



ULAB
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

Department of Media Studies and Journalism

Internship Report

Name: Md Mehedi Hasan

Student ID: 201012037

Term: Fall 2023

Course Code: MSJ 11498

Host organisation: The Business Standard

— BENEATH THE SURFACE

**THE
BUSINESS
STANDARD**

Date of Submission: December 11, 2023

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Student Details

Name	Md Mehedi Hasan
Student ID	201012037
Department	Media Studies and Journalism
Major Concentration	Digital Journalism
Minor Concentration	English
Career Goal	To be a fine Journalist leaving an impact in society for a better-informed democracy. Some years from now, I also aspire to contribute to academia implanting my brand of Journalism among the next generations of Journalists.
Personal website	www.mehedimarof.com

Internship Details

Host Organization	The Business Standard
Address	4/A, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka- 1000
Web	www.tbsnews.net
Host Organization Supervisor	Yashab Osama Rahman
Designation	Web Editor/Head of Online
Internship Area	Online news desk (Junior Online Journalist)
Internship Start Date	01-09-2023
Internship End Date	01-12-2023
Average Working Hour	07 Hours
Weekly Working Hour	42 Hours
Total Internship Timeline	12 Weeks

Acknowledgements

First of all, I want to thank my parents for never giving up on me, no matter how many times I failed. I have taken my parents from showing the promise to rise to the highest peak at a certain point in life to even ending up at a stage when I was about to quit my education.

In these spans of life — when the entire extended family used to put nails on me, my parents were always there to stand by. They never showed their displeasure in my fore — they cried — but never in front of me — they were in the dark — but enlightened me with all their might. The same did my 5-years younger sister. She always kept faith in her brother and relied on me as if I were a guardian angel to her - which I always try to be.

As I journey back in life — despite University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) initially being a rescue plan for me, my time here never let my family down. They were proud of what I learned and what I could achieve here — from being enlisted to the Vice Chancellor's Honour list 6 times to being the highest academic CGPA holder in the department's history — most importantly, their son, brother found the essence of life here.

I would like to express my deepest sense of gratitude to all of my faculty members at the Department of Media Studies and Journalism, ULAB. They have taught me everything I know today — that shaped my career in journalism — that keeps me believing I can be the flag-bearer of the university in the years to come in the industry.

ULAB wasn't just a university; it was a canvas where my passion for reporting and storytelling found its colours, and my dreams of becoming a journalist took flight.

I would like to thank my internship advisor, Sanjana Rahman, for all her suggestions, guidance and mentorship in both my academic and personal life.

Sanjana Rahman, now a lecturer and once a student of ULAB-MSJ, also happens to be my inspiration, as I too dream of returning to ULAB one day.

My sincere appreciation goes to my supervisor Yashab Osama Rahman, the Web Editor/Head of Online at The Business Standard.

He helped me glide through all the challenges I came across during my internship at the organisation. He taught me almost everything that I do at TBS.

He is a craftsman of words. Reading his write-up makes you prolific as a reader, but that's not why I aspire to be like him in the years to come — but because of how he put himself ahead before the top executives when someone from the online news desk makes a blunder. He is the leader — I guess, everyone would dream of having. Fortunately, it's not a dream for me.

I would like to mention another alumna of ULAB MSJ, Md Tajul Islam, who is now employed at the TBS Online news desk. He facilitated the interview for me with the editors – my first professional interview. Later when I joined, my transition from academia to the newsroom got smoother for him there as he guided me to all the ins and outs of how things should be done.

In my smoother transition, the other colleagues whom I should acknowledge at the TBS are Fayika Mahboob and Rummana Ferdous Fagun – who never flagged my silly mistakes in public on their co-ordinating days but rather they reached out to me in person and helped me through by showing how the mistakes could be avoided.

I would also like to thank TBS Editor Inam Ahmed, Executive Editor Sharier Khan, Deputy Executive Editor Shakhawat Liton, Deputy Editor Mubin S Khan and especially Chief News Editor Harun Ur Rashid for their guidance and appreciation when it was due.

I must express my deepest form of appreciation and gratitude for Umma Tabassum Oishy. She is the love of my life and the strongest source of inspiration. Her endless support and motivation stimulate me to work hard and keep my dreams alive.

My sincere gratitude goes to all the reporters of TBS, especially Abbas Uddin Noyon, Jasim Uddin, Zia Chowdhury, Jahidul Islam, Joynal Abedin Shishir and others for answering all my questions patiently when I edited their copies.

Being new, I sometimes asked them more questions than I should've asked. But they always understood and helped me with all the information I needed.

I would like to give my sincere gratitude to dean of the department Jude William Genilo for initiating all the student apprenticeship programs, and workshops that operate under the department of MSJ. These programs help us better prepare for our future workplaces.

I should mention two of my teachers, Associate Prof Sarkar Barbaq Quarmal and Abdul Kabil Khan (now at DIU), who always trusted me since the start of my ULAB days with the potential I possess and they motivated me that I could reach heights given right efforts. Both of them have always showered me with their kindest form of wise suggestions that helped me to make decisions and I trust them with all my life.

Lastly, I would like to term ULAB's MSJ programme as – ULAB do not just educate; it becomes the bridge between the industry and academia.

Plagiarism Declaration

1. I know that plagiarism means taking and using the ideas, writings, works or inventions of another as if they were one's own. I know that plagiarism not only includes verbatim copying but also the extensive use of another person's ideas without proper acknowledgement (which includes the proper use of quotation marks). I know that plagiarism covers this sort of use of material found in textual sources and from the Internet.
2. I acknowledge and understand that plagiarism is wrong.
3. I understand that my research must be accurately referenced.
4. This assignment is my own work, or my group's own unique group assignment. I acknowledge that copying someone else's assignment, or part of it, is wrong and that submitting identical work to others constitutes a form of plagiarism.
5. I have not allowed, nor will I in the future allow, anyone to copy my work with the intention of passing it off as their own work.

Name: Md Mehedi Hasan

ULAB ID: 201012037



Signature _____

MSJ042

Internship Report Approval Form

Student Name: Md Mehedi Hasan

ID No: 201012037

Major: Digital Journalism

Year: 2023

Local Phone: 01748647823

Email: mehedi.hasan10.msj@ulab.edu.bd

INTERNSHIP/PROJECT INFORMATION

Internship Organization/Project: The Business Standard

Internship /Project Report

Topic: _____

Semester (Tick one): ☐ Spring 2023 ☐ Summer 2023 ☒ Fall 2023✓

Advisor APPROVAL

(Please place a Tick)

☐ Approved ☐ Not Approved ☐ Partial Re-write ☐ Full Re-write

Remarks (If Not Approved/Pretrial/Full Rewrite):

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: Sanjana Rahman

Title: Lecturer

E-mail: sanjana.rahman@ulab.edu.bd

Phone: 01786220367

Introduction

I started working at The Business Standard as a "Junior Online Journalist" in September 2023. To get this job, I had to take a newsroom test and go through an interview process.

Originally, I came here for an internship. But because I handled the news well, Yashab Osama Rahman, who conducted the test, offered me a full-time position at the online news desk.

During my final interview with the Executive Editor Sharier Khan, I mentioned that I needed to do an internship to complete my graduation at ULAB.

He told me that I can show the work I'll be doing at TBS as my internship projects and the office will help me with any resources or documentation I may need.

My job as a Junior Online Journalist here mainly involves sub-editing, coordinating with reporters, and publishing news after developing it on TBS Online.

Since I showed interest in reporting, I also get to cover special stories for TBS that usually get published on TBS Online, and sometimes at TBS Print depending on the timeliness and quality.

As the last three months have been full of events due to politically violent turn on streets ahead of the national election, the Hamas-Israel war, and the inauguration of many development projects – I got to work on over 700 news published on www.tbsnews.net. Out of which majority are sub-edited copies sent by our reporters, some agency copies and 10 byline articles.

Here for my internship report, I have included nine of the interesting reports I have worked on in the last three months. I explained how I did them, the mistakes I made, the challenges I faced, what I learned, and how those lessons helped me improve my future projects.

Expectations/Objectives

As my graduation approached, securing a job in Bangladesh's struggling news media industry seemed challenging with limited opportunities and uncertain economic prospects.

Despite the challenges, my passion for journalism overshadowed my worries. I actively searched for job or internship opportunities at well-known media houses like BBC Bangla, The Daily Star and The Business Standard. I eventually landed a job at The Business Standard.

The idea of joining a newspaper during a period of decline in print media sometimes unnerved me. However, as I explored deeper into understanding the people behind The Business Standard, I started believing that this platform has the potential to become a reliable source for the kind of Journalism people of Bangladesh deserve.

During my internship, I aimed to achieve specific goals:

- To learn the professional art and craft of news writing.
 - Develop skills in handling breaking news effectively.
 - Understand the real-life professional culture of journalism.
 - To learn the ethical dimensions and practices in the field.
 - Master the art of editing news to meet publishable standards.
-

Host Organization

The Business Standard (www.tbsnews.net) is a news platform that operates in both online and print versions. It is owned by The Horizon Media and Publication Ltd, a concern of Orion Group, based in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

With the goal to promote good governance and best practices in business and the economy, The Business Standard puts an extra emphasis on business news. However, it also covers general news, sports, features and entertainment.

Powered by a group of experienced journalists, The Business Standard emphasizes on visual storytelling to help readers decipher the most complicated issues.

The platform also provides selective international news and analysis from Bloomberg, Project Syndicate, Foreign Policy, Hindustan Times, Mint, Digit and Reuters.

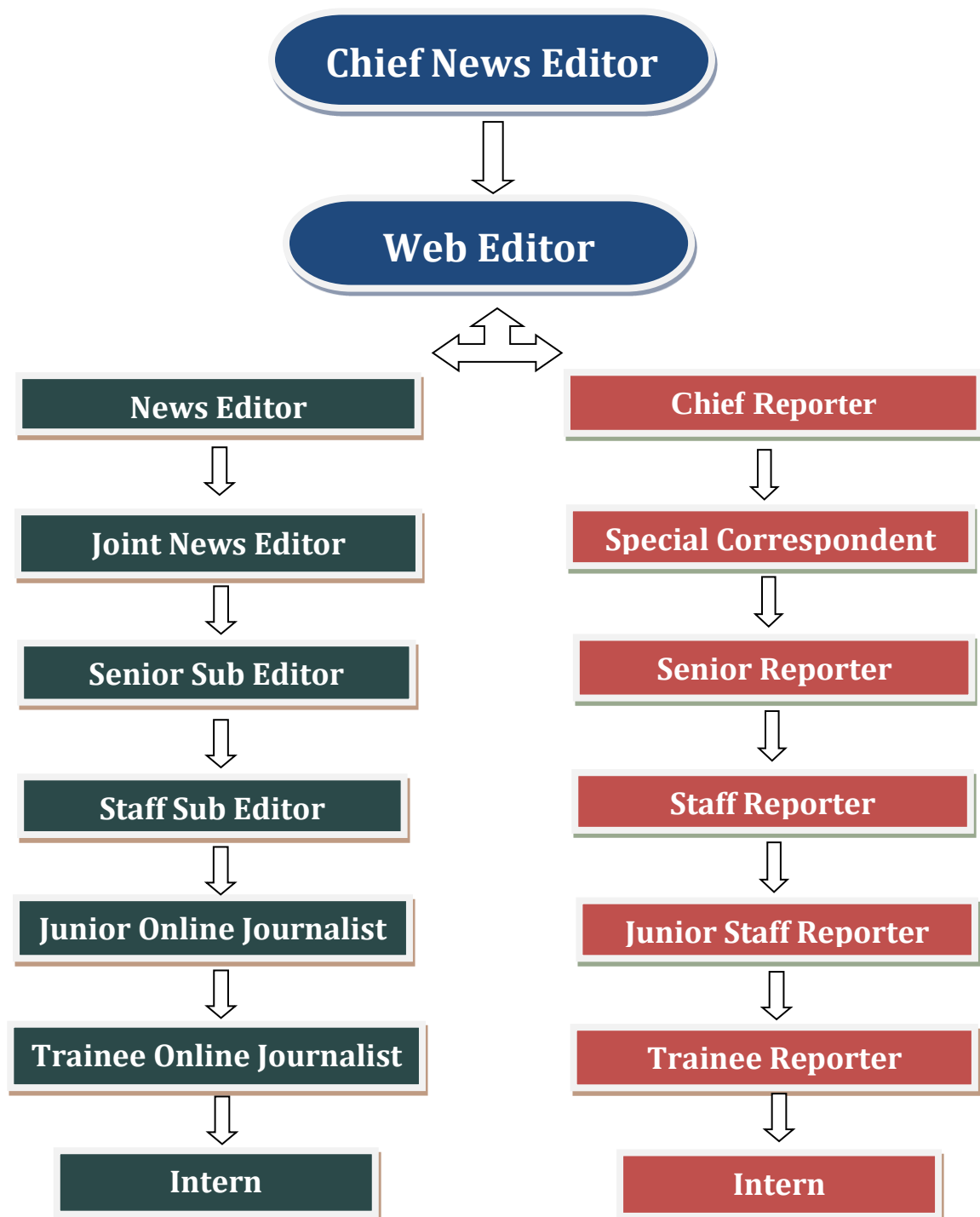
What I love most about The Business Standard is the perfect blend of experienced minds with energetic youths. Putting these two together is the secret behind the rapid success of TBS.

Newsroom Leaders:

- **Editor:** Inam Ahmed
- **Executive Editor:** Sharier Khan
- **Managing Editor:** Khaled Masood
- **Deputy Executive Editor:** Shakhawat Liton
- **Deputy Editor (Desk):** Titu Datta Gupta
- **Deputy Editor (Feature):** Mubin S Khan
- **Deputy Editor (Reporting):** Sajjadur Rahman
- **Chief News Editor:** Harun Ur Rashid
- **Web Editor:** Yashab Osama Rahman



Organogram



Tasks

There's a common concept that online teams are supposed to upload content, break the news and do nothing more. But in TBS, that's not the case.

The online news desk at TBS is what keeps the Business Standard alive. More than 80% of content that can be seen on tbsnews.net is developed by the TBS online news desk.

From dealing with day-to-day news to dealing with special stories and producing TBS online specials — everything is done by the amazing TBS online news desk under the leadership of Yashab Osama Rahman.

Here, the position “Junior Online Journalist” comes with many responsibilities.

My tasks were:

- Sub-editing copies sent by reporters.
- Developing TBS Online special content.
- Besides sub-editing copies, time-to-time reporting.
- Creating bite-size versions of the news for TBS Bites (bites.tbsnews.net)
- Dealing with breaking news at the fastest time possible.
- Going through print copies and uploading them.
- Coordinating with social media and graphics team for cards on social media, writing relevant text such as title, subhead, and captions.
- Monitoring TV scrolls, other news platforms, and social media for breaking news.
- Checking online e-mails from time to time and notifying the coordinator who would assign the subeditors at the online news desk.
- I also make infographics sometimes, for the stories I produce as well as for the lead stories that are initially uploaded with a generic picture – thanks to those courses and workshops at ULAB.

Project Details

As a Sub-Editor:

Number of Edited Copies	734
Number of Published Copies	722
Number of Pending/Unpublished Copies	12

As a Reporter:

Number of News	14
Number of Published News	10
Number of Unpublished/Pending News	04

PROJECTS



Project 1

Project Name: Article on day wage earners titled “Political instability snatching what little left for daily wage earners”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/features/political-instability-snatching-what-little-left-daily-wage-earners-731226>

Type of Work: Human angle Feature story

Assignment Date: 01 November 2023, 12:45 pm

Submission Time: 01 November 2023, 03:26 pm

Published online: 01 November 2023, 06:40 pm

Published on print: 2 November

Project Details: On 28 October, opposition parties BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami called rallies in the capital which were marred by violence — as the ruling party Awami League also called a peace rally — clashes with AL party men and police took place in different areas of the capital. Midway into BNP's rally, party Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir suspended the programme and declared a hartal the next day – and 11 instances of blockades later followed the trend.

However, this story was produced then — on the second day of the first blockade — my immediate supervisor walked into the newsroom from the lobby after a meeting with our Deputy Executive Editor Sakawat Liton, as the editor needed a story on the people who were taking the highest toll amid blockades, hartal or political instability — my supervisor assigned me the report as a TBS Online Special for the day – thorough it was later picked up by our Chief News Editor for next day's print as well.

Also, while preparing a report on the traffic situation in that morning, I told a similar concept to my supervisor. Overall, it all aligned at an anchor point — I'll be getting out on reporting during my shift hour for the first time to cover a story.

Note: I joined The Business Standard as a sub-editor but as a Journalism student I showed keen interest in reporting while being interviewed by my supervisor.

My Roles and Responsibility: As the story was very time-sensitive – we had to publish it by evening that day, I didn't have time to prepare my set of approaches while going outside. What to ask, whom to talk with. However, for doing this story – my first role was to just say yes and

go out. I walked down the street – observed, and tried to talk with whoever I thought of he got the hit and created a mind map of who would be the target characters.

I had to record the conversations – ask questions — and return questions according to the answers. Along with the conversation, I had to capture images of the characters – seeking permission whether I can use them in the newspaper or not.

After talking to people, and returning to the desk, I had to compile the interviews listening to the recordings and subsequently write the story. I also had to coordinate with my supervisor and our news-desk coordinators.

Challenges faced: The primary challenge in this story was the time. As I was assigned a deadline, I had nearly no minutes to prepare my approach to the story. Another challenge was to talk with these people and ask them questions about their livelihood, and struggles — which I know — I would not love to share, some of them too. Another challenge doing this story was my human fear — yes, I was too excited going out, but at the same time the clashes 3 days back on 28 October terrorised the overall hemisphere for that time being.

My raw copy	Final Revised Copy
Political unrest takes a toll on livelihoods of day earners Mehedi Hasan Marof Ismail Mia, a rickshaw puller in the capital, whose family of six, with a crippled son, run on what he earns each day that taken a hit amid the political volatility in the country for the last few days. When the Business Standard talked with him at 12:50 pm Wednesday, he had only two passengers taking his rickshaw ride to near distances which earned him only Tk70. “While I usually earn to run around Tk1000-1200, now it has come down to Tk400-500,” he said sharing the decline in earnings. Moreover, he has to pay a deposit of Tk400 each day to a garage at Noyatola, Mogbazar which owns the rickshaw, and Ismail said, “The owner doesn’t show any leniency even after these political mishaps”	Political instability snatching what little is left for daily wage earners Mehedi Hasan Marof “If this situation continues, people need to survive by eating Kochu Pata [Colocasia leaves],” says Ismail Mia, a rickshaw-puller in Dhaka. He has only made Tk70 till afternoon, the second day of the blockade announced by the BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami. The political impasse comes at a time of galloping inflation. Ismail has a family of six to feed, including a son with disabilities. Speaking to The Business Standard on Wednesday afternoon, Ismail said, “While I usually earn around Tk1,000-1,200, now it has come down to Tk400-500.” The money sounds almost good, but Ismail also has to deposit Tk400 each day to his garage in Moghbazar’s Noyatola.

His plight gets further echoed when he highlights how livelihood has turned wrong for him in the last few months amid price hike saying, "I used to have a meal at the hotel for Tk50/60 before, but now spending even Tk100 my stomach doesn't get filled."

"If this is how continues, people need to survive by eating Kochu Pata [Colocasia leaves]"

"Everything in the market is on the rise, I do not care who runs the country, I want to keep my family's stomach filled with food," sharing this with TBS in front of the slope of Mogbazar flyover, he, fortunately, got another passenger.

Taking a relieved breath, he paddled through.

Walking a little down the street, TBS saw a middle-aged CNG driver keeping his elbow on the door of his CNG staring at the deserted Mogbazar-Mouchak road.

When asked whether the blockade took a toll on his earnings, Kamran responded promptly even before TBS could finish the question, saying, "I could not find a single passenger till now since morning."

Talking about yesterday, he said, "Yesterday I got two trips in the full day, one for Tk320, another for Tk450, while I have to pay a deposit of Tk800 per day as rent."

Kamran has recently married and brought his wife to Dhaka. Now he is afraid whether they can continue here or go back to the village where he "doesn't even have a land to cultivate anything."

"Heard that the country is likely to be this till the election; if this how things go, I have to ask people for loans to support my family," he says predicting what may be his fortune.

Meanwhile, Abdul Haque, a counter-assistant of J R Paribahan at the Gabtoli Bus

"The owner doesn't show any leniency even in this political situation," he said.

"I used to have a meal at the hotel for Tk50/60 before, but now even after spending Tk100 my stomach isn't filled."

"Price of everything in the market is on the rise; I do not care who runs the country, I want to keep my family's stomach filled with food," he said.

Elsewhere down the deserted Moghbazar-Mouchak road, Kamran, a middle-aged CNG driver, scanned the horizon for passengers.

"I could not find a single passenger till now since morning," he lamented.

Even the day before, Kamran barely scraped by.

"Yesterday, I only got two trips the whole day. One was for Tk320 and another for Tk450. I have to pay a deposit of Tk800 per day as rent."

Kamran, who recently got married, had only brought his wife to Dhaka a couple of months ago.

Now, faced with the prospect of more political instability, he wonders if it's time to turn back home to his village, where he "doesn't even have a land to cultivate anything."

"I heard that the country is likely to be this way till the election; if that is the case, I will have to ask people for loans to support my family," he said, a damning prediction of his fortune.

Then there is Abdul Haque, who works as a helper at a bus counter at the Gabtoli Bus Terminal.

terminal had to borrow Tk3000 to buy books for his intermediate-studying son.

Now as no long-haul bus is operating due to lack of passengers, he does not get paid.

“I get paid for calling people to choose J R Paribahan as their commute, now there is hardly any passenger, whom I would call” he explained.

He said for a bus to make a minimum profit 30 passengers are needed, now there is 3-4 passengers are found in the whole day.

Street-side food vendors suffer as the city stays home

Ibrahim Talukder, staff at a local restaurant on the Mogbazar-Mouchak roadside, says the raw food materials like oil, veggies, rice, and bread all have hiked a lot in the last few months.

Now amid these political disruptions, he says, “We are getting fewer customers as very few people are on the streets.”

He has highlighted a concerning factor saying, “A large number of our customers are the people from outside Dhaka coming to the city on several purposes.”

Long-haul public transport services to the capital from almost all the districts have come to a standstill due to the BNP-Jamaat-led hartal and blockade in the last few days.

“I get paid Tk500 per day, we are 8 waiters here, and there are 3 cooking staff as well [our owner says, yesterday, and on Saturday & Sunday, what he paid 11 of us is from his pocket],” he added.

Meanwhile, Ahsan Kabir, a Jhalmuri seller in front of Rupayun Tower at Bangla Motor, a busy area in the capital, says “Due to blockade [hartal in his word], my sale came

Haque, already pressed for money, had just borrowed Tk3,000 to buy school books for his son.

As no long-haul buses are operating due to lack of passengers, Haque is not getting paid.

“I get paid for calling people to choose J R Paribahan as their commute. Now there are hardly any passengers; who should I call?” he asked.

He said for a bus to make a minimum profit, 30 passengers are needed. For the past two days, the number of passengers has trickled down to 3-4 the whole day.

“Last time, I faced such a toll on my earnings was back in 2014 amid political unrest,” he recalled.

During a normal month, he earns around Tk21,000, and from that he needs to pay a house rent of Tk8,000; food for his family of four sets him back around Tk10,000 a month. Then there is the matter of “medicine, transport cost, books and pocket money for his college-going two sons.”

“If this continues, how will I survive?”

Street-side food vendors suffer as the city stays home

Ibrahim Talukder, a staffer at a local restaurant on the Mogbazar-Mouchak roadside, says the prices of raw food materials like oil, vegetables, rice, and bread have all hiked a lot in the last few months.

Now amid these political disruptions, he says, “We are getting fewer customers as very few people are on the streets.”

Highlighting a concern, he said, “A large number of our customers are people from outside Dhaka coming to the city for different purposes.”

down to half [from Tk1200-1300 to Tk400-500]”

“I have three children at home with their mother depending on me, how can I run my family if I earn half now”

His landowner raised the rent of his tin-shed house at Gabtola, Moghbazar from Tk6000 to Tk7000 resonating that price has hiked for everything.

“Price has risen for me too, hasn’t it,” Kabir said in a sore tone filled with spasms.

The sore tone got sarcastic when a coconut seller just beside Kamran said, “I am very happy with the situation. Earlier I had to cut 10-12 coconuts an hour, now hardly I need to swing my cleaver twice at max”

“Should I not be happy,” he questioned TBS corrs with a smiling face.

On a serious note, he says “People used to come to this location at a huge number as the adjacent building is the centre for medical check-up of Qatar-expecting immigrants”

Now because of the blockade and political unrest, there is hardly anyone coming.

Sale has halved down for him and all other street vendors, he said.

An alternative pathway to income for some

Two CNGs were spotted near Bangla Motor under a newspaper office that carries a banner that reads “Emergency Newspaper” in Bangla.

Asked, the driver said “I usually don’t work for the newspaper, during this ongoing blockade, some of us got the contract to pick up the newspaper staff from their home and then again take them home when their shift ends”

Long-haul public transport services to the capital from almost all the districts have come to a standstill due to the BNP-Jamaat-led hartal and blockade in the last few days.

“I get paid Tk500 per day, we are eight waiters here, and there are three cooking staffers as well. Our owner said he had to pay us out of his own pocket on Saturday and Sunday,” he added.

Meanwhile, Ahsan Kabir, a Jhalmuri seller in front of Rupayun Tower at Bangla Motor, a busy area in the capital, said, “Due to blockade [hartal in his word], my sales have halved.”

“I have three children at home with their mother depending on me. How can I run a family if my income is halved?”

The rent for his tin-shed house has also been raised amid the spiralling prices.

Riyad, a coconut seller, turned to dark humour to explain his predicament.

“I am very happy with the situation. Earlier I had to cut 10-12 coconuts an hour, but now I hardly need to cut two.”

“We are also taking the reporters to news spots as well,” he said.

As public transport is not easily available amid the ongoing political situation, most of the corporate offices are facilitating transport for their staff, where these mini transports like “CNG, ride-sharing sedan cars” are getting an alternative source of income.

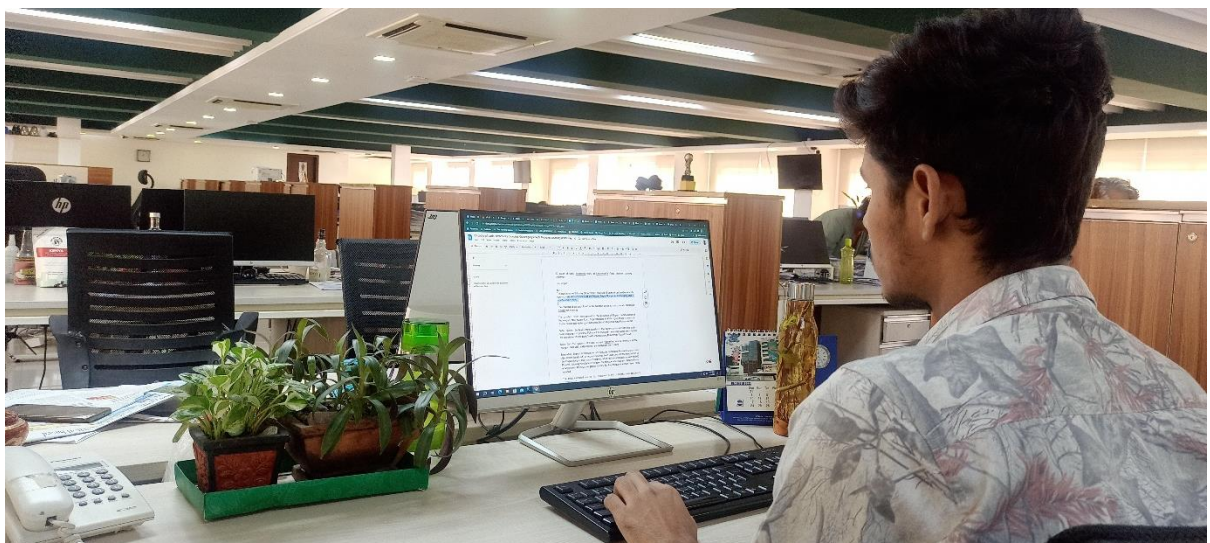
“I think we are lucky, at least our family is not going unfed, but there are only few of us who got these contracts,” said one of these CNG drivers.

My mistakes:

- Insufficient detailing of financial struggles faced by individuals.
- Limited emotional depth in the language and expression used in the raw copy.
- Bringing more characters than needed for the story.
- Making the story larger.
- Minor errors and inaccuracies need correction and clarification.
- Absence of a clear focus on personal narratives in the original version.

My learning:

- Understanding the importance of time sensitivity and preparing a basic approach beforehand.
- Identifying the primary focus and narrative arc before heading out for a story.
- Learning to navigate and approach sensitive topics with empathy and respect for the interviewees' emotions.
- Understanding the balance between detail and conciseness in storytelling
- Improving interview techniques, asking pertinent questions, and actively listening.



Published in print: November 2 Edition of TBS



Figure 1.1: The story on day-wage earners was later published in the TBS Print edition on 2 Nov

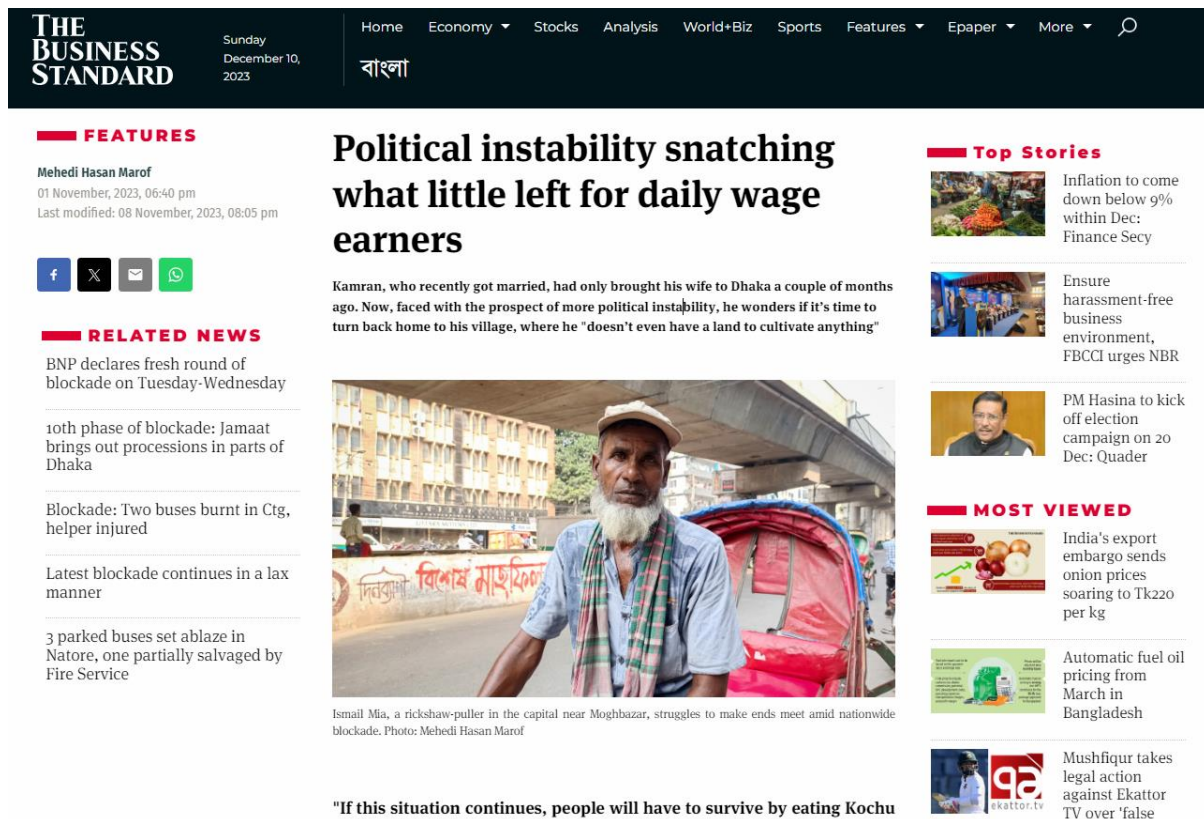


Figure 1.2: The story on day-wage earners as TBS Online special for 2 November

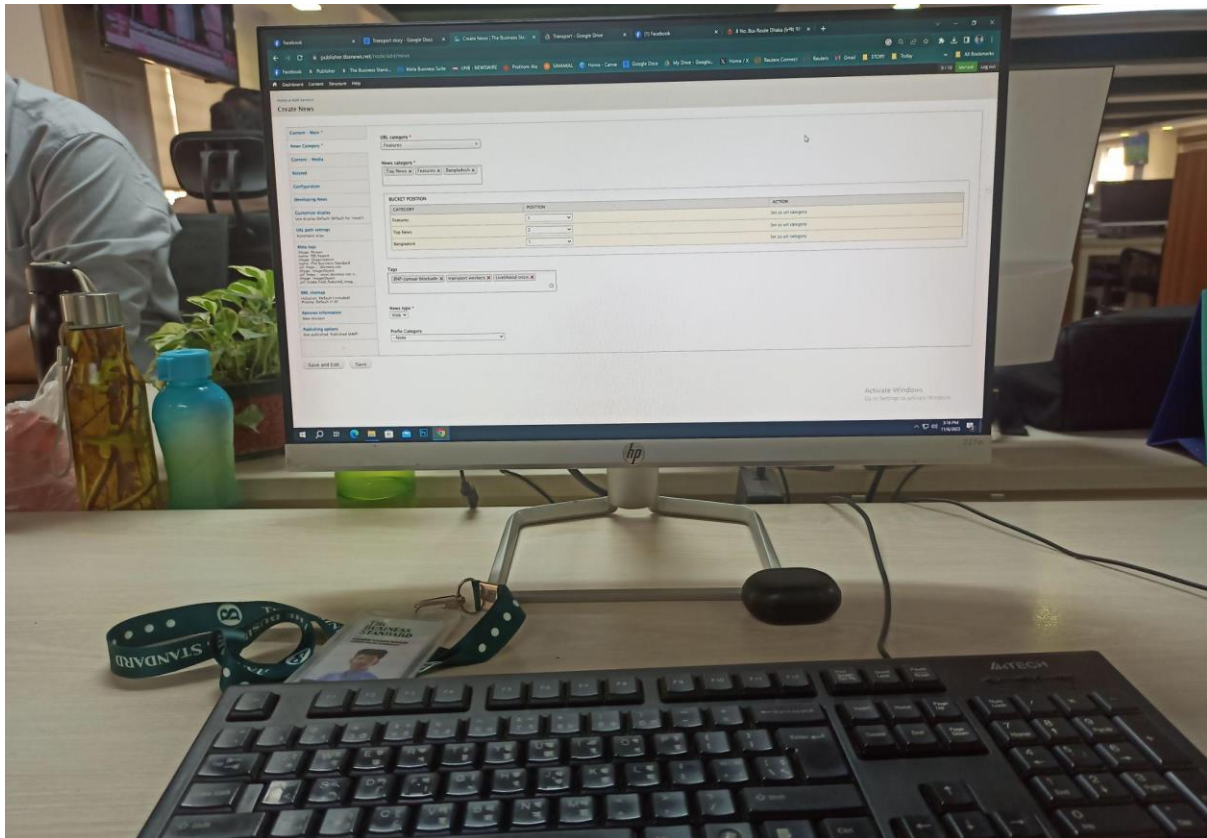


Figure 1.3: After compiling the story – when I was uploading at the CMS of TBS online.

