

Report on
Internship as Sub-editor at *The Daily Star*

Prajukta Roy Chowdhury

20103007

An internship report submitted to the Department of English and
Humanities in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Bachelor of Arts in English

Department of English and Humanities

BRAC University
May 2024

©2024. Brac University

All rights reserved

Declaration

It is hereby declared that

1. The internship report submitted is my own original work while completing a degree at Brac University.
2. The report does not contain material previously published or written by a third party, except where this is appropriately cited through full and accurate referencing.
3. The report does not contain material which has been accepted, or submitted, for any other degree or diploma at a university or other institution.
4. I have acknowledged all main sources of help.

Student's Full Name & Signature:

Prajukta Roy Chowdhury

20103007

Supervisor's Full Name & Signature:

Roohi Huda

Assistant Professor
Department of English and Humanities
Brac University

Acknowledgment

Where I stand today is only because of the people in my life who never gave up on me. Without thanking them all, this report would be incomplete.

The very first person whom I would like to thank is my mother, Krishna Ghose. Without her constant support, unconditional love, and encouragement, I would never have been able to pursue my dreams. She has always believed in me regardless of my hardships. My father, Bijan Kumar Roy Chowdhury, thank you for filling my heart with joy and love. Thank you for all that you did for us. Death tore us apart, but you are and will always be an inspiration in my life. All I do is for you. I miss you.

Moreover, my brother Nairit and my friend Swapnil, for believing in me even when I failed to believe in myself.

I want to express my deepest thanks to Ms. Roohi Huda (Assistant Professor, Dept. of English and Humanities, BRAC University), as my internship supervisor. She helped me all the time when I needed it and gave me the right direction during this period. I want to offer her my heartfelt appreciation for being such a great source of inspiration and guidance. I would also like to express my gratitude to all my peers and faculty members such as Professor Nahid Afrose Kabir, Mr Moiyen Zalal Chowdhury, Mr Sayeed Noman, and others. Their continuous guidance has made my time at Brac University productive and enjoyable.

I would also like to thank the handful of good friends I have made during my time at this institution. Rifa, Shamanta, Bornona, and Shaptarshi, thank you for supporting me through thick and thin.

I express my gratitude to Ms. Aasha Amin, Joint Editor of *The Daily Star*, for granting me to do the internship in their newspaper organization and acquire knowledge about journalism. I am also grateful to Mr Sakeb Tahsin Subhan, as my organizational supervisor, who in spite of being extraordinarily busy with his duties, took time out to listen and guide.

Lastly, I am also very grateful to Ms Farhana Ahmed Ety and Mohammad Al-Masum Molla, chief reporter of *The Daily Star*. Things would have been different if they were not there. A paper is not enough for me to express the support and guidance I received from the members of *The Daily Star* for almost all the work that I have performed there.

I dedicate this dissertation to every person who has supported me in life and the strangers who have been kind to me.

Table of Contents

Serial No.	Content	Page No.
Chapter 1	Introduction.....	1
1.1	What is Journalism.....	1
1.2	Newspapers in Bangladesh.....	1
Chapter 2	Historical Background: <i>The Daily Star</i>.....	6
2.1	History.....	6
2.2	Governing Body.....	8
2.3	Organogram.....	8
2.4	Capabilities of Staff Members and the Organisation.....	9
2.5	2.5 Facilities of the workers at <i>The Daily Star</i>	10
2.6	Working Hours.....	10
2.7	Social and economic commitment.....	11
Chapter 3	Work of Sub-editor(Digital).....	12
3.1	Collecting news stories	12
3.2	International News Sourcing.....	12
3.3	Writing Press Releases.....	13
3.4	The Inverted Pyramid Structure.....	13
Chapter 4	Editing Procedure	14

4.1	Copy editing	14
4.2	Editing News Headline	15
4.3	Challenges of Editing News.....	16
Chapter – 5 Translation		18
5.1	What is translation.....	18
5.2	Types of translation.....	18
5.3	Translating news stories	19
Chapter – 6 Publishing Process (Panel)		20
Chapter – 7 The 12th National Election Project.....		22
7.1	Creating Affidavit.....	22
7.2	The Election Special Site Development.....	23
7.3	Live Updates on Votes	25
7.4	Mapping	25
Chapter – 8 Trainings and Fellowships.....		28
Chapter – 9 Application of Media Theories in my Internship.....		31
9.1	Panopticon and Gaze.....	31
9.2	Cultural Imperialism Theory	33
Chapter – 10 Work Experience in Star Digital Team.....		35
Chapter – 11		
	Conclusion.....	39
	Work cited.....	40
	Appendix.....	41

Glossary

SEO: Search engine optimization (SEO) is the process of improving the quality and quantity of website traffic to a website or a web page from search engines.

Reach: It is a media analytics metric used in social media that refers to the number of users who have come across particular content on social platforms such as Facebook, YouTube etc.

E-Paper: Web/digital edition of a newspaper, usually published on a newspaper's website.

Digital security: Digital security, also known as information security, is the practice of protecting digital information from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction.

Panopticon : the panopticon is a design of institutional building with an inbuilt system of control, originated by the English philosopher and social theorist Jeremy Bentham.

User Traffic: It refers to the number of visitors to a website, and the pages they click on.

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 What is Journalism

“Journalism is printing what someone else does not want to be printed: everything else is public relations,” George Orwell a British novelist, essayist, journalist, and critic.

