

Save our children

Nowadays students from KG-II to A-level and also students of Bengali medium schools have to study a lot of books. Even children have to study from early morning till 11:00 pm which is putting tremendous psychological pressure on their mind. My son reads in class I and it is very difficult even for me to lift his school bag. There is almost no way but to hire private teachers for the children for good results. In this way education has become extremely expensive for children.

Regarding English medium education, I would like to mention that students of even English-spoken countries do not have such vast syllabus that our students have. Certainly, nowadays students have to study too many subjects unnecessarily. I do not understand why schools are putting so much mental pressure on our children. What is more horrible is that our children are becoming individualistic due to not having time to give to their family members and friends. Thus, they are drifting away from the main objective of education.

To solve these problems we need to 1) reduce syllabus, 2) increase teachers' salary, 3) ban private teaching, 4) ensure better education in all academic institutions and 5) introduce same syllabus in order to reduce social discrimination.

Dr. M. Mahboob Hossain
Associate Professor
BRAC University, Dhaka

Next time, bowl better!

What Mohammad Ali Sattar wrote in your post editorial on February 22nd; is what we all probably think. Shakib's views could well be that. After all; we are all wise after the event! I believe, Shakib gambled, and lost! Just imagine, what would have happened if Sehwag would have been out in the first few overs? However, had Sehwag gone; then Tendulkar would not have been 'run-out'; and India could have reached say 280 runs!

Would Bangladesh have overtaken this score? One can only guess. After all; lest we forget, cricket is a game of 'glorious uncertainties'! The actual 'uncertainty' that happened; was Sehwag's murderous 175 runs of pure power hitting! 'Singles' and 'twos' were a minority, few and far between; 'fours' and 'sixes' were the order of the day!

It is pointless now, in rubbing salt to the wounds of our pacers.

They probably badly need an injection of confidence from Siddons, and erase the past; the sooner the better. The onus is now on Bangladesh team, to do their best in the next games; and take each game as a challenge. I wish them 'good luck' and 'God speed'.

Not to forget, that 'fortune favors the brave'!

S.A. Mansoor
Dhaka

Does our economy gain from stock market?

AMADUL HUQ / DRIKNEWS

One of the most burning questions today is what's the use of the capital market and why the govt. should get involved to stabilise the market. Why should we care about the prospect of the market, if it does not contribute to our economy? Apparently, it seems that stock market does not keep any connection with the economy. But this market offers a great opportunity for the whole economy if we can grab it properly: Firstly, the companies can arrange their long term capital for business expansion from market with a minimum cost. The banks are suitable only for short term and mid term financing. Secondly, the companies listed in the stock market come under regulation of Securities and Exchange

Commission, which ensures the corporate governance of the companies. The financial statement of listed companies is quite informative and valuable than unlisted companies. Thirdly, the most important factor is that stock market can attract investment. People reduce their consumption and invest here to earn better in future. Fourthly, stock market can finance huge fund for large projects easily. Finally, stock market is considered as the barometer of economy. An efficient stock market is the leading indicator of the economy.

Md. Ashifur Rahman
MBA (finance), Dhaka University

No vulgar shows, please

Only recently we witnessed a vulgar show performed by an Indian film star which was widely criticised by the saner group of citizens in the country. We are dismayed at the fresh initiative to bring the Indian actors and the Russian dance troop for staging a similar show which goes against our cultural, traditional and religious norms and tend to destroy the morale of our youngsters.

Earlier Bangladesh staged international sports events on several occasions and our local artistes rendered splendid performances before the audience depicting our own culture and traditions which was widely acclaimed by all at home and abroad. We do not understand why such objectionable dance needs to be staged on the occasion whereas the audiences, both local and foreign, would rather like to see our own cultural heritage.

Mohammed Jashim Uddin
Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), Dhaka

Politics of deception

The decision of building the proposed new international airport on the other side of the river Padma was purely based on the feasibility study report prepared by international consultants. The donors will not lend a single dollar if the project does not seem feasible. Many important factors were taken into consideration while suggesting the location of the proposed Sheikh Mujib International Airport.

