

Letters will only be considered if they carry the writer's full name, address and telephone number (if any). The identity of the writers will be protected. Letters must be limited to 150 words. All letters will be subject to editing.

# Our Anna Hazare will not succeed



A letter entitled "Where is our Anna Hazare?" written by Badal Hasib was published in The Daily Star on August 28. He wrote about the respected social activist who was on a hunger strike vowing not to end it until the government would eliminate corruption. He wished that there was one Anna Hazare in our country where corruption was devouring every public sector. But it seems he has forgotten that this is Bangladesh, and not India. Here patriots like Anna Hazare may go on a hunger strike, but it will not have any effect.

We learned that anti-corruption crusader Anna Hazare on August 28 broke his hunger strike with a call to change India's electoral system by incorporating the right to recall lawmakers and reject candidates after Indian parliament agreed to endorse his key demands. Both houses of Indian parliament passed a resolution accepting Anna Hazare's three demands bringing the country's entire bureaucracy under the authority of an independent anti-corruption agency, appointing anti-graft ombudsman in all 29 states and display of a citizen's charter, explaining the rights of individuals in government offices.

Will our government ever compromise on such issues? The word 'compromise' is not in their dictionary.

Nur Jahan  
Chittagong

## Death of an advocate

Was that at all necessary to arrest a lawyer from his house in front of his beloved family members at dead of night? The deceased M U Ahmed was a lawyer of the Supreme Court, who was not a fugitive. While some of his colleagues were hiding from the law, he was sincere enough to be staying at home. So, what prompted the police to pick him up to the intelligence office in the dark? The allegation against him was of insulting the police at the court premises. Facts prove that reprisal and torture were the clear intentions of the police that caused his death.

Why doesn't our government come forward to admit the excesses committed by the police and take redress the wrong done by them immediately?

Raisa  
Muhammadpur  
Dhaka

## Solution to our biggest problem

Your article "Imagine PM had said the opposite" on August 30 was unjust to the PM. It questions her loyalty to non-performing ministers and is non-appreciative of her overall vision. Please note: one minister, who is also a trade union president, recommends issuance of 25,000 driving licenses to anyone who can differentiate between a cow and a goat. Human beings don't count. Another one advocates that the malnourished people of Bangladesh (except the Fat Cats) should "eat less"; on the lines of Somalia?

Between the population figure from The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (14.2 crore) and that from the Finance Minister, more than 2 crore Bangladeshis are missing. Has there been another genocide that we know nothing about? The Health and Population Ministry should do its bit for population control!

Sikander Ahmed  
Niketon, Gulshan-1  
Dhaka

# Libyan rebels will soon understand

I have never been to Libya and have not studied about this country very much. However, I had the opportunity to talk with many people who stayed in Libya for a few years. I found that everybody was highly impressed with the leadership of Gaddafi. Libyan people, who supported the rebels, will soon understand what blunder they have made by removing Gaddafi. Libya had nothing before Gaddafi took charge. Gaddafi may not have been elected by the people but he has ensured food, housing, education and medical facilities to all the citizens which most of the governments (even the so-called democratic, but corrupt governments) failed to give. Western world needs both Libyan blood and oil. They got the first one and will get the oil soon. The world is for mighty people and not for the good people at this moment.

It's worth mentioning that during 1964-1985 when thousands of people had been starving to death in Ethiopia, European Economic Community destroyed fruits worth billions of dollars, instead of giving them to those starving people. Is not Gaddafi much more humanist than those European leaders? At the same time, I express my respect to the European pop singer Bob Geldof for raising money for those hungry people. It appears European leaders have learned nothing good from Bob. I feel pity for such looters when they talk about human rights.

Dr. M. Mahboob Hossain  
Microbiology Programme  
BRAC University  
Mohakhali, Dhaka



# Construction noise



During construction of a building, especially in a densely populated residential area like Dhanmondi or Uttara, developers are hardly respecting the ethics of living. I do not know if there is a guideline or law about how and when to start and close the work every day or what should be the highest permissible decibel level of noise at a construction site but this matter must be brought to the attention of the authorities.

For the last one month (the site is closed now for Eid vacation) a construction site started its piling work on Road 11A of Dhanmondi. The noise generated by the two piling machines is so high and maddening that people living around it are just simply going through torture for hours every day. During Ramadan the works of the site started at 8 am and closed at 6 pm. Now we are informed that the work would continue till late night because the developer "lost valuable time for the long Eid vacation".

We, the elderly citizens, having nowhere to escape, are forced to keep our windows shut and bear with the extreme noise, dust and black smoke from the monstrous machines. The machines used in the construction sites, are old and faulty therefore generating so loud noise, I was told by an engineer.

