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# Create space for new buses



PHOTO: STAR

This is in reference to a news item appearing in The Daily Star under the heading "80 BRTC buses hit city roads Friday"

I do not understand why BRTC is importing 80 new buses to ply on Dhaka roads. There seems to be a plan of importing a total of 1,050 buses to complete the massacre. Is there enough room for them? Dhaka does not have the infrastructure of supporting the smooth, efficient, and unhindered and movement of even one-tenth

of the buses that are on the roads today. Add to that 1,050 more, and you have a recipe for perfect chaos. All their efforts to date have been half-hearted, amateurish, incompetent, and comical to say the least. I think it's time we went back to basics. Importing bicycles instead of buses would be certainly more prudent, environment-friendly and cost-effective.

**Dr. C Zaman**  
 Ottawa, Canada

## Israel's defiance!

Most local English dailies on 20<sup>th</sup> May, reported the strong and uncompromising attitude of Netanyahu (Nothing-you-can-do) the Israeli PM. That too against the head of the only global super-power; the President of USA! Obama may be the President; he may have the votes of most Americans; but Netanyahu; or for that matter; any PM of Israel holds more power than that in USA; on all matters that is Jewish! Yet that is the bitter reality, about the Jewish power base in USA! These are the silent, powerful and committed American Jews; who control the US government not to speak of the US President! Even Obama needs his thoughts and ideas to be cleared by his advisers (as reported in US weeklies). These powerful Jews decide what US can say and do on matters that concerns Jewish interests. Hence Obama was ticked off; straight from the proverbial 'horses mouth'!

**S.A.Mansoor**  
 Dhaka

## The beast gets stuck

The car in which the US President moves around is nick named Beast. The Beast is usually air lifted in Air Force One, to where ever the US President Travels. Recently the US President was on a tour of Europe/ England.

It so happened that the Beast got stuck on the ramp while exiting from the local US Embassy carrying the President and his wife. Subsequently the Beast got free and nothing went wrong. It is said that the Beast is designed in a manner so as to withstand any kind of threat or attack.

The incident that has taken place in Europe involving the Beast is a testimony to the fact that any thing can and may happen at any time, no matter how defensive or prepared one may be. Titanic got wrecked on its maiden voyage being built as invincible. There is nothing invincible in this world other than the Lord Creator Himself, He alone stands supreme.

**Saleh Ayub**  
 On e-mail

## Eliminate the difference

Grade or divisions are nothing but the measures of merit of a student. There should have been no discrimination between the marking criteria between these two.

Unfortunately, some of the institutions do not maintain proper equality between grade and divisions. In division system, a student gets 1st division (highest rank) if he secures 60% marks. On the contrary, any student securing 'B' grade is understood to get 60% marks. Nonetheless, many public or private institutions describe B+ or A- as 1st divisions! This is a great discrimination. Because, a student must secure 65% and 70% marks in order to get B+ or A- respectively. Due to this factor, many of the candidates do not qualify for better jobs though they are eligible! The education ministry should pay attention over this matter.

**Khondoker Rezwan Tanvir**  
 Department of Business Administration  
 Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet



# Globally honoured-nationally dishonoured

"US Embassy in Dhaka published the news in their web page, "On Tuesday, October 5, 2010, President Barack Obama signed into law S. 846, which provides for the award of a Congressional Gold Medal to Nobel Laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus in recognition of his contributions to the fight against global poverty. The medal is the nation's highest civilian award given to individuals for their outstanding deeds or acts of service to the security, prosperity, and national interest of the United States. Through his Grameen Bank, Dr. Yunus has pioneered the micro-credit movement. Dr. Yunus will become only the seventh

person in history to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Congressional Gold Medal. Former recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal include George Washington, Sir Winston Churchill, Elie Wiesel, Pope John Paul II, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Coretta Scott King. Let's thank the White House and the global leaders for great attitude toward our lighthouse and Bangladesh.  
**Sikander Ahmed**  
 Niketon  
 Gulshan-1  
 Dhaka

## Make impartial recruitment

The recruitment program of senior officer and officer govt. of Janata Bank is going on. Written exam result has been published. The date of viva voce has been settled for June 3, 2011. 2500 candidates will face the viva voce. However, the daunting news is that the NBR personnel's have started verification process of personal assessment before the completion of exam formalities. Consequently, whoever will be anti-govt. party will surely fail at last because the examiners will judge candidates based on local partisans' information without considering quality. It has created low spirits among the examinees. I hope that the authority will take necessary steps to recruit employees by a corruption free process.

**Ali Ahmad**  
 Department of International Relations  
 University of Dhaka

## Who should be new MD of IMF?

The executive board of the International Monetary Fund said it intended to select a new managing director by the end of June as a successor to Dominique Strauss-Kahn, who resigned this week after being charged with assaulting a maid at a New York Hotel.

For 65 years, all of the fund's managing directors have been chosen from the wealthy industrialized countries of Europe. We have learnt from the news reports that European governments are already lobbying for Christine Lagarde, who is now the French finance minister, a job Kahn also held. She will be the first woman to hold the job. But the fact is the IMF has been led by French managing directors for 36 of its 65 years. The reality is that it does not reflect today's world. We want a managing director of IMF from powerful new players like China, India and Brazil this time.