The location originally proposed by the government was negated by experts by considering adverse effects on ecosystem, proximity to Dhaka city, soil condition and vulnerability to flood and so on.

Furthermore, the government sabotaged its own goodwill, if there was any, by inflicting confusion among ordinary and simple natured villagers by suggesting that some people deprived them of a better prospect which did not exist in the first place.

MH Khan
On e-mail

A gorgeous WC opening!

STED ASHRAFUL ALOM TITO / DRIKNEWS

I congratulate the government for organising such a successful event. Today Bangladesh is no more 'a country beside India'. From the fireworks to the show caging Bangladeshi culture and tradition- all was excellent. Considering the fact that we have hosted something so huge for the first time, I would say everything went fine, but equally would like to highlight some defects, without which the event could have been more gorgeous. These are:

- 1) Boring and lengthy speeches of BCB officials.
- 2) No wide introduction or description of the 11 participating countries, other than the 3 hosting countries.
- 3) Young singer's panel lacked Bangladeshi appearance: instead of western, they might have been dressed in Bangladeshi attire.

However, Bangladesh has done a great job.

Mahbuba Sharmin Preema, Dhaka

Being introvert is not a problem

There are two kinds of personalities in our society. One is extrovert and the other is introvert. Introverts are reserved; they like to be with themselves. They don't mix with people much. The extroverts are just the opposite. In our society extroverts are much more than introverts in number. People who are extroverts think it is not normal to be an introvert. Even parents want their children to be extroverts. They get upset if their children are introverts. They want them to mix with people, to be outgoing which is very difficult for an introvert. Parents and elders

pressurize their children to change their characteristics and be extroverts.

These create frustration among those who are introvert. Sometimes it creates mental disorder. Actually, there is no problem in being an introvert unless people change their mentality. There were lots of great scientists and other great personalities who were introverts. Different people have different characteristics and everyone should let them live how they want to. So, criticising for being introvert is not right.

Md. Nazmus Sakib
Notre Dame College, Dhaka

Spectacular Bangladesh!

After watching the opening ceremony of World Cup Cricket 2011 if anyone felt salty water on his/her cheek, what would we say? Yes, we are proud to be Bangladeshi. We have showed the whole world what we can do. The opening ceremony of Cricket World Cup-2011 was spectacular.

Faruki, On e-mail

Move while the green light's on

Cricket teams, media personalities, international guests are in Dhaka. I am concerned about our traffic problems. Some vehicle owners, their drivers, passers-by and above all traffic police and sergeants are responsible for traffic congestion in Dhaka city. I think only in Bangladesh, vehicular traffic moves when the red light is on glows and stops with the green light, opposite to the system followed internationally. The main actor behind this is the traffic police who never keep the left track clear under their nose.

I would like to request the traffic authorities to look in to the matter as long as the foreign dignitaries are here. Otherwise they will assess Bangladesh wrongly.

Matiur Rahman

On e-mail

Govt. must be cautious about**share plunge**

The share market of the country experienced extreme fall and rise in price index in the last week. It marked the lowest fall and the highest rise in price index in two consecutive days in the history of our market. Finance Minister, Bangladesh Bank Governor, and SEC all made frantic efforts to rein it. However, all went astray. Investors, market analysts, all viewed the fluctuation as abnormal and traced some mischievous elements in it by some big syndicates. It is widely alleged that an alliance of 11 masterminds comprising both the government and opposition leaders and their associates realised around Tk. 43,000 crore from the market this week.

Earlier, a large group of industries realised Tk. 66,000 crore from the market last month. The realisation of this huge amount of money results in sharp fall in index. Also, the investment of this huge amount of black/white money in the stock market led to the rise in share price index. It allure a large number of micro investors towards the market. Large syndicates jointly sell the shares which are bought by the millions of small investors. Consequently, the absence of the stalwart investors leads to such slump.

The government must take adequate measures to stop such manoeuvres by the large syndicates to save the small investors from such doom. In addition, the source of such huge amount of money must be disclosed.

