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The Stock Market Scam

If, as is apparent, the stock scam probe committee is composed of honest and impartial men, then there is no excuse for not publishing their report in full. Less than a hundred scamsters are named with details of their manipulations. Sadly they belong to all (especially the two main) political parties, SEC and DSE big-wigs aptly described by Daily Star as "Protectors turned Predators" and elite businesspeople.

Publishing the report in full and then taking appropriate action against those named, is the least that the present government can do to convince the lacs of small investors who have lost their savings, that there is no cover-up, no collusion with the accused and that the ill-gotten gains will be recovered. The two DS public polls with 90%+ results is not only about the share market, but an indication of what can happen in the next election or even before that.

Sikander Ahmed
Gulshan 1, Dhaka



AMADUL HUQ / DRIKNEWS

Reduce doctor's fee

At present doctors are taking Taka 400-500 as fee from each patient. It's impossible to pay such amount to the doctors by day labourers, rickshaw pullers, garment workers and other low income people. There is no treatment in the government hospitals. Most of the specialised doctors are government doctors. Doctors see the patients in his private chamber in the morning, in the lunch break and in the afternoon. But the main business starts in the evening and it finishes at around 11 p.m. To see a patient, a doctor takes at the most 4-5 minutes. Doctors are just running after money. Some doctors visit around 50 patients a day but they enlist only 10 patients.

The government should take some necessary action to reduce doctor's fee and take steps in favour of the poor people.

Mohammed Jashim Uddin
BSS, Dhaka

Crush the criminals

It is unpleasant but worthwhile to note that mugging and murder in different parts of the capital for a couple of months have been on the rise. The reports in the dailies from various sources say that several killing incidents in the hands of the miscreants have occurred in last few months. It also points fingers at the failure of the police forces that are liable for providing people with security. The most heart-rending fact is that a number of law enforcers are known to be involved in favouring the criminals for their personal interest. We hope the law and order maintaining authorities should take the occurrences into their consideration and award the criminals with the utmost punishment in order to hold the wheel of crime.

Md. Shafiuddin Sabuj
Dhaka University

Is it 'customer service'?

The last page photograph of The Daily Star published on 7 April of the bus stopping to let off passengers; raises this interesting question. Yes, it is illegal for parking, as the sign states; but stopping for one or two minutes, to pick up or let off passengers; is in that sense does not mean parking, by definition of the word! Surely stopping on the road for a minute or two; to pick up or drop passengers; is in that sense not 'parking'! It could be called as stopping for 'customer service'! Logically it can not therefore be called 'illegal' or 'prohibited' as stated in the sign; which states 'No Parking' and not 'No Stopping'!

Given this rational reasoning, stopping of buses' as mentioned in your text below the photograph; does not legally violate the sign of 'No Parking'! It will be interesting to have your reader's views on this interesting and debatable legal point!

S.A.Mansoor
Dhaka

Daughters are privileged

According to Islamic Law a daughter gets half the inherited property that a brother owns from their father. By this law the female actually gets more than a brother. If a father died keeping one lakh and a fifty thousand taka for his single son and a daughter, the Islamic law suggests that the son will get Taka one lakh and the daughter will get Taka fifty thousand. Now, if the daughter wishes to save her share, she can. But his brother has to bear all the family expenses. Also, the brother has to pay denmohor to his wife from his share. While his sister will once again receive denmohor from his husband. Again, Islamic law imposes economic liability to the shoulder of a male and that's why he is given double the amount of a female so that he can bear that liability better.

Md. Nazrul Islam

University of Chittagong

Father's unkind act!

As reported by Agence France-Presse (AFP) a 37-year old Australian man named Arthur Freeman has killed his four-year-old daughter Darcey by throwing her from Melbourne's West Gate bridge into the river on January 29, 2009 amid a bitter custody battle with his ex-wife over their three children. What an unkind and brutal act! Reportedly the day was supposed to have been Darcey's first day at school. Her two brothers aged six and two had witnessed their sister drowning. This is the curse of broken marriage. The man has been convicted of murdering her daughter by an Australian court and jailed for life. Meanwhile I would like to suggest the Australian authority to erect a pillar near the bridge in the memory of Darcey inscribing the unkind act of her heartless father.

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

Why show cause?

