

# Early marriages declining

## Says ministry; reveals National Plan of Action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's rate of child marriage has witnessed a steady decline over the last couple of years, according to data made available by the women and children affairs ministry.

In 2015, the rate of marriages below the age of 15 was 23.8 percent. It came down to 22.3 percent in 2016 and in 2017, it came further down to 10.7 percent.

In the case of marriages below the age of 18, the rate in 2015 was 62.8 percent. The rate declined to 59.7 percent in 2016 while 47 percent in 2017.

The ministry disclosed the data yesterday at a programme to reveal its National Plan of Action (NPA) for eradicating child marriage from the country.

The women and children affairs ministry jointly organised the programme jointly with Unicef at a hotel in the capital.

Under short, medium and long-term plans the NPA aims to improve child rights and policy, access to quality health services, change in patriarchal mindset, access to safe and quality education and empowering

adolescent girls and boys for a positive social change.

Considering FY 2018-19 the base year, FY 2029-30 has been set as the deadline to complete the implementation of the NPA.

The NPA has been adopted in line with the pledge made by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at London Girl Summit in 2014. At the summit she pledged to end child marriage under the age of 15 by 2021 and child marriage under age 18 by 2041.

Key strategies of the NPA include setting up complaint boxes at secondary schools where schoolgirls can drop complaints about any early marriage taking place; holding monthly meetings to assess child marriage situation in the area; ensuring engagement on Facebook and other social media platforms to disseminate information; and rehabilitating victims of early marriage.

Meher Afroze Chumki, state minister for women and children affairs ministry; and Edouard Beigbeder, representative of Unicef Bangladesh; spoke among others at the programme.

# Justice, not just assurance

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At busy points, traffic police were seen cooperating with students in controlling traffic.

Khadiza Begum, a government employee on her way back from office, had to sit in a rickshaw during rain as the students forced the vehicles to maintain a single file.

When approached, she smiled and appreciated the students' effort.

"I can feel for them. They are doing something good for the society when no one cares. But they are only children. In this rain, they must fall ill. The government should meet their demands soon," she told The Daily Star.

Due to the protest, many Dhaka-going buses did not leave Sylhet yesterday.

**KHULNA: FOUR HIT BY CAR AS DRIVER TRIES TO FLEE**

Students of Khulna city took control of the roads around 11:30am.

Around 700 students from BL College, Collegiate Girls' College, Government Model School, Khan Jahan Ali Polytechnic Institute, Khulna University, North Western University gathered at Shibbari intersection and chanted slogans. They stopped more than 10 cars and pickups which did not have proper documents.

Meanwhile, around 1:00pm, a car hit four protesters while the driver tried to flee.

In Barisal city, students stayed in C&B Road area from 11:00am to 1:00pm during heavy rain and checked papers of all types of vehicles.

Separately, a human chain was held in front of Barisal University. Students staged protests in the similar manner in Narayanganj city as well.

# FE editor Moazzem Hossain laid to rest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

AHM Moazzem Hossain, editor and publisher of The Financial Express, was laid to rest at Azimpur graveyard in Dhaka yesterday afternoon.

The burial followed three namaz-e-janazas -- the first in his Moghbazar residence, the second on The Financial Express office premises, and the third at Jatiya Press Club premises.

Hossain, suffering from heart and lung complications, died at a city hospital on Wednesday evening. He was 73.

He left behind his wife Chand Sultana, son Fahim Hossain, daughter Farhana Hossain, and a host of people to mourn his death.

# NEWS IN brief

**Bus accident injures 10**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

At least 10 persons were injured in a bus accident on Sharankhola-Morelganj Regional Highway in Bagerhat district yesterday.

Of them, four were sent to Khulna Medical College Hospital with serious injuries, said Kabirul Islam, officer-in-charge of Sharankhola Police Station, adding, the others were taken to a local hospital.

Quoting witnesses police said a Morelganj bound bus from Sharankhola lost control over the wheels and hit a roadside tree in Nalbungia area leaving 10 hurt.

**Abdul Bari passes away**

CITY DESK

Engineer Md Abdul Bari, former chief engineer of Roads and Highways Department, breathed his last on Monday at Square Hospital in Dhaka. He was 84.

He was buried in the martyred intellectuals' graveyard.

Abdul Bari was the chairman of Taurus International Ltd. He served Rotary Club Dhaka North as president and Rotary District-3281 as assistant governor. He was former vice-chairman of Jatiya Party.

A life fellow member of Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, Abdul Bari was also a member of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh.

A doa mahfil will be held today after the Asr prayers at Minar Mosque, Lalmatia, Block-C, Dhaka.



# Loss of loved ones brings

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"I decided to join them as soon as I heard. If our sons and daughters can stand on the streets, why can't I? I am a mother," said Iffat.

Like Iffat, Musarrat Bhuiyan was among a few other seniors who joined the student movement in Rajshahi. She lost her son in a road accident.

The students asked her to speak at their rally yesterday.

Musarrat, who is a receptionist at a city hospital, said, "Six years ago, a bus took the life of my son."

She had adopted her nephew as her

biological son died during birth. When the son passed SCC and wanted to study at Dhaka College, she took him to the capital for coaching.

"I was walking on a footpath in Farmgate area, holding my son's hand. Out of nowhere, a bus came and hit my son. It ran him over. The accident happened right before my eyes and that scene has been haunting me ever since," Musarrat said.

"Every accident I hear or read about since then drives me mad. I decided to join this student movement because their demand for safe roads is the same as mine," she said.

# It contradicts

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are involved in any offence.

As a minister, Shajahan Khan being elected executive president of the federation is against the constitution and morally questionable, Aklas Uddin said in the notice.

He told The Daily Star that he will move a writ petition before the High Court, seeking a necessary order, if Shajahan Khan does not reply to his legal notice in 24 hours.

Meanwhile, Transparency International Bangladesh has demanded removal of two ministers -- Shajahan Khan and Mashiur Rahman Ranga -- saying their public post is directly in conflict of interest as they are involved in leading posts of transport workers and owners' associations while holding public offices.

"One person cannot be a minister and labour leader at the same time. There are two ministers like this. [We] demand their removal. We want transparency and accountability in the transport sector," said Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of TIB, yesterday. He said this while speaking on the sideline of a press conference at TIB office in Dhaka.

Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan is executive president of Bangladesh Road Transport Workers Federation and LGRD State Minister Mashiur Rahman is president of National Road Transport Owners' Association of Bangladesh.

# Return Khilgaon

FROM PAGE 5

petition after the lease on the land which was granted to them in 1987 was cancelled by the government in 1996.

Later in 2008, Bela submitted another writ petition challenging the government's failure to protect the park from encroachment.

The HC yesterday allowed the writ petition filed by Bela and rejected the one by Bangladesh Ansar-VDP.

**Motive still**

FROM PAGE 5

Police quizzed several persons in this connection including Rahima's husband and family members, but failed to reach any conclusion.

Quoting family and neighbours police said, Rahima was Ehteshamul's second wife. The couple had disagreements but it was not very severe.

# Tariqat Federation chairman leaves for India today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Syed Nazibul Bashar Maizvandary, chairman of Bangladesh Tariqat Federation (BTF), will leave Dhaka for India today on a nine-day official visit.

During his visit, he will meet the Indian external affairs minister, internal affairs minister and top BJP leaders, said a press release.

Among others, secretary general of BTF Dr Syed Rezaul Haq Chandpuri, joint secretary Syed Taibul Bashor, international affairs secretary Jahangir Hasan accompanied the chairman.

Nazibul is scheduled to return home on August 12.

# These children are doing

FROM PAGE 3

To express solidarity with the demonstrators, he said his organisation will hold a human chain at the Jatiya Press Club at 11:00am today.

Talking about legal protection of passengers of public vehicles, Ilias said the government had not incorporated the suggestions he made in the draft of the new Road Transport Act.

The act completely overlooks issues like drivers' training -- not only in driving but also in behaviour, healthcare of passengers after falling victim to road accidents, compensation and other factors that would ensure their safety on roads, he said.

"It [the act] should have been titled Road Safety and Transport Act. The safety elements have been dropped."

**FLAT RENT**

At Gulshan-1, Road-27, Bay Eastwood Apt. (9th Floor), 3136 sqft. 3bed, 3bath, 3verandha, 2carparking, living & dining, servant room, full generator backup, apt. for Rent. Mob: 01847067507

**Flat for Rent**

Space- 2150 sqft, Banani, Road-18, Block-A, House-76, 3rd Floor, 3 bed, 3 bath, drawing, living, dining, kitchen, veranda, servant room with toilet, laundry area, garage, lift, generator facilities. Price-BDT-5000/- per month. Service charge excluding.

