

I was walking along Farmgate area mindfully stepping over banana peels to avoid potential cartoon style spills onto my backside. This was ridiculous as there were more banana peels than a pious Ramadan day expects. Did someone let loose a hungry troop of monkeys? I instinctively raised my hand to avoid incoming poop flung by a hairy primate. I watch too many YouTube videos of bad things happening to people around animals. Most of those people require a bath in disinfectant afterward.

RECORD THIS AND RECORD THAT

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Of course, this is in the middle of Dhaka city. There are no monkeys or apes to fling poop. What the city flings at you may be far more difficult to remove. It throws people at you. There are two groups of people walking around. One wants to go about their business, trying to get somewhere to do something to make some money or re-watch Game of Thrones. There is this other group that walks about not quite sure if this is Ramna Park or some other leisurely place of contemplation. Two or three people often walk abreast discussing the merits of potatoes that look like Jesus or

Justin. They never move out of the way. Options of navigation are limited to moving around them or lying down quickly on the ground so they can cross by stepping over you as if you are a banana peel. Or as many impatient people have developed, walk straight ahead with your preferred shoulder forward. Often this casual strolling group of friends part mid-argument to let you pass. Some call upon their inner Gandalf suggesting thou shall not pass... easily. Shoulder forward it is then. No one likes being shouldered, but then, no one likes being told to be a banana peel.

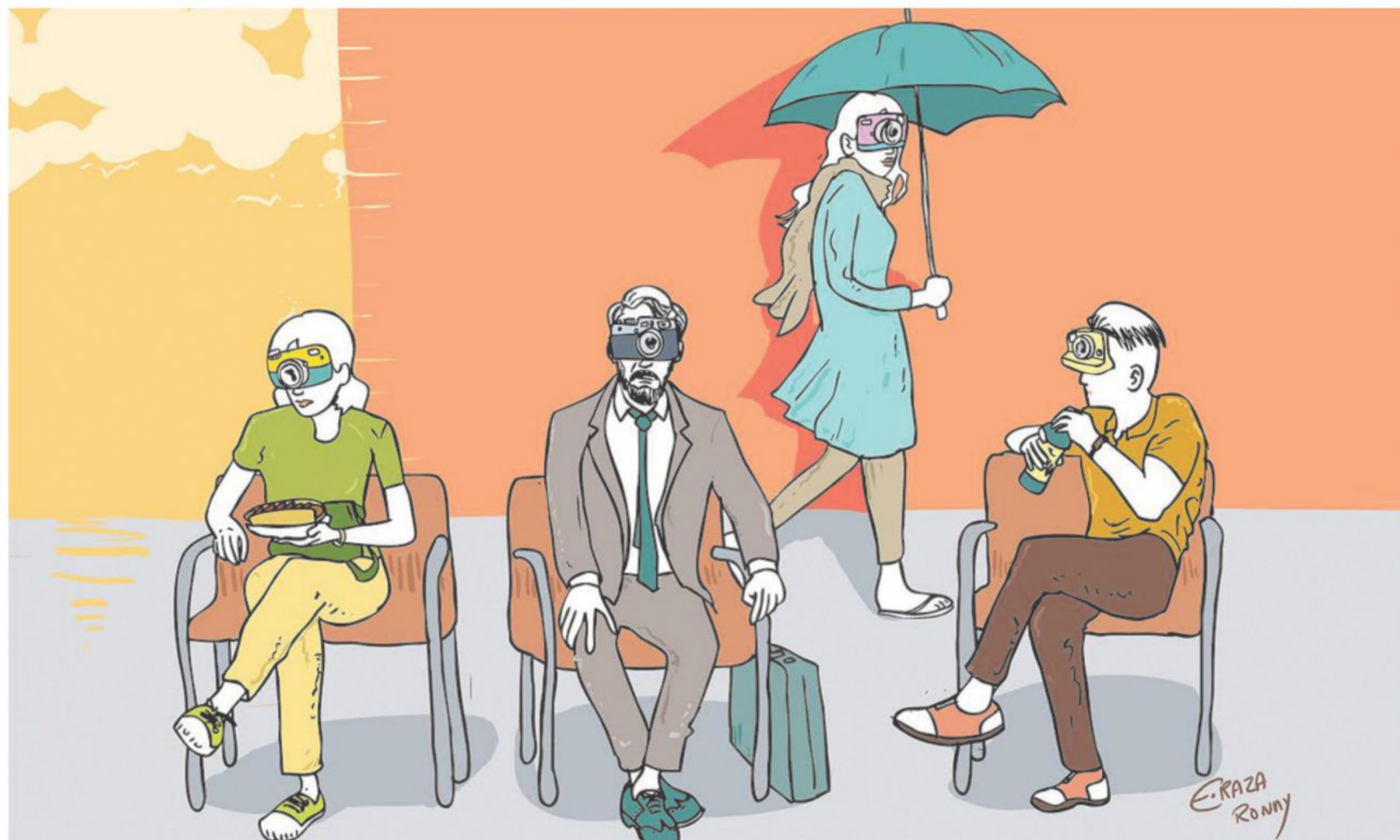
This is no different when driving. Most motorists treat it like a game of Tetris. There's a gap, you press the accelerator, say bleep-bloo-bla-bloo and hope your car will fit. And because everyone is trying to quickly fill gaps, someone will be the wrong shape resulting in a smash hit. Cheap gas and

overabundance of chauffeurs result in more cars than there are roads in Bangladesh. All this rush to get nowhere very quickly means chaos every day. So we follow what other countries like us do. Get dashcams; handy little cameras that record everything in front of you. It is a small investment of under ten thousand taka capable of recording hours and hours of strange things happening in front of you. Almost everyone in Russia and China has a dashcam attached. Police no longer have to rely on dubious first hand statements requiring a secret phone call to be resolved. These videos are quite popular, providing may people yet another venue for self-promoted validation. It is found motorists who use a dashcam are generally more careful in their manoeuvres. This trend is only on the rise.

Here's a few numbers that will show you where we are headed. 72 hours of

video are uploaded to YouTube every 60 seconds and one-third of online activity is spent watching video. When Instagram introduced videos, more than 5 million were uploaded in 24 hours.

What next? We extend it to people walking on the streets, shoulder forward. Up to 2016, Snapchat had around 158 million daily active users worldwide. To capitalise on that, they could release their Snap Spectacles, a snazzy looking pair of sunglasses with the ability to record up to 30 seconds of video as you would look at the world. This is a simpler, toned down concept as that of the defunct Google glasses. The future seems to be one where people are busy staring at small screens while recording other things with other devices. We will be recording and uploading and watching everything. For now, it is great if we can record those meetings where bosses verbally promise a raise. ■



মাদার নতুন নাম

কালার গার্ড

কাপড়ের রঙকে রাখে
নতুনের মতো ঝকঝকে

মাল্টি বুস্টার

কাপড়ের যে কোন দাগ-
ময়লাকে নিমিষেই দূর করে

সবচেয়ে ফাস্ট, সবচেয়ে কার্যকরী ..