81 pc girls fall victim to eve teasing: Study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The issue of eve teasing should be addressed seriously as it affects not only a girl personally but also leads to social violence, increase the rate of girls' dropout from schools and colleges and threatens women empowerment, speakers at a workshop said vesterday.

They also stressed the need for raising awareness to put an end to eve teasing.

Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) organised the dissemination work-Menace' at Cirdap auditorium following a study conducted on through cell phones also. 1000 girls and women in Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rajshahi,

Khulna and Cox's Bazar. While presenting the research findings, Nazmun Zaman of BNWLA said that from 2006 to June 2008, a total of 12 girls committed suicide and eve teasing worked as a factor either directly or indirectly behind the incidents.

As many as 81.3 percent respondents throughout the country said that they have been teased at one point of their lives. The percentage is high among age group 10-18, according to the study.

Some 87 percent girl of age group 10-18 said that they have been teased which is 82.5 percent among the age group 18-30.

Some 74.1 percent respondents said that the delinquent teenage boys, local hoodlums, even rickshaw pullers, bus drivers, street vendors, traffic police and often bosses or supervisors or colleagues of the working women tease them by uttering indecent comments.

Eve teasing also takes place in the form of singing songs, staring lustshop titled 'Eve teasing: The Social fully, whistling, pinching, chasing, doing vulgar movement and teasing

> Disrespect towards women, unemployment, sky culture, women's lack of courage, negative role of police, political influence and corporate culture were also identified as causes behind eve

> Justice Mohammad Tafazzul Islam, BNWLA Executive Director Salma Ali, Principal of Vigarunnisa Noon School and College Rokeya Begum and Principal of Azimpur Girls' School and College Hosne Ara Begum were present.

Pakistan have already been dis-

saving that they need to develop-

percent growth rates to face the

climate change impacts. India says,

known for being hawkish on any

Climate change fallout



PHOTO. PID

President lajuddin Ahmed approves the national budget for 2008-09 and also signs the Appropriation (Supplement) Ordinance 2008 and Appropriation Ordinance 2008 at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday, while Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam looks on.

Bijoy TV graft case

FROM PAGE 1

Sidr and Nargis are still fresh in Hasnain, a leading Indian glaciolo-Delhi and Bombay had wrought havoc on the cities; droughts of last vear wrecked many Bangladeshi farmers' back. The paradisaic beaches of Maldives are receding with waves inching forward. Maize output in Nepal is dropping consistently and its Terai floodplains are facing frequent flooding as ice on including the Ganges, the Himalayas is melting fast.

The future is even scarier. 2035. Only seasonal rain will bring Professor James Hansen, the director of Nasa's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, whose climate calculations have proved to be rupted. more accurate than anybody else's, believes the melting of the responsible for the emission of Greenland ice cap being picked up by his satellites today, now, suggests a 25-metre rise in sea levels measures. Both countries are in hot Bangladesh entirely along many of over emission control measures,

its Saarc neighbours. The IPCC third assessment ment fast probably on par or at report made a concrete case that the climate is changing because of greenhouse gases, but it was quickly dismissed by a group of US to some extent justifiably, its peo--scientists who said this was a hoax. ple have the same right to wealth as ence in adaptability can lead in this But after the fourth report of IPEC, anyone. The UN Framework the UN secretary general called a Convention on Climate Change is benefitted by CDM and its expe-September 2007, it was then development and poverty eradicaunivocally agreed that the temper- tion are the overriding priorities for ature has increased by 0.8 degree the developing countries to face Celsius in a decade that has also the impending disaster. India, raised the sea level by 4cm.

