



A big holiday crowd visited the Ekushey book fair at Bangla Academy on Friday.

-OBSERVER

## Book festival opens in city

Adviser for Foreign Affairs Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury on Friday opened a kite festival at the central play ground of the Dhaka University, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Kite Federation and Dhakabashi jointly organised the festival, also joined by High Commissioner of Canada in Dhaka Barbara Richardson and representatives of the missions of India, Thailand, China and Malaysia.

A kite competition and children painting exhibition on kites were also organised as part of the festival that drew huge number of enthusiast spectators.

Speaking on the occasion, the adviser, who is also in charge of the ministries of the Foreign Employment and Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs said, the country now witnesses the "rule of conscience" with the government aiming to set a model for the future government.

"Establishment of rule of law and justice is the goal of the government," Iftekhar said.

President of the Kite Federation Shukur Salek and Sheikh Khoda Bux also spoke in the function chaired by advisor of Dhakabashi Nagina Chowdhury.

# Hundreds throng Ekushey Book Fair

A tremendous rush was seen as book lovers in hundreds thronged the Ekushey Book fair on the Bangla Academy premises taking the privilege of weekly holiday flavour on Friday, reports BSS.

The fair ground wore an other-wise lively look as the people of all ages in refreshed mood moved in and around the whole premises buying books, taking autographs of eminent writers, having chats among friends and sharing pleasantries with those closely acquainted with each other.

People started coming to the fair ground since the morning, although the crowd was a little thin during the noon hours. In the afternoon, the rush was becoming heavier in every passing out moment.

Each stall had to receive an unprecedented number of crowds, especially women and children,

who in a festive mood put their respective choices on the books they would buy.

Everyone stood in long queues to enter and come out of the fair ground, demonstrating a rare example of discipline that was seldom seen on such occasions in the previous years.

One such queue in serpentine line stretched up to the National Museum while the other went up to the Central Shaheed Minar. The security personnel were seen although busy in maintaining discipline both inside and outside of the fair ground.

Writers, publishers and book lovers together also enjoyed launching of new books on the fair. Besides, different cultural programmes, with songs, dances and poetry recitation added fresh and relishing taste in the overall atmosphere.

Publishers said the books written by Humayun Ahmed, Imdadul Haque Milon and Dr. Mohammed Zafar Iqbal, among other writers, were on bigger sale.

Book lovers said that they were very much happy with the safety and security being looked after by the elite force Rapid Action Battalion and the Police personnel throughout the day.

## Tiger kills bawali in Sunderbans

BARGUNA, Feb 16:-A tiger ate up a bawali in the Sunderbans on Thursday evening while cutting golpatas, reports UNB.

Locals said the tiger swooped on Abdul Quddus, 41, of Pathar-gkata upazila, took him away and ate up his body apart from one leg and one hand.