**Mobile: 01871343470**

**Luxurious Flat Sale at Uttara**

Full Furnished Luxurious 2543sqft Flat at Uttara-Sec.-5, Road-01 will be sold.

**Contact:** 01711928004/01711922829

**FLAT FOR RENT**

Exclusive Apartments for Rent at House-302, Road-4, DOHS Baridhara, South Facing, Four Bed, Four Attached Bathroom, Drawing, Dining, 2580 sqft newly Refurnished, Contact: 01718906242 & 01715177861

**TO-LET**

Independent Duplex House Separate Entrance 4 Beds 4 Wash Room Corner Plot, Ready For Rent Office / Family Uttara. Contact: 01972-084098

**Tuition Wanted**

- SAT
- Physics & Math
- IB, AP, Edex., etc.

Abu Tareque : 9112801(R) 01817594357 D-179

**Flat for Sale in BANANI**

2400sqft plus common area, large drawing room, 4 bed, 4 bath, 4 verandas, servant room with bath, gas, lift, intercom, generator, 24 hour security, parking, contact owner: 01832854408 D-230

**Land for Sale**

In the resort at Gazipur (Bhobanipur) two land (10 katha each) facing manmade lake with beautiful scenario of shalban. Swimming pool, SPA, Dining area and beautiful walkway around the premises for common use.

**Contact number: 01871343470**

**TO LET**

Approx 3350sqft semi-furnished flat at House # 38A (Unique Corner), Flat-B (2nd floor), Road-63, Gulshan-2. Contact: 01819479726 D-231

**HOUSE SALE**

An independent house (Corner Plot) measuring 8 katha land at Lalmatia D-Block is available for immediate sale. Please Contact at: 0014692875037 (USA) or 01552-551-601

**Apartment To-LET for Foreigners**

3,100 sqft. Luxurious Apartment in Block C Bashundhara R/A, Spacious Drawing, Dining, and Family Living with 4-Bed, 4-Bathroom, 2-Car Parking. Contact - 01948330383

**Commercial Floor Sale**

1) Ground to 11th floor. (per floor 3,450.00 sqft) Mohakhali, Dhaka.  
2) Gr. to 9th fl.(per fl.3000 Sqft.) Malibag. Cont.: 01818367255, 01720916776

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**LAND FOR SALE**

8 Bigha land at Chittagong Parki Sea Beach, Adjacent to KAFCA and New Tunnel Road, Suitable for any Large project. Contact: 01911-933733, 01776-694847

**HELP US FIGHT POVERTY, SAVE LIVES AND ACHIEVE JUSTICE**

CARE is a leading international humanitarian agency working in Bangladesh since 1949 to help people achieve social and economic well-being. We put women and girls at the center of our work because we know that we cannot overcome poverty until all people have equal rights and opportunities. We seek dynamic, innovative thinkers to further our mission. Currently, CARE Bangladesh is looking for below position for its different projects under Women & Girls Empowerment Program.

- Team Leader (1 position, can be based either in Dhaka/Gazipur)
- Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator (1 position, based in Dhaka)
- Project Manager (1 position, based in Gazipur)
- Project Officer (1 position, based in Gazipur)

CARE is seeking to increase diversity in its staff profile; qualified women with appropriate experience will get preference. We are committed to a workplace that is supportive of women. There is no cost involved with applying for positions with CARE Bangladesh. Any solicitation of job application costs should be regarded as fraudulent.

If you feel confident about your suitability then please visit for details and apply online by August 10, 2018 at <http://www.er-carebangladesh.org/care-recruitment/home>

**IWM** IWM is established by the Govt. under the Trust Act to work as a Centre of Excellence in the field of water modelling, computational hydraulics and allied sciences.

**INVITATION FOR TENDERS**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from eligible drilling contractors as defined in the tender documents for 2 Nos. of 400mm X 200mm Dia Production Tubewell Construction and Long Term Aquifer Test in connection with Feasibility Study of Development of Safe Water Supply System in the newly added 16 unions of DNCC and DSCC Project, Dhaka as per terms and conditions stated in tender document. Tender document will be available at office of the Deputy Manager (Admin), Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), House # 496, Road # 32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206 from August 5, 2018 10.00 AM till August 13, 2018, 4.00 PM, while last date and time of receiving tender is August 14, 2018, 1.00 PM and the submitted tender will be opened on same day at 2:30 PM.