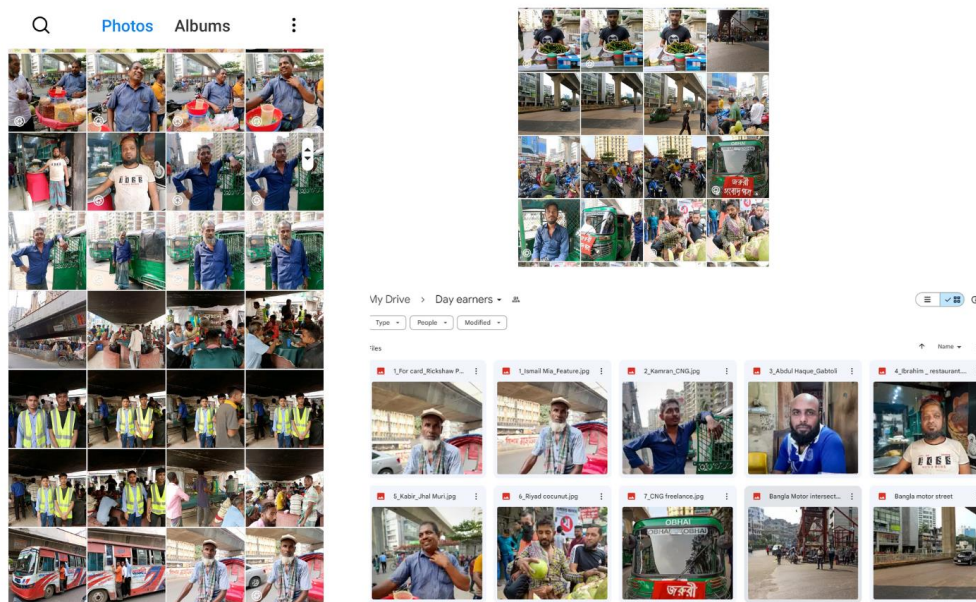


Figure 1.4: My gallery for the day and selected images for the story.

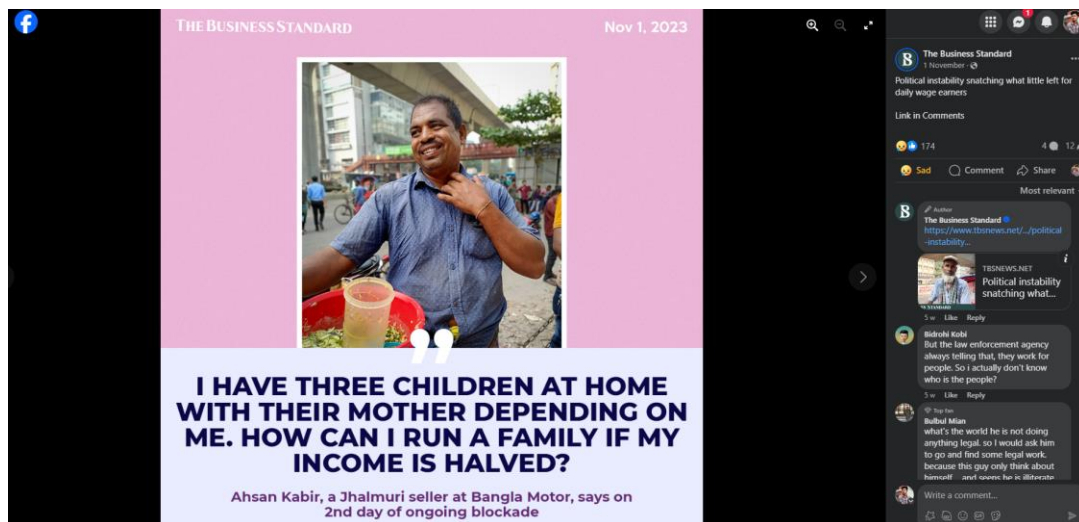


Figure 1.5: A social media card on one of the characters on TBS Facebook.

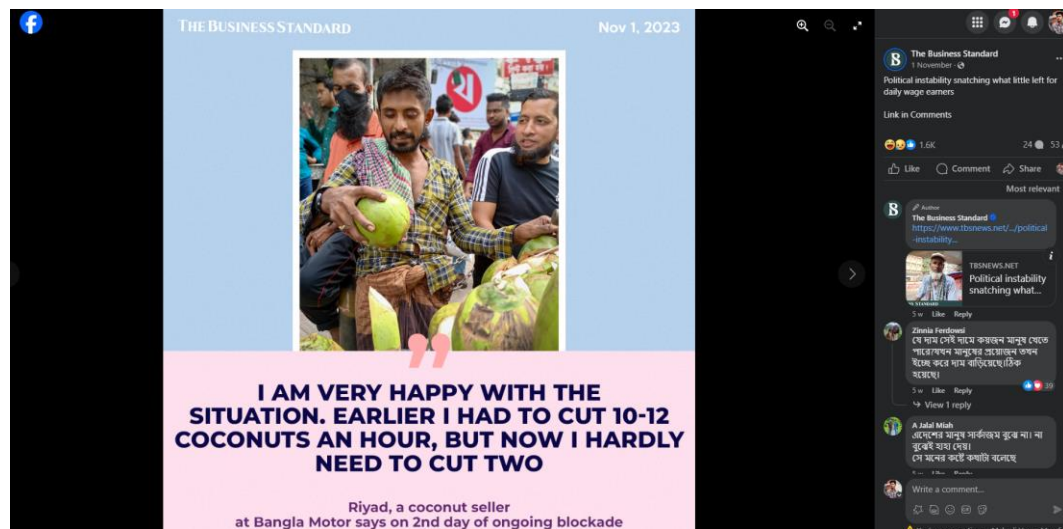


Figure 1.6: A total of 5 cards went on TBS Facebook on this article – while usually only one goes.

"If this continues, how will I survive?"

Street-side food vendors suffer as the city stays home

Ibrahim Talukder, a staffer at a local restaurant on the Mogbazar-Mouchak roadside, says the prices of raw food materials like oil, vegetables, rice, and bread have all hiked a lot in the last few months.



Figure 1.7: The story had several subheads – that covered almost all kinds of street chaos dependents.

Project 2

Project Name: Article on transport workers titled “‘My stomach doesn't understand blockade’: Transport workers who defy fear, death”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/features/dont-want-be-burned-transport-workers-defy-fear-take-roads-stave-hunger-734202>

Type of Work: Human angle Feature story

Assignment Date: 06 November 2023, 01:27 am

Submission Time: 06 November 2023, 11:45 am

Published online: 06 November 2023, 02:40 pm as TBS second lead.

Published on print: 7 November as page lead.

Project Details: Followed by BNP-Jamaat’s 28 October rallies in the capital which were marred by violence — blockades were being called almost every weekday by the opposition parties. In these blockades, the hardest hit was on the transport industry as it ground to a halt nationwide. Not just a halt in transport movement that hit them financially – there had been a spike in the arson attacks on buses – even a bus driver got severely burned — and later died in hospital. So, TBS thought of doing a special on the Bus drivers, and helpers – on the whole, the transport workers – who were the ones losing their lives at that moment.

“So, what's it like for them? Why are they still coming out? What precautions are they taking,” these were the messages from my supervisor late at night. He needed the story by 2 pm the next day as another TBS Special.

However, later on, this story was also picked up by our chief news editor to make it a page-lead story with the full column in half of the page.

My Roles and Responsibility: The story needed me to talk with transport workers, especially those who are on the roads defying blockades, and so I needed to hop on to buses to talk with them. I traversed through the city streets — changed 4 buses in between Bangla Motor to Gabtoli via Farmagate and talked with the bus drivers, passengers, and bus helpers. Later on, to find the depth of the story I visited the terminal – and had to talk with the long-haul transport workers as well.

I had also to record the conversations – ask questions — and return questions according to the answers. I also needed to record their names because later on without names I can’t characterize them in the story — for which I struggled in an earlier story.

Along with the conversation, I had to capture images of the characters – seeking permission whether I can use them in the newspaper or not.

After talking to people, and returning to the desk, I had to compile the interviews — listening to the recordings and subsequently writing the story. I also had to coordinate with my supervisor and our news-desk coordinators.

Challenges faced: The primary challenge in this story was to get hold of the transport workers as no one stood still anywhere. In addition to that time was also a constraint as I was only assigned at late night and I had to travel from Bangla Motor to Gabtoli terminal changing 4 different buses — interviewing people and then coming back and compiling the story within 1 am.

Another challenge was to talk with these people and ask them questions about their livelihood, and struggles — which I know — I would not love to share, some of them too. Another challenge doing this story was my human fear — yes, I was too excited going out, but at the same time the clashes and the bus on fire instilled a fear in me as well and the overall hemisphere for that time being.

My Raw Copy	Finally Revised Copy
‘Don’t want to be burned’: Transport workers defy fear, take to roads to stave off hunger Mehedi Hasan Marof "Close the windows; ustaad switch on the fans; please everyone keeps the windows closed," Mohammad Raju, a helper of a bus, was repeatedly urging his bus passengers. His precautionary move comes off as in the last few days among many other blazed buses, a bus of his company, Welcome Transport, was set on fire on the Mirpur Road near Shyamoli amid the BNP-Jamaat blockade. "We are on the road holding our liver in hand; I wish I did not have to come out. But my stomach doesn’t understand, that’s why I come out even if it’s a life risk,” Raju says.	‘My stomach doesn’t understand blockade’: Transport workers who defy fear, death Mehedi Hasan Marof "Close the windows; please, everyone keep the windows closed," Mohammad Raju, a helper of a bus, was repeatedly urging his bus passengers. He also asked the driver to turn on the fan in the non-AC bus. It was all the precaution they could take during the two-day blockade called by the BNP-Jamaat across the country. In the past 30 hours, 18 vehicles have been set on fire, including 13 buses. The alarm bells had gone off, but being alert was the only option for many.

At normal times 100 to 120 buses of this company used to be on Dhaka roads. Now hardly 10 to 15 buses operate in the full day.

"On the first day of the last blockade, we tried to come out as usual; but there were no passengers, but now there are passengers, but our bus owners are in fear if his bus get burned," he said.

Raju said, launching a bus like this takes around Tk70-80 lakh.

Meanwhile, a bus of Bihongo Paribahan was spotted near the Bangla Motot intersection.

One of the buses of this company was set on fire last evening around 6pm right at this intersection of Bangla Motor.

Talking to The Business Standard, the bus helper, Shukkor Ali said, "I am Allah's creature, Allah will save me, I have to get money for my family to buy their food"

His bus owner didn't want to let the bus on the road after yesterday's incident.

"If the bus doesn't operate on the road, my bus owner can run his family, he has 10 other buses, and he has a lot of money, but my family depends on what I take home every night"

Shukkor Mia and his co-driver requested the bus owner to let them make one trip in the morning and the owner let in one condition.

"The bus needs to come back to the garage by 7 pm in the evening" is the condition.

"We are on the road risking our lives; I wish I did not have to come out. But my stomach doesn't understand the blockade, that's why I have to come out even if it's a life risk," Raju said.

"On the first day of the last blockade, we tried to come out as usual; but there were no passengers. Now there are passengers, but bus owners are afraid as they don't want their vehicles to be burned," he said, adding each bus costs around Tk70-80 lakh.

Raju is just one of many among those who rely on a bus for their daily income.

They know the risk, but they have little choice.

Shafiq, a driver of a Labbaik Paribahan bus parked in Gabtoli terminal, stares ahead resolutely.

"There are no passengers on the roads. In a signal where we used to collect Tk2,000-3,000 before, now we get like Tk600-700. It hardly covers the fuel expense," he says, avoiding eye contact and wearing the stoic expression – his mask for the moment.

Earlier, a bus on this road used to give four trips a day, while now even one has become near impossible.

He made only Tk170 yesterday.

"Now you tell me what I will get with this money for my family of three children, a wife and a bedridden mother who needs medicines of Tk100 a week," he said, the facade breaking slightly.

"If something happens to me on the road, my family will be left with nothing. I only fear that my eldest son studying in class 6 may

The same condition was given to 8 no bus, a crowded city bus from Gabtoli to Jatrabari

“We used to run the bus all night, now all the bus owners tell us to bring the bus to the garage by evening, they say all bus fire incident happens at night,” said Imran, the helper of an 8 no bus departing from a deserted Gabtoli terminal.

Earlier a bus on this road used to give 4 trips a day, while now 1 has become near impossible for them, said a driver of a Labbaik Paribohan bus parked in Gabtoli terminal.

“There are no passengers on the roads. In a signal where we used to collect Tk2,000-3,000 before, now in those signals we get like Tk600-700. It hardly covers the oil expense. Last day I took only Tk170 home and my helper took Tk100,” said Shafiq, the driver.

“Now you tell me what I will get in this money for my family of three children, a wife and a bedridden mother who needs medicines of Tk100 a week,” he questioned.

“If something happens to me on the road, my family will be left with nothing. I only fear that my eldest son studying in class 6 may need to stop going to school and start working. I don’t want my son to work on other people’s buses,” while saying this Shafiq fell down into tears.

Thoughts of commoners

Meanwhile, a passenger, Kaiyum heading to his office at Darus Salam, said “We are always in fear, but I have to go office each day, there is no blockade in the office, right?”

need to stop going to school and start working. I don't want my son to work on other people's buses," said Shafiq, his eyes now brimming with tears.

Elsewhere in Bangla Motor intersection, a bus of Bihongo Paribahan, could be seen waiting for passengers.

One of the buses of this company was set on fire last evening around 6:00pm right at this intersection of Bangla Motor.

Talking to The Business Standard, the bus helper, Shukkor Ali said, "I am Allah's creature, Allah will save me. I have to get money for my family to buy their food."

His bus owner didn't want to let the bus on the road after yesterday's incident.

"If the bus doesn't operate on the road, the bus owner can still run his family. He has 10 other buses and a lot of money. But my family depends on what I take home every night."

Shukkor Ali and his co-driver requested the bus owner to let them make one trip in the morning and he allowed it under one condition.

"The bus needs to come back to the garage by 7:00pm in the evening," he told them.

The same condition was given to the usually-crowded Number-8 bus, which runs from Gabtoli to Jatrabari.

"We used to run the bus all night. But now the bus owners tell us to bring the bus to the garage by evening. They say all bus fire incidents happen at night," said Imran, the

“All political parties, government, election commission, all should sit together somewhere and come to a settlement. Because buses are not available, CNGs ask for more fare than usual, and then there is the risk of being burned. It is really difficult to live our normal life. We are always in fear, when, where who will start picketing,” he added.

Another banker of Al Arafah Bank heading to Mirpur seeking anonymity said, “There should be some solution. This ugly politics should be stopped. How long can this politics of arson, vandalism”

“Because of fear, I am not sending my daughter to school. These arsonists are not even letting off the institutional buses,” he says exemplifying the arson incident that happened twice with Green University buses.

“They do politics for people. Don’t they? Now the life of people is being hampered” the banker replied. Urging the political parties to sit together he hops off the bus at the Technical intersection on Mirpur road.

How is it for long-haul transport workers

At the deserted Gabtoli bus terminal amid this blockade, a long-haul bus of Selfie Paribahan was seen departing with half seats filled.

“If a minimum of 30 passengers don’t get on, we don’t make a bare minimum profit. Look, how many seats you see filled,” the driver Imtiaz said.

This is his second trip in the last 5 days of blockade. He says, “On these trips, a lot of

helper of the bus departing from a deserted Gabtoli terminal.

'We are always in fear'

Kaiyum, a passenger on a bus who was heading to his office at Darus Salam, said, “We are always in fear, but I have to go to the office every day. There is no blockade in the office, right?

“All political parties, government, election commission, all should sit together somewhere and come to a resolution. Because buses are not available, CNGs ask for more fare than usual, and then there is the risk of being burned. It is really difficult to live our normal life. We are always in fear...” he added.

Another passenger, a banker heading to his Mirpur office, seeking anonymity said, “Because of fear, I am not sending my daughter to school. These arsonists are not even considering school or university buses,” pointing to the arson incident that happened twice with Green University buses.

“They do politics for people. Don't they? Now the lives of the people are being hampered,” he said.

How is it for long-haul transport workers

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“If a minimum of 30 passengers don't get on, we don't make a bare minimum profit. Look, how many seats you see filled,” driver Imtiaz said.

families are dependent. If this continues till the election, we will die without food”

Talking of the risk on the road, he says, “On the highway, the fire risk is little less, still we request our passengers to keep the windows closed so that the bad people can’t throw cocktails inside the bus”

Imtiaz says while he drives he keeps his eye alert of people’s gathering on the roadside.

Meanwhile, walking down the ticket counters of Gabtoli terminal, there were hardly any passengers seen and most of the ticket counters were shut down.

“On last Wednesday evening, our bus was exactly on the spot just 5 minutes ago, where some people set fire to the Welcome bus,” recounts Eben Bishwash, a counter manager of SP Golden Line.

Their bus owners are in fear of their bus being torched, he said.

“By 11 am at normal times, 10-12 buses of their company depart. But today we didn’t even start one bus because of no passengers heading to Stakhira, Khulna. That’s how the situation has been in every day of blockade,” he added.

The same situation is in the Shyamoli counter that heads towards Chattogram, Cox’s Bazar. No bus has left the terminal since morning, while by this time, 10 to 12 usually departs.

“A trip to Cox’s Bazar cost a bus around Tk20,000. How can we start a bus if we have only 3 to 4 passengers, will they give us double fare? Even double fare can’t cover the

This is his second trip in the last five days of blockade.

"A lot of families are dependent on these trips. If this continues till elections, we will die without food."

Talking of the risk on the roads, he said, "On the highway, the risk of arson is less. Still, we request our passengers to keep the windows closed so that the bad people can't throw cocktails inside the bus."

Imtiaz said while he drives he keeps his eye alert to any gathering of people on the roadsides.

Walking down the ticket counters of Gabtoli terminal, there were hardly any passengers seen and most of the ticket counters were shut down.

"Last Wednesday evening, our bus was exactly on this spot just metres away. That's when some people came and set fire to the Welcome bus," recounted Eben Bishwash, a counter manager of SP Golden Line.

"By 11:00am at normal times, 10-12 buses of our company depart. But today we didn't even operate one bus because no passengers were heading to Satkhira, Khulna. That's how the situation has been every day of the blockade," he added.

The same situation was seen at the Shyamoli counter, from where buses head towards Chattogram and Cox's Bazar. No bus had left the terminal since morning, while usually, 10-12 buses would have been on the route.

expense,” said Mohammad Salim, counter manager of Shyamoli Paribahan.	
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My Mistakes:

- Inadequate contextualization of the ongoing events, leading to a lack of clarity about the significance of the incidents.
- Lack of structure and organisation.
- Insufficiently delineated quotes and viewpoints from different individuals.
- Absence of emotional depth and connection to the individuals' experiences hinders the reader's ability to empathise with their situations.
- Use of fragmented sentences and abrupt transitions that disrupt the coherence of the storytelling.

My learnings:

- Ensure providing sufficient context about ongoing events to enhance reader understanding.
- Maintain a clear and organized structure in storytelling for a smoother narrative flow.
- Emphasize clear distinctions between quotes and viewpoints of different individuals for better comprehension.
- Strive to create an emotional connection between readers and the individuals' experiences to foster empathy.
- Avoid fragmented sentences and abrupt transitions to maintain coherence in storytelling.
- Plan interviews and travels effectively to manage time constraints, ensuring thorough coverage.
- Acknowledge personal discomfort but maintain professionalism in covering sensitive or emotionally challenging stories.
- Accurately record names and details during interviews for proper characterization and attribution in the story.
- Seek permission before using images or personal details in the newspaper, respecting individuals' privacy.

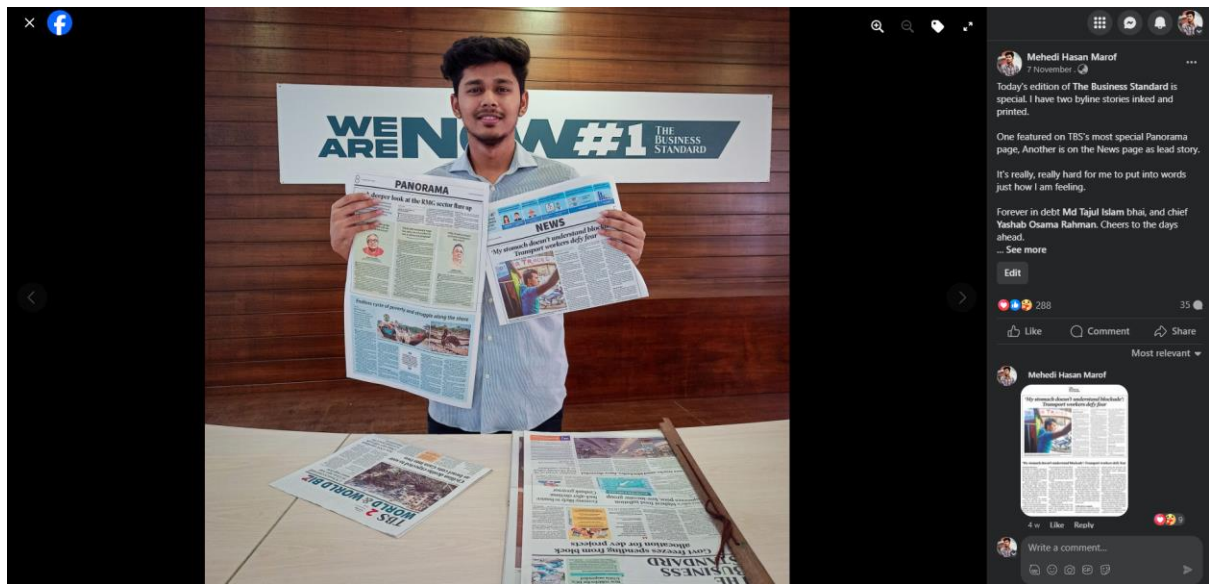


Figure 2.1: Screenshot of my Facebook profile where I shared a picture holding the print newspaper of 7 Nov as two of my byline stories got inked.

The other story on the TBS's special Panorama page on the same day:

<https://www.tbsnews.net/features/panorama/endless-cycle-poverty-and-struggle-along-shore-734594>

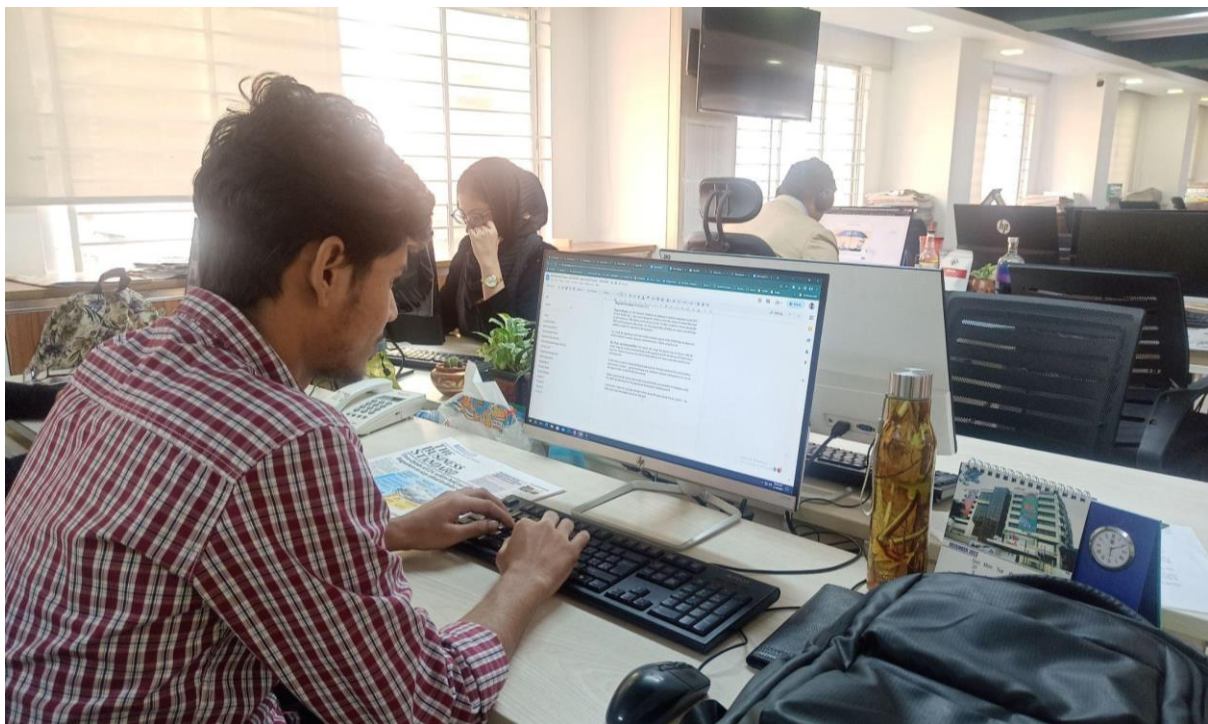


Figure 2.2: After coming back to the desk from the field I was working on the Report.

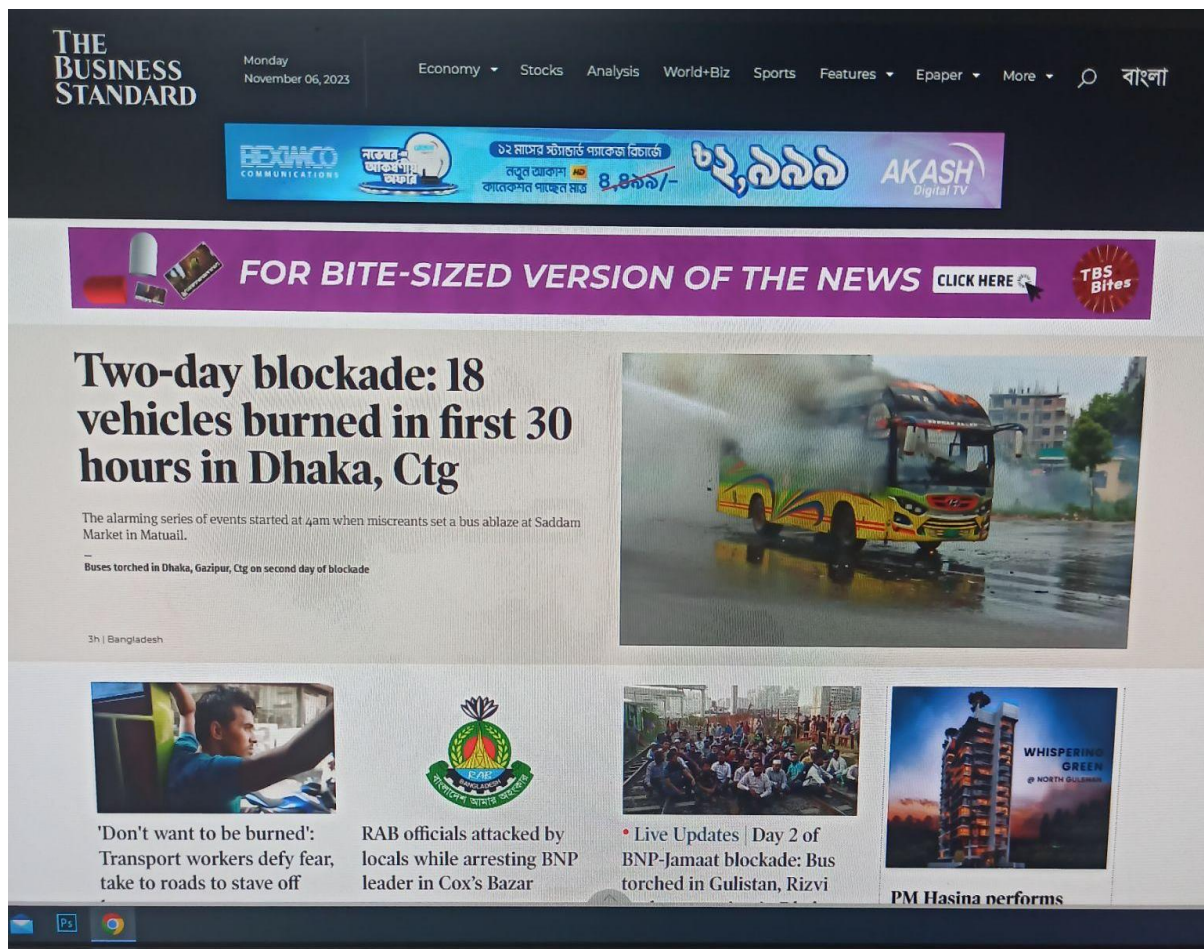


Figure 2.3: An image showing the story of TBS's second lead that was there from 2 pm to 6 pm.

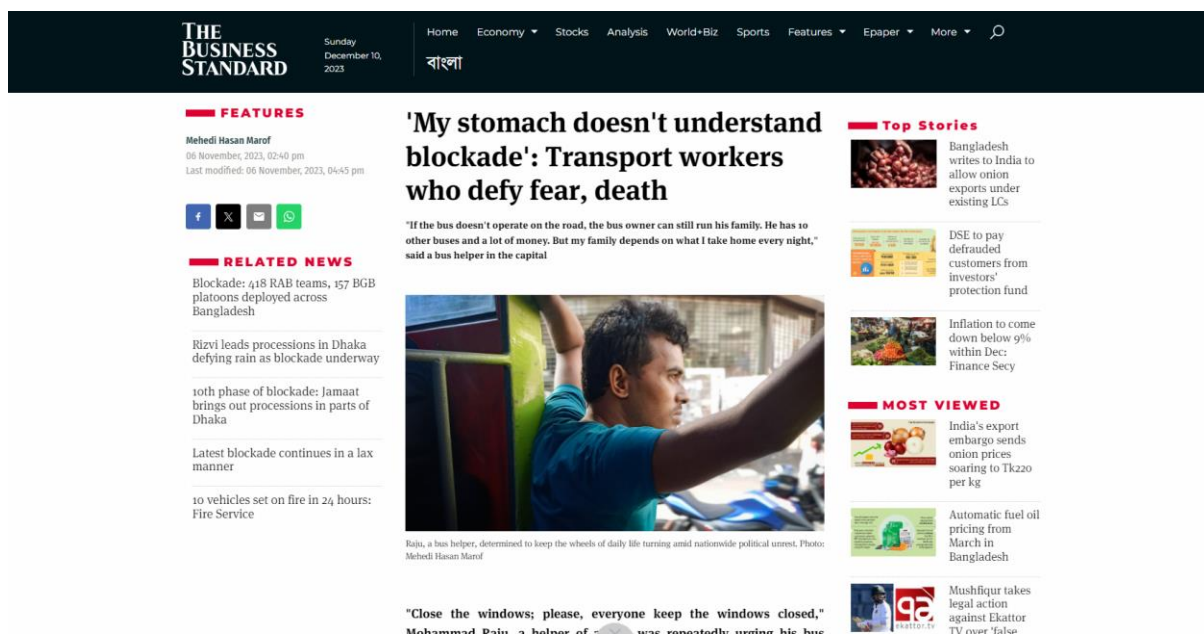


Figure 2.4: Screengrab of TBS Web that carries the online version of the story.

