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Price spiral and politics



This is a follow up of your editorial comments on the subject (DS: May 9). Passing the buck is the normal bureaucratic tactic which has been duly mastered by our honourable ministers given their day to day interaction with deft bureaucrats. After all is said and done, the fact remains that they will not go for reversing the price spiral. It will not be a wise action in the party's interest!

Causes of poverty in Bangladesh

I was reading the letter of 11 May 2006 with the above caption. Khan Kabir from the USA has rightly pointed out that if all of us had contributed 2.5% of share of wealth poverty would have gone by this day. To add a few more words, I would say though 2.5% is an essential point unless real wealth is generated the look of Bangladesh would not change. Bangladesh poverty is not like Africa's. People in Bangladesh are much different attitude-wise and efficient in terms of per capita GNI and Land.

peace-loving progressive minded people; he saw, he admired and he returned. This region always had its own identity for a very definite reason because adventurous progressive minded people always had flocked together here. Bangladesh should forget its Sanskrit based history. This region should go back to its actual root of mixed people coming from Modern China; Ancient Aracan; Modern Iran, Afghanistan and the Middle East in general; not to mention the Portuguese, English and perhaps Polish. Avoid too much of concentration of flat based micro credit. Concentrate on domestic demand of people (more than 150 million). Concentrate on domestic technology and convert domestic technologies into commercial innovations. Import strategy should be only based on technology and knowledge or on know-how.

the apple cart or kill the goose that lays the proverbial golden eggs! We must understand that it will be foolish to throttle BNP's golden egg pipeline! Extortion is the other prickly issue one can talk about, all day long; but stopping it is not their cup of tea. It is everybody's business; hence nobody's business. Maybe, there are some golden fingers in this pie too; who knows! Law and order problem is designed and programmed to contain opposition processions, meetings, and people asking for power and water. These personnel are too busy tackling these issues; where is the time to catch those in the extortion ring? One can never know which apple cart might be upset; hence the saying goes "discretion is the better part of valour." That is the approach of all politically savvy law enforcing agencies. Finally, in spite of all your comments and observations; no one can kill the goose that lays the golden eggs! That is the reality of BNP election strategy!

Tamasha watcher On e-mail

Accordingly, we should withdraw all imported cheap text books with textual contents only. Regional quota system, which has been sidelining talents within the country, should be abolished without delay. We have to have a multi-language strategy--English and Bengali as first official languages with due importance to German, French and Arabic. Concentration on domestic demand would allow maintaining a higher value currency strategy. Bangladesh needs a strong currency and inward looking economy with micro-educations (not micro credit) and large-scale businesses. Finally, Bangladesh should redefine the meaning of its green and red colours. Green for the world and red for the love of the world i.e. love for the green world. This will definitely have a psychological effect on people. Abdullah Al Mahmud On e-mail

Biman "staffs"

Your reader has spotted what in fact seems to be becoming more widespread, even here in the UK. The reason, in the UK at least, I

believe, is that many children are not being taught how to spell properly and then are going into journalism and repeating their spelling mistakes in their articles. I notice it more and more, even in such papers as The Times. Rahman On e-mail

US debacle in the ME

Iran has noted the misfiring of US policies in the Middle East. Iran is now being targeted; therefore it is not surprising if Iran teases the US for a while. The lone superpower has to bear the brunt alone. The tide has changed. The sun is setting in the (West) industrialised countries. The two billion people in China & India cannot be ignored or controlled. The indirect strength is the weight of the US dollar in the global market. Let us watch this chess game, as we are involved. A Mahasen Dhaka



residues before her arrival off Chittagong. The presence of the 'Alfaship' on a Greenpeace website appears to be purely arbitrary. Greenpeace nowhere states that the 'Alfaship' is either toxic or dangerous - only that it 'might be scrapped soon'. As the 'Alfaship' is 27 years old - near the industry average age for scrapping - this is hardly surprising. 'Alfaship' is, in all respects, ready for sale in accordance with the laws of Bangladesh. As Lloyd's List of London reported on 8 May in an editorial, "Ship scrapping is perfectly legal, don't let anyone tell you otherwise." David Gare Polembros Shipping Inc., Piraeus, Greece

My country

My country is a fairyland of thorny roses, with floating water hyacinth, and floating politicians. The civilian politically elected regime gets no credit for managing governance with the help of paramilitary forces. A citizen Dhaka

Call for unity

Divine blessing is sometimes bestowed indirectly. One example: the caricature cartoon on the holy prophet. More problems for anti-Islam West ( industrialised rich nations). Occupation & military operations wont' solve human problems processed by the heart (not the head) A message for the limping OIC: Call for unity. A Husnain Dhaka

Microcredit for teachers

One decently dressed person, claiming to be a teacher, came to me for assistance. He should know there may be microcredit facilities for teachers. The awareness programmes appear to be lacking. The NGO Bureau might like to examine the issue. A citizen, Dhaka

No more experiments



Education is one of the fundamental rights of citizens without which no nation can prosper. So it is called the backbone of a nation. The teachers play a vital role in building up the nation. So they are called the nation builders. Our government introduced " Communicative English" in the educational institutions in our country so that the learners could practice English well from their early age. But what is communicative English? So far as my knowledge goes, " Communicative English" means the method of learning English through which a learner can learn the language by using dialogue. In the recent years we have watched one thing that the percentage of pass in the examinations has increased but the standard of education hasn't. A lot of students are passing the examinations without gaining proper knowledge of English, which is most essential in every sphere of life. Besides, the students cannot understand their teachers in the classrooms as they are weak in "English grammar" and they have a poor vocabulary. In this system the main object of education is greatly hampered because not only the students but also the people of our country are in the habit of speaking Bengali most of the time. In the light of it we can say that the motto of " Communicative English" is that the learners should be able to express themselves in English and understand others. But here is a question, "Is it fully possible for the Bangladeshi students?" Moreover, there should be " training centres " in each and every district for the teachers so that they can teach the students if any method is applied for the first time. We can see that good English teachers are not available in the country, especially in the rural areas. So the learners in the rural areas are being deprived of real education. But at last the education policy makers thought that if the existing system continues the country would lag behind in any competition in the age of globalisation. So they included 40 marks with the syllabus for grammar. There is no denying that learning English grammar is a must for each and every student. Now I would like to thank them for it. But we don't know how long this system will continue. If it continues the young learners will be able to get proper education in building their career. In the recent years we have also noticed that changes have been made in the curriculum many times. But is it good for the students? Md. Abdus Salam, Assistant Teacher Joypara Pilot High School, Dohar, Dhaka

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