

The Independent, 18.10.12, P- 2



DHAKA: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday giving away a crest to a librarian at the grand conference of librarians at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. BSS PHOTO

PM for wealthy people to set up public libraries

DHAKA, OCT 17: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday called upon the wealthy people to spend a part of their income for setting up public libraries in their respective areas.

She made the plea while addressing the inaugural function of the National Conference of Library Professionals-2012 at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city.

Hasina said that a section of people in the country nowadays earn quite a lot of money. "It won't be fair to spend all your money in travels abroad... spare some money for establishing public libraries in your villages, upazillas and districts."

She also urged the parents and teachers to encourage their children in reading books so they do not take any wrong path.

The Prime Minister mentioned that realizing the importance of establishing well-stocked library in every educational institution, her government included the issue in the newly adopted modern and time-befitting National Education Policy.

Stressing the need for modernization of information preservation and management system, she said the librarians could play an important role in building a

'digital Bangladesh'.

Hasina asked the library professionals to perform their duties with utmost sincerity and responsibility in collecting and preserving the invaluable folklores of the country.

She hoped that the 'National Conference of the Library Professionals' will contribute in building a knowledge-based democratic society, help increase the efficiency of librarians and also in the development and modernization of library.

Elaborating various steps for the development of libraries, the Prime Minister said that her government made massive development of the libraries and constructed own buildings for public libraries in all the districts. Besides, she said, initiative has been taken to build a strong public library management system in the country through modernization and digitization of their preservation system aimed at facilitating research and improving professional skills of librarians. She also stressed enhancing professionalism in library management system for preserving invaluable literary works on own history and heritage of the country as well as other communities who came here at different times.

UNB

