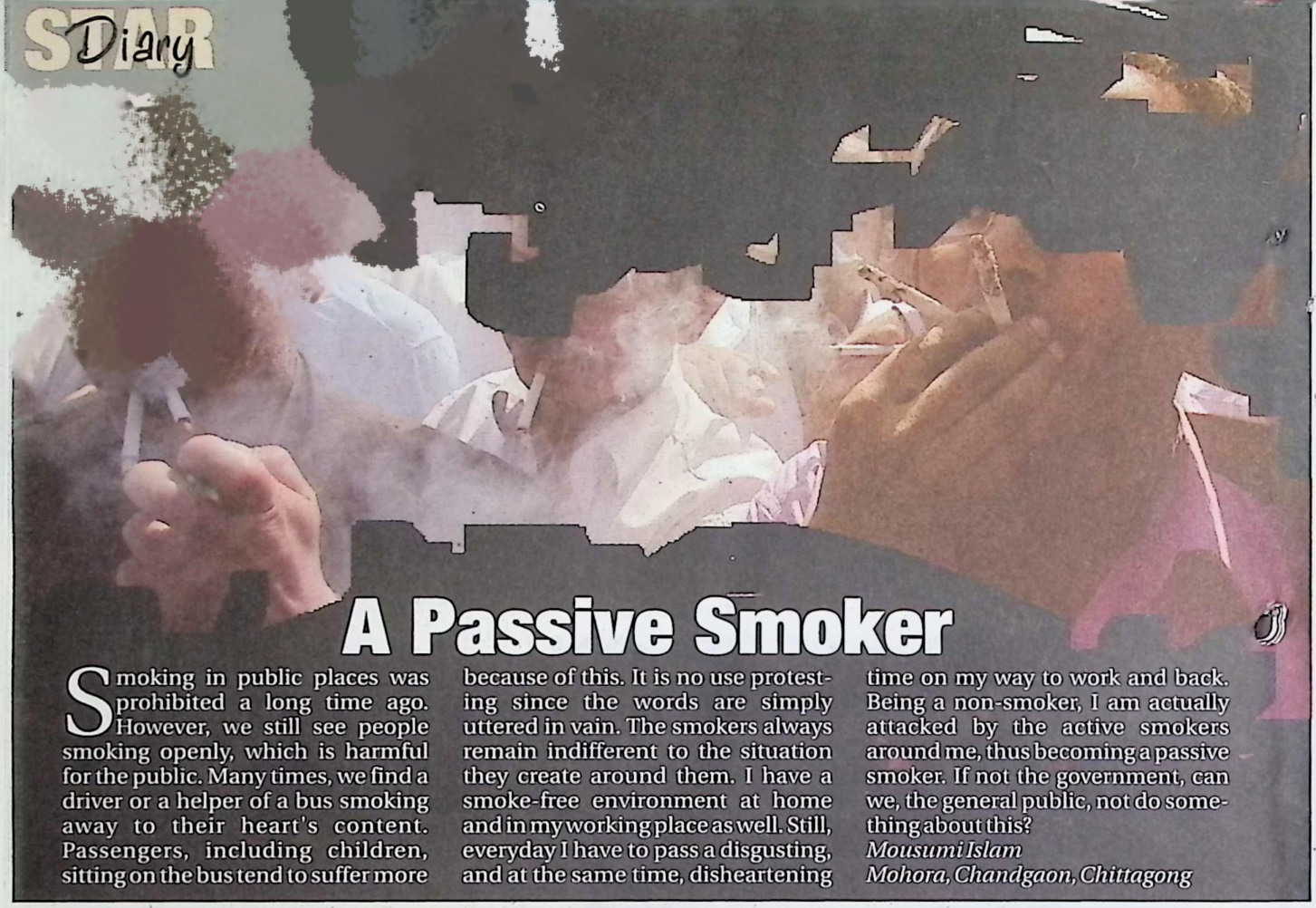


A Passive Smoker

Smoking in public places was prohibited a long time ago. However, we still see people smoking openly, which is harmful for the public. Many times, we find a driver or a helper of a bus smoking away to their heart's content. Passengers, including children, sitting on the bus tend to suffer more because of this. It is no use protesting since the words are simply uttered in vain. The smokers always remain indifferent to the situation they create around them. I have a smoke-free environment at home and in my working place as well. Still, everyday I have to pass a disgusting, and at the same time, disheartening time on my way to work and back. Being a non-smoker, I am actually attacked by the active smokers around me, thus becoming a passive smoker. If not the government, can we, the general public, not do something about this?

Mousumi Islam
Mohora, Chandgaon, Chittagong

Confusing Culture

Nowadays, Hindi music is being played publicly and lot more than usual. This sometimes perplexes me, especially when groups of young men play the latest Hindi songs loudly in public on days like Pahela Baishakh. This happened in our locality in the past and I am sure that it will happen in future again. I often wonder, is this done intentionally to hurt the sentiments of the residents in the locality or do they do this just for fun? I think that these boys should be caught and fined so that they do not repeat something like this again. Their activities do not, in any way, reflect the 'attractive' or the 'magnetic' sides to them. Instead, they spoil their own image by demeaning their our culture.

Moni
Edward College, Lalpur
Natore

CNG Scandal

The other day my elder brother and I were riding in a CNG-run auto rickshaw. It was raining cats and dogs and we jumped out of the auto rickshaw as soon as we reached our destination. Once the auto rickshaw began to move away, we realised that we had left a bag behind. Both of us took the street, running wildly after the auto rickshaw, screaming at him to stop. The driver instead of slowing down sped away farther. He probably thought that we had something valuable inside the bag. He was probably shocked to find an English to Bangla dictionary and some papers in the bag instead. And he would not have been able to return them us either. Such people are extremely harmful to the society and will definitely suffer in the long run.

Jewel Chakraborty
MC College, Sylhet