

Editor and Publisher
Mahfuz Anam

Editor (Star Weekend)
Sushmita S Preetha

Staff Writers
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.



"I've never flown a kite." – David Benioff

SNAPSHOT
FARHANA FARA

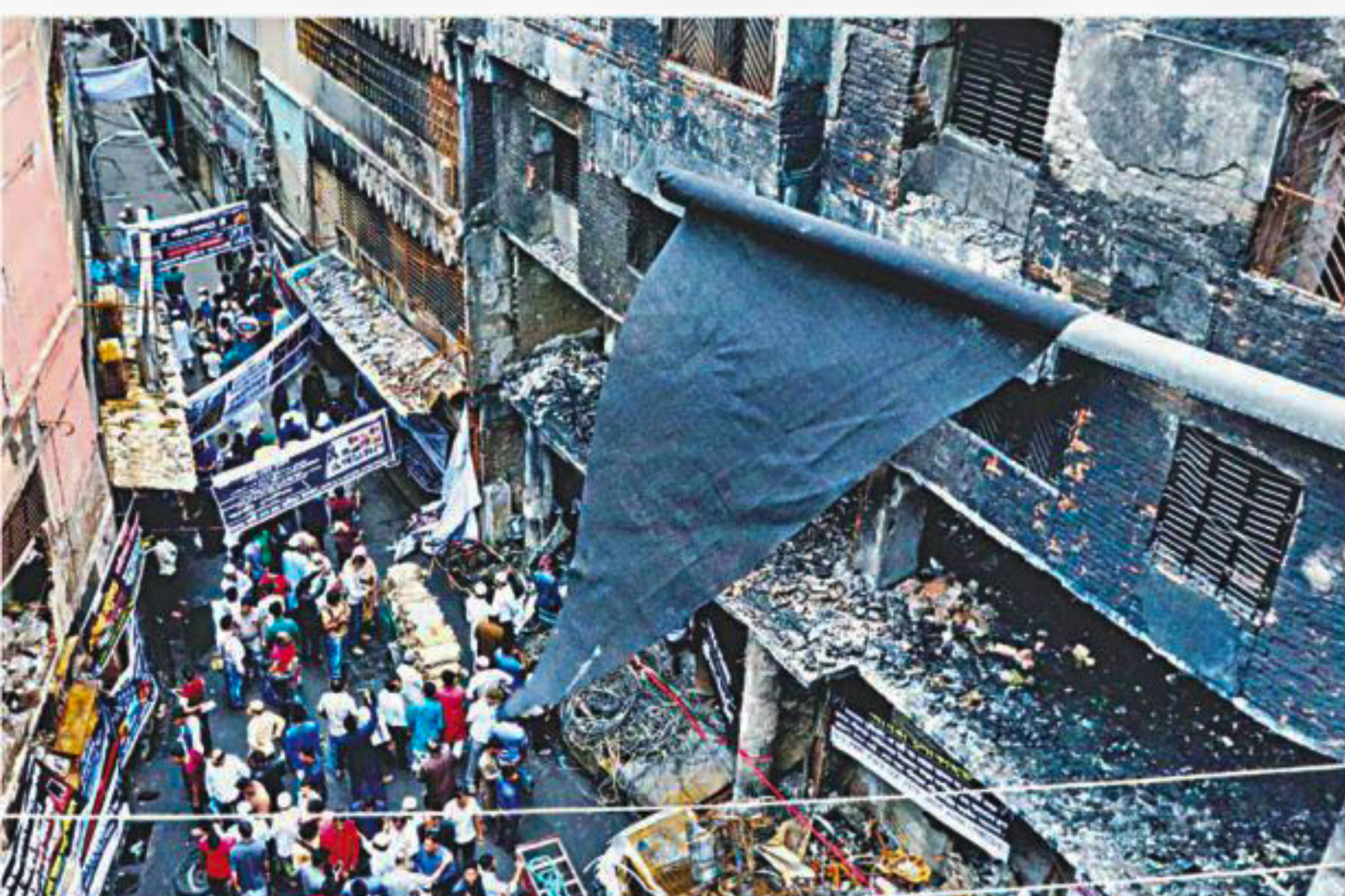
MAILBOX

starweekendtds@gmail.com

Nimtoli, Chawkbazar—we hope it is the last

From the recurring incidents it seems like human life is very cheap in our country—either you get crushed under wheels or get burnt by fire no end to tragedy, yet no justice and little compensation. The Nimtoli and Chawkbazar fire incidents had a gap of nine years between them, but still nothing changed, and only resulted in deaths of the common people. The blame game goes on and an “inquiry committee” is set up for every incident, but another “inquiry committee” entirely is needed to find out the results from these probe reports. Despite directives from HC for relocation, it seems that policymakers, businessmen and concerned authorities have not learned from past incidents. So many lives are lost due to utter negligence. Will this finally be the end of such tragedies or should we expect and brace for more?

Rafid Alam



Expired LPG cylinders are ticking time bombs

More and more people are getting injured, burnt and dying due to cylinder blasts over the last couple of years. CNG and LPG cylinders are typically high-pressure gas reservoirs that can explode at any time after their estimated lifespan. A cylinder is supposed to be checked every five years, but in Dhaka there are not more than nineteen checking centres. Do we actually take these measures? We only become concerned once an explosion has occurred.

CNG is a gas lighter than air that needs to be filled into the cylinders with high pressure, while LPG, also pressurised, is heavier than regular air and is prone to settling down close to the ground when dispersed. A leakage in low quality or expired LPG cylinder can disperse the gas at the floor level and cause an explosion if anyone tries to ignite fire. Meanwhile, the thickness of the CNG cylinder usually gets thinner as time passes, and it eventually become unusable. Using it close to the fire in the kitchen can cause an



explosion. Two CNG-run buses colliding with each other can similarly cause a blast in a busy road and destroy an entire area.

In Bangladesh, CNG and LPG cylinders are mostly metallic with a lifespan of roughly 10 years. They must be destroyed after their expiry dates. But, in reality, the cylinders are not abandoned or even tested after the expiry date has elapsed. Moreover, the companies selling cylinder gas are also issuing the

fitness certificates of the cylinders. The government policy on the LPG and CNG has to be more stringent. The media should educate and encourage people to be cautious while buying and using the cylinders and to conduct regular check-ups from a certified authority. Stringent measures for the check-up of vehicle cylinders should also be implemented.

Zubair Khaled Huq

The Year I Spent Without Bangla

It was my pleasure to know about your deep relationship with Bangla, our glorious mother tongue. It's definitely a matter of pride and the part and parcel of our everyday life. It provides me with the joy of having a better conversation.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Md. Al-Amin
Department of Marketing
University of Dhaka

The article you wrote in Star

Weekend about the year you spent without Bangla was good! I should say really good. I hope you will share your experience again. Thank you!

Jishan Md