



"Transport owners, workers, pedestrians and even some law enforcers do not obey traffic rules... The policemen breaking rules will not be spared."
DMP COMMISSIONER ASADUZZAMAN MIA SAYS AT A TRAFFIC AWARENESS PROGRAMME IN SHAHBAGH (PAGE 4)



"We no longer want to continue as a domesticated opposition party... We want to go to power. We're ready for that."
ERSHAD TELLS PARTY MEN AT THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, BANGLADESH (PAGE 3)



"There's a lot of things I can learn from Bill Gates. I can never be as rich, but one thing I can do better is to retire earlier."
ALIBABA CHAIRMAN JACK MA HINTS AT HIS RETIREMENT PLANS, SAYING HE WANTS TO FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MICROSOFT FOUNDER (PAGE 8)

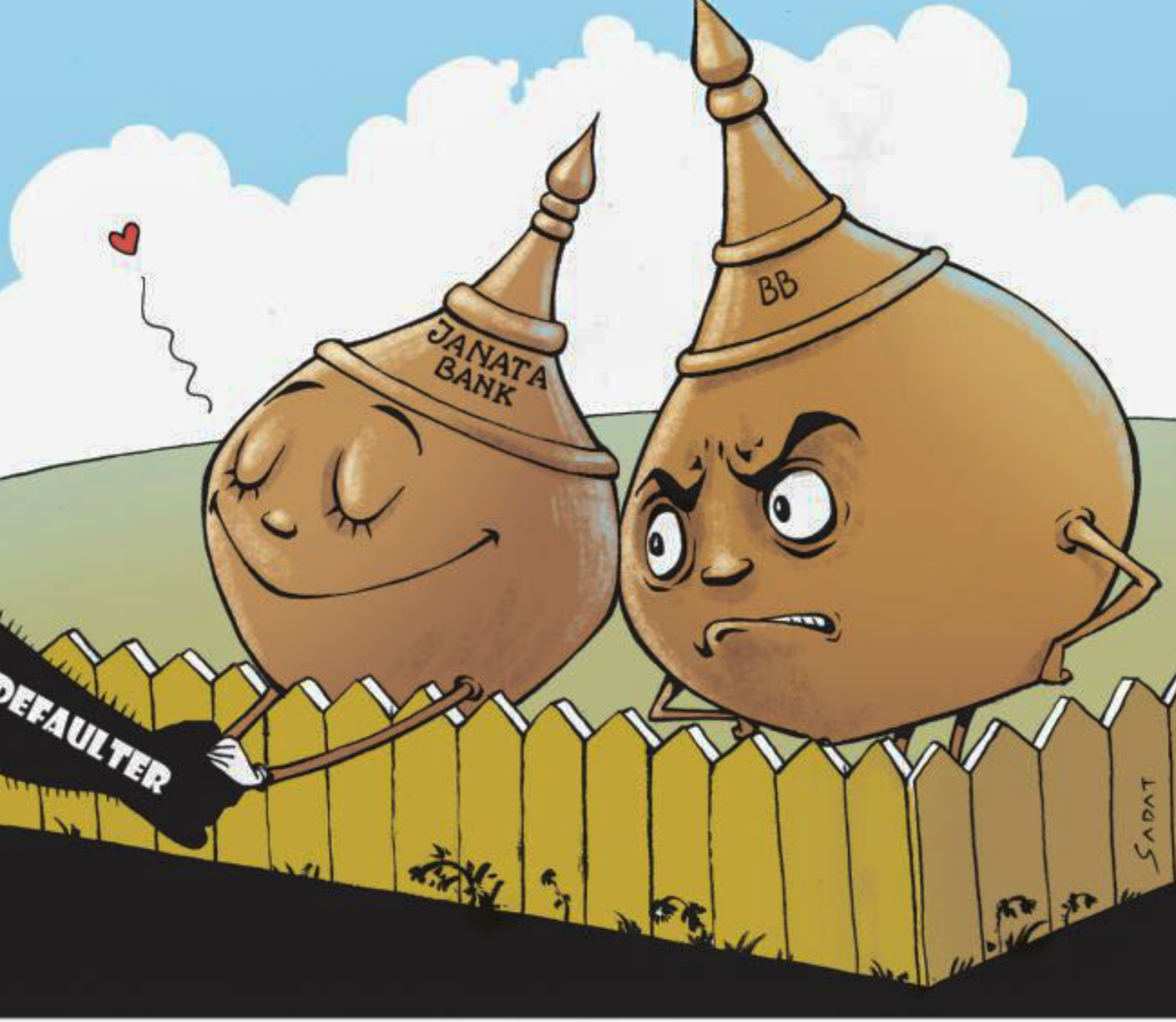
Ghosts within Janata Bank

Central bank's repeated warnings not working with the public bank

JEBUN NESA ALO
Everything is happening at Janata Bank, and in the latest case it deliberately did not mark Tk 2,643 crore of its Tk 5,508 crore loans given to a single group -- AnonTex -- as classified, ignoring Bangladesh Bank's instructions.
In an investigation into Janata in January this year, BB unearthed the matter along with a number of irregularities involving AnonTex Group, a garment producer and exporter, and asked the state-owned bank to mark the loans as classified.
But for mysterious reasons, Janata defied repeated instructions from the central bank to classify the loans.
The central bank had first asked Janata to classify AnonTex's loans by May this year as the Group, which owns 22 firms, didn't pay instalments regularly. But Janata didn't care to comply with the instructions.
Two months later in July, Janata

sought three months from the central bank to classify the Group's loans. The BB outright rejected the request.
Janata's deliberate hiding of loans becoming classified is worrisome as it destroys the financial discipline of a bank, having huge implications on the balance sheet because of the mandatory obligation of provisioning any classified loan.
On the other hand, if a business group's loan is classified, it cannot get further loans.
In AnonTex's case, the Group continued to enjoy loans as Janata hid its bad loan status, ballooning its total loan beyond the level allowed by the central bank.