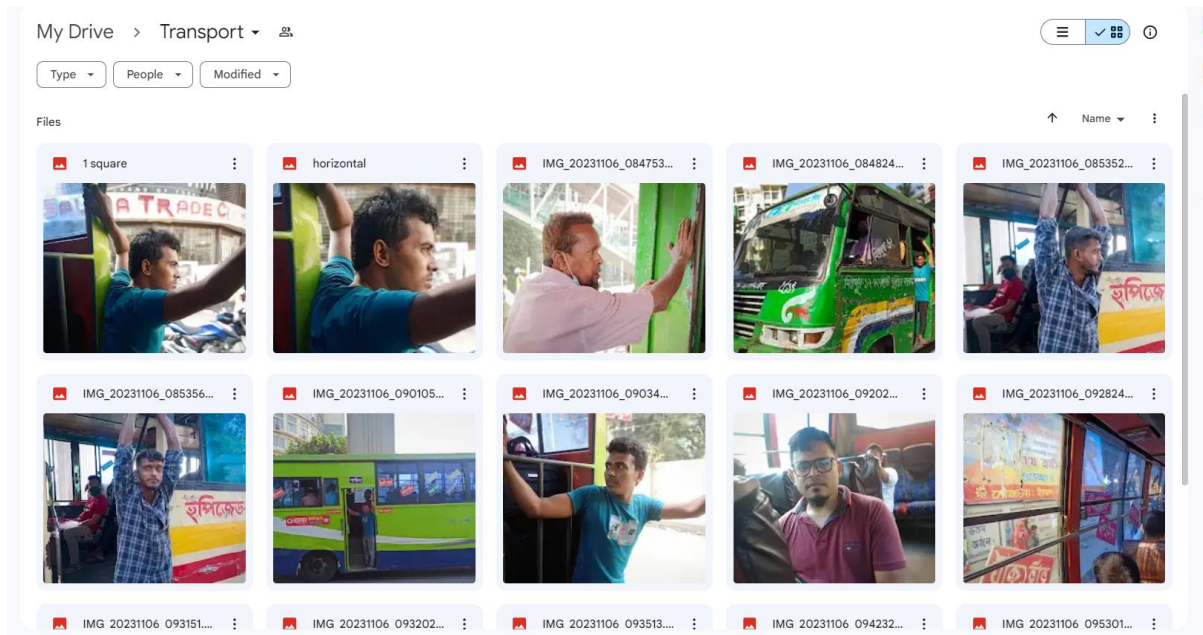


Figure 2.5: Out of almost 100 images captured, I chose to use in the news around 10 images.

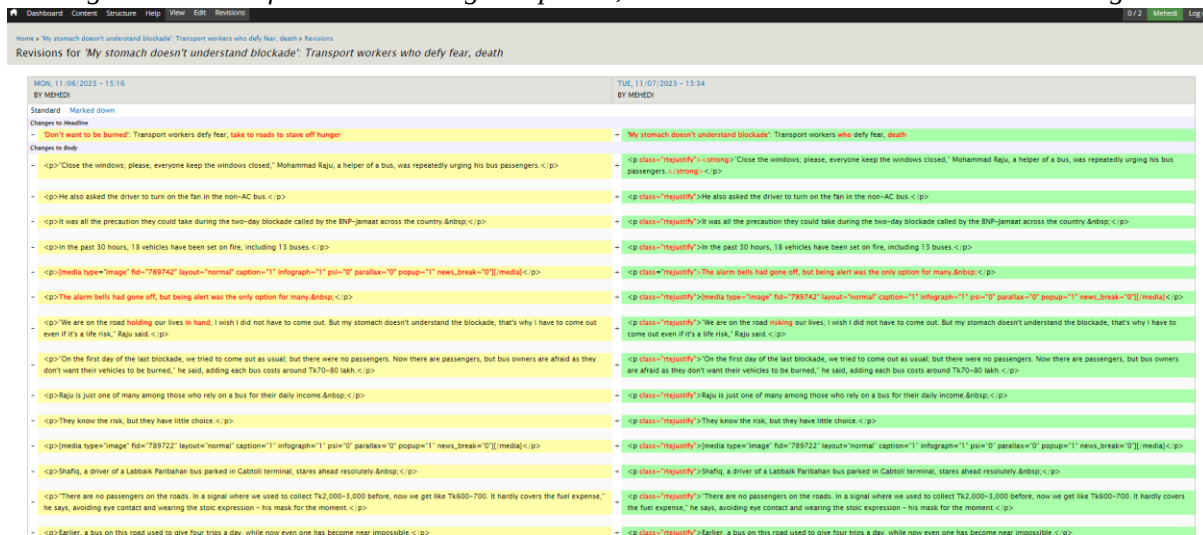


Figure 2.6: In the TBS web CMS, after uploading I had to reorganise a little bit – change the headline

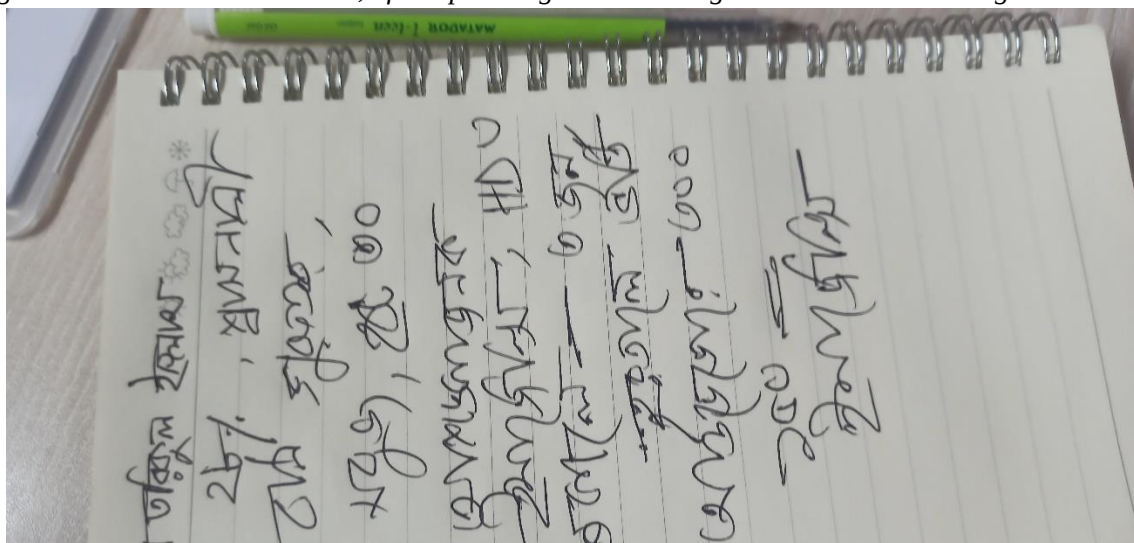


Figure 2.7: Jotted down information.

Project 3

Project Name: Lead news on onion price hike titled “India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bazaar/onion-price-nearly-doubles-overnight-tk220-kg-754246>

Type of Work: Sub-editing lead news on Onion price hike with infographics

Assignment Date: 09 December 2023, 11:55 am

Published online: 09 December 2023, 12:05 pm as TBS lead.

Last Update: 09 December 2023, 10:34 pm

Published on print: 10 December on the front page.

Project Details: Followed by India’s announcement of an extension of onion export restrictions – the minimum export price at \$800 and 40% export duties – until 31 March next year – the price of onions in Bangladesh has surged by Tk80-100 per kg.

It was the story of the day – our reporters on the field initially sent some data – based on what our Editor wanted the TBS Online to prepare a comprehensive package to make it the lead news. So, the Web Editor — who also happened to be my supervisor – assigned me to prepare the report as early as possible and publish it online with the first few lines and later develop it as the reporters gave more quotes and information.

My Roles and Responsibility: The story needed me to coordinate with the reporters on the field who cover the kitchen market — for pieces of information — prices — and quotes.

It also required me to be fast and precise with words as I had to publish it within 10-15 minutes and later develop it.

I needed to translate the reporter’s copy – though he sent me some discrete jotted-down information and quotes. I had to compile it and rearrange it according to the angle and relevance of the story.

It also required me to add relevant background such as how onion prices skyrocketed back in 2019 — how onion sellers defied the govt fixed price caps.

As it is a lead story — it also required me to find two “related news” that show just below the headline on the landing page.

Challenges faced: The primary challenge in this story was to coordinate with the reporters on the phone — listen to them — and add it subsequently to the story. As they were just telling in conversational language, it was a little inconvenient for me to listen and write in English in accordance with the style guide and TBS news standard. However, that's pretty much the job. I did my best. In addition to that, I had also to develop it quite a few times – not because the earlier one was bad — but because information was coming in new.

Raw copy:

রাতারাতি পেঁয়াজের দাম বেড়েছে। প্রতি কেজি পেঁয়াজের দাম এখন ২২০ টাকা!

ভারত আগামী বছরের মার্চ পর্যন্ত পেঁয়াজ রপ্তানিতে নিষেধাজ্ঞা দেওয়ার পর বাংলাদেশে এর দাম রাতারাতি বেড়ে প্রায় দ্বিগুণ হয়ে গেছে।

আজ শনিবার (৮ ডিসেম্বর) সকালে রাজধানীতে দেশি পেঁয়াজ বিক্রি হচ্ছে ২২০ টাকায়, যা একদিন আগেই ছিল ১৪০ টাকা।

আজ সকালে আমদানি করা বা ভারতীয় পেঁয়াজের দাম কেজি প্রতি বেড়ে হয়েছে ২০০ টাকা, যা শুক্রবার বিক্রি হয়েছে ১২০-১৪০ টাকায়।

বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয় সেপ্টেম্বরে প্রতি কেজি আলু ৩৫-৩৬ টাকা, দেশি পেঁয়াজ ৬৪-৬৫ টাকা এবং প্রতি পিস ডিমের দাম ১২ টাকা নির্ধারণ করেছিল।

বাড্ডার মুদি দোকানি মো. মিজান টিবিএসকে বলেছেন, 'ভারতের রপ্তানি বন্ধের খবরে পাইকারি বাজারে পেঁয়াজের দাম বেড়েছে। শুধু দামই বাড়েনি, পেঁয়াজই পাওয়া যাচ্ছে না। দেশি পেঁয়াজ যে দামে কিনেছি তা ২২০ টাকার কমে বিক্রি করা সম্ভব হচ্ছে না।'

দিলু রোডের সবজি বিক্রেতা শরিফুল ইসলাম বলেছেন, 'প্রতিদিন ১-২ বস্তা পেঁয়াজ পাইকারি বাজার থেকে কিনি আমি। শনিবার পেঁয়াজ নেই। ১৫ কেজির বেশি কিনতে পারিনি, আবার দামও চড়া। এ কারণে দেশি পেঁয়াজ ২২০ টাকা এবং আমদানি করা ভারতীয় পেঁয়াজ ২০০ টাকায় বিক্রি করতে হচ্ছে। যা গতকালও বিক্রি করেছি ১৪০ টাকার মধ্যে।'

শুক্রবার (৮ ডিসেম্বর) ভারতের বাণিজ্য ও শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয় এক প্রজ্ঞাপনে জানাচ্ছে, বৃহস্পতিবার (৭ ডিসেম্বর) থেকে অন্যান্য দেশে পেঁয়াজ রপ্তানি নিষিদ্ধ করেছে তারা।

My Edited Copy	First Revised Copy
Onion prices now Tk220 per kg; doubles overnight Or Onion price hits Tk220 per kg due to India's export curbs	Onion price nearly doubles overnight to Tk220 per kg SF: Hike comes soon after India's decision to extend its export ban on onions yesterday
TBS Report	TBS Report
Following India's extension of export restrictions, the price of onions in Bangladesh nearly doubled overnight.	Following India's extension of export restrictions, the price of onions in Bangladesh nearly doubled overnight.
On Saturday morning, local onions were being sold at Tk220 in the capital, which was Tk140 a day before.	On Saturday morning, local onions were being sold at Tk220 in the capital, which was Tk140 a day before.
Meanwhile, imported or Indian onions were Tk200 this morning, up from Tk120-140 on Friday.	Meanwhile, imported or Indian onions were Tk200 this morning, up from Tk120-140 on Friday.
According to a notification issued by the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Thursday (7 December), the country announced an extension of onion export restrictions – minimum export price at \$800 and 40% export duties – until 31 March next year.	According to a notification issued by the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Thursday (7 December), the country announced an extension of onion export restrictions – minimum export price at \$800 and 40% export duties – until 31 March next year.
This decision aims to bolster domestic availability and regulate prices, as stated in the notification's rationale.	This decision aims to bolster domestic availability and regulate prices, as stated in the notification's rationale.
The notification outlines three conditions under which consignments of onions can be exported. These include shipments where loading has begun before the notification, cases where shipping bills have been filed and vessels are already berthed or anchored for loading, and consignments that have been handed over to customs or entered customs	The notification outlines three conditions under which consignments of onions can be exported. These include shipments where loading has begun before the notification, cases where shipping bills have been filed and vessels are already berthed or anchored for loading, and

stations for exportation before the notification.

Badda grocery shop seller Mizan said, “The onion prices surged in the wholesale market following India's ban on onion exports. The development has not only escalated prices but also made onions scarcely available. Considering the high purchasing rates, selling local onions below Tk220 is not feasible for us.”

Shariful Islam, a vendor at Dilu Road, said, "Usually, I purchase 1-2 sacks of onions daily from the wholesale market. However, today, I could only procure 15 kg due to the soaring prices. Consequently, I have to retail local onions at Tk220 and Indian imports at Tk200.

“Just yesterday, I sold the same onions for approximately Tk140,” he added.

This development follows the Revenue Department of the Indian Finance Ministry imposing a 40% duty on onion exports to Bangladesh on 20 August. Subsequently, the Indian government set a Minimum Export Price (MEP) of \$800 per tonne, effective from 29 October, expiring on 31 December.

In May 2022, the Bangladeshi government halted onion imports from India to support local farmers, leading to a spike in onion prices. India's 2020 export ban on all onion varieties except cut, sliced, or in powder form was implemented to control rising domestic prices amid flood-related production losses.

The annual production of onions in Bangladesh exceeds 3.5 million tonnes, with a demand of around 2.8 million tonnes. Despite high production, the country relies on imports due to significant wastage caused

consignments that have been handed over to customs or entered customs stations for exportation before the notification.

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The development follows the Revenue Department of the Indian Finance Ministry imposing a 40% duty on onion exports to Bangladesh on 20 August. Subsequently, the Indian government set a Minimum Export Price (MEP) of \$800 per tonne, effective from 29 October, expiring on 31 December.

In May 2022, the Bangladeshi government halted onion imports from India to support local farmers, leading to a spike in onion prices. India's 2020 export ban on all onion varieties except cut, sliced, or in powder form was implemented to control rising domestic prices amid flood-related production losses.

The annual production of onions in Bangladesh exceeds 3.5 million tonnes, with a demand of around 2.8 million tonnes. Despite high production, the country relies

by storage and management complications, amounting to 25% or more of the total onion production.

on imports due to significant wastage caused by storage and management complications, amounting to 25% or more of the total onion production.

Infographics: It was initially uploaded with a generic onion image – later I created this infographic for better readership – which my supervisor and our editor appreciated promptly.

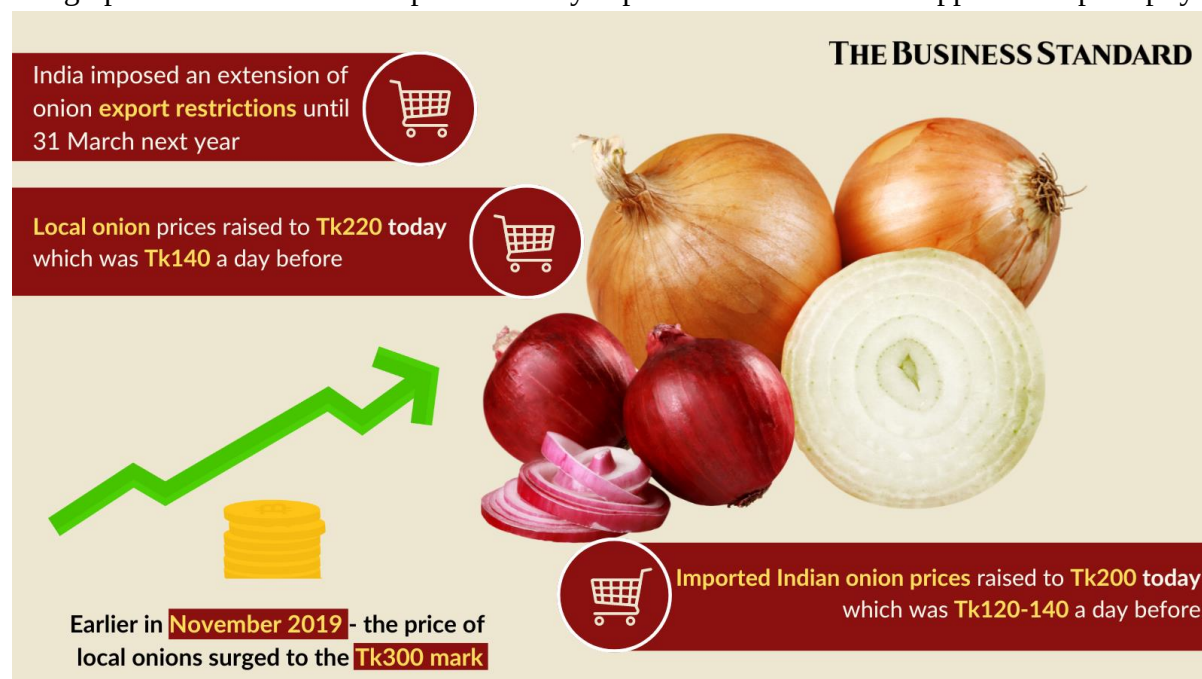


Figure 3.1: Infographics made by me – for the lead news that I sub-edited.

Final Updated copy: As the news was developing, and the hot topic of the day — I had to update with infographics and also updated as the corrs were injecting newer information.

Headline: India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg

SF: Authorities say the available onions are either domestically produced or were imported before Indian ban

TBS Report

- India bans onion exports until 31 March next year
- Daily onion demand in Bangladesh is 7,600 tonnes
- Bangladesh produced 34 lakh tonnes in FY23
- 85% is met with local production

The price of onions in Bangladesh has nearly doubled overnight and keeps rising by the hour following news of India's extension of its export embargo on the essential commodity.

On Saturday morning, local onions were being sold at Tk220 per kg in the capital, witnessing a surge from Tk140 the previous day. Meanwhile, imported and Indian onions rose to Tk200, up from Friday's range of Tk120-140.

With an annual onion demand of around 7,600 tonnes daily (28 lakh tonnes annually) in the country, this abrupt Tk80-90 jump within a day translates to Tk60.80 crore in additional income for onion traders, including importers, wholesalers and retailers.

However, authorities assert that the currently available onions are either domestically produced or arrived in the country before India imposed its export ban.

AHM Shafiquzzaman, director general of the Directorate of National Consumers' Right Protection (DNCRP), said, "There is no justifiable reason for an overnight price surge and excessive profit margins. Operations are underway nationwide to restore prices to previous levels."

The directorate on Saturday conducted operations in districts and imposed fines of Tk6.66 lakh on 133 businesses for inflating onion prices. The agency will continue its operations today.

Shariful Islam, a vegetable seller on Dilu Road in the city, shared his experience with TBS. He noted that despite typically purchasing 50kg-100kg of onions daily from the wholesale market, on Saturday he could only buy 15 kg due to the hiked prices.

"Domestic onions are now priced at Tk220, and Indian ones at Tk200, even though I sold them at Tk140 just the day before," he added.

Meanwhile, at the wholesale level, domestic onions were priced at Tk190-195 per kg, and imported ones at Tk180. At the Hili land port, onions, which were sold for Tk90 on Friday morning, saw a jump to Tk180 on Saturday.

Ashraful, a wholesaler at Karwan Bazar in Dhaka, told The Business Standard, "We have received information about a crisis in Faridpur and Pabna, our usual onion sources. The prices they are quoting are high, and consequently, we are compelled to sell at an elevated rate."

Comparing prices listed on the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh, the current price of domestic onions is 311% higher than in the same period last year while the price of imported onions is 267% higher.

On Thursday, India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade imposed a ban on onion exports until 31 March next year. Earlier, on 28 October, India introduced a minimum export price of \$800 per tonne for onion exports, effective until 31 December. However, the country decided to halt exports before the expiry of this restriction.

Import and production scenario

Bangladesh imported 7.05 lakh tonnes of onions from 5 June to 7 December, against the approved 19.90 lakh tonnes, according to sources at the Department of Agricultural Extension.

In FY23, onion imports stood at 7.43 lakh tonnes, while the figures were 6.65 lakh tonnes in FY22, 5.53 lakh tonnes in FY21, and 5.71 lakh tonnes in 2019-20.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, 34 lakh tonnes of onions are locally produced annually, with postharvest losses accounting for 25% or more. Ministry of Commerce data indicate that 85% of demand is met domestically, with the remainder reliant on imports, suggesting no imminent shortage.

The government in August decided to allow the import of onions from nine other countries in addition to India to curb rising prices. At the time, onion imports were allowed from China, Egypt, Pakistan, Qatar, Turkey, Myanmar, Thailand, Netherlands and the United Arab Emirates.

Initially, a few permits were taken to import from various countries, but later the traders did not show much interest.

Challenges such as the dollar exchange rate and a crisis deterred traders from importing onions, resulting in minimal quantities from alternative countries.

During this period (September-November), only 1,938 tonnes of onions were imported. Of this, 1,102 tonnes came from Pakistan and 836 tonnes from China.

Jinnat Ali of JM Trading in Chattogram cited difficulty in obtaining bank approval and the high dollar exchange rate, making importing from alternative countries financially unviable.

He expressed concern about potential losses if India lifts the ban, as consumers prefer domestic and Indian onions over those from China, Pakistan, Myanmar and Turkey.

Spike in Chattogram

The port city's onion market mirrors Dhaka's instability, with Indian onions priced at Tk200-220 per kg in the wholesale market of Khatunganj after the export ban announcement. The prices were Tk95-96 a day before.

The supply shortage, stemming from India's restrictive tariff since August, has led to sustained prices above Tk90 in the wholesale onion market.

Trade leader Idris Mia at Khatunganj market noted a decline in onion supply following India's imposition of restrictive tariffs in August.

"The wholesale onion market has consistently remained above Tk90 due to increased import costs. Despite some imports from China and Pakistan, the quantities have been insufficient to meet demand," he added.

Officials of the agriculture department look to another 10-15 days for early varieties of onions to mature, while onions with leaves are being sold in various Dhaka markets. They hope increased onion availability will bring prices down to more manageable levels.

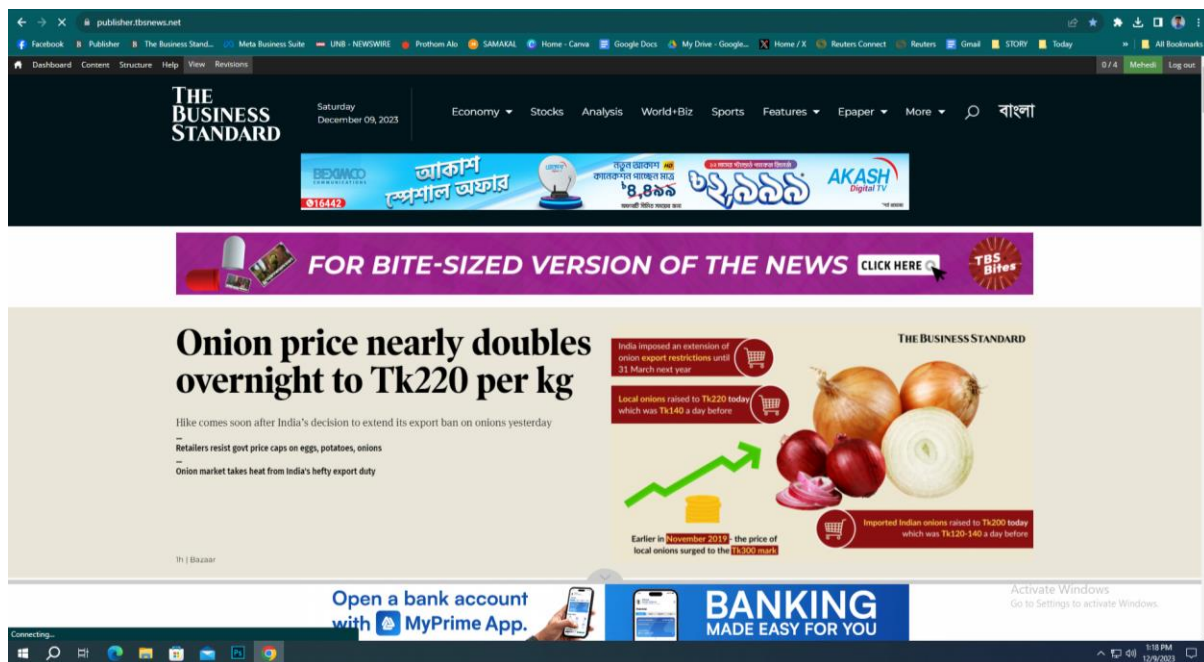


Figure 3.2: Screenshot of the article on the landing page of TBS – as Lead Story

My Mistakes:

- Initially lack of background information on the reasons behind the price hike and its relation to India's export curbs.
- The need for more detailed information regarding the timeline of events leading to the current onion price surge and the previous bans by India.
- Inadequate explanation of how the Bangladeshi government's decision to halt onion imports from India in May 2022 affected the local market.
- The raw copy lacked comprehensive data or figures regarding the annual production and demand for onions in Bangladesh, - later got updated.
-

My learnings:

- Coordinating with reporters on-field efficiently and swiftly to gather real-time information.
- Publishing within a tight deadline demanded precise writing and immediate development of the story.
- Translating reporter notes and compiling information while ensuring the story's angle and relevance was a significant part of the task.
- Incorporating background details such as previous price hikes and government interventions added depth and context to the story.
- The main challenges included adapting conversational information into structured English and frequent story development due to evolving information.

THE BUSINESS STANDARD
Saturday December 09, 2023
বাংলা

BAZAAR
TBS Report
09 December, 2023, 12:05 pm
Last modified: 09 December, 2023, 01:14 pm

Onion price nearly doubles overnight to Tk220 per kg
Hike comes soon after India's decision to extend its export ban on onions yesterday

RELATED NEWS
Retailers resist govt price caps on eggs, potatoes, onions
Onion market takes heat from India's hefty export duty

Top Stories
Onion price nearly doubles overnight to Tk220 per kg
DSE to pay defrauded customers from investors' protection fund
Inflation to come down below 9% within Dec: Finance Secy

MOST VIEWED
India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg
Automatic fuel oil pricing from March in Bangladesh

Infographics: Mehedi Hasan Maruf/TBS

Following India's extension of export restrictions, the price of onions in

Figure 3.3: Screenshot of the article inside – with the infographics.

SAT, 12/09/2023 - 13:11
BY MEHEDI

SAT, 12/09/2023 - 22:34
BY ONLINE

< Previous difference
Standard Marked down
Changes to Headline

Onion price nearly doubles overnight to Tk220 per kg = India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg

Changes to Body

<p class="trjustfy">Following India's extension of export restrictions, the price of onions in Bangladesh nearly doubled overnight.</p>

<p class="trjustfy">The price of onions in Bangladesh has nearly doubled overnight and keeps rising by the hour following news of India's extension of its export embargo on the essential commodity.</p>

<p class="trjustfy">On Saturday morning, local onions were being sold at Tk220 in the capital, which was Tk140 a day before.</p>

<p class="trjustfy">On Saturday morning, local onions were being sold at Tk220 per kg in the capital, witnessing a surge from Tk140 the previous day. Meanwhile, imported and Indian onions rose to Tk200, up from Friday's range of Tk120-140.</p>

<p class="trjustfy">According to a notification issued by the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Thursday (7 December), the country announced an extension of onion export restrictions - minimum export price at \$800 and 40% export duties - until 31 March next year.</p>

<p class="trjustfy">With an annual onion demand of around 7,600 tonnes daily (28 lakh tonnes annually) in the country, this abrupt Tk80-90 jump within a day translates to Tk60.80 crore in additional income for onion traders, including importers, wholesalers and retailers.</p>

<p class="trjustfy">However, authorities assert that the currently available onions are either domestically produced or arrived in the country before India imposed its export ban.</p>

<p class="trjustfy">AHM Shafiquzzaman, director general of the Directorate of National Consumers' Right Protection (DNCRP), said,

Figure 3.4: Screenshot that shows the CMS comparison of revision of the story

Latest Onion Prices			
Country	Price per kg (in local currency)	Price per kg (in current USD)	Source
Pakistan (Lahore)	Rs 137-143	\$0.48-0.50	Agriculture Marketing Information Service (AMIS) 9 Dec 2023 http://www.amis.pk/ViewPrices.aspx?searchType=0&commodityId=23
India	Rs 57.85	\$0.69	The Economic Times 8 Dec 2023 https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-extends-curbs-on-onion-exports-till-march-31-2024-amid-price-spike/articleshow/105826967.cms
Myanmar	K1,369-2,202	\$0.65-1.05	The Global NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR 15 Nov 2023 https://www.gnlm.com.mm/onion-prices-decrease-as-market-shifts-to-solely-rely-on-domestic-demand/
UK	GBP 1	\$1.255	Global Product Prices https://www.globalproductprices.com/United-Kingdom/onion_prices/
USA	\$3.03	\$3.03	Numbeo https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/country_price_rankings?itemId=119

Figure 3.5: Screenshot that shows data that I researched to add some comparison

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Business Standard website. The main headline is "India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg". Below the headline is an infographic showing onion prices and a line graph. The article is categorized under "BAZAAR" and "TBS Report". The date is "Monday, December 11, 2023". The website has a navigation bar with links like Home, Economy, Stocks, Analysis, World+Biz, Sports, Features, Epaper, and More. On the right side, there are sections for "Top Stories" and "Most Viewed". The "Most Viewed" section lists the current article as the top item.

THE BUSINESS STANDARD
Monday, December 11, 2023
বাংলা

BAZAAR
TBS Report
09 December, 2023, 12:05 pm
Last modified: 09 December, 2023, 10:34 pm

RELATED NEWS
Retailers resist govt price caps on eggs, potatoes, onions
Onion market takes heat from India's hefty export duty

India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg
Authorities say the available onions are either domestically produced or were imported before Indian ban

Infographic:
India imposed an extension of onion export restrictions until 31 March next year
Local onion prices raised to Tk220 today which was Tk140 a day before
Earlier in November 2019, the price of local onions surged to the Tk300 mark
Imported Indian onion prices raised to Tk200 today which was Tk120-140 a day before

Top Stories
Bangladesh writes to India to allow onion exports under existing LCS
DSE to pay defrauded customers from investors' protection fund
Inflation to come down below 9% within Dec: Finance Secy

MOST VIEWED
India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg
Automatic fuel oil pricing from March in Bangladesh
Mushfiq takes legal action against Ekattor

Figure 7.4: Screenshot that shows the latest updated version – the most viewed article on TBS for the second week of December.

The screenshot shows the continued page of the article. The headline is "India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg". The text discusses the impact of the export ban on onion prices in Bangladesh, mentioning that domestic onions were priced at Tk190-195 per kg and imported ones at Tk180. It also mentions that the current price of domestic onions is 31% higher than in the same period last year while the price of imported onions is 267% higher. The article mentions that the government decided to allow the import of onions from nine other countries in addition to India to curb rising prices. It also mentions that the supply shortage, since from India's restrictive tariff since August, has led to sustained prices of Tk90 in the wholesale onion market. The article mentions that the trade leader Idris Mia at the ganj market noted a decline in supply following India's imposition of restrictive tariffs in August. It also mentions that the wholesale onion price consistently remained at Tk90-100 per kg due to increased import cost and some imports from China.

India's export embargo sends onion prices soaring to Tk220 per kg
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
day translates to Tk60.80 crore in additional income for onion traders, including importers, wholesalers and retailers.
However, authorities assert that the currently available onions are either domestically produced or arrived in the country before India imposed its export ban.
AHM Shafiquzzaman, director general of the Directorate of National Consumers' Right Protection (DNCRP), said, "There is no justifiable reason for an overnight price surge and excessive profit margins. Operations are underway nationwide to restore prices to previous levels."
The directorate yesterday conducted operations in districts and imposed fines of Tk6.66 lakh on 133 businesses for inflating onion prices. The agency will continue its operations today.
Shariful Islam, a vegetable seller on Dilu Road in the city, shared his experience with TBS. He noted domestic onions were priced at Tk190-195 per kg, and imported ones at Tk180. At the Hill land port, onions, which were sold for Tk90 on Friday morning, saw a jump to Tk80 on Saturday.
Ashraf, a wholesaler at Karwan Bazar in Dhaka, told The Business Standard, "We have received information about a crisis in Faridpur and Pabna, our usual onion sources. The prices they are quoting are high, and consequently, we are compelled to sell at an elevated rate."
Comparing prices listed on the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh, the current price of domestic onions is 31% higher than in the same period last year while the price of imported onions is 267% higher.
On Thursday, India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade imposed a ban on onion exports until 31 March next year. Earlier, on 28 October, India introduced a minimum export price of \$800 per tonne for onion exports, effective until 31 December. However, the country decided to halt exports before 6.65 lakh tonnes in FY22, 5.53 lakh tonnes in FY21, and 5.71 lakh tonnes in 2019-20.
According to the Ministry of Agriculture, 34 lakh tonnes of onions are locally produced annually, with postharvest losses accounting for 25% or more. Ministry of Commerce data indicate that 85% of demand is met domestically, with the remainder reliant on imports, suggesting no imminent shortage.
The government in August decided to allow the import of onions from nine other countries in addition to India to curb rising prices. At the time, onion imports were allowed from China, Egypt, Pakistan, Qatar, Turkey, Myanmar, Thailand, Netherlands and the United Arab Emirates.
Initially, a few permits were taken to import from various countries, but later the traders did not show much interest.
Challenges such as the dollar exchange rate and a crisis deterred traders from importing onions, re- rate, making importing from alternative countries financially unviable.
He expressed concern about potential losses if India lifts the ban, as consumers prefer domestic and Indian onions over those from China, Pakistan, Myanmar and Turkey.
Spice in Chattogram
The port city's onion market reeled in Dhaka's instability, with Indian onions priced at Tk200-220 per kg in the wholesale market of Khatungani. The export ban announcement prices were Tk95-96 a day before.
The supply shortage, since from India's restrictive tariff since August, has led to sustained prices of Tk90 in the wholesale onion market.
Trade leader Idris Mia at the ganj market noted a decline in supply following India's imposition of restrictive tariffs in August.
"The wholesale onion price consistently remained at Tk90-100 per kg due to increased import cost and some imports from China."

