



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

LIFE

style

MAMUNUL IN ATLETICO DE KOLKATA?

The Bangladesh captain may play for the Kolkata franchise in the Indian Super League

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IN ESTONIA, FOR PUTIN

During his visit, Obama will spell out -- don't mess with ex-Soviet land

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People obey law, influentials break

People suffer in tailbacks, they don't

SHARIFUL ISLAM and PROTICK CHAKRABORTY

While common people stay stuck in the city's standstill traffic for hours sometimes, those "more equal than others" just take the wrong side of the street and drive by to dodge the tailback, with traffic police unable to do anything.

Flag-bearing huge sport utility vehicles of ministers, cars of lawmakers and top government officials, police, leaders of the ruling party and its front organisations, journalists and student buses of public universities are the main traffic rule violators, police said.

So the traffic cops do not even dare to stop these people in fear of retribution.

These privileged groups not only violate the law, but also put the law-abiding oncoming motorists at risk.

At 4:58pm on August 13, these correspondents saw a police van (Dhaka Metro Tha -- 13-1674) escorting a flag-flaunting SUV (Dhaka Metro Gha -- 13-6113) on the wrong side of the street in front of Ruposhi Bangla Hotel. It was unclear who was inside

the vehicle, but surely he must have been one of those "more equal than others".

A black private car with a sticker inscribed with "police" on it was also seen taking the wrong side around the same time at the same spot.

It has become almost a norm during the morning and evening rush.

Around 6:15pm on the same day, when traffic was at its worst, the intersection between Minto Road and Hare Road in the capital was a mess with many vehicles on the wrong side clogging up the streets.

Instead of making way for the people who were on the right side of the road and had been waiting quite a while, traffic police were seen busy trying to get the VIPs on their way.

The Daily Star asked a number of top traffic police officials about this, but none of them made any comment.

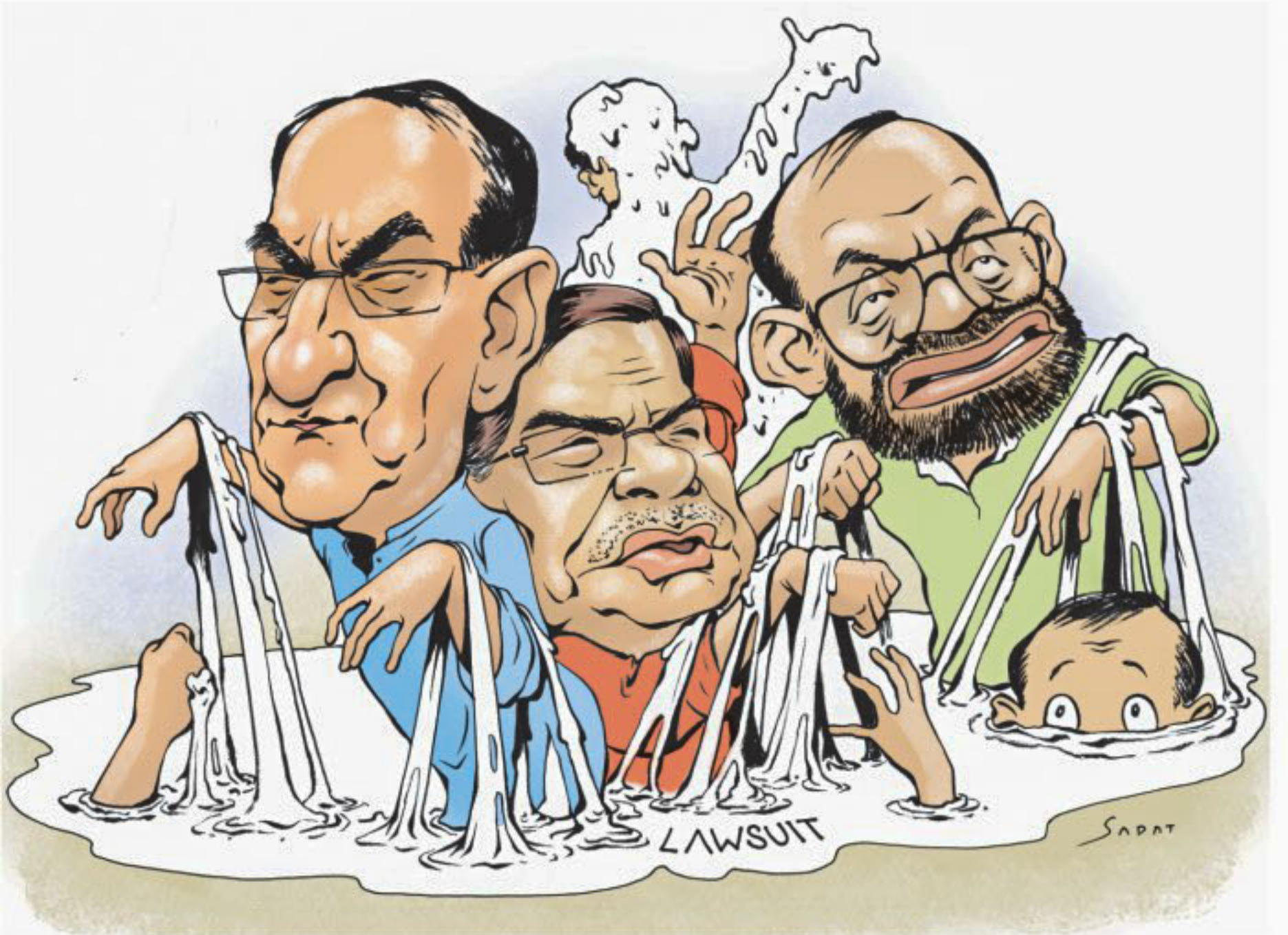
On April 12, the Dhaka Metropolitan Police installed retractable spike strips on Hare Road on a trial basis to see if such devices work in preventing vehicles from taking the wrong side.

