

A quiet change in Rangpur

In the Business Page of The Daily Star Rafique Sarker's article "A quiet change in Rangpur" (30.03.11) offers a new dimension to the young entrepreneurs of Bangladesh. The writer tells the story of a NRB who returned home for providing the poor of Rangpur an opportunity to earn a livelihood through non-traditional farming activity. He described how power shortage and interest rate hampered the production. Despite the problems Shanta Islam did not lose her hope. We congratulate the lady who dared to defy the problems generally faced by many young businessmen. She is an inspiration to us all. We hope that she will have more success in the coming days.

**Syed Junayedul Haque, Sanjana Sanom
East West University
Mohakhali, Dhaka**

Burning the Holy Quran!

The 'stupid and uncivilized' pastor Terry Jones; an illiterate and medieval bigot, needs harshest punishment, for unnecessarily provoking violence in many countries. That 'ignorant pastor' should be sent to life long 'pasture' in a prison; for expressing his private belief through a public nuisance act; beyond the norms of civilized behaviour. Is this person sane? This is an uncivil and wild man whose behaviour exceeds all bounds of decorum and respect for other religious sentiments! This brainless person is responsible for events resulting to violence and death and injury of many persons. The madman needs to be sent to a lunatic asylum permanently by US authorities; before he causes more harm to other people in other countries.

A Neutral Person, Dhaka

Healthy pay to curb corruption

From the very beginning of the birth of our country, the compensation system for the government employees is extremely poor. We see that government employees get very low salary although at the time of retirement a healthy amount they get. However, we all think about the present at first and then secondly the future. So, when the government employees see that they are surviving with their low salary, they immediately get involved in corruption. Therefore, I think, the government and other concerned parties should be aware about this problem. A healthy salary scale and proper motivation can reduce the corruption from government sector.

**Rashed, Roni, Tariqul and Ovee
East West University**

Dailies need supervision

A colored photograph was published by local English daily on 3rd April which was titled 'Dangerous Crossing'. It described the 'truck' in the photograph as 'A pick up van'; when actually it is a truck! One wonders if any editorial staff verifies, check and correct such errors in the 'proof' prior to final printing of this newspaper? The same photograph was also published in other local English dailies; where it was correctly described as a 'truck'. Interestingly, in the same issue the daily published a 'bdnews24' news report titled 'BSMMU to set up own drug shop' in both page 6 and 7 of the issue! One wonders, if it is the policy of that daily to go for 'quantity' rather than 'quality' of their publication.

**Engr. S. A. Mansoor
Dhaka**

Save rivers

In the front page of The Daily Star, published on 1st April 2011, titled 'Killing of a river' tells us how Shitalakkhya, is polluted. In fact dumping of wastage from the nearby factories and mills to the river is the routine work. Without treating waste properly, these are exposed to the river bed that results in the contamination of water bodies at higher rates.

Considering the projected future generation of Dhaka city, the Govt. should undertake a long-term plan to save our surrounding rivers. Above all, we all want to live in our capital city where pollution free environment should be ensured by the authority concerned.