Recently Jahangirnagar University authority show caused a teacher to explain why action should not be taken against him under 'JU staff efficiency and disciplinary act' because of his write up against irregularities in the administrations of the country's public universities and their vice-chancellors, including the JU VC in a national daily. Around 60 teachers of the university already formed a human chain on the campus to denounce the show cause notice. Our country is a democratic country. Each and every Bangladeshi has the right to express his/her opinion, then why a University's Associate Professor have to show cause to the authority on his opposite opinion?

Fahim Ibne Sarwar, Jahangirnagar University

When schools become obstacle

Recently, South Breeze School has opened a junior section just at the entrance point from Satmasjid road to Zikatola, renting a private house. Many cars are parked near the school thus blocking the main road. As a result heavy traffic congestion takes place everyday and compels commuters to sit on the rickshaws or other mode of transportations for hours to get to the Satmasjid road. As an old resident of Zikatola, I have never experienced such congestion until the school was established. I believe it is the duty of the city corporation to consider many aspects before issuing a school license on a busy intersection. It is my request to the school authority as well as other concerned authority to shift the school from that place considering its importance and the hazards that the commuters face everyday.

Humayun Hyder, Zikatola, Dhaka

Abide by holy sayings

Our dearest Rasul (pbuh) says, "People can hardly fulfill their acts due to the short of time before the destruction of the Earth." It is indeed one of the signs of the 'kiamat'. Imam Azam Abu Hanifa (R.) says, "Islam is not only the name of logic but also the name of belief. We always have to abide by the holy sayings of our dearest Rasul (pbuh) without question."

All of us should remember these all the time and go on accordingly.

Habibur Rashid Ismail, Chittagong

Interim election

The chief of BNP very often demands interim election in Bangladesh. She knows it very well that her demand has no merit because the present government is in firm footing with 3/4th majority and no such interim election ever happened in the past in Bangladesh so the only way to remove this government is through "no-confidence" motion in the parliament. Why is she then talking about

interim election in the country? How does she know that if there is an interim election the people will vote for her? Instead of demanding an interim election she should campaign for a free and fair election next time. Only free and fair election will bring permanent democracy in Bangladesh.

Shafiqul Islam, NY

Office atmosphere

An employee interacts more with his office colleagues than that of his family member during his service tenure. So office atmosphere is an important factor for sound living of an employee. Obviously it should be congenial. In reality, in most of the offices irrespective of government or private, congenial atmosphere does not prevail. The power exercising positions must be knowledgeable. Otherwise, misuse of power creates antagonistic environment in the office. The top boss of the office must be unbiased. Again, there are some people in every office who scandal mongers. They should be detected and trained up professionally. If only a colleague would be considerate to his other colleague, the hostile situation in any office can be turned to friendly situation.

Mobarak Ali
RK Mission Road, Gopibagh, Dhaka

Musa Ibrahim in School

A few days ago, Musa Ibrahim, the first Bangladeshi to reach the summit of Mount Everest, visited The Aga Khan School, Dhaka as a guest speaker for a 7th grade physics project. It was undoubtedly a remarkable experience to meet him in the school premises. The man who actually conquered the highest peak of the world had inspired and encouraged the students to challenge themselves. As a guest speaker, he had transformed the monotonous and tedious school hours into an exhilarating, interactive and engaging learning opportunity. I strongly perceive that if schools provide their students with opportunities like this, they will be more motivated to pay attention to their studies as well as to develop our whole country.

Tanha Kashfia Kate
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka

Bangladesh in Australian news

Rarely does Bangladesh get a mention in the news and on Radio and TV talk shows in Australia, except in the form of political unrest and embarrassing law and order issues. Like a breath of fresh air recently the subject was different, positive, and literally had everyone here talking about it. The subject matter was Dr. Moosa bin Shamsher winning the World's Best Dressed Man accolade. When it comes to fashion, Bangladesh has the image of being the sweat-box industry where clothes are inexpensively made, not where they are worn.

Dr Moosa bin Shamsher has now escalated Bangladesh to a totally different level of thinking and international respect. The last time I felt this proud to be Bangladeshi was when Musa Ibrahim won his battle to conquer Mount Everest. It is truly a great start to the Bengali New Year.