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A sport utility vehicle of a high official dangerously driving on the fast lane of the wrong side of the road in front of Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the capital while law-abiding citizens wait at the set of traffic lights. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



BNP 'legally'-trapped No deadlines, no solutions

Heap of cases keeps leaders busy at courts

SHAKHAWAT LITON, RASHIDUL HASAN and CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

Moudud Ahmed, Mirza Abbas, Goyeshwar Chandra Roy and 38 other BNP leaders are scheduled to appear today before a Dhaka court that will hold hearings on charge framing in a case related to political violence last year.

The Speedy Trial Court-6 held hearings on August 24 but could not complete them. Along with 23 BNP men, the three senior leaders had to pass almost half the day in court.

The case was filed with Paltan Police station in March 2013, accusing 41 BNP men of being involved in and instigating arson attacks on vehicles and obstructing the work of police during the anti-government agitations.

Of the accused, fifteen remain fugitive. BNP's acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and 22 other party men will also have to remain present at the court today for hearings on charge framing in a separate case over street violence last year.

Seven of the accused have been absconding.

Tomorrow, Fakhru and 25 other BNP men are scheduled to appear before another court in connection with two murder cases filed last year, while Jubo Dal President Moazzem Hossain Alal and 41 others will be present at a trial in a separate case before the Speedy Trial Court-6.

In August, police submitted charge sheets in seven cases against BNP men, among

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Violent clash in Islamabad; soldiers secure state TV; Pak army not 'backing PTI or PAT'

AGENCIES

The political crisis in Pakistan remains at fever pitch as both the government and the protesting Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) and Pakistan Awami Tehreek (PAT) refuse to budge on their respective positions.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif stands firm in the face of growing pressure for his resignation, and the protesting PTI and PAT are adamant on standing their ground in the capital's high-security red zone.

Violent clashes have taken place over the last 72 hours, leaving at least three dead and hundreds injured.