The Saarc nations could as well emission control move, has made a climate issue as the giant dragon last G8 summit by saying that its issues like migration of plants also faces challenges that are com- carbon emission per head would should be looked into on a wider monly shared by its South Asian never exceed that of the developed regional basis. Agriculture is neighbours. The Tibetan plateau countries. spawns the great river systems of India also has green technolo- collective research initiative for China, South-East and South Asia gies. Its Suzlon Energy has emerged new varieties as all the nations of the Yangzi and Yellow Rivers, the as one of the world's five biggest the region will face problems in Brahmaputra, the Indus, the makers of wind turbines from a food production because of cli-Mekong and the Salween. These mere textile company. India's solar mate change. rivers fed by the Mihalayan glaciers yield is also bigger than any counand create a maze of ecological top money maker out of rich-world times of crisis such as the one

ice on the Himalayan side of China Mechanism (CDM) fund. CDM is a of such collaboration."

will disappear by a quarter since scheme whereby companies in rich memories of the super cyclones 1950. Professor Syed Iqbal countries outsource their obligation to cut carbon emissions by public mind. Sudden floods in gist, predicts that the Himalayan sponsoring carbon-cutting glaciers will be gone in 20-30 years schemes in poor countries such as because of climate change as well plantation. as the Asian Brown Cloud -- the

As the Saarc nations are meeting 3km-thick fug of pollution that has in Dhaka with a new reality and challenges, Dr Ainun Nishat, coungathered over north India because of emission from power plants and try representative of IUCN, feels cooking ovens. And that would that the Saarc region can work closely on three of the four aspects make many of the great rivers of the Bali Declaration -- adapta-Brahmaputra and Indus run dry by tion, financing and transfer of technology -- while the other aspect -- mitigation -- is largely an them to life. The westerly winds of winter that blow rain-clouds over issue of the developed countries.

"The Saarc countries can form a climate group for adaptation strat-Yet the Asian countries most egy," he said. "Saarc is a region of 1.5 billion people with a wide range green house gases -- China and of poor people who have less adap-India -- are slow to take mitigation tive capacity ..

Similarly, Saarc can take a comthis century. This would drown debates with the US and the EU mon stance on funding adaptive technologies especially commu-

nity-based approaches. "Bangladesh had proposed at greater than their 11 percent and 9 the Bali conference setting up of an adaptation research centre and Saarc can take initiative in this regard. Bangladesh with its experifield," Nishar said. "Similarly, India meeting on climate change in also recognizes that economic rience can be used by other Saarc countries to access this fund."

> India with its higher knowledge of cleaner and renewable technology can also help Saarc members to make better use of CDM."

Climate change impacts should take China along to discuss the tactical 'non-commitment' in the be researched collaboratively and another issues where Saac can have

"There can as well be a regional support some 1.3 billion people try except America. China is the food bank to help each others in polluters; it has already bagged happening now," Nishat said. "The But the glaciers are melting fast \$5.4 billion or 73 percent of the way India helped Bangladesh buy and China predicts that by 2050 the total Clean Development its food grains is a bright example

The apex court also fixed July 16 for hearing the government's leave to appeal against the High Court (HC) order staying the proceedings of

the case. Commission (ACC) filed the case with Kotwali Police Station in Chittagong on May 27 last year against ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury, Imtiaz Hossain and City Corporation's Chief Engineer Mokhter on charge of launching Bijoy TV without prior government permission.

The charge sheet was submitted on November 22 last year in which it was alleged that the trio drew Tk 1.78 crore from the corporation fund in four phases and used Tk 1,69,67,960 from that amount in the name of launching the private channel.

Imtiaz Hossain jointly filed a petition with the High Court for quashing the case against them. Upon this petition, the HC on January 17

this year stayed for three months commissioner of Chitragong to white advocate Md Zahirid Islam

case should not be quashed. On February 10, following a stay

petition filed by the government, the Appellate Division stayed the HC order for a week and asked the government to file a regular leave The Anti-Corruption to appeal with this court during As per the Appellate Division

> order, the government has filed a regular leave to appeal with the Supreme Court against the HC

Chittagong Divisional Special Judge SM Solaiman on June 26 started deposition of witnesses in this case.

ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and Imtiaz Hossain yesterday filed an application with the SC to stay the trial proceedings of the case.