Journalism is the process of gathering, researching, writing, editing, and reporting news, such as political or social concerns, current events, and popular trends, to large audiences through print, broadcast, and online media. Journalism can reveal disparities and injustices that impact people who lack money and authority. People are continuously interested in learning about the day-to-day issues that affect them financially, socially, and in other ways. Thus, the goal of journalism is to provide citizens with the information they need to make the best decisions for their lives, communities, society, and governments. Nowadays, journalism has evolved into various sectors. It is covered by a limited number of mainstream media channels. Examples include: audio (radio), audio-visual (television), print (newspaper, magazine, etc.), and the web meaning the online news portals (thedailystar.net, dhakatribune.net, etc)

1.2 Newspapers in Bangladesh

Journalism in our country is thriving, with newspapers, television, and new media operations in both the private and public sectors. There are hundreds of dailies published

throughout the country, but only a few of them are considered good. This suggests that newspapers continue to play an important role in Bangladeshi journalism. Online news portals are rapidly gaining popularity as news sources among the general public, particularly among the country's younger generations. Almost all print publications have online equivalents, and they have begun to function as full-fledged online news portals. People today rely on online news sites for rapid updates and information. Aside from online editions of daily newspapers and TV networks, there are thousands of online news portals around the country. There are three types of internet news portals available in our country. They are, sites affiliated with already established media organisations- *thedailystar.net*, *prothom-alo.com*, *dhakatribune.com*, etc. There are websites linked to local radio and television stations, such as *radiotodaybd.fm*, *channelionline.com*, and *ntvbd.com*. Websites that are exclusively accessible online are *Banglanews24.com*, *bdnews24.com*, *Risingbd.com*, *BBC Bangla*, and so on. *bdnew24.com* is the nation's first online newspaper without a companion print edition. It ushered in a new era for our nation's news industry. As a result, hundreds of other online news websites have started using this identical tactic lately.

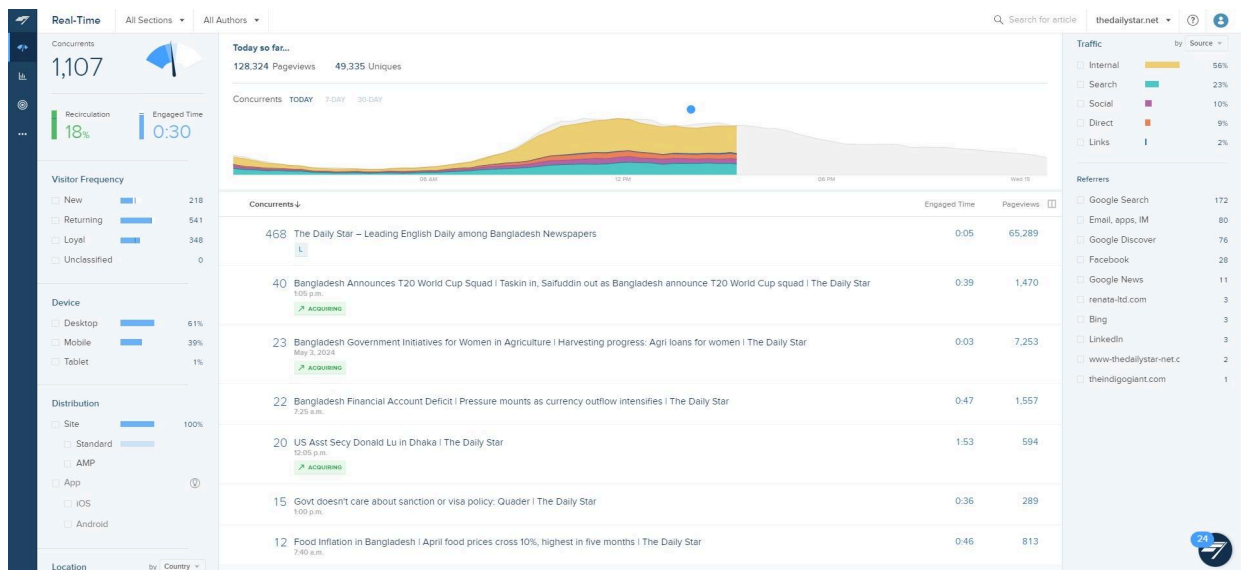


Figure 1: *The Daily Star*'s user traffic.

The media is seen as the cornerstone of social structure and social change, as well as the most powerful worldwide connector and accelerator of globalization. As a result, I have always been interested in advancing my knowledge about the media. I was able to pursue Media and Cultural Studies as an area of concentration at Brac University when I got admitted to the English Department. I declared a concentration in Media and Cultural Studies because I was always interested in how the media functions in our nation and I wanted to see firsthand how the media outlets manage the flow of information so smoothly.

During my ENG440: English for the Print Media course, I vividly recall a visit to *The Daily Star* office. Our course instructor was Miss Roohi Huda. She took us for a guided tour of

the newsroom there. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Humanities at Brac University. We were taken to the 6th and 7th floors of the headquarters and guided a tour

of various sections, including news, and features. Later, we were offered refreshments in the canteen. We even had the opportunity to meet Ms. Aasha Mehreen Amin. She is the Joint Editor of *The Daily Star*. During our tour, I thought, "One day, I'll make it here" because the office environment appeared welcoming. The environment felt more like a home than an office, where even under pressure, employees could enjoy themselves to the fullest. This is uncommon in modern workplaces.

