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# It's time to act now!!



AZIZUR RAHIM PEU / DRIKNEWS

Global warming has already started taking its toll. Unless we contain it, we will face unprecedented disaster in the years to come. The time is not to control the damage already done but to prevent further damage.

The international community, particularly the developed world, should adopt a pragmatic approach and display exemplary commitment toward tackling the global

challenges. Knowing full well the consequences of climate change, is it not foolish to try and bully nature in the name of development? Strike the right balance between development and conservation and provide a level playing field for future generations. The ill effects of climate change will affect a large majority, particularly those on the periphery of the system. This is the time when those capable of

changing lives can display statesmanship and collective responsibility in fixing emission reduction targets.

I hope that the efforts taken by the world media across the globe will yield the desired result in years to come. Everybody is eager to save the earth but no one is ready to stand for it unfortunately.

**Muhammed Jamil Ather**  
*Karachi, Pakistan*

# Ahsan Manzil

Ahsan Manzil is recognised as one of the most supreme and old structures of Dhaka. The government took necessary steps to modernize Ahsan Manzil. After completion of the reconstruction work in 1992 it was brought under the control of Bangladesh National Museum (20th September 1992). Ahsan Manzil has now been transformed into a museum. Proper branding and maintenance of this architectural site will attract more domestic and international tourists helping our tourism industry flourish.

**Shohag Mostafij**  
*MBA (Strategic & International Management), DU*



PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA

## Scourge of Multi-Layered Marketing (MLM)

I was shocked to see faces of some of the most famous personalities of Bangladesh in the sales literature of a very large MLM company in Bangladesh. Until now, I thought that this type of scheme, designed to fool the uneducated, would soon come under the radar screen of the regulators and would then get stopped by law.

It is a well-known fact that MLMs are doomed by design. Initially they look hugely attractive but eventually when they recruit too many salespeople, who in turn then attempt to recruit even more salespeople, ad infinitum, the system collapses. The relatively small numbers of people (mainly the original organizers and the first layers of recruits) who start the scheme make a lot of money until the point of collapse. However, the unfortunate "distributors"

at the bottom of the pyramid are the losers.

There are many examples of MLM collapses in North America and elsewhere, which can be verified by simple browsing of the Internet. This type of scheme should not have been allowed in Bangladesh in the first place and the government cannot avoid blame as it has a duty of regulatory oversight.

I, therefore, urge the authorities and regulators to look into this matter immediately so that money being made via a sophisticated con scheme is stopped immediately before further damage are inflicted on poor people or people who might be ignorant about the eventual collapse. I believe that it is also the responsibility of major newspapers to investigate the matter in greater detail and expose the fraud.

**Syed M Quader**  
*Uttara Model Town*  
*Dhaka*

## Seven-point demand of police

We have learnt from the local dailies that the police department has submitted their seven-point demand to the government on the eve of the Police Week. We know that during 1982-83, the rank badge of the police chief was degraded from 3-star to 2-star. Obviously, this is humiliating.

A chief of a large force of 1 lac and 35 thousand police should be dignified rationally. It may be mentioned that a Major General in the army bears a 3-star rank badge.

The other financial benefits of the police are lower than that

of army and Rab. Officers-in-Charge (OC) and Sub Inspectors (SI) have also wanted to have



the status of first class gazetted officer. This demand would be approved by the govt. after

assessing the eligibility of the current officers.

The underserving OCs or SIs should be replaced by the eligible ones and the scrutiny must be unbiased. However, there are incalculable complaints against the police department, but they are the part and parcel of the government. The government should listen to the problems of this department and take necessary measures accordingly.

**Mobarak Ali**  
*RK Mission Road, Gopibagh*  
*Dhaka*

## TIB corruption survey generates interest!

The TIB corruption survey came out this year as it has been doing every year for the last decade or so. This is usually a difficult, embarrassing time for the high-ups of those organisations named in the list. Sometimes listed high-ups blow hot and cold and question the bona fide of the survey. But soon it is back to normal business as usual. But not this year!

The TIB corruption survey that enjoys total public confidence (because of open knowledge and personal experience of practically everyone) has gained even more widespread publicity because of this errant behaviour by the 'aggrieved' parties concerned. So what can TIB do? Trying to explain, would be a vain attempt to inject common sense into uncommon minds.

I suggest that since the survey included 6,000 households this year, TIB motivate the members of this and past surveys to serve the cause of eradication of corruption in Bangladesh, by voluntarily going in a body to the offices concerned and expose them to whom they (the individuals surveyed) paid (or were forced to pay) bribes. I am sure that millions of common people like us who have been exploited for so long by the corrupt will support them.

**Sikander Ahmed**  
*Niketon, Gulshan-1*  
*Dhaka*

## WikiLeaks' Assange under threat?

An article on the matter written by Sherwood Ross was published in the pages of a local daily on 4th January. It started with the possibility of "covert action" upon Mr. Assange, the founder of WikiLeaks. It was an interesting reading, not about Assange, but on the violent and bloody deeds of CIA. It summarises CIA's "pious" deeds in a large number of countries. Some of the recent and most visible and violent deeds cover the following countries: Bolivia, Congo, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Iran and Philippines!