After hearing this application, the chamber judge of the Appellate Mohiuddin Chowdhury and Division stayed the proceedings of

Barrister M Amir-ul Islam and advocate Abdul Baset Majumder assisted by advocate AKM Foyez and advocate Hari Sadhan Deb the proceedings of the case and Brahman appeared for Mohiuddin also issued a rule upon the deputy. Chowdhury and Imtiaz Hossain explain why the proceedings of the stood for the government.



Former secretary Kafil Uddin Mahmood launches a commemorative book on late ASMO Subhan, former managing director of Duncan Brothers Ltd and a patron of art and culture, at a ceremony at the National Museum auditorium in the city on Sunday. Ramendu Majumder, Ann Burghard, Millie Subhan, Monsur Ahmed Chowdhuri and MA Azim edited the book titled 'Abu Subhan Smarok Grantho: A celebration of life'.

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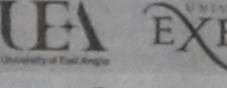
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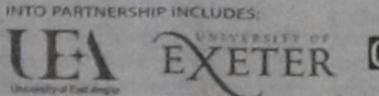
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BTV's autonomy stays trapped

FROM PAGE 1

The sub-committee held a meeting in BTV complex on Saturday where former DGs of the state-run TV channel and top officials of private TV channels were present.

"That is nothing but a ploy for making the process lengthy in the name of holding meetings," said a news producer of BTV adding, There was no need for forming the sub-committee."

He said none, excepting some people in BTV, is in favour of granting the autonomy.

The draft proposal prepared by the information ministry regarding BTV's autonomy was recently sent back by the council of advisers, directing the ministry to bring some amendments to it. A source in BTV told The Daily

Star that the draft was prepared in such a way that it would not be accepted in the cabinet. After the present government had taken the initiative last year to

grant BTV autonomy, a group of bureaucrats opposed the idea saying the country has a number of private TV channels over which the government has no control. "They convinced the authorities

that at least one state-run TV channel should be there," a source in BTV said.

Wives of Minu, Shamim Iskander get anticipatory bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday granted anticipatory bail to the wives of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu and former prime minister Khaleda Zia's brother Shamim Iskander for four months or until submission of police reports in two separate graft cases.

The cases were filed against them on charges of amassing wealth through illegal means and concealing information in their wealth statements.

Upon separate bail petitions, the HC granted anticipatory bail to Minu's wife Salma Rahman and Shamim Iskander's wife Kaniz Fatema in the cases filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC). The ACC in the cases charged them with aiding and abetting their husbands in amassingillegal wealth. An HC bench of Justice

Shamim Hasnain also issued a rule on the government and the ACC asking them to explain why the accused should not be granted regular bail in the cases. The ACC on July 17 last year filed a case with Kotwali Police Station in Rajshahi, accusing the RCC mayor

of amassing illegal wealth worth

over Tk 78 lakh and his wife Salma

Khondker Musa Khaled and Justice

Rahman was accused of abetting her husband. On May 25 this year, the ACC filed a case with Raman Police Station in Dhaka against Shamim Iskander and his wife Kaniz Fatema for amassing wealth worth Tk 20.47 lakh.

will get both functional and financial autonomy, turning it into a standard professional TV channel.

"The draft proposed a limited autonomy. The cabinet sent it back as the government is committed to

The Daily Starlast week. Although BTV is a profit making body, no effective step has yet been taken to free it from the pernicious control of various government quarters.

bureaucrats used BTV in the past for their own gains turning it into the most unpopular channel in the country, although it reaches almost 90 percent of the population due to its terrestrial facility. After the military backed caretaker government assumed power, an intelligence agency started using BTV for pushing its favoured news and programmes in various ways.

The information ministry sources said initially the government wanted to grant autonomy to both BTV and Bangladesh Betar, but for reasons unknown Betar was later dropped. "Betar will be included again," a ministry official neutrality. however said.

Jamil is however hopeful that BTV to BTV and Betar. He then said a fall of Ershad regime.

governing body with statuary power comprised of experienced persons from various sections of the society will administer the two

media outlets. Earlier on July 17, 2001 two acts granting full autonomy," he told were also enacted in this regard

which have remained shelved so far. There was also a committee to implement the initiative, but it failed to make any headway.

