



ILLUSTRATION: OISHIK JAWAD

BANKS OFFER TICKET LOANS for powerfully powerless cousins

“I pay the bus fare everyday as I have to travel from one end of Dhoka to another every day. If I were a sort of relative, I could save money and arrange a foreign trip.”

MAHBUB ALAM MUNNA

Even as Chapasthan’s per capita income continues to surge, people are failing to buy transport tickets. And so, the heart-touching reality of relatives of rulers being unable to afford train tickets has come to the fore.

But the people of Chapasthan are inhumane – instead of raising funds to help the powerfully powerless buy tickets, people rudely mocked them.

Amid all this injustice, a wife of one of the rulers of Chapasthan came forward to help those poor and struggling souls by kicking out another unnecessary and disturbing soul.

“You people are so annoying, just like the

ticket checker. How could he ask my ‘relative’ relatives for tickets when they didn’t even have the money? And how could you support this inhumane and barbaric behaviour of that spoiled ticket checker?” the woman questioned the countryside mockery.

But money is no problem as long as there are plenty of banks in Chapasthan. They came to the rescue of the penniless, also known as relatives of the ruler’s wife.

“We know the relatives have been living below the poverty line. How could they buy tickets with money then? That’s why we offered them loans with a so-called interest rate so that these ‘famous’ poor people don’t have to get on trains without buying tickets,” the CEO of Bank of Dhoka explained.

Since the banks’ move, ordinary people have been bemoaning that they were not able to be relatives of rulers’ wives.

Zubair, failing to be a Facebook friend with the wife of a ruler even after sending friend requests numerous times by cancelling previous unsuccessful ones, said in despair, “I have been dreaming to be a ‘sort of’ relative of a ruler’s wife since childhood. I pay the bus fare everyday as I have to travel from one end of Dhoka to another every day. If I were a sort of relative, I could save money and arrange a foreign trip. But dreams never come true. I could never be a Facebook friend of a minister’s wife, let alone relative!”

Authorities going all out for ‘2 Fair 2 Free’ polls

SHOAIB AHMED SAYAM

Chapasthan is once again gearing up for its Ultra Free, Giga Fair National Election. This time, it’s going to be freer and fairer than ever.

The Directorate of Mega Free Polls (DMFP), the honest-to-goodness neutral election body, has taken all-out preparations to make the people feel like they’re heard.

At a press conference, Boat Transport and Ditches Minister Omaigo Bader said, “You people are not prepared for just how free and fair this election’s going to be.”

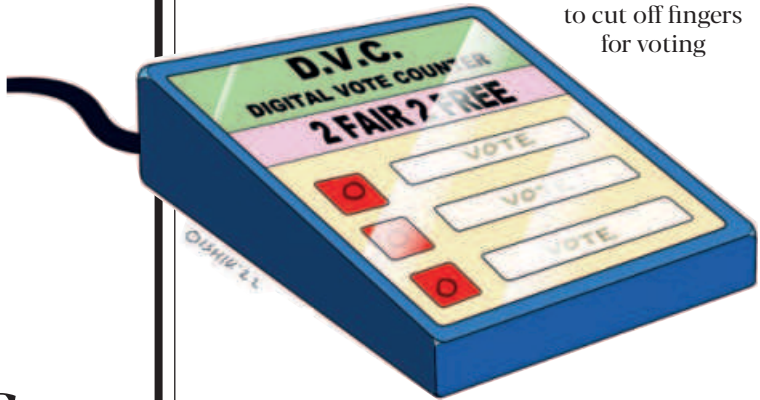
Therefore, the slogan for this year’s election is “2 Fair 2 Free”, he added.

Surprisingly, all of DMFP’s choices matched the government’s this year, and the people have started to notice. Despite trying really hard, this correspondent couldn’t figure out why this might be so.

When a reporter pointed this out, DMFP chief Krishna Ang-ul-Dey said, “Wow, what a coincidence! We had no idea. Well, if the government’s just as awesome as us, what can we do, y’know?”

Asked about the government’s endorsement of using digital vote counters (DVCs) for the polls, Ang-ul said, “We were talking about doing just that! Guys, what’s happening? This is creepy. Do we have some telepathic connection with the government?”

Another reporter asked about the government wanting to cut off fingers for voting



incorrectly, to which the chief replied, “This has been in discussion for a while, and we will surely implement it this year.”

When the reporter revealed that the government never said that, Ang-ul said, “Oh, really? Um, well... this just goes to show how super-neutral we are, because we’re still going to do it!”

The room got dead-silent after that statement.

“What, scared?” Ang-ul said, breaking the silence. “This isn’t your run-of-the-mill election. Yes, anyone who tries to derail the polls will have to say good-bye to their fingers.

“You’ll never be able to vote again, and won’t be doing many other stuff, but most importantly, you’ll never smell the sweet fragrance of democracy,” he added.

THE RAINFIE CONTEST

This is the current frontrunner for our Rainy Selfie Contest 2022. Aspiring contestants are requested to send in their selfies to rainfie@selfiecontest.com. For just 700 bucks, you can order a plastic bag to keep your phone safe while taking the rainfies. In fact, only pictures taken using our plastic bags will be eligible. The selfie where we can actually see you through our premium plastic and the rain will win. First prize is a letter sent to your workplace or educational institution certifying that you are ill due to exposure to rain.

PHOTO:
ANISUR RAHMAN

