

## Getting back at the Taxi Driver

A few days ago, I was accompanying my older sister to the eye doctor for her eye check ups. Walking on the road, we were searching for a taxi to take us to the clinic. However, none of them would give us a ride from Nakhapara to Gulshan-1, since the distance was very short. Even though my sister was offering to pay then Tk 5-10 more than what the metre would show, none of them were willing to go. Finally, one taxi driver agreed to take us to Gulshan, provided that we paid him Tk 30. My sister offered to pay him Tk 5 more than what the metre would show, but he declined the offer. After getting into the taxi, my sister asked the driver to have the metre switched on, so that she could just check out the difference between the demands made by her and the driver.

We reached the destination with Tk 36 showing on his metre. He had nothing to say to my sister, when she asked him as to why taxi drivers like him make silly demands and prefer to turn the metre down while moving from one place to another.

*Eakut Salma Sunnoon  
East Nakhapara*

## Charged with Emotion

A few days ago, a friend of mine attended a concert at the Winter Garden, Hotel Sheraton where the famous Indian idol performed. Three of the idols performed some hit tracks. When they were performing on stage, the atmosphere was electrifying. Crowds shouting at the top of their lungs, singing to the tunes made the moments worth enjoying. However, some girls from the crowd could not hold their hormonal outburst within themselves. So, they went up to the stage and actually kissed the singers. Besides, there were flying kisses floating about in the hall, coming straight from the audience towards the performers from every corner of the room. Such an outburst of emotion is a rare sight in Bangladesh.

*Maimuna Haq Shaoki  
Shahjahanpur*

## Pool Pleasure

Pools have become a new teenage craze. The pool centres in Dhaka are doing quite well for themselves, attracting the youngsters, especially students of school and college. One day, out of curiosity, I went to a popular billiard centre in Dhanmondi. As I entered the billiard room, I found myself amidst a fog of cigarette smoke. I became puzzled and saw a crowd of lousy teenagers sitting scattered, most of them holding a cigarette in their hands. To my most utter shock, I also found some of my classmates amongst them. They were speaking in an unruly and abusive language. I left the place in a hurry. My curiosity was well quenched and I decided never to go back again. There is absolutely nothing wrong with playing pool or billiard and I myself am fond of a game or two. What I am concerned about is that the students actually bunk classes to go over to the pool centres and play pool. Being minors, they are also not supposed to smoke in the way they do, especially after the passing of the law regarding smoking in public. The authorities of these centres should also discourage students from smoking in and around the premises.

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