

PHOTO: ZAHEDUL I KHAN

Encounters of the Dark Kind

I would like to thank the writer for this well written essay about Chowdhury Mueen Uddin who according to the New York Times played a significant role in the killing of intellectuals prior to the birth of Bangladesh. Mueen went into hiding after Bangladesh won the war. Now he is calling war trial 'a joke' sitting in his safe haven in London. The government must leave no stones unturned for bringing back this criminal and putting him on trial.

Humaira Yasmin
Banani, Dhaka

Tamarind Theory

Every sane person must have been insulted and outraged by Hefazat chief's derogatory comments about women.

If women stay at home, 75-80 percent of the work in the fields done by household rural females (mostly unpaid) will not be done. Thus, there will be no crops and nothing to feed the MALE child. Shall we then bury the FEMALE child after birth, as done pre-632 AD? Then there will be no one left to bear children. And no religion to HEFAZAT! And what will happen to the families of hundreds of thousands of female garment workers if they are not allowed to work?

Sikander Ahmed
Gulshan-1, Dhaka

Two Good Articles

The last issue of the star magazine was an enlightening one. Especially the cover story was mind blowing. We get a glimpse of the man, Dwijen Sharma whose name is written in nature.

The special feature by Upashana Salam on "The Writing on the Wall" is a very relevant one. I hope people will respect the exiting laws and regulations regarding this matter.

Sabidin Ibrahim
Via email

Irregularities at BRTA

BRTA (Bangladesh Road Transport Authority) has issued over 1.5 lakh driving licenses for heavy vehicles since 1997. Last year BRTA reportedly issued about 25000 driving licenses without following proper procedures. The BRTA has so far issued a total of over 11 lakh genuine driving licenses including 2.5 lakh for heavy vehicles. This number includes about one lakh smart machine readable licenses introduced last November. Again, most of these licenses were given by taking bribe and without proper driving test. As a result deaths related to road accidents are increasing every year. The government must take immediate actions to stop these irregularities at BRTA in order to ensure the safety of people.

Md Mushfikur Rahman, Sharmin Khanam, Segupta kabir, Badrul Amin and Sayeeda Razia
East West University, Dhaka

Sunshine on His Shoulders

I appreciate Star for the cover story on prominent naturalist Dwijen Sharma. People like him are assets of our society; a society which lacks love for nature. It was sad to learn that none of his suggestions has been implemented by authorities.

A large part of our new generation is either completely unaware of or utterly indifferent to the sights and sounds of nature. The cover story also talks about scientific spirit, a vital ingredient for an advanced society; a virtue most uncommon among us. Dwijen Sharma is a true example in that regard.

Amio Galib Chowdhury
Department of Physics, University of Dhaka