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PREVENTING CHILD MARRIAGE

Parents' roles, social norms key obstacles

Speakers tell event



Speakers at a consultation session, titled "Envisioning a Child Marriage-Free Nation", organised by Care Bangladesh, in association with The Daily Star at The Daily Star Centre yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Improving skills of and economic opportunities for teenage girls can help prevent child marriage, said speakers at an event yesterday.

They also said the roles of parents and prevailing social norms are the primary obstacles to prevent child marriages.

They stressed for strengthening Child Marriage Prevention Committee

(CMPC) to curb the menace.

The speakers made the remarks at a consultation session titled "Envisioning a Child Marriage-free Nation", organised by Care Bangladesh, in association with The Daily Star at The Daily Star Centre.

"While there are committees to prevent child marriage, there is a big question on their initiatives in this regard. These committees must

work at the local level to prevent child marriages on a national level," said Rasheda Akter, child protection and gender justice advisor, Plan International Bangladesh.

"Also, raising the youth consciousness about the impacts of child marriage will help greatly in near future to mitigate it," she added.

Rawnak Jahan, director of Care

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If the popularity of an independent candidate exceeds that of a heavyweight, we cannot oppose it. Democracy means competition... fair elections and healthy competition.

OBAIDUL QUADER
 AL General Secretary



Bangladesh is now disconnected from the democratic world. Ignoring calls from various countries, Sheikh Hasina will stage a drama on January 7.

RUHUL KABIR RIZVI
 BNP Senior Joint Secretary General

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