

Man dodging load shedding with simple trick

PAS AYCARENT

Entrepreneur Rafsan Rakib has come up with a unique solution to an artificial problem the government created.

Load shedding is the talk of the town now, and Rafsan is not worried at all.

Like a true entrepreneur, when news broke out, he printed out the load shedding schedules from the sites of Messco and PPDC, a feat only a few could accomplish.

While analysing the schedules, he had an epiphany, like all movers and shakers do.

“Guys, listen. Instead of blaming authorities for their short attention spans, we should be glad to get this opportunity to solve a crisis,” he said entrepreneurially.

“Just follow the schedule and keep changing areas all day, every day. That way you’ll never experience load shedding!” the problem solver explained.

To streamline this process, Rafsan has

developed a ride-sharing platform that only follows the load shedding schedules. He is also set to open an Airbnb-like accommodation service, which will kick out residents once the power goes out.

Rafsan has also ventured into public speaking, acting as a spiritual guide to traverse this tumultuous journey of no TV and AC for an hour.

When asked what inspired him to do all this, he said, “At a time when everyone’s nostalgic about power cuts, about how they used to freely roam the dark streets, I get flashbacks and nightmares.

“You see, I was not your average kid. I mean, look at me, I’m an entrepreneur now. When the power went out, people would chase me in the streets.

Why? Just because I was a passionate young boy,” he recalled, in an entrepreneurial manner.

“I loved climbing up buildings when it was pitch black. Sometimes, when I felt really adventurous, I’d go through windows. And on rare occasions, I’d take stuff from homes as souvenirs of my journey. People weren’t into that,” Rafsan said.

Don’t care about the people; follow your passion, he said. To do that you can buy his new book “The Subtle Art of Living without Power”.

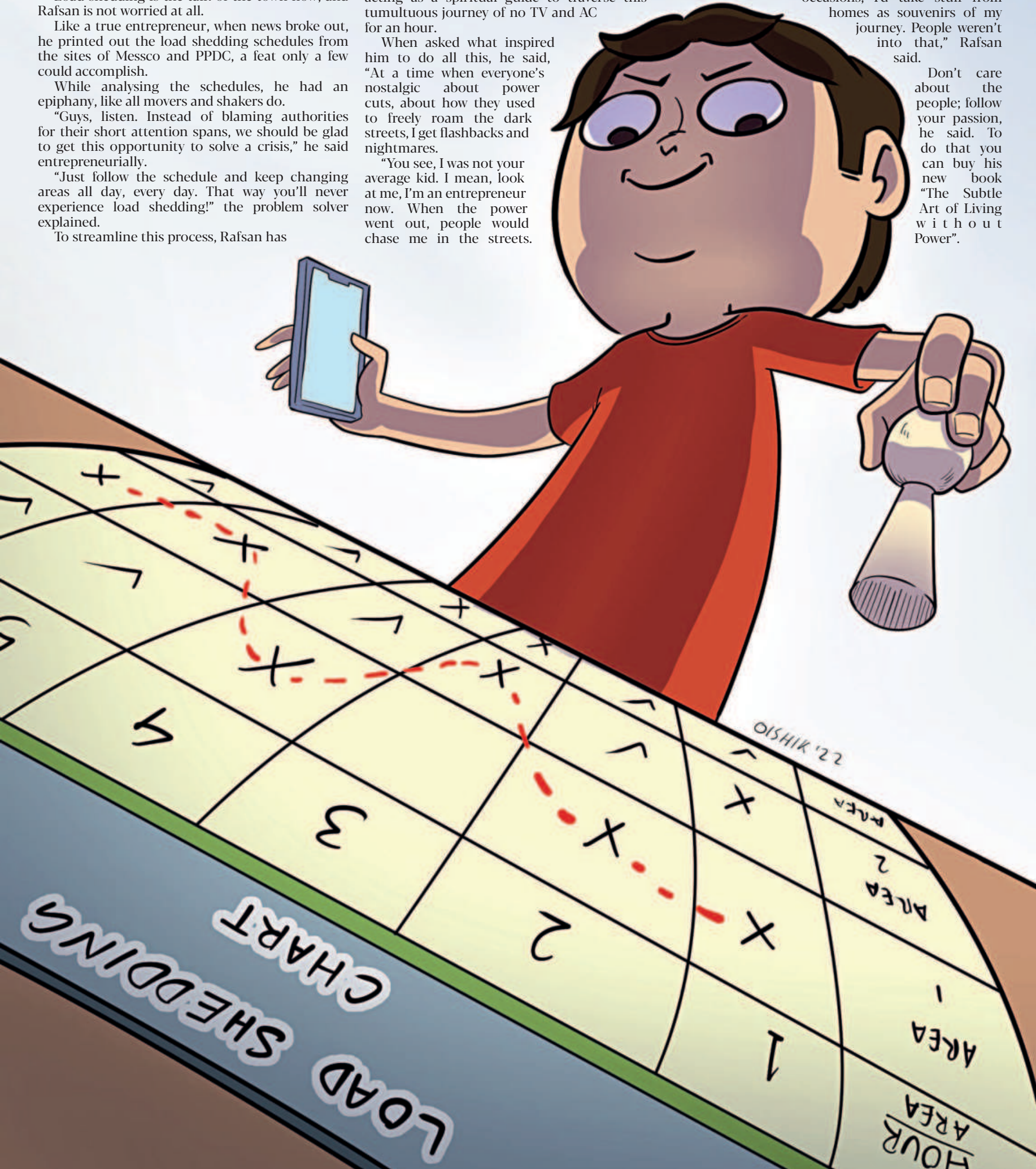


PHOTO: REUTERS

PARALLEL UNIVERSE

Afghans deploy military in America to ensure peace

MAHBUB ALAM MUNNA

No sooner had the uproar over the first few images of space captured by NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope ended, NASA came up with another strange claim.