Farzana Hossain, Canberra, Australia

Modesty and character assassination

By any definition, the ruling government has presided over a character assassination of Dr Yunus. Our politicians indulge in character assassination as standard operating procedure. Now, suddenly, the government is concerned about the possible character assassination of its wealthiest supporters. What false modesty! Who are they trying to fool? Simply being able to say something at a press conference does not make it true. It seems our politicians think that the public lives in another country with no knowledge of what actually goes on in Bangladesh! The public knows

READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Sunday's The Daily Star report headlined "Scamsters out to discredit probe".

Md. Russell Talukder

The small investors should firmly support Ibrahim Khaled, as his report covers many aspects of truth, if not the entire truth. To take action and safe guard stock market, the government can find enough derivatives from the report. The government should not delay things, as it will give the culprits time to conspire further, and some of what has already become visible. The government should shut down the market for the time being, as the culprits will definitely hit the market to save them from any stern action against them.

Khondkar A Saleque

Government will dig its own grave if it continues to dilly dally in taking actions against share market scam masters. We do not understand what makes government confused in not letting the names of alleged plunderers known to public? Delay in doing that will create speculations. This will annoy millions of affected share market small investors. People will try to find links of scam masters with government policy makers. Government must establish its neutrality on this serious and sensitive issue through acting upon recommendations of probe committee.

Faqrul in USA

The ministry of finance and for that matter the government has allowed the power group enough time to interfere as the report indicates. I cannot understand how a responsible government can deny the rights of the people to have full view of the report officially when the report is already out in the hands of the responsive journalist and the media. The government might face two counts of charges for making a genuine issue of corruption and public interest passed off by time killing. Failure to act as per constitution and law of the country to make the report published without editing. Deliberate delay to initiate any legal action to allow further foul play by the identified culprits to influence the proceedings of the case in their favour. What a shame !!

Saidur Rahman

The report must see light. The government should press hard with the report to bring the perpetrators to justice at least once to show their conviction for good governance and goodwill to the country people. The government should not submit to the mischievous businessmen and politicians. An example would brighten the image of the AL government, and create better environment for further business expansion.

Sajjad

It does look like 1996 and 2009 scamsters are same people, and at both times AL in power.

An observer

Nothing will be done to get the culprits in the book. Government's action against this scam is quite predictable as no one from the top platform has yet shown any positive stance or even a comment ensuring the public the punishment of those involved, as the reported culprits are mostly from the so-called top political parties. Till 1990, we were having various governments of autocratic nature. But since 1991, our governments have taken the shape of looting and terrorism under the cover of democracy while fooling around all the way the simpleminded poor and helpless people of the country.



AMADUL HUQ / DRIKNEWS

Threat by the Rickshaw-Van pullers!

I have been writing to this newspaper for years to influence our thoughts towards the danger of rickshaws. We did not pay proper attention to this epidemic of a problem sooner. Now perhaps, it is almost out of control. Rickshaws must be controlled immediately before the pullers/owners threat and force everyone in this country to ride rickshaws.

I was shocked to hear one 'leader' of some "rickshaw-van malik kollan..." organization, utter in arrogance that they will not allow any private car to roam Dhaka streets after April 15 unless all roads are made open to rickshaws. I am sure that is not going to happen. But I am also not very unsure that rickshaw pullers will stop creating lawlessness as usual. We must come up with alternative to rickshaws as quickly as we can, or else, rickshaws will literally eat us all up. Scary!

Rahat
Malibag, Dhaka



PHOTO: STAR

Has crime really gone down?

My heart bleeds every time I pick up The Daily Star and read news on rape, murder, muggings, torture, maiming, acid-throwing and an endless list of other crimes. Nowhere in Bangladesh is safe, though the Home Minister and police top brass claim. The Home Minister even has the audacity to tell us that crime has decreased since Awami League assumed power. Isn't this claim making us completely fools? Bangladesh's well-wisher Sir Frank Peters demonstrated inarguable logic

when he questioned on our behalf how authorities could claim crime had decreased when the majority of crimes were not even being recorded as the police demand baksheesh. People felt safer during the interim government while the army patrolled on the streets. If such crimes go on in the name of democracy, what can we expect from an elected government? **Major Asikur Ali (Retd)**
Mirpur Dhaka