

Letters will only be considered if they carry the writer's full name, address and telephone number (if any). The identity of the writers will be protected. Letters must be limited to 150 words. All letters will be subject to editing.

### Are these people too influential?

I was saddened to read yet another report, this time from Khulna, of a child domestic worker being tortured by her employer ("From hell to fresh air", DS 21-3-11). Since a general diary (GD) has been filed, this information is open to the public. While the child victim's identity has been revealed in your article, why have the identities of the people who allegedly committed this disgusting crime been withheld? to be named?

Sakhawat Khan, Dhanmondi, Dhaka

### Lambs or Tigers?

The title above, accurately describes the Bangladesh cricket team; which seems to suffer with 'butter-fingers' in batting, fielding and bowling!

The pampered cricket team, after being lavished with cash and other valuable prizes for the win against England has been totally spoiled.

Thanks go to the cheated fans, who kept their cool, despite the tepid, timid and toothless performance of the 'Lambs' against South Africa. Their name 'Tigers' should be stripped off.

S.A. Mansoor, Dhaka

### Size of T-shirts

Will the Garments Industry get its act together on the subject of sizing? As the British Women's Association discover, each year, when they organise a mega-event for hundreds of disadvantaged children at Nandan Water World, the different sizes of the T-shirts given from different houses cause chaos. This year, we discovered that the green Tesco Medium T-shirt was the same size as the red XL T-shirt from House of Pearl!

As in every other developing country, the size of Bangladeshis is getting larger. (Better diet meant that the average height of a boy of 14 in the UK had gone up 4 inches) So sizes here should be beginning to match up. I am embarrassed to have to look for XXL sizes here when I am 16-18 in the UK.

Angela Robinson, Gulshan, Dhaka



MAHABUB ALAM KHAN / DRIKNEWS

## Bizarre cricket mania

Cricket fans in the subcontinent have increased the pressure on players and coaches, which makes them anxious and stressed. The result is there for all to see. The people of the subcontinent should not forget that their teams too entered the tournament as underdogs years ago. Why should they raise a hue and cry when other teams outplay theirs? The hysterical outburst at Bangladesh's defeat to West Indies exposes our self-centred expectations. If our players do not perform,

we denounce them. But one thing is for certain this bizarre cricket mania is the result of the unreasonable media hype. It has made us so crazy that we have lost the ability to accept defeats. It was saddening to see fans attack the house of Bangladesh Captain. Do the people ever lift a finger against erring government officials or politicians who are involved in scandals?

Gopal Sengupta  
Canada

### Begum Zia's alarm bell

Following HC verdict on 5th amendment people from all walks of life and the media demanded in one voice that a provision to the effect that military can never seize power must be incorporated in the constitution. Begum Zia while addressing a gathering in observance of Peelkhana tragedy told us she feared another tragedy in the cantonment. Is the tragedy she referred to is otherwise a possible intervention by the Army to seize power? The DS on 2nd March was compelled to write an editorial calling in question the intention and basis of her fears and wanted to know her moral obligation as the opposition leader? From her statement it seems she is in a great deal of disillusionments and to come out of them she might prefer any alternative to her agitation programmes to precipitate the downfall of the AL government.

Ahmed Niaz  
Mohammadpur, Dhaka

### PSC is wasting time

PSC is taking a long course of time to recruit the BCS cadres. In fact, many brilliant students leave this field because of lengthy procedure. Tight civil administration plays a pivotal role for the continuous development of a country. For instance, if we look at the most developed countries like USA, UK, Japan, Germany, etc., we can say that the rigid base of democracy in those countries is the outcome of efficient civil administrations. The politicians can't do whatever they like rather opinions of mass people are taken into account in those countries. To minimise the course of time for accomplishing the total procedures of BCS exams the present govt. should act promptly.

Eng. Md. Mehebab Haque  
BUET

### Make Yunus the next President

The leader of the opposition in parliament expressed deep shock and concern at the way the Nobel Laureate has been humiliated by the regime in power. Since then I have been wondering as to how his honour and dignity could be restored. It is indeed a matter of serious disgrace. To speak the truth, many a people throughout the globe know Bangladesh because of Dr. Yunus. The regime in power has gone in full swing to nail him down in all possible ways. As an ordinary citizen of the country, may I propose the leader of the opposition, to offer him the presidency of the country if they come to power next time. Hopefully, this shall bring glory both to the party and the country.

Nigar Chowdhury  
On e-mail

## William and Kate to protect Bengal Tigers

It is inspiring to learn that a portion of the charitable gift fund to be raised on the occasion of the Royal Wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton will be spent on the conservation of Bengal tigers of the Sundarbans. This gesture would definitely help stop the poaching of tigers, elephants and other endangered animals and ensure their protection and conservation. The number of tigers in the Sundarbans and elsewhere in the world has decreased alarmingly

due to the human activities including cutting of forests. An Indonesian proverb makes the point clear as it states:

"Tigers are killed without forest and the tiger-less forest is cut down so the tiger should guard the forest and the forest should guard the tiger".

