# MAILBOX

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## Winning in a Men's Game

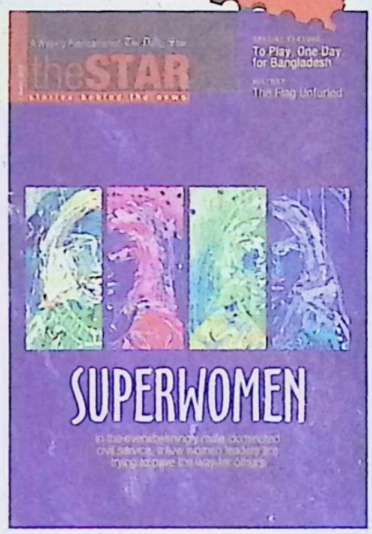
As a civil servant and a woman, I am proud to be able to serve my country. But getting where I am now was not easy. I had to fight my family, relatives and the society on the way. But I am glad they all have accepted me now in my role as an administrator in a district in Bangladesh. I felt very encouraged to see so many women in top positions in the civil administration. No one has done them a favour, they are where they are now by dint of perseverance and sincerity. What could make a more appropriate cover story on the International Women's Day?

*Anonymous*

★★★

I loved the cover story this week as it portrays a number of high profile women who against all odds have risen to the top in the public administration. The life stories of these brave and smart women will encourage many brilliant young women to join the civil service and serve the nation. The two writers of this article have done really well to present the reader with such an inspiring story on the International Women's Day. However, since the idea was to highlight high achieving women in the civil service, it would have made more sense if Rokeya Sultana made the top of their list because she outranks everyone else in the article in terms of seniority and position. A senior secretary to the government holds a rank higher than that of a deputy governor of the Bangladesh Bank and a director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs whose rank is equivalent to that of an additional secretary.

*Anila Mahbub Ali*
*DOHS, Dhaka*




## Sports IS always politics (occasionally)

While in Rajshahi University studying to get my undergraduate degree, I had a classmate who was and still is a staunch supporter of the Pakistan cricket team. I too am an admirer of the way the Pakistani players sometimes snatch victory at the very last moment from the clutches of defeat. But my classmate supports the team even when they are playing Bangladesh! I remember once, watching a match between the two teams on television, he got so excited that he shouted, "Beat the hell out of the Bengalees, my brothers! If you defeat Bangladesh today, you can marry my sister." I am glad Chintitio was not in the audience with us on that day.

*Saheen Dewan*
*Savar, Dhaka*




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Letters to the Editor, Star Diary and Write to Mita, with the writer's name and address, should be within 200 words. All articles should be within 1,200 words. A cover letter is not necessary, but every write-up should include the writer's name, phone number and email address (if any). While The Star welcomes unsolicited articles and photographs, it cannot accept the responsibility of their loss or damage. The Star does not return unsolicited articles and photos. Response time for unsolicited write-ups ranges from three weeks to two months. All articles submitted are subject to editing for reasons of space and clarity.

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