

Information is the Oxygen of Democracy World Press Freedom Day – 2006: Bangladesh

By the Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication

On occasion of observing World Press Freedom Day – 2006, a joint initiative of six organizations is going to arrange a two days celebration program in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication(BNNRC), Mass-line Media Center(MMC),Media Watch, South Asia Free Media Association(SAFMA),VOICE and YPSA are organizing this event in collaboration with Manusher Jonno-DFID and UNESCO Bangladesh.

With a firm belief on Information is the Oxygen of Democracy, all these organizations came forward to gather a multi stakeholder participants and thus aid in information movement with a dream of fairer world. This two day long celebration will be held on 03-04 May at LGED auditorium in Dhaka.

As a notion of positive standing of government, Barrister Nazmul Huda, honorable Minister, Ministry of Communication has given his consent to participate as chief guest in the inaugural ceremony.

Barrister Moudud Ahmed, the honorable Minister, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs has agreed to grace the concluding ceremony as the chief guest.

Mr. Abdur Salam Pintu, honourable Deputy Minister, Ministry of Information will also participate in a special session as chief guest in the first day's program.

It is mention worthy that different sessions of two days consultation would be chaired and participated by the eminent Law makers, Media activists, Academics and Development practitioners.

With a process of registration, the inauguration session will take place from 09:00 to 11:30 of the first day. Besides regular discussion on "Media, Development and Poverty Alleviation", two other main attractions of this session are 'Pat' gan on Right to Information and multimedia presentation on Security Status of Journalists.

The first working session with a subject concentration on "The Role of Information Technology in Poverty Alleviation and People's Right to Know" will start from 12:00 PM and will be continued till Lunch.

The last session of the day will resume at 2:30. The subject to be discussed in this session had been set as "Exaggeration of Information, Suffering of Mass people and Responsibility of Journalists".

Second days program will be start at 9:30 on May 04, 2006. The focus of the first session would be "The Role of Information in Women Empowerment". Focus of the second session, going to be started from 12:30 will be "Voters right to know".

Finally, two days celebration consultation will sit again at 2:30 for drawing the conclusion. In this concluding ceremony, the subject concentration would be "Liberalization of Media: Problem and Prospect: Perspective of Bangladesh".

The organizers are observing this press freedom day in such a extent of enthusiasm with an immediate expectation to limit all the suppression and oppression, today's medias are subject to.

Sent by email by AHM Bazlur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication