

Will they get justice?



On February 11, 2012 the dead bodies of Sagar Sarwar and Mehrun Runi were found in their flat at West Rajabazar. They were brutally murdered by unknown killers. The shocking incident is still vivid in our mind. From the September 15, 2012 issue of the daily Prothom Alo we learned that the DNAs of four professional thieves have been sent to the USA to test whether those match with the DNA collected from the bodies of Sagar and Runi.

DB police also took the thieves to the apartment building of Sagar-Runi to see whether they could climb up by the gas pipe and one of them succeeded in climbing into the apartment. But it was not mentioned whether he entered through a door or a window.

Defective railway track

A very investigative and critical photograph by a staff photographer was published in the front page of a local English daily on 15th. September. He deserves congratulations for the excellent and revealing photograph that said it all! How can the railway management allow such poor track fish plate fastening with the sleeper at a rail expansion joint, that has to permit length-wise expansion of the rails? The fish plate needs to be firmly bolted to the sleeper, which is essential for safety.

If this is the state of the track in the main terminus, then one wonders how the railway authorities maintain track safety all over the thousands of miles of rail track in the country! If this fault could catch the eye of a casual person, one wonders if the railway 'Permanent Way Inspection' staff employ short-sighted amateurs to do this important and essential inspection work. Someone must take responsibility for this gross negligence in the matter.

The only saving grace in this specific case is, as the track is adjacent to the main platform at the terminus, all trains move here at very low speed, and hence the chance of derailment and accident is rather far lower. However, this cannot be an excuse for the negligence of the railway staff concerned. May I request your photographer to go and see the same spot, say in the next ten days time, and record if the matter has been rectified or not!

Engr. S.A. Mansoor
Dhaka

Make dengue vaccine available

We have learnt from this daily that researchers based in France and Thailand found effective result in the trial of a dengue vaccine candidate called CYD-TDV. This report gives us hope because there is currently no vaccine available to protect against dengue. Whereas dengue is one of the most widespread mosquito-borne viral diseases in the world including Bangladesh, with around half of the world's population are currently at risk.

However, researchers say that efforts to develop dengue vaccine are hampered by the fact that dengue is not caused by a single virus, but rather four different related viruses. So it becomes a tougher job for the researches than developing vaccine against some other viral diseases. It may be noted that though several possi-

As the case was very sensational we were following it very closely. I remember an expert was saying that it was impossible for a person to enter through the small opening of the grille of the kitchen window. And the post-mortem report also revealed that Runi was killed a few hours before her husband Sagar. Does not it seem mysterious that thieves instead of decamping with the looted things waited for the husband? We also learnt that only a few laptops were missing.

All the activities of the police remind me of a few lines from the dance drama 'Shyama' written by Rabindranath Tagore: "Chore chai, je korei hok, hok na she je kono lok."

Nur Jahan
Chittagong

Vocabulary tests to judge merit!

In a modern society where language should never be a barrier, why is one bound to answer the English vocabulary questions to pass the language part of the IBA admission test? There is no denying the fact that English is an International language which one should be familiar with, to lead a sound professional life. A student can be tested for her/his analytical skill, technical skills and for other faculties. A good vocabulary in no way makes one intelligent. Before the admission test, students memorise a large number of words in SAT books. They only learn those words for the admission test, but forget those eventually!

I have seen the conversation of the Japanese Prime Minister with the US President Barack Obama on BBC. The Japanese Prime Minister was speaking in his own language, which was being transcribed to President Obama. So it's even alright if you are not familiar with a language, though it's better to learn the basics of English. But it simply doesn't mean that one has to have a wide vocabulary. A great institution like IBA should not judge its students on the basis of her/his strength of English vocabulary only.

Those who will sit for or have already sat for the IBA admission tests know that the language part demands strong vocabulary. To go through the huge 3500 SAT words list seems impossible, at least to me. So, I urge the IBA authorities to consider this. There might be different ways of judging English language skills of the students.

Preema, On e-mail

ble dengue vaccine candidates are currently in development stage, study on new vaccine candidate (CYD-TDV) creates hopes that developing an effective and safe dengue vaccine may be possible.

Dengue infections usually cause flu-like symptoms, and it can develop into a more serious form of the disease manifested by bleeding, known as severe dengue.

We urge the authorities concerned to take all-out measures to destroy mosquitoes and their breeding grounds and create public awareness in this regard.

Mobarak Ali
RK Mission Road
Gopibagh
Dhaka



May his dream come true

Fahim, a poor eight-year-old boy who lives at Narinda, works at a hardware shop at Nawabpur in Old Dhaka. He wants to go to school but can't. He has to work to support his mother who is very sick. Fahim used to go to a nearby school before. But then his mother fell ill and could not work anymore. She then decided to make her only boy self-reliant. So she sent him to the workshop. I talked to Abdul Razzaq, the owner of that workshop. He said, "Fahim is an honest boy, always sincere in his work. He is also talented. "If he gets a chance to study, he will do well," he added. "I want to be solvent so that I can arrange better treatment for my dear mother," said Fahim confidently. I hope one day his dream will come true.

Bipul K Debnath
Department of English
Dhaka College, Dhaka

How can a fresher have experience?

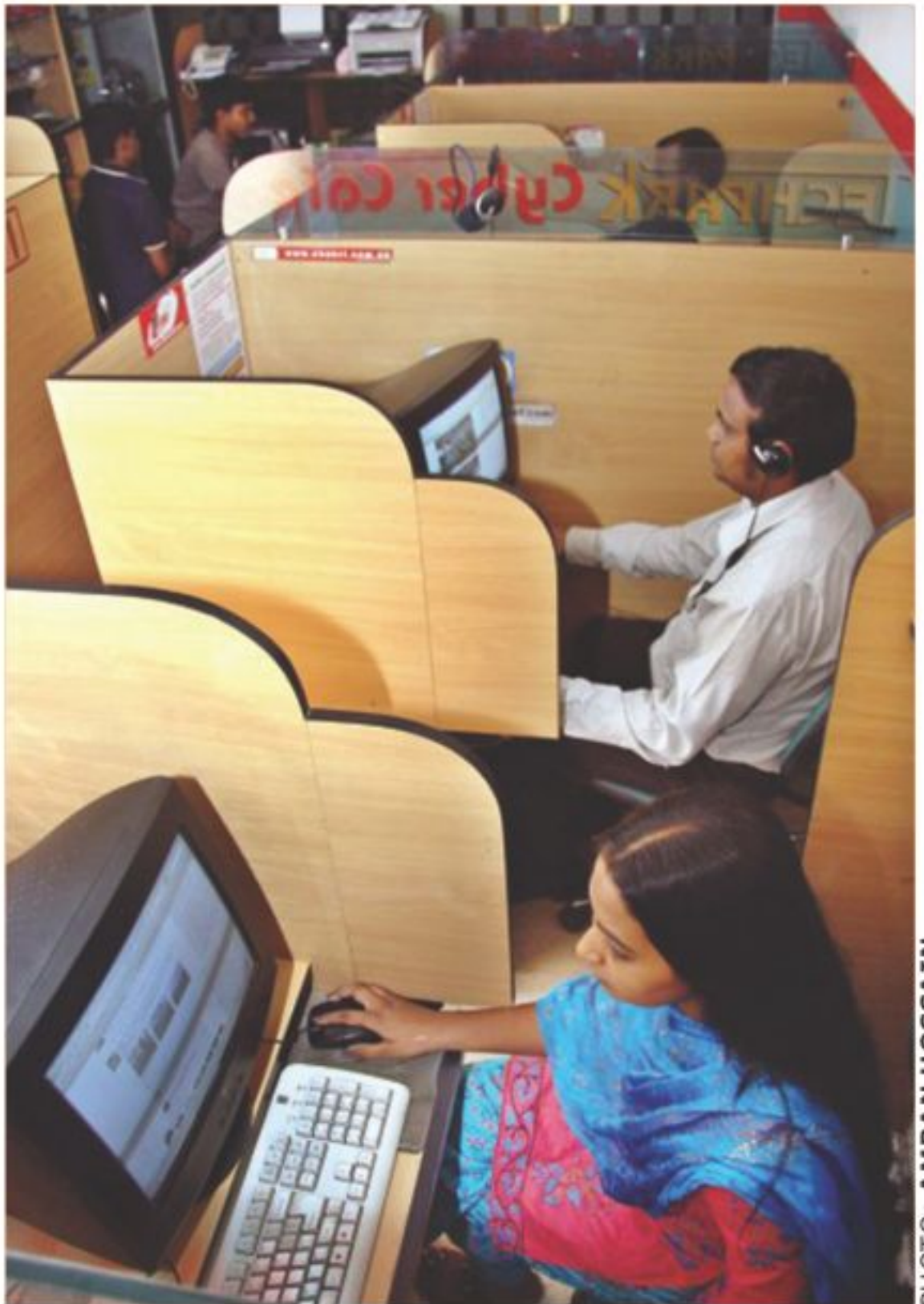
It has become very common that one must have some experience to apply for a job. How can a fresher get experience if he/she can't get a job in the first place? This is shocking to all new job applicants. In this case, I remember Oscar Wilde who said in The Picture of Dorian Gray that "experience is merely the name men gave to their mistakes." Terry Blakeman said: "If experience is life's best teacher then why do we have to learn by example?" We know that a young professional can do well without his having any experience. So, it is our fervent request to the organisations that they should have at least some positions in their organisations for the freshers who will become experienced with time.

Rafik Alamgir
Department of ELL

Check cyber crimes

Young girls and women are regularly falling victims to cyber crimes. Regular text messages with vulgar contents as well as phone calls have been harassing many women. Since these women cannot share this ordeal with others because of social stigma and embarrassment, this leads them to suffer from various mental problems. Government authorities must take urgent steps to curb this crime before it goes viral.

Miton Kumar Gupto
Phulbari, Dinajpur



Illegal electric rickshaws

Electric rickshaw is a rickshaw with a rechargeable battery, extra chain and gear. This is another great creation of Bangladeshi brain after nosimon, korimon, votvotiya, etc. You can find many of these types of rickshaws all over the country. Most of the rickshaw-pullers are ignorant of controlling the these rickshaws. As a consequence, rickshaw accidents occur frequently and many of us have broken our hands or legs by these accidents. But nobody is there to look after it! The batteries need to be charged the whole night and the rickshaw-pullers charge their batteries from illegal connections. Who is there to look after this? It is high time the authorities took steps to stop these illegal rickshaws from plying our city streets. The government need to ban these electric rickshaws.

Anonymous
On e-mail

Teachers shouldn't engage in politics

Teachers are considered the most enlightened people in any society; they are called the nation builders. At present, most of the teachers of public universities are engaged in dirty politics to get administrative power and lucrative positions. They often do not take classes and do not assess the exam scripts in time. Hence the delay in publishing results. Teachers should never be involved in partisan politics. Their only duty should be teaching their students and getting involved in various research works. If our teachers are misguided, the students are bound to get spoiled. I therefore urge all the teachers not to engage in politics so that their students can become enlightened citizens by following their ideals.

Rebel Khan
Dept of Political Science
University of Dhaka

READERS respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Tuesday's The Daily Star news report headlined "Mashiur refutes leave report"

A K M Syful Zaman

It seems national interest is less important than personal interest.

S. Ahmad

Why is this man so indispensable for PM?

Shamimur Rahman

If Mashiur were a wise man, he would resign instantly for the greater interest of the country.

Imtiaz

The government should take precise decision. What is happening is not acceptable.

Robin

Mashiur Rahman's hide and seek game will not convince the World Bank. This game may go well in Bangladesh but will not hold water with WB.

Md. Bashir

Where is the own fund of the present government to build the Padma bridge? It seems to me that the incumbent government is running without any idea of the resources of the country.

Nasirullah Mridha, USA

Mashiur's exit should be permanent, not for only one month.

Ali

All the advisers so far did no good for the country. Rather they had done damage in all manners. Some had even said that Tipaimukh dam can be beneficial to Bangladesh.

Anonymous k

WB asked for his permanent leave, not for one month. Mashiur is neither a people's representative nor a cabinet minister, as a matter of fact. So his departure will have zero impact on the people or the country.

AKM Ziaul Huda

The government is making drama one after another at the cost of people's miseries.

Anononous

The government and the adviser should stop this hide and seek game with the World Bank and the people of the country.

Rabiul Hasan

A bureaucrat finds it hard to leave the job. But the time has caught up with him.

Truth teller

'One month's leave' is not same as 'removal' as requested by the World Bank.

Faiz Ahmed

The government has taken every step after losing every opportunity.

Sony

The government is playing with our innocence. We are fed up.

A citizen

Day by day Bangladesh is sinking into corruption. We are losing every opportunity because of the activities of a few corrupt leaders and officials. Instead of removing them, government is looking for alternative source of funding to fulfil the dream of Padma bridge. Even we the general people realise that after the Padma bridge scandal, no organisation will come forward to our aid but our government still remains in the same position. What do they want, actually? They have totally failed to fulfil their election pledges.

A reader

After this scam and the whole drama, we don't want Padma bridge but want to get rid of these corrupt leaders. We know well