

# Bangla Academy to form folklore centre

**Cultural Correspondent**

CULTURAL affairs minister Asaduzzaman Noor and Bangla Academy director general Shamsuzzaman Khan at a programme held at the academy said they would consider establishing a folklore research centre at the academy being suggested by foreign folklorists.

Foreign folklorists from India and USA made the suggestion to establish a folklore research centre which can act as a centre for excellence regarding folklore research in South Asia.

They made the suggestion at the closing ceremony of 4th International Folklore Summer School at Abdul Karim Sahitya Bisharad Auditorium of Bangla Academy on Monday.

Arranged by the academy, for the fourth consecutive year, the five-day international workshop included classes and seminars on diverse aspects of folklore research and a field trip.

Both cultural affairs minister and Bangla Academy director general lis-

tened to the suggestions of the foreign folklorists and said they would consider about establishing such an institution.

Among the foreign participants Professor Jawaharlal Handoo (India), Jawher Sircar (India), Dr Ashimananda Gangopadhyay (India), Dr Sudipto Chatterjee (India) and Professor Frank J Korom (USA) were present at the closing ceremony.

Dhaka University vice-chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique presided over the event which included distribution of certificates among the participants and a book launch.

'In terms of folklore Bangladesh is the richest country in South Asia. To preserve and promote the diverse folklore practices, Bangladesh need to establish a full-fledged folklore institute which can act as a centre for excellence regarding folklore research in South Asia', professor Jawaharlal Handoo said at the programme.

Agreeing with Handoo American folklorist Frank J Korom said, 'Bangla Acad-

emy should establish a permanent folklore institute as it will facilitate local folklore researchers greatly'.

Bangla Academy director general Shamsuzzaman Khan said the academy has already submitted a proposal to the cultural affairs ministry for establishment of such an institute.

Cultural Affairs minister Asaduzzaman Noor said the ministry has taken the proposal under consideration and would soon table it at a cabinet meeting. 'The ministry has always tried to facilitate folklore practice and research in the country. We are hopeful about establishing a folklore research institute in near future', said Noor.

Following the discussion, fifteen folklore enthusiasts and researchers were awarded with certificates for successfully completing the five-day folklore workshop which commenced on April 13.

A book featuring writings on social change and folklore by local and foreign folklorists was launched on the occasion.

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তারিখ.....	
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চীফ, ডি.এল.পি ডি.জি	
সিস্টেম এনালিস্ট	
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