



Mujibul Haque, state minister for labour and employment, speaking at a workshop on "Our role in eliminating child labour" at Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday, marking World Day Against Child Labour, to be observed today. To his right are Shaheen Anam, executive director of Manusher Jonno Foundation, and Fazlul Haque, executive director of Social and Economic Enhancement Programme, and to his left, Moslema Bari, executive director of Community Participation and Development.

Responsibility lies with all

7 NGOs say on eve of World Day Against Child Labour, 12 rehabilitated children visit 6 media houses to share experiences on the occasion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a programme yesterday emphasised the need for proper coordination between the government and different non-government organisations, and also among different ministries working on child issues, to eliminate child labour in the country.

They also called for an immediate action plan to implement the National Child Labour Elimination Policy-2010 and a separate child directorate.

They were speaking at a workshop on "Our role in eliminating child labour" at Jatiya Press Club in the capital, marking World Day Against Child Labour, to be observed today.

Social and Economic Enhancement Programme, Nabolok, Community Participation and Development, Aparajeyo Bangladesh, Voluntary Association for Family Welfare and Social Development (VAFWSD), and Sohay jointly organised the programme in association with Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF).

17 lakh child labourers in country
12.8 lakh involved in hazardous jobs
RECOMMENDATIONS
Implementation of Nat'l Child Labour Elimination Policy-2010
Separate child directorate
More coordination among ministries
Specific plan and sufficient budget allocation
Joint venture between Govt and NGOs
Declaring waste picking, domestic work as hazardous forms of child labour
Creating awareness

Citing Child Labour Survey 2013 of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, released in late 2015, Abdulla Al Mamun, programme coordinator at MJF, said among 17 lakh child labourers, 12.8 lakh are involved in different forms of hazardous jobs.

In his presentation, he said that the govern-

ment has declared 38 types of work as hazardous for children, including working in tobacco factories, motor workshops, vulcanising workshops, welding factories, and ship-breaking industries.

Abdul Kaium Laskar, executive director of VAFWSD, said several ministries were involved with child issues but there was a lack of coordination among them.

The government should have a specific plan and allocate sufficient budgets for children, he said, adding that if the government and NGOs work together, it would be possible to eliminate child labour.

MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam, also the chair of the programme, emphasised creating an atmosphere where child labour is condemned. Parents, society, NGOs and the government are duty-bound to work for bringing an end to child labour, she said.

Shaheen Anam said the government should immediately establish a separate directorate for children, prepare an action plan to eliminate

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SBMCH intern docs go on strike

Protesting 'verbal abuse of female colleague by cop'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Intern doctors of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH) in Barisal yesterday went on a strike at the hospital, protesting an alleged verbal abuse of a fellow by a police official.

Manoj Kumar, sub-inspector of Patuakhali range of police, admitted one of his relatives to the medicine unit Friday noon. After entering the inter doctors' room, he tried to compel a female intern to give treatment to his relative, according to the hospital sources.

When she asked him about maintaining a queue as there were many patients, the SI started hurling expletives at her and threatened to scrutinise her academic certificates, added the sources.

Hearing her screams, other intern doctors rushed in and drove him out of the room.

Yesterday they submitted a memorandum to Dr S M Sirajul Islam, director of the hospital, demanding unconditional apology from the police official.

The allegations were sent to the authorities concerned of police for taking necessary actions, said Sirajul.

Shah Md Awlad Hossain, officer-in-charge of Barisal Kotwali police, said he was talking to the intern doctors and hospital officials to resolve the issue.

However, Manoj could not be contacted for comment because he was not on the spot at the time of reporting.

When the OC was asked for Manoj's phone number, he said he did not have it with him at the moment.

CRACKDOWN ON TERROR

Just an excuse to let cops make quick bucks for Eid

Alleges BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday alleged that in the name of launching a weeklong crackdown on militants from Friday morning, the government gave law enforcers the scope to carry out "arrest trades" by victimising common people and political opponents and to make a quick buck to meet Eid expenses.

Law enforcers failed to track down militants but arrested over 1,200 people, BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed told a press briefing at BNP's Nayapaltna central office in the capital.

The prime minister does not want to eliminate militancy. "Her main objective is to subdue the opposition," he said.

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Ex-enclave residents to be voters in 3 months

Data collection begins July 10, says EC secy

UNB, Dhaka

The Election Commission (EC) has worked out a plan to enroll the people of former enclaves as voters within three months in addition to providing them with national identity (NID) cards gradually.

A seven-day data collection drive to this end will begin on July 10 next in the former 111 Indian enclaves that became parts of Bangladesh's mainland after the exchange of 162 enclaves between Bangladesh and India on July 31 midnight in 2015.

"The door-to-door campaign for data collection in the former enclaves will be carried out from July 10 to 16," EC Secretary Md Sirazul Islam told the news agency.

But the commission, he said, will start the preparatory works on June 15 for enlisting the people of the ex-enclaves in the voters' list.

After collecting the information of the ex-enclave dwellers, their biometric data, including fingerprints and photographs, will be taken in phases, the EC secretary said. "The entire process of making them voters will be completed within the next 2-3 months," he said.

Asked about the fate of those people who

have already become voters from another location hiding their identities of being enclave dwellers, the EC secretary said they can transfer their voting addresses during the EC's drive.

The EC's move came after the home ministry on April 11 last published a gazette notification providing a total of 37,535 enclave dwellers with Bangladeshi citizenship in line with the Citizenship Act 1951.

Some two-thirds of the 37,535 people are above 18 and eligible to be voters.

As per the EC's statistics, now there are nearly 100 million voters in the country.

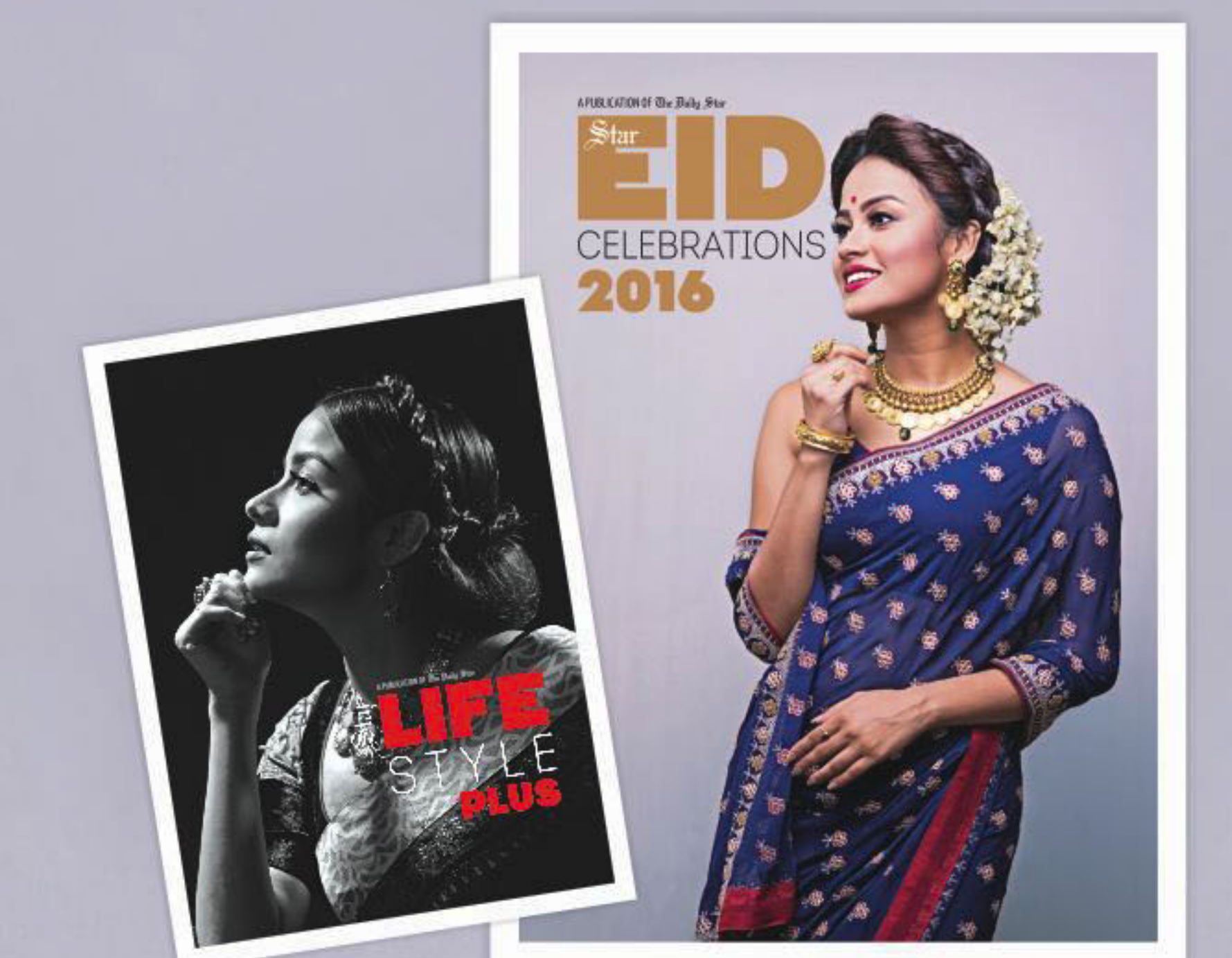
Earlier on July 30, 2015, the land ministry published a gazette notification including the 111 Indian enclaves in Bangladesh territory, and excluding 51 Bangladeshi enclaves.

