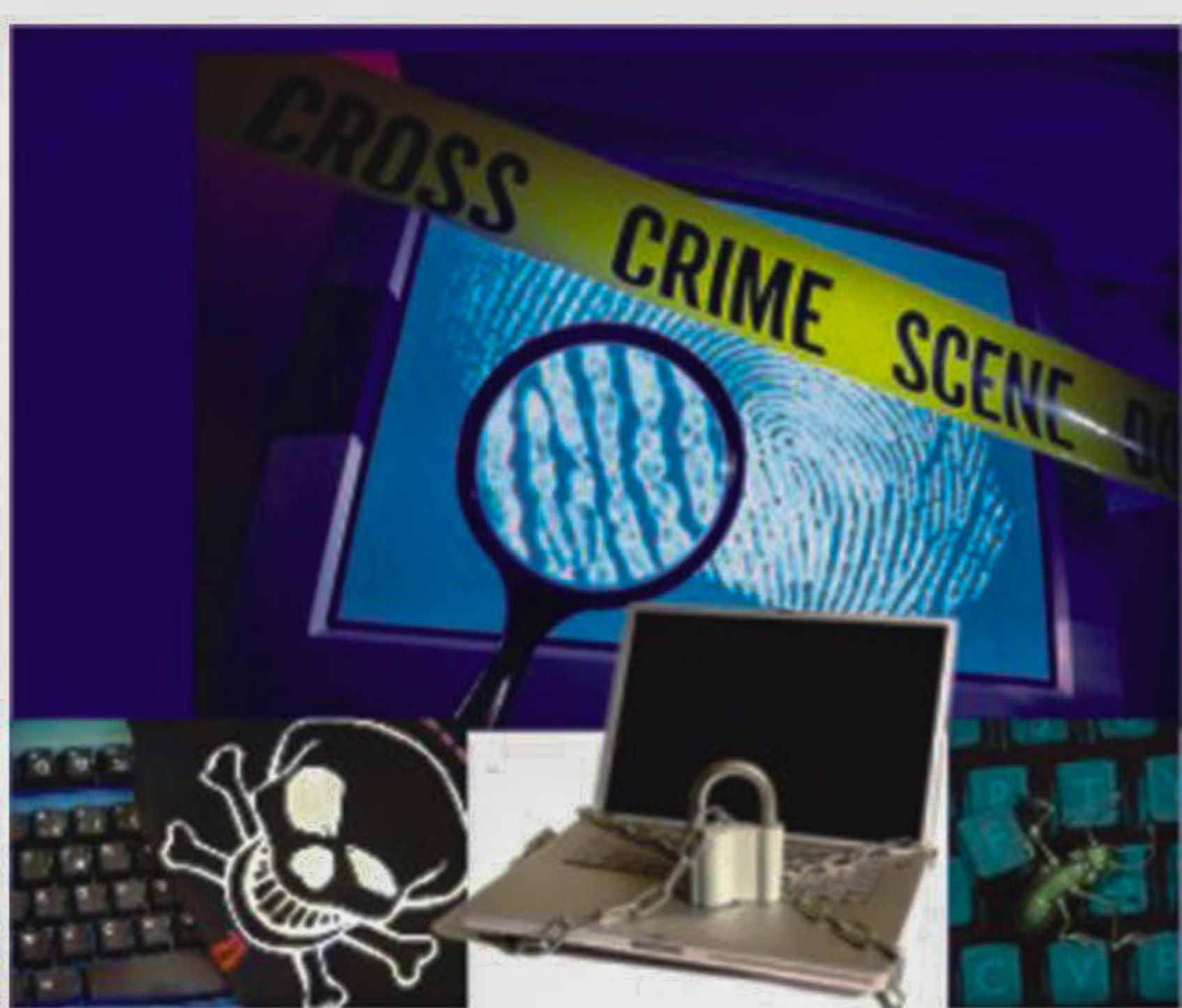


# Cyber crime and Bangladesh



"Though we use the term 'cyber crime' quite frequently, we barely know the definition of it," says Quazi MH Supan, Asst. Professor at the Department of Law in the University of Dhaka. And according to him it's because of the ever changing nature of the modern technologies. Due to cyber crimes surfing in the internet is harmful nowadays! In our country cyber crimes probably started with spam mails and Trojan attacks, but it now extended to debit/credit card theft, cell phone threats and frauds. On Sept. 5, 2008, RAB discovered that their website had been hacked! But RAB was successful

in catching the hackers which proved that Bangladesh was not far behind in catching cyber criminals. Cell phone threats are also very harmful but the victims keep quiet as it would result in their embarrassment. We should take precautions against cyber crime. Please don't download free content from the internet as it carries within harmful software. We should not use cybercafés as most of their computers can record one's email address and basically everything that is typed! Take precautions.  
**Shafeen Mahmood**  
*Little Jewels School, Chittagong*

## Caretaker government framework--A proposal

We are proposing the following framework for a modified Caretaker Government (CG) for running the National Assembly (NA)/ parliamentary elections.

