

A memorable day in Rangamati

What a day that was! That was 1st day of March, 2011. Passed whole day in a rural school located on an island in the Kaptai Lake nearby the Shuvalong waterfall, surrounded by incredible natural beauty; talked with the teachers, innocent students and with some dwellers of the island (though they know very few English & Bangla) and many more experiences.

There is no local transport facility to go to the school area and to return from the school. Teachers from four different schools of four nearby islands made an engine boat for going to school and returning to home. I join them to go to Hemonto Govt. Primary School. I surprised when I got introduced with the man who was seated in the driving chair. He was the Head teacher of the EIA school. The head teachers play the role of riding the boat.



Head Teacher of the EIA school riding the boat

A wooden Ludu was there to make the journey time enjoyable and all the teachers (including the head teachers) enjoyed the journey time playing with the Ludu. After an hour journey we reached the island (named 'Shil Chhari') of EIA school and the responsibility of riding the boat

goes to another head teacher. We had to have a ten-minute walk in the hilly path to reach the school which is situated in the top of a hill.



Hilly way to the School

Total number of teachers in the school is only 4 (four) including the head teacher and the number of total students is 96 (pre-primary to class five). The total number of rooms in the school is 6 (six) including the head teacher and teachers' room. All the rooms been named with the names of the students who got scholarship. According to the head teacher of the school, it is a way to inspire the parents and the school aged children for their education.



Assembly time

From the classroom observation of class five I have found that, teacher was delivering lecture and giving some instructions in English. But all the faces were looking blank. To make them understand, teacher was not using Bangla but Chakma language (local language). Because he knows that the students know very few Bangla like English. After the class, I told the class “I want to talk to you” (In English) and then asked them in Bangla whether they have understood or not what I said in English (). But nobody was responding. When I was asking the same question several times one student start speaking with the teacher in local (Chakma) language.



EIA teacher with class 5 students

According to the teachers voice I came to know that they haven't understood my any word (neither English nor Bangla). Then I try to communicate with them in Bangla with simplest and easiest words. Sometime, I had to take help of the teacher as an interpreter. In this situation, 'Chakma' is their mother tongue, 'Bangla' is their second language and 'English' is their third language. Honorable educationalists of our country should think about them and do something to start education in their mother tongue. I think that, it is their right.

However, I like to work with them and want to do something for this underprivileged group of people. I'm very grateful to Allah for giving me the chance to work with them and for giving me such a beautiful day with them. Really, that was a fabulous day which I will never forget.

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