PHOTO ON PAGE 16

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Couple found dead in a Banani flat

Police suspect murder-suicide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered bullet-hit bodies of a couple from a flat in the capital's Banani DOHS area yesterday evening.

The dead were identified as Abdur Rouf alias Rob, 55, owner of Afsar Group of Industries, and his wife Roksana Parveen, 45.

Atiqur Rahman, officer-in-charge (OC) of Cantonment Police Station,

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Schools now flood shelters

Situation yet to improve in 19 districts

STAR REPORT

The ongoing floods are not only causing untold sufferings for over two million people of 19 districts but also hampering educational activities in the affected areas.

Many thousands of flood-hit people, after being marooned, have taken shelter in local schools, colleges and madrasas which are yet to be engulfed by the calamity.

The natural disaster has kept educational institutions closed. However, the exact number of affected institutions is yet to be determined.

Thousands of students of the affected areas have lost their books, school uniforms and other essential educational items.

The situation will surely affect the

examinees of the Primary School Certificate (PSC) and Junior School Certificate (JSC) levels there. The examinations are hardly two and a half months away.

Upstream Jamuna waters have flooded at least 148 primary and high schools, six colleges and 12 madrasas in the district's Sonatola, Shariakandi and Dhunat upazilas, affecting the education of some 75 thousand students, reports our Bogra correspondent.

"I don't know whether I can appear for the exam, which will be held on the 22nd of November," said Sumon Shaha, a PSC examinee of Gozaria Primary School in Shariakandi upazila.

Sumon said the floodwaters washed

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Fakhru sued for calling AL 'killer party'

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A defamation case was filed against BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru

Islam Alamgir yesterday for terming the ruling Awami League a "killer party" and its chief Sheikh Hasina a "killer".

Nur-e-Alam Siddique, vice president of Awami

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Not in interest of country, people

Says Kamal on move to restore JS' authority to impeach SC judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The way the government is going to amend the constitution to restore parliament's authority to impeach Supreme Court judges is "not right at all" and "not in the interest of the country and the people", eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said yesterday.

Public opinion should be solicited in this regard, he said, stressing the need for reaching a consensus through a national dialogue before the House passed any amendment to

the charter.

He made the observations at a roundtable discussion on "Amendment to the constitution, impeachment of judges and its significance", organised by Sushasoneer Jonno Nagorik (Sujan), a civil society organisation, at the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

The cabinet on August 18 approved a proposal for amending the constitution to restore parliament's authority to impeach

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JS TO PASS BILL IN CURRENT SESSION -- PAGE 16



Burning diesel, a tow truck takes away an illegal rickshaw to Agargaon from Bhashantek, Mirpur, yesterday. It amused many on the 8km journey, who felt it was an overkill.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Amin Jewellers to accord reception to honourable persons

Amin Jewellers Ltd, a renowned name in gold industry, has taken an initiative to honour some 25 dignitaries as recognition for their contribution to the society on the occasion of its celebration of golden jubilee in Bangladesh.

The dignitaries would be selected on the basis of their outstanding contribution specially in the various fields such as country's historical background, tradition, language movement, liberation war, art, literature, culture, politics, economics, business, education, architectural studies, medical



At press conference Honourable Former MP Kazi Sirajul Islam and Director Kazi Aminul Islam

science. Each of the notable persons would be honoured with Tk. 300,000 (three lakh), a gold medal weighting two tolas and a crest.

Various aspects of the programme were unveiled at a press conference on September 1, 2014 at Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka. A panel of three-member juries would select the dignitaries.

Amin Jewellers Directors Kazi Aminul Islam explained

details of the noble initiative on the occasion. Amin Jewellers Chairman and former MP Kazi Sirajul Islam exchanged views with the newsmen and replied to various questions.

Amin Jewellers will step up to 50 years of its glorious and successful operation in Bangladesh on January 1, 2016.

Farhana Lucky owner of 'Dream Merchant' Event Management organization said main event of the programme would require a year-long effort to organise. Details of the occasion will be announced later.