During the three or four years that the construction would continue, the noisy activities from various operations will also continue. For instance, after the piling is done, brick, sand, stone, cement-laden trucks will start unloading throughout the nights. The tile cutters, the scaffolding setters and many others will work here. All we, the neighbours, want is some respect from the developers towards the residents. We know they have to construct but please not at the cost of our mental and physical health!

An elderly citizen  
Dhanmondi, Dhaka

## Eyes and eggs

Eyes are the most precious organs of our body and eyesight is the greatest gift from the Almighty. So, it is extremely essential to take proper care of our eyes so that our eyesight remains active when we become old. Lutein and Zeaxanthin are two powerful antioxidants which greatly help in protecting our eyesight. These antioxidants perform two roles: (i) absorb excess photon energy (blue light) and (ii) quench free radicals before they damage the lipid membranes.

Interestingly, latest researches found that egg yolks contain enough Lutein and Zeaxanthin which are very important for protecting our eyes' visual health.

Meanwhile, till now egg yolks are thought to be harmful for human body because they contain high cholesterol. Well, through conduction of researches, medical experts have now reached to the conclusion that saturated fats and trans fats are more responsible for raising blood cholesterol than dietary cholesterol. Egg yolk, being a dietary cholesterol, acts as effective antioxidants.

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

## Think like China

For China low value of currency is an advantage as China emphasizes maximum export and minimum import. Our currency value is also low. We have to think like China how we can make the right use of it. Producing goods at minimum expense and increasing export will help us survive in the competition with emerging countries in the world market.

Cantara Wali  
On e-mail



# Using jute bags

Use of polythene bags was banned by the government a few years back, but environment friendly jute bags are not being used largely all over Bangladesh. People usually go to kitchen market with these jute bags, but we always need to use it while carrying any goods. Telecommunication companies, jewellery shops, fashion houses, and super stores should come forward to introduce fashionable jute bags for saving our environment as well as protecting jute industries.

Ferdous Aman Deedar  
Hatirpul, Dhanmondi  
Dhaka



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

## Transit sinks in Teesta waters

Dhaka, Delhi shelve major deals, sign minor ones as Mamata's U-turn on river sharing changes course of talks (September 7, 2011)

What is going on between India and Bangladesh after so much drum beating? People are right in their assessment of India; they can hardly be trusted.

Anonymous

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina took a bold stand by not signing the transit accord. It was not her fault that at the last moment Indian central government bowed down to Mamata Banerjee, CM of Pashchimbanga.

Kamal Ahmed

Paschimbanga CM Mamata Banerjee has snubbed Dhaka and Delhi in one stroke. Prime Minister M Sheikh Hasina should know now who her friends are.

Syed Neaz Ahmad

If one knows about the Indian psyche, then one should not expect anything from them. They know how to take, not to give; our government knows how to give, not to take, particularly from India. This should be a

lesson for the present government., more specifically for the PM.

Anonymous

India took 37 years to honour Indo-Bangla deal of 1974 to allow enclave residents some freedom. Berubari was handed over to them in 1974 and now people of Dahagram and Angorpota will get unfettered access to Bangladesh. What an honest and sincere friend!

Ahmed

Mamata's political drama was not an unexpected one. She saw the Treaty draft long ago. Traders should stop exporting Hilsa to Pashchim Bangla, send those Tripura instead, Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram

A.H.M. Shahidul Islam

What did the Indians think? Did they think that we would give in to their hocus-pocus and give them transit? Mamata was their trump card that they played to not to give us our fair share of the Teesta water. The Big

brother took us for a ride. Our government should not give them any transit without the just share of water. No water, no transit.

Niloufar Sarker

We must be ready for a tit-for-tat against our next door neighbour whether it is a big or super power or a tiny one. Bullying a small neighbour no more should be in cards of any country. Bangladesh cannot be cowed down by a state or federal minister of a country. The whole nation will stand behind our government when it takes right decision about any country of the world.

Dr Reza Khan

Going slow is best with India. Both the countries need a win-win situation; India needs transit not only for communication with its 6 states, but as a bigger plan of USA to encircle China via Bangladesh and Vietnam. The USA has asked India to increase its relationship with neighbours and it's the best time. India has to be generous on water issue.

Dr Karim

Long awaited visit of Indian PM and sky high expectation from us ended in utter disappointment. Last minute somersault by Mamata turned the whole visit into a fiasco. We will have to be more efficient and skillful in dealing with India. Our sincere and honest approach may not be reciprocated from the other side. Even if in future Teesta treaty is signed by the two sides, we might not get our proper share in reality. Unfortunately, in this forty years time our neighbour has not changed much.

Dr Islam