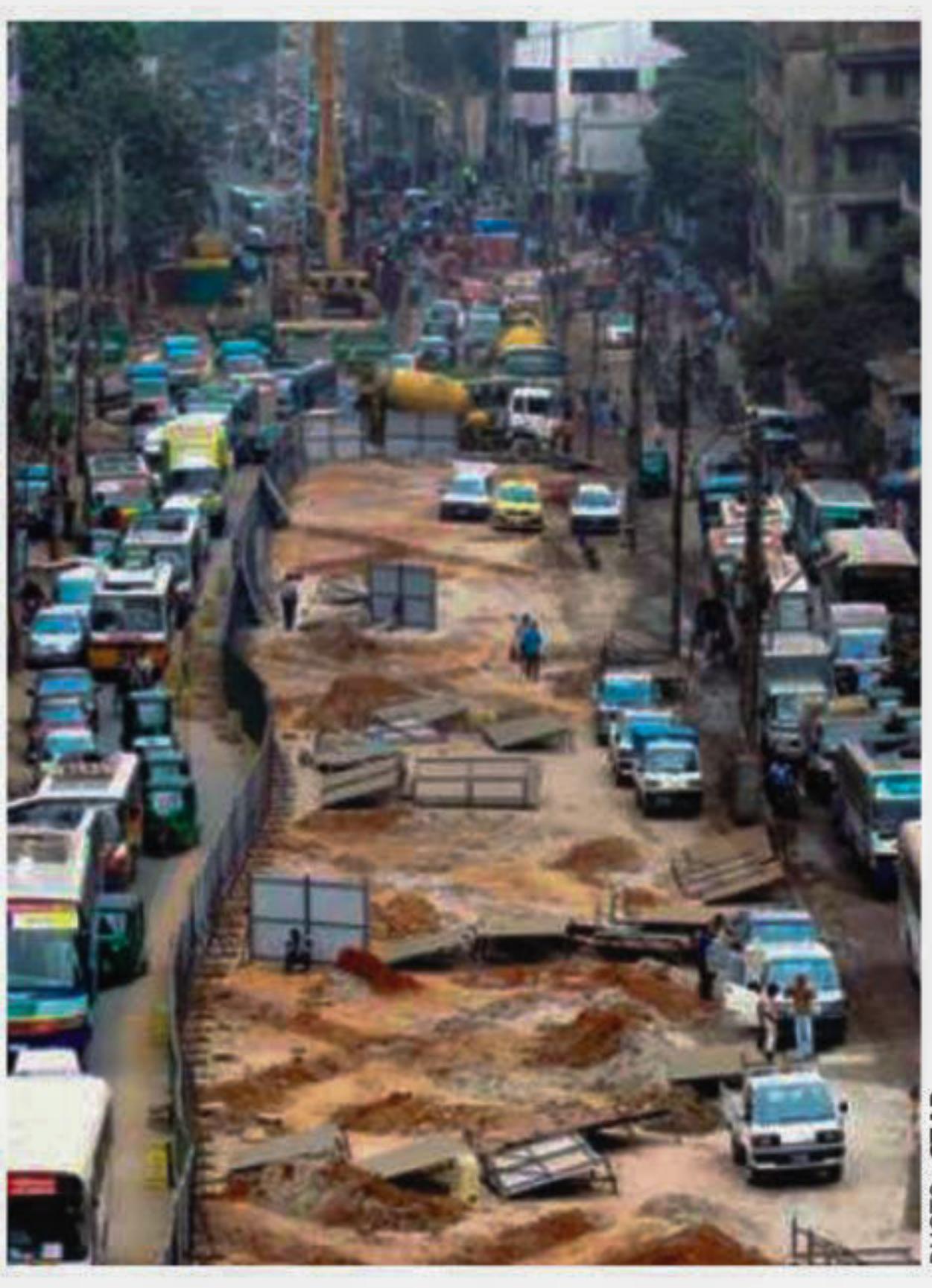


Jatrabari-Gulistan flyover



About one and half years ago when the construction work of the flyover started, it went on with high speed, but these days the work is going on at snail's pace.