1. The president will dissolve the NAs 100 days prior to the expiry of the 5 year tenure of the parliaments.
2. He will then form a Caretaker Government (CG) within 10 days with 10 MPs from the most recently dissolved NA. The MPs will be from the political parties having representation in the dissolved NA and the party-wise distribution of the MPs will be proportionate to the number of seats in the dissolved NA. However, there can not be more than 4 (four) MPs from any political party whatever may be the number arrived at, according to proportionate distribution. For this matter all the independent MPs shall be considered as a party.
3. The political parties will propose their respective MPs to the President. However, any MP who held any position for any period of time as prime minister/minister/state minister/deputy minister/adviser/ or any equivalent post etc. in the immediate past govt. will not be eligible to be part of the CG to be formed by the President.
4. Any MP constituting the CG will not be eligible to run the upcoming NA election as a candidate himself/herself.
5. There will not be any provision for prime minister/chief adviser in the CG, the president himself will be the head of CG.
6. The CG will only be for 90 days from the date of formation and will automatically cease after the said period or earlier if the NA election is completed before the said period.
7. In case of force majeure (to be specified by the parliament) if the NA election can not be held in the stipulated period of time the President will refer to the Supreme Court for reasonable time extension.
8. The CG's main responsibility will be to support/help the Election Commission as per its (EC) requirement as well as carrying out routine function of the govt. to be specified by the parliament.

**Abu Shahjalal Azad**  
*Dhanmondi RA  
Dhaka*

# People's purchasing power decreasing

On 17th June, our honourable commerce minister said that food price in our country is cheaper than any other country. It's true. But he can't take it as an achievement for the govt. Even at the time of Shaista Khan when it was thought that the food price was really cheap, it was not true at all. It was relatively cheaper from other provinces. But people were starving (ref: Sonar Bangla: Myth O Bastobota by Dr. Akbar Ali Khan in Bangladesher Etihash.) So, it should not be a topic to

talk about. The thing that matters most is the purchasing power of the people. Now-a-days, the food price is really very high. Inflation is rising. Value of money is decreasing. People are forced to buy fewer products with their fixed income, which means people's purchasing power is decreasing. We have to talk and think about those problems. This should be the subject of concern for our minister.  
**Goutam Gourab Barua**  
*Department of Economics, JU*



## Potholed roads

As the monsoon has set in, rains are more frequent now. Sometimes it rains for hours together at a steady pace. Sometimes we experience heavy downpour. Monsoon is a cause of woe for the commuters who have to travel through the potholed roads.

The approach road leading to the Karnaphuli river has become severely damaged. The road is full of potholes, especially near the Bahadderhat terminal area where the tires of buses often plunge into those potholes. The buses often tilt right or left--there is a possibility of an accident. A flyover is being constructed in the Bahadderhat area, making the commuters' life more difficult. As the middle portion of the road is occupied, the vehicles move through a narrow strip of the road.

We hope the authorities concerned will look into the matter.

**Zabed Wali**  
*On e-mail*

## Popularising Astronomy and Astrophysics

Astronomy is the branch of science that deals with the study of celestial objects; and Astrophysics is the domain of Astronomy where the physics of the universe is discussed. Although this field is advancing rapidly, it has been rather foreign to the young learners of Bangladesh. The textbooks often contain confusing, sometimes even false, information which has all but raised interest in the subject. To popularise this science, some well administered steps are to be taken.

Firstly, our textbooks have to be up-to-date. To make it more interesting, the science clubs in educational institutions can open Astronomy Wings to regularly organise lectures, workshops or seminars. Bangladesh Astronomical Society and other organisations, clubs can provide resource persons to conduct these discussions. Our Novo Theatre can act as the central hub for the young astronomers. Popularising science is a sure way of fostering bright and curious minds.

**Shahriar Kabir**  
*Dept. of EEE, BUET, Dhaka*

## Here comes monsoon

Like sizzling burnt earth, I was passing the time waiting for the Monsoon. The rain set in with a thunder since the first day of Ashar and the nature looked striking. I went out for a drive to see Dhaka in rain. While I was halfway from Gulshan to Banani, I was stuck in traffic jam for a while and rolled down the window glass of my car to feel the rain's beating.

What a feeling! A little girl came to sell Kadam flowers ignoring the clouds. Afterwards, I stopped my car to see the lake view on the link road of Banani-Gulshan - the way the rain drops fell. The water seemed to be sparkling. I found some students of private universities taking shower in the rain, onlookers and pedestrians did not mind. I returned home singing "Here comes the rain again... falling on my head like new emotion..."