Professor M Zahidul Haque  
Department of Agricultural Extension & Information System  
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University  
Dhaka



MURTADA BULBUL / DRIKNEWS

### Ensuring a culture of honesty

The present day world is full of lies and falsehood. Without any prejudice or malice to none, I recall a saying "Lawyers and politicians are the same, the difference is the politicians are bigger liars" by a late personal friend who played a major role in a movie named "The Father" which is often shown on different television channels.

By the blessings of the satellite television channels, we see how eloquently the politicians spread lies in order to gain popular support. Mere popularity should not be the only criterion for becoming a politician.

Politics is rather a profession of fruitful gains, as such those willing to become politicians, should, like any other individual, go for a competency test seeking a job. This can hopefully ensure a culture of honesty in the country.

Saleh Ayub  
On e-mail

### Interesting headlines

The interesting headlines in the DS front page on 24<sup>th</sup> March evoked some questions:

1. Govt now eyes U-Loops, Underpasses @775 crores- What happened to the thousand crores Freeways, Metro, Maglev, Circular Road, Waterways, etc?
2. Muhith wants honourable solution - After needlessly creating a dishonourable situation?
3. District Councils to get chairmen, without polls. - New concept of people's democracy?
4. Air strikes target ground troops - Fine! Who is both-ered if those killed are Muslims (Islamic terrorists?). If obsolete 1st generation weapons previously sold are destroyed, the new regime can order second generation weaponry. The third generation is now being field tested!!

Sikander Ahmed  
Niketon, Gulshan-1  
Dhaka

## 5th population census

On March 15, Bangladesh kicked off its fifth population census since independence. We excelled all standards in terms of counting out people of Bangladesh. Concern has been voiced that the count has been preceded by too little publicity to ensure full public participation.

As a fortunate urban-dweller I was quite aware about that. We were just waiting for enumerators to visit us. The UN defines the essential features of population and housing censuses as "individual enumeration, universality within a defined territory, simultaneity and defined periodicity". Like our weather fore-

cast dept. we just did the opposite. Who cares? It's Bangladesh! None of my friends and relatives came across any census takers.

The performance of the Bangladesh govt. reminds me of "Capsule Summary". In my student life when I ran short of time I used to go through capsule summary instead of reading the full text. But the smartness of census takers out-smarted me! Hats off!!

Mukti Brata Das  
Manager Marketing  
Regent Textile Mills Ltd.  
Strand Road, Chittagong



PHOTO: STAR

## READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Saturday's The Daily Star report headlined "Glass tower gets green light."

### Khondkar A Saleque

It should have been done much earlier. Now this glass tower and Shahid Minar will inspire nation to fight against misrule and autocracy.

### Ronald

We have a good number of liberation war veterans who lives under poverty. I am not against the project, but wouldn't it be better if we spent these Tk 135 crore to provide better life for our veterans and the families of the brave ones who sacrificed their lives.

### Anonymous, USA

Bangladesh has wasted a huge amount of money in commemorating historical events. There is no need to spend Tk 172 crore for building a Tower of Light. This money can be spent to help the poor who constitute about 40% of the population. The High Court order was to preserve them and not to decorate them.

### Emon, NY

'Tk 135 crore' for a tower which brings back zero revenue and when we need loans to build bridges and people die of hunger.

### Atiqur Rahman

I take fierce pride in independent Bangladesh; I am also offended by the decision to spend Tk 135 crore on a glass tower when millions of our countrymen, including women and children, go without food, water, energy, housing and education. It is a waste of resources.

### Christopher Alexander

What a waste of public expenditure!

### Vaskar

Tk 135 crore to commemorate the March 7 speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman! HOW important!

### Manzoor Ashraf

What a waste of present and future tax payers' money. This money should be spent to buy food for the millions of poor who are going hungry everyday.

### Taneem

Apparently Tk 1400 crore was spent to rename an airport. I support building this tower for Tk 135 crore. But govt. needs to figure out the best usage of people's money.

### SNH

Sign of total hypocrisy like the one in the so-called controlled demolition site ground zero in New York.

### Anonymous

We cannot afford to have a fake ground zero in the heart of Dhaka.

### Saif Ahmed

Bangladesh can't really boast any other achievements in its 40 year history. So, we keep building monuments to the same event and take away whatever left of Dhaka's green space in the process.

### Anonymous

Glass Tower set up decision is good but not necessary right now. Govt. should transfer the fund to reduce misrule and autocracy through ACC.



## Ricky, the man

Ricky Ponting has always been a man of character. He is often criticised for his harsh behaviour, but for the responsibility this man has been carrying through for last eight years with great determination and sheer success, he has to keep an attitude that no ordinary man bears. He is a captain with the ability to win a match from any condition. Winning consecutive world cup title was no small achievement. The opponent captains often misunderstand him. But in my opinion he is simply a man who has self believe and competes hard on the field.

His competitive attitude has taken cricket to a different level and the game has become more interesting. Australia's early exit from the world cup has upset many people. Ricky has most probably played his last world cup match and he did that with dignity. I salute him.

Md. Shafat Imtiaz  
Cardiff, South Wales, UK