Due to the construction work, both sides of Jatrabari-Gulistan is jam packed with buses, trucks, taxis, scooters, motor cycles, rickshaws and pushcarts. It takes hours to reach Jatrabari from Hatkhola. Moreover, the sufferings of the pedestrians, especially the school going children, know no bound. On both sides of Jatrabari-Gulistan route at Folder Street, Wari, the school children cross the road at the great risk of their lives. Almost daily small and big accidents are taking place and the traffic police are sitting idle.

We would request our authorities concerned to divert all the heavy vehicles, buses, trucks, lorries from Jatrabari-Kamalapur Railway Station to Motijheel Commercial Area near Bangladesh Bank temporarily, until the work finishes, for the relief and benefit of the public. Would Dhaka City Corporation, Roads and Highways Department and Dhaka Metropolitan Police do the needful in the greater interest of public service?

O. H. Kabir
Wari, Dhaka

visualizes one fact that everyone love and admire the British Royal Family. For this, the appreciation of course goes to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II who through her soft personality and dedication made the British Monarchy so popular and admirable to the people world over. I wonder, how nice it would be if all the Monarchs and Monarchies around the globe could come so close to the heart of the people?

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

CPD suggestions

The suggestions of CPD while talking at press briefings on the upcoming budget at their Dhamondi office was praiseworthy. However, I disagree with Dr. Debapriyo who suggested that a TIN certificate should be made mandatory for opening a BO account. It does not hold a convincing rationale on the ground that a large number of investors are either retired or housewives or returned from foreign countries after completion of their contracts or small investors who don't have TIN. It is also important to mention that most of the above mentioned investors are part-time investors who come to invest in the capital market since the National Saving Certificate has considerably lowered their dividends. It is also not logical to suggest that interest should be charged on small investors when they buy or sell shares in the market as this will cause investors to lose interest in the capital market. We propose that the government should make a ceiling and charge interest on a certain amount so that it does not afflict the interest of the small investors.

Dhaka

How frail is our sovereignty!

Having worked in a British Tea Plantation for over three decades I found a lot of interest on the tea plantation which is expanding to north of our country. In April 2006, I was horrified to see the encroachment of a part of our motherland by the Indians under the guard of the BSF and wrote in your daily with no reaction from any quarters. The DC and the local administration visit these areas as a routine and do nothing about it. While the two ladies and our parliamentarians have so many other things to argue about, none has the courage to speak about this encroachment of our motherland. While other nations are ready to defend every inch of their motherland, Bangladeshis are petrified to even print this in the dailies. How frail is our sovereignty!

