Mobile app for women,

Land admin impeding return of vested property

Allege nine rights groups

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The land administration is impeding the reclamation of vested property on different pretexts, a coalition of nine rights groups alleged yesterday.

It said while the prime minister asked for quick disposal of disputes over vested property, the land administration was obstructing implementation of the court verdicts in the cases concerned.

Speaking at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU), leaders of the National Citizen Coordination Cell to Implement the Vested Property Return Act threatened to wage a movement if the obstructions are not removed.

Since the passing of the Vested Property Return (second amendment) Act 2013, many disputes were taken to courts and verdicts delivered. However, on April 12, the land ministry issued a circular for inclusion of vested properties "left out and not included by mistake" in the gazette concerned.

Subrata Chowdhury, general secretary of the Cell, said this circular would hamper disposal of cases regarding return of vested property, and called it "illegal" and "unconstitutional".

"This circular must be cancelled," he said. Former caretaker government adviser Sultana Kamal said 70 percent of the cases regarding vested property still remained

unsettled as the land administration was obstructing disposal of the cases.

2nd edition

"The prime minister herself has expressed her goodwill for disposal of the cases. Yet the administration is impeding trials. We condemn this," she said.

Like Subrata, she sees an ulterior motive behind issuance of the circular.

Executive Director of Association for

Land Reform and Development Shamsul Huda, who is a member of the Cell, read out a written statement at the conference. He said, "We strongly believe that a

section of the bureaucracy has become hyperactive to hamper disposal of the vested property cases." He questioned why the land ministry issued two circulars at the same time -- one regarding left out properties and the other

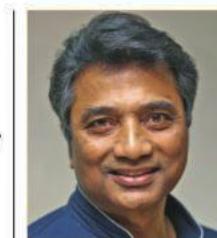
for stopping harassment of vested property claimants. "We strongly protest this action and demand withdrawal of the circular," he

added.

Contacted, Cabinet Secretary Mohammad Shafiul Alam told The Daily Star that he had no idea about the land administration impeding disposal of the cases.

"No one has complained. I suggest that the people concerned sit with the land ministry," he said.

The Cell also spoke of a directive of the SEE PAGE 5 COL 2



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

yesterday.

rule in 1990.

his tenure from 2002 to 2011.



minister's status

Ivy of N'ganj deputy minister's

Dhaka's two mayors, Annisul Huq and Sayeed Khokon,

that of Narayanganj, Selina Hayat Ivy, of a deputy minister,

said Cabinet Secretary Mohammad Shafiul Alam quoting

a cabinet division gazette issued and to be effective from

The status of the remaining eight mayors of Khulna,

According to LGRD ministry sources, Dhaka city mayor

Later, Awami League supported mayor Mohammad Hanif

During BNP rule, the then Dhaka city mayor Sadeque

During caretaker government rule in 2008, AL supported

Hossain Khoka was given the facilities of a minister during

mayors Talukdar Abdul Khaleque in Khulna, AHM

Khairuzzaman Liton in Rajshahi, Shawkat Hossain Hiron

in Barisal and Badruddin Ahmed Kamran in Sylhet were

awarded the status of a state minister on September 9.

Naziur Rahman Manju was first given the facilities of a state

minister during military dictator HM Ershad's autocratic

Sylhet, Rangpur, Barisal, Gazipur, Rajshahi, Comilla and

Chittagong city corporations will remain the same.

enjoyed the status during his tenure from 1994 to 2002.



children's safety in offing STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Women and Children Dhaka mayors get Affairs is planning to launch a smartphone app to protect women and children against violence and abuse.

If feeling threatened, the user can click a button on the app, "Joy: an ICT tool to resist violence against women and children", instantly sending an SMS to law enforcers and relatives.

Noting the location and taking continuous photos on the front and back cameras, the app, if there is an internet connection, have been given the status and privileges of a minister while

will send those to law enforcers' servers. State Minister Meher Afroze Chumki

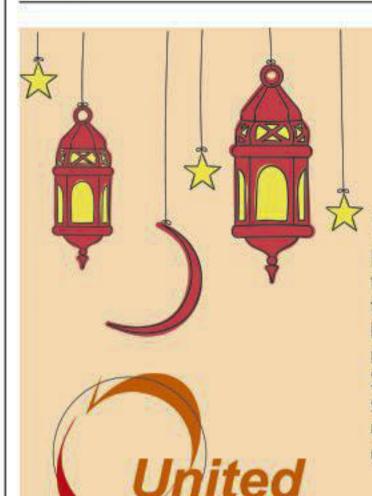
yesterday informed of the plan while describing different activities of the ministry at a press briefing in the capital's Department of Women Affairs.

Secretary Nasima Begum said the app's experimental release would be in the last week of June for users of Tongi, Keraniganj and Jessore and it might be officially released on August 8 after the difficulties and outcomes have been analysed.

Healthy RAMADAN

The ministry will propose allowing

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2



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ISPR protests soldier recruitment ad on foreign website

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) yesterday described an advertisement published on a "foreign" website regarding soldier recruitment to the Bangladesh Army as "intentional".

Some vested quarter might have published the advertisement with certain motives, said an ISPR news release signed by its director Lt Col Mohammad Rashidul Hasan.

The release said advertisement on recruitment to the Bangladesh Army is published only in Bangla language in the print media of Bangladesh. No advertisement is given in any foreign media, either in print or electronic, it added.

Moreover, the salary scale mentioned on the website is totally baseless, said the release.

No information regarding salary is mentioned in any advertisement of Bangladesh Army, it added.

According to ISPR, www.karmakshetra.org, a site on Indian government job recruitment information, recently published an advertisement in English about soldier recruitment to the Bangladesh Army.



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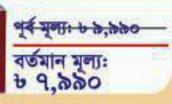


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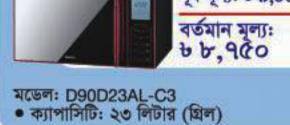
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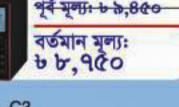




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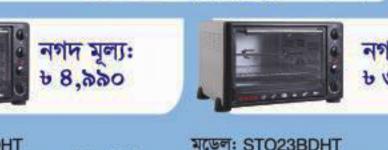
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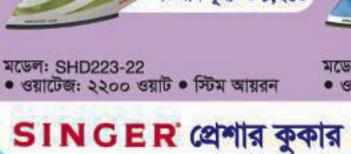
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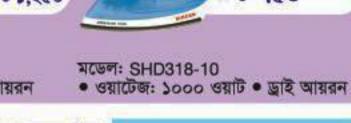




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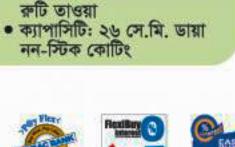


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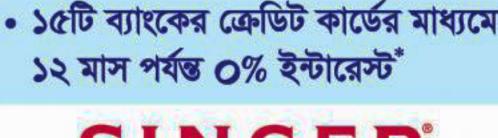
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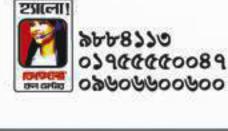
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