



Marking World Children's Day (observed on the first Monday of October) and National Child Rights Week 2018 (October 1-7), Bangladesh Shishu Kalyan Parishad, a platform working for children's welfare, brought out a rally and formed a human chain in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. Speakers at the programme called on people from all walks of society to come forward in ensuring children's rights.

PHOTO: STAR

SHARP RISE IN ROAD ACCIDENTS

Growing number of motorbikes to blame, Nischa survey finds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of road accidents saw a marked rise in the last two years due to a growing number of motorbikes, says a new survey of Nirapad Sarak Chai (Nischa).

In 2016, the number of road accidents was 2,316, which grew to 3,349 in 2017. This year, up until September, the number of road accidents is 2,672 -- the survey, based on reports published in mainstream newspapers, revealed yesterday.

"The growing number of motorbikes is mainly responsible for the sudden rise in accidents," said Ilias Kanchan, founder and chairman of Nischa, while addressing a press conference at Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka.

The press conference was held to announce their month-long plan to generate awareness among people

as part of observing 'Jatiya Nirapad Sarak Dibosh' (National Road Safety Day).

Ilias Kanchan claimed that many underage bikers are careless on the road and speed recklessly, often causing accidents after losing control. "That's why the number of accidents is on the rise," he said.

He said a growing number of unskilled drivers of CNG-run autorickshaws, easy bikes and other three-wheelers also contribute to frequent road accidents.

Kanchan said that a flawed transport system, mismanagement of owners, lack of monitoring, weak traffic management, lack of awareness among people, reckless speeding, poor road construction, lack of political will and lack of proper implementation of law are the other reasons behind road accidents.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

BNP will be at forefront of 'greater unity'

Says Nazrul Islam Khan

UNB, Dhaka

BNP senior leader Nazrul Islam Khan yesterday said their party will be in the frontline of a movement to be launched under "greater unity" platform to force the government to hold a credible national election.

"We're saying from BNP's side that we're not only willing to forge a greater unity, but also want to remain in the frontline of the movement to be launched by the unity. We'll take part in all programmes on the streets," he said.

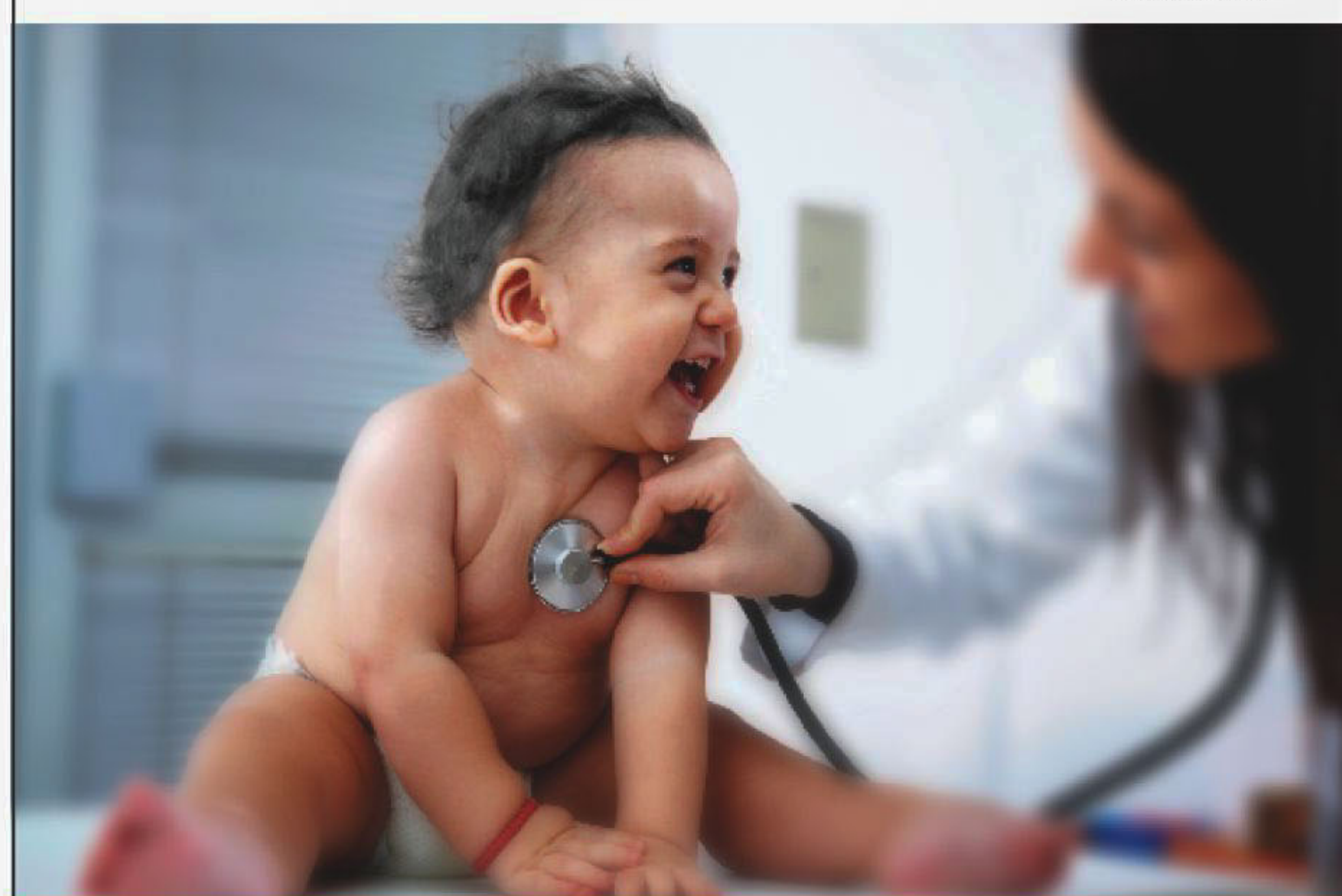
He came up with the remarks at a discussion arranged by Sammilita Chhatra Forum at Jatiya Press Club, demanding release of Khaleda Zia and other detained BNP leaders.

Nazrul, a BNP standing committee member, said Khaleda called for a greater unity in 2016 to realise various demands, including resignation of the government, holding polls under a non-party administration, dissolution of parliament and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



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