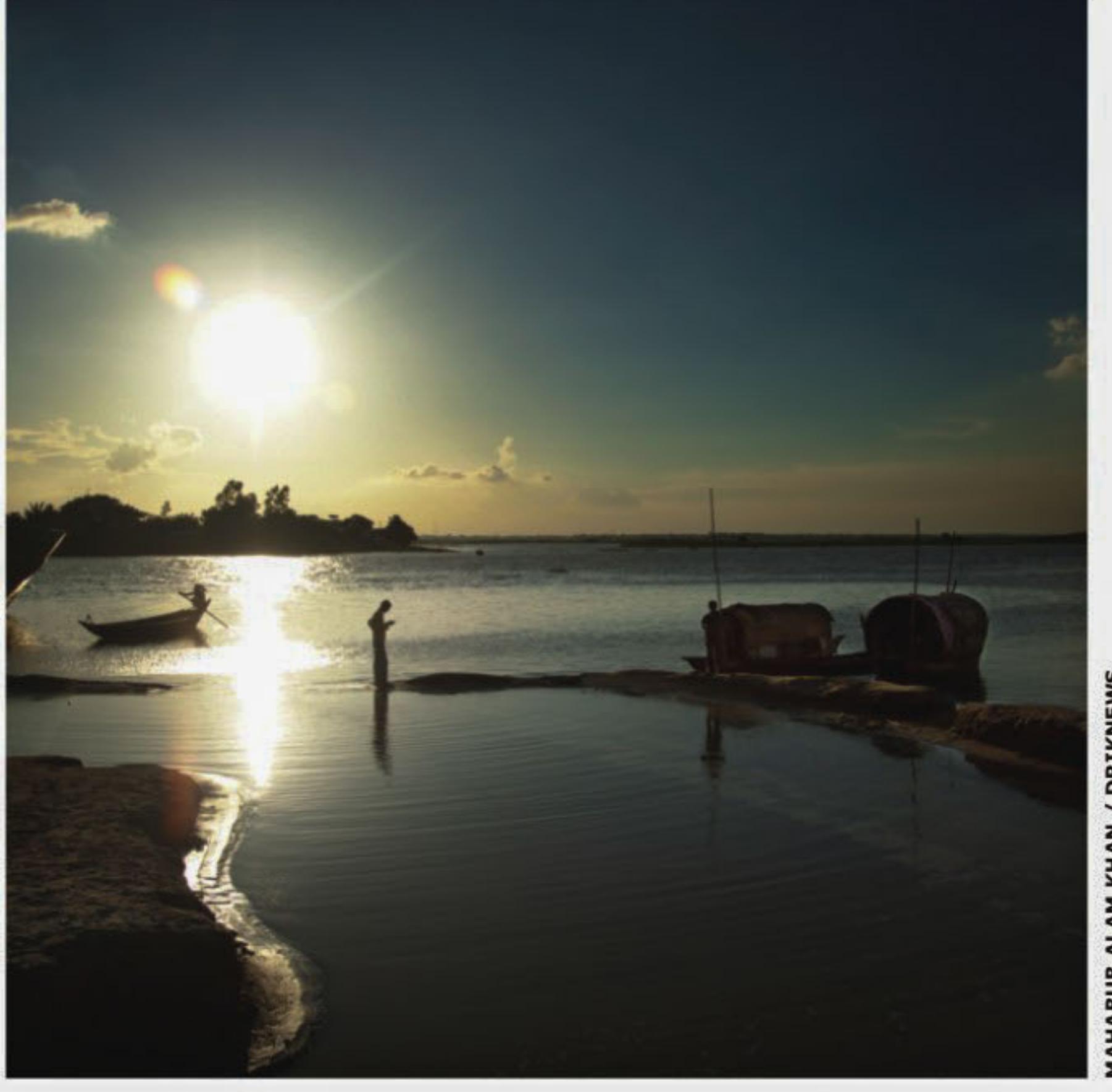
Mahmoodul Haque
Gulshan, Dhaka

Wishes to William & Kate

Amidst shower of blessings and good wishes from millions of people across the world, Britain's lovely Prince William and fairy princess Kate got into wedlock on April 29, 2011 accomplishing the Royal titles Duke and Duchess of Cambridge respectively. I extend my hearty congratulations and best wishes to Duke William and Duchess Kate. May the new couple be bestowed with a very happy wedded life!

Meanwhile the joy and enthusiasm with which people in different countries of the world including Bangladesh watched the colorful wedding ceremony of Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton

Stop killing the rivers



It seems that death is lurking everywhere; no one is feeling safe now-a-days in our country. Accidents on the roads and in the rivers have become frequent in which a large number of people are losing their lives, and people are also being killed by miscreants routinely.

We are also killing our rivers, choking it with toxic wastes from dyeing and textile factories. Untreated liquids from these factories are making the water stinky; many other waste materials are also being dumped into the rivers making them uninhabitable for fishes and other

species living in the water.

Gone are the days when river cruising was a favorite pastime. Buriganga, Karatoa, Shitalakkhya, and many other rivers share the same fate.

The government and the people must join hands to save the rivers, otherwise the consequences will be drastic. If nothing is done, all the rivers would vanish, and people would learn from history books that once there were rivers in Bangladesh.