Figure 7.5: Screenshot that shows the continued page of print on page 2.

Project 4

Project Name: News on “Jamaat breaks police barricade, enters Shapla Chattar”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/politics/head-head-standoff-between-jamaat-police-arambag-728234>

Type of Work: Sub-editing political news on Jamaat-Police standoff

Assignment Date: 28 October 2023, 11:05 am

Published online: 28 October 2023, 11:25 am as LEAD story.

Last Update: 28 October 2023, 01:22 pm

Project Details: As 28 October was one of the politically important days when BNP-AL-Jamaat – three major political parties in the country called for demonstrations. Our reporter Zia Chowdhury was on the field and he sent some jotting to our reporting chat group which was assigned to me to do a separate news by the day’s co-ordinator.

For the day, I had to cover 7 to 8 news – as it was full of happenings – this particular news was developing. It came initially around 11 am but got updated till 01:22 pm.

My Roles and Responsibility: My role was to take the Bangla jotted information from the reporting group and initially prepare a copy to update online. Later I developed the copy as I co-ordinated with him over the phone — and as he sent information. I also had to ask the reporter for images – as the Social Media team to upload videos to Twitter and send me links so that I could embed them into the news.

Challenges faced: The primary challenge in this story was to handle three news at a time. When this was developing – I was working on another on the traffic situation and commuters suffering because of the political hardline activities. In addition, coordinate with the reporters on the phone — listen to them — and add it subsequently to the story. As they were just telling in conversational language, it was a little inconvenient for me to listen and write in English in accordance with the style guide and TBS news standard. However, that’s pretty much the job. I did my best. In addition to that, I had also to develop it quite a few times – not because the earlier one was bad — but because the information was coming in new.

The other news I was working on simultaneously:

- [Deserted streets as Dhaka braces for high-voltage political rallies today](#)
- [In pictures: Clashes on Dhaka streets as AL-BNP-Jamaat and police face off](#)
- [Cop, Jubo Dal man killed as BNP, Police and AL clash in city](#)

Raw Copy:

আরামবাগে জামায়াত-পুলিশের মুখোমুখি অবস্থান

টিবিএস রিপোর্ট

মতিঝিল আরামবাগ এলাকায় কয়েক হাজার জামায়াতের নেতাকর্মীকে বেরিকেড দিয়ে আটকে রেখেছে পুলিশ।

সকাল সাড়ে নয়টা থেকে এখন বেলা সাড়ে দশটা পর্যন্ত প্রায় হাজার নেতাকর্মী উপস্থিত রয়েছে অপরদিকে কয়েক শতাধিক পুলিশ তাদের আটকে রেখেছেন।

জামাত-শিবিরের নেতাকর্মীরা দিয়ে পুরো এলাকায় জরো হচ্ছে। তারা গোলাপবাগ হয়ে শাপলা চত্বরের দিকে যেতে চাচ্ছেন। তবে এ এলাকা থেকে শাফলা চত্বর পর্যন্ত কাউকেই ঢুকতে দিচ্ছেন না।

জামায়াতের নেতাকর্মীরা বলেন, তাদেরকে কোনভাবে আটকে রাখা যাবে না তারা যথাসময়ে সমবেদ সমাবেশ স্থলে উপস্থিত হবেন এবং শান্তিপূর্ণভাবে তাদের সমাবেশ করবেন।

নেতাকর্মীরা কিছুক্ষণ পরপর আল্লাহ্ আকবার স্লোগান দিচ্ছেন।

জামায়াত শিবিরের নেতাকর্মীরা আরামবাগ এলাকা থেকে টিএনটি কলোনি হয়ে মতিঝিল আইডিয়াল কলেজ পর্যন্ত এর অবস্থান নিয়েছেন।

My Edited Copy	Revised Copy
Head-to-head standoff between Jamaat, Police in Arambag TBS Report Nearly a thousand activists of Jamaat-e-Islami were seen gathering in Arambag from 9am until 10am, while several hundred police officers have blocked them. Members have been barricaded and obstructed by police in the area of Motijheel. Chief of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, DIG Md Asaduzzaman, stated that Jamaat did not have permission for the rally, and the police would not allow any processions. "If they gather, defying the law, we will take stern action," he added.	Head-to-head standoff between Jamaat, Police in Arambag TBS Report Nearly a thousand activists of Jamaat-e-Islami were seen gathering in Arambag from 9am until 10am, while several hundred police officers have blocked them. Members have been barricaded and obstructed by police in the area of Motijheel. Chief of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, DIG Md Asaduzzaman, stated that Jamaat did not have permission for the rally, and the police would not allow any processions. "If they gather, defying the law, we will take stern action," he added.

Jamaat and Shibir activists are trying to proceed towards Shapla Chattar through the Golapbagh area. However, no one is being allowed by the police.

The activists of Jamaat say that they “cannot be obstructed in any way.”

They will be present at the gathering place on time and peacefully assemble.

The activists are chanting "Allahu Akbar" slogans intermittently.

Currently, activists of Jamaat and Shibir are seen gathered from the Arambag area to the TNT Colony near Motijheel Ideal College.

Earlier yesterday, Dhaka Metropolitan Police gave permission to the Awami League and BNP to hold their rallies at the south gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque and Nayapaltan respectively, subject to 20 conditions.

However, Jamaat did not receive approval from the DMP for their scheduled rally on the same day.

Jamaat and Shibir activists are trying to proceed towards Shapla Chattar through the Golapbagh area. However, no one is being allowed by the police.

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However, Jamaat did not receive approval from the DMP for their scheduled rally on the same day.

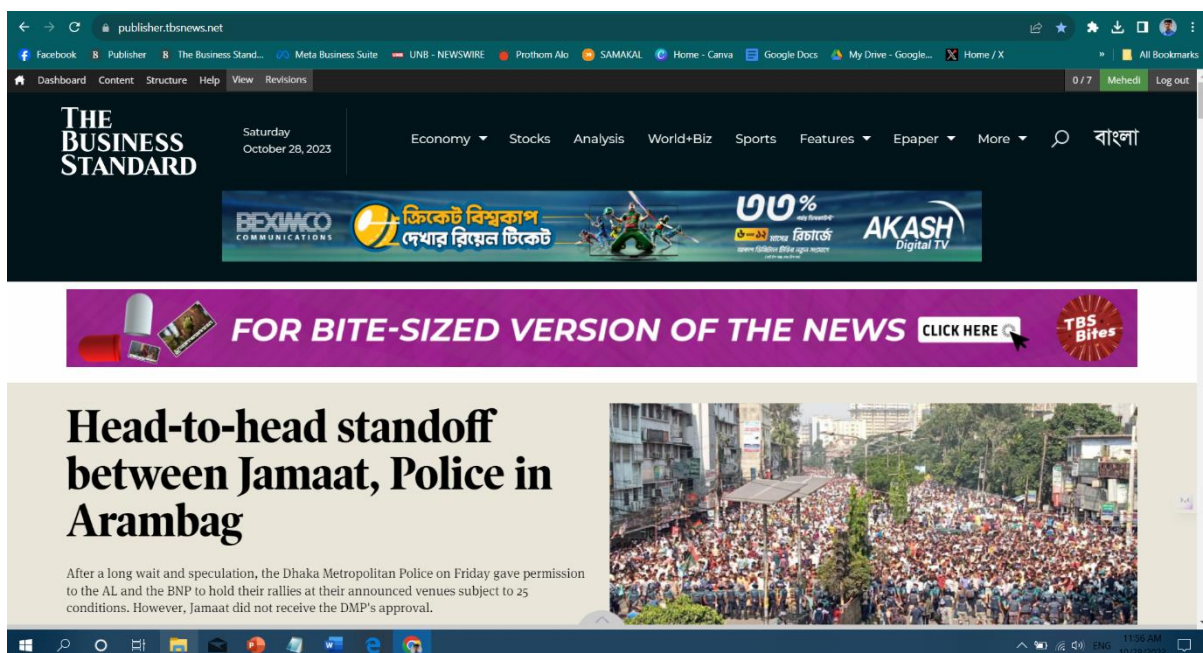


Image 4.1: Lead story of the most anticipated 28 October – the day turned the wave in politics

As the story was a developing news it had to be updated day-long as the events were transpiring and our reporters on field were sending us information.

Finally updated copy:

Jamaat breaks police barricade, enters Shapla Chattar
TBS Report

Nearly a thousand Jamaat-e-Islami activists broke through the police barricades in both Fakirapool and Arambagh and entered the Shapla Chattar.

Earlier, they started gathering in the Arambag area of Motijheel in the early morning, while several hundred police officers had barricaded and obstructed them.

Meanwhile, a 60-year-old Jamaat worker named Md Nawab Ali was injured during the party's clash with police at Motijheel's Arambagh.

A correspondent who is currently in front of Notre Dame College said there was a police barricade in front of the college.

Over a thousand activists broke the barricade around 1pm.

The whole road in front of the college is filled with Jamaat activists and police personnel at this moment.

Earlier, the Chief of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit DIG Md Asaduzzaman made it clear that "Jamaat did not have permission for the rally, and the police would not allow any processions to take place."

"If they gather, defying the law, we will take stern action," he earlier said.

Amidst confrontations with the police on Saturday, two Jamaat workers were arrested. The individuals detained in front of Notre Dame College were identified as SM Mizanur Rahman (63) and Wasim. Additionally, the party claims that 50 activists were arrested earlier in Savar, Ashulia.

Since early morning, police vehicles, including patrol cars and water cannons, have been deployed in the vicinity.

The activists of Jamaat expressed their determination, stating that they "cannot be obstructed in any way."

They affirmed their intention saying that they will gather at the "designated place on time and assemble peacefully."

Acting Ameer Jamaat Mujibur Rahman instructed the party activists to commence the program at 2 pm.

The activists had come prepared with four pickup vans and 8-10 microphones for setting up the stage. Throughout the gathering, intermittent chants of "Allahu Akbar" were heard.

Currently, activists of Jamaat and Shibir are seen gathered from the Arambag area to the TNT Colony near Motijheel Ideal College.

Earlier yesterday, Dhaka Metropolitan Police gave permission to the Awami League and BNP to hold their rallies at the south gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque and Nayapaltan respectively, subject to 20 conditions.

However, Jamaat did not receive approval from the DMP for their scheduled rally on the same day.

My Mistakes: There were not any major mistakes – but I made a spelling mistake on Jamaat leader's name in the initial draft — later I fixed it accordingly by crosschecking.

My Learnings:

- Crosschecking details and names, especially of prominent figures like leaders.
- Handling developing news requires continuous updates throughout the day to reflect the evolving situation accurately.
- Juggling multiple news pieces simultaneously
- Maintaining the publication's style guide while transcribing spoken information into written English.
- Coordinating with reporters on the field for additional information and multimedia content, like images and videos.

POLITICS

TBS Report

28 October, 2023, 11:25 am

Last modified: 28 October, 2023, 01:22 pm



RELATED NEWS

BNP rally: Speakers pause speeches as clashes intensify

No objection to BNP's hartal as long as it is peaceful: AL leader Bahauddin at rally

Jamaat breaks police barricade, enters Shapla Chattar

They started gathering in the Arambag area of Motijheel in the early morning, while several hundred police officers had barricaded and obstructed them



Figure 4.1: Screenshot of the updated news on TBS web — shows the updated headline

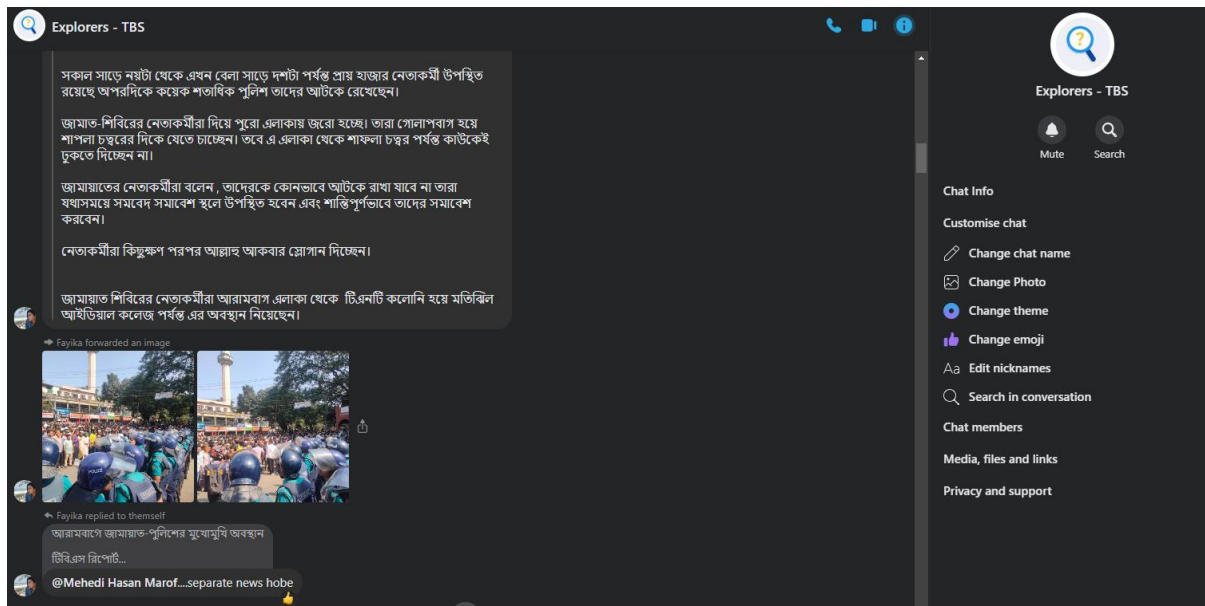


Figure 4.2: Screenshot of when the co-ordinator assigned the news to me on messenger.

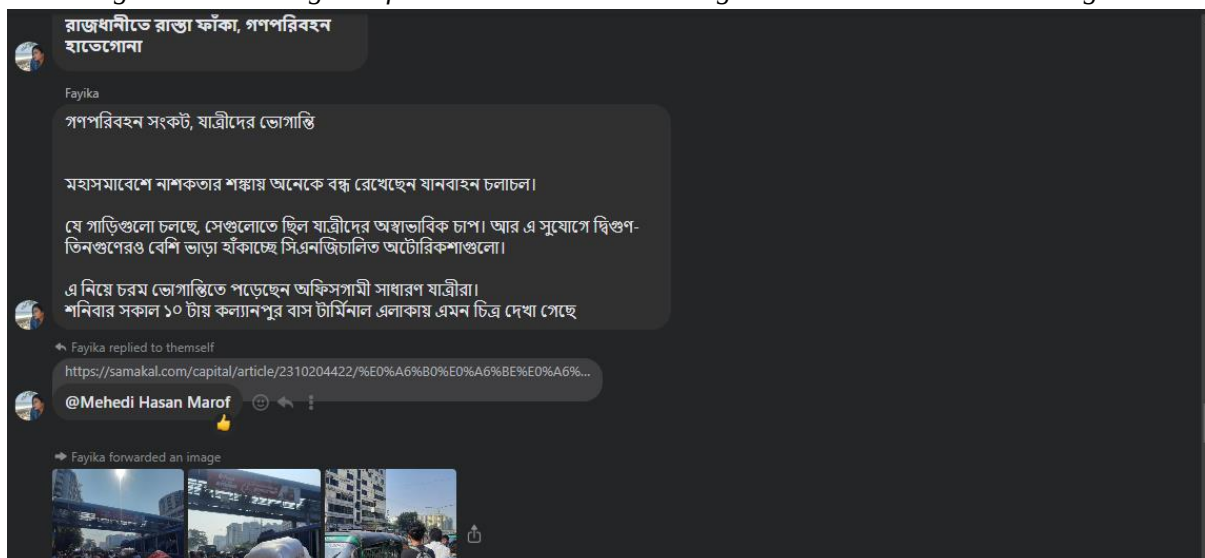


Figure 4.3: Screenshot of when the co-ordinator assigned another news to sub-edit simultaneously.

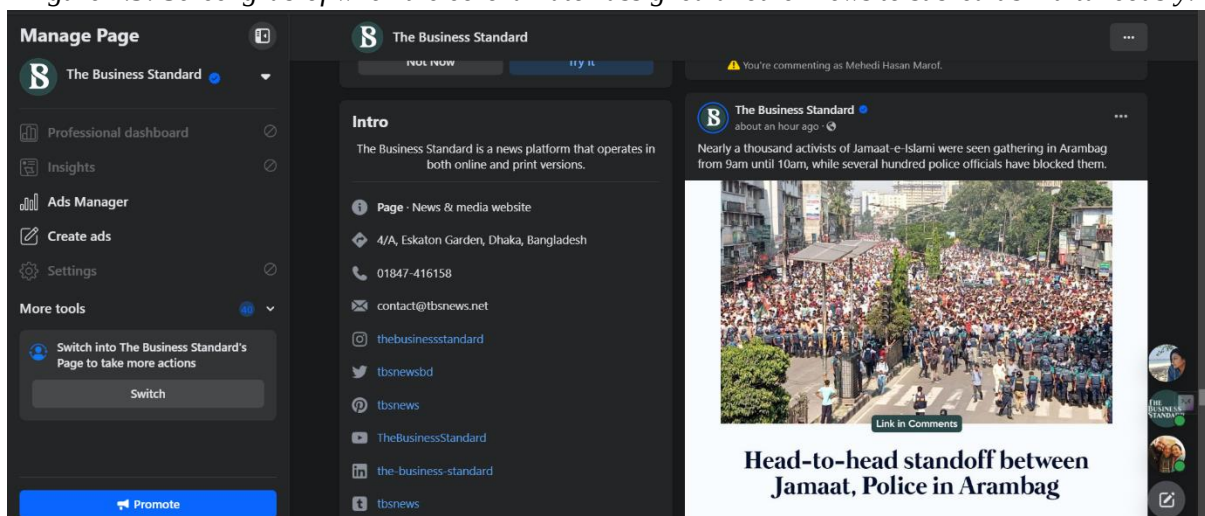


Figure 4.4: Screenshot of the news on TBS Social media.

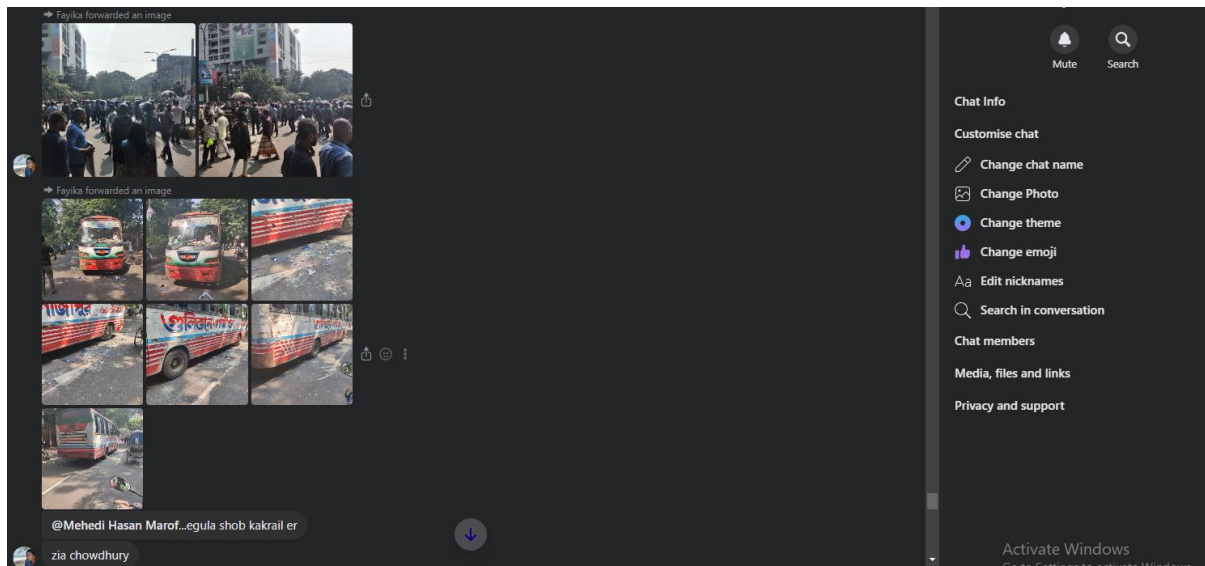


Figure 4.5: Screenshot of when the coordinator assigned another photo story.

POLITICS

TBS Report
28 October, 2023, 03:15 pm
Last modified: 29 October, 2023, 10:36 am

f x e w

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In pictures: Clashes on Dhaka streets as AL-BNP-Jamaat and police face off

As political rallies march and meet, tension and clashes spread out into the streets

This photo was captured in front of Kakrail Church during the clash between police and BNP activists on Saturday, 28 October 2023. Photo: Zia Chowdhury

As Awami League and BNP rallies meet and clash in the Dhaka streets, Kakrail has become a spark to tinder has an bus of alleged AL activists is vandalised and a police booth set on fire.

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Figure 4.6: Screenshot of the photo story on TBS Web

Project 5

Project Name: Article on off-season watermelon – “The quiet watermelon revolution in Bagerhat”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/farmers-bounty-season-watermelons-701534>

Type of Work: Sub-editing

Date of Assignment: 16 September 2023, 2:56 pm

Time of Submission: 16 September 2023, 3:46 pm

Time of Publication: 16 September 2023, 04:40 pm

Project Details: A copy of off-season watermelon cultivation arrived in our TBS Country and TBS Online email from our in-house correspondent covering Bagerhat. It was around 3 am in the afternoon and I was about on another news editing process when I was tasked by Yashab Osama Rahman, my supervisor and Web Editor at The Business Standard (TBS), to transform the news piece into an engaging feature for our English-speaking readership.

Despite The Business Standard being an English newspaper, all the district correspondents as well as 80% of the city reporters send their copies in Bangla language in the form of jottings, discrete information, PDFs, and just pieces of information.

This copy from Ali Akbar Tutul, the Bagerhat correspondent was also of the same kind. However, once I edited and prepared the copy — which eventually got the district correspondent a byline afterwards, my supervisor was happy with me as the article was one of the most-read pieces in that week.

My Roles and Responsibility: My initial role was to translate the copy from Bangla to English — as the content of the article was little livelihood centric, and a means of new agriculture, in short, soft content, - my editor wanted me to featurize the article and write in a way so that readers enjoy the content.

Make a mind map of how I will structure the report. Going through the story to get information. I informed the news editor to check my copy. My shift was over by 3:30 am but to finish this project it was 4:10 am. I submitted the copy and my supervisor told me to go home, and he, by himself, uploaded the copy after a brief revision.

As I had the uploading panel, at usual times, I uploaded my copies on the website after my first week at TBS.

Later on, I checked the edited copy to understand my mistakes and where I needed to develop the story better.

Challenges faced: As this was the first time since I joined in September, my supervisor wanted me to featurise a copy sent by a district correspondent I faced a little trouble. Then verifying the areas of the places and agricultural terminologies was hard to translate as I didn't have any familiarity with this kind of terminologies. So I had to trace back to earlier news – what can be used – and what not. Three months down the lane when I am writing this report, I feel like I have come a long way from not finding words, jargon or terminologies. Moreover, there were some discrepancies in the information so I had to call reporters and verify the information for better understanding so that I could portray that in the final report.

Raw Copy:

অফসিজন তরমুজে দিন বদলের স্বপ্ন কৃষকদের

বাগেরহাট প্রতিনিধি

মাত্র চারমাসেই বাগেরহাটের শরণখোলা উপজেলার উত্তররাজাপুর-আমতলা গ্রামের কৃষক বিমল চন্দ্র মাঝির ক্ষেতে এমন বাম্পার ফলন হয়েছে। অসময়ের এই তরমুজের দামও ভাল হবে এমন আশা হতদরিদ্র কৃষক বিমল চন্দ্র মাঝির।

তিনি বলেন, নিজের জমি-জমা নেই। এক একর জমি বরগা নিয়ে মাছ ও ধান চাষ করতাম, এতেই মোটামুটি চলে আমাদের সংসার। কৃষি বিভাগের পরামর্শে ঘেরের পাড়ে অফসিজন তরমুজের চাষ শুরু করি। তরমুজের বিচি, বাস, কাঠ, লাইলোনের সুতোর জাল, গুনা ও শ্রমিক মিলিয়ে ৫০ হাজার টাকা ব্যয় হয়েছে। সৃষ্টিকর্তা যে ফল দিয়েছে তাতে এক লক্ষ টাকার উপরে বিক্রি করতে পারব। তরমুজ শেষ হলে, এই মাচায়ই কুমড়া, লাউসহ অন্যান্য সবজি চাষ করা যাবে।

অসময়ে তরমুজ চাষ সম্পর্কে কৃষক বিমল চন্দ্র মাঝি বলেন, এই চাষটি স্বাভাবিক লাউ-কুমরো চাষের মতই, মাটিতে জৈব ও রাসায়নিক সার দিয়ে বিচি রোপন করতে হয়। পরে গোড়ার আগাছা পরিষ্কার করতে হয়। যখন বৃষ্টি থাকে না, তখন পানি দিতে হয়। তেমন খরচ না হলেও, যত্ন করতে হয় অনেক। তবে তরমুজ চাষে আমাদের সবসময় উপসহকারী কৃষি কর্মকর্তা ও উপজেলা কৃষি কর্মকর্তাগণ সহযোগিতা করেছেন। এভাবে কয়েক বছর ভালভাবে চাষ করতে পারল সংসারে স্বচ্ছলতা আসবে বলে দাবি করেন এই কৃষক।

বিমল চন্দ্র মাঝির ছেলে বিপুল চন্দ্র মাঝি বলেন, ইতোমধ্যে বিভিন্ন ব্যবসায়ীরা ৬০ টাকা কেজি দরে তরমুজ ক্রয়ের জন্য যোগাযোগ করেছে। আশাকরি দুই-চারদিনের মধ্যেই আমরা বিক্রি শুরু করতে পারব।

শুধু বিমল চন্দ্র মাঝি নয়, ভাল দাম ও চাষাবাদ সহজ হওয়ায় জেলার অনেকেই অফসিজন তরমুজ চাষে বুকছেন। কৃষি বিভাগের তথ্য অনুযায়ী, জেলার ৪১ হেক্টর জমিতে প্রায় ৪'শ কৃষক তরমুজ চাষ করেছেন। আগামী বছরে চাষের জমি ও কৃষক আরও বাড়বে বলে আশা কৃষি বিভাগের।

অসীম কুমার তরুয়া নামের আরেক কৃষক বলেন, ৩৩শতক জমিতে তরমুজ চাষ করেছি। ফলনও ভাল হয়েছে। যদি সব মাছের ঘেরের পাড় ও উচু জমিতে অফসিজন তরমুজ চাষ করা যায় তাহলে, কৃষকরা আর্থিকভাবে লাভবান হতে পারে।

শরণখোলা উপজেলার রায়েন্দা ইউনিয়নের উপ-সহকারী কৃষি কর্মকর্তা হাসিবুল ইসলাম মনি বলেন, আমরা সব সময় মাঠ পর্যায়ে কৃষকদের সার্বিক পরামর্শ দিয়ে থাকি। আমাদের ইউনিয়নে অফসিজন তরমুজ চাষীদের সব সময় খোজ খবর রাখছি। চাষীদের গাছে কখনও কোন সমস্যা বা রোগব্যাদি দেখা দিলে, সাথে সাথে আমরা মাঠে এসে প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যবস্থা নেওয়ার পরামর্শ দিয়ে থাকি।

শরণখোলা উপজেলা কৃষি কর্মকর্তা দেবব্রত সরকার বলেন, গোপালগঞ্জ, খুলনা, বাগেরহাট, সাতক্ষীরা ও পিরোজপুর কৃষি উন্নয়ন প্রকল্পের আওতায় অফসিজন তরমুজ চাষীদের সহযোগিতা করা হয়েছে। এই চাষীদের প্রশিক্ষণের পাশাপাশি কৃষি উপকরণ দিয়ে সহায়তা করা হচ্ছে যার কারণে চাষীরা তরমুজ চাষে আগ্রহী হয়ে উঠছে।

কৃষি সম্প্রসারণ অধিদপ্তর, বাগেরহাটের উপ-পরিচালক শঙ্কর কুমার মজুমদার বলেন, সব সময় কৃষকদের উচ্চমূল্য সম্পন্ন ফসল চাষে উৎসাহ প্রদান করি। এজন্য কারিগরি সহযোগিতাসহ বিভিন্ন পরামর্শও দেওয়া হয়। এই কারণে জেলায় দিন দিন অফসিজন তরমুজ চাষী বৃদ্ধি পাচ্ছে। বর্তমানে প্রায় ৪'শ চাষী ৪১ হেক্টর জমিতে তরমুজ চাষ করছেন। ভবিষ্যতে আরও বাড়বে বলে মন্তব্য করেন কৃষি বিভাগের এই কর্মকর্তা।#

My Edited Copy	Finally Revised Copy
Farmers' bounty with off-season watermelons TBS Report In the heartland of Bangladesh, a green revolution is quietly underway. It's not rice paddies or wheat fields that are garnering attention, but rather, the lush and juicy watermelons that hang like ripened treasures from a unique loft crafted from jute and nylon threads.	The quiet watermelon revolution in Bagerhat TBS Report In the heartland of Bangladesh, a green revolution is quietly underway. It's not rice paddies or wheat fields that are garnering attention, but rather, the lush and juicy watermelons that hang like ripened treasures from a unique loft crafted from jute and nylon threads.

From a distance, this picturesque scene might be mistaken for gourds or pumpkins, but as one draws closer, the vibrant, multi-hued watermelons, both small and large, come into focus. This thriving spectacle is the result of the hard work and dreams of farmers like Bimal Chandra Majhi, who has ushered in a bumper harvest in just four months. Bimal, a humble farmer from **Uttar Razapur-Amtala village in the Sarankhula upazila of Bagerhat**, holds hope that this venture into out-of-season watermelons will turn out fruitful.

He says, "I do not own any land myself. I used to farm fish and rice on others' land, and that's how I used to manage our household. Inspired by the advice of agriculture department officials, I started cultivating off-season watermelons."

The cost of cultivating watermelons, including seeds, nets, wood, nylon threads, labour, and fertilizers, amounts to around **50,000tk**. Bimal Chandra hopes to sell the produce for more than **1 lakh taka**. Once the watermelon season is over, the same nets can be used to grow other vegetables like pumpkins and bottle gourds.

Regarding the cultivation of off-season watermelons, Bimal Chandra Mazhi explains that it is similar to growing bottle gourds or pumpkins in regular soil. Organic and chemical **fertilizers** are used along with the planting of seeds on the ground. Later, the root weeds need regular cleaning.

"When there is no rain, water needs to be supplied. Although it incurs some expenses, it is worth the effort," Bimal further added.

However, throughout this watermelon cultivation process, their assistant agriculture

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The cost of cultivating watermelons, including seeds, nets, wood, nylon threads, labour, and fertilisers, amounts to around **Tk50,000**. Bimal Chandra hopes to sell the produce for more than **Tk1 lakh**. Once the watermelon season is over, the same nets can be used to grow other vegetables like pumpkins and bottle gourds.

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"When there is no rain, water needs to be supplied. Although it incurs some expenses, it is worth the effort," Bimal further added.

However, throughout this watermelon cultivation process, their assistant agriculture

officers and upazila agriculture officers have been supportive. Bimal is hopeful that with a few more years of successful cultivation, prosperity will come to their household.

Bipul Chandra Mazhi, Bimal Chandra Mazhi's son, says, "We have already received offers from various retailers willing to buy watermelons at 60tk per kilogram. Hopefully, we can start selling within the next two to four days."

However, the story isn't limited to Bimal Chandra Mazhi alone. Across the southern regions of the country, many farmers are venturing into off-season watermelon cultivation, enticed by its high yields, monetary value, and relative ease of cultivation.

According to information from the Department of Agriculture, around 41 hectares of land in the district are now being used by nearly 400 farmers for off-season watermelon cultivation.

In the coming year, the area under cultivation and the number of farmers are expected to increase, says the district's agriculture department.

Another farmer, Asim Kumar Tarua, who has been cultivating watermelons on a 33-satak plot of land, says, "The yield has been good. If we can successfully grow off-season watermelons on a large scale with proper care, farmers in this region can be economically benefited."

Hossainul Islam Moni, an assistant agriculture officer in Rayenda Union of Sarankhola Upazila, explains that they

officers and upazila agriculture officers have been supportive. Bimal is hopeful that with a few more years of successful cultivation, prosperity will come to their household.

Bipul Chandra Mazhi, Bimal Chandra Mazhi's son, says, "We have already received offers from various retailers willing to buy watermelons at Tk60 per kilogramme. Hopefully, we can start selling within the next two to four days."

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Hossainul Islam Moni, an assistant agriculture officer in Rayenda Union of Sarankhola Upazila, explains that they always provide comprehensive guidance to

always provide comprehensive guidance to farmers in the field.

In their union, officials keep a constant eye on off-season watermelon growers. If they notice any problems or diseases in the plants, they rush to the field to provide necessary advice.

Debabrata Sarkar, the Upazila agriculture officer of Bagerhat, told TBS, that they are actively collaborating with off-season watermelon growers as part of the agricultural development projects in Gopalganj, Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, and Pirojpur districts.

“Alongside providing training to these growers, we are also extending support by providing agricultural equipment. This support has sparked interest among farmers, driving their enthusiasm for watermelon cultivation”, he further added.

Shankar Kumar Majumdar, the deputy director of the department of Agriculture in Bagerhat, emphasises their commitment to motivating farmers to cultivate high-value crops consistently.

He explained, “Offering various forms of guidance and assistance, including technical expertise, the agriculture department helps the farmers.”

Consequently, the number of off-season watermelon growers in the district is steadily increasing. Currently, approximately 41 farmers are engaged in watermelon cultivation on 41 hectares of land. The agriculture department anticipates further expansion in the future.

farmers in the field.

