



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE



'I DON'T EXPECT ANYTHING'

Shakib Al Hasan talks about getting a second stint as Bangladesh Test captain

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CHANGE IN CONGRESS

Rahul Gandhi elected the party's president unopposed

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Final say stays with president

Law ministry at last issues gazette notification on conduct of lower court judges

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The government has finally issued a gazette notification on the discipline of lower court judges, keeping the president's authority over their conduct.

The president will make necessary decisions in consultation with the Supreme Court, and the law ministry will implement those, a high official of the ministry said interpreting the contents of the 24-page notification titled "Bangladesh Judicial Service (Discipline) Rules 2017".

The official, requesting anonymity, told The Daily Star last night that the president is the appointing authority of all the judges including the chief justice.

The president will appoint an investiga-

tion officer (IO) or form a three-member committee to conduct probe into any allegation brought against a lower court judge under the disciplinary rules, the official said.

The IO or the probe body will be appointed from the judicial service and a district judge will head the committee.

The IO or the probe committee members will not be from the rank below that of the judicial officer against whom allegation has been brought.

The president will provide the inquiry report and statements of witnesses and the accused official to the committee chief and members and the complainant.

The IO will start probing in 10 days and finish the investigation in four months from

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Law minister denies rights violations by law enforcers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid growing allegations against the law enforcement agencies of violating human rights through enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, custodial torture and deaths, Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday claimed no such incidents of human rights violations happened in the country.

"I don't agree with the assumption that the law enforcement agencies violate human rights. Yes, each of the agencies have some individuals who might have done excesses," he told journalists after attending a conference in the city's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

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'Bangladeshi' held after blast at New York bus terminal

AGENCIES

A Bangladeshi man with a homemade bomb strapped to his body set off an explosion at a New York commuter hub during rush hour yesterday, wounding himself and three others in what New York Mayor Bill de Blasio called an attempted terrorist attack.

The suspect in the incident at the Port Authority Bus Terminal, a block from Times Square, was identified as Akayed Ullah, the New York Police Department commissioner said. The suspect had burns and lacerations while three other people, including a police officer, sustained minor injuries, according to a report by Reuters.

Ullah is from Chittagong and is a US resident, said the country's police chief. He had no criminal record there and last visited Bangladesh on September 8, the chief said.

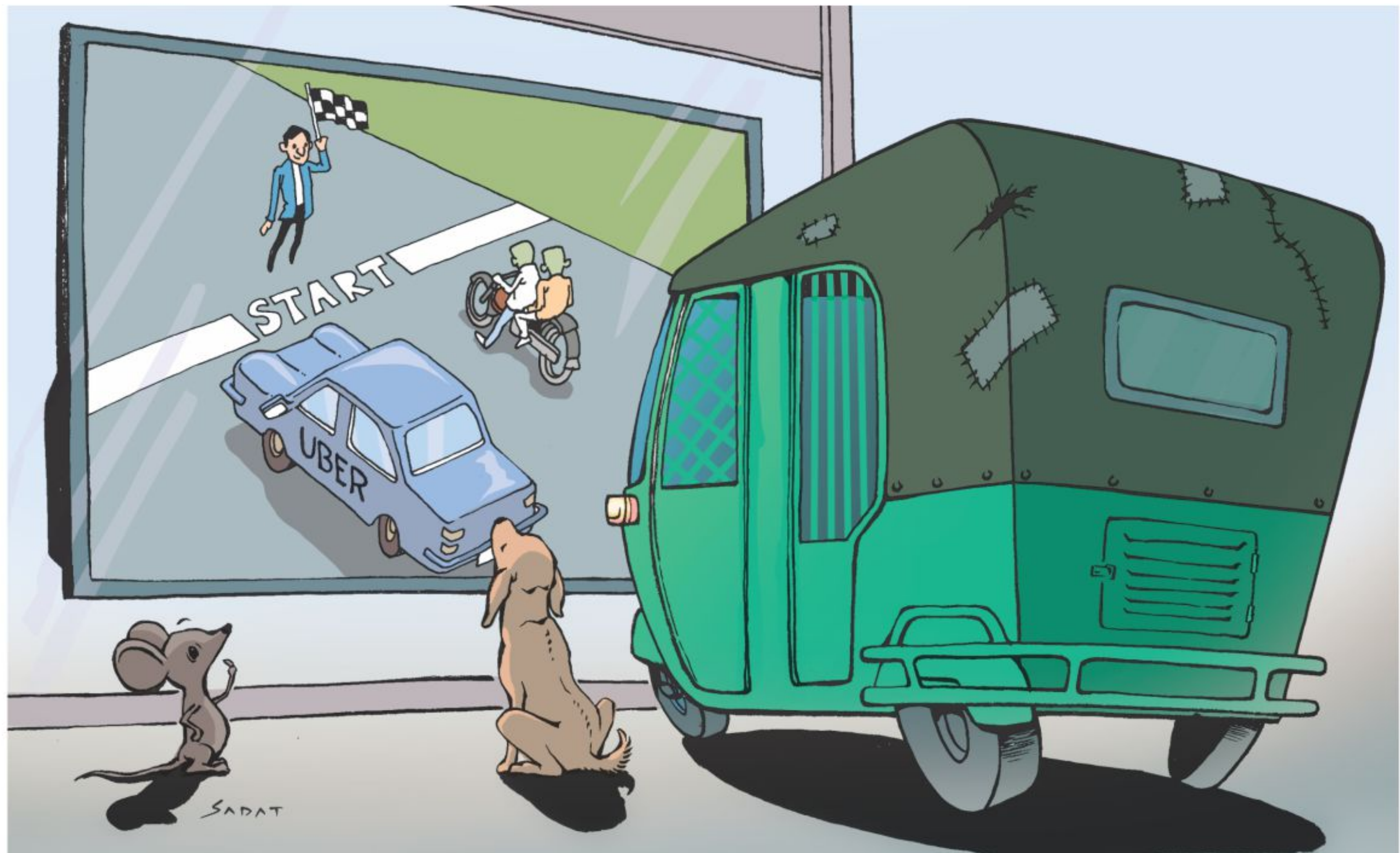
Ullah had a black cab/limousine driver's license from 2012 to 2015, after which it expired, the New York Taxi and Limousine Commission said.

