the spirit of the Liberation War by obliterating democracy. "They also ruined all the achievements of the nation as we've lost our rights and democracy," he added.

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Sangram editor put on three-day remand

STAR REPORT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Abul Asad, editor of Bangla daily Sangram, on a three-day remand in a case.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Mamunur Rashid passed the order after Inspector (operations) of Hatirjheel Police Station Mohammad Golam Azam, also investigation officer of the case, produced Asad before the court seeking a five-day remand in the case filed under Digital Security Act.

Afzal Hossain, a freedom fighter, filed the case.

Police took Abul Asad into safe custody on Friday, after a mob vandalised the office of Sangram in the capital's Boro Moghbazar, over publishing of a report which termed executed war criminal Abdul Quader Molla a "martyr".

Quader Molla, former assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami, was hanged at the old Dhaka central jail in 2013, in a case over committing crimes against humanity during the Liberation War.

Sangram on Thursday ran a report "Today is the sixth martyrdom anniversary of Shaheed Abdul Quader Molla".

ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST SANGRAM: QUADER

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said legal action should be taken against daily Sangram for describing executed war criminal Abdul Quader Molla as a "martyr".

"We'll talk to the home ministry on this matter," he said while responding to reporters after paying tribute to martyred intellectuals, reports UNB.

Quader, also general secretary of ruling Awami League, said the evil communal power which attacked freedom fighters and Bengalis in 1971 and killed intellectuals, is still "spreading poison".

Responding to questions about war criminals living abroad, the minister said, "We are looking into the matter [and] action will be taken on time."

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আপেল কেজি ডোবেক্স ১৬৯ টাকা
কমলা কেজি ১৮০ টাকা
লাল শাক আঁটি ৮ টাকা
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আলু (নতুন) কেজি ৪০ টাকা
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বসুন্ধরা আঁটা ২ কেজি ছাড় ১০৳ ৫৮ টাকা
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ডাবর হানী ৫০০ গ্রাম ছাড় ৬০৳ ৫৯০ টাকা
মিনিকেট প্রিমিয়াম কেজি ছাড় ৪৳ ৪৯ টাকা
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