

Coaching business a threat to education: NHRC chief



Winners of "Word Master" competition with guests yesterday.

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STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Kazi Reazul Hoque yesterday called upon the education ministry to take vigorous measures to ban "coaching business", which is a threat to the education system.

Though the government took positive initiatives such as distributing free textbooks and school feeding programmes, the coaching business is destroying the education system, he said.

The NHRC chairman made the remarks while speaking as the chief guest at a prize giving ceremony organised by Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) in association with Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) in the capital's The Daily Star Centre.

At the ceremony, he and other guests

distributed prizes among the winners of an English learning competition, "Word Master", organised by BSAF and GNB for underprivileged children.

A total of 3,727 children of 111 primary schools from nine districts took part in the competition. Of them, 15 received the prizes, including certificates and cash.

Kazi Reazul stressed ensuring equal rights for children and putting more focus on the underprivileged group.

Rasheda K Choudhury, executive director of CAMPE, said the government and NGOs should also take such initiatives to teach the children.

Emranul Huq Chowdhury, chairperson of BSAF; Dr Arifa Rahman, vice-president of Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association; and Mainuddin Maiul, director of GNB, also spoke.

Students

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Mobile courts will be in operation to ensure the exams are held properly, it said, adding that stern actions would be taken against those involved in irregularities and question paper leak.

A control room to supervise overall activities of holding the exams will also be operational, it added.