My passion led me to *The Daily Star*, not just any publication, but one with a rich history and a reputation for excellence in Bangladeshi journalism. *The Daily Star's* commitment to in-depth reporting, investigative journalism, and unwavering dedication to truth resonated deeply with my own values. I knew an internship here would expose me to the highest standards of the profession, allowing me to learn from the best.

The Daily Star's focus on Bangladeshi news stories and its deep understanding of the local context held immense value for me. I sought to not only hone my journalistic skills but also gain insights into the issues that impact my community. *The Daily Star's* breadth of coverage across various beats, from politics and economics to social issues and entertainment, ignited my curiosity. I envisioned the internship as an opportunity to explore different areas of journalism and discover my specific interests within the field. *The Daily Star's* commitment to ethical journalism, upholding democratic values, and giving voice to the voiceless resonated strongly

with my personal beliefs. I knew this internship would not just be about professional development, but also about aligning myself with an organization whose values I truly respect. I started my internship in the Digital section of *The Daily Star* as a sub-editor. During my internship, I learned to edit copies to make sure that it has all the elements that make a story newsworthy.

Chapter 2

Historical Background: *The Daily Star*



Figure 2: The logo of *The Daily Star*

2.1 History

The Daily Star became Bangladesh's preeminent English-language daily newspaper due to its impartial stance on all matters. *The Daily Star* was founded on January 14, 1991, by Syed Mohammad Ali, the editor at large. The newspaper was launched during a momentous period in Bangladesh's history—the country's early 1990s transition from military rule to parliamentary democracy. Thus, it was difficult to carry out the obligations of a free press. The newspaper's motto, "Your Right to Know," can be seen in the upper-left corner of the front page. Over the years, *The Daily Star* has become the most widely read, credible national English newspaper in the country by serving as a long-term voice for people's opinions on how the democratic system should function, and how to effectively preserve and uphold democratic norms. The newspaper takes great pride in maintaining this policy steadfastly for the last thirty-three years.

Figure 3: *The Daily Star* newspaper

The Daily Star's originality stems from its nonpartisan values which free it from the influence of political parties or entrenched organisations. Its power lies in maintaining a neutral stance in battles between good and evil, justice and injustice, right and wrong, regardless of the opinions maintained by any group or alliance. The daily believes in reporting events objectively, as they are, and without fear or favor. It is dedicated to serving the people. That is why *The Daily Star* is respected by persons in positions of power and the opposition alike. *The Daily Star* advocates for the rule of law, human rights, gender concerns, national interests, press freedom, transparency, and accountability of persons in government and the world of trade and industry, all of which the newspaper has never compromised on, no matter what the cost. No political power can take it for granted, and no one has reason to doubt its impartiality.

2.2 Governing Body

Mahfuz Anam, a freedom fighter and former *United Nations* official is now editor and publisher of *The Daily Star*. The newspaper is managed by a six-member Board of Directors. The head of the body is the Chairman, while the other members are known as Directors. The Board of Directors is solely responsible for the newspaper's income and investments and has no role in policymaking. Policymaking is the duty of the editor, who also serves as one of the directors. *The Daily Star* is owned by *Transcom Group*.

2.3 Organogram

The news team is led by Syed Ashfaul Haque ,Executive Editor and Aasha Mehreen Amin is the joint editor. Mr. Ziaul Haque Swapan is the Head of News Room,Naimul Haque Babu; Chief News Editor , Pinaki Bhattacharya; Head of Reporting and Mohammad Al-Masum Molla is the head of Digital.Previously, the digital section used to work separately and the people working there known as online journalist. However, the digital and print sections now work together. Mizanur Rahman is the Head of Operations.

The chief reporter supervises the entire reporting staff, the newspaper's primary unit. He appoints reporters to cover events and write special reports, and he receives reports from journalists working throughout the country. After receiving the reports, he passes them to the news editors. The Chief News Editor oversees the news division, which includes news editors

and sub-editors. Aside from two news editors and one joint news editor, there are other sub-editors. The page layout is the responsibility of the News Editors. They also write the headlines for the reports. The sub-editors edit the reports before submitting them to the news editors.

2.4 Capabilities of Staff Members and the organisation

The newspaper is divided into many sections: news, reporting, sports, business, editorial, metropolitan, national page, star weekend magazine, law and our rights, lifestyle, culture, online, establishment, circulation, advertisement, computer operator, and reading section. These sectors now employ a total of 280 employees. Of these, 40 are female employees. A lot of women are engaged in various policy-making roles within these divisions. Presently, 17 percent of its total staff members are women. ([About Us | The Daily Star](#))

The Daily Star offers a very good working environment for its staff as it thinks a good working environment is a must for better output.

2.5 Facilities of the workers at *The Daily Star*

Facilities	Status
Wage Board (8th)	Yes
Own Office Building	Yes
Gratuity & Provident Fund	Yes
Increments & Special Bonus	Yes
Canteen, Lounge, Daycare	Yes
Lift & Washroom Facilities	Yes
Training programmes	Yes
24-hour Internet Access	Yes
Health Insurance	Yes
Transport	Yes

2.6 Working Hours

As a daily newspaper, reporters and sub-editors must meet deadlines within a limited time frame. Other employees work in different shifts depending on the nature of their profession, while administration and financial workers work from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and they have two days off. Other units like reporting, news, editing, graphics, and production work in different shifts, requiring many employees to stay in the office until 2:00 am. Reporters do not have a set work schedule because they must cover events around the country. The reporters and news editors maintain a 7-hour shift and they have only one day off. Staff of these sections get their day off on different days of the week. Except for reporting and editing, editorial, feature, graphics, and production, most sections have a weekly holiday on Friday.

