

Obituary

METRO DESK



Sayed Fakhrul Alam Saleheen, son of late Sayed Fakhrul Moslem, of 195/1 D Shantibagh

and former director general of Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BSTI), passed away yesterday due to old age complications at the age of 78, says a press release.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held at Shantibagh Noor Masjid after Asr prayers today. He will be buried at Azimpur old graveyard.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 37th death anniversary of eminent journalist and litterateur Kazi Mohammad Idris, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at the residence of his son at 12-A Eskaton Garden Road in the city after Asr prayers.

Qulkhwani

BSS, Dhaka

Qulkhwani of former ambassador Masum A Chowdhury will be held at Gulshan Jame Masjid (near HSBC bank) in the city at 5:00pm tomorrow.

Masum died of cancer on March 17 in Washington at the age of 69.

He left behind his wife, two sons and a host of friends and well-wishers to mourn his death.



Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) demolishes illegal structures in the port city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Girl set ablaze in Sherpur, dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A minor girl, who was set ablaze allegedly by a female neighbour at Nakla upazila in Sherpur, ended her 19-day fight for life as she succumbed to her burn injuries yesterday.

The deceased is Moyna Akhter, 8, a class two student of Huzurikanda Primary School in the upazila.

Sources at the Burn Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) said 40 percent of her body was burnt.

Moyna's father Safur Ali, a day labourer, said on March 3 he and his two daughters went to a bamboo grove near their house in Huzurikanda village to collect some bamboo.

When a bamboo fell on and scattered a pile of straw of their neighbour Moziron Begum,

45, an altercation ensued. When Moziron made a fire on the yard where Safur was removing the bamboos, Safur asked her to put it out. Moziron then became enraged and set fire to Moyna, Safur added.

Moyna was initially admitted to Nakla Upazila Health Complex and shifted to DMCH on March 15.

Dr Samanta Lal Sen, national coordinator for Burn Services in Bangladesh, said different parts of the girl's body were infected when she was brought in to the hospital so late.

Police arrested Moziron after Safur filed a case against her under Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act with Nakla Police Station on the day of the incident.

Moziron denied putting Moyna ablaze, said police.

Formulate law to end discrimination
Dalit leaders urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the Dalit community yesterday placed a ten-point demand, including formulation of a law to eliminate racial discrimination, to protect the rights of Dalits and other deprived communities.

They also drew the prime minister's attention to ending discrimination against them and fulfilling her pledges for the development of these communities.

They were speaking at a press conference organised by National Federation for Dalit Movement, an alliance of seven organisations working for Dalit and Harijan communities, at Jatiya Press Club in the city.

The conference marked the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Manusher Jonno Foundation, Research Initiatives, Bangladesh (RIB), Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) and 10 other non-government bodies were assisting the alliance.

"We have been deprived of the rights to education, employment opportunities, sanitation and accommodation facilities for years. "We want such discrimination to end," said Bangladesh Harijan Oikya Parishad Secretary General Nirmol Chandra Das at the conference.

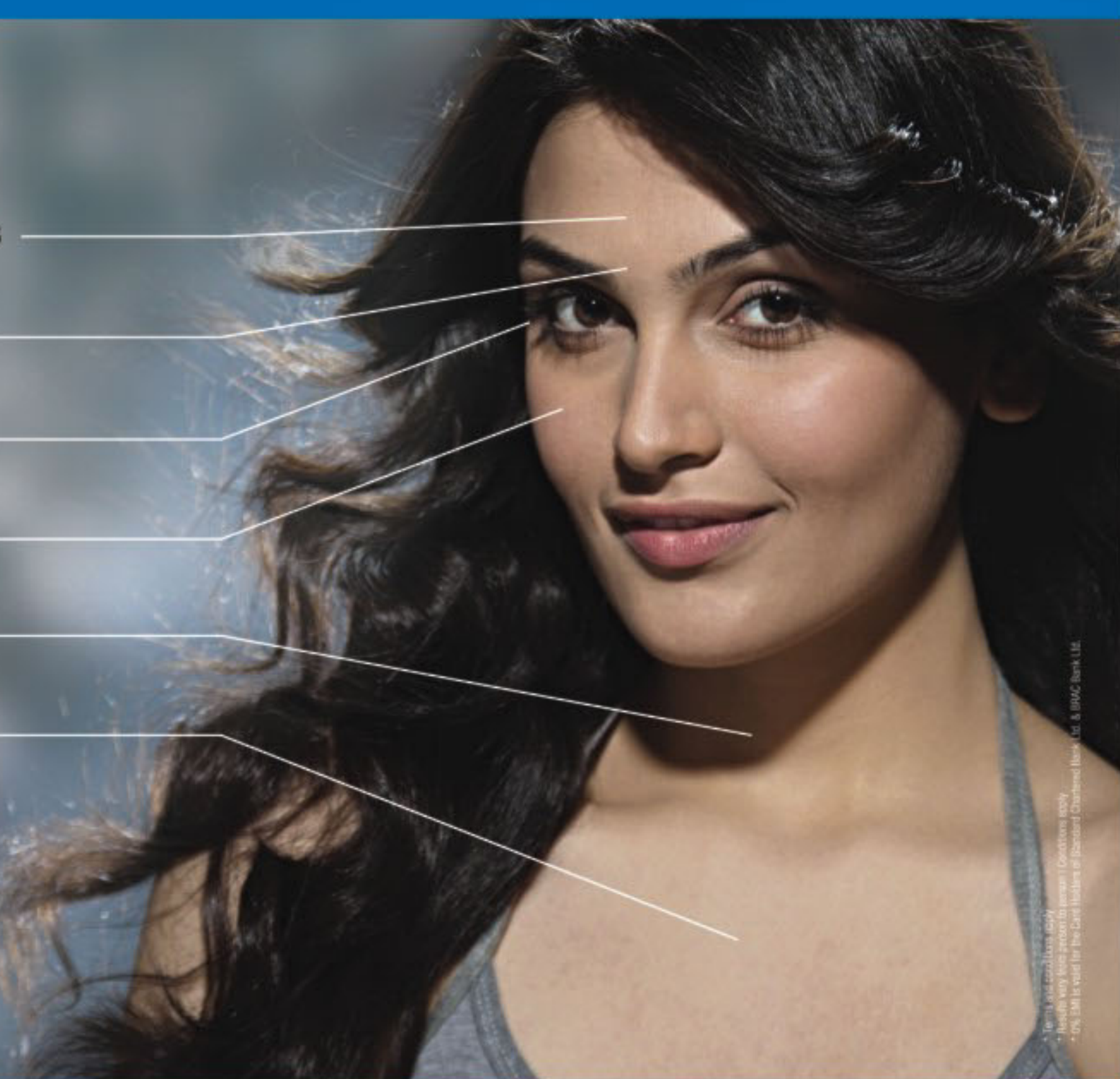
Although the people of Dalit communities have been working as sweepers and cleaners in different city corporations and municipalities for years, their jobs were not regularised, he said.

Bangladesh Dalit Parishad General Secretary Ashok Das said they were leading inhumane lives due to lack of water, proper sanitation and accommodation facilities.

Their other demands include formulation of a policy to incorporate deprived communities in development activities, keeping special quotas for them in educational institutes and the job sector, including them in different safety net programmes, allocating Khas land for their accommodation and formation of "Dalit Commission".

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