**Eng. Md. Mehebub Haque
BUET**

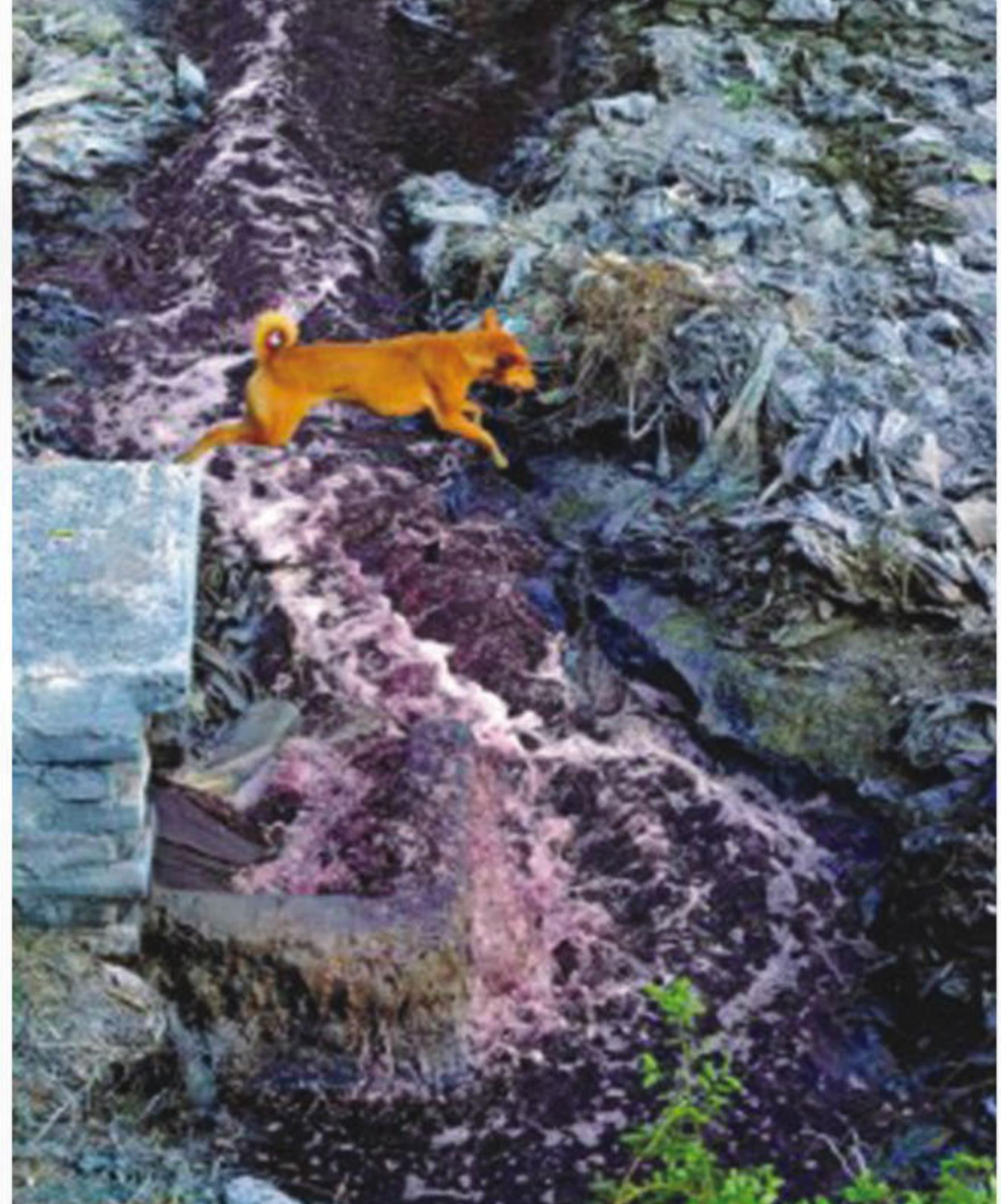


PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Zee Bangla Li'l Champs

Currently Zee Bangla is airing a song competition program of little Children under the program head "Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Li'l Champs 2011" in which some children singers from Bangladesh are also participating. But the performance of Bangladesh artistes appears not up to the mark. I don't know how these participants were selected but I am sorry to say that they are not the replicas of our huge talented children singers at least those produced by different Bangladeshi TV channels during their yearly child artistes competitions.

**Professor M Zahidul Haque
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University
Dhaka**

Yunus could be SG of UN

"Prof. Muhammad Yunus is not in peace because he had won the Nobel Peace Prize and made Bangladesh proud. His Grameen Bank is also similarly blessed. I propose that a viable and effective campaign be mulled nationally and internationally, to put forward the name of our illustrious Prof. Muhammed Yunus, for the next Secretary

Generalship of the United Nations. It is likely that he might even be elected unopposed, because of his credentials and known universal appeal. I hope and pray Dr. Yunus reads this letter and visualizes his global role in the offing that would be of even wider scale. I invite opinions to my view and support from those who care. Let us all start thinking and working for same.