Nur Jahan
Chittagong

I am an investor and businessman living abroad. I have a property in DZ Baridhara, Dhaka. Since I came to Bangladesh I have been witnessing a troublesome period due to power cuts at least 6 times every day out of 12 hour period. This happens early in the morning also. Why such power cuts constantly occurring during early hours of the morning? It is nothing but a sabotage taking place by a group of employees who may have other plans to bring bad names to the authorities, or it is a deliberate attempt to create pressure on the authorities to achieve other advantages? I am really disheartened as I am considering my future plan as an investor here.

Frequent power cuts

The partition of Bengal in 1905 was based on religion. In 1947 the predominantly Muslim half of Bengal became East Pakistan and the predominantly Hindu part became the Indian state of West Bengal. Nearly 92% of the population of Bangladesh believes in the Quran and the Sunna, yet due to trepidation of its harmoniously large Hindu dominated neighbours, they hesitate to express today their democratic right to religion. Even the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, favouring Islam to be the state religion and ensuring equal rights to other religions, hesitate to

Wake up Rajuk!

Tawfiq Ali's front page header and the two accompanying photographs published on 23rd April: on removing billboards, as ordered by the court; has been shunned by Rajuk chairman with a lame excuse of "lack of manpower"! It only denotes lack of common sense and initiative in getting the work accomplished.

Why cannot Rajuk contract the job of dismantling and removal of the billboards and its supporting structures by contract? The materials that will be recovered can be sold, and it will pay for perhaps all the removal costs. Or, will we get a new excuse of 'no funds' next time, to cover the real reason; which is "do nothing"?

Whole Rajuk officials state that: "any kind of rooftop structure, including billboards is a violation of Building Act"; but there is no Act which says who will rectify this violation! All said and done; this is: "Bureaucracy at its BEST"! Three cheers for them!

Engr. S. A. Mansoor

Dhaka

Media spotlight

The world is a selfish place where everybody is after the romanticism and gloss of the rich people. Most of the media covered the story of love affair and wedding of the royal couple at a time when millions of people are dead and displaced due to tsunami and earthquake in Japan; thousands of people are dying and being displaced every day in the Middle-East and Africa due to civil war and on the whims of the rich and powerful countries. Which should be the focus of the media- the lives of millions or the romantic love story of a royal couple?

Monzur Rahman



Settle Rohingya issue

Myanmar is one of the neighboring countries of Bangladesh. There exists a close tie of export-import liaison between these two countries. Of late, the Rohingya issue has been creating a crack in the diplomatic relationship between the two countries. Thousands of Rohingyas (Myanmar's aborigines) have been crossing into Bangladesh for a long time. Because of their illegal entrance, our local inhabitants are suffering much. Rohingyas are now causing serious social and economic disturbances. They are now creating

violence in our land. Most importantly, many blacklisted criminals use the Rohingya-cover to disguise themselves from police. Moreover, they are sometimes used as the human and drug trafficking agents! So, it is very important for both the Myanmar and Bangladesh govt. to come forward and settle the matter.

Khondoker Rezwan Tanvir
Dept. of Business Administration
Shahjalal University of Science and Technology
Sylhet

Humayun Hyder
Zikatola
Dhaka

Science and religious leaders

It is said that one of the great mysteries of physics is why our universe appears to be made entirely of ordinary matter when matter and antimatter are understood to have been created in equal amounts at the time of Big Bang. The scientists have detected the antimatter partner of the helium nucleus: antihelium-4, a new particle, also known as anti-alpha. It makes the study about the condition of the early universe easy.

Members of the International STAR Collaboration at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider in the USA have shown this splendid performance.

The religious leaders' lectures about the creation of the universe must be informative with deep understanding of the Holy Scriptures as well as the latest achievement of science. So, I urge the responsible religious leaders of our country to read the scientific information for better and effective explanation of religion.

