## Feeding the Bigots

Triumph of the communal forces in Bangladesh is not a new thing. Because of the support it receives from the public administration and for the political manipulation it has flourished. For this reason when the government is on the way to pass a law to empower women, these extremists are raising hue and cry claiming that it is an anti-Quran law. Watching the events unfolding on TV news reports was quite disturbing. For the first time the protestors overpowered the law-enforcers. It is very unusual behaviour by the police because they failed to show any respect to opposition political leaders, mercilessly attacked DU students, killed people in kansat, then how come they were so helpless against the bigots? No news of the incident was telecast on BTV. No one from the government spoke out. When the government did not hesitate to put behind the bars, the honourable teachers, not a single step has been taking against such communal forces. It is very frustrating indeed.

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## Government Needs to Help

Bangladesh is an agriculture-dependent country. About 80 percent people live in the villages and are more or less involved with rearing livestock. Our economy also largely depends on it. About 22 percent of our total GDP is coming from the agriculture sector and about 20 percent of our GDP is coming from the livestock and poultry sectors. So the importance of this sector is quite apparent. But it is a matter of regret that no noticeable emphasis has been given on this sector by the government. Poor implementation and dissemination of modern technology and poor veterinary services due to lack of adequate manpower. Very little extension work has been seen in this sector.

This leads the country to a gloomy prospect. The price of meat, eggs, milk and other meat products have reached beyond anyone's expectations. Without improvement of this sector, we can't meet demand. So we hope our government will take immediate initiatives to improve this sector and facilitate the livestock farmers to improve their farming condition with good prospect.

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## Where Life Matters

Undoubtedly, the glittering private hospital concept is a symbol of development of the country's health care sector. It's keeping a large amount of money in the country that was being drained abroad for something as basic as health care. But the class-consciousness at these hospitals are so blatant and costs so high that it is difficult for the general people to get any of their health care needs fulfilled there. In practice it usually turns out that a family's assets have to be sold in order to raise funds for a single person to get treatment at one of these hospitals which puts the whole family is financial ruin. Private hospitals should take a more altruistic approach towards poorer people. They can offer special packages to for poor people just like the Jibon Kheya project of JBFH (Japan-Bangladesh Friendship Hospital).

On the other hand, the government is coming and going but the public health sector remains in the same disastrous condition. The government should take immediate steps to increase the standard of country's health care system for the sake of a healthier generation of tomorrow.

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## Load Shedding

Incessant load shedding all across the country is causing much suffering to people all across the country, especially in this terrible heat. The HSC candidates are extremely hard hit. Their examination is nearing very quickly and it will affect their study patterns. The past governments misappropriated a lot of funds in this sector. Constant vigilance is needed all the time to ensure accountability and transparency.

The government should take immediate measures to increase power to mitigate people's sufferings.

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## Good Article

The article on breast cancer was a very informative one. Women's health takes a back seat in our society. Many silently suffer without receiving proper treatment. This article will give an opportunity for everybody out there to be properly informed and educated. SWM should develop a regular health section where such significant health issues would be talked about.

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