Syed Imtiaz Ali, Banani, Dhaka

Ban Indian TV serials

Who we are? What is our identity? What is our language and what is our culture? We are going to forget all of these. One of the reasons hidden behind it is the Indian TV Serials. These serials are full of impractical family conflicts. We are the only nation in the world who fought for its language. But many of today's children prefer to speak in Hindi more than Bangla. Not only that, if one is used to watch these serials regularly there must be a malicious attitude in her/his mind and it will surely affect her/his family life also. To save our language, culture, nationality and morality these harmful and damaging Indian serials should be banned immediately.

Reveal the names of the culprits

WAHID ADNAN / DRIKNEWS

The four member probe committee for investigating share market debacle submitted 320 page report to finance minister AMA Muhib. The report showed involved institutes, individuals, SEC & government official's names. General investors expected that the report would be publicly declared. But finance minister said individual names which have been mentioned will be deleted before making it public within 15 days. With due respect to FM I have two observations to add. Firstly, why did you make a committee whose report is not acceptable to you. Secondly, as FM you have the supremacy to re-investigate the report. To the general investors please think before investing. At least try to have some knowledge about price earnings ratio, earning per Share, authorized capital, paid up capital etc. These are very fundamental key words of share market.

Maidul Islam, Gulshan, Dhaka

Caretaker government must prevail

The trends of changing colours by the politicians have been prominent in the two major parties in Bangladesh. When they are in power, they leave no stone unturned to make the best use of their supremacy. As a result, the long term development of our country remains a far cry. The last tide of change has been seen in the system of the caretaker government. We have observed that the national election was successfully held several times under this system. So the question of abolishing this system does not bear the sign of sagacity. Finally, we appreciate the decision taken by the government to bring several changes in the process. In this regards, they can consult with the professional lawyers to reach a solution to the issue. Otherwise, absence of this system will pave the way for another military supremacy.

**Md. Shafiuddin Sabuj
Department of English
University of Dhaka**

No job, no future

I am a graduate from a private university looking for a decent job for a long time. Everyday I start searching for jobs through online recruitment companies like BDJOBS.com, PROTHOM-ALOJOBS.com and STAR-EJOBS.com, and get phone calls from a few companies but all ends up with no result.

I don't know what the real requirements of these companies are and whether they really want to employ a youth or not. I have started worrying about the future as unemployment has led many young talents goes astray. So I request all the employers to look upon this matter fast.

Md. Aziz, Gulshan-1, Dhaka

ICC's wrong decision

According to media reports, the International Cricket Council has decided to cut down the number of teams from 14 to 10 for the next ICC ODI World Cup. This will not help promote cricket in other countries. Compared to other sports, only very few countries are playing cricket. Despite lack of

experience and fewer opportunities, junior teams performed very well in recent World Cup and they need more experience and opportunities to play and enhance their experience with big teams.

**Muhammed Jamil Ather
Karachi, Pakistan**

Grip of two parties

Being a student of Jagannath University I realized once again that how the whole nation is suffering under the grip of two political parties. All of you know that the JNU halls are illegally occupied by some influential people. Two of these halls are Tibbat Hall in Ahsan Monzil area and another one in Bongshal. The sad thing is that these two halls are now estate of two influential personalities from both giant parties of the country. In one place, Hazi Selim sets up a big market after the name of his wife Gulshan Ara while Sadek Hossen Khoka sets up a school named 'Shahid Ziaur Rahman School' in another place. My question is- how much love do they really have for the students? And I really don't know- why are the students in the universities run after these persons under the name of politics?

