A generation growing up without playgrounds

84pc residents of Dhaka have no access to them, study finds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An entire generation of children in the capital are growing up unfamiliar with playgrounds, as around 84 percent residents of the capital's city corporation area have no access to playground facilities, said urban planners at a discussion yesterday.

"Playgrounds are not a recreational, but rather a health facility for a community," said Prof Adil Mohammed Khan, secretary general of Bangladesh Institute of Planners (BIP), at a discussion on "Playgrounds in Dhaka city" that BIP organised at its premises.

"Juvenile crimes and drug addiction have a direct co-relation with lack of playground facilities," he said.

Of the 235 public playgrounds available inside the Dhaka city corporation area, only 42 are open to public.

Of the 235 public playgrounds available inside the Dhaka city corporation area, only 42 are open to public, he said.

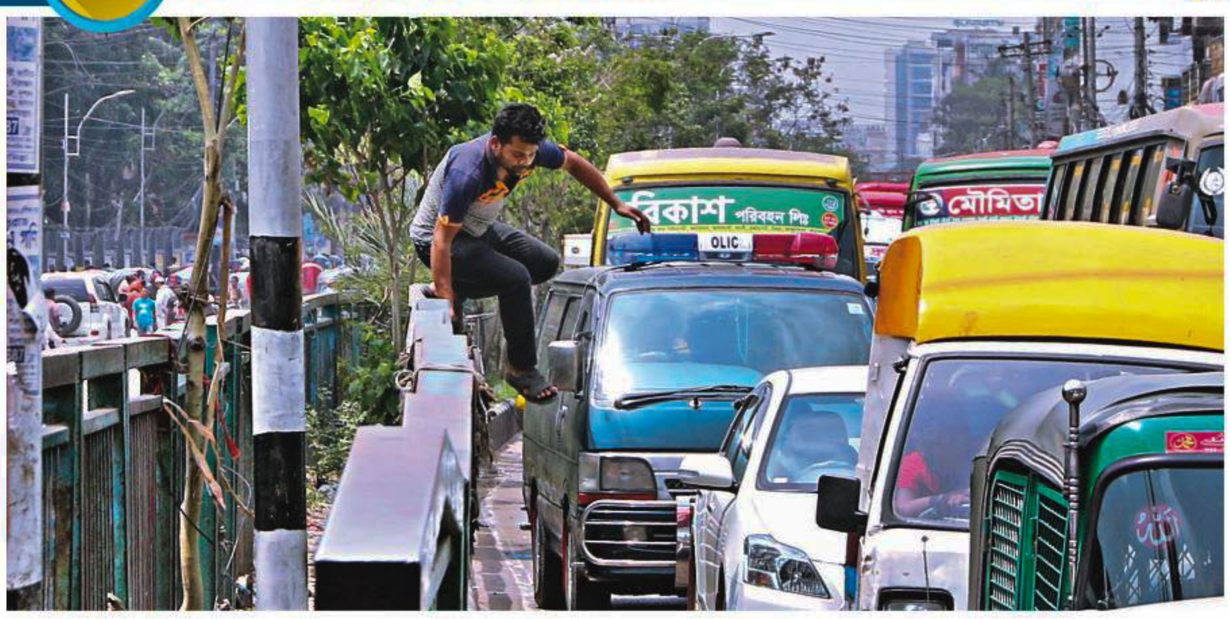
Citing examples of Dhanmondi Road-8 playground, Abahani playground and Kalabagan playground, Adil said at least 16 public playgrounds in the capital are under the grip of private organisations, denying free public access.

There are 141 playgrounds belonging to various

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

PHOTO OF THE DAY

PRABIR DAS



MUST WE DO THIS? Despite there being a footbridge just overhead, a commuter decides to vault over road dividers in the New Market area. The photo was taken yesterday.

Advance bus tickets for Eid from May 17

Holidaymakers can expect smooth journey: road transport secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Holidaymakers' journey ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr this year will be smooth compared to previous years, Nazrul Islam, secretary of Road Transport and Highway Division, claimed yesterday.

"This year, condition of the highways is relatively better than previous years and we can hope holidaymakers would have largely hassle-free commute," the secretary said.

He was speaking to journalists after a preparatory meeting of the division -- on ensuring safe and hassle-free Eid travel.

No truck, lorry will ply highways for three days before Eid, the secretary said, adding that vehicles carrying daily essentials and emergency medicine will be out of purview of the instruction.

He said they would ask the power and energy division to take necessary steps to ensure that the CNG refuelling stations across the country remain open round-the-clock

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

DHAKA TODAY

DISCUSSION
Youth Matters: Roundtable on Health and Environment
Organiser: International Youth Alliance for Peace
Venue: Department of Development Studies, DU
Time: 10am

EXHIBITION
Waasey's Eid Display 2019
Venue: Bistro E, Gulshan 2
Time: 11am

Kader Siddiqui threatens to quit Oikyafront

UNB, *Dhaka*

Abdul Kader Siddiqui, president of Krishak Sramik Janata League (KSJL) yesterday threatened to quit the Dr Kamal Hossain-led Jatiya Oikyafront within a month, if inconsistencies are not removed from the alliance.

"There are many inconsistencies in Jatiya Oikyafront... I'll pull out our party from the Jatiya Oikyafront on June 8 if the inconsistencies are not removed by this time," he said.

Siddique issued the ultimatum at a press conference at KSJL's Motijheel central office.

Kader Siddiqui said many problems have been created in the alliance after the national election.

"People raise questions over some of Jatiya Oikyafront's activities after the election. The alliance couldn't function properly; it failed to stand by families of the people killed and injured during the election violence. We

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