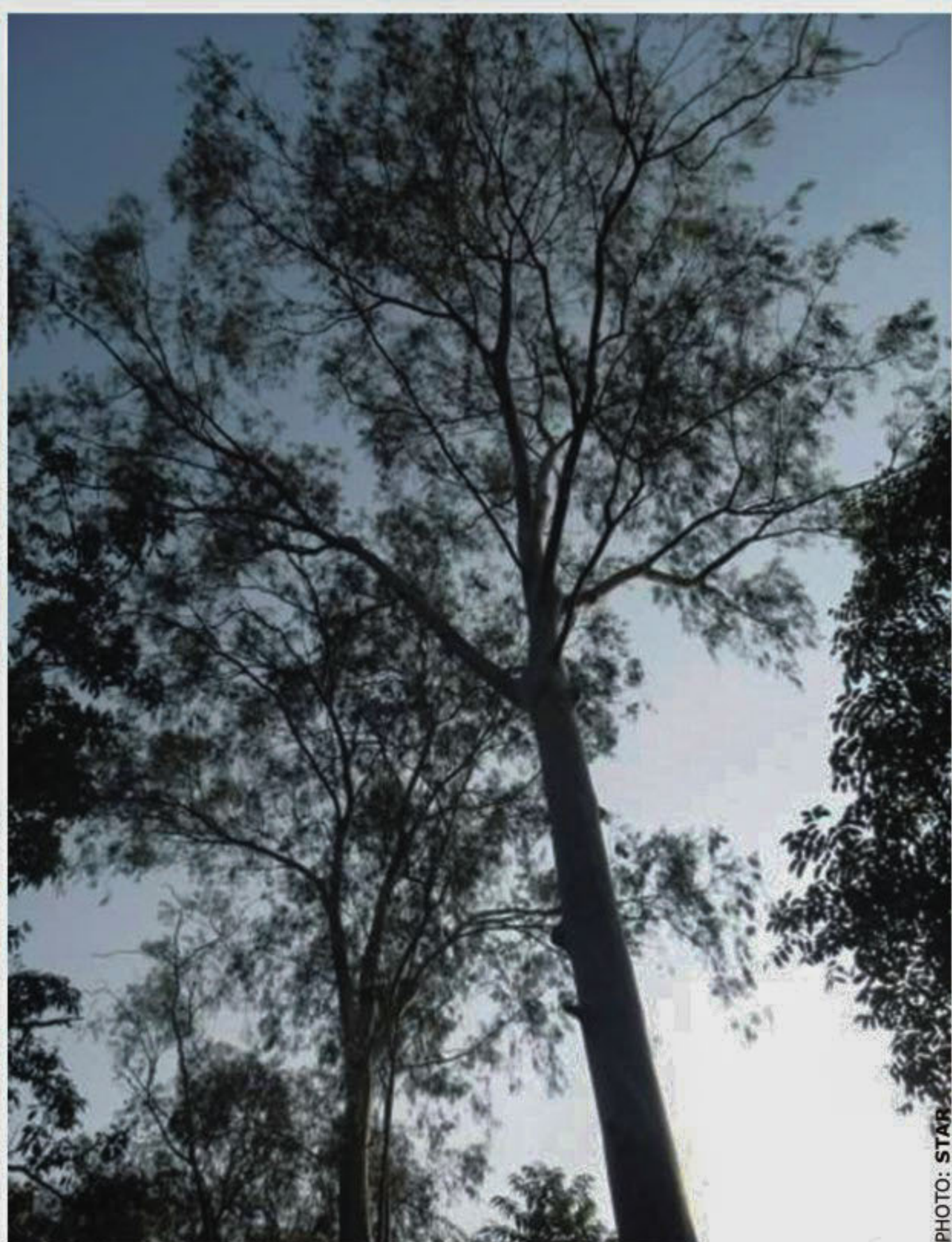
**Rubab Abdullah Shukla**  
*Residential Area  
Dhaka Cantonment*

## Nation at fault

What it takes a man to buy something? Money, financial potentiality. I wonder with amazement how a person affords to buy a car for Tk.30,00,000 in a country where the per capita income is less than US\$1000, whereas the same car in a much better condition sells for less than Tk.3,00,000 where the per capita income is more than US\$ 40,000.

The other day, I found a person offered to sell a Honda CRV 2000-01 model on the craigslist for 3300 US\$ X75=2,47,500 taka. Can anyone really explain this phenomenon? Perhaps not, because there is no logical explanation. I am sure even if the infamous George Bush Junior, ex President of the United States, is made the prime minister of Bangladesh, he will abandon the position and flee the scene to hide his face in shame as soon as he comes to know about the affairs of the country and how it is run. On the other hand, our national leaders are fighting unto death in a bid to stay in power forever. May the Almighty bless this nation!

