

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.

**Obsolete AMEX  
Traveller's Cheques**

On the 3rd July, my wife and I embarked on a 6-week trip to celebrate our only son's marriage in Dehra Dun, India and hold reception in Mombasa, Kenya. To defray the expenses, we carried our full entitlement of \$ 10,000. Standard Chartered Bank and as per Bangladesh Bank instructions issued TCs (\$5,400) and rest in cash.

I was surprised when no bank/money exchange accepted the TCs in Dehra Dun and Delhi. In Mombasa, in my son's bank, we faced the same problem. After entreaties, they accepted but on collection basis, redeemable after 3 weeks. Eventually, both in Mombasa and Dubai, the TCs were cashed at great loss (up to 5%). Fortunately, our relatives in India and Kenya came to our aid when we were left high and dry.

This letter is to question BB and SCB why they still insist on TCs when they are no longer universally accepted and to warn other travellers of the embarrassing situation they may face.

**Sikander Ahmed**  
Niketon, Gulshan-1, Dhaka

**Everything is not wrong**

Every government in the world has some successes and some failures. No government succeeds in fulfilling 100 per cent of its election pledges. Even President of USA Barack Obama is facing congressional oppositions because he could not deliver up to his election pledges. Bangladesh's present government of Sheikh Hasina also has many successes and failures. I believe many of her failures are due to the corrupt and inefficient administration. But if one reads Bangladeshi newspapers, watches private TV channels and listens to talks shows where civil society members discuss various issues, one will lose all hopes. The talk show participants see only failures and mismanagement. I suggest that they should review their past deeds. The members of civil society have the responsibility to raise hope in the people's minds and not create panic. All efforts of this government are not bad; there are some good work also, which should be told to the people.

**Shafiqul Islam, NY**

**Hats off to Bangladesh  
Football Federation**



PHOTO: AFP

September 6, 2011 will always be remembered by the Bangladeshi football fans as a historic day because on this day Bangladesh showed its capability to the whole world by arranging a great football match between Argentina and Nigeria. This was perhaps the most amazing match ever held in Bangabandhu National Stadium. Never in the history of Bangladesh a football team of this stature (Argentina) visited Bangladesh and played such a magnificent friendly match. It is surely an

experience of a lifetime for all the 24,000 spectators who watched the match live. No words can describe their feelings.

Kudos to the Bangladesh Football Federation, Kazi Salahuddin and the sponsors, for arranging such sports extravaganza. And as Argentina and Nigeria teams have left Bangladesh, we all hope that many such matches will be arranged in the future.

**Aneed Hasan, Banani, Dhaka**

**Indian PM's visit - what next?**



PHOTO: AFP

With all the soul searching and looking for answers that is going on now in the political field and in the media, one sees no dearth of self-proclaimed experts. We cannot comment on Indian government's management of affairs, but our government kept all the dealings close to the chest and built up quite a hype on the visit and raised the expectations to great heights. I cannot find fault with the stand of CM of Pashchim Banga - as she, like any leader, is unwilling to yield an inch. The visit and failure of Indian PM to deliver showed how the centre is being undercut by Mamata Banerjee and Anna Hazare. The current government must be congratulated for not going, as a diplomatic snub, for the transit deal during this visit given that our basic infrastructure is in a dilapidated condition. However, what needs to be done now is to bring these matters of Teesta, Tipaimukh, and Farakka dams for international mediation rather than bilateral discussions, as India insists. It took almost 40 years to get a 'closure' on enclave and therefore we must bring up the matters of rightful share of waters before international forums.

**Azizur Rahman**  
USA

**Rule of law must prevail**

The anarchy at Gabtoli, where road transport workers kidnapped a magistrate and compelled him to release those punishable under law, was totally unacceptable. It has now become a matter of utmost importance that the government gives a signal that it is still able to maintain the law and order in the country. By taking action against the guilty the shipping minister will be able to show that he respects the rule of law. This will show that no errant bus driver or any transport worker can do whatever they want. This will win the honourable minister much respect and bring the necessary discipline in the road transport sector.

The Gabtoli incident took place because those who are responsible for maintaining law and order, are more interested in politics.

It is high time that the government took steps to bring the rule of law back in our society. Our Shipping Minister together with our Home Minister can do this great service to the nation by giving exemplary punishment to the culprits of Gabtoli incident.

**Abdur Rahaman**  
Dhanmondi  
Dhaka

**Illegal kidney trade**

On 30th August 2011, a horrific news was published in The Daily Star entitled "3 arrested for 'trade in kidney'." As per the report, 42 people of Kalai upazila under Joypurhat district sold off their kidneys to organ trafficking networks because of severe poverty and police nabbed three intermediary people. A few years back, organ trafficking was largely seen as a rumor but now it thrives in our country.

This illegal trade is expanding because kidney is the only major organ that can be wholly transplanted with relatively fewer risks for the donor. Acute unemployment, abject poverty, and lack of education are the reasons behind human organ trafficking.