Mithu, Jagannath University, Dhaka

Women development policy

The recent protests against the 'National Women Development Policy' apparently put emphasis on the sick and distorted value system that characterizes some members of our society. These people are endeavouring to exploit our religious sentiment and their explanation of the so-called anti-religious elements of the NWDP is absolutely illogical, baseless and misleading. By calling for equal rights of men and women NWDP doesn't anyhow contradict the commandments of Islam because as a modern religion Islam itself is based upon the enlightening principle of parity among all human beings irrespective of gender, race and class. These people must understand that the world has moved forward and it will terribly hinder our socioeconomic development if we still remain engrossed in the bleak beliefs of The Middle Ages.

READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Saturday's The Daily Star report headlined "Finger pointed at 60 individuals."

Salam

So what is going to happen next? No actions were taken against the stock market manipulators in 1996 and presumably nothing is going to happen this time also.

Gopal Chandra Bairagi

The culprits should be punished at any cost.

Sunny

The name of these people must be brought in front of mass people and given proper punishment. No alternatives. Otherwise, it'll be thought they are under government's own umbrella and the consequent will be reflected in the next election. We won't tolerate, if government does not take exemplary steps.

M Khan

This report should be made public immediately in full without modification. The persons whose names are mentioned in the report are required to be brought under justice, irrespective of their political affiliation or status. We all know what happened to the executives who were convicted of Enron scandal.

Gopal Sengupta, Canada

As justice was denied in 1996, manipulators again tried to manipulate the market with different innovative ideas. Because of bureaucratic red tape and lack of resources within regulators, manipulators adjust with the circumstance quickly than the regulators. To impede the manipulators from exploiting markets, authorities need to adjust legal and judicial affairs.

Zakir Kibria

Those who think the report will not gather dust on the shelf raise their hand! I just wonder where the Central Bank and its governor stand in the picture.

Khondkar A Saleque

Credibility of the government will be seriously dented if it acts to hide the names of the alleged scam masters. Media will speculate and may even bring the head of the government into disrepute. The Finance Minister should have taken time and then appear in the press meet after reading the report. PM must seriously consider when her government comes to power why there is share market scam?

Anonymous

It is sad to see the Finance Minister is against publishing names of real culprits. Finance minister was wrong on Prof Yunus issue and he was wrong again with stock market manipulation. He became the stooge of the GoB.

Ashraf Chowdhury

The whole report should be published without any change immediately. These criminals are as bad as war criminals. They should be tried without delay and be punished to maximum. Otherwise we will believe that Awami League govt. is beneficiaries of this big loot.

Abdul Karim

Our experience tells that nothing would happen to the criminals behind the stock market manipulations. Urging the government, at least make their names public if the report is true and factual.

Muiyeen

If the government does not disclose the name or makes no provision for punishment of the involved culprits, it will simply mean they are not accountable to the nation. It seems that government is managed by them.

Nasarullah

It is so unfortunate and shameful that certain high profile and country's affluent business people were directly involved and earned huge amounts from the stock markets by adopting heinous and pernicious acts for self-benefits and personal gains depriving thousands of innocent small investors, those who have invested their hard earned money for survival.

A city of crime

Needless to mention, it has become very common practice of city people adopting offence by flouting common etiquettes. However, what changes I merely notice in the city nowadays are increased number of vehicles creating unbearable traffic congestion, increased intensity of stench produced from rubbish carelessly littered all over road sides, increased odour of human urine as people urinate here and there and massive decrease in void lands owing to the briskness of real estate companies. Apart from all these a group of unscrupulous people are illegally occupying national assets. Women and girls are the common victims of eve-teasers even in the city, let alone in village areas. Other high degree crimes like extortion, racketeering, molestation, ravishment, slaying and bribery are seen very often even in broad day light. It seems like a city of misdemeanour, going to aggravate more, signalling a bleak future in the coming days.

Hasnat

AIUB, Nikunja-2, Khilkhel



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