The weapon was based on a pipe bomb and attached to the suspect, police said. New York state Governor Andrew

Akayed Ullah



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Relief with tap on app

Uber, Pathao live up to commuters' need; wake up operators of auto-rickshaws to harsh reality

SHADMA MALIK and BISHAKHA DEVNATH

On a busy September evening last year, Limana Solaiman, a private service holder, waited at Kakoli in the capital for about one and a half hours to hail an auto-rickshaw home.

In the past, Limana's predicament would not come as much of a surprise for Dhaka's commuters.

Thankfully, the worst of Limana's commuting experiences may soon become a distant memory. With the launch of app-based riding services like Uber, Pathao, Taxiwala, Aamr Bike in Dhaka, travellers have found their hassles reduced.

Thirty-two year old Limana no longer waits for auto-rickshaws or bargains with the drivers over the "correct fare"; she can now request a ride on her smart phone using any



of the apps.

Once requested, a car picks Limana up from her current location and drops her off at the chosen destination. The fare shows up on the mobile screen at the end of the journey. Apps can also generate an estimated fare based on the distance so the passenger has an

idea from beforehand.

"It is really convenient," says Limana of the service.

The recent arrival of such ride-sharing services has changed the face of the transport sector in the capital. Tech-savvy people, who want an easy means of commute and comfort as well, opt for these services.

Forty-five year old Khairul Islam is one such individual. He claimed that 90 percent employees of the wing of Save the Children that he works for, including him, shifted to app-based cars or motorbikes foregoing auto-rickshaw.

The new services focusing on comfortable mobility have brought the matter to the fore, as Khairul said the service providers are smart and professional.

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Almost all the 7,000 metal trashcans installed around the city are now either stolen or useless. The city corporations spent Tk 5 crore early last year to place these cans at busy locations. Now the new plan is to put plastic trashcans hoping those wouldn't attract vandals and thieves. The photos were taken recently at different parts of the capital.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Plastic bins, this time

City corporations to go for replacement

TAWFIQUE ALI and HELEMUL ALAM

No one knows when the trashcans on the pavement in front of the Navy headquarters in the capital were stolen, leaving just the metal frames where the bins used to hang.

Three bins are missing from across the street of the Prime Minister's Office, an area that remains swarming with security and law enforcement personnel round the clock.

During random visits to different city areas over the last month, these correspondents found the trashcans installed only a year and a half ago either missing, turned and tied upside down, and damaged to the point it could not be used.

The two city corporations spent an aggregated Tk 5 crore to set up the bins and the money now appears to have gone down the drain.

Yet, Dhaka South City Corporation intends to go on with repairs and replacements of the damaged and missing trashcans while the Dhaka North City Corporation is thinking about setting up a new set of bins with a different design to "experiment" again.

The city corporations as part of Clean Dhaka Green

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PAYRA PORT Deal for capital dredging signed

Ships with draught above 10 metres will be able to dock once dredging of the port's main channel is done



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a big leap forward, the Payra Port Authority yesterday signed a deal with a Belgium-based company to start capital dredging of the port's main channel to facilitate entry of large ships that cannot berth now at Chittagong and Mongla ports.

The dredging of the 36.5 nautical-mile channel is expected to begin in September next year, and it will cost an estimated Tk 5,155 crore (€532.43 million).

Vessels with draught of up to 11 metres will be able to berth at the seaport at high tide once the first phase of dredging is completed by 2020. The second and third phases are likely to end by 2022, facilitating the entry of ships with draught of up to 14 metres to the seaport in Patuakhali, say PPA officials.

The Chittagong port, the country's biggest seaport, can now allow berthing of ships with draught of up to 9.5 metres at high tide while vessels with draught of up to 7-8 metres can enter Mongla port.

Of the 19 components of the Payra port project, capital dredging is the lead one.

As per a government estimate, development of all the components will require \$16 billion (Tk 125,000 crore).

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