2.7 Social and Economic Commitment

The Daily Star regularly hosts roundtables, seminars, and conversations on pressing topics. It awards achievement in several sectors. For instance, students who perform well in their O Level and A Level exams are given *The Daily Star* Award. It also offers university students the opportunity to intern for a few months, with the option to become full-time staff members for those who worked as university correspondents afterward.

Chapter 3

Work of Sub-editor(Digital)

3.1 Collecting news stories

During my internship, I have seen that my supervisor is assigning different tasks to different sub-editors of the digital section. The first step is to collect the news story (sometimes along with pictures) either by a phone call or through an email from the local correspondents, which a desk reporter receives. S/he then checks the story for details and makes sure that it has all the elements that make a story newsworthy.

Like other newspapers, *The Daily Star* also sets the priority of news based on the five news value factors. Namely, Prominence (Significance of the news) , Timeliness (How recent a story is) , Consequences (Impact/ effect that create to the public mind after reading the news), Proximity (The importance of news based on geographical distance of its reader) and Oddity (The gravity of unusual news or the news with events that only happen once a while)

3.2 International News Sourcing

Most of the time, the newspaper authority cannot send its reporters abroad to collect news. That is why they have to rely on foreign websites and international news agencies for getting international news and authentic sports information that take place out of the country. Likewise, *The Daily Star* subscribes to some international news agencies such as *Reuters*, *AFP*, *Relaxnews*, *Associated Press News (AP News)*, *AP Video*, *The Dawn*, *Deutsche Welle*, etc. It also

subscribes to some local news websites, for example, *United News Bangladesh (UNB)*, *Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha(BSS)*, etc. Subscribing to news from above mentioned national and international news agencies are always reliable. *The Daily Star* buys news and publishes them while maintaining proper copyright law. Therefore, local readers can enjoy the taste of international write-ups as well.

3.3 Writing Press Releases

While interning at *The Daily Star*, I came across lots of press releases every day. After receiving them, my work was to inform my supervisor about them, and he would decide if the press release was significant enough to be published or uploaded. All of them were not engaging, but some are really good. It was very challenging to edit or translate those good ones because the editor needed to ensure the standards of *The Daily Star* before publishing a press release. Sometimes the newspaper publishes the press releases without any editing, and sometimes they need to be translated from Bangla to English. So that they make sense to the readers of this English daily.

3.4 The Inverted Pyramid Structure

Based on the inverted pyramid structure, the editor needs to break down the information and arrange it chronologically. Keeping the most important facts in the first paragraph, the following paragraphs have the lesser and least important details.

Chapter 4

Editing Procedure

4.1 Copy editing

Once the reporter has gathered all the necessary information regarding the news story, he or she submits it to the editor. The editor basically revises them in terms of grammatical errors, sentence structure, spelling, punctuation, the validity of the sources, and attributions, and prepares them to be published. However, another purpose of editing is to cross-check and correct mistakes, if any.

Since I was an intern at The Daily Star, I started my internship with editing tasks. I had to edit a number of news stories every day related to crime, accidents, and regional news. This is mostly hard news. Some small press releases were there too, and after editing those small press releases, they were rechecked by my supervisors. While writing or editing any article, I always follow and maintain their rules of writing. For instance, the introductory part needs to cover ‘5Ws and 1H’ (who, what, when, where, why, how). Quotations have to be clear and accurate. The names of places also have to be clear. The reporter has to be very careful about the facts and figures and always double-check the designation and spelling of the name of a person. We needed to add subheadings or bullet points if necessary and omit the unnecessary and vague information. As *The Daily Star* follows British English, therefore, using ‘s’ instead of ‘z’ and

other words needs to be checked properly. We also did not write names of days; instead, we wrote ‘today’, ‘this morning’, ‘yesterday’, ‘tomorrow’. In the case of a murder, the news

addresses the dead person as ‘deceased’ Abbreviations of words that need to be mentioned in full form, for example, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), officer-in-charge (OC), sub-inspector (SI), etc. Remove ‘.’ from words like ‘USA’. So it should be 'USA' not ‘U.S.A.’. We had given the same importance to the contents of both small and large For any kind of update or change in the news story, always contact the reporter. We had to incorporate hyperlinks as much as possible so that the reader got to know more about the news. Sloppiness should be strictly avoided since the reader usually looks up the news as soon as it appears on the site.

The editing procedure for web news is a bit different from the printed version of a newspaper. People usually search for the most precise form of news, which in fact saves their time and keeps their attention on the news story. Therefore, the editor has to be very conscious of the length of the news. It is quite challenging for an editor to edit an article based on the requirements of a newspaper.

4.2 Editing News Headline

The headline is the first impression of a news story. I learned in ENG404: Copywriting course that headlines must be catchy ones in which readers can find self-interest. There should be a concise summary of the whole news story presented in as few words as possible. This is done to satisfy even the readers who opt to only skim through the first few lines of each news story. Otherwise, the story will lose its appeal. Hence, the headline needs to be a careful selection of

words by an editor. During my internship, my supervisor gave me some tips on how to write or edit a good news headline. They are mentioned below:

- Use familiar words and write concisely
- Remain faithful to the original story
- Write it in active voice
- Being creative but not vague
- Try to write it in a positive form, not negative
- Being factually correct is important rather than grammatically correct
- Keep it within eight-ten word long and even fewer whenever possible
- Usually, headlines get edited after the news story is done.

