

Editor and Publisher
Mahfuz Anam

Editor (Star Weekend)
Sushmita S Preetha

Staff Writers
Naimul Karim
Md Shahnawaz Khan
Chandan
Zyma Islam
Nilima Jahan
Maliha Khan
Abida Rahman Chowdhury
Sarah Anjum Bari

Staff Photographer
Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo

Graphics
Debashis Kumar Day

Production
Shamim Chowdhury

Published by the Editor from
Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon
Industrial Area, Dhaka on behalf
of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel
C.A., Dhaka-1000.



Trees raised their naked, mottled branches to the sky like mourners stilled in attitudes of grief.

— ARUNDHATI ROY,
The Ministry of Utmost Happiness

SNAPSHOT
FIROZ AL SABAH

MAILBOX

starweekendtds@gmail.com



A victim no more

It needs sufficient courage for a victim to stand up against the injustice or the violence she faced. Those who raise their voice or express outrage are exemplary and Purnima Shil is one of them. "A victim no more" published in *Star Weekend* tells an untold story – while people knew about her rape and the violence faced by her family, we knew less of her life struggles since. We reside in a strange society where the oppressed can be accused more than the perpetrators. We look with heinous eyes at the raped girl instead of at the rapist.

Like Purnima, many girls have faced the same issues over the years. They are reluctant to bring it up in fear of losing their social standing or facing further harassment. This should be stopped and a personality like Purnima Shil should have the chance to stand up for the oppressed and help ensure that culprits face stern punishment.

Md. Azam Khan
Uttara Bank Limited

Decision to study in the UK in coming days



I am a regular reader of *Star Weekend* and the article "Stuck in limbo" shows a true picture of the British government. Our government must protest this injustice faced by our students and ask for appropriate action by the UK. We must restrict British Council activities in Bangladesh which promotes so-called good education in the UK.

Engr. Shamim Hasan
Via email

A nomadic existence

In our country, Bede families are well known but not respected. Our government, especially, should think what they can do so that the Bedes can live a respectable life. If we think simply that they they don't get any fundamental rights such as education and health facilities because of their nomadic lifestyle, that is unfair. They have lived a nomadic life for generations.

Mithun Mandol
Via email

The government needs to plan so that the Bede community can get plots of land for settling down and so that their children can access school education. This would be a significant step towards socio-economic progress in Bangladesh.

Via Facebook



PHOTO: PHILIP GAIN