Protik Bardhan

Moghbazar, Dhaka

READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Saturday's The Daily Star report headlined "Tigers cross Irish hurdle."

Keya

Thanks to Tigers for giving the nation a reason to celebrate. Best wishes to them. Give us many more reason to cheer together.

Prof. Muhammad Mahboob Ali

Congratulations! Hope that they can improve day by day and able to play in quarter finals.

Kaiser

When I watched the Bangladesh TV channels or read the newspapers today after our boys beat the Irish men, it sounded like our tigers had won the WC. It is unseen and unheard of how a simple cricket victory over even a non test playing nation gives the boost to the entire nation. The foreign commentators' eyes pop out when they see the joy and excitement among the people in all age and gender in Bangladesh. We are indeed a unique nation who desperately searches for something positive. If cricket gives the inspiration then be it! I also want to be part of it. Tigers, keep roaring. Keep making the nation proud.

Tafhim

I'd say they totally kept their effort optimum throughout the game. Look at the runs of Irish, they never exceeded the best of Bangladeshi (Tamim).

Naimul

The jubilant fans finally breathed victory.

Md. Russell Talukder

The victory was like a relief to our tension, fear and doubts about our ability. Bringing in the spinners right from the second over was indeed a brave decision and it goes well with the tigers.

Momen Ahmed

It was a narrow escape by Bangladesh today. I will ask for batting position review. We should place Raquibul at number 3, push Mushfiq at number 8. Also, it might be a good idea to play with one seamer against WI and add one more all rounder either Shuvor or Mahmudullah. It will balance the team well in terms of batting and bowling.

Dr Karim

Please don't forget that Netherland is stronger than Ireland and England won luckily. Bangladesh should try running every ball in the beginning rather than big hit until 100 runs made.

Kazi Ahmed

This was really a Captain's innings. We have at last got a captain who understands his team mates and who essentially understands cricket. Bravo Shakib! Bravo Bangladesh!!

Opu

The victory must have been a refreshing event for Bangladeshi cricket fans. After Bangladesh got themselves in a hole with a poor batting performance, many of us wondered whether the Tigers will give in and throw in the towel against the Irish onslaught or stand up and fight back with confidence to show the world, they are truly a test class team and do the same, like the English did the other day in their match against the Dutch.

Indeed, these brave young men have shown the guts, determination and the courage to gain our respect and we hope they will continue to show such determination, win or lose in years to come.

Raihan

Tigers must roar consistently. It was a breathtaking hard victory. Congrats.

Sohel Ahmed

Victory was the only answer for Bangladesh for this match and they did it. Congrats to the team. If the team management wants Ashraful to play, Ashraful should be batting before Mushfiq and Shakib. Technically he is the soundest batsman in the team. Number 7 is not where a batsman like Ash should be batting. You give maximum over to a top player and to those who are out of form. The more time they spent on the pitch, the more confidence they will grow which will eventually help the Tigers for crossing 280 plus runs in every match they play. If Ash can not bat at 4, don't make him play because he is not a match winning bowler.

Student leaders and our future

PHOTO: STAR

There was a time when student leaders were the conscious keepers of the people. It is they who gave us the right sense of direction at the time of crisis. Their leadership during the Language Movement in 1952, the People's Uprising in 1969 and the War of Liberation in 1971 dazzling in our history in letters of gold. But after Independence the quality of leadership at the student level as well as other levels has progressively degenerated resulting in campus violence, bloodshed and even death. It is because of the wrong steps of the majority of student leaders that acts like terrorism in the campus, unscheduled closure of institutions, session jam, copying in the examination have struck firm roots in the seats of learning.

As Socrates had said, "Knowledge is power", with the advancement of time and the pessimistic mindset of our present students, our nation as a whole has lost its power. The standard of education in Bangladesh has hopelessly deteriorated. All this is nothing but suicidal for the student community. It is high time that our student leaders realised their mistake and took the initiative to follow the ideals set by their predecessors.

Tanha Kashfia Kafe, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka