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CITY STREETS FLOODED AGAIN

A heavy downpour yesterday afternoon floods streets in many parts of the capital, forcing people to walk in ankle-deep water and vehicles to move through knee-deep water. City streets are always prone to inundation in heavy rain due to poor drainage system. The photos were taken yesterday at Shantinagar, centre; Malibagh, top left; in front of Gauchhia in New Market area, bottom left; at Kazipara on Rokeya Sarani, top and bottom right.

PHOTO: STAR

Back home with dreams shattered of fraud, abuse again

107 trafficking victims return from Malaysia in 2 days

BELAL HOSSAIN BIPLOB

The Bangladeshi trafficking victims, who returned home in the last two days, narrated inhuman physical and mental torture they endured on their way to Malaysia on boats. They were regularly beaten up and kept unfed for days. Whenever they tried to protest, the traffickers intensified the torture. Rescued from the Andaman Sea by the Malaysian authorities in May, 12 Bangladeshi fortune seekers returned home from Kuala Lumpur yesterday, while 95 others of the same group returned on Thursday. Officials of the International Organisation

for Migration (IOM) received the returnees at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the last two days and assisted them with some grants from the IOM.

Narrating the agonising ordeal to this correspondent, Mohammad Shahid said, "We were not given food for many days. Whenever we cried for food or water, they [traffickers] made us drink the seawater."

The 19-year-old boy had lost all hope of returning home alive. "I cannot recall how many days I passed without any food or water and how many times I lost consciousness. I was so emaciated that I could barely

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Suggest foolproof system for manpower export thru' private agencies

PORIMOL PALMA from Kuala Lumpur

The plan to export manpower to Malaysia under private management without a strict monitoring system may create room for abuse and exploitation of overseas job seekers, as seen in the past, warned labour rights activists.

Malaysia last month announced that 15 lakh Bangladeshis would be recruited in the next three years under B2B (Business-to-Business) agreements.

"However, this initiative only involves fresh workers from Bangladesh. Illegal Bangladeshi immi-

grants working here are not involved and we will continue to deport them," Malaysian Home Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi was quoted as saying by state news agency Bernama on June 26.

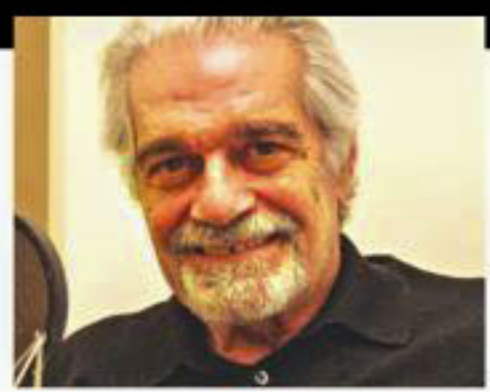
Now labour migration activists fear that the initiative, if executed without a foolproof and transparent system, would end up in a disaster.

"The B2B is again going to be a disaster like what we recently witnessed in the sea and on the Thai-Malaysian borders," said Aegile Fernandez, director of Tenaganita, a Malaysian rights watchdog.

The abusive practices that forced Bangladeshi workers to beg on Malaysian streets in 2007-08 would be repeated if workers are hired without a proper assessment of Malaysia's requirements and a system to ensure zero cost migration for the workers, she said.

Fernandez spoke to The Daily Star on the sidelines of a regional civil society consultation on mixed migration in South East Asia, held in Kuala Lumpur on June 7-9.

Labour migration from Bangladesh SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



Actor Omar Sharif dies

BBC ONLINE

Actor Omar Sharif, best known for his roles in classic films Lawrence of Arabia and Doctor Zhivago, died yesterday at the age of 83.

Egypt-born Sharif won two Golden Globe awards and an Oscar nomination for his role as Sherif Ali in David Lean's 1962 epic

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Some of the 95 trafficking victims, who were rescued by Malaysian authorities, return home on a Biman Bangladesh Airlines flight from Malaysia Thursday afternoon.

PHOTO: RASHED SUMON

17 enclaves with zero population

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is not a single inhabitant in 17 out of 59 Indian enclaves inside Lalmonirhat and those enclaves have only water bodies, jungles and croplands, according to sources at joint survey teams there.

Meanwhile, Mainul Haque, president of India-Bangladesh Enclave Coordination Committee's Bangladesh chapter, said 42 of the 111 Indian enclaves inside Bangladesh had no resident.

The case is same with 14 of the 51 Bangladeshi enclaves inside India.

The 17 enclaves at Patgram in Lalmonirhat include 38 Number Kuchlibari, 39 Number

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

ENCLAVE SURVEY IN LALMONIRHAT

205 newborn babies listed

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

As many as 205 children have got registered with a joint survey team at 42 out of 59 Indian enclaves located in three upazilas in Lalmonirhat in the last four days.

These children were born after the enclave census held at 162 Indo-Bangla enclaves in July 2011, according to the district administration.

The survey on the enclaves being jointly conducted by Bangladesh and India started on July 6 and will continue till July 16," said Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Patgram Noor Kutubul Alam.

"We are closely monitoring the survey in the enclaves," he added.

"I registered the name of our second child Nabiul Islam, 3, to the enclave survey team yesterday morning. I'm happy after registering his name," said Mili Begum, 26, wife of Harun Miah of Indian enclave Bhitarkuthi located at Kulaghat union in Lalmonirhat sadar.

Afsana Begum, 32, wife of Taherul Islam of Indian enclave Banshpachai located at Kulaghat union in Lalmonirhat sadar, said their third child Misty Akhter, 3,

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| SEHRI, IFTAR TIMINGS | | | | |
|----------------------|------|-------|-------|--|
| Ramadan | July | Sehri | Iftar | |
| 23 | 11 | | 6-53 | |
| 24 | 12 | 3-48 | 6-53 | |
| 25 | 13 | 3-48 | 6-53 | |

PRAYER TIMING

JULY 11

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

JAZAN 3-53 12-45 5-00 6-53 8-17

JAMAAT 4-03 1-15 5-15 6-63 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

ROAD ACCIDENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA

Six Bangladeshis among 12 dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six Bangladeshis were killed in two road accidents in Saudi Arabia yesterday.

Nine people, including three Bangladeshis workers, were killed and 27 others injured in the one at Majma'ah, around 300km from Saudi capital Riyadh.

The dead are Wahed Ali, son of Abdus Samad of Jamalpur's Islampur upazila, Masud Mia, son of Osman Miah of Kishoreganj's Pakundai upazila, and Alam, son of Chand Mahmud of Tangail Sadar upazila.

Nazmul Islam, director general of foreign

ministry's West Asia region, confirmed the death of the Bangladeshis while talking to The Daily Star.

"Three of the deceased are Bangladeshis and the others are Indians," he said.

Twenty of the wounded are also Bangladeshis, Mohsin Chowdhury, director of the Wage Earners' Welfare Board of expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry, told this correspondent.

The accident happened as a tyre of a bus carrying the workers got punctured and the vehicle fell from a flyover at Majma'ah

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India issues dress code for exam

BBC ONLINE

Authorities in India have issued a dress code for candidates who are retaking a medical school exam.

Last month, the Supreme Court ordered more than 600,000 students to retake the exam after they found that the question paper had been leaked.

Candidates have been

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