People must be made aware of this heinous organ trafficking business. And law enforcement agencies must be active to curb this illegal trade. A countrywide campaign against human organ trafficking should be launched immediately to save our poor people.

**Md. Hafizur Rahman**  
Renata Limited, Mirpur, Dhaka

**Political leadership  
and development**

The AL government has failed to make progress in every sector. Poor communication system, gas, electricity and water crisis, price hike of daily necessities, share market debacle, downward national economy, weak law and order situation are the result of their inefficiency.

Inefficient use of resources, lack of futuristic long-term plan, inexperienced cabinet members, absence of true leadership, undemocratic practice in the party, administrative corruption, nepotism, etc., are the main reasons behind this failure.

The world is passing through an economic crisis right now where excellence in leadership is much needed. We expect that our political leaders would be more responsible and dedicated in performing their duties.

**Al Fattad Md. Azim**  
Independent University, Dhaka

**Job satisfaction and  
productivity**

Employees are more productive when they are satisfied and salary is the most important thing to most employees. But it will be a mistake to presume that higher salary alone will create higher job satisfaction and increase productivity. A complex set of financial and non-financial benefits along with many work-related factors determine the level of satisfaction and loyalty. If the employees are not motivated to serve the clients with the best products or service, the company can't grow or survive in this competitive world. In Japanese management system, companies offer benefit packages to earn lifetime commitment and often employees work for the same company for generations. Employees



PHOTO: STAR

serve the companies and in return get various economic and non-economic benefits. Salary and other financial benefits are important determinants of employee satisfaction. Besides financial benefits, status, position and recognition are important. Bangladeshi companies should also consider this.

**Md. Atikur Rahman**  
Librarian  
BGMEA Institute of Fashion and  
Technology, Uttara, Dhaka

**Thanks to Mamata Banerjee**



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh should thank Mamata Banerjee for her stingy attitude towards Bangladesh because if it were not for her objection to Teesta water sharing agreement that she thought to be advantageous to Bangladesh, our government would have signed the dangerous transit agreement. Those who show childish alacrity for transit should read this statement that Jawaharlal Nehru made in response to the then Pakistan's request for road transit through India for easy communication between the two branches of Pakistan: "It is a strange demand from a peculiar country. A passage to go to their country through a foreign country. It is unprecedented." Have India given us only 'Teen Bigha,' though we gave them a huge area of Berubari far back in 1974 to get that small strip of land? India grudging us only 16 miles road transit to Nepal but wants 600 miles transit from Bangladesh in the name of connectivity. Why blame them? Are not some of our intellectuals and ministers dancing to Indian schemer's tune? Can anybody harm us without our consent?

**Abdus Subhan, On e-mail**

**READERS  
respond**

*Here are some comments that came in response to Sunday's The Daily Star report headlined "Liver traders go on the prowl"*

**Readers Respond**

Here are some comments that came in response to Sunday's The Daily Star report headlined "Liver traders go on the prowl"

**Uzzwal**

The government needs to take strong action against this and our media should stay beside the victims.

**Robin**

Playing with people's lives is not a crime in Bangladesh.

**Rahman**

I don't think it's a fault to be poor. This young boy donated his liver to meet the demand of his family. It is not his fault. However, some doctors in our country are treating patients like animals, which is undoubtedly sad. The government needs to take action against the doctors who are responsible for this.

**Anonymous**

Punish these greedy, cruel doctors and hospital authorities, then at least some changes will happen.

**Moniruzzaman**

These charlatans always search for those people who are vulnerable. People of remote villages are very simple. The human organ traffickers exploited these people for their vested interest. The government should take steps to increase awareness among these rural people so that this kind of incident never happens again.

**Mohammed Shah Alam Khan**

This is very important to financially benefit the victims. The organ is already sold and the seller did not get proper price. Now the brokers and the doctors have been arrested by the police. The authorities should help the victims financially so that they can live the rest of their lives without financial problems. Mehdi Hasan, who was cheated by the broker, must get the proper amount of money for the donation.

**Fida Likhon**

This is a shame for the whole nation to see this kind of inhuman activity. We are facing questions from abroad. We feel ashamed when we know that Bangladesh is one of the most corrupt countries of the world. When we see that some people are trafficking human organs, we feel frustrated.

**Niloufar Sarker**

Our people live in abject poverty and it's very easy to pass a moral judgment. In India surrogacy for childless couples is available in exchange for money and it is legal. Many young women sell their eggs to infertile women. They rationalise such practices saying that they are helping people in need. My daughter is a surgeon in the US. I was told by doctors that liver regenerates and one can survive healthily with a single kidney. In fact, many people are born with a single kidney. What is sad is the role of the brokers who take advantage of the vulnerable.

**Nasirullah Mridha**

Authorities concerned should not sit idle as mere spectators.

**Foysal Ahmed**

Where are we living? It is a very sad news for the people of Bangladesh.

**Sharika Mahmud**

This is scary.

**Didarul alam**

It is an undesirable matter for the nation. So, immediate and exemplary action must be taken against the persons involved in kidney trading.

**Sajib**

We are requesting the investigators to arrest