Quoted cost should be valid for a period of 120 days and be accompanied by (i) tender security, (ii) experience certificate on relevant works in projects (iii) Bank transaction certificate and TIN Certificate. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever. Interested tenderer may obtain further information from the office of the undersigned and purchase the tender documents by paying Tk. 1000 in cash from the place mentioned.

Executive Director, IWM  
House-496, Level-2, Road-32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206

**A better world starts here**

The ILO Dhaka invites applications from qualified Bangladeshi nationals for the following ILO-IFC Better Work Bangladesh Programme positions:

- Vacancy No. : DC/ Dhaka/NO-A/2018/01**  
Position : Enterprise Advisor, Mothers@Work (1)  
Grade : NO-A  
Contract Type : Fixed Term  
Duration : 1 year (with possibility of extension)
- Vacancy No. : DC/Dhaka/NO-A/2018/02**  
Position : Training Officer (1)  
Grade : NO-A  
Contract Type : Fixed Term  
Duration : 1 year (with possibility of extension)
- Vacancy No. : DC /Dhaka/NO-A/2018/03**  
Position : Enterprise Advisor  
No. of Positions: Eight (08)  
Grade : NO-A  
Contract Type : Fixed Term  
Duration : 1 year (with possibility of extension)
- Vacancy No. : DC/Dhaka/GS-4/2018/01**  
Position : Secretary (Advisory Services) (1)  
Grade : GS-4  
Contract Type : Fixed Term  
Duration : 1 year (with possibility of extension)

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply, please visit our website: [www.ilo.org/dhaka](http://www.ilo.org/dhaka). All Applications MUST be sent to [recruitment\\_dac@ilo.org](mailto:recruitment_dac@ilo.org) along with completed ILO PHF by no later than midnight, Tuesday, 21 August 2018. Please mention the position name and vacancy number in your email subject and rename the ILO PHF with your full name.

The ILO values diversity among its staff and aims at achieving gender parity. We welcome applications from qualified women and men, including those with disabilities

**Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.**

**The ILO is a non-smoking working environment.**

**বানিজ্যিক স্পেস আবশ্যিক**

আমেরিকার বিখ্যাত ফাস্ট ফুড চেইন বার্গার কিং এর জন্য গুলশান-১, ধানমন্ডি (পুরাতন-২৭) নতুন-১৬, মোহাম্মদপুর (রিং রোড), ওয়ারি (রেক্সিং স্ট্রিট), বেইলী রোড, মিরপুরে (১০,১১,১২) স্পেস ভাড়া করতে ইচ্ছুক। বিস্তারিত নিম্নে উল্লেখ করা হলঃ

মেইন রাস্তার পাশে    নিচতলা/দোতলা    ৯৮০০-২৮০০ বর্গফুট    পাकिং সুবিধা

শুধুমাত্র প্রকৃত মালিকগন ০১৭০৯৮১৪৩৩২ (সকাল ৯:০০-বিকাল ৫:০০) যোগাযোগ করুন  
ই-মেইলঃ [development@bkbangladesh.com](mailto:development@bkbangladesh.com)

**UNICEF Vacancy Announcement**

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill the following posts. For detailed Job Descriptions, please visit our website and use the following link to apply for the post:

**Programme Assistant (TA-GS5); Cox's Bazar**  
<https://uni.cf/20A1m2V>

Application Closing Date: **15 August 2018**

Please note that no applications by email or post will be accepted. You must log on and create your profile with UNICEF global website and register for application. Attractive remuneration including social security and family medical benefits will be available to the selected candidate as per UN policy. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF's selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.

**UNICEF is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages qualified female and male candidates from all national, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of our organisation.**

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**UNICEF Vacancy Announcement**

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill the following posts. For detailed Job Descriptions, please visit our website and use the following link to apply for the post:

**WASH Information Management Officer (TA-NOB); Cox's Bazar**  
<https://uni.cf/2LURDut>

Application Closing Date: **10 August 2018**

Please note that no applications by email or post will be accepted. You must log on and create your profile with UNICEF global website and register for application. Attractive remuneration including social security and family medical benefits will be available to the selected candidate as per UN policy. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF's selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.

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