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## International Literacy Day observed

The International Literacy Day was observed in the country on Thursday as elsewhere in the world, reports UNB.

To mark the day, various socio-cultural organisations chalked out elaborate programmes, including discussion, rallies and workshop.

### BISWAS

In the capital, President Abdur Rahman Biswas called for launching a countrywide literacy campaign in order to build a prosperous nation.

"Spreading education should our prime commitment," the President said at a function of Primary and Mass Education Division at Osmany Memorial Hall, where he also distributed certificates among teachers and social workers for their contribution in the field of education.

### KHALEDA

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia visited a number of schools in the outskirts of the capital and urged the people to send their children to schools and encourage them to complete their studies.

She asked the students to concentrate on their studies and prepare themselves as worthy citizens to take up the country's future leadership.

### NAZMUL HUDA

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda, former presidential advisor Azizul Haq, Educationist Dr Abdullah Al Muti Sharuddin, Editor of the Daily Star Mahfuz

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## Literacy Day

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Anam, former Chairman of Public Service Commission S M Al Hossaini were among those who spoke at the function at Osmani Hall.

Addressing a discussion at Rangpur town hall, Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sirar said a national plan has been undertaken to ensure education for all by the year 2000.

Begum Saheda Sarkar MP, BNP leaders Nurul Huda Sultan, Rahimuddin Bharsha and Shah Mohammad Saleq also spoke at the meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner Afzal Hossain.

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Emajuddin Ahmed has urged the policy makers evolve a consensus

formula to free the campuses from terrorism and solve other major problems.

Speaking at a discussion at BANBEIS auditorium here, the VC pointed out that the country's unemployment problem remains alarming [despite increase of literacy rate from 17 percent in 1947 to] 35 percent now.

Organised by National Association of UNESCO Clubs in cooperation with UNESCO the function was addressed, among others, by SM Saifuddin, Prof Masuda M Rashid, Chowdhury, Mahbubuddin Chowdhury and Rafiqul Islam Sarkar.

Bangladesh Human Rights Commission (BHRC) and Institute of Rural Journalists jointly organised a discussion meeting at the commission's office in Dhaka.

Visiting Scholar of George Town University in USA Dr K A M Haq Kaisar, Advocate S M Goswami, Kazi Nurul Islam, Abdur Rahim Bhuiyan, Rokeya Nurunnesa and Advocate Kamrunnesa spoke at the discussion presided over by BHRC President Kazi Abdur Rezaque.

Housing and Public Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam, Miah, led a colourful rally in Comilla town and participated in a discussion on the Literacy Day at the town hall.

In Khulna, Whip Ashraf Hossain and Deputy Commissioner Kazi Reazul Haq led a rally which paraded main thoroughfares of the city. Whip Ashraf spoke at a discussion at the local Zia Hall.