It said it has detected a parallel universe where Afghanistan and its middle-eastern allies deployed thousands of peacekeepers in the USA to ensure permanent peace there amid frequent mass shootings since the introduction of movies around 100 years ago.

“We are working on world peace, especially America’s. As a responsible humanitarian leader, I couldn’t help myself from deploying a new military force in America to ensure proper peace there,” W Bushir, the president of Afghanistan, said in a press conference heard and seen by NASA’s incredibly powerful space telescope.

People were soon claiming that the discovery was fake. “No matter which universe it is, as a peace-loving country, only America has the right to ensure peace wherever anomalies are found. How could Afghanistan do that to America? Or NASA just confused the names?” Shabik Khan, an American citizenship seeker, asked.As expected,

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America and its allies, which were lauding the scientific marvel that was NASA’s telescope just last week, were now trashing it. Massive processions came out claiming the telescope to be a “blind machine” and accusing NASA of being a “middle-eastern agent”. “I can’t believe the fact that NASA has spent \$10 billion to build such an idiotic telescope that can’t see the true picture of the universe!” Christopher Noman, an Asian-American, doubted.

“There is no universe where America doesn’t rule. What James Webb Space Telescope saw is a series of white lies that deserves to be aired on Netflix for free,” Donald Tipu said.Meanwhile, NASA was disappointed and startled. “Dear all, what we detected is true and genuine. But, it’s not in our universe. We are talking about a parallel universe where things don’t work like ours, rather an exact opposite incident happens. Here, America is the only country that is concerned about other countries’ peace. And frequent shootings? That is proof that even our civilians are ready to be deployed in a country where peace is desperately needed,” Alone Musk, the cheap chief of NASA, said without wearing a mask.

Drivers, helpers trained in ‘managing to flee’

Transport leaders take measure after recent protest

MISHONTA SHOMBHOB

He used to repair dents in cars in Bhangamotor and with those earnings, along with his brother’s income from driving a CNG-run auto-rickshaw wife’s income from working as hired domestic help, he ran his family of five.

A different kind of running changed Shabuj’s life, however. One day, the driver of a car he had completed working on sped off with the vehicle without paying, and Shabuj, 26, sprinted after the vehicle, weaving through traffic, dodging oncoming buses and cars and finally caught up with the red Axio at the intersection.

At that point, the owner of a bus company was sitting smoking his cigarette at one of the other repair shops.

“This boy has a challenge for chasing cars. Imagine how good he would be at managing to flee the scene of an accident,” Amijati Mari whispered to one of his associates, before telling the latter to recruit him immediately.

“First you have to manage, then you have to flee. Well not you; he has to flee and he has to manage to flee. Both are equally important. He seems to have the fleeing part down, we need to recruit him to get the managing part drilled into him.”

Amid protests, arrests and road safety acts and what not due to loss of countless lives run over by things on wheels, transport leaders like Mari have started training their workers to escape efficiently and remove as much liability as possible.

Like Shabuj, thousands of bus, truck and pick-up drivers are first recruited as helpers and then given the wheel to drive on the highways of the country. This information was revealed yesterday by Bakkoi Kormo, the media relations officer of A Law Monitoring Agency.

“Talented sprinters like Shabuj are picked up by the bus services, because they need them when things go bad. Their training is very high-level; you could almost say they are like the spies that you see in James Bond, Mission Impossible, or



the Bourne series. Or like Batman!” Bakkoi Kormo said excitedly.

Mixing up his metaphors and not seeming to care, the official said, “At first they are like Robin. They help. And when they have learned the trade of managing to flee, they become Batman, or Ethan Hunt.”

Asked when these skills are most useful, Bakkoi Kormo replied slightly impatiently, “When there are accidents, of course. You see, you people only blame drivers, but these are highly skilled professionals, and the accidents are mostly the fault of the victims.”

How do they always manage to flee,

asked another reporter. “Their training and the management. They are very good at running, we have found. And I think we are ignoring the managing part of the phrase ‘managed to flee’. For example, most of these guys never have licences – they are like secret agents. Or Batman! They just disappear. It’s really quite clever. Also it takes time to get to the spot of an accident, so that helps them too.

“And I would like to add here that these services are valuable. The country would come to a standstill without them.”

Meanwhile, this newspaper contacted Shabuj, who is now a helper, and has fled three scenes so far. He said other than raised fitness levels, his family of five are not much better off, although his wife is happier having him around less.

Finally, back at the press conference, a reporter asked Bakkoi Kormo how they knew so much about the operations and recruitment. “We have our ways, and in this particular case, one of my superiors was at the repair talking to Amijati Mari sir when they spotted Shabuj.”