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MINDLESS VANDALISM ON STREETS

Angered by the Rana Plaza collapse, where so many of their fellow workers perished on Wednesday and following a rumour that two demonstrators died yesterday, thousands of garment worker go wild grinding the transport system in and around the capital to an almost halt. They vandalise a bus in Rampura, a shoe shop in Gulshan and an autorickshaw in Malibagh level crossing area.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

321 RISKY BUILDINGS IN DHAKA

No steps in 2yrs

HELEMUL ALAM

Two years have passed since 321 buildings were identified as vulnerable in the city, but the Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) and Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) are yet take any action about it. Rajuk, the development authority of Dhaka, says DCC should demolish the buildings while DCC says they do not have the power. Rajuk took the initiative to identify risky structures after a six-storey building in Kathalbagan area had tilted on

November 7, 2010. It then found 321 vulnerable structures in the city and gave DCC a list of those. "It is now the city corporation's duty to take action as per the DCC Act, 2008," said Rajuk Chairman Nurul Huda. However, Chief Engineer of Dhaka South City Corporation Jahangir Alam said they do not have the authority to knock down a private building. "Since Rajuk is approving building plans, why should demolishing be our duty," he said.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

SAFE WORKPLACE

US ready to help, but wants action

AFP, Washington

The United States yesterday declined to say if any US firms used a collapsed Bangladeshi garment factory bloc, while noting that it has repeatedly pressed Bangladesh to improve working conditions.

The US State Department described the building collapse in a Dhaka suburb

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

SAVAR FACTORY COLLAPSE

West's cost squeeze 'fuels such disaster'

REUTERS, London

Major western clothing retailers squeezing Asian suppliers and a flawed approach to ensuring even basic working standards are fuelling conditions for tragedies like the latest factory collapse in Bangladesh, NGOs said on Thursday.

More than 300 people, mainly female workers, were killed and more than 1,000 were injured when the eight-storey Rana Plaza factory building in Savar, 30 km outside the capital Dhaka, collapsed on Wednesday.

"What we're saying is that bargain-basement (clothing) is automatically leading towards these types of disasters," John Hilary, executive director at British charity War on Want, told Reuters.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

HRW for safe

working conditions

STAR REPORT

The collapse of Rana Plaza in Savar shows the urgent need to improve protections for worker health and safety in Bangladesh, Human Rights Watch said yesterday.

Reforms should include a drastic overhaul of the government's system of labour inspections and an

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

The Daily Star



Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the newly launched commuter train service in Dhaka-Narayanganj route will reduce the sufferings of the commuters?

Yes

53.0%

No

47.0%

TOTAL VOTES: 252

TODAY'S POLL

Don't you think the collapse of Rana Plaza in Savar shows the urgent need to improve protections for workers safety in Bangladesh?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT

facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING April 27		
Fajr	Azan	Jamaat
4:20	4:55	
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:45	5:00
Maghrib	6:29	6:34
Esha	8:00	8:30
Source: Islamic Foundation		

Frantic search for the missing

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and TAMANNA KHAN

The clock ticked away as relatives of those missing under the rubble of Rana Plaza ran around frantically looking for their loved ones -- dead or alive.

They moved back and forth between the scene of the building collapse to the hospitals and morgues in Savar, Ashulia and Dhaka.

Defying scorching heat, Nepal Moni Lal was looking for his 26-year-old daughter Kajali Rani, a helper at the sewing section of Phantom Tac Ltd on the fourth floor of the nine-storey building. The high rise caved in on Wednesday morning leading to huge casualties.

At around 10:00am yesterday, diminishing hope and exhaustion overcame him. He fainted and was admitted to Savar Sadar Hospital.

With Nepal were his 15 relatives, friends and neighbours, all of who have been looking for Kajali since Wednesday.

They have been to every clinics and hospitals in Savar and Ashulia. They also went to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, its morgue, and Pongu Hospital, but in vain.

Four of them have been at Adharchandra High School, where the bodies of the victims were lined up. Three days into the accident, still there is no sign of Kajali.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

The photo taken on Victory Day, 2012, shows Sohel Rana, the owner of Rana Plaza, on an SUV of a motor procession of Jubo League, the youth front of ruling Awami League. Inset, lawmaker Murad Jang, left, and Rana during an anti-hartal rally last year. On Thursday, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina told parliament that she had seen the list of Savar Jubo League office bearers and Sohel Rana was not on the list.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Altaf dies in debris

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Altaf Hossain, the victim of Rana Plaza who made it to the front page of The Daily Star on Friday, died trapped inside the collapsed building yesterday morning.

His lower torso was crushed under a huge beam and left hand under a collapsed wall. With his free hand Altaf was seen appealing to rescuers and journalist. The Daily Star took his photo on Thursday morning.

In his feeble voice he said, "Please save me. I have two children and a wife. I must live."

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



বিজিএমইএ

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বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স, ২৩/১ পাছপথ লিংক রোড, কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

জরুরী সাধারণ সভা

বিজিএমইএ এবং বিকেএমইএ'র সকল সম্মানিত সদস্যগণের সদয় অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, গত ২৪ এপ্রিল ২০১৩ তারিখে সাভার বাজার বাসস্ট্যান্ড সংলগ্ন ভবন ধসে (রানা প্লাজা) তৈরি পোশাক শিল্পের শ্রমিক ভাইবোন হতাহত হয়। উক্ত হতাহতদের উদ্ধার তৎপরতা ও পরবর্তী করণীয় বিষয়ে আলোচনার জন্য আজ ২৭ এপ্রিল ২০১৩ তারিখ বিকাল ৩:০০ ঘটিকায় নুরুল কাদের অডিটোরিয়াম, বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স, ২৩/১, পাছপথ লিংক রোড, কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকায় এক জরুরী সাধারণ সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।
উক্ত জরুরী সাধারণ সভায় বিজিএমইএ এবং বিকেএমইএ'র সকল সম্মানিত সদস্যগণকে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে।

মহাসচিব

৯ম ও ১০ম উপহার

১টি ডিসপ্লে সেল্ফ এবং কোট হ্যান্ডার



৯ম উপহার বিজয়ী

মিসেস ফারজানা সুলতানা রুপা

২১/এ, এম.এম. আলী সড়ক, যশোর।



১০ম উপহার বিজয়ী

মি: জাকিরুল ইসলাম

বাড়ী: ২২৭, স্ট্রাট: সি-৬, মালিবাগ, ঢাকা।

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১৩ এপ্রিল - ১৫ মে



শর্তাবলী:

১. প্রতিটি ৫০০০ টাকার পণ্যে ১ টি করে "scratch card" প্রদান করা হবে।

২. ৫০০০ টাকার অধিক পণ্য ক্রয়ের ক্ষেত্রে প্রতিটি "scratch card" এর গড় হিসাব প্রদান করা হবে।

৩. প্রতিটি "scratch card" এ পাশে আকর্ষণীয় এবং শিল্পিত উপহার।

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