Mobarak Ali
RK Mission Road
Gopibagh
Dhaka

Mr Abdul Hadi Choudhury
Chairman and Managing Director
The Eastern Eye UK Ltd
Bath, UK

Dangerous sound pollution

Not to say of Dhaka, even the district towns like Kushtia have now become helpless victims of dangerous sound pollution. Indiscriminate and ceaseless hooting of vehicles, ringing of rickshaw bells and ghastly metallic sound of running trucks has made the streets unbearable noisy. To add to this, there are loudspeakers used at the highest pitch mostly for commercial purposes. Brick-crusher machines creating terrible sound are often seen operating freely in residential areas.

Sound pollution should be considered as dangerous as water or air pollution. Specific laws should be enacted to keep this within tolerable limits. Indiscriminate hooting by vehicles and use of loudspeakers should be prohibited at least near hospitals, clinics and schools. Brick/Stone crusher machines should be allowed to operate only at specific points outside the residential areas.

Md. Mohsin Ali
Nutan Courtpara
Kushtia

Referendum please

The partition of Bengal in 1905 was based on religion. In 1947 the predominantly Muslim half of Bengal became East Pakistan and the predominantly Hindu part became the Indian state of West Bengal. Nearly 92% of the population of Bangladesh believes in the Quran and the Sunna, yet due to trepidation of its harmoniously large Hindu dominated neighbours, they hesitate to express today their democratic right to religion. Even the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, favouring Islam to be the state religion and ensuring equal rights to other religions, hesitate to

READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Saturday's The Daily Star report headlined "They all speak of Limon's innocence."

Abu Zubair

Again Limon's case proves that law is for the protection of tyrants. It would tarnish the image of present government, Rab and police.

Sheikh Monirul Islam, Opee

When the law enforcement agencies are suppose to provide security of his life, Rab came as a nightmare to his life. How could he survive with this dilemma for the rest of his life? Worse thing is the Home Ministry is trying to protect their false image. More interestingly PM did not even pick-up the issue at all for an explanation.

Zashim

Rab has done lots of good job since its origin for which it has received lots of appreciation so far. It helps every government to run the country smoothly, creates panic among the terrorist and helps improving law and order as well.

Rover

There is no greater 'Court' than such a unified voice of scores of ordinary mortals! Thanks The Daily Star and Morshed!

Akther

A government for the people of the people can not do this unless they are not for people but for themselves. The police dept. head should be dismissed and fired now. Also Attorney General should resign just for this incident for his silence about the case.

Anis

The main problem with us is that we do admit our faults. If Rab had accepted their fault and gave proper support to Limon's family that would finish the matter there.

Tirtho Mahmud

It's embarrassing not only for the Rab in general but Bangladesh's Home Ministry as a whole. Why doesn't the judiciary take necessary step to withdraw the case against Limon? Also, despite the risk of public humiliation, the involved Rab members should be either terminated from their jobs or should serve jail terms.

Abu Kamal

This should be highlighted on the front page. This is not only news but also a crisis for our nation. Limon is a victim now. This needs to be stopped. This portrays the fact how ugly is our state mechanism.

Nasirullah Mridha

Rab has been trying by all means to implicate false case to infirm Limon. They concocted several stories but mass people didn't take it. The HC ruling on Limon's case is tincture of hope for us who are worried about indiscriminating free-wheel shootout by Rab on innocents.

Kazi Rashidul

This incident shows how uncivilised and brutal we are! Nothing is going to change in Bangladesh.

Anonymous

The members of Rapid Action Battalion have proved their power by taking rapid action on an innocent.

Teachers' problems in rural areas



The posting of teachers to the rural schools/educational institutions should be made more attractive, through additional benefits, both in cash and kind.

They have to keep their families in the cities for the sake of education of the children. That means maintaining dual establishments.

Dormitories (with dining hall, and cafeteria) should be provided for the teachers at the thana HQ level, with free transport, and/or free bicycles, and recreation facilities. They have to visit their families at regular intervals; so need some small rural allowance. The pay scale of the rural teachers is not attractive, and it does not encourage rural posting.

The human and psychological problems have to be looked into. Many teachers in the cities have side jobs/incomes, (including private tuition). Their social status is also not attractive.

A Husain

Dhaka