4.3 Challenges of Editing News

At the initial stage of my internship, I thought editing would call for some minor changes in an article. Later, I discovered how crucial and challenging a task it is. I did a lot of work to shape up and reorganize an article following the editing requirements of The Daily Star.

Sometimes I faced difficulties while dealing with the rural correspondents, as they could not speak English. They also cannot write well. Moreover, some local reporters sent news stories that had already been shortened and written in English but were full of grammatical errors and did not have proper sentence structure. Often, I faced trouble with news pieces written in Bangla that were full of trivial and vague information. These experiences made me realize how big and important an editor's responsibility is in the newsroom.

In my understanding, editing takes lots of practice, knowledge of the mechanics and semiotics, and a problem-solving attitude. All in all, I found this whole experience to be very exciting and helpful in developing my editing skills.

Chapter 5

Translation

5.1 What is translation

Translation is a process through which an original text or word (source language) is changed into another text or word (target language) while keeping the meaning intact. To translate a piece of writing an editor needs to consider the following aspects of the source text.

- Text type- the kind of the text, such as, poetry, prose, novel, short story etc.
- Content- the subject matter of the text, such as, tragedy, comedy, romance etc.
- Context- what culture or circumstances the text is representing is considered as the context of the text

5.2 Types of translation

I have taken ENG 465 Translation Studies course at my University, where I came to know that there are two types of translation methods. One is word-for-word translation where each word of the source language is replaced by its close correspondent in the target language. It is also known as 'literal translation'. The other is sense-for-sense translation. It keeps only the deeper meaning intact while it modifies and rearranges the ideas of the source language in the target language. It is also known as 'free translation'.

5.3 Translating news stories

During my three-month internship, I found translating news stories to be the most time-consuming part of my everyday task at *The Daily Star*. Before uploading any news story, it needs to be translated into English, as news stories are mostly sent in Bangla by the local correspondents. I was mainly asked to translate the press releases and reports that came via email. Most of my translation works were focused on crime or news about accidents. Before handing over the tasks, the editor made it clear to me that the translation should be sense-for-sense. Although when it came to quoting an important person or stating facts, I had to carefully translate from Bengali sources to ensure equivalence of meaning in English. For the sense-for-sense translation method, I need to be more patient and cautious while I look up the online dictionaries for a specific word. I made sure that I looked up a few meanings before selecting the most appropriate. I also sought advice from my supervisor as well as my colleagues about this issue, and one of them taught me how to check upon the archived news on *The Daily Star*'s website. For example, the word 'leguna' does not have an exact English translation in the dictionary. However, *The Daily Star* writes 'leguna' as 'human hauler'. I checked some news stories where Leguna was referred to as a human hauler in the archive. From there, I came to know about the usual pattern of English news reports. This indeed turned out to be a useful tool for me, as it cleared up all my confusion regarding translation. Properly translated news can bring accurate information to people about what is happening around the world.

Chapter 6

Publishing Process (Panel)

News stories are published on *The Daily Star*'s website via its panel. It is called "liberty." Each journalist has their own username and password, with which they can access and upload news. As I was an intern sub-editor, I did not have my own access to the panel.

However, during the second week of my internship, my supervisor showed me how to use their panel to upload a news story to *The Daily Star*'s news website. At first, he told me to log into their web panel by typing `user.thedailystar.net`, and then she signed in with her personal username and password. After signing in on the top section of the web page, I came across multiple boxes labeled Dashboard, Content, Structure, and Shortcuts. In order to upload a news story, an editor has to select "Add News," which is under the "Shortcuts" category. By clicking on "Add News," various other categories like shoulder, headline, sub-head, alternative headline, byline, and body part turn up. Here, an editor needs to fill up the boxes accordingly. The "Byline" section always carries the source name of the news story. For example, if the news is written by the in-house editor, then it has to be 'Star Online Report', or if the news is taken from *Reuters*, *AFP*, *BSS*, *UNB*, etc. The 'Byline' has to be filled in with their name. Then, the whole news story needs to be pasted down in the "body" part, and the introduction of the news story should always appear in bold letters. The headline should be pasted in the headline box.

The "intro" section or lead paragraph always needs to be typed in the present tense. The "Tags" box needs to be filled with news-related keywords, by looking at which a reader would usually search for a particular news story. As the news is uploaded on a website, the "news type" is "web." To upload a picture of a news story, the editor needs to select "Content-Media," which consists of sections like image size and caption box.

Chapter 7

The 12th National Election Project

7.1 Creating Affidavit

During my internship, I was assigned some more work. As the election nears, the pressure in the newsroom gears up. I was assigned to reporter Zyma Islam's team for her election project. Our main job was to show a rise in candidates' wealth and the corruption in their papers, such as tax documents and affidavits.

For this project, my job was to create an affidavit. It was a lengthy project, and I worked with Utsa, who is a trainee reporter for this project. We made four spreadsheets and entered the names of the nominees. We worked day and night to complete the affidavit. We collected books from the election commission for the 2018 halafnama. And for the 2023 assets, we collected the halafnama from the website. MP candidates are required to submit an affidavit containing a total of eight pieces of personal and financial information while filing for nomination. I have entered data on nearly 500 candidates, and it was the most painstaking work for me. We spent the entire two weeks doing this. While working on this project, we thoroughly checked the data again and again because the information they provided was not realistic at all. For example, a total of 138 bhoris (1.72kg) of gold is valued at Tk 40,000., or Tk 2,000 for twenty bighas of land! Tk 400 for a five-katha plot in Barishal! And a Tk 1.3 lakh for a Baridhara apartment! I have also

noticed a handful of candidates are self-educated, and do not have any formal academic background.