**Mobarak Ali**  
 RK Mission Road  
 Gopibagh  
 Dhaka

# Save the small investors

Our finance minister must quit for failing to appease the expectations of the millions of marginal investors of the capital market who gambled their last penny in the hope that market will swing into action after the publication of the probe report and pumping out of proposed 5000 crores Bangladesh Fund to correct the market.

A cartoon that appeared in the business page of an English daily of May, 25, says it all 'a picture paints a thousand words'. Our minister's action was like the Roman Emperor Nero, when the stock market was burning, the minister was playing a flute. It is totally distressing! May we ask him why he formed a probe committee? What he did after the committee submitted the report? What prompted him not to disclose the name of the manipulators? I appeal to Prime Minister to bring the culprits to the book and revive the capital market thus saving the millions of investors from ruin.

**Humayun Hyder**  
 Zigatola  
 Dhaka

## Gentle dress for teachers

Teachers are our mentors and role models. The parents are only the biological origin for the children but teachers are the initiator of the inner talent and enlightened character development of the students. Everything of a teacher is likely to be followed by his/her learner. It is unfortunate that, basically in universities, the dresses of the lady teachers is so objectionable that sometimes it goes out of the limit. Wearing gentle dress is no barrier to modernity. Besides, the students of the universities are adults and concerned about every aspect around them. So, wearing dress in abhorrent manner can bring no good for the students as well as for the society as a whole. Everyone must know that the moral and ethical degradation is an integrated factor of such occurrences!

**KRT Abdullah**  
 Sylhet

## Telling lies

Many of us tell lies to prove ourselves innocent, free from crime and punishment. This has become a common phenomenon in our life and society. Most of the time whenever there is a theft or crime of any small natured the poor and people suffering from poverty are caught and given



WAHID ADNAN / DRIKNEWS

punishment. But whenever a rich influential or powerful person is found guilty of squandering or stealing a huge amount of money or committing a big crime he is treated differently, he is hardly given a small punishment, arrested or put into jail. This differences and discrimination always remain in case of judgment of a poor and a rich person. Whether our law and order situation? Whither our judiciary? Justice delayed is always justice denied.

**O.H.Kabir**  
 Wari, Dhaka

## Sound knowledge

A degree is a burden without sound knowledge. It is true not only for school, college and university but also for all the sectors of our life. Our students always get good GPA but at the same time it is matter of shame that they cannot do well in the admission tests or in their job interviews. What is the reason for such failing? May be bookish knowledge is the main reason. So I request to all concerned to deeply think about the matter and point out how we can overcome this problem.

**Rezaul Haque**  
 Angura mohammed pur  
 Beanibazar  
 Sylhet

# READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Sunday's Daily Star report headlined 'Teachers get no training'.

### Iqbal Hossain

It's true that most of the teachers of our country are not well trained. So it's necessary to arrange training camp for the teachers.

### Nazmul Hasan

Teachers should be well trained for better presentation. Moreover, the books should be edited and perfected to draw the attention of students.

### Mohammad Masudur Rahman

Research suggests that any physical or mental punishment reduce learners' ability and confidence to ask questions, which has a big bad impact on students' life. Recent ban on any kind of physical and mental punishment is a very good step forward for education institutions in Bangladesh but it has to be implemented properly for safeguarding learning processes for kids.

### Dr Shaidul Kazi in Finland

It is a good step that finally government is going to give training to teachers for not using corporal punishment at school. At the same time, government should take steps to empower parents against the corporal punishment upon their kids. Education Officer (UEO) & Assistant Upazilla Education Officer (AUEO) should be instructed to visit each school at least once in a month and inspect the overall education environment.

### Nasarullah

With the change of social stratification, culture and modernisation, the approach of old age punishment culture has been changed or faded out but the mentality of teachers working in those areas has failed to change to keep pace with new approach to create friendly environment with children. We changes in primary teacher recruitment policy. Adequate training, stopping private coaching, enhancing social status of teachers, coordination and effective cooperation between teachers, parents and students and monitoring and supervision of the authority concerned.

## Would professors lose job?

Professors are considered as knowledge banks and experts of the society. They through their knowledge and expertise produce new theories and impart education to the students through careful and appropriate screening of the learning materials, book being the basic unit. But with the development of the Internet now anyone can gather knowledge by search engines from among thousands of notes and references and can become expert. Books are also losing their necessity and appeal among the learners. What Professors do is to collect references from the Internet and make them fit to the actual need for learning and learners by adding their own knowledge. Now a student with minimum foundation knowledge can pursue higher education in any discipline. Even the practical for science subjects can be done using the Internet and other computerized teaching machines! Is this an encouraging trend?

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

# Positive national attitude



I was proud to see the golden girls, our garment workers, who saved us from the recent worldwide recession. But how much respect do we pay to them? Today a bookseller in Nalhati taught me the ethics of bargaining. Though his way of teaching me shook my prestige, it opened my mind to the fact that we are all the diplomat of our culture. A rickshaw puller realizes 500/- taka fare for a foreigner for a short trip, he also fleeces thousands of tourists everyday.

So our ethics are important for overall development. As Nepal's Gurkha soldiers are best known for their bravery and loyalty to their employer they are now chosen as bodyguards for VIPs worldwide. Can't we take a leaf from them and build a solid positive national attitude?

**Abdus Subhan**  
 Lalpur  
 Natore