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Published copy: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/farmers-bounty-season-watermelons-701534>

My Mistakes: As I have highlighted in the table view between “my edited copy” and “finally revised copy” both versions have a similar title, "Farmers' bounty with off-season watermelons," and "The quiet watermelon revolution in Bagerhat." The latter title is more specific to the region, providing a clearer focus.

Some of the mistakes happened with the TBS style guide.

In terms of the numeric representation, my copy reads that the cost of cultivating watermelons is represented as "50,000tk" and "1 lakh taka," while in the revised copy, it's "Tk50,000" and "Tk1 lakh."

In addition to that, as TBS follow the British form of English, I was not supposed to write fertilizer, rather I should have written fertiliser, with “s” not “z”. The same goes for “program” and “programme.”

My Learnings:

- Translating content from Bangla to English while maintaining its essence and adapting it for diverse readerships.
- Transforming a factual piece into an engaging narrative for readers.
- Adhering to the house style guide.
- Working beyond shift hours to complete the project highlighted the importance of time management and meeting deadlines in a fast-paced news environment.
- Collaborating with editors and receiving feedback on works.
- Reviewing the edited copy to identify mistakes and areas for improvement.
- Crafting content in a way that resonates with readers' preferences and interests.



Figure 5.1: Screenshot of the forwarded email sent to me assigning the task

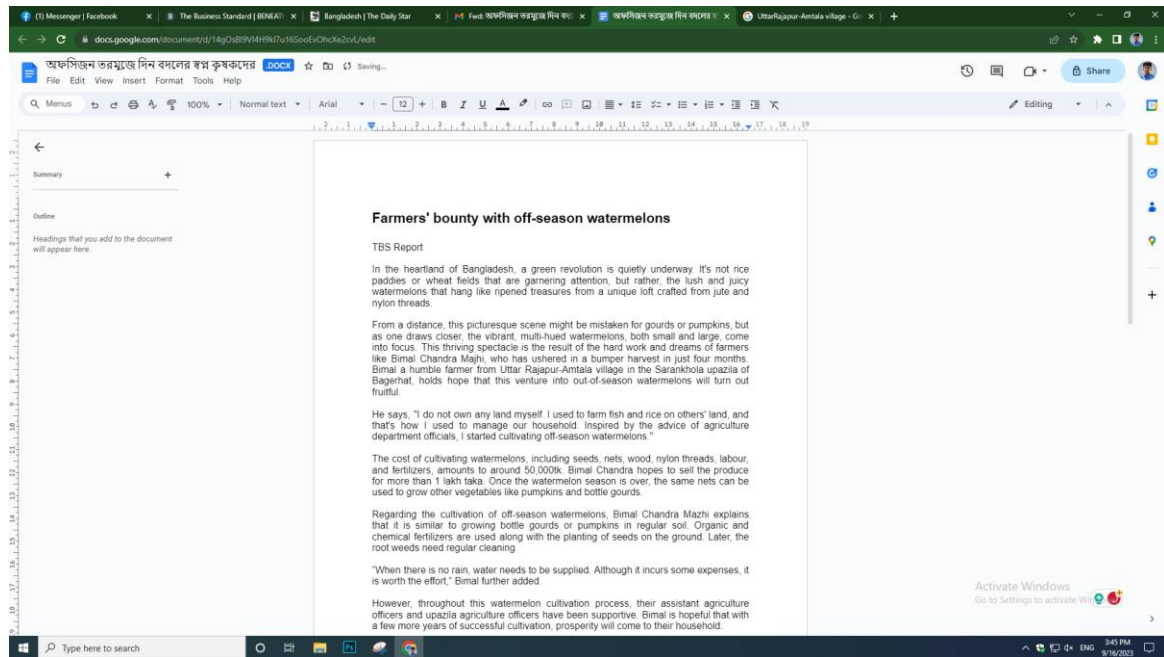


Figure 5.2: Screenshot of the Google Docs page when I finished working on the report

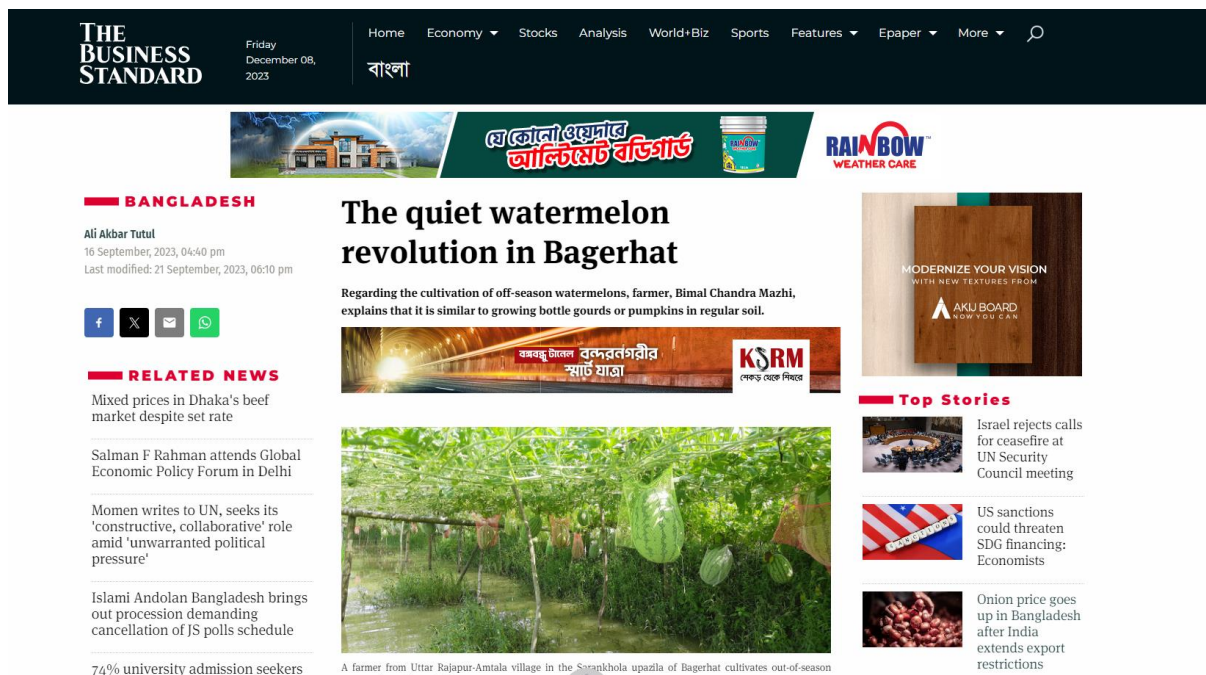


Figure 5.3: Screenshot of the published article of the report with the correspondent's byline

Project 6

Project Name: An in-depth article on recently rising job scams – “Rise in work-from-home job scams in Bangladesh”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/crime/rise-work-home-job-scams-bangladesh-what-you-need-know-705162>

Type of Work: Reporting

Assignment Date: 19 September 2023

Submission Time: 21 September 2023

Publication Time: 22 September 2023, 03:00 pm

Project Details: I initiated an article idea to my supervisor after seeing a text message on my phone that carried an enticing message from an unknown sender offering a daily wage of Tk2,000 for a part-time job. Immediately, some of my other colleagues also responded as they too received such messages. Then my supervisor assigned me to prepare an in-depth story with quotes talking with people such as cyber experts, and law enforcement agencies.

My Roles and Responsibility:

I had to research the scam technique – and how it operates. My task included seeking out a seasoned cyber expert and establishing contact with both their information and the cyber investigative cell within the police force. As a novice journalist, my initial challenge lay in procuring these contacts, prompting me to enlist the aid of our crime beat reporter to facilitate this crucial network building.

Then I had to prepare a mind map — how to approach the story — what my objectives are — - and what my angle is — for that, I had to seek help from my supervisor. I prepared interview questions according to my angle and talked with a Dhaka University professor who is widely considered a cyber expert and also talked with the Cyber Police Center (CPC). Then I had to write the story according to what the expert said, and what my research found out.

Challenges faced: I wanted to experience the process of how the scam operates through myself intentionally stepping into the trap. I did – but due to the lengthy process of it, I could really experience it firsthand. However, eventually, I got to know talking with the cyber cell of police and a cyber expert — a Dhaka University professor. Even reaching out to them at their convenient time, especially talking with the SP of the cyber police centre was a little challenging – as it was my first time reaching out to police personnel for a report like this.

First Raw Copy	Final Edited Copy
Rise in deceptive work-from-home job scams in Bangladesh TBS Report With inflation on the rise and a growing unemployment crisis, Bangladesh is witnessing a spike in fraudulent activities in its cyberspace, most of which are linked to bogus work-from-home job opportunities. These scams take advantage of people's desire for remote work and financial stability, particularly through deceptive messages sent via SMS and WhatsApp, promising substantial daily earnings for minimal effort and time. What's even more concerning is that the headhunters of these online scams contact people without any selection, even those individuals who weren't looking for a job in the first place get offered attractive job opportunities. For instance, Humayun Kabir, a banking professional, and Nayeem, a university student, have both been enticed by such offers flooding their messaging platforms. Humayun recently received an enticing message from an unknown sender offering a daily wage of Tk2000 for a part-time job. Similarly, Nayeem received a message that read, "There is a part-time job, you can use your mobile phone to operate at home, you can earn 200-3000tk a day, 10-30 minutes a day, waiting for you to join. Reply 1 and click the link to join us ASAP."	Rise in work-from-home job scams in Bangladesh: What you need to know <u>Standfirst:</u> Amid inflation, work-from-home scams have become increasingly common in Bangladesh, with people falling prey to fraudulent schemes that promise easy money TBS Report With inflation on the rise and a growing unemployment crisis, Bangladesh is witnessing a spike in fraudulent activities in its cyberspace, most of which are linked to bogus work-from-home job opportunities. These scams take advantage of people's desire for remote work and financial instability, particularly through deceptive messages sent via SMS and WhatsApp, promising substantial daily earnings for minimal effort and time. What's even more concerning is that the headhunters of these online scams contact people without any selection, even those individuals who are not looking for a job in the first place get offered lucrative job opportunities. For instance, Humayun Kabir, a banking professional, and Nayem, a university student, have both been enticed by such scam offers flooding their messaging platforms. Humayun recently received an enticing message from an unknown sender offering a daily wage of Tk2,000 for a part-time job. Similarly, Nayem received a message that read, "There is a part-time job, you can use

However, these tantalising job offers don't just lead to disappointment – they are fraught with danger. The included links, when clicked, lead to a WhatsApp chat or re-direct the user to a scam-ridden website that threatens to compromise sensitive data or ploy to steal the unsuspecting target's money.

In some extreme cases, these links can even provide total control of the users' device to the scammer.

Cybersecurity expert Professor BM Mainul Hossain at the Institute of Information Technology of Dhaka University advises caution regarding such suspicious offers.

“It's crucial to verify any too-good-to-be-true job offers independently and refrain from clicking on unsolicited links. The cyber crooks are using social engineering techniques to trick people into providing sensitive information”, the professor says.

How the work-from-home scam operates

The cyber expert explains, "Not all of them have the intention to steal data. Sometimes, there's an individual who engages in chat conversations and even conducts seemingly professional interviews. In certain cases, these fraudsters may initially offer small sums of money, only to later entice victims to invest significant amounts, and then abruptly cut off all communication."

He further described how scammers put their victims in a group on a messaging app called Telegram. In this group, they make fake websites that look super real, like fancy crypto trading sites. The scammers ask victims to send them money and complete

your mobile phone to operate at home, you can earn Tk200-3,000 a day, 10-30 minutes a day, waiting for you to join. Reply 1 and click the link to join us ASAP."

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certain tasks in order to multiply their investment.

To make it even more deceptive, scammers make fake online wallets to trick victims into thinking their money is safe.”

Professor Moinul emphasises keeping devices updated with the latest security features and software and not installing unverified third-party applications.

When The Business Standard asked the Cyber Police Center (CPC) of Bangladesh Police whether they acknowledge this scam as a threat or not, they replied positively and said, “The latest rise in such deceptive messages is on their radar, and CPC has been working tirelessly to track down these fraudsters.”

They urge the public to report any such suspicious activities to the authorities.

According to CPC, these types of scams in Bangladesh’s cyberscape were driven during the COVID-19 pandemic as people stayed home and carried out more internet transactions. Now it has started all over again.

Police say “These messages are not only circulated through SMS or Whatsapp or Social Media, now the ~~headhunters~~scammers are ~~targeting scam operating~~ through email as well to make it seemingly more professional.”

People often find themselves stuck in this scheme, sending money every day. Sometimes, they end up losing all the money they've saved up over their whole life. Some

websites that look super real, like fancy crypto trading sites. The scammers ask victims to send them money and complete certain tasks in order to multiply their investment.

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The cybersecurity expert shed a concerning reality, "These SMS scams don't just come as job offers, they may appear in the form of business deals or offers to go abroad with lucrative packages."

Is the scam too hard to combat?

Professor Mainul emphasises keeping devices updated with the latest security features and software and not installing unverified third-party applications.

He points out that mobile network operators could play a role in combating this potential scam by identifying and flagging such messages.

However, Prof Mainul notes a decline in their interest in providing customers with this service, saying, "To detect these obvious scamming methods, where a message is being sent to thousands of people every day, containing an unsolicited link and promises of money, sim companies wouldn't need to build any complex algorithms; it can be easily identified and blocked."

The cybersecurity expert stresses that such an investment by sim companies in flagging these scam messages could further enhance customer trust and their brand reputation.

"With proper acknowledgement of this scam and efforts of relevant bodies such as

even borrow money from their friends, and it all disappears into this scam.

A global cyber epidemic

Bangladesh is not alone in facing this issue; job-related scams have surged worldwide.

The United States reported a nearly threefold increase in job and employment agency-related scams from 2020 to 2021, from 7,324 to 21,848 in the third quarter of each year, according to a report published in the Los Angeles Times on 23 January 2023.

According to another report in the Washington Post on 27 January 2023 asserts that job-related scams cost Americans approximately \$2 billion every year, as stated by the Better Business Bureau.

It further reads that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) received over 22,000 reports of employment fraud between July and September of 2022 alone, resulting in total losses amounting to \$78 million.

Similarly, Canada's Edmonton Police Service received 148 reports of employment scams in 2022, resulting in a financial loss of \$359,831.

In India, over 30,000 people lost 200 crore rupees (over \$24 million) in January through work-from-home scams falsely representing reputed e-commerce companies, Times of India reported quoting Delhi Police source on 28 January 2023.

An October 2022 study by messaging security provider SlashNext analyzed billions of link-based URLs, and attachments, and natural language messages in email, mobile

flagging of sim operators and monitoring of Cyber Police Center and other cyber security agencies, preventing this scam should not be a huge challenge," says Mainul Hossain.

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The study revealed that cybercriminals are shifting their attacks to mobile and personal communication channels to reach users. It showed a 50% increase in attacks on mobile devices, with scams and credential theft at the top of the list of payloads.

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	Internet scams are far from new It's worth noting that internet scams continue to evolve alongside technology, and schemes similar to these have been occurring for a while now. For instance, Nigeria was at the centre of infamous scam operations in the '90s known as "419 scams" or "Nigerian prince scams." These scams involved an email from a "Nigerian prince" asking the recipient for help to claim his "fortune" at the expense of personal banking details. Common fake job scam techniques ● Scammers create phoney job ads on job websites or social media to lure job seekers with attractive offers. ● Scammers pretend to be genuine companies, offering fake job positions or promotions. ● Scammers send unsolicited messages via SMS, WhatsApp, or email, falsely claiming job offers. ● Scammers send emails that look real, asking for personal or financial information like bank details. ● Scammers request payment or deposits for interviews or processing, disguised as refunds or fees. ● Scammers use stolen information for identity theft or fraud. ● Scammers ask for money upfront for training or services, then vanish, leaving victims without jobs or money. Essential safety measures ● Do not open any links. ● Do not respond to the sender or
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	provide personal or financial details. ● If unsure of a message's legitimacy, contact the sender through verified contact details, such as an official website or app. ● Report to the Cyber Police Center and delete suspicious messages.
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My Mistakes:

- Some sentences were lengthy and complex, making the information harder to follow.
- Certain sentences were overly wordy and could be simplified without losing the essence of the message.
- Some paragraphs could benefit from restructuring for better flow and coherence.
- The absence of subheadings or distinct sections made the content appear dense and less structured.
- Certain sections contained an overload of detailed information, which might overwhelm readers.
- There were instances where the focus deviated from the main message about work-from-home scams, which could distract readers.
- Refining these areas could help streamline the content, making it more engaging and easier for readers to grasp the key points about work-from-home scams in Bangladesh.
- Not adding enough background initially.

My learnings:

- Ensure that writing is clear, concise, and easily understandable. Complex language or convoluted sentences can confuse readers.
- Maintain a clear focus on the main message or topic throughout the report.
- Avoid including excessive details that might distract from the central theme.
- Use of subheadings, bullet points, or distinct sections to organise information.
- Check for repeated information or unnecessary repetitions.
- While providing examples and details is important, ensure they are relevant and add value.
- Always proofread before submission of work to align with house standards.

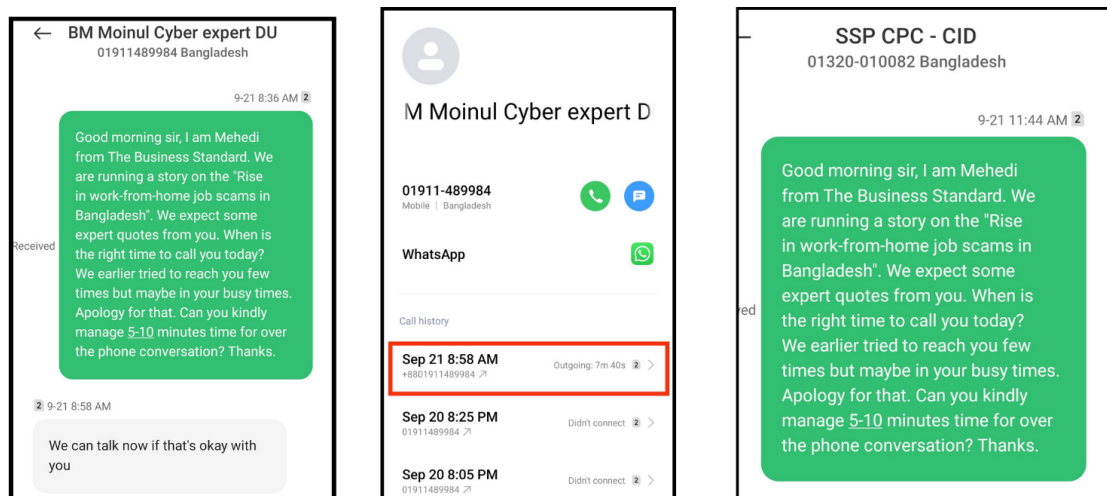


Figure 6.1: Screengrab of how I reached out to the cyber expert and Cyber Police Center

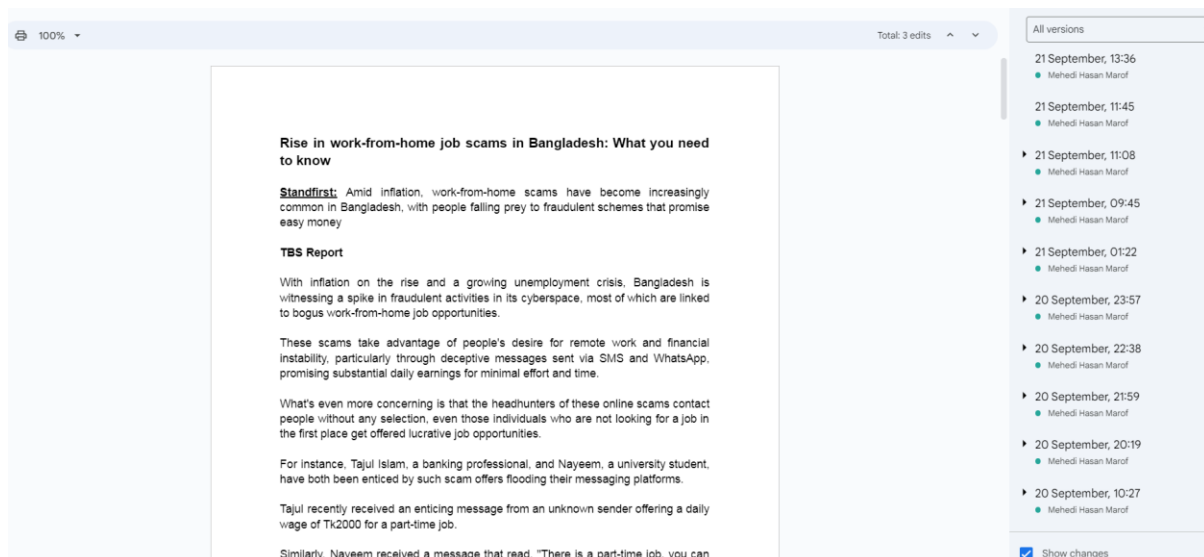


Figure 6.2: Screengrab of the editing panel showcasing how many major revisions I had to go through

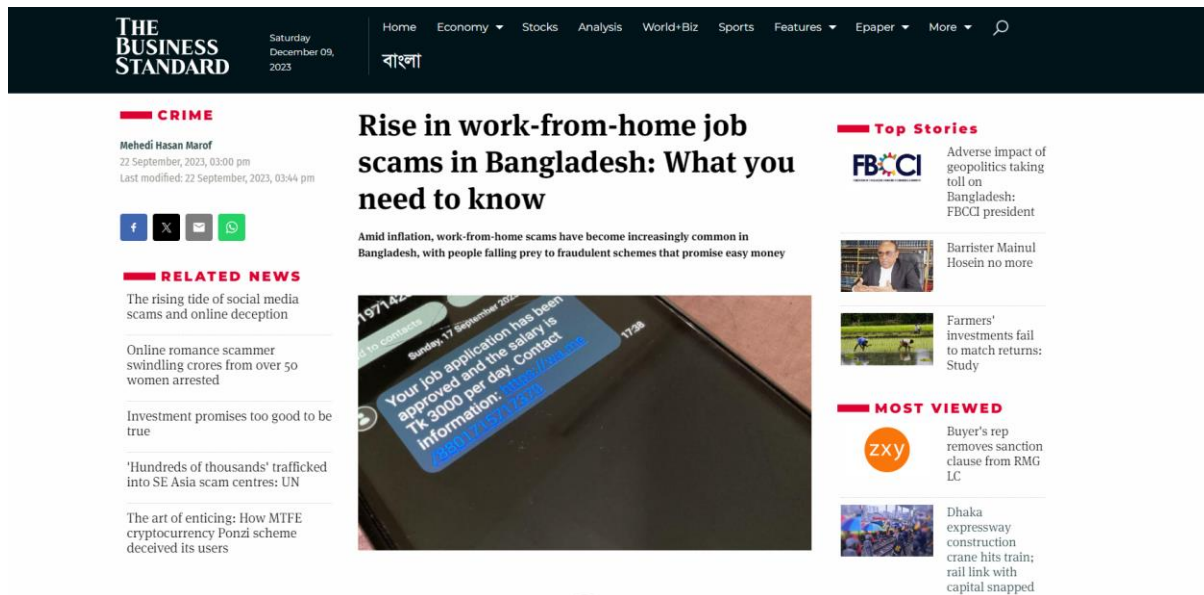


Figure 6.3: Screenshot of the published version of the article

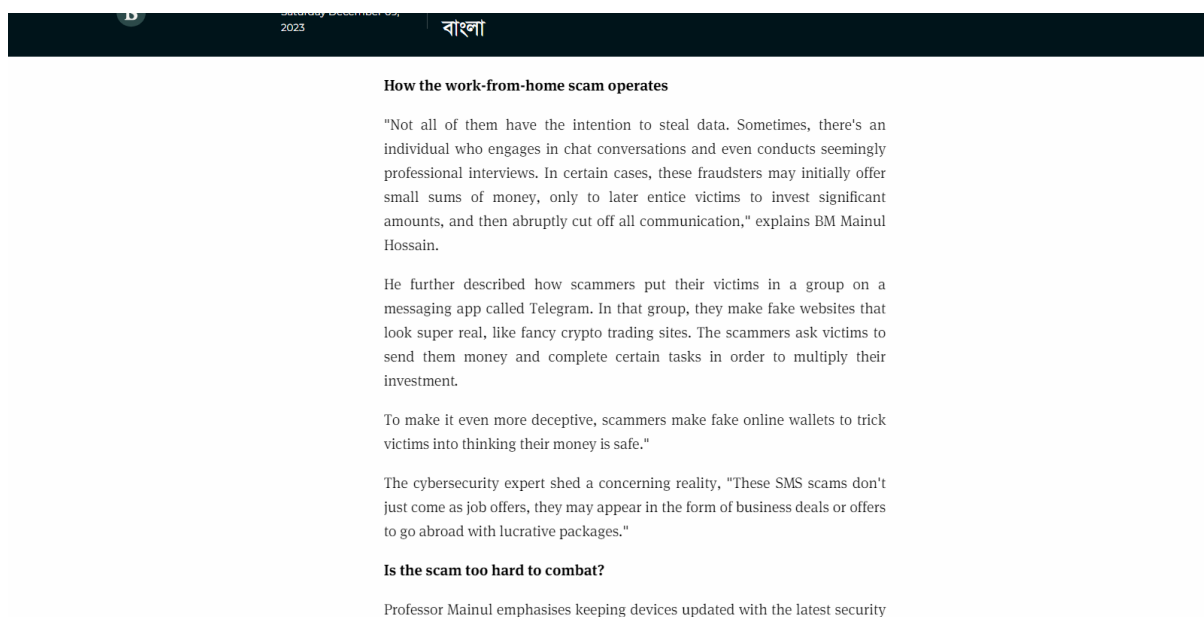


Figure 6.4: Screenshot of the published version of the article that shows how with subheads the article has been crafted for a better reader experience

Project 7

Project Name: Article on “How food delivery men survive Dhaka’s storms”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/features/unexpected-rain-unexpected-expense-how-food-delivery-men-survive-dhakas-storms-709034>

Type of Work: Feature Article

Assignment Date: 27 September 2023

Submission Time: 29 September 2023

Publication Time: 29 September 2023, 02:10 pm

Project Details: As the country was experiencing incessant rainfall all day around late September, the day wage earners like Food Delivery Men were the ones who took a grappling toll on themselves as the people needed food sitting in their homes amid rain – while the delivery men too have to struggle amid rain and waterlogging.

I pitched the idea to my supervisor and he immediately assigned me praising the concept to work on the project as soon as possible, to talk with some food delivery men and come up with a humane angle story.

Earlier there were several copies that I sub-edited that went into print, and several bylines went online – but luckily this was the story that was published in the next day’s print with my byline; the Chief News Editor Harun Ur Rashid made sure this goes on print after reading it online as he liked the article. I received appreciation for the content not just from my immediate supervisors — but from all the top editors and top executives at The Business Standard for this story. Since then, despite being a sub-editor on the news desk which requires me to sub-edit copies for 7 hours for a day’s shift, I was given the freedom to pitch my stories and be allocated time to execute the story from my shift hours.

My Roles and Responsibility: My initial role after pitching the story was to go out and look for Foodpanda riders and talk with them. I prepared a mind map on what should be my approach to the story and how to develop it. What are the areas I need to cover? So, I jotted down the keywords that I am looking to accomplish and eventually, I discussed them with several riders. I discussed it with them and then wrote the initial draft to my supervisor. However, in the meantime, I had to assign our photographers to capture a picture of a delivery rider in the rain.

Challenges faced: Firstly, manoeuvring through the incessant rain to connect with these riders wasn’t easy. To approach them to share the story behind delivering food was very awkward – as none of them initially feeling comfortable sharing it with to press.

Raw Copy	Revised Copy
Dhaka's ceaseless rain raises worries for Foodpanda riders Mehedi Hasan Marof Amidst the relentless monsoon rains that have plagued Dhaka over the past few months, a group of resilient individuals wage daily battles against unrelenting torrential rains, waterlogged streets, and the ticking clock of food deliveries. Engulfed in their pink-ash polos, helmet-masked faces, and jumbo-sized backpacks filled with other people's warm meals, these riders paint an emblematic picture of perseverance against nature's dramas and life amid inflation's demands. The Business Standard zeroed in on one such rider, Hasan, a private university student by day and a Foodpanda delivery boy by night. Each day, he confidently navigates the labyrinthine streets of Bangladesh's capital, undeterred by the obstacles that arise at every turn. His daily routine shifts from lectures and books to the whirring wheels of his delivery motorbike, a routine that is under perpetual threat from Dhaka's recent, unrelenting downpours. Over the past few weeks, Dhaka has been a stage to the wrath nature in the form of persistent and frequent torrential downpours. Just a week ago on 21 September, the capital experienced a nightmarish scenario as 14 hours after the rain stopped, many areas in Dhaka, including Azimpur, New Market, Bangshal Road, Old Dhaka, Jurain, Badda,	~~Dhaka's ceaseless rain raises worries for Foodpanda riders~~ An unexpected rain, an unexpected expense: How food delivery men survive Dhaka's storms Mehedi Hasan Marof Hasan had been stranded for hours, his jumbo-sized backpack now resting against his arm. The rain continued to batter the surroundings around him, with Marof seeking shelter at the nearest shade. His parcel, a hot meal, was slowly turning cold. As impatience grew on the other side of his phone, Hasan's countenance was a mixture of anxiety and frustration. "My bike is wedged in the water reaching up to its exhaust," Hasan, a university student by day and a food delivery man by night, said, his eyes glazed with the shadows of past memories. "You start to question your choices; your safety. However, the thought of failing a hungry customer waiting on their meal...that's not an option." A group of resilient individuals wage daily battles against unrelenting torrential rains battering the capital, braving waterlogged streets and gridlocked roads to ensure timely delivery of hot meals to your doorsteps. As they trudge through the roads on bicycles, their backpacks around them, these food

Mirpur-12, Mirpur-2, Dakshin Khan reportedly were still underwater.

This widespread waterlogging poses a formidable challenge to Foodpanda riders navigating these sea-like streets on their two-wheelers.

"I have been stranded for hours, my bike wedged in water reaching up to its exhaust, my mind plagued with thoughts of the simmering dish in my delivery bag losing its warmth," shares Hasan, his eyes glazed with the shadows of past memories.

"You start to question your choices, your safety. However, the thought of failing a hungry customer waiting on their meal...that's not an option."

Their income is heavily reliant on successful deliveries. A Foodpanda rider is paid by distance. Earns approximately Tk700-800 for 10 hours of work.

Meanwhile, another such app-based food delivery service Pathao pays Tk40 to Tk60 per delivery. Riders earn up to Tk1,000 on workdays, approximately Tk15,000 a month.

Hasan elaborates, "The moment we accept an order, an invisible clock starts ticking. Under clear skies, it's a race against time. But when it's pouring, time is not the only foe."

During heavy rain, every delivery carries the added concern of food going cold, orders being cancelled, subsequent reductions in their commission, and the risk of receiving poor customer reviews.

"There's this cold dread when the rain starts falling – not for me, but for the food I'm

delivery men have become an emblematic picture of perseverance against nature, an constant battle in the climate change hotspot known as Bangladesh.

While rains trap people in homes, offices, or traffic, these aren't options for folks like Hasan.

Their income is heavily reliant on successful deliveries. A food delivery man on average is paid by distance and successful delivery, earning approximately Tk700-800 for 10 hours of work.

~~Amidst the relentless monsoon rains that have plagued Dhaka over the past few months, a group of resilient individuals wage daily battles against unrelenting torrential rains, waterlogged streets, and the ticking clock of food deliveries.~~

~~Engulfed in their pink ash polos, helmet-masked faces, and jumbo-sized backpacks filled with other people's warm meals, these riders paint an emblematic picture of perseverance against nature's dramas and life amid inflation's demands.~~

~~The Business Standard zeroed in on one such rider, Hasan, a private university student by day and a Foodpanda delivery boy by night.~~

Each day, ~~he~~Hasan confidently navigates the labyrinthine streets of Bangladesh's capital, undeterred by the obstacles that arise at every turn. His daily routine shifts from lectures and books to the whirring wheels of his delivery motorbike, a routine that is under perpetual threat from Dhaka's recent, unrelenting downpours.

A debilitating delay

carrying, There are some customers who lose patience when we make a little delay. They may even cancel orders or express frustration..." he laments.

Each cancelled order due to delays translates to lost income, and every negative review further affects their livelihoods. This is the harsh reality these riders face on rainy days.

Another fighter in pink, Sanjib recounts, "Few days back in the evening when the West Rajabajar area of Dhanmondi was half down in the water, I had to deliver food on foot, walking a kilometre or so in waist-deep water. The food reached late, cold... but it reached. I stumbled that day, but I didn't stop."

Every successful food delivery under the turbulent skies of monsoon marks a small victory for them.

Continuing from Sanjib's experiences, Rasel, another Foodpanda rider, offers a somewhat distinct yet equally challenging viewpoint.

"Each delivery cancelled due to the delay imposed by rains equated to lost income. Those cancelled orders or bad reviews haunt me more than the daunting, waterlogged pathways," Rasel shares ruefully.

The financial setbacks echo deeper into the lives of these riders. Their Foodpanda incomes serve purposes beyond belly-filling food deliveries - covering house rents, daily expenses, family commitments, and sometimes even cascading into the domain of dreams.

"Every penny counts in this city," says Hasan. His part-time Foodpanda job

Over the past few weeks, Dhaka has been a stage to the wrath of nature in the form of persistent and frequent torrential downpours.

Just a week ago on 21 September, the capital experienced a nightmarish scenario as 14 hours after the rain stopped, many areas in Dhaka, including Azimpur, New Market, Bangshal Road, Old Dhaka, Jurain, Badda, Mirpur-12, Mirpur-2, Dakshin Khan reportedly were still underwater.

