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Ekushey Book Fair preparations in full swing

Nasir Uz Zaman | Published at 12:07am on January 29, 2024



A panoramic view of the Ekushey Book Fair premises in Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital is snapped on Sunday ahead of the inauguration of the fair on February 1. — New Age photo

The preparations for the forthcoming Amar Ekushey Book Fair is in full swing at Suhrawardy Udyan and on the Bangla Academy premises in Dhaka.

Publishing houses and organisations on Sunday were seen busy working to prepare their stalls at the country's largest month-long book fair venues to welcome the visitors on February 1.

Bangla Academy officials said that 928 units were allotted to 627 publishing houses and organisations for the country's biggest book fair.

Among the allocations, 169 units are allocated to 117 publishing houses and organisations on the Bangla Academy premises, while 759 units are allocated to 510 publishing houses and organisations at Suhrawardy Udyan.

Besides, 37 pavilions are allocated to big publishing houses and organisations.

Anyaprokash commercial manager Imtiazur Rahman was seen busy instructing workers to make the pavilion for the publishing house.

‘The lottery for the stalls and pavilions was held on January 23. We started working just after the allocation,’ said Imtiazur.

‘It is tough to complete the work within a short time. We, however, expect to complete the pavilion work in time,’ added Anyaprokash commercial manager.

A three-unit stall is allocated to Doel Publisher Limited in the fair.

Doel Publisher Limited managing director Ujjal Chowdhury said that 80 per cent of the stall works were done.

‘We have completed most of the works within five days. We are working to put the finishing touches to the stall,’ said Ujjal.

He mentioned that the fair authorities should allocate the stalls earlier and should give adequate time to make and decorate the stalls.

Samhati Prokashan stall attendant Al Amin Rahman said that the stall would be ready to welcome book lovers from the first day of the fair.

Ekushey Book Fair organising committee member secretary KM Muzahidul Islam said that an eight-member preparation monitoring committee was formed to monitor the preparation progress.

‘The progress of the fair preparation is satisfactory. We expect that most of the works will be completed in time,’ said Muzahidul.

The member secretary mentioned that the fair would be organised under the management of Bangla Academy this year.

‘Event management companies were involved in the fair for the past couple of years and drew criticisms. We are organising the fair under our management to avoid criticisms,’ said Muzahidul.

He also said that the fair organising committee did not bring many structural changes in the fair.

According to the book fair guidelines, the fair will be held from 3:00pm to 9:00pm every day except holidays.

The fair will open at 11:00pm on Friday, Saturday and public holidays and at 7:00am on February 21.

The fair will end on February 29.



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