

Viswa Sahitya Kendro observes first anniversary

The first anniversary of the founding of Viswa Sahitya Kendro (centre for world literature) was celebrated in Dacca on Monday at the Bangladesh Education Extension and Research Centre, reports BSS.

Attended by intellectuals, writers, literary lovers and elite the function was presided over by Prof. Kabir Chowdhury. Mr. Abdullah Abu Sayeed, Chairman of the Kendro, writer Syed Shamsul Haq and famed dramatist Mr. Mumtazuddin Ahmed spoke at the first session of the function. Reading of some selected texts from curriculum, songs and magic show were part of the second phase of the anniversary celebration.

While giving a brief background which led to the establishment of the Kendro and the aims, objectives and the necessity of the creation of such a centre, Mr. Abdullah Abu Sayeed said "we were experiencing a rapid and startling degeneration of the values and deterioration of the education system in this country over the past few decades. This, he said, has created a great void in the field of nation's intellectual development

Keeping in mind the threat of such an impending future and for moulding a generation well-steeped in literary understanding and intellectuals pursuits, the Viswa Sahitya Kendro was established, he said.

Syed Shamsul Haq welcomed such a move and hoped the Centre would go a long way in revitalising the intellectual spheres of our national life. Mr. Mumtazuddin Ahmed hoped that Centre would provide necessary base for nurturing the creativity and original thoughts.

Prof. Kabir Chowdhury in his presidential speech compared the birth of Viswa Sahitya Kendro with that of renaissance. He regretted that the Society was passing through such a time when efforts to produce a genuine modern man either in social, family and political life were lacking. He hoped that the Kendro which has been set up with such an objective in mind would succeed in its mission. He said the unique pattern of studying in an atmosphere of informal nature as introduced by the Kendro deserved the appreciation of the lovers of literature and art.

Awards for science, mathematics teachers

The Commonwealth Association Educators have announced a series of competitive awards for 1979/80. These awards are open to qualified teachers in Primary, Secondary and Teacher Training institutions throughout the Commonwealth, says a BJS Press release.

The awards are made on the basis of short reports in English of personal experience and original work in any area of science and mathematics education, aimed at developing or improving the quality and impact of this education for pupils and students, either nationally or locally. The total value of the rewards will be Taka 10,500.