



# The Daily Star

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## DEPENDENCY DECREASING

The number of people relying on others for livelihood goes down in four years

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## BAKULTALA ROCKS AGAIN

Colourful Nabanna fest is celebrated at the popular venue of Dhaka University

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## PHILAE'S FEAT

The comet lander sends a treasure trove of data before losing power

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# Poor's income not tax-free?

Cold water poured on savings of low earners

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

For years, Ferdousi Khatun has toiled as a maid shuttling between houses to make a living.

In the hope of securing a better life for her three children, she saved penny by penny from her meagre income, and was able to have a deposit of Tk 1 lakh at a Satkhira branch of a state-run bank.

But her savings will not be spared by tax officials despite the fact that her income is tax-free.

Worse still, unlike the TIN (tax identification number) holders who pay 10 percent of the profits on savings in advance income tax, she will lose 15 percent of the profits for not having TIN.

"I have never heard of it [TIN]. Where would I get that? I can hardly run my family with the money I earn. Where will I get money to pay tax?" asked the poor woman.

Of the 16 crore people in the country, only 10 lakh submit tax returns.

In 1999, the government started collecting 10 percent tax from profits on savings and pension schemes of 1.5 crore savers, including 1 crore small depositors, said officials at Bangladesh Bank and the NBR.

A provision was introduced in July 2012, stipulating that account holders without TIN must pay 15 percent of the

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### HIGHLIGHTS

Around **70%** of **1.5 crore** depositors are small savers

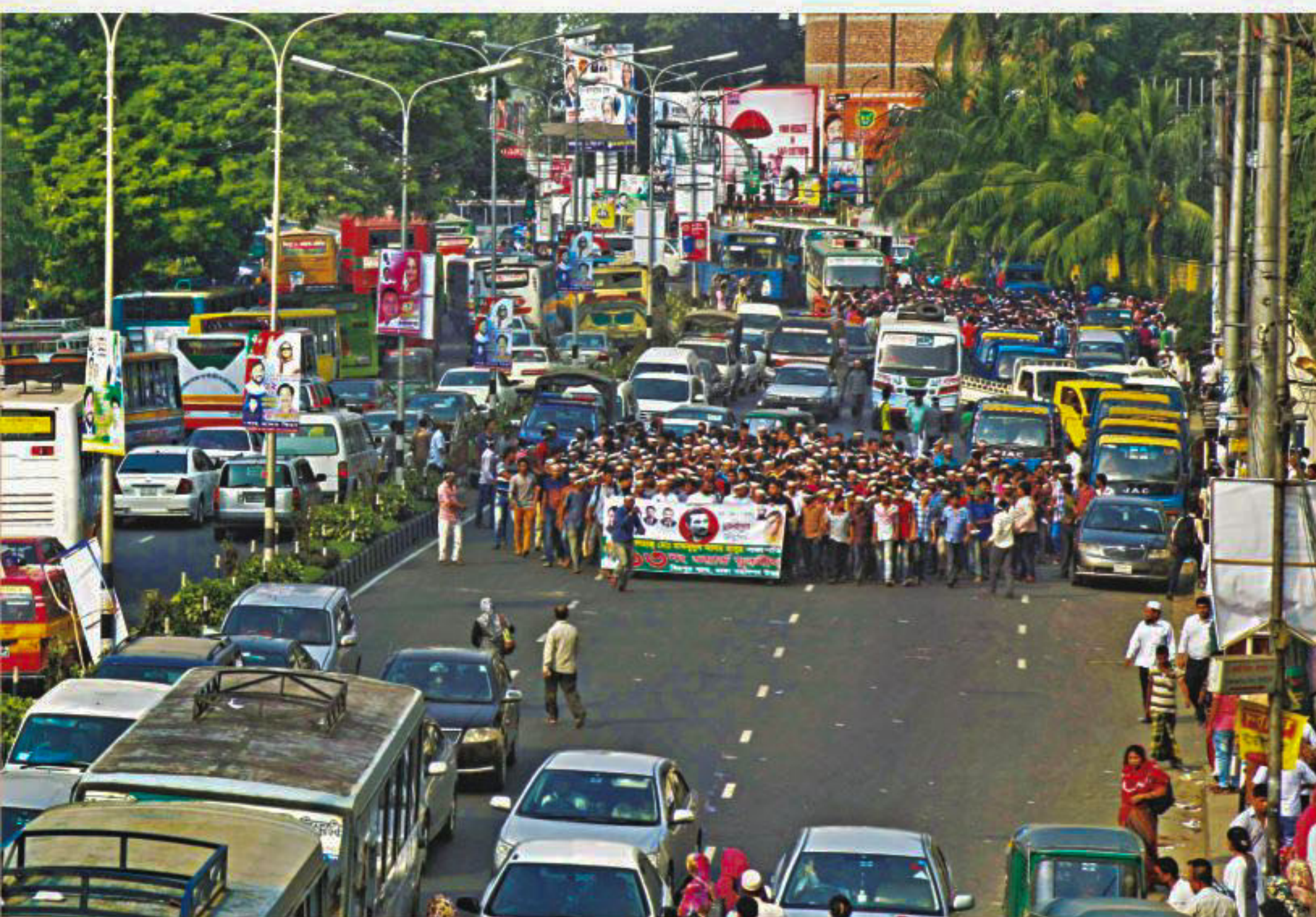
NBR got **Tk 2,870 crore** in advance income tax in **FY13**

