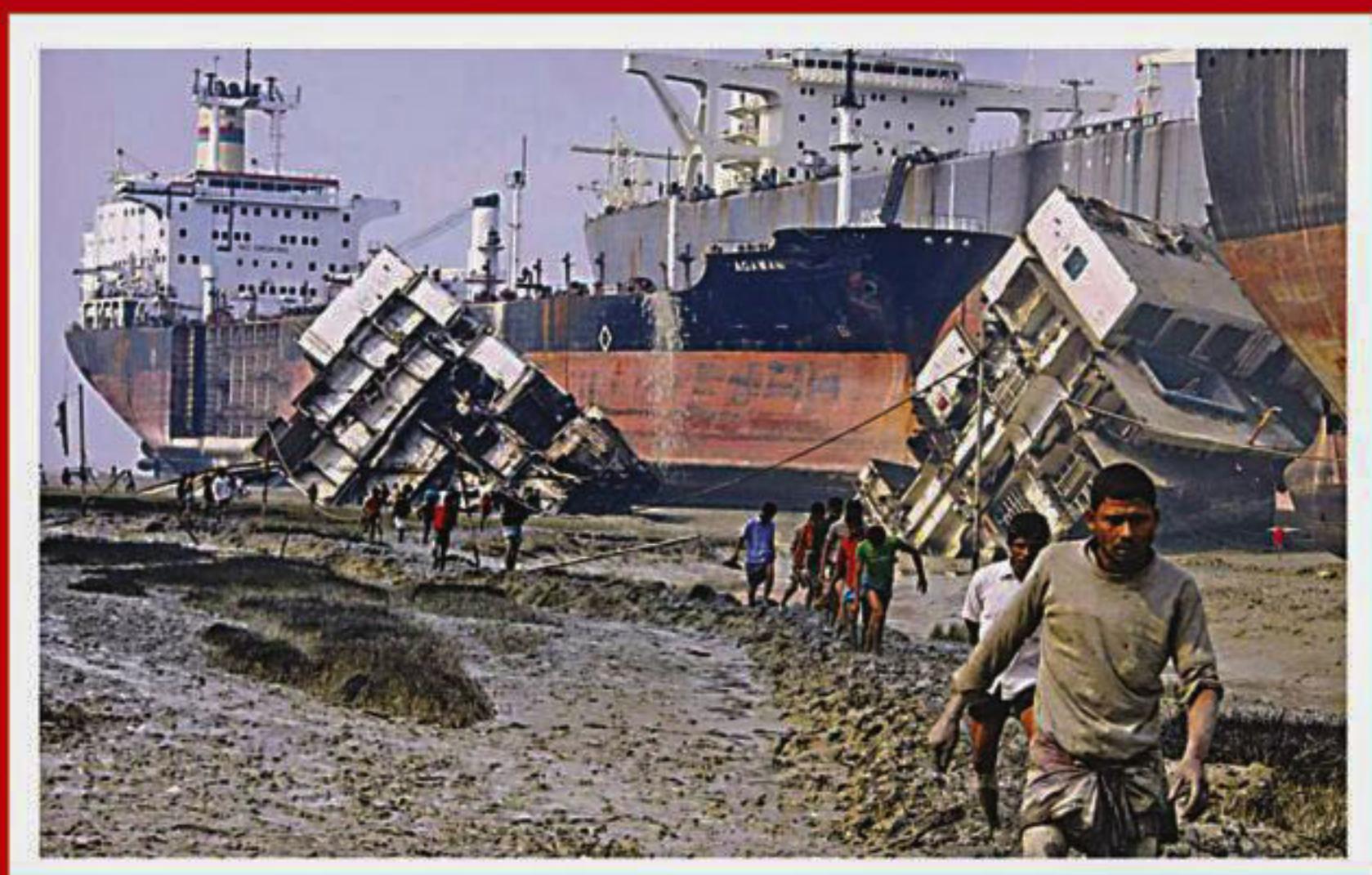


2018



"Bangladesh Ship Recycling Bill" is passed on January 25, which makes it mandatory for shipyards to insure the lives of every worker, in response to the mortality rates in this sector.

After two years of bargaining, on August 26, the tea garden workers' daily rate of Tk 85 is increased by Tk 17 per day, bringing their monthly wages to Tk 3,060. The workers had been demanding Tk 230 per day.

Bangladesh Labour (Amendment) Act, 2018 is approved on September 3. Proposed amendments include mandatory maternity leave, requiring the participation of 51% of workers for work abstention; reducing number of workers needed to form to trade unions to 20% from the existing 30%; finishing the registration process of a trade union by 55 days instead of 60; banning child labour in factories; curtailing the discrepancy power of the director general of the labour department in cancelling trade unions' registration.



The government raises the minimum monthly wage for 4.4 million garment workers by around 51% to Tk 8,000 from Tk 5,300 on September 14 with effect from December 2018. Some trade union leaders reject the proposed hike and urge the prime minister to review it as soon as possible. Trade unions were demanding that the minimum monthly wage be fixed at Tk 16,000.

2019



The Guardian reveals on January 20 that tee-shirts sold by Spice Girls to raise money for gender justice was made in factories paying workers 35 pence an hour.

Thirteen underage sleeping brick kiln workers are killed by a coal truck that accidentally ran over them on January 25, shedding light on the situation of child labour in brick kilns.

Jute workers of state mills protest again for a week on April 1, because the demands they had made in 2016 are yet to be implemented.



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