The government however still seems to be working to grant full Ministers, lawmakers and autonomy to BTV through bringing necessary amendments to the proposal and by adding new provisions to the acts. Both of the major political

parties, BNP and Awami League (AL) which ruled the country alternately since 1991, pledged to grant autonomy to Bangladesh Betar and BTV before elections, but none of them kept their promises after coming to power. Both the parties and their recent

predecessor, military ruler HM Ershad, used the state-run media unabashedly as the mouthpiece for their governments, without any regard to even a semblance of

Granting autonomy to Betar In May last year, former law and and BTV was also one of the main information adviser Mainul promises in the joint declaration Hosein announced that the interim announced on November 19, 1990 Information Secretary Osman government will grant autonomy by three political alliances, after the

Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO)

being made the Chief Executive

bureaucratic structure. They pro-

posed that all authority should be

vested in the chairman of the

Constitution after general election

for balance of power between the

president and the prime minister,

change in the election system,

change in Article 70 of the

Constitution and giving full inde-

pendence to the Public Service

They opposed the formation of

The JP supported the caretaker

government's various activities,

including institutional reforms,

preparing voter list with photo-

graphs and the anti-corruption

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin

This was the 20th dialogue

Ahmed along with five advisers was

Commission, the EC and the ACC.

Constitutional Commission now.

The party suggested bringing

upazila parishad.

They termed it extension of

Dialogue: Jatiya Party Parishad Ordinance, such as

government not to be mild but to

advance strongly the drive against corruption and black money and Officer. He said carrying out the drive

should continue so that identified terrorists and black money holders cannot stage a comeback in the election fields. The acting chairman, who led a some amendments in the nine-member delegation to the

ahead of the election. Education Adviser Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman told the joint-press briefing that the government's stand against corruption and negative activities is clear.

dialogue, noted that reappearance

of those elements is being noticed

"Our resolves remain intact," he said, adding that the way the government advancing with its objective will continue. Asked if there is any possibility

of shifting the schedule of city corporation polls, the education drive. adviser said the programme would go according to the announcement of the Election Commission (EC). Replying to a question whether the government would consider

the conditions of BNP for their participation in local-body elections, Zillur said the government's mentality is to advance taking all together to bring "qualitative change in politics", hold a meaningful election and ensure postelection stability.

local elections, particularly Upazila

between government and political parties, and various stakeholder groups and regional dialogue. LGRD Adviser M Anwarul Iqbal, Communications Adviser Maj Gen

present at the dialogue.

(retd) Ghulam Quader, Law Adviser AF Hassan Ariff, Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury and JP secretary general ABM Ruhul Amin Extending total support to the Hawlader and JP leaders Ziauddin government decision in holding Ahmed Bablu, Dr TI Fazle Rabbi, Golam Habib Dulal, Mostafa Zamal Parishad election, the Jatiya Party Haider, Fakir Ashraf and Atiqur leader said they have objection to Rahman Atiq were present at the some matters in the Upazila dialogueandthejointpressbriefing.



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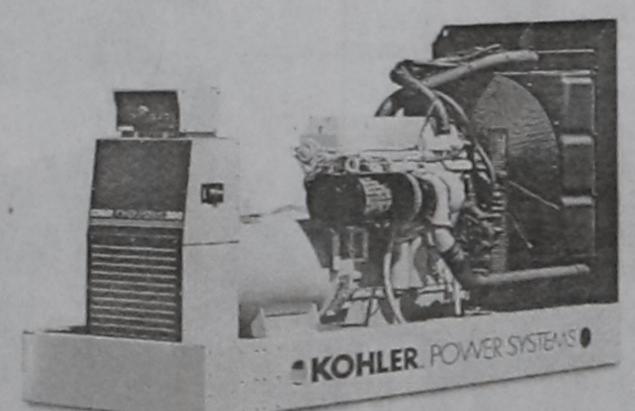
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