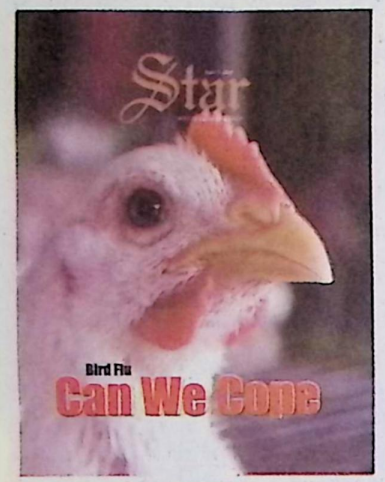


STAR WEEKEND MAGAZINE
Volume 10 Issue 491
April 14

- **Editor**
  Mahfuz Anam
- **Managing Editor**
  Syed Fahim Munaim
- **Magazine Editor**
  Aasha Mehreen Amin
- **Senior Staff Writer**
  Fayza Haq
  Mustafa Zaman
- **Staff Writers**
  Shamim Ahsan
  Imran H. Khan
  Ahmede Mainul Hussain
  Kajalie Shehreen Islam
  Srabonti Narmeen Ali
  Hana Shams Ahmed
  Elita Karim
- **Regular Contributors**
  Neeman A Sobhan
  Richa Jha
  Sanyat Sattar
  Nadia Kabir Barb
  Farah Ghuznavi
  Nabeel Atique
- **Graphics & Illustrations**
  Manan Murshed
- **Photographer**
  Zahedul I Khan
- **Make-up**
  Monirul Islam Bhuiyan
- **Production Manager**
  Selim S.H. Chowdhury

Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Internet edition address: http://www.thedailystar.net/magazine

National Awards

'Ekushey-Padak' and 'Swadhinata-Padak' are considered prestigious awards in Bangladesh. Both the announced awards for this year have raised some questions among the socially conscious. It has been alleged that partisan persons are preferred in the selection as well as in awarding the nominees.

What amazes me the most is awarding the 'Swadhinata-Padak' (Independence Award) to RAB (Rapid Action Battalion) for its said 'achievement' in improving the law and order situation in the country. But the reality is that the term 'crossfire' has become an integral part of RAB for its controversial role in extra judicial killing.

Members of other forces like Police, BDR and Bangladesh Army have sacrificed a lot for the accomplishment of our independence whereas RAB is a newly born force having no contributions in the war of liberation. Moreover, in a country where crimes can be handled with a unsystematic judicial process, can anyone attribute the process of 'crossfire' as an achievement of any force? Policy makers of the government should realise that National Awards should not be politicised further and it should remain in its aspired position.

Wasi
Dhaka City College

No good quality TV programmes

It's a pity that other than 'Ityadi' we have no quality entertainment programme to talk about. We have quite a lot of TV channels these days but the crisis of quality entertainment programmes is very acute.

Most of the entertainment programmes telecast by the satellite channels are very superficial. The host/hostess always speaks in a bizarre accent in a desperate effort to copy presenters from foreign countries. Moreover, there is no creativity and the programmes have no message for the viewers.

Unless the TV channel authorities can come up with some quality entertainment programmes 'Ityadi' will remain the only programme worth watching for years to come.

Shamima
Dhaka

Student politics

The student politicians had made big contributions to the country in 1952 and 1971 but recently they are only creating a menace. Nowadays they even have to get admitted into colleges and universities by colluding with the big brothers. They also take bribes to admit students. There are also some local students who abuse their power to force the innocent students to take part in political activities. They also spend time in chatting in the common rooms instead of attending classes.

All political parties should limit student politics. Otherwise our nation will fall into a black hole.

Shohon Shis
Rajshahi

SUBMISSION GUIDELINE:

Letters to the Editor, Dhaka Diary and Write to Mita, with the writer's name and address, should be within 200 words. All articles should be within 1,200 words. A cover letter is not necessary, but every write-up should include the writer's name, phone number and email address (if any). While SWM welcomes unsolicited articles and photographs, it cannot accept the responsibility of their loss or damage. SWM does not return unsolicited articles and photos. Response time for unsolicited write-ups range from three weeks to two months. All articles submitted are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity.

All materials should be sent to: Star Weekend Magazine, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Fax: 880-2-8125155 or emailed to: <starweekendmag@gmail.com>

It is recommended that those submitting work for the first time to the SWM take a look at a sample copy beforehand. Our website is: http://www.thedailystar.net/magazine