NATIONAL ELECTION
2024



Staff Correspondent

Wed Dec 27, 2023 12:00 AM

Last update on: Wed Dec 27, 2023 10:25 AM

76 Shares



Most Viewed =

1

Fire at 17-storey Gulshan building

Record rise in candidates' wealth

TIB analysis on affidavits reveals Jan 7 polls to see highest number of aspirants with liquid assets of Tk 1cr or more

TIB ANALYSIS

18 candidates have movable assets of OVER TK 100 CRORE

1.07% Tk 50cr to 100cr

4.62% Tk 10cr to 50cr

21.2% Tk 1cr to 10 cr

72.09% Below Tk 1cr

2024

*MOVABLE ASSETS OF CANDIDATES

CANDIDATES with movable or liquid assets of Tk 1cr and more	2008	274
	2014	202
	2018	522
	2024	571

Candidates with liquid assets (Tk 1cr and above; in%)

AL	2008 POLLS	2014 POLLS	2018 POLLS	2024 POLLS
	27.94	61.54	83.15	86.96

JP	2008 POLLS	2014 POLLS	2018 POLLS	2024 POLLS
	35.59	25.58	31.65	20

BNP	2008 POLLS	2014 POLLS	2018 POLLS	2024 POLLS
	44.71	51.32		

CANDIDATES BY PROFESSION

Businessman	57.34%
Lawyer	9.17%
Farmer	7.81%
Service-holder	5.16%
Teacher	4.95%
Politician	2.86%

Figure 4: Report on affidavit

7.2 The Election Special Site Development

During my internship at *The Daily Star*, I had the opportunity to contribute to the development of the website during the 12th National Election. This experience provided invaluable insights into the dynamics of online news coverage, live updates, and the collaborative efforts required to ensure timely and accurate reporting.

As part of the election coverage team, our primary focus was to provide real-time updates on votes, trends, and developments throughout the electoral process. To achieve this, we worked tirelessly to enhance the functionality and user experience of *The Daily Star's* website. This involved optimizing the site's performance, implementing features for live updates, and ensuring seamless integration with other platforms for data visualization.

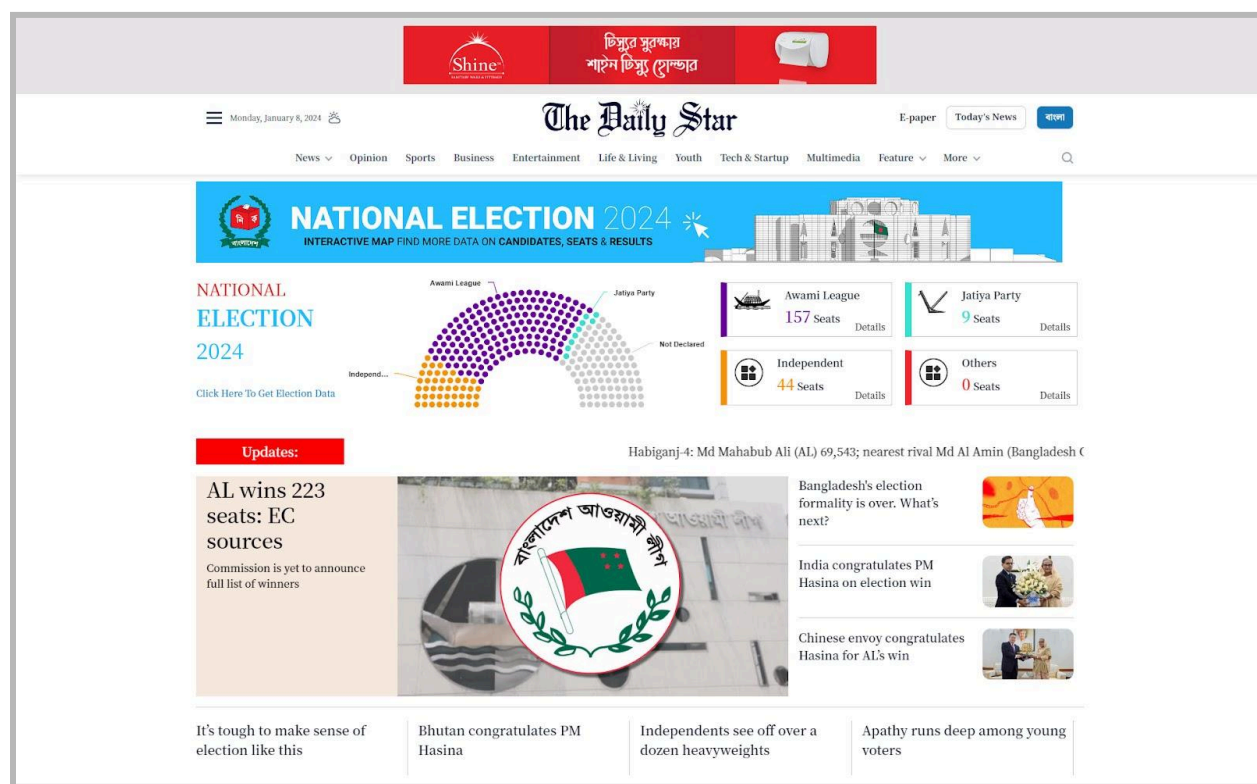


Figure 5: image of *The Daily Star* site

7.3 Live Updates on Votes

One of the key responsibilities during the election was to provide live updates on vote counts, constituency results, and emerging trends. This involved closely monitoring official sources, correspondents in the field, and social media channels for the latest information. As part of the web development team, I collaborated with editors, reporters, and data analysts to translate this information into engaging and informative content for our audience.

