

Habit of news paper reading

The Agartala International School is promoting habit of newspaper reading of its students

BY PRAHLAD DEBNATH

A time when the newspaper industry was passing through a tough time, the almighty internet became the dominant source of news in the blink of an eye along with Google the most powerful search engine in the world. And, when the advent of online news and social media platforms including Facebook, Whats-App, Instagram, and Twitter (now 'X') are changing the landscape of the news world radically, to put the prospect of traditional newspapers in a quandary, at least one Principal of an Agartala city-based school makes an initiative to grow interested among her students for reading the newspaper to regain its popularity even in the backdrop of the digital advent. In an innovative approach, Nabamita Dey Acharya, Principal of 'The Agartala International School' (TAIS) Chandmari in Agartala introduced a 'Bulletin Board' in the school this month to rejuvenate and inculcate a good habit of reading newspapers that earned huge admiration from all stakeholders.

When asked about this initiative, Principal Nabamita Dey Acharya told the NEC Representative, 'To restore the glory of Daily Newspaper among the present generation, The Agartala International School conducts an activity of the Bulletin Board presentation every alternate month of our academic session. It is envisaged as an integral part



Principal Nabamita Dey Acharya standing beside the board displaying newspaper cuttings.



When asked about the usefulness of the bulletin board, she said that the trend of reading newspapers among the new generation of children is decreasing, given the advent of a growing digital era.

A kind of neo-readers are seen who read newspapers digitally using their Smart mobile sets. This trend is by and large a common phenomenon among English medium students. We are trying to instill a sense that everyone needs to be well-informed.

A drawing room remains incomplete without a newspaper on the table. On

Council Arts Council of England who sponsors this Reading Activity Week for the betterment of the students with the help of the experienced teachers. The program consists of different activities like Reading Challenge Contest quizzes extempore and so on.

This time reading a newspaper can be an option. She said this initiative aims to create interest in daily newspaper reading among students and encourage them to read it daily. At present many students do not read newspapers due to mobile phones which is a matter of great concern, she added.

When asked, where countless people have smartphones or computers in their hands, and the new generation of people are quenching their thirst for news through the Internet, how will they bring them to this fold, the Principal said that students are asked to cut out the section of the newspaper according to their interest and paste it on the school's Bulletin Board. And those paper cuttings have to be in original, not Xerox copies of newspapers, she added.

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