Seeking anonymity, a senior executive of Janata told The Daily Star that the Group's loans were not classified as the client paid its due instalment of March. Janata will request the BB not to classify the loans, he said.
His statement, however, does not

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Bangladesh's sorry record continues

ATIQUE ANAM
Goalkeeper Shahidul Alam Sohel came full circle in very unwanted fashion as Bangladesh's failure to reach the semifinals of the SAFF Championship extended to a fourth successive edition following a 2-0 defeat to Nepal at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.
The 29-year-old goalkeeper let slip through his hands a regulation catch from Nepal No. 10 Bimal Gharti Magar's free-kick in the 33rd minute as the hosts' early dominance gave way to some haphazard football in the middle.

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PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

For a change it was nearly a full house at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday during Bangladesh's crucial Suzuki SAFF Championship game against Nepal. The attendance and enthusiasm reminded of the heydays of the country's football. But after a listless performance from the home side, marked by a childish blunder from goalkeeper Shahidul Alam Sohel, the chance of the revival of those glory days were nipped in the bud.

Free Shahidul, drop charges against him

Chomsky, Arundhati renew call to govt
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Noam Chomsky, Arundhati Roy and three other acclaimed authors have for the second time urged the Bangladesh government to release noted photographer Shahidul Alam.
"We urge the government of Bangladesh to urgently release Shahidul Alam and drop all the cases against him," said a statement.
Indian writer Arundhati Roy, American linguist Noam Chomsky, Canadian author Naomi Klein, American playwright Eve Ensler and Indian journalist Vijay Prasad have issued the statement calling for Shahidul's release for the second time on Wednesday.

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AL on campaign trail in North

Passengers suffer as team led by Quader takes train to Nilphamari, holds rallies at stations, hampering schedule