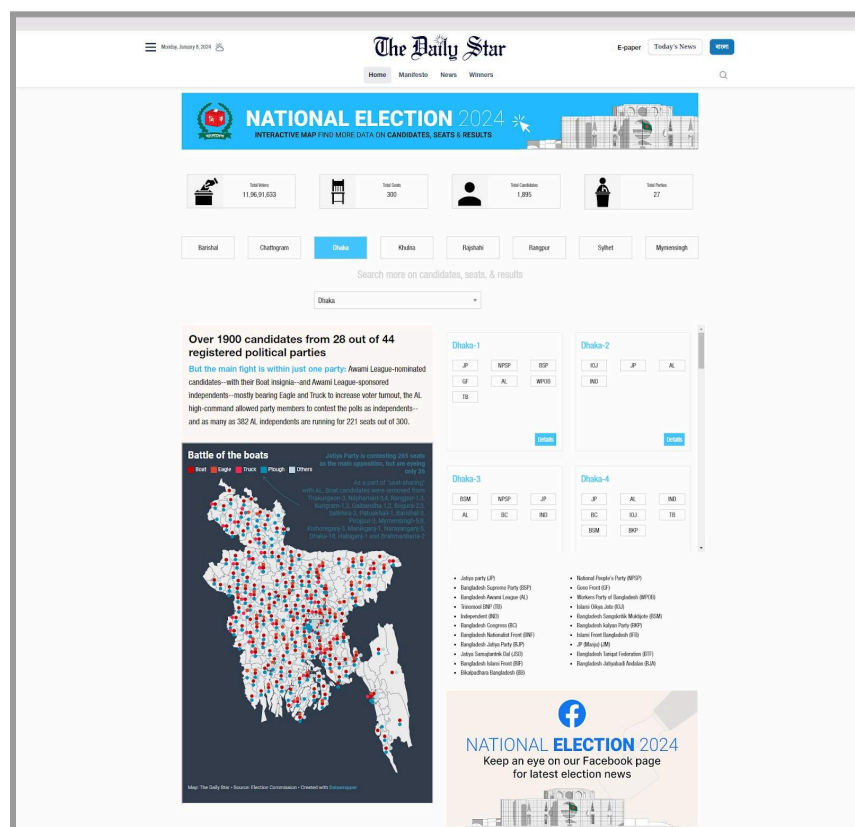


Figure 6: image of *The Daily Star* site

7.4 Mapping

In addition to live updates, we also leveraged mapping technologies to visualize election results and constituency data in an interactive format. This involved integrating mapping,

geospatial data, and custom visualizations into *The Daily Star's* website. By presenting election data in a spatial context, we aimed to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the electoral landscape and facilitate deeper analysis for our audience.

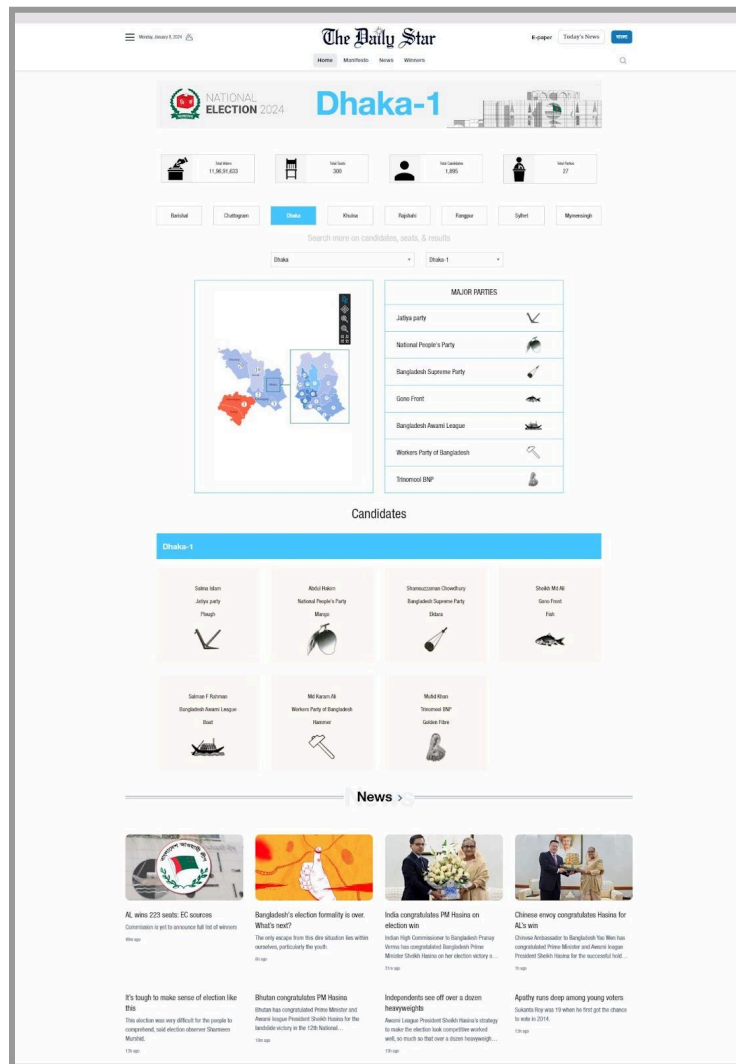


Figure 7: image of *The Daily Star* site

The intensity of election night operations was palpable in the newsroom, with editors, reporters, and developers working in tandem to cover every aspect of the electoral process.