The EC could not enroll Bangladeshi nationals residing in the 51 enclaves adversely located within the Indian territories despite its several efforts since 2008 as the home and foreign ministries did not give clearance saying that the issue of exchanging enclaves between the two neighbouring countries was under active consideration.

Following the ratification of LBA by

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TWO COVERS, TWO VARIED TOPICS... ONE BRILLIANT MAGAZINE!



Star Eid Celebrations 2016 is the chronicle of the latest fashion trends, and everything to cover your Ramadan lifestyle needs. While the Front devotes itself to the celebration of local fashion, the back-of-the-book Star Lifestyle Plus, takes you through helpful tips, exciting recipes and much more. Flip to the Centrefold for the revamped Ramadan Planner, Star Lifestyle's popular segment to bring order in your life and to make handling chores a little easier.

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Urban hazards affect slum children most

Plan International Bangladesh, Social and Economic Enhancement Programme workshop told in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Children, mainly growing up in the slums, are most vulnerable to urban hazards like earthquakes, fire, flood and waterlogging, said speakers yesterday.

Both the father and mother of those children need to go outside for work leaving them at home and during that time of disaster, they told a workshop "Media Training on Child Centered Urban Disaster Risk Reduction (UDDR) & Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)" at Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

Awareness must be built among the marginalised society to save those children during the city hazards, they said.

In these circumstances, journalists can play a great role in making people aware about the disasters and their safety, they added.

Plan International Bangladesh, and Social and Economic Enhancement Programme (SEEP) jointly organised the daylong event, where about 40 journalists participated.

Disaster experts Mollah Mahmud Ahmad and Saidur Rahman briefed them about the disaster management.

Md Fazlul Haque Choudhury, executive director, SEEP; and Nandini Shahla Chowdhury, communications coordinator, Plan International Bangladesh, also spoke.

Graft allegations in BCC being probed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Corruption allegations centring appointments and promotions and causes behind the accumulation of salary arrears at Barisal City Corporation (BCC) is being investigated by a four-member committee of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Co-Operatives.

Led by Additional Secretary Sourendranath Chakraborty, the body started accessing documents from Thursday based on some five allegations and would submit its report to the ministry.

One member, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Abul Kalam Azad, mentioned that in one case 58 contractual staff were made permanent over one year ago without the ministry's approval.

The chief engineer was then acting as the chief executive officer (CEO), he said. BCC staff also accuse the mayor of corruption.

The committee is also checking whether an executive engineer who was made superintendent engineer had the required educational qualifications and whether the promotion superseded others.

CEO Ranjit Das claimed to The Daily Star that his task was merely executing decisions taken by the mayor and a body of councillors. Mayor Ahsan Habib Kamal refuted the allegations.

Healthy RAMADAN

FASTING AND POOR CONTROL OF DIABETES

Those who have diabetes under control using tablets, should seek careful advice from Diabetologists before starting a fast. Diabetic patients are strongly advised for regular self-monitoring of blood glucose. If diabetic persons experience low blood sugar levels (known as a hypo); feeling dizzy, sweaty and disoriented, they should immediately have a sugary drink or place sugar or sweet below their tongue. People who regularly take insulin injection, are advised not to fast.

Dr. Nazmul Islam
Consultant, Diabetology & Endocrinology

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