Given the activities of CIA, I was curious to find out what words and expressions can be derived from the acronym CIA. I came up with some interesting combination of words!

Beginning with the official name Criminal Investigation Agency, we can just change the 'C' of 'Criminal' to stand for Chinese, Cambodian, Canadian and Chilean among others! Back home we can call it Chittagong, Comilla and such. For the 'I', we can have Indian, Iranian, Israeli and Icelandic among others. Let's now go to the 'A' of the agency. For this we can easily substitute: Authority, Assembly, Association and Agency appear to be the most suitable.

Many interesting group of words can be formed from the famous (or infamous) acronym CIA; I draw the attention of interested readers and many students among them, who can change the abbreviation of CIA into many more interesting permutation and combination of words!

## Backbone-less BGB

I was deeply saddened when I read the news of a girl name Felani being intentionally shot by the BSF. BSF keeps on doing this crime and no one from the government seems to care about this issue.

I am confused because I do not know what is the role of BDR, now BGB, because every time BSF kills a Bangladeshi person, all BDR does is sit with the BSF authorities to get return of the dead body. BDR has simply become backbone-less.

I wonder what would have happened if the story was other way around. BSF intentionally does these crimes and all we can do is to feel sorry for those families who lose their dear ones. Pathetic!

**Minhaj Ahmed**  
*Uttara, Dhaka*

## TIB ought to identify the culprits!

I was watching the ATN news on the Internet TV yesterday (Jan 15, 2011), and was amazed how forcefully the Secretary General of TIB was defending their report and denied to withdraw or change their report under any pressure or circumstance, because it has followed all known methodology to prepare and present such a report. He mentioned that some people might be aggrieved and responded negatively to the report!

You know that 90-95% of the people of Bangladesh have no access to corruption. They are victims of malfunctions, and corruption is one of them. With this perspective how can you call a country corrupt?

Bangladesh is not a corrupt country, some of the people may be corrupt, and even you fail to identify them. It is not the whole judiciary; it is a few people in the judiciary who may be corrupt. Identify them and make their names public.

**Faqrul Quadir**  
*California, USA*

## Private zoo of Sitesh Babu

About a week ago I made a trip to Srimongol with my family. I was stunned by the beauty of wildlife and nature there. Everything was perfect and joyful during the tour except for one thing which alone made the whole experience sad.

On the last day, I went to visit quite a famous place, the private zoo of Sitesh Babu. I heard about this place many times in the newspapers and TV shows. The moment I entered the private zoo, an annoying loud sound of a Hindi song came to my ear. There were more shocks ahead. Some of the most beautiful and rare animals of Bangladesh were caged there in the worst possible living condition. Many rare animals large in size were kept in small, rusty cages under open sky, in the freezing cold.

Eagles, Golden Hoolock gibbons, white panthers, anaconda, black bears and many other rare animals and birds are living in a terrible condition both in terms of health and environment. They are living away from their own natural habitat without any partner.

I still don't understand why the media popularised this criminal act with such enthusiasm. Do we have any Wildlife Protection Act? I sincerely request the authorities concerned to take a bold step to send these animals back to their home-natural forests. May the Almighty forgive Sitesh Babu and us!

**Shafayet, Dhaka**

## A dreamer!

Recently, I went to my village to enjoy a vacation with my family members. As part of our culture, I visited some of my relatives' houses. One of my relatives was a physically challenged person. He has no institutional education but he talks like a highly educated man. He told me that he has no sufferings and he is a happy man. But everybody treats him as a burden.

He sings very well. He believes in near future he will become a famous singer. He will raise his voice in favour of the people like him with his songs. May his dream come true!

**Mustafa Dulari**  
*Uttara, Dhaka*

## A new method in RMG manufacturing

RMG sector has a great contribution to our economy. Millions of people are working in this sector and earning foreign currency for the country. Over the last few years, a new method has been incorporated in this sector that is Industrial Engineering (I.E) and Lean Manufacturing. The aim is to improve the productivity by satisfying the customer.

A number of factories have already started implementing this method and getting results with increase in number of buyers. It is therefore expected within a short time every factory will incorporate I.E method in their factories. However, buying houses should also recruit experienced IE personnel. I am confident that if all factories are able to have I.E and Lean Manufacturing, then our entire RMG sector will make a revolution in the world.

## Electricity crisis in winter!



A.M.AHAD / DRIKNEWS

The other day when we were reading newspapers early in the morning in our university dorm, the electricity went off. We could not find any valid reason for such frequent outages in winter when the demand is very low and our past experiences were that electricity did not go off in winter. But the present is difficult and the future is hopelessly bleak. We have failed to generate electricity. In fact, the production level fell due to systems loss and lack of maintenance.

Our leaders are busy securing luxury cars and apartments ignoring the persistent problems that haunt the nation. How can they solve those issues when they are motivated by their self-interest and poles apart from one another and do not have slightest unanimity on the ideological battleground?

If the government cannot supply electricity at this time of the year, what will it do in the hot summer days when the demand is at its peak? We hope that the government will refrain from any ostentatious display of achievements and concentrate on real issues.

**Sarwar Uddin**  
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