This widespread waterlogging poses a formidable challenge to [Foodpanda riders](#) navigating these sea-like streets on their two-wheelers.

~~"I have been stranded for hours, my bike wedged in water reaching up to its exhaust, my mind plagued with thoughts of the simmering dish in my delivery bag losing its warmth," shares Hasan, his eyes glazed with the shadows of past memories.~~

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[Hasan elaborates](#), "The moment we accept an order, an invisible clock starts ticking. Under clear skies, it's a race against time. But when

supplements his tuition fees paid by his parents as they can only afford to cover his tuition fees, leaving him responsible for his own living expenses. Being a Foodpanda rider has become his lifeline.

"I adhere to a strict budget. As unexpected as those rains are an unexpected expense. It's the same sinking feeling," says Hasan.

Sanjib, whose household depends on his earnings, mirrors Hasan's anxieties on a more amplified scale. "Each low-earning day due to rain pushes the needle on our home budget. It's a silent storm in my head on those rainy days – would we have enough for tomorrow?"

Rasel, despite having a daytime job, relies on his nightmare food deliveries to make ends meet. "Every additional taka I earn counts in the steep rents and soaring prices of Dhaka."

Their struggle against unpredictable weather and economic vulnerabilities paints a portrait of resilience on Dhaka's canvas, eloquently narrated through the stories of Hasan, Sanjib, and Rasel, along with many others navigating similar challenges in their daily lives.

In the midst of flooding streets, mounting challenges, and the fluctuating nature of their earnings, they stand as a testament to Dhaka's enduring spirit.

"Rain or shine, we got you covered," as Foodpanda's slogan goes, and these food delivery riders exemplify the unwavering commitment to deliver, no matter the weather or circumstances.

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During heavy rain, every delivery carries the added concern of food going cold, of orders being cancelled, subsequent reductions in their commission, and the risk of receiving poor customer reviews.

"There's this cold dread when the rain starts falling – not for me, but for the food I'm carrying. There are some customers who lose patience when we make a little delay. They may even cancel orders or express frustration..." he lamented.

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Another fighter in pink delivery man, Sanjib recounts: "Few days back in the evening when the West Rajabazar area of Dhanmondi was half sunk in the water, I had to deliver food on foot, walking a kilometre or so in waist-deep water. The food reached late, cold... but it reached. I stumbled that day, but I didn't stop."

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"Every paddle through the flooded streets, every successful delivery is our testament that we, Dhaka, and its people are resilient."

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These financial setbacks echo deeper into the lives of these riders.

The cost of resiliency

It's not easy living on a daily income, more so in times of raging inflation. ~~Their Foodpanda incomes serve purposes beyond belly-filling food deliveries—covering house rents, daily expenses, family commitments, and sometimes even cascading into the domain of dreams.~~

"Every penny counts in this city," says Hasan. His part-time ~~Foodpanda~~ delivery job supplements ~~his~~ the tuition fees paid by his parents as they can only afford to cover his ~~tuition fees~~ those, leaving him responsible for his own living expenses.

The delivery job is a lifeline, Hasan feels. ~~Being a Foodpanda rider has become his lifeline.~~

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Published copy:

An unexpected rain, an unexpected expense: How food delivery men survive Dhaka's storms

Mehedi Hasan Marof

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A group of resilient individuals wage daily battles against unrelenting torrential rains battering the capital, braving waterlogged streets and gridlocked roads to ensure timely delivery of hot meals to your doorsteps.

As they trudge through the roads on bicycles, their backpacks around them, these food delivery men have become an emblematic picture of perseverance against nature, a constant battle in the climate change hotspot known as Bangladesh.

While rains trap people in homes, offices, or traffic, these aren't options for folks like Hasan.

Their income is heavily reliant on successful deliveries. A food delivery man on average is paid by distance and successful delivery, earning approximately Tk700-800 for 10 hours of work.

Each day, Hasan confidently navigates the labyrinthine streets of Bangladesh's capital, undeterred by the obstacles that arise at every turn. His daily routine shifts from lectures and books to the whirring wheels of his delivery motorbike, a routine that is under perpetual threat from Dhaka's recent, unrelenting downpours.

A debilitating delay

Over the past few weeks, Dhaka has been a stage to the wrath of nature in the form of persistent and frequent torrential downpours.

Just a week ago on 21 September, the capital experienced a nightmarish scenario as 14 hours after the rain stopped, many areas in Dhaka, including Azimpur, New Market, Bangshal Road, Old Dhaka, Jurain, Badda, Mirpur-12, Mirpur-2, Dakshin Khan reportedly were still underwater.

This widespread waterlogging poses a formidable challenge to delivery men navigating these sea-like streets on their two-wheelers.

"The moment we accept an order, an invisible clock starts ticking. Under clear skies, it's a race against time. But when it's pouring, time is not the only foe," Hasan said.

During heavy rain, every delivery carries the added concern of orders being cancelled, subsequent reductions in their commission, and the risk of receiving poor customer reviews.

"There's this cold dread when the rain starts falling – not for me, but for the food I'm carrying. There are some customers who lose patience when we make a little delay. They may even cancel orders or express frustration..." he lamented.

Each cancelled order due to delays translates to lost income, and every negative review further affects their livelihoods. This is the harsh reality these riders face on rainy days.

Another delivery man, Sanjib recounted: "Few days back in the evening when the West Rajabazar area of Dhanmondi was half sunk in the water, I had to deliver food on foot, walking a kilometre or so in waist-deep water. The food reached late, cold... but it reached. I stumbled that day, but I didn't stop."

Every successful food delivery under the turbulent skies of monsoon marks a small victory for them.

Continuing from Sanjib's experiences, Rasel, another delivery man, offers a somewhat distinct yet equally challenging viewpoint.

"Each delivery cancelled due to the delay imposed by rains equates to lost income. Those cancelled orders or bad reviews haunt me more than the daunting, waterlogged pathways," Rasel shares ruefully.

These financial setbacks echo deeper into the lives of these riders.

The cost of resiliency

It's not easy living on a daily income, more so in times of raging inflation.

"Every penny counts in this city," says Hasan. His part-time delivery job supplements the tuition fees paid by his parents as they can only afford to cover his those, leaving him responsible for his own living expenses.

The delivery job is a lifeline, Hasan feels.

"I adhere to a strict budget. An unexpected rain is an unexpected expense. It's the same sinking feeling," says Hasan.

Sanjib, whose household depends on his earnings, mirrors Hasan's anxieties on a more amplified scale. "Each low-earning day due to rain pushes the needle on our home budget. It's a silent storm in my head on those rainy days – would we have enough for tomorrow?"

Rasel, despite having a daytime job, relies on his food deliveries to make ends meet. "Every additional taka I earn counts in the steep rents and soaring prices of Dhaka."

Their struggle against unpredictable weather and economic vulnerabilities paints a portrait of resilience on Dhaka's canvas, eloquently narrated through the stories of Hasan, Sanjib, and Rasel, along with many others navigating similar challenges in their daily lives.

In the midst of flooding streets, mounting challenges, and the fluctuating nature of their earnings, they stand as a testament to Dhaka's enduring spirit.

"Every paddle through the flooded streets, every successful delivery is our testament that we, Dhaka, and its people are resilient," Hasan concludes.

My mistakes:

- In my copy, I started the article with a detailed description of the rain's impact on Foodpanda riders. Meanwhile, my supervisor initiated the article with a specific scene involving a character, providing a more immediate engagement.
- I also included repetitive scenarios or descriptions, making the content verbose and less engaging by repeating details unnecessarily.
- My paragraph organization lacked clear transitions, affecting the flow and coherence of the content.

My learnings:

- I've learned that clarity is key. While vivid descriptions can be engaging, overly elaborate details can detract from the main message.
 - It's crucial to stay focused on the central theme. Tangential information can dilute the impact of the narrative.
 - I'll aim for a more structured approach, ensuring every detail contributes directly to the main story.
 - People connect more with stories. I've seen how personal anecdotes and experiences bring depth to the narrative.
 - I'll continue to incorporate real-life characters in the lead.
 - Paragraph organization and sentence length significantly impact readability.
 - Through these interviews, I've gained insights into the challenges faced by Foodpanda riders. I'll keep this understanding of their struggles in mind while framing future articles, ensuring I represent their experiences authentically and respectfully.
 - Not all details are equally important.
-

including agriculture, fishing, and the occupied areas.

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Figure 7.1: The feature on food delivery men was published in the TBS Print edition on 30 September

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Saturday December 09, 2023

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FEATURES

Mehedi Hasan Marof

29 September, 2023, 02:10 pm

Last modified: 29 September, 2023, 03:14 pm

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"There's this cold dread when the rain starts falling – not for me, but for the food I'm carrying. There are some customers who lose patience when we make a little delay. They may even cancel orders or express frustration....," a food delivery rider lamented



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Figure 7.2: Screenshot of the published article on the website

The delivery job is a lifeline, Hasan feels.

"I adhere to a strict budget. An unexpected rain is an unexpected expense. It's the same sinking feeling," says Hasan.

Food delivery rider caught in traffic jam at Banglamotor under the blazing sun. Photo: Mehedi Hasan Marof/TBS

Figure 7.3: One of the characters of the article, Hasan, whom I met around the Bangla Motor intersection in the capital on 28 December. He was in a rush — so I took his number and later contacted him over the phone and interviewed him.

Project 8

Project Name: Article for TBS magazine for cricket world cup on “ICC CWC 2023: A sporting spectacle with glimpse of economic prosperity”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/sports/icc-cwc-2023-sporting-spectacle-glimpse-economic-prosperity-711478>

Type of Work: Sports Magazine Article

Assignment Date: 08 September 2023

Submission Time: 12 September 2023

Magazine Unveiling: 02 October 2023

Project Details: As The Business Standard was planning to launch a magazine on the ICC Cricket World Cup — they were looking for writers to write the variety of content that went on the magazine. TBS Sports could not cover it all. So, they resorted to writers among the TBS staff belonging to other teams. As I have knowledge of sports, my supervisor asked me whether I wanted to contribute to the magazine.

So, I took the opportunity and write on the economic aspects of the World Cup, its impact on the host nation's economy, sponsors, and deals money. I had to compile it all.

My Roles and Responsibility: My initial role doing this project was to discuss with the Sports Team in overall content planning for the magazine and decide for myself which one to write for. I had to discuss in our team meeting what are the areas each story should cover – including mine.

As the data is related to financial figures and numbers, the data needed to be outsourced but meticulously verified – and presented in a way so that the audience could get an overview of the impact of the overall World Cup economy.

I had to also keep the sports editor in the loop and as there was a deadline to maintain so that it could be proofread and set for page layout design and eventually printed.

I also had to supervise our page designer while doing the page design for my article — as there were some infographics involved.

Challenges faced: The challenges that I faced were to collect the data as most of these financial data are not available in the open source. So, I had to seek help from official sources such as ICC, and BCCI though I fell short of reaching out to them despite emailing them several times.

Then I resorted to Cricviz, a cricketing site that does data analysis – I reached out to one of their staff on Twitter.

Raw Copy	Revised Copy
ICC CWC 2023: A Spectacle of Sport and Economic Powerplay Mehedi Hasan Marof The Cricket World Cup 2023, set to be held in India, promises not only an epic spectacle of sport but also a significant boost to national and global economies. Beyond the substantial revenues that the ICC anticipates from the Men's Cricket World Cup, businesses within India, the host nation, are poised to reap substantial benefits from the tournament. From corporate sponsors and TV rights to tourism and job creation, the World Cup triggers a financial windfall. This highly anticipated event is slated to unfold from October 5 to November 19, with matches among the top ten cricketing nations spanning across ten prominent venues in cities such as Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Dharamsala, Delhi, Chennai, Lucknow, Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Kolkata. Sponsorship deals and broadcasting rights The catalyst of this economic surge is primarily driven by how ICC generates revenue through sponsorship deals and broadcasting rights. In 2019, the ICC World Cup held in England and Wales witnessed conglomerates like Nissan, Oppo, MRF Tyres, Emirates, and CocaCola as global partners. The sponsors shelled out around \$40 million each, generating an almost \$200 million uptick in the global economy. Fast forward to 2023, and the ICC has secured a roster of global, official, and category	ICC CWC 2023: A sporting spectacle with glimpse of economic prosperity Mehedi Hasan Marof The Cricket World Cup 2023, set to be held in India, promises not only an epic spectacle of sport but also a significant boost to national and global economies. Beyond the substantial revenues that the ICC anticipates from the Men's Cricket World Cup, businesses within India, the host nation, are poised to reap substantial benefits from the tournament. From corporate sponsors and TV rights to tourism and job creation, the World Cup triggers a financial windfall. This highly anticipated event is slated to unfold from 5 October to 19 November, with matches among the top ten cricketing nations spanning across ten prominent venues in cities such as Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Dharamsala, Delhi, Chennai, Lucknow, Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Kolkata. The Cricket World Cup 2023, set to be held in India from 5 October to 19 November, promises not only an epic spectacle of sport but also a significant boost to national and global economies. Beyond the substantial revenues that the ICC anticipates from the Men's Cricket World Cup, businesses, tourism and the job market within India, the host nation, are poised to trigger a financial windfall from the tournament. Sponsorship deals and broadcasting rights The catalyst of this economic surge is primarily driven by how ICC generates

partners featuring prominent conglomerates like Emirates, MRF, BharatPe, Coca-Cola, and 18 such entities in total, further propelling the cricketing economy.

[— Sponsor Infographics]

Television rights are another significant revenue churning. Star India bagged the global broadcasting rights for the 2015-2023 cycle for approximately \$2 billion. Compared to the \$1.1 billion ESPN Star paid for the 2007-2015 rights, a nearly 82% spike exemplifies how the demand for cricket content has skyrocketed worldwide. According to a report on ESPNCricinfo, the ICC's broadcasting income from the 2023 Cricket World Cup in India is estimated to reach an impressive \$533.29 million.

Drawing a parallel comparison, the FIFA World Cup 2018 generated a total revenue of \$6.1 billion, with \$3 billion coming from broadcasting rights and \$1.45 billion from marketing rights. While football's global reach is more comprehensive, the Cricket World Cup's monetization potential must not be understated.

Impact on the host nation's economy

It's important to note that the financial impact of the World Cup is not limited to sponsorship and broadcasting rights. The tournament also contributes significantly to the host nation's economy. India, the host for the 2023 edition, is likely to see a boom in the tourism, hospitality, and transportation sectors. In 2011, when India cohosted the tournament, approximately 400,000 domestic and international tourists visited, contributing an estimated \$500 million to the national economy.

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The impact of the World Cup on the job market is also substantial. The 2015 Cricket World Cup in Australia and New Zealand created over 5,000 jobs and added \$1.1 billion to the economy in expenditures from an influx of international visitors.

A similar pattern was observed in previous tournaments. The 2003 cricket World Cup in South Africa injected \$475 million into the local economy and created approximately 2,000 direct jobs. England in 2019, reportedly reaped an estimated economic benefit of over £350 million (\$460 million) with significant boosts to various sectors such as retailing, hospitality, and tourism.

The halo effect

Beyond these direct financial impacts, there are also significant indirect economic benefits. The halo effect that such a global tournament creates for the host country in terms of leveraging sport to strengthen its national brand and its international profile, increased tourism, recognition, and attractiveness as a business destination is immeasurable in monetary terms.

However, it's also crucial to consider the economic disparities such a tournament could create with ticket prices skyrocketing and local businesses potentially being overshadowed in the face of massive commercial partnerships.

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Apart from the surmounting economic upturns that the Cricket World Cup 2023 stands to generate, there are also looming challenges brought forth by India's strict tax regulations. In line with norms imposed by the International Cricket Council (ICC), the nation hosting ICC-organised tournaments must secure tax exemptions from its government. Contrarily, India's existing tax rules do not permit these waivers. As a result, there's a prospective tax surcharge of 21.84%, equivalent to Rs 955 crore (\$116 million), on ICC's broadcast revenue from the 2023 ODI World Cup. This surcharge amount will be deducted from the share of ICC's central revenue pool allocated to BCCI. Over the current rights cycle spanning from 2016 to 2023, BCCI's share amounts to approximately \$405 million based on ICC's overall earnings for the period, estimated to be around \$2.7 billion.

As a matter of fact, during the time period (2016 - 2023), The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) are getting the second highest share with \$139 million, and the cricketing governing bodies of Australia, Bangladesh, South Africa, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and New Zealand are to receive \$128 million each. Associate nations along with 2023 World Cup-playing nations Afghanistan and Netherlands get from a collective pool of \$240m that is to be divided among 94 Associate Nations. (Can be converted into an Infographic)

overshadowed in the face of amid massive commercial partnerships.

A little on the Backfoot

Apart from the surmounting economic upturns that the Cricket World Cup 2023 stands to generate, there are also looming challenges brought forth by India's strict tax regulations. In line with norms imposed by the International Cricket Council (ICC), the nation hosting ICC-organised tournaments must secure tax exemptions from its government. Contrarily, India's existing tax rules do not permit these waivers. According to ICC norms, host nations must grant tax exemptions, but India's rules don't allow this. As a result, there's a prospective tax surcharge of 21.84%, equivalent to Rs 955 crore (\$116 million), on ICC's broadcast revenue from the 2023 ODI World Cup. This surcharge amount will be deducted from the share of ICC's central revenue pool allocated to BCCI. Over the current rights cycle spanning from 2016 to 2023, BCCI's share amounts to approximately \$405 million based on ICC's overall earnings for the period, (estimated to be around \$2.7 billion).

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Regardless of any odds, the cricket World Cup acts as a significant catalyst in boosting economies – either directly or indirectly. The financial benefits accruing from sponsorships, and broadcasting rights showcase the global commercial interest in cricket and the potential the sport has in the future, if it's globalised in the term's classic sense.

Prize money breakdown for ICC World Cup 2023

The total prize money allocated for the ICC World Cup 2023 is \$10,000,000. This distribution of prize money not only rewards the overall performance of teams but also incentivizes them to perform well in individual league-stage matches, making the tournament more competitive and exciting.

Winner: The team that emerges victorious in the ICC World Cup 2023 will be awarded a prize of \$4,000,000.

Runnerup: The team that finishes as the runner-up in the tournament will receive a prize of \$2,000,000.

Losing semifinalists: There will be two teams that reach the semifinals but do not progress to the final. Each of these teams will be awarded \$800,000, making a total of \$1,600,000 for both semifinalists.

Winner of each league stage match: A total of 45 league stage matches will be played during the ICC World Cup 2023. For each league stage match won, the respective team will earn \$40,000 in prize money. The cumulative prize money for all teams

winning league-stage matches will amount to be \$1,800,000.

Teams that do not pass the league stage:

There will be six teams that do not advance beyond the league stage. Each of these teams will receive \$100,000 in prize money, resulting in a total of \$600,000 for all the teams that do not progress.

Prize Money Breakdown for ICC World Cup 2023.

Sponsors of ICC Cricket World Cup 2023

Global Partners:

- BharatPe (Fintech)
- Aramco (Oil and Gas)
- MRF (Tire Manufacturing)
- Booking.com (Online Travel Agency)
- Byju's (EdTech)
- Emirates (Airlines and Travel)

ICC Official Partners:

- Bira91 (Beverages - Beer)
- CocaCola (Beverages - Soft Drinks)
- Upstox (Online Stock Trading)
- Oppo (Consumer Electronics and Mobile Phones)
- FTX (Cryptocurrency Platform)
- Nium (Fintech)
- Nissan (Car Manufacturer)
- DP World (Logistics and Shipping)

Category Partners:

- Royal Stag (Beverages - Whiskey)
- Jacob's Creek (Beverages - Wine)
- Dream11 (Online Fantasy Gaming)
- FanCraze (Cricket NFT Platform)

Broadcasting Partner:

- Star Sports (Sportscasting)

	Who sponsors the national team? (Team Sponsors) ● Afghanistan: Super Cola (Beverage - Soft Drinks) ● Australia: Qantas (Airline) ● Bangladesh: Daraz (E-commerce) ● England: Cinch (Car Retail and Leasing) ● India: Dream11 (Online Fantasy Gaming) ● New Zealand: ANZ (Banking and Financial Services) ● Netherlands: ● Pakistan: Pepsi (Beverage - Soft Drinks) ● South Africa: Momentum (Financial Services and Insurance) ● Sri Lanka: 1XBAT (Betting and Online Gaming)
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My Mistakes:

- My initial draft had longer, denser paragraphs, hindering readability.
- The revised copy maintains a consistent tone throughout, whereas my first draft had slight variations in tone, impacting the article's coherence.
- The revised copy presents points more concisely and clearly, ensuring each detail contributes directly to the narrative.
- The revised introduction and conclusion in the second version are refined and more impactful, summarising the key points effectively.
- My initial draft lacked a concise summary, making the beginning and end less impactful.
- In my initial draft, the statistical data was scattered, making it harder to follow and comprehend.
- I missed including some details in my initial draft, which would have added depth to the piece.

My Learnings:

- Ensure paragraphs are concise, breaking down complex ideas for easier readability.
- Check for duplicated sentences or ideas to maintain a smooth flow of information.
- Maintain a uniform tone throughout the article for coherence.
- Stick to the main narrative without veering off-topic for a more impactful piece.
- Craft engaging introductions and concise conclusions to summarize key points.
- Organize statistical data for clarity and easy comprehension.

- Include relevant information like prize breakdowns or additional context to enrich the article.
- Ensure grammatical accuracy and maintain consistency in information presentation.

Magazine Unveiled:



Figure 8.1: My piece on the economic factors of the CWC2023 on TBS World Cup special magazine

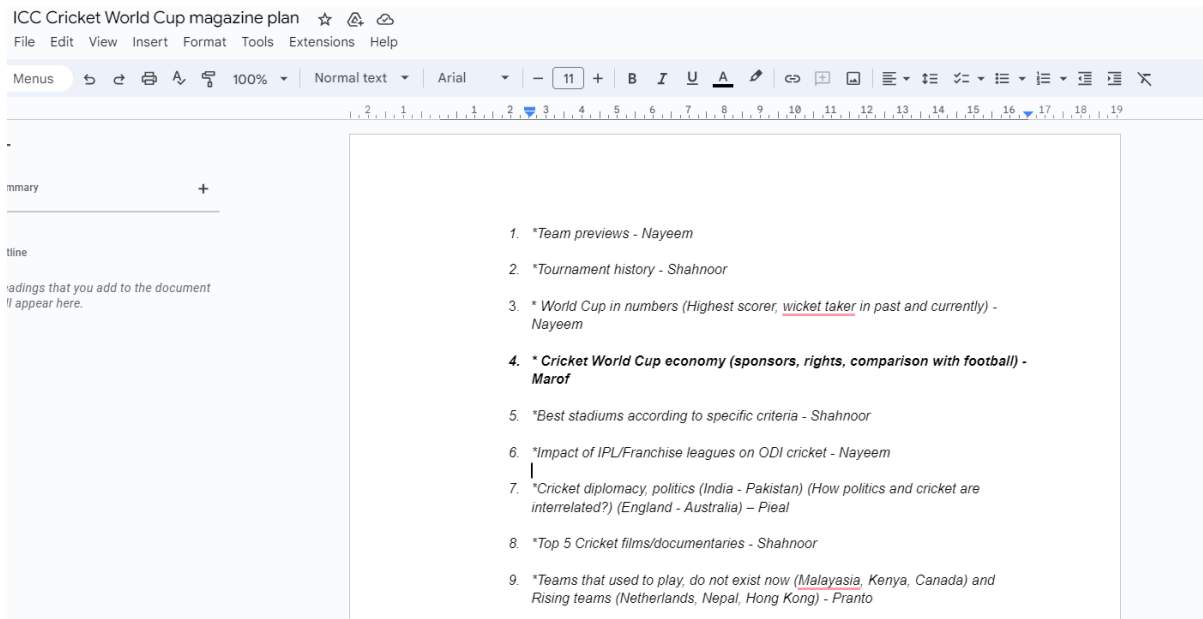


Figure 8.2: The planning and piece-assigning phase of the TBS world cup special magazine



Figure 8.3: Framed with a small faction of TBS Sports staff. However, I am not a core member of the sports team. I work on the TBS News desk.

Project 9

Project Name: An article on admission aspirants – “Woes of university admission seekers amid political strife”

Online publication URL: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/education/political-unrest-hampers-admission-prep-hsc-2023-intake-747782>

Type of Work: Reporting and writing long-form feature.

Assignment Date: 20 November 2023

Submission Time: 25 November 2023

Publication Time: 28 November 2023

Project Details: As the HSC result was approaching I was doing a news on when the HSC results will be published on 20 November. The article was an instant hit on the website – so because of very well traction — the Web Editor at TBS wanted a special report on this year’s examinee to publish afterwards their result unveiling.

I initially came up with the idea that this batch of students is taking a hit because of the political turmoil — especially the students who are new to Dhaka – as they are not habituated to the cityscape. So our editors approved the idea and told me to get on the story — talk to the students – and coordinate with our photographers for pictures.

Though I didn’t get any waive from my usual shift hours of 8:30 to 3:30 in daytime — I had to research, talk and write the story in my own time.

My Roles and Responsibility: I had to prepare a mind map — how to approach the story — what my objectives are — and what my angle is. Then I started talking with some of the students that I know around the HSC 2023 batch who are preparing for the exam. I visited Farmgate, the hub of coaching centres and hostels for the students, and talked with them. Recorded the conversation with their due permission. Then I had to resort to talking with some coaching centre teachers who once used to live in these hostels.

In addition to that, I also had to manage contact with UGC and talk with them. I also had to take our in-house photographer and direct him to what kind of images I needed for the story.

As a long-form story, I had to upload the story in a different format than usual doing a parallax of images.

Challenges faced: As I had to work on the story in my own time after doing my regular shifts and it also had a deadline to maintain I faced a little trouble in holding my firm mentality to approaching the story. I also didn't know how to upload long-form stories and how the images are to be uploaded as parallax.

My Raw Copy	Revised Copy
Political unrest hampers admission prep for HSC 2023 intake; New to Dhaka students struggle more Mehedi Hasan Marof Shakia Rahman, an admission aspirant from the HSC 2023 intake, is now in a dilemma scheduling her study plan for the forthcoming “admission war” — as the Election Commission’s polls schedule announcement for 7 January pushed the nation to a politically violent turn on streets. “The result is out. Yet I don’t know when the exams are likely to happen. We are already behind the usual academic schedule because of COVID-19 delays. Now these uncertainties...It is disrupting my study plans. I don’t know how much time I have,” she said. As HSC 2023 result was published on 26 November – out of over 13 lakh students across 11 education boards in the country, 92,365 students have achieved GPA-5. Meanwhile, there are roughly around 60 thousand seats available in the county's government-funded public, engineering universities and medical colleges altogether. Not all of these seats can attract admission seekers as most of the students chase to grab a seat at a top-tier university in a major city – also with a demanding subject.	Studying in tumultuous times: Political unrest hampers admission prep for HSC 2023 intake <i>Standfirst: Students who are new to Dhaka struggle more</i> Mehedi Hasan Marof Shakia Rahman, an admission aspirant from the HSC 2023 intake, is now in a dilemma scheduling her study plan for the forthcoming “admission war” — as the Election Commission's announcement to hold the national polls on 7 January pushed the nation to a political violent turn on streets. “The result is out. Yet I don’t know when the exams are likely to happen. We are already behind the usual academic schedule because of COVID-19 delays. Now these uncertainties...It is disrupting my study plans. I don’t know how much time I have,” she said. As the HSC 2023 result was published on 26 November, out of over 13 lakh students across 11 education boards in the country, 92,365 students have achieved GPA-5. Meanwhile, there are roughly 60 thousand seats available in the county's government-funded public and engineering universities along with the medical colleges altogether. Not all of these seats can attract admission seekers as most of the students chase to grab a seat at a top-tier university in a major city – also with a demanding subject. Shakia has a dream to be a neurosurgeon and so she is eyeing a public medical college now, where the total number of seats is 5,380

Shakia has a dream to be a neurosurgeon and so she is eyeing a public medical college now, where the total number of seats is 5,380 – thanks to the government’s recent decision to add 1,030 more seats to these public medical colleges.

“Hundreds of candidates fight for a seat in these medicals, it’s not easy. If I can not crack it, I have to resort to preparing for other pure subject universities. But the curriculums, subjects, structures, marks distributions differ from one university to another,” she said.

The path to engineering universities often parallels the science department exams at public universities, but the journey to medical college is quite different.

“While the focus on subjects like Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics can cover one’s preparation for institutions like BUET or Dhaka University's 'A' unit, medical college entrance exams are quite different. It includes subjects like Biology and General Knowledge...and there is a MCQ style question pattern,” explained Imtiaz Shorif, a 4th-year MBBS student at Dhaka Medical College, who now also takes admission preparation classes at a medical coaching centre in the capital.

"Given the limited time at hand, it is important to make every second count. Trying to juggle multiple subjects, syllabus, and question patterns only burdens the mind unnecessarily," he added.

Talking to The Business Standard, Imtiaz also highlighted the challenges that students are facing this year because of ongoing

– thanks to the government’s recent decision to add 1,030 more seats to these public medical colleges.

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Talking to The Business Standard (TBS), Imtiaz also highlighted the challenges that students are facing this year because of ongoing political turmoil, particularly students arriving from outer districts to Dhaka solely for admission preparation.

“I have seen a majority number of students come from outside of Dhaka. Their college was in another town. Because of the political situation in Dhaka, I think most of them are struggling to adapt to the city and the situation.

political turmoil, particularly students arriving from outer districts to Dhaka solely for admission preparation.

"I have seen a majority number of students come from outside of Dhaka. Their college was in another town. Because of the political situation in Dhaka, I think most of them are struggling to adapt to the city and the situation.

"While taking classes in coaching, I observed some of them as potential, but they are not regular and most of the time, they remain zoned out in classes," said Imtiaz.

New to Dhaka students struggling more, preparing less

"Coming from Gaibandha, adapting to Dhaka's rhythm was already a challenge for me. The recent political unrest and the hartals - blockades almost every day in a week have added a new layer of complexity to our struggles," lamented Samiul Bashar Rifat, a student intending to study at Dhaka University.

Samiul Bashar Rifat stays at a residential hostel in Farmgate, an educational hub famous for its coaching centres, where thousands of admission aspirants come from all parts of the country.

"I feel I am already a little lagged behind others in the admission race. Every second matters now. The students who were already in Dhaka in their college are getting an extra advantage as they know the hacks and tricks of surviving in this city, I sometimes feel delusional," he said.

"While taking classes in coaching, I observed some of them as potential, but they are not regular and most of the time, they remain zoned out in classes," said Imtiaz.

Students new to Dhaka struggling more

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Rifat is not happy with the overall city environment.

It should come as no surprise as a recent report by The Economist ranked Dhaka as the second-least resilient among 25 cities in the world.

However, he does not have to travel through any transport to go back and forth to his hostel and coaching centre, but he had witnessed a few political processions while walking along the Farmgate streets.

"I felt scared when the first time I saw hundreds of people shouting and walking on the street. Most of them had stumps, pipes, sticks, and tree logs in their hand. For a minute I was stunned and could not walk."

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Visiting several hostels in the capital’s Farmgate and Azimpur areas in the capital, and talking with their boarders preparing for admission tests, a sense of fear and uncertainty could be observed.

Rakib Al Hasan, a math instructor at a city coaching centre, went back to his hostel days in Farmgate, highlighting the unlivability of these boarding hostels.

Hailing from Noakhali in 2018, Rakib, who now lives in a 2 bhk Dhanmondi flat, chose to live in a Farmgate hostel called “VIP Residence” – which ironically could not serve justice to its name serving its residents.

“Water smells really bad as that is purified using fitkari (alum stone) in these hostels. When I was there back in 2018, I couldn’t drink it. Almost every twenty students have to use just three bathrooms downstairs. The situation hasn’t changed much in last 5 years. There are already so many problems in these hostels for the students,” said Rakib

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“Water smells really bad as that is purified using fitkari (alum stone) in these hostels. When I was there back in 2018, I couldn’t drink it. Almost every twenty students have to use just three bathrooms downstairs. The situation hasn’t changed much in the last 5 years. There are already so many problems in these hostels for the students,” said Rakib highlighting the added layer of burden this political turmoil has posed on this intake of admission aspirants.

“The class attendance ratio is very low this year. Especially on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. It’s not that fewer students chose our coaching. I think students are afraid of coming out on the street.”

Echoing the fear of his students Rakib added, “I have been living in Dhaka for the last 5 years. I also sometimes have to think twice — which road to take - when. Should I take a bus or hitch a bike ride? Every time I see a ‘fire on bus’ news, a question hits my mind – What if I was there.”

“We have found a lot of students who initially got admitted to a Dhaka branch but later changed their minds and migrated to district branches. I think no parents are feeling safe with their children in this city,” Rakib’s remarked, highlighting a concerning

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Rakib highlighted a concerning trend this year. “We have found a lot of students who initially got admitted to a Dhaka branch but later changed their minds and migrated to district branches. I think no parents are feeling safe with their children in this city”

While the unicorn-like coaching centre Rakib is affiliated with covers almost all the major towns across the country and also has a migration facility, – most other coaching centres either don’t keep that option or don’t even have branches outside Dhaka.

Not a cakewalk for Dhaka veterans

Israt Tory, another admission aspirant living at a shared bachelor flat in the capital’s Dhanmondi, wants to study Law at Dhaka University.

Unlike Rifat, she is a little familiar with the cityscape as Tory had her prior study in the capital’s Birshreshtha Noor Mohammad Public College.

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Not a cakewalk for Dhaka residents either

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However, in a conversation with TBS, Tory said, “I don’t attend all the classes. I take class notes from friends. I know it is weakening my preparation.”

Her extra-cautionary move came as she had recently found herself at a point between life and death during a recent BNP grand rally procession around Dhanmondi. Tory has to go near the Science Lab intersection to attend her coaching.

