Of course, having this publication come to being was not as easy as it sounds. "The first question that I was asked was why I needed to do it," she says. "I didn't need the money. The household and the children required my attention. Why would I waste my time on this? When I realised that I would never get the positive assurance that I was looking for, I just went ahead and started off with my own savings." Tasmima rented the first floor of her widowed sister's building and began the work with just three in the house. "It was just me, Mohammed Jahangir and a professional accountant," she says.

Some of the female staff working for the publication face problems while gathering stories or information regarding their stories. "But they make their own choices, decisions and go on with their work," she smiles.

How did she balance out her work and her household? "I used to start my work after 4 pm every day," she remarks. "Of course, my children were very important and their upbringing was something that was on my mind. I would drop and pick them up from school, make sure that they did their homework properly, had their meals and spend some quality time with them. However, I would always move on to my work after getting done with all that. My work was something that made me feel satisfied and confident about myself."



Tasmima Hossain, editor Ananya

Tasmima was never trained to be a journalist; rather she had become actively involved in politics at one point of time later becoming an MP. "I would make things go, make them work, take decisions and think through what I was going to do next," she says. "It's very sad to see that even today women don't grab on to the opportunities only because of lack of confidence in themselves and the uncertainty of the consequences she will have to face after taking a certain decision. Every woman is expected to be the silent partner or just a mere observer, as was my mother, her mother before her and as I was expected to as well. It's surprising how women in this society still have the stamina to stay mum and watch all the wrongdoings around her."

Now a mother of four daughters and also a grandmother, she encourages the young generation, especially young girls to start thinking seriously about what the future holds for them. "Women are still used to fill up the gaps and that should stop," she exclaims. Everyone is born with a brain, the desire to do something in life, to feel good about themselves."