**Saleh Ayub**  
*On e-mail*



# Wrong trees in wrong place!

A front page report on the subject was published in local English daily on 8th June depicts the downside of plantation of exotic trees; that harms the soil. Now, belatedly, we are wise after the event! Agriculture Minister criticized plantation of such trees (like eucalyptus, acacia, ipilipil etc.). These were planted with donor money (?) in north Bangladesh by the forest department in 1990.

A professor of Botany, from Dhaka University criticized planting of such trees; which take up excessive sub-soil water and nutrients; harming the growth of other trees! Another professor, of DU, also speaks against plant-

ing these trees. He says that those trees are meant for planting in high-land. Where were these experts in 1990; when the tree plantation was done; I am sure with a lot of fan fair!

The presentation of the report published, was also rather repetitive, and hence, it was not a good read; discouraging going through all of it! Some points were raised in a number of paragraphs, unnecessarily! It could have easily conveyed the same message in half the number of words! Possibly it had missed the editorial eagle eye!  
**S.A. Mansoor**  
*Dhaka*

## Please find an alternative

Mahatma Gandhi first introduced hartal against the British rulers in India, and from then it was established as a democratic right of the people of the region. But nowadays, it has become a panic to the common people of the country. During hartal, sufferers are mostly the day labourers, drivers, hawkers and the common people of the country who are living from hand to mouth. Some offices such as garment factories, media offices, hospitals and other emergency services are open during hartal. People who work there have to attend their offices in time. Hartal makes a very little effect; rather it increases the sufferings of the people. In a nutshell, it can be said that we have no respect for hartal nowadays whomsoever declares it. Please think about alternatives.

**Zafar Alam Bhuiyan**  
*Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology, Dhaka*

## Punish the culprit

Torturer husband of the DU teacher should not go unpunished. Otherwise not only Rumana herself, everybody else will be losing their faith in justice. Now that it is pretty clear that it was an attempt to murder, we demand that the punishment should be severe; the trial should set an example for the bad people. On a relevant note, we see where jealousy leads one to.

**Wise wolf, On e-mail**



**Readers' instant comments on The Daily Star Online reports. Log on to thedailystar.net to leave your comments.**

**All she wants is punishment**  
Rumana weeps, tells how she forgave husband upon numerous tortures  
*(June 22, 2011)*

We want to punish Rumana's husband.  
**Ferhana Akter Jui**

It is a brutal act by Hasan. He must be punished.  
**Md. Siddiqur Rahman**

Death sentence is an easy punishment for the inhuman crime.  
**Sheikh Monirul Islam Opee**

Our society should be seriously aware of conjugal violence. We always think only poor men can violently attack their wives. But Rumana's case shows that it also happens in educated, elite and middle class people. We are

really in deep moral crisis.  
**Iqbal Ehsan Shovon**

There is another point that makes me wonder about the standing social psyche of Bangladesh. Questions were asked about Rumana's alleged affair. Even if she had one, that does not justify any brutality of this sort. Simple divorce would have been sufficient. I am sorry for her and hope light will shine in her eyes again.  
**Tirtho Mahmud**

Hasan has acted as criminal, no doubt. But only Hasan did not create the situation, element of

mistrust and insecurity contributed to the event. Continuous inferiority complex due to social position, unemployment, eye sight problem and mental health was associated with it.  
**Suja Sarkar**

Rumana's husband should be publicly hanged. He does not deserve any mercy.  
**Shamsun Nahar**

Please do not take too much time to punish Rumana's husband Hasan Sayeed. Make sure that Hasan gets hard punishment as soon as possible.  
**Orpa Kuzur**

Hasan deserves an exemplary punishment for his cruel, heinous and barbaric act. Repression against women must be stopped.  
**Anowar hossain**

It is a shame for us. Sayeed is a disgrace to our society. The culprit should not be allowed to escape as many Sayeeds are hidden in our society.  
**Arislam**

Women of every family please

raise your stern voice against all sorts of discrimination and domestic violence and obviously follow respective religious directions for ultimate social stability.  
**Md Ruhul Amin**

Character assassination by a section of the media and some individuals on social media is nothing but an attempt to save the human beast Sayeed from dire punishment.  
**Kh. Shahirul Islam**

Conjugal differences, any incongruity in relationship which are beyond irreparable, the solution can be separation or divorce. Torturing wife is a crime and in this case the ruffian should be punished so that other similar offenders can take a lesson.  
**Masud Isa**

I condemn the heinous attack. The guy should get an exemplary punishment so that such incident is never repeated.  
**Saif**

Even if she had a relationship he could have divorced her. He has committed a crime.  
**Tahmina**