“I saw a lot of people coming with a procession towards Nilkhet. Suddenly, everyone started running here and there. One middle-aged man told me, ‘Apu, cross the road, it’s not safe on this side’ and he ran away. I was feeling numb. And then I saw a bus being burned. A woman was crying on the street asking for help. I felt like I should come to her rescue. But how could I? It was a chaos,” she said.

“I called my father [who lives in Tangail] and started crying – I even told him to forgive me for everything. I felt like I would die. Since then whenever I see a gathering, I feel

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In the meantime, Tory discovered a solution. Added to her irregular coaching at a city coaching centre, she has lately opted to enrol in an admission package of online-based coaching run by some university students.

“Online coaching is being really helpful for my preparation. But sometimes, I get distracted by YouTube and Facebook.

“I am familiar with this. During COVID, our college used to operate online. Because of

suffocated,” said Tory explaining the moment of horror that made her choose safety over soundness in studies.

In the meantime, Tory discovered a solution. She has lately enrolled in an admission package of online-based coaching run by some university students.

“Online coaching is being really helpful for my preparation. But sometimes, I get distracted by YouTube and Facebook. I am familiar with this. During the Covid pandemic, our college used to operate online. Because of this, at least, I am staying on the clock and routine. I think I can still make it,” Tory said, showing confidence that had underlying fears.

Online coaching emerges as a lifeline

E-learning is not a new phenomenon as the Covid-19 pandemic pushed the country’s academia online when schools were closed, – classes and exams shifted to the Internet.

Since the pandemic, due to the positive reception from students and parents, there has been an increase in the emergence of online coaching centres in the country’s digital sphere. These platforms primarily focus on admission tests, while some also offer education aligned with the NCTB curriculum.

“Online coaching has been a lifesaver. It has kept me on track with my studies and exam preparation,” said Asma Homayra Raisa, a student from Chandpur.

Raisa’s father Shahadat Hossain said, “I have confidence in my daughter. Even if she can’t make it to a top university – I won’t regret my decision not to send her outside home for physical coaching.

“I can’t risk my daughter’s life,” the father said, highlighting the political situation and what may come ahead of the Jatiya Sangsad

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“I can’t risk my daughter’s life,” the father said, highlighting the political situation and what may come ahead of the Jatiya Sangsad polls.

Meanwhile, Abdullah Al Sohan, founder of an online-based coaching centre, told TBS, “In this political instability, we have made it convenient for the student, but the convenience is not only for now.”

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“Earlier students from other districts had to travel away from home just to prepare for the admission test. It would take a month for them to settle down in a new environment. The transition is not smooth as most of these students either have to live in a hostel or at a relative’s house,” Sohan added.

Preparing online is also very cost-effective as the students do not need to rent a house in a city and the coaching fees typically are set at a significantly lower rate than physical classes.

“The idea of opening up this platform came in January this year when I read a news article that said a father from Bogura sold his cow and some sack of paddy to arrange money for his son to prepare for the admission test staying in a hostel.”

“I know there exists a lot of online-based coaching already but I wanted to be part of helping this cause – removing the inconvenience of coming to Dhaka for an expensive admission preparation,” Sohan added.

“Given the ongoing state conditions and elections are also due – who knows what may come in the near future. So I guess, preparing for admission test in any online-based platform is a good alternative for HSC 2023 intake,” he said

Sohan’s coaching has over 700 videos covering complete preparation for entrance exams in engineering, medical, and various university units.

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“It's not limited to just videos; we also conduct MCQ-type quizzes, and students can participate in written mock tests. We also provide one-to-one feedback sessions,” said Sohan explaining online coaching as not only a demand of the time but a worthy alternative.

When will the ‘war’ begin for HSC 2023 intake

The academic calendar for HSC 2023 students remains uncertain due to ongoing challenges exacerbated by the current political instability.

Traditionally, university entrance exams take place within the last quarter of the year following HSC exams in April-May. Classes commence in January-March of the following year after the admission process concludes.

BRAC University Emeritus Professor Manzoor Ahmed highlighted that academia could not recover the pre-existing backlogs due to the Covid-19 pandemic yet, and circumstances have further deteriorated for the country’s higher education because of current political instability.

“Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, board exams took place at a delayed schedule in the last two years and so universities have been forced to delay entrance exams. Look, students of the HSC 2023 batch are not yet sure when their public university exams will be; but if you remember in a regular academic year, by the end of November, the admission test season would have come near the end quarter,” he said.

However, as of now, no public university has released any schedule or announcement regarding upcoming public university

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Contacted, the University Grants Commission (UGC) said, the decision regarding admission tests will be made by each university considering the time, situation and convenience of all candidates and announced in due course.

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Contacted, the University Grants Commission (UGC) said, the decision regarding admission tests will be made by each university considering the time, situation and convenience of all candidates and announced in due course.

Finally published headline and standfirst: I as the reporting writer was not happy with the edited headline – I had to talk to my supervisor for another suggestion. He suggested these and told me to upload the story in a long-form mood by making some images parallax.

Headline: Woes of university admission seekers amid political strife

Standfirst: Students who are new to Dhaka for admission preparation struggle more; however, for some, online coaching has come as a rescue.

My Mistakes: Though there weren't many mistakes but my raw copy presented two or three paragraphs without a clear connection or transition between different perspectives or instances.

My Learnings:

- Each section should smoothly transition to the next, creating a cohesive narrative.
- Ensure a clear connection between paragraphs.
- Learned how to upload through long forms that I later implemented in other articles.
- As for the parallax images, they can enhance the article's visual appeal.
- Align the images with the narrative, displaying scenes relevant to the challenges discussed in each section.

Attaching photos is a bit tricky in this CMS while uploading the long form. The site intentionally doesn't give the option to upload or add multiple photos at once as it may increase the possibility of making errors in order to do things fast.

When a photo is added to the server, the server gives it a unique content number. That number needs to be placed in a piece of code.

Here's one of the 22 codes that I put into the article- `[media type="image" fid="77647" layout="big" caption="1" infograph="0"parallax="0" popup="1" news_break="0"][/media]`

- “media type” refers to the type of media I want to insert. For this example, it's an image. The site also supports adding YouTube videos.
- “fid” part refers to the unique number of the content.
- “layout” refers to the size of the picture in the article. For this example, the image size is

big. Layout only shows the 16:9 ratio of the image.

- “caption” is a boolean operator here, meaning that it only has the numerical value of 0 and 1. If it’s 1, then it means yes. 0 means no. Writing 1 means the photo will show the caption below it.
- “infograph” part is a bit interesting. It will completely ignore the layout size and show the whole picture (not only the 16:9 part).
- “parallax” means the photo will show as the user scrolls through the page. As the feature creates some visibility issues on mobile devices, the value is set to 0.
- “popup” means the image will be clickable.



Figure 9.1: This is how the interface shows on the web when an article is uploaded in long form.

said Imtiaz.

Students new to Dhaka struggling more

"Coming from Gaibandha, adapting to Dhaka's rhythm was already a challenge for me. The recent political unrest and the hartals - blockades almost every day in a week have added a new layer of complexity to our struggles," said Samiul Bashar Rifat, a student intending to study at Dhaka University.



Figure 9.2: This is how images show the whole page - when they are uploaded in the form of parallax.



Rakib Al Hasan, a math instructor at a city coaching centre, went back to his hostel days in Farmgate, highlighting the unlivability of these boarding

Figure 9.3: This is how images show the whole page - when they are uploaded in the form of parallax.

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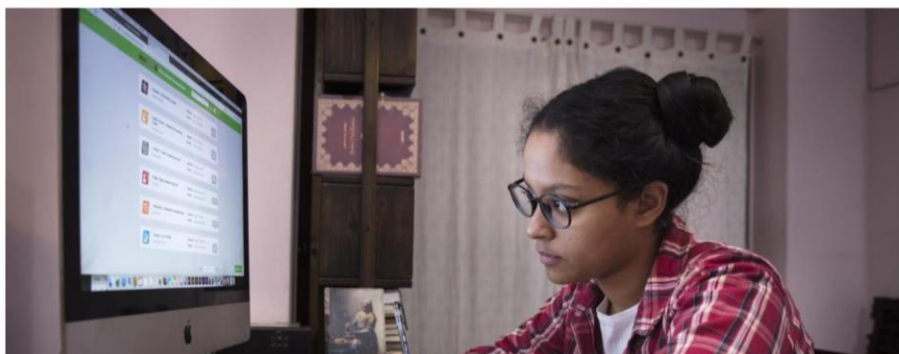


Figure 9.4: This is how images show the whole page - when they are uploaded in the form of parallax.

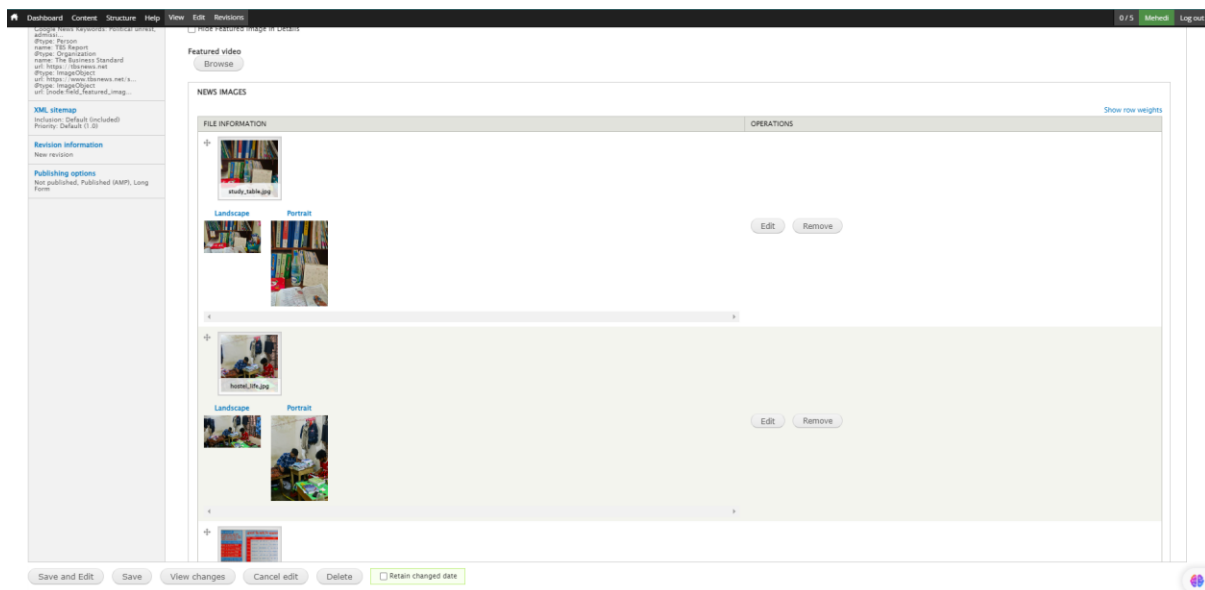


Figure 9.4: The in-story image uploading panel in the CMS of TBS Web.

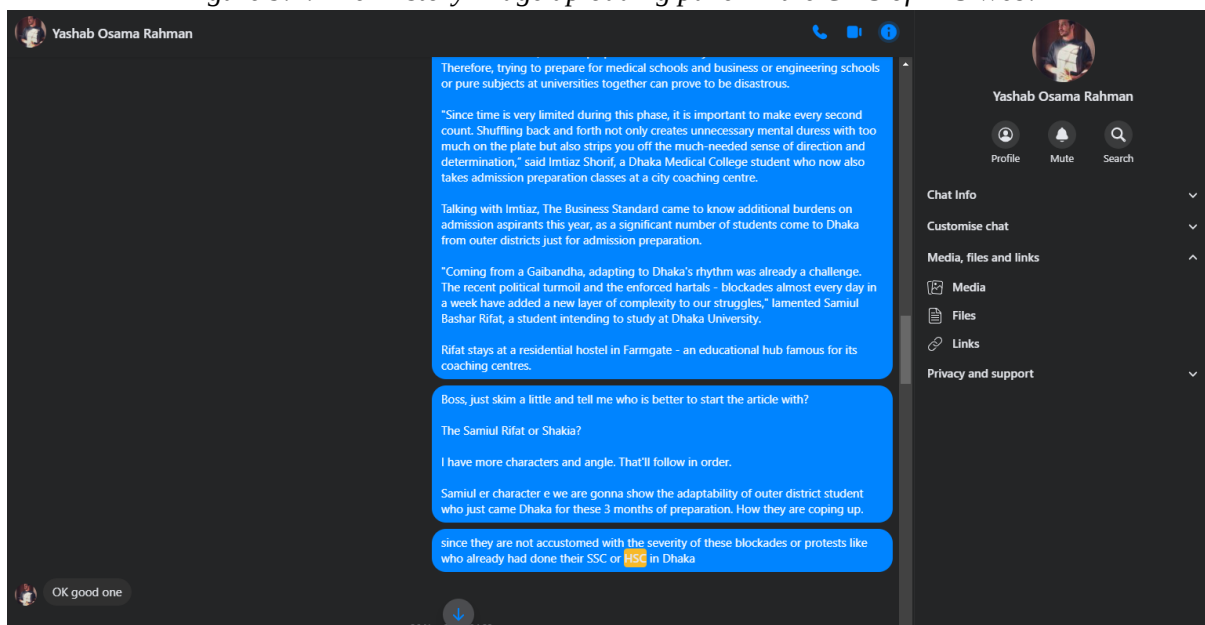


Figure 9.5: Screengrab of the conversation with the supervisor asking for which way to approach

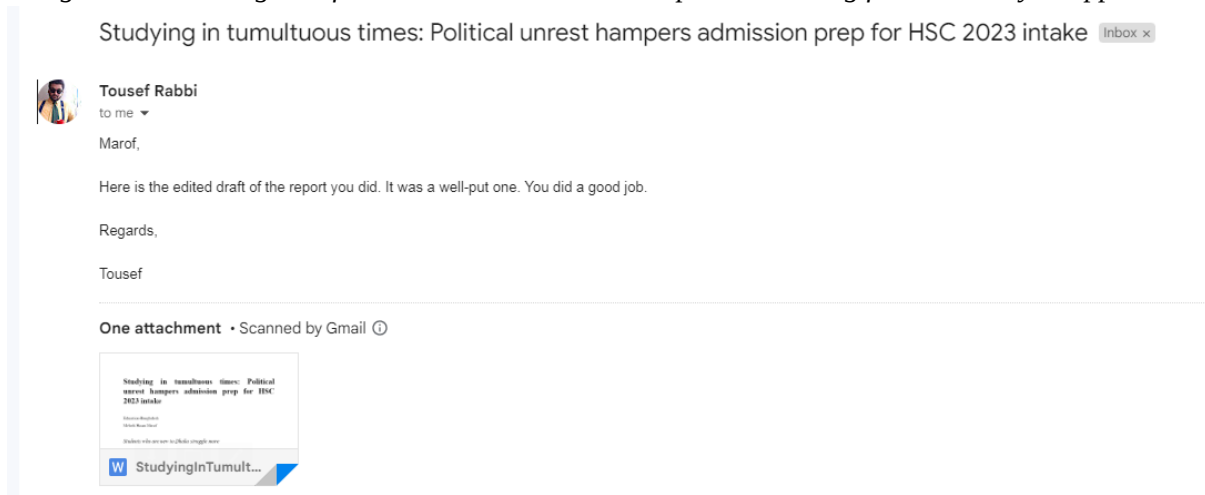


Figure 9.6: Screengrab of the email I received from one of my senior colleagues who revised the copy

Internship Outcome

- During my entire internship, my primary goal was to learn as much as I could. Every task I undertook and every person I met became an opportunity for growth.
 - I grew enthusiastic to my role and developed a genuine fondness for the works at hand. My time at TBS cultivated a strong sense of professionalism within me.
 - I could utilise the the skills gained, particularly working on interactive and in-depth news presentations with infographics, data and backgrounds.
 - Enhancing my news editing speed was a significant achievement during this time.
 - Understanding the importance of timeliness in a news publication.
 - Recognizing the boundaries of work hours became clearer; despite personal challenges, I learned to maintain focus on work.
 - Dealing with various personalities taught me to manage my temper better. Surprisingly, I gained insight into office politics and strategies to navigate them earlier than expected.
 - The support from friendly colleagues was abundant. I learned to seek help when in doubt, especially from seniors. It has been an amazing trait that I am proud of because I lacked earlier.
 - I had the opportunity to apply university learnings to newsroom scenarios and that felt rewarding.
 - This opportunity allowed me to pursue what I'm passionate about, validating the hard work invested during sleepless nights on ULAB assignments.
-

Workplace Log

1st September

I entered office $\Rightarrow$ 10.00 am
I was given a tour by my
boss (office tour)
was assigned two minor
news - mostly rewrite
Quit time: 3:30 am. It
was a very challenging day
for me.

Image 1: Workplace log for 1 September, 2023

2nd September

Entrance: 08:30 am
Dealt with news on
mobile court to stop
tea brands.
uploaded two press-release
Shared a story idea
on G20 Summit (hypocrisy
of India)
Exit: 3:30 pm

Image 2: Workplace log for 2 September, 2023

8 September

~~At~~ Entrance: 8:20 am

It was home of fire.

~~On~~ on every Friday the morning shift works from home.

~~I~~ I got my first byline

A story on Sergei Lavrov - earliest byline. My boss uploaded the story

Quit time: 3:30 am.

Image 3: Workplace log for 8 September, 2023

10 September

Logged in:- 08:35 am

* I got my CMS access.

* Fariba APU taught me the basics of it.

* dealt a story with G20 summit.

* uploaded 5 stories, subedit 3 stories.

* Logged out: 4:10 am

Image 4: Workplace log for 10 September, 2023

15 September
Logged in: 8:25 am
sub edited 11 copies
(5 major, rest
minor)
logged out: 3:30 am

Image 5: Workplace log for 15 September, 2023

21 September
logged in ⇒ 8:30 am
UNGA Conference going
on in new york.
Have to go through a lot of
MoFA press release
logged out ⇒ 3:47 PM

Image 6: Workplace log for 21 September, 2023

22 September
 Logged in: - 8:30 am
 I pitched a story idea
 on Food panda riders
 amid rain. Boss liked
 it.
 I got my first on field
 byline few days later
 back.
 For the day worked on
 7 copies → Page Page
 Uploads
 Logged out: 9:05 pm

Image 7: Workplace log for 22 September, 2023

25 September
 Logged in: 3:30 pm
 My boss wanted me to
 fill in the evening shift
 as they were man short.
 new shift - new people.
 I started to getting to know
 people.
 Edited 8 copies - at
 night office gave
 me a cng to go home.
 *Logged out at 10:40 pm

Image 8: Workplace log for 25 September, 2023

3 October

Logged in = 8:30 am

Edited $\Rightarrow$ 12 copies

UPloaded $\Rightarrow$ 03

logged out $\Rightarrow$ 4:10 am

Image 9: Workplace log for 3 October, 2023

6 October

PAY DAY

Logged in: 8:45 am

had to go through a lot of traffic.

got paid my first salary

bought lunch for 15 of us in the morning shift.

Edited 11 copies

logged out = 5:00 pm

U I I A R UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENT

Image 10: Workplace log for 6 October, 2023

10 October
 logged in:- 7:30 am
 started from home-
 → as Hamas-Israel war
 broke, TBS had their mor-
 ning shift one member
 to work from 7:30 each
 day on a roster basis.
 Edited 12 copies, Managed
 Hamas-Israel live.
 logged out ⇒ 2:30 am

Image 11: Workplace log for 10 October, 2023

22 October
 took a day off and added
 with weeks two days
 off to visit my parents
 logged in from home: 8:30 am
 As usual duties. Sub edited
 5 copies. managed Israel
 - Gaza war till Nabihah
 apu joined at 11:30.
 Logged out: 3:30 am.

Image 12: Workplace log for 22 October, 2023

28 October
 Logged in: 8:30 am
 Eventful Day as political
 rallies of 3 major
 political parties
 simultaneously edited
 copies of All.
 covered 13 news. 7
 uploads
 logged out: 5:10 pm
 Newsroom went Crazy

Image 13: Workplace log for 28 October, 2023

30 October
 Logged in: 8:30 am
 first Hantai day
 did a story on commuters
 suffering as long haul
 transport were guided
 to halt services
 Edited = 7 news
 Revised = 3 news
 (I turned pro - I started
 revising)
 Logged out: 3:30 pm

Image 14: Workplace log for 30 October, 2023

2 November
 Logged in: 8:30 am
 Covered from field
 a story on daily wage
 earners. ~~It went~~
~~on PM~~
 Didn't do any other
 story
 logged out: 4:40 PM

Image 15: Workplace log for 2 November, 2023

7 November
 logged in: 8:30 am
 sub edited: 7 copies
 Panorama page upload
 worked on a story
 on Long haul traffic
 Special
 Logged out: 3:35 PM

Image 16: Workplace log for 7 November, 2023

15 November
Logged in: 8:30 am
sub edited = 12 copies
Edited and Revised = 4
Panorama page upload
Brooklee election
schedule announcement
logged out: 6:30 pm

Image 17: Workplace log for 15 November, 2023

23 November
Logged in: 3:30 pm
(Filled in the evening
shift)
Revised = 5 copies
Sub edited = 7
Logged out = 10:35 pm

Image 18: Workplace log for 23 November, 2023

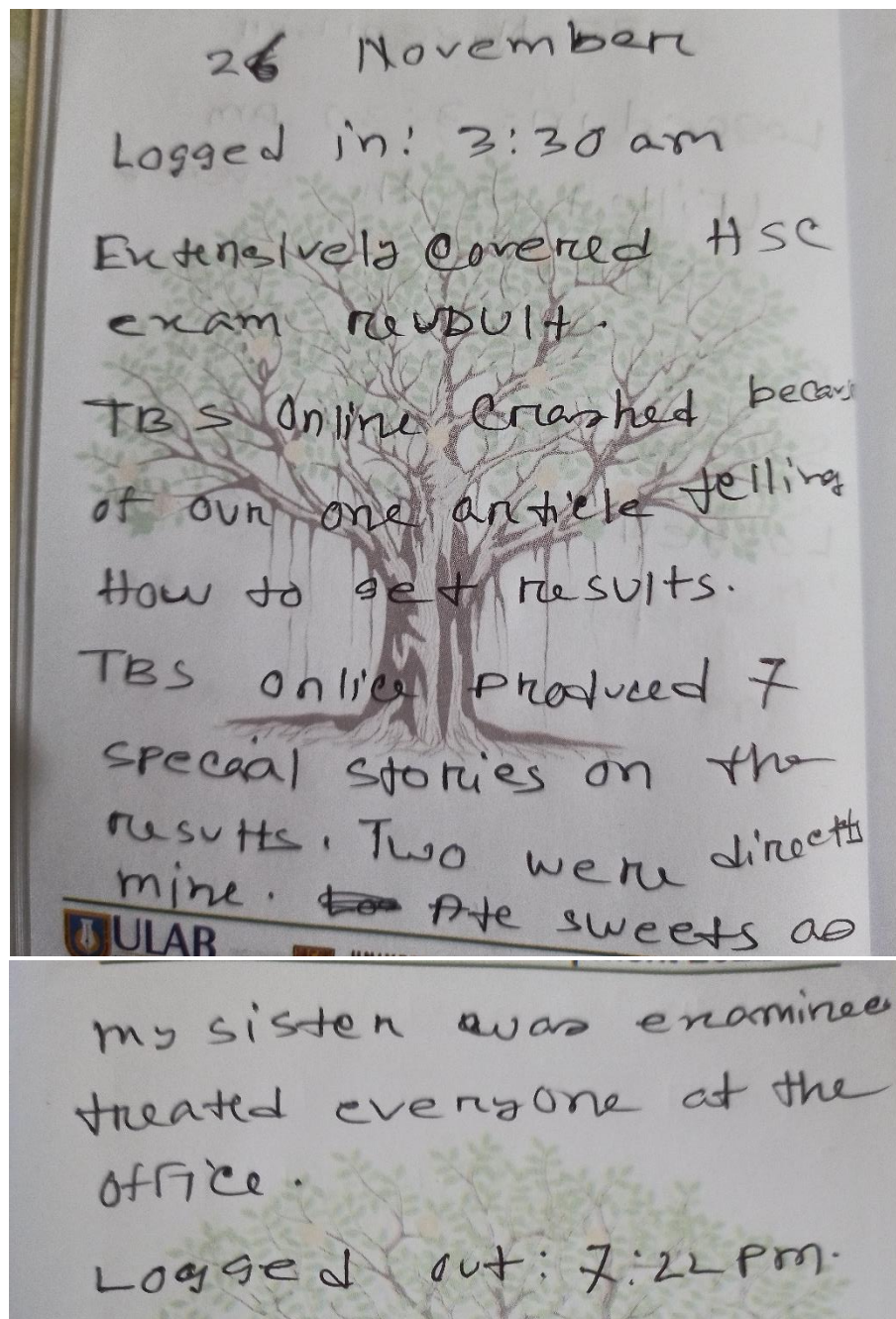


Image 19-20: Workplace log for 26 November, 2023



MSJ043

SELF-ASSESSMENT FORM

The purpose of this survey is to obtain students input on how they think they have performed.

Name of Intern: Md Mehedi Hasan

University ID: 201012037

Name of the Organization:	The Business Standard		
Corporate Office Address:	4/A, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka- 1000		
Email:	online.businessstandard@gmail.com	Web:	www.tbsnews.net

1. During a typical week, approximately how many hours did you dedicate to your internship?

42

2. Was your internship paid? If yes, how much?

Yes, 25000/-

3. Was your site supervisor available to meet when needed? Tick any one of the following.

☐ Not at all ☐ Slightly ☐ Moderately ☐ Quite a bit ☒ A great deal ✓

4. Next, we would like to know how you were affected by your internship. Using the scale below, please indicate the degree to which participation in your internship experience increased or strengthened your abilities, attitudes, awareness or understanding in each of the areas identified:

1=Not at all 2=Slightly 3=Moderately 4=Quite a bit 5=A great deal

NO	CRITERIA (Personal)	RATING
1	I have a sense of satisfaction in doing something worthwhile.	5
2	I believe in my ability to make a difference.	5
3	I am open to new experiences.	5
4	I have gained the capacity to be more productive.	5

5	I can recognize my personal strengths.	5
6	I can recognize my personal weaknesses.	4
7	I have a sense of personal achievement.	5
8	I have the ability to persevere in difficult tasks	5
NO	CRITERIA (Social/Interpersonal Impact)	
9	I demonstrate concern for the welfare of others	4
10	I can be understanding and appreciative of people with diverse backgrounds	5
11	I have the ability to work cooperatively with others	5
12	I have the ability to communicate effectively	4
13	I have increased my ability to be a leader	4
14	I feel more connected to my community	5
NO	CRITERIA (Academic learning impact)	
15	I have acquired knowledge from the job duties I performed	5
16	I have broadened my critical thinking skills (reasoning, problem solving)	5
17	I have learnt the ability to work independently	5
18	I feel my classroom learning was enriched	5
19	I have the ability to connect academic subject matter to the real world.	5
NO	CRITERIA (EMPLOYMENT/JOB SPECIFIC IMPACT)	
20	I developed specialised technical skills for a specific job function	5
21	I broadened my future employment possibilities	4
22	I received an opportunity to explore a specific career	5
23	I developed realistic ideas about the work world	5
24	I narrowed my future possible career choices.	5
25	What is your average score from this test?	4.79

5. General Comments

During my time at The Business Standard, I had the chance to put my hands on both sub-editing and reporting simultaneously. I learned a lot. This experience has been a self-growth curve for me to enhance my future career in the field of journalism. However, I don't want to narrow career possibilities because I still want to pursue my higher studies in Data Journalism at Columbia University. I hope my experience at TBS will strengthen my application there.



Signature of Intern

Appendix



Photo 1: I was captured on the lobby of The Business Standard on my first day at office.

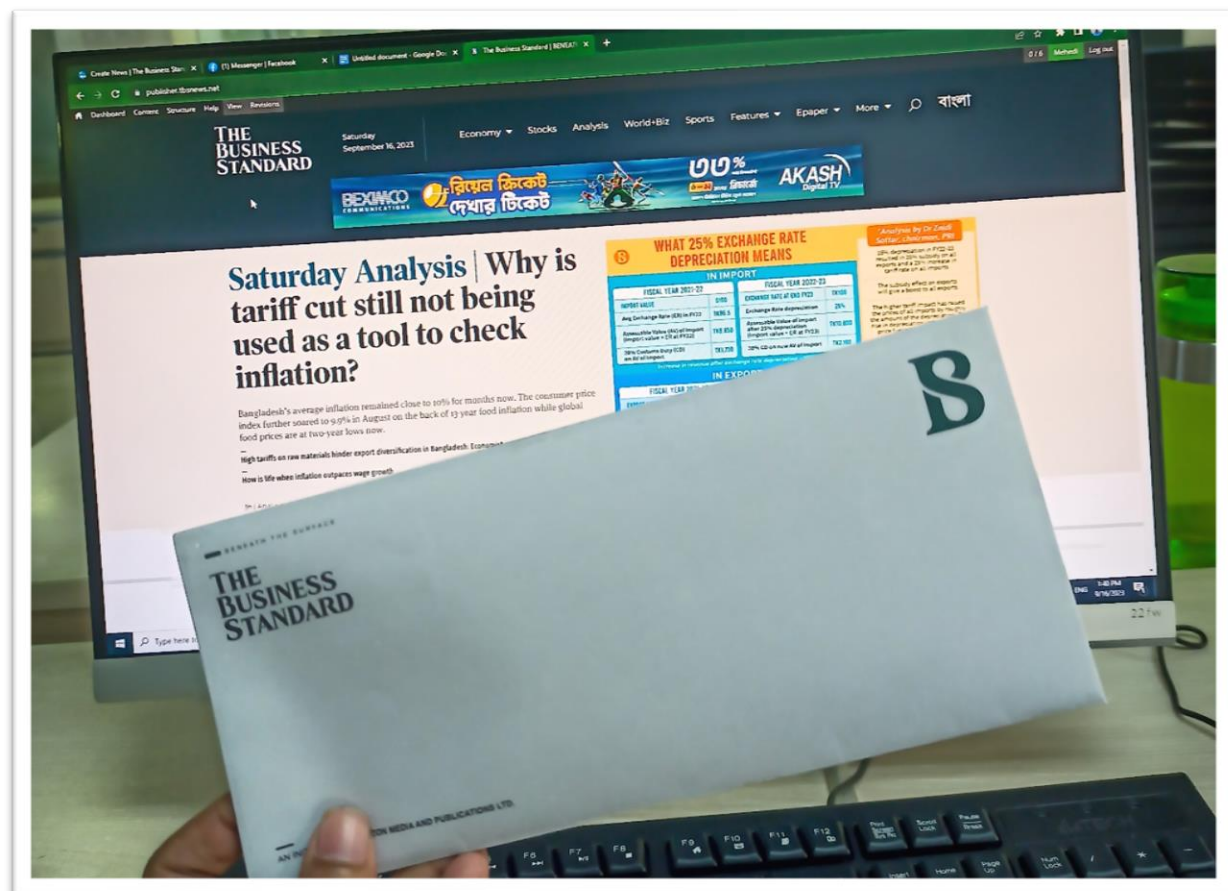


Photo 2: After receiving appointment letter I framed this, sent to my parents - a happy image!

