

Moanoghar News Bulletin

(April - June '09)

Notes from the Editorial Board

We are pleased to bring out the 2nd issue of the Moanoghar News Bulletin for 2009 covering the last three months of the first semester.

It was an eventful quarter for us; the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) results of the school came out, the children sat in the first terminal examination in April-May and as well as the preparations were undertaken for holding the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

We also received notable guests; their visits and sympathy to us are a source of inspiration for all the residents and children of Moanoghar community. Their advice will guide us in our continued endeavour to run Moanoghar at the service of the distressed and the underserved.

During the period we lost two of the illustrious sons of Chittagong Hill Tracts - Mr. Charu Bikash Chakma and Mr. Subimal Dewan. During their entire lifetime, they both strived to safeguarding the rights and welfare of the CHT's ethnic minorities. We also lost Pinky Chakma – a student of class VIII. We deeply mourn over their death. May their departed souls find eternal peace.

1st Terminal Results of Moanoghar Residential School

The 1st Terminal Examinations of Moanoghar School were held from 22 April to 3 May. The results were published in the same month.

Overall, the results were below expectations. A number of reasons are responsible for this, introduction of a new pedagogical method by the government – called 'creative method' - to which the students and even the teachers took some time to adapt. But most importantly, delay in receiving the textbooks (provided free by the government) – students received some of the textbooks only a few days before the exams – was the main reason.

The School has now adopted a 'crash programme' of accelerated learning for the students and we expect better results in the annual examinations by the end of the year.

Results of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) of Moanoghar Residential School

The results of the SSC examinations were published in May. A total of 174 students appeared, out of which 104 passed. Two students obtained GPA 5+ (average 80%+ marks in all subjects) with another 9 students receiving GPA 5. In overall terms, girls did better than the boys (70% vs. 60%).

The results are comparable to national average (65%). Although, we certainly believe that the results should have been much better, this is decidedly an improvement from the last year. This fact is particularly remarkable given the difficult times Moanoghar had been through in the recent years.

The Moanoghar authority has already introduced special 'coaching classes' for the students who will appear in next year's examination. We are hopeful the results will be commensurate to our efforts.

Guest visits

Renowned writer Selina Hossain and writer and journalist Syed Abul Maksud visited Moanoghar on 22 May. The visiting team also included prominent women activist and writer Noorjahan Bose; Editor of the fortnightly Ananya, Dil Monwara Monu; Prof. Sourav Shikder, Chairman, Department of Philology, Dhaka University and Shamsul Huda, Executive Director of Association for Land Reforms and Development (ALRD).

A team of Jummanet, Japan visited Moanoghar on 28 May. The team included Shimozawa Takashi, Mr. Imamura and Ms. Miki Sato. Chanchu Chakma, Director of Moanoghar took them around the Moanoghar campus and made a presentation on the current situation of Moanoghar.



The guests arriving at Moanoghar
(front: Noorjahan Bose and Selina Hossain.
Just behind: Syed Abul Maksud and Shamsul Huda)

Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Moanoghar held

The Annual General Meeting of Moanoghar was held on last 24 July. The existing Executive Committee was re-affirmed to continue its full term till next June'10 with Ms. Arati Chakma, Ushamoy Khisha and Samar Bijoy Chakma respectively as President, General Secretary and Treasurer. The annual activity reports, financial report & budget and audit reports was also presented and approved.



The Rotary Club, Dhaka Kawran Bazar team at Moanoghar.

Visit of Rotary Club, Dhaka Kawran Bazar Team and donations of equipments and study materials.

The President Elect (2009-2010) of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Kawran Bazar Mr. Shafiqul Islam visited Moanoghar on 6th June. During his visit, he interacted with the students and sat separately with Moanoghar management to acquaint himself of Moanoghar activities.

They also donated a number of equipments and study materials for Moanoghar Resource Centre. These include; a laptop computer, one multimedia projector with screen, one generator, a set of sound system and around 1000 books.