

**Accreditation Council to distribute certificates**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Accreditation Council is all set to provide certificates to universities to ensure quality of higher education at public and private institutions.

Education minister Dipu Moni will officially inaugurate the Accreditation process tomorrow, chairman of the council Prof Dr Mesbahuddin Ahmed said in a press conference yesterday.

"The accreditation certificate is the recognition of quality. It will be given following a total of 63 criteria," he added.

Accreditation means that a course or university has gone through a rigorous review and evaluation process by experts in the field and has been considered as standard as per international requirements, said Prof Mesbahuddin.

**Holding tax based**

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Pahartali, used to pay Tk 18,000 as holding tax per year for his four-storey building based on the land itself. But under the new system, he will now have to pay Tk 1.35 lakh.

"We would've been able to pay if it had doubled, but almost 10 times the original amount is beyond our ability," he said.

Kordata Surokha Parishad, a platform of homeowners, has been staging demonstrations against the reassessment, demanding CCC restore

the previous system.

Amir Uddin, general secretary of the parishad, said, "We knew that CCC has initiated the process of collecting holding tax based on the new system." But the reassessment will inflict a huge burden on homeowners.

Contacted, Mohammed Nazrul Islam, chief revenue officer of CCC, told The Daily Star, "We will be collecting holding tax from this July, as per the reassessment and rule for fiscal 2017-18."

"If homeowners deem

it to be unjust, they can appeal to the CCC review board. The board will consider the matter, based on homeowners' financial condition," he added.

Mentionable, the main source of CCC's income is municipal tax. CCC can collect 17 percent of the city tax, in both public and private sectors, under the powers granted to it by City Corporation Act 2009.

Within the 17 percent, seven percent is holding tax, three percent electrification tax and seven percent garbage removal tax.

**Pran launches nursing college in Natore**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Nature*

Pran-RFL group launched a nursing college in Natore after its founder Amjad Khan Chowdhury yesterday morning.

Uzma Chowdhury, chairman of the nursing college and director of Corporate Finance at Pran-RFL Group, inaugurated the college through a programme, said a press release.

**Demand for justice reverberates**

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communal attacks on the Hindu community in Narail.

Speakers under the banner of Udbigno Nagorikbrindo organiser and general secretary of Jatiyo Mukti Council Chattogram Amir Abbas Tapu and Bangladesh Samyobadi Andolon Chattogram's general secretary Satyajit Biswas addressed the rally.

Meanwhile, president of Jatiyo Mukti Council East Zone Advocate Bhulan

in the afternoon, after a procession.

They also demanded cancellation of the constitutional provision recognising Islam as the state religion, which has been crucial in the treatment of minority communities as "second class citizens" of the country.

Terming the mayhem in Narail a pre-planned attack, they blamed the lack

of proper trial in previous communal attacks across the country.

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Meanwhile, president of Jatiyo Mukti Council East Zone Advocate Bhulan

in front of Chattogram Press Club yesterday.

He also alleged that he had to wait for hours with

**Bangladesh seeks time**

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on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances has communicated with the government about at least 76 cases of enforced disappearances over the decades, requesting information and explanations.

Finally, on January 10 and February 5 this year, the government replied to the Working Group, which then said the Bangladesh government's explanations were "insufficient".

In its June 27 letter, OHCHR said it is seeking a response from the Bangladesh government to include it in an annual report, which will be presented to the UN General Assembly in September. It wanted to get the response by July 15.

Asked why the response was late, Secretary Momen said the government is working on it.

"Sometimes, we don't get responses from various

agencies in the required formats," he told reporters on Sunday.

Momen said the government informed the UN body that there was an Eid vacation and that it will be a little late in sending the response. "But, the response will be given."

Early this year, a human rights cell was formed under the foreign ministry's UN wing, to better analyse the country's human rights situation and rightly present it to the international community.

The move came following US sanctions on Rapid Action Battalion and seven of its current and former officials on December 10 last year, on grounds of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances.

Besides, 12 international human rights organisations in November had written to the UN, calling for banning Rab from UN peacekeeping missions.

Under the chairmanship of the deputy commissioner of Sylhet, Md Mujibur Rahman, education department officials of the four districts of the division were present at the event.

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from spreading further.

The Ministry of Education organised the meeting.

Other relevant issues like recovery of educational activities in Sylhet district after the flood, damaged educational institutions, new textbooks and curriculum of SSC and educational institutions under MPO were discussed at the meeting.

Under the chairmanship of the deputy commissioner of Sylhet, Md Mujibur Rahman, education department officials of the four districts of the division were present at the event.

FROM PAGE 3  
In late January this year, Momen said many times that "the way the human rights situation of Bangladesh was presented to the UN or other international bodies was not the whole fact".

Speemangal assistant conservator of forest Shyamal Kumar Mitra said disciplinary action has also been taken against an officer-employee of the Forest Department due to negligence in duty.

Asked, Kamruzzaman Kamal, director of marketing, Pran-RFL

their goods and filed a case with the Moulvibazar Forest Court. Saju Marchiang, a resident of Lawachhara Khasia Punji, said the shooting has been going on deep in the forest, considered a haven for endangered owls, spectacled monkeys and hanumans.

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Group, said, "We do not have any employee named ABM Rintu. He used to work with us two years ago. Many people work for us from outside on a freelance basis. I don't understand why Pran's name is brought up in this incident," said

However, Moulvibazar Wildlife and Nature Conservation Department divisional forest officer Md Rezaul Karim Chowdhury said all vehicles used for shooting in Lawachhara on that day had Pran-RFL stickers.

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