Content

◆ Add content

Title Type Author Published News category Publish Date

12/13/2023

OPERATIONS

☐	TITLE	TYPE	AUTHOR	PUBLISHED STATUS	CREATED	UPDATED	OPERATIONS
☐	Western, northwestern country parts to experience cold wave: Met office	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 15:25	12/13/2023 - 15:28	edit delete
☐	EC affirms Chummu's candidacy as valid for Kishoregang-3	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 14:55	12/13/2023 - 15:09	edit delete
☐	Eco-friendly hollow concrete blocks transform construction in Thakurgaon updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 09:25	12/13/2023 - 15:05	edit delete
☐	13 times more onion yield likely in Rajshahi	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 14:25	12/13/2023 - 14:33	edit delete
☐	'Lack of fire safety measures in 13 plastic companies surveyed raises concern'	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 13:55	12/13/2023 - 13:45	edit delete
☐	Where do construction workers go once megaprojects are finished?	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 08:35	12/13/2023 - 13:21	edit delete
☐	People's movement cannot be suppressed by issuing any circular: Rizvi	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 12:05	12/13/2023 - 12:09	edit delete
☐	City Bank becomes first private commercial bank to promote and facilitate universal pension schemes	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 10:05	12/13/2023 - 10:11	edit delete
☐	International law is failing displaced Gazans	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 08:40	12/13/2023 - 09:38	edit delete
☐	The dangers of not verifying the foreign citizenship status of electoral candidates: An open letter to the Chief Election Commissioner	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/13/2023 - 08:45	12/13/2023 - 08:50	edit delete
☐	Bangladesh reports highest Nipah virus deaths in 7 years: ICDCR updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 13:55	12/12/2023 - 11:15	edit delete
☐	Kushitani-4 lawmaker's wealth, income grow by 345% in only 5 yrs updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/11/2023 - 14:50	12/11/2023 - 21:58	edit delete
☐	Court appoints Tanvirul Islam as Bangladesh Ambassador to Indonesia	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/11/2023 - 10:45	12/11/2023 - 10:55	edit delete
☐	Hult Prize at ULAS reveals new organising committee	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/11/2023 - 10:15	12/11/2023 - 10:18	edit delete
☐	UNDP, Finance ministry's ERD extend partnership, signing 3 project agreements for sustainable development	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/11/2023 - 08:50	12/11/2023 - 08:57	edit delete
☐	Abir Hassan, first Bangladeshi to graduate from Indian Military Academy updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 09:05	12/10/2023 - 22:18	edit delete
☐	56 regain candidacy on appeal updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 11:40	12/10/2023 - 22:15	edit delete
☐	Former IGP Mohammad Nurul Anwar passes away	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 15:40	12/10/2023 - 18:05	edit delete
☐	Commerce secy condemns 'irresponsible business' conduct of Bangladeshi onion sellers	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 14:35	12/10/2023 - 18:05	edit delete
☐	CPDL begins its new project 'CPDL Dakshinayan'	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 13:05	12/10/2023 - 13:05	edit delete
☐	New commuter train services launching on Jaharna to Khulna-Mongla route	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 12:50	12/10/2023 - 12:51	edit delete
☐	Dense fog disrupts Daulatdia-Phulia ferry services	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/10/2023 - 10:20	12/10/2023 - 10:25	edit delete
☐	Record Tk6.32cr found in donation boxes of Pagla mosque in Kishoreganj	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 11:30	12/10/2023 - 00:59	edit delete
☐	They cannot silence us, say Mayer Dak rallyers after police obstruction updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 13:55	12/09/2023 - 21:54	edit delete
☐	Mushfiqur takes legal action against Skattor TV over 'false report' updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 15:50	12/09/2023 - 18:05	edit delete
☐	Your landlord just raised your rent. Do you have any legal recourse? updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 09:20	12/09/2023 - 15:15	edit delete
☐	Bangladesh Society of Agronomy organised scientific conference at BAU	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 15:10	12/09/2023 - 15:14	edit delete
☐	Town Hall meeting in Rangpur focuses on financial security awareness	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 15:05	12/09/2023 - 15:09	edit delete
☐	Road accidents in November claims 487 lives in Bangladesh: Road Safety Foundation	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 15:45	12/09/2023 - 15:09	edit delete
☐	PM Hasina presents Begum Rokuya Padak 2023 to 5 noted women in Bangladesh updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 12:00	12/09/2023 - 14:04	edit delete
☐	4 of a family suffer burn injuries in Munshiganj explosion updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 12:20	12/09/2023 - 13:59	edit delete
☐	Women empowerment in Bangladesh fulfills Begum Rokuya's dream: PM Hasina	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 12:30	12/09/2023 - 13:29	edit delete
☐	60-year legacy: A chronicle of Salam Stamp Centre	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 08:55	12/09/2023 - 11:49	edit delete
☐	Bangladesh PM accuses BJP of 'plotting famine' ahead of elections	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 11:20	12/09/2023 - 11:28	edit delete
☐	Heavy rainfall threatens onion harvest in Faridpur	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 10:10	12/09/2023 - 10:18	edit delete
☐	Peter Gabriel overakes AT&T for Number 1 album	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 10:05	12/09/2023 - 10:09	edit delete
☐	The global economy's unsolved problems	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/09/2023 - 09:15	12/09/2023 - 09:22	edit delete
☐	Khilaifat Majlis calls for cancelling election schedule, forming non-partisan govt	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/08/2023 - 14:40	12/08/2023 - 14:47	edit delete
☐	267 arson attacks since 28 Oct amid blockades, hartals: Fire Service updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/08/2023 - 13:10	12/08/2023 - 14:19	edit delete
☐	Las Vegas campus gunman desecrated as struggling academic with target list	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/08/2023 - 09:55	12/08/2023 - 10:00	edit delete
☐	US President's son Hunter Biden faces nine criminal charges in federal tax case	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/08/2023 - 09:00	12/08/2023 - 09:01	edit delete
☐	Labour rights critical to growth, sustainability of BMC: Peter Haas updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 11:40	12/07/2023 - 21:48	edit delete
☐	UN chief uses rare power to warn Security Council of impending 'humanitarian catastrophe' in Gaza updated	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 08:50	12/07/2023 - 16:05	edit delete
☐	Bus set on fire in Dhaka's Shahbagh	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 14:55	12/07/2023 - 14:58	edit delete
☐	Blockade: 415 RAB teams, 157 BGB platoons deployed across Bangladesh	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 11:20	12/07/2023 - 13:39	edit delete
☐	2 children ran over by bus in Cox's Bazar	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 12:05	12/07/2023 - 12:10	edit delete
☐	Rizvi leads processions in Dhaka defying rain as blockade underway	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 11:00	12/07/2023 - 11:07	edit delete
☐	Child poverty levels in the UK worst among world's richest nations, UNICEF report finds	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 09:40	12/07/2023 - 09:41	edit delete
☐	Las Vegas campus shooting leaves 4 dead, including suspect	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 09:55	12/07/2023 - 09:55	edit delete
☐	No prospect of safe, sustainable return of Rohingyas: UN rights chief	News	Mehedi	Yes	12/07/2023 - 09:25	12/07/2023 - 09:29	edit delete

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ... next last

Photo 3: A screenshot of my uploaded news till 10 December – 16 pages in total. Each page carries 50 news titles that I uploaded. In total the number is 746.

For better visibility of the image: [Click Here](#)

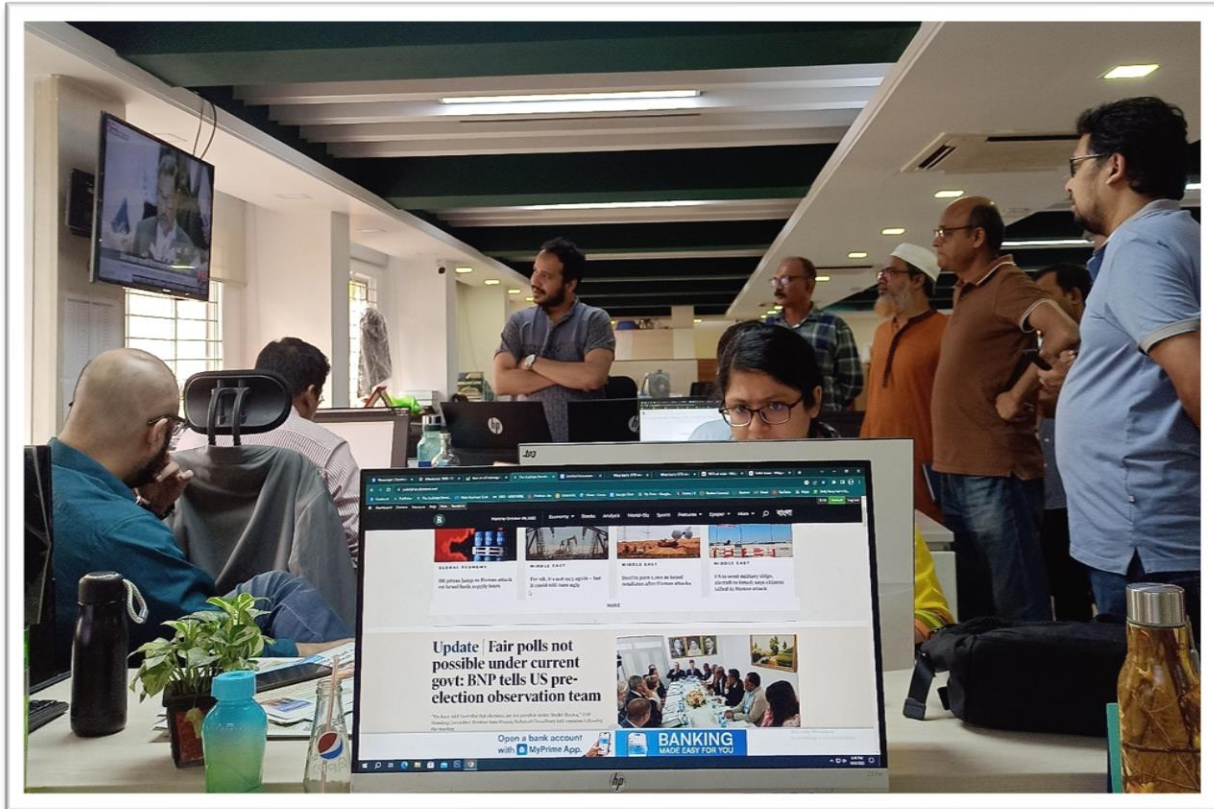


Photo 5: The newsroom, along with its top leaders, looking at Obaidul Quader talking about his meeting with Peter Haas regarding US's visa restriction in front of online news desk. A scene that occurs only when something significant brews.



Photo 4: The newsroom looking at AL nomination announcements by Obaidul Quader for polls



Photo 6: I got my ID card and first business card after a month I joined when Israel-Gaza war broke out and we at TBS extensively covered the war with a 4 columns widget on the landing page.

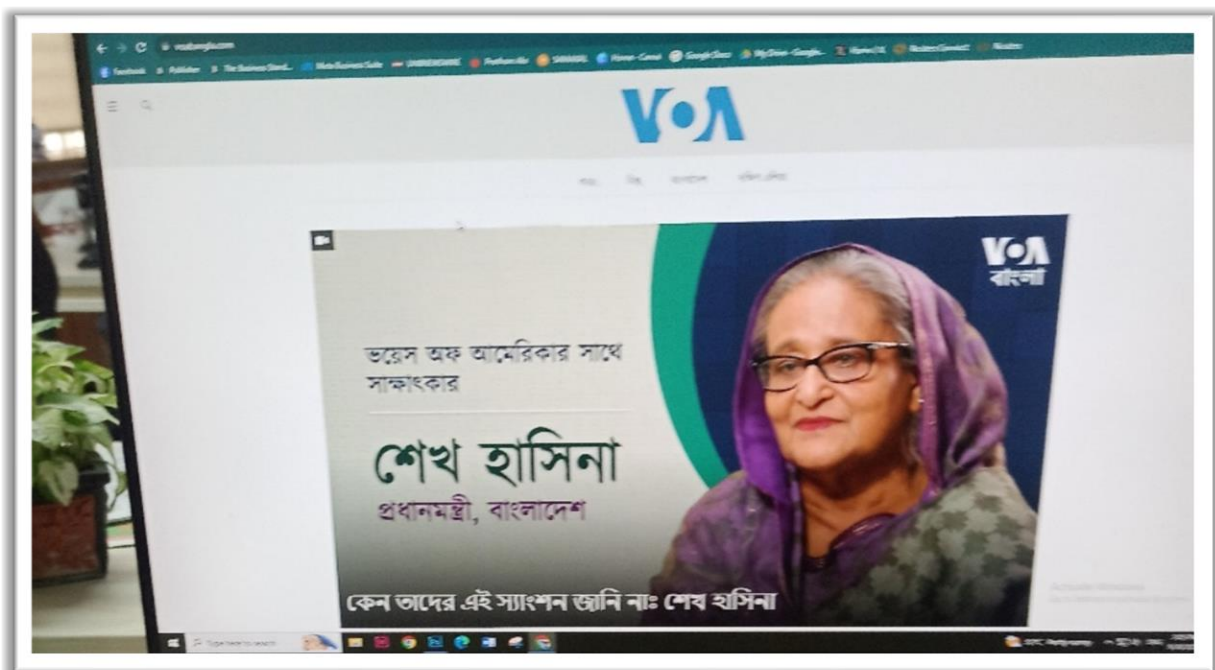


Photo 7: Tajul bhai, Fayika apu, and I together listened to this 35-minute PM interview in Bangla, transcribed, subbed and compiled a 1200+ words LEAD article faster than any other top media.



Photo 8: Screenshot of a news assigned to me by one of senior sub – who co-ordinated on the day.

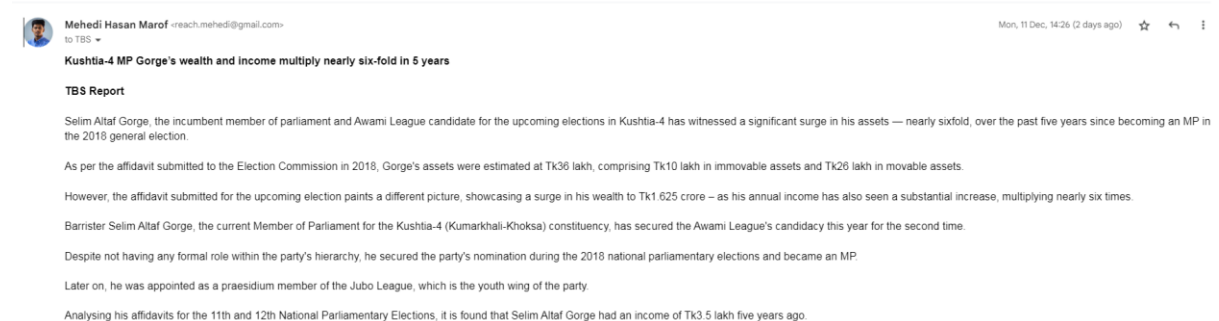


Photo 9: Here is how I returned back the news in email. It's a long news. We are assigned news via a messenger group as well. Depends on what medium corrs or reporters are sending the informations.

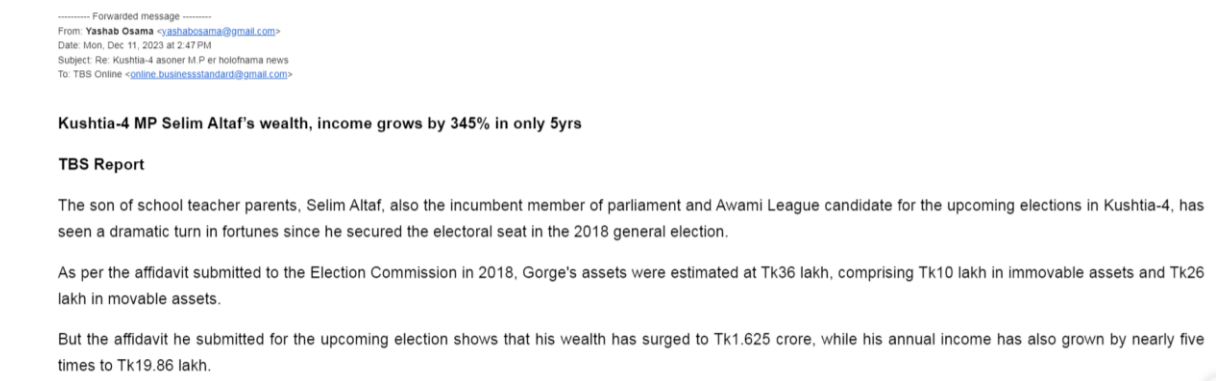


Photo 10: This is how I got the revised version edited by Web Editor, he also works just like a junior online journalist do on the same story. Sometimes even I revise a story he initially edited.



Photo 11: I uploaded the news immediately to the website with a landing-page placement.

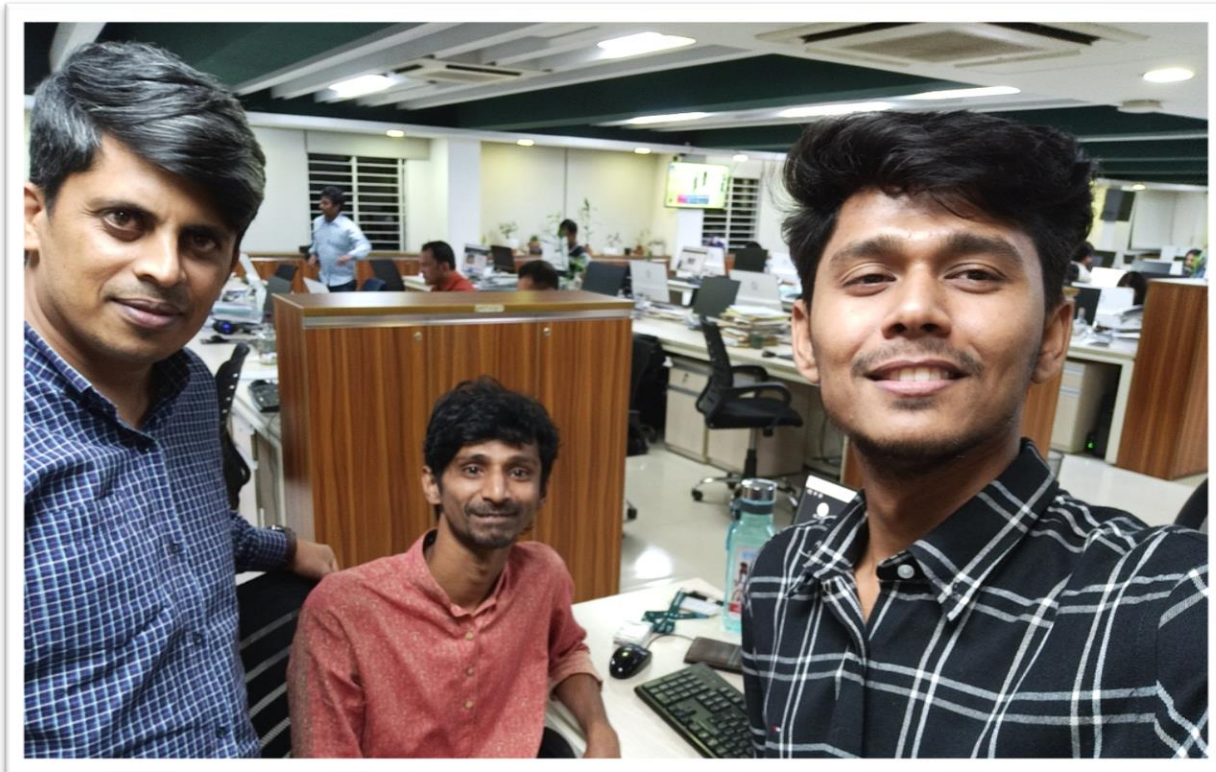


Photo 12: This is a special image - on my 12th day at office I along with TBS special corrs. Jasim bhai broke a family run autocracy in new board in a 117 years old Chittagong Chamber of Commerce. Jasim bhai told me to grab this as a memoir citing “all who worked in these types of stories with him has become big shot journos in time”- I took it as a compliment. I was proud of the treatment I gave to the story – how I pushed Jasim bhai for making those calls time and time again. A story that we covered late, but we covered the finest. Top Editors were super happy. [Read the story here.](#)

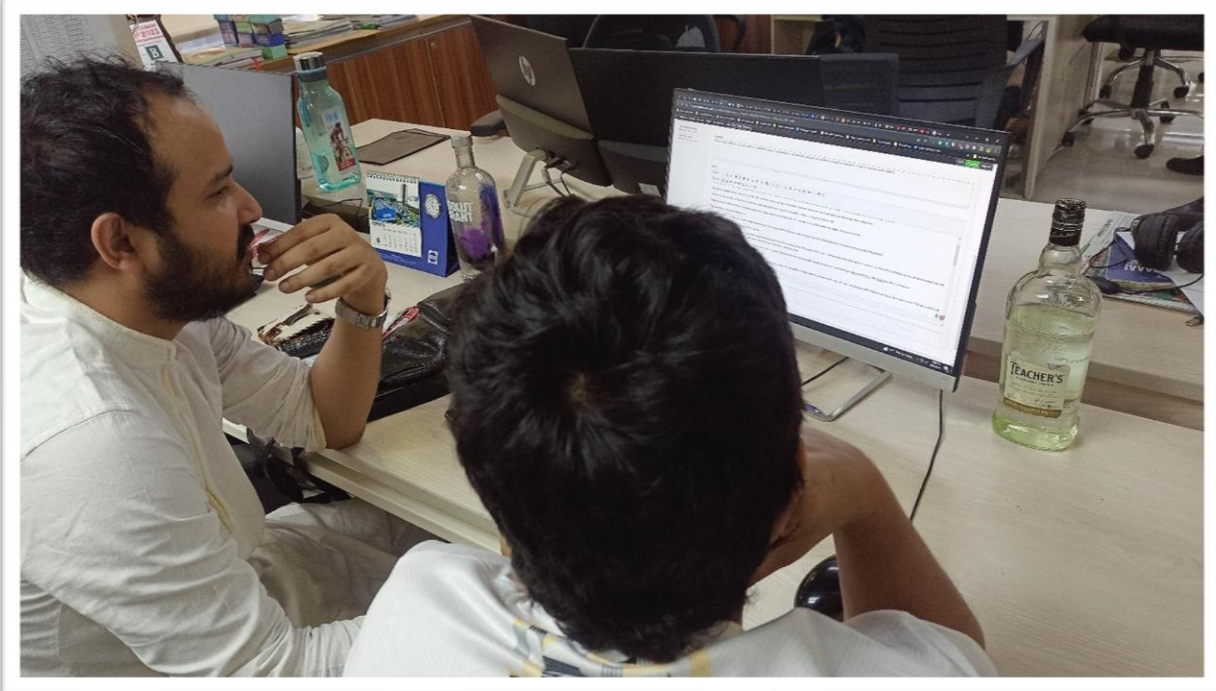
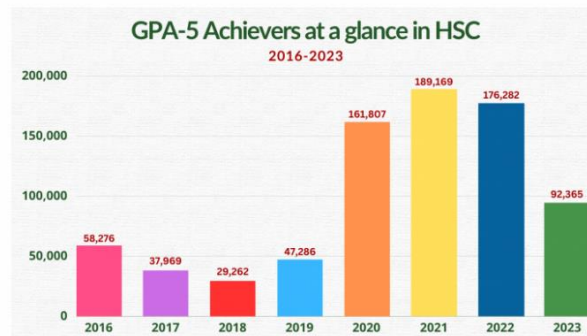


Photo 13: The craftsman of words Osama editing my story – the bottle is borrowed to drink water.

She mentioned that there will be an opportunity for exam result re-evaluation from 27 November to 3 December.



HSC result index showed a significant dip in the highest grade this year in past three years. The image shows the number of GPA 5 in each year since 2016. Infographics: Mehedi Hasan Marof/TBS

This year a total of 13,74,488 students sat for HSC and equivalent exams from 17 August to 25 September. Of them, 6,89,023 were boys and 6,68,892 were girls.

Photo 14: I make infographics every now and then for TBS Online special stories.

Dashboard Content Structure Help View Edit Revisions 0/9 Mehedi Log out

Home > Commuters suffer due to lack of transportation amid Hartal

Revisions for Commuters suffer due to lack of transportation amid Hartal

Revisions allow you to track differences between multiple versions of your content, and revert back to older versions.

REVISION	Compare	OPERATIONS
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 10:17 by Mehedi	☒	This is the published revision.
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 10:09 by fagun	☒	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 10:02 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:56 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:44 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:42 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:38 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:36 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:29 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:26 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:25 by Mehedi	☐	Revert
Sun, 10/29/2023 - 09:24 by Mehedi	☐	Revert

Photo 15: Sometimes a story has to go through several revisions when it's developing. Image shows the revision log of the backend of a news article.

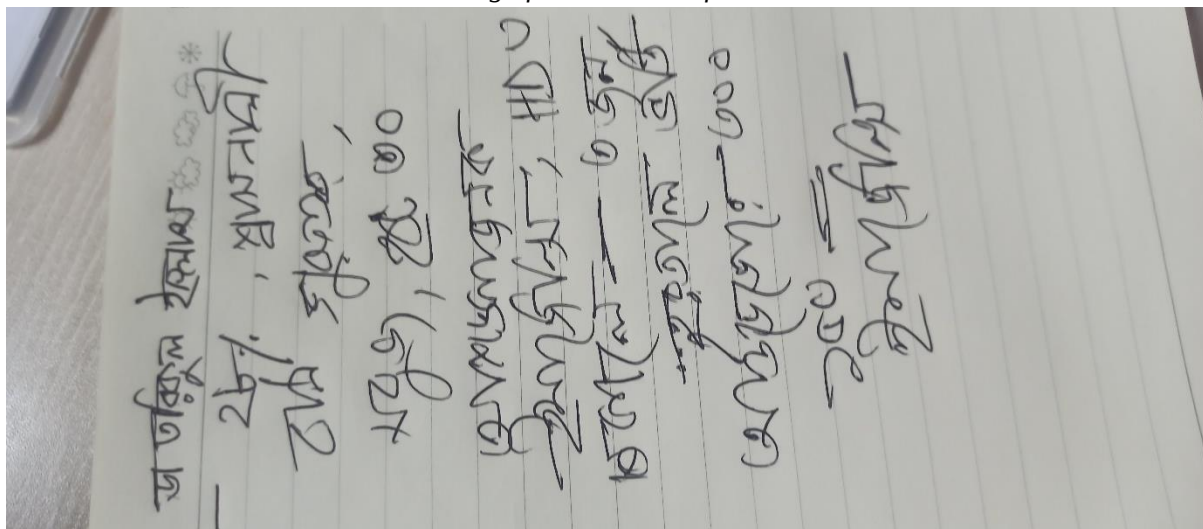


Photo 16: Sometimes we get a copy in the form of this, just some jotted information – TBS online desk prepare a news. It's a copy amid blockade. I developed the story.

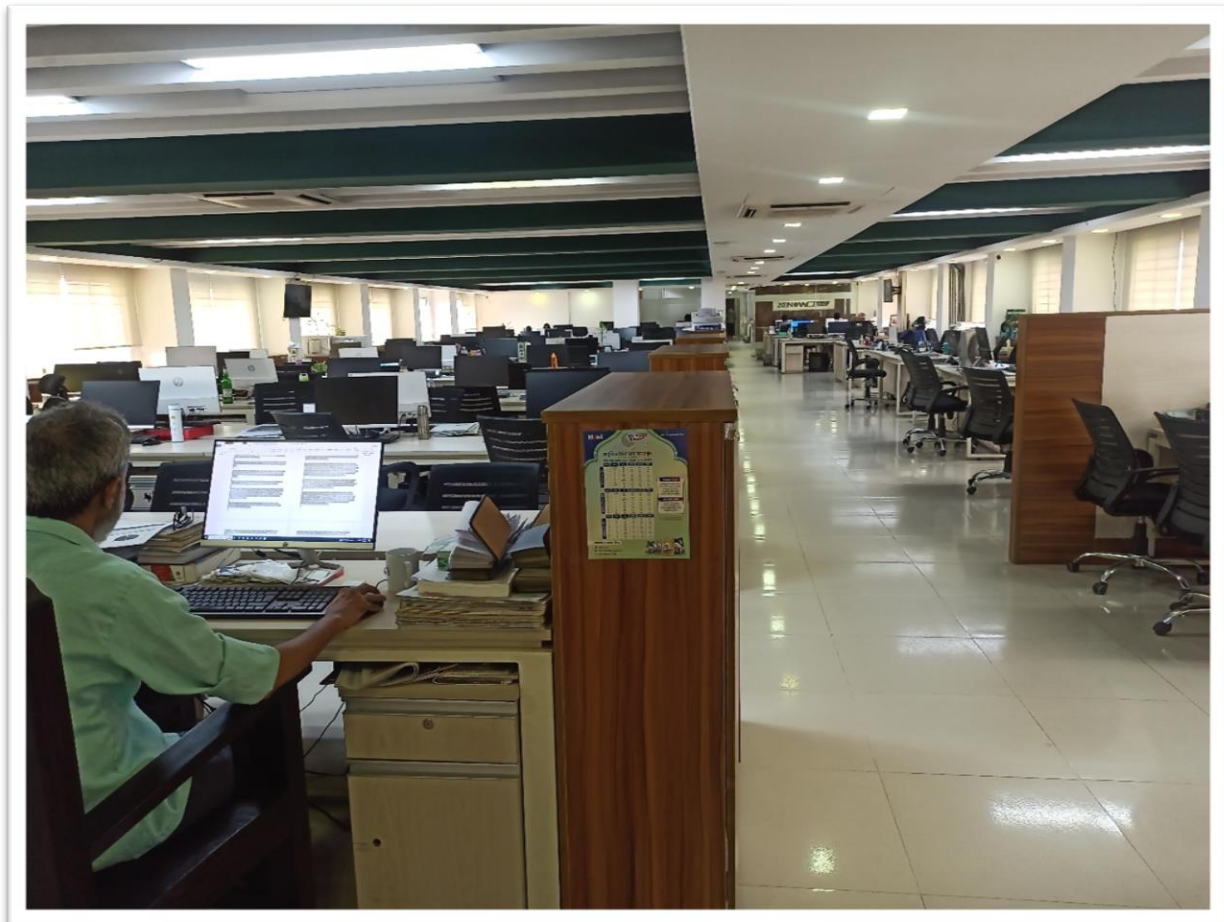


Photo 17: Image shows the central newsroom of The Business Standard at a building in Eskaton.

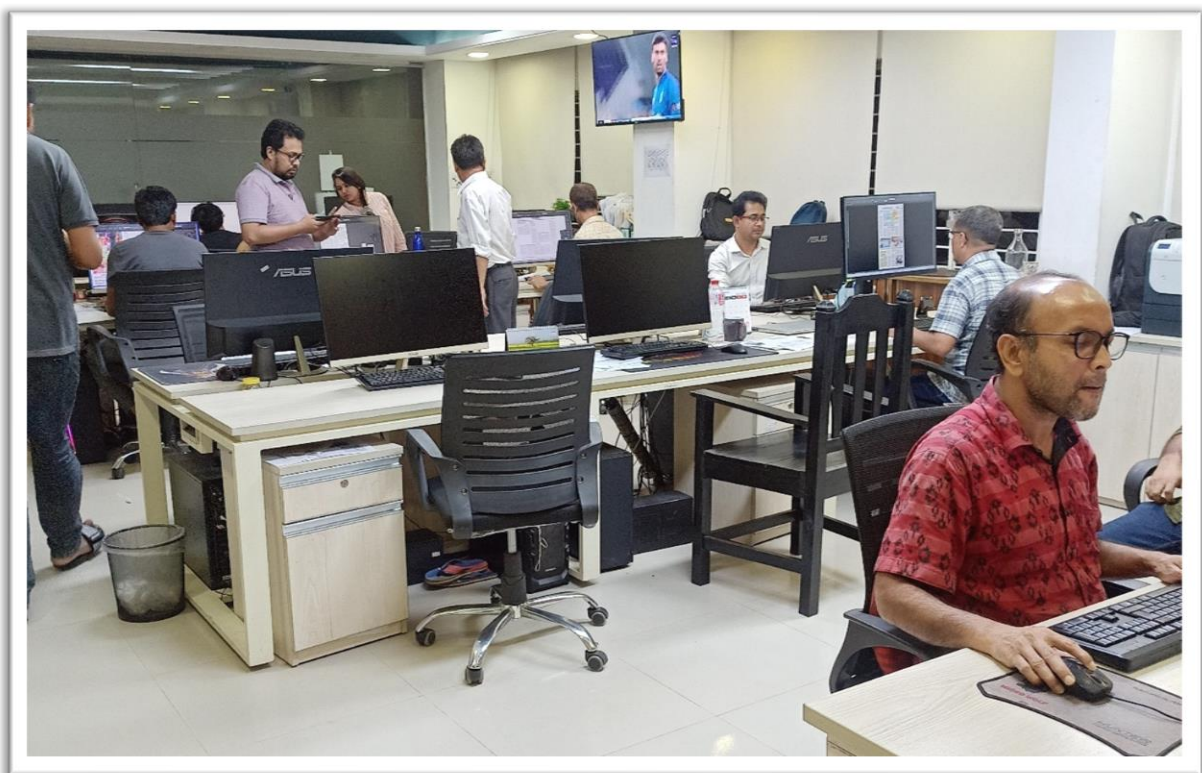


Photo 18: Image shows panel room where newspaper for next day get edited.



Photo 19: Every Tuesday, TBS online seats in the conference room to discuss plans for the week.



Photo 20: Sometimes the news flow is so much that we don't get time to get in conference room for the weekly meeting.

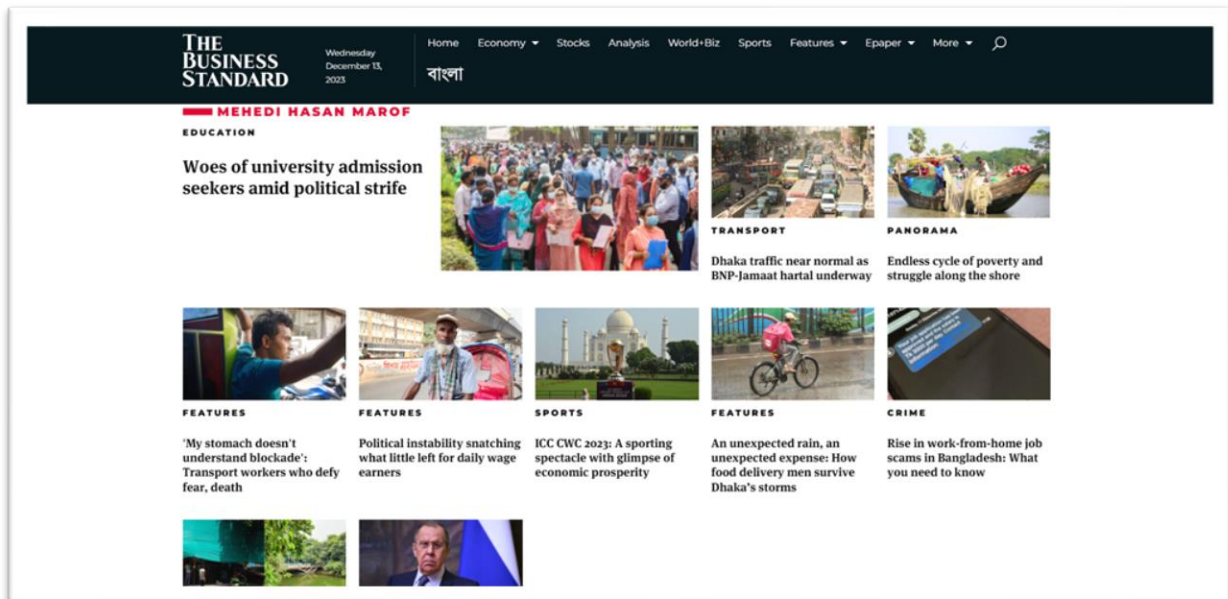


Photo 21: Mehedi Hasan Marof – with surname – my by-line stories so far.



Photo 22: I always am ecstatic to see my name inked on print. Despite I work in the online news desk, I have 7 byline stories in print so far. This image was captured on 7 Nov when two of my stories got full columns and half of the page.

I dream of having 100 front-page byline stories someday. Here's to the days coming...!