STAR REPORT
Hundreds of people suffered and rail timetable fell into disarray yesterday as an Awami League team led by Obaidul Quader took a passenger train to the North to launch its campaign for the national polls.
During the 441 km trip from the capital, Quader addressed 11 scheduled rallies and two unscheduled ones, and sought vote for "Boat", the election symbol of the ruling party.
With this, the party started its countrywide tour for the election campaign, about three and a half months ahead of the polls slated for the end of December.
While leaving Kamalapur Railway Station, Quader, general secretary of AL, said the party's electoral tour (Nirbachani Jatra) kicked off through the trip.
He also said they will visit Barisal division by launch on September 13 and later they will go to Chittagong division by road.
Sitangshu Chakraborty, manager of Kamalapur station, said Nilphamari-bound Nilsagar Express left on time at 8:00am.
Quader and other members of his team boarded the train as ordinary passengers and around 90 tickets of AC cabin and chair coach were bought on behalf of them, he mentioned.
Sitangshu further said around 900 passengers were on the train when it set off for Nilphamari.
Till 8:02pm, the train was running 3 hours and 52 minutes behind schedule, The Daily Star learnt using Train Tracking and Monitoring System. It was at Parbatipur Railway Junction at that time.
The train was supposed to reach Nilphamari station at 5:30pm, Station Master Obaidul Islam Ratan told this newspaper. Finally, it made it to the station around 10:00pm, reported our Nilphamari correspondent.
Earlier, the train was 28-minute late as it arrived at Gharinda station in Tangail.



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BNP ready to make sacrifices for nat'l unity

Says Fakhrul; 'opposition parties must realise the need for greater alliance'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The BNP is ready to go to any lengths to forge a greater national unity against the ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance ahead of the December election.
"We can't form a greater unity unless we make sacrifices. We must reach a consensus and we are working to this end," Fakhrul told a programme at the party's Nayapaltan office in Dhaka.
"We, all the opposition parties, have to realise the need for that unity to get out of the prevailing situation."
The BNP leader said they would defeat the current "monstrous government" through forming a coalition with other political parties.
Fakhrul also blamed the 14-party alliance for creating a "vacuum" in the country and that ousting the "autocratic" government would require a popular movement.
The government has become desperate sensing its imminent fall, he claimed. "But this government will not be able to cling to power as people are not with it. People have no confidence in it. So our victory is certain."

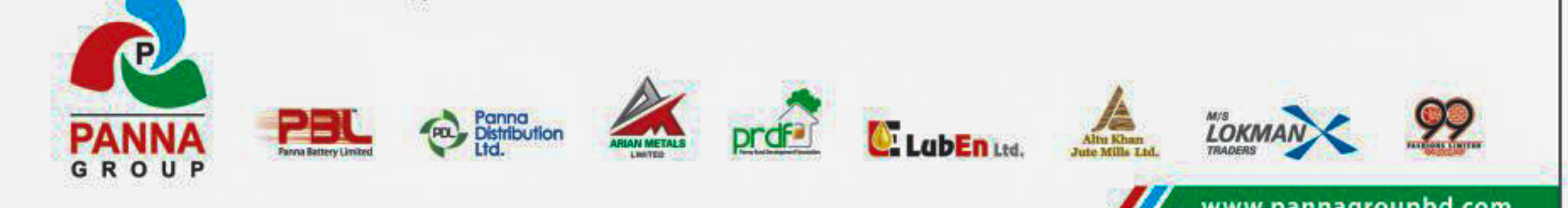


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অভিনন্দন!

রপ্তানী বানিজ্যে বিশেষ অবদানের জন্য পান্না গ্রুপের সহযোগী প্রতিষ্ঠান আলফু খান জুটি মিলস্ লিঃ এর ম্যানেজিং ডিরেক্টর আলহাজ্ব মোঃ লোকমান হোসেন কে গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বানিজ্যিকভাবে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ব্যক্তি (সিআইপি), ২০১৬ হিসেবে সদয় স্বীকৃতি প্রদান করেছেন। গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় বানিজ্যমন্ত্রী জনাব তোফায়েল আহমেদ এমপি, এই সিআইপি কার্ড হস্তান্তর করেন।
পান্না গ্রুপের সকল অঙ্গ সংস্থার সদস্যগণের পক্ষ থেকে জানাই আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন ও শুভেচ্ছা।



Road safety campaigner sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A Dhaka court yesterday sent Mozammel Hoque Chowdhury, secretary general of Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity, to jail rejecting prayers for bail and remand in a case filed for extortion.
Safe Road and Transport Alliance, meanwhile, expressed concern over his arrest and called on the government to release him.
Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Golam Nabi yesterday passed the order after Investigation Officer Bajlur Rahman, also a sub-inspector of Mirpur Model Police Station, produced Mozammel before the court with a fresh five-day remand prayer.
Lawyer Jyotirmoy Barua

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The Resorts by CONCORD

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