Govt to lose only **4%** of the sum if small savers get tax waiver



Young Bangladesh batsman Mominul Haque salutes the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium crowd after scoring his fourth century, his first against Zimbabwe, on the fourth day of the third and final Test yesterday. Bangladesh need nine more wickets on the final day today to complete a 3-0 whitewash of the visitors, who require a massive 378 more runs to win. Story on Page 14 PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

## SOME PARTY, MOST SUFFER



Jubo League, youth front of the ruling Awami League, brings out small processions from across the city to join its founding anniversary celebrations at Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday, causing gridlocks that tormented city dwellers since midday. The photo was taken at Shahbagh intersection. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## One rally, too much suffering

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Weekends usually bring a little relief to city residents from traffic jams. But that was not to be yesterday.

It took college student Nima Khan over one and a half hours to reach Farmgate from Motijheel in the afternoon, thanks to a huge traffic jam caused by a Jubo League rally at the city's Suhrawardy Udyan.

Buses, cars, and other modes of transport had to wait even up to an hour at Shahbagh, Bangla Motor, Farmgate, Moghbazar, Press Club, High Court, Gulistan, Bijoy Sarani, Katabon, Sonargaon and Ruposhi Bangla intersections, to the woes of commuters.

From main thoroughfares, traffic jam spread to the adjacent lanes and by-lanes.

There was no respite for the pedestrians either as Jubo League processions marched through the streets in these

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BNP-LED ALLIANCE A THORN IN SIDE OF COUNTRY: PM - PAGE 3

## Lalon-loving RU teacher killed

'Militant group' claims responsibility on Facebook

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A Rajshahi University professor was hacked to death by unidentified criminals near his house in Choddopai area on the outskirts of the city yesterday afternoon.

AKM Shafiul Islam, 48, a teacher of sociology, died after an emergency surgery around 4:45pm at the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Brain damage and profuse bleeding from multiple stab wounds in the neck and head led to his death, said RMCH Director Brig Gen Nasir Uddin.

A gang of four attacked him at the entrance of Bihaz residential area around 3:00pm while he was returning home by his motorbike, said Alamgir Hossain, OC of Motihar police station.

In a late development, an Islamist group calling itself Mujahideen fi Sabilillah has claimed the responsibility for Shafiul's murder in a post on its Facebook page Ansar Al Islam Bangladesh-2.

"Allahu Akbar! Allahu Akbar! Our Mujahideens today



AKM Shafiul Islam

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## Like immature boy Joy talks

Says Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criticising prime minister's son Sajeed Wazed Joy for his remarks on former president Ziaur Rahman, the BNP has asked him to refrain from speaking like an "immature boy".

"New generation leader Joy was born under the security of the Pakistan occupation army in 1971. He spent most of his time in India and the USA. This immature boy is now questioning whether Ziaur Rahman was a freedom fighter," said BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday.

The BNP spokesperson made the comments while addressing a discussion titled "Shaheed Zia and Democracy" at the Jatiya Press Club, Bangladesh

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**TEA MEANS 5 MINUTES OF L-O-N-G BREAK FROM WORK**

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