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MILITARY AND THE MEDIA

Why the two key institutions must understand each other better

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'WEST BEHIND IT ALL'

Syrian President Assad blames refugee crisis on Western support for 'terrorists'

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3 key challenges of MDGs ahead

Govt's progress report shows Bangladesh still far from achieving goals of employment, nutrition, environment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh faces major challenges of creating jobs, preserving ecology and ensuring nutrition in terms of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set by the United Nations 15 years ago for its 193 member states.

The country, however, has made impressive progress in poverty reduction, health, education and gender equity.

According to the MDG declaration in 2000, the employment rate of a country's population, aged 15 years and older, should

have been 100 percent by now, but it is only 57.1 percent in Bangladesh. The rate was 48.5 percent in 1990-91.

"Unemployment as well as underemployment is especially dominant among the young people between 15 and 24 years of age," according to a report titled "MDGs: Bangladesh Progress Report 2015".

There are also challenges with regard to reducing income inequality and addressing low economic participation of women, says the report.

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MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Reducing extreme poverty

Curbing prevalence of underweight children under 5 years

Bringing down under-five child mortality

Raising enrolment in primary schools

Increased ratio of girls to boys in primary and secondary education

Improved maternal health



With Eid-ul-Azha nearing, trucks full of cattle are coming in the capital from different parts of the country. Indian cattle are also seen in some markets in small numbers. The photos were taken recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN/ANISUR RAHMAN

EID-UL-AZHA

Hope lies in local cattle

HELEMUL ALAM

With the Eid-ul-Azha only a week away, traders are hopeful of making a good profit from sales of sacrificial animals this year.

Prices of cattle have gone up in recent months after the BJP government in India choked the illegal supply channels to Bangladesh.

Many traders said they could bring only a small number of cattle from India this week due to strict surveillance by the Indian Border Security Force.

Consumers will have to depend mainly on local cattle against the backdrop of the low supply from India.

Trader Emdadul Islam from Sharsha upazila in Jessore incurred losses of around Tk 80 lakh in the last two years on sale of about 550 bulls in the capital due to a huge supply of sacrificial animals.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday in the city's Gabtoli Cattle Market, the trader's employee Shahidul said this year they have so far brought 20 bulls to the market and already sold three of them at between Tk 65,000 and Tk 1,05,000.

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8TH PAY SCALE

Govt to examine 'discrepancies'

Univ teachers to observe daylong work stoppage today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has reconstituted the cabinet committee to look into allegations of "discrepancies" in the 8th National Pay Scale. Finance Minister AMA Muhith will head the team.

A circular issued by the cabinet division yesterday said the seven-member body will submit its recommendations upon examining the complaints.

The committee will look into the demands made by public university teachers who have been demonstrating under the banner of Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Associations (FBUTA) alleging that the pay scale was "discriminatory".

The previous cabinet committee, constituted on 24th April in 2014, was headed by Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Bhuiyan.

Responding to the reconstituted committee, The FBUTA

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Do more to combat militancy

Hasina urges UK

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has urged the UK to do more to combat militancy.

"The British government should take more steps on the ground," the premier was quoted by The Guardian as saying.

In a report titled "British jihadis in Bangladesh fanning flames of extremism, says Dhaka" yesterday, the UK daily said Hasina stressed the need for closer international cooperation

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TOP!
QUOTE

"My friend and I couldn't get tickets although there were only 30 to 35 people ahead of us in the line. Where did all the tickets go?"

JAHANGIR,
A UNIVERSITY STUDENT, AFTER FAILING TO GET HOLD OF AN ADVANCE TRAIN TICKET TO CHITTAGONG YESTERDAY.



Together we are
United

Change, the only constant. We embrace this change and strive for a better future, for you and the nation because only when together, we can illuminate the path to a brighter future. One in which – **united we achieve.**

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