Despite the late hours, the dedication and professionalism of the team remained unwavering. From verifying information to crafting compelling narratives, every member of the newsroom played a crucial role in ensuring accurate and timely coverage. My experience during the 12th National Election at *The Daily Star* was both challenging and rewarding. Working on the website development team allowed me to gain firsthand experience in technology to deliver real-time news updates and interactive visualizations.

Chapter 8

Training and Fellowships

During my internship, I got an excellent opportunity to learn fact-checking and gather experience about it. I was selected for training funded by Meta from The Daily Star. The training was organized by Democratic International, an international NGO in Dhaka that works for political harmony. The training was a three-day residential training course titled “Safer Digital Spaces for Women.”.

During the experience, I have learned new skills that I can apply in the future to help in my career growth. I met 17 renowned women journalists from our country who have made an excellent career in journalism. These ladies were brave, intelligent journalists who fought for people’s rights as well as for themselves. I was also fortunate enough to learn from some amazing mentors who have worked in this field for a long time and teach journalism. We had a three-day brief fact-checking session led by Mr. Qadaruddin Shishir, who is a senior fact-checker at *AFP*. We learned how to identify misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation and cross-check the facts. We also got to know about different tools and how to use those tools to identify misinformation and disinformation. The training was very helpful for us because, in this digital age, the flow of news is very fast. People write articles with catchy headlines and post pictures and videos on social media for views and reach. So, it is very important to keep track of those news items and fact-check the information. Now I can also identify the edited and corrupted videos and pictures. We also attended a session conducted by

Ms. Dilshad Dodul, who is a journalist and a teacher of mass communication and journalism at the University of Liberal Arts (ULAB). She taught us about the Digital Security Act (DSA) and the Cyber Security Act (CSA) and how we can ensure our and others' safety on the digital platform. We also got to know about the shortcomings of those laws. On the third and last day of the training, we also had a session with the Meta team over a Zoom call. The training was a project of Meta's research on South Asian women's safety in digital space. I was very happy as I got to be a part of the project, and I am thankful to *The Daily Star* for selecting me for this training.



Figure 8: Training on Safer Digital Space for Women



Figure 9: Working on safety strategies



Figure 10 : I was giving a brief after the training

Chapter 9

Application of Media Theories in My Internship

Following the Industrial Revolution, nearly every nation on the planet transformed their labor structures. For instance, citizens of Bangladesh are required to follow the established morals, ethics, and traditions of their nation. Numerous workers across numerous national businesses adhere to and modify contemporary company methods such as variable hourly and overtime compensation, payroll, and time management systems. Almost everyone engages in these behaviors to keep an organization moving forward, cohesive, and harmonious. In his book *Discipline and Punish*, Michel Foucault stated that a society's underlying structure affects both its members and itself. This implies that each person has a responsibility to fulfill based on their place in society. In a similar vein, *The Daily Star* staff members use these systems to execute and run their specific jobs. The regular time of clocking in and out is seven hours. Any work beyond this time is considered to be overtime work. Employees of *The Daily Star* receive payment for each hour of the overtime work on the basis of corporate ethics.

9.1 Panopticon and Gaze

Jeremy Bentham, an English philosopher and social theorist, devised the Panopticon as an architectural design for institutional buildings as well as a control mechanism. He published this work in the late 18th century. Michel Foucault, a French philosopher, historian, theorist, and critic, discussed Bentham's Panopticon in his article "The Eye of Power". Here,

"Pan" refers to everything, while "Opticon" means to observe. Bentham constructed the building so that a single watchman could view all aspects of an institution from his position. According to Foucault, 'gaze' is a form of surveillance. During my three-month internship, I was likewise subjected to this system of surveillance, since my supervisor examined my work. Furthermore, not only was my work observed, but so was my coworkers' and senior editors' work. This steady monitoring made me more active and motivated to work to my full potential during my working hours. While interning at *The Daily Star*, I saw many CCTV cameras throughout the office. Seeing the cameras reminded me to focus on my job and avoid using my phone. Everything was recorded, from my arrival at work to my performance and behavior.

Much of my time was spent in the office. I did not know if the CCTV cameras were functioning or if anyone was monitoring the live footage. According to Foucault, surveillance systems eliminate the necessity for physical violence and material limits. A single stare might cause individuals to internalize and become their own overseers. The presence of an overseer is not necessary for the gaze to function. Similarly, I did not need to know if the CCTV footage was being monitored to feel accountable and serious. I was able to connect this situation to what Foucault dubbed as the 'internalization of the gaze'. This refers to how a person who is conscious of being watched will discipline themselves internally to conform to the rules or norms. Even when working remotely, I felt accountable to my boss for my conduct during work hours.

9.2 Cultural Imperialism Theory

As an intern at *The Daily Star*, my experience aligned with aspects of Cultural Imperialism Theory, particularly in the context of media production and consumption. *The Daily Star*, as a prominent media outlet, holds significant influence over the dissemination of information and the shaping of public opinion within its cultural sphere. In this internship, I have observed how Western media values and narratives often permeate the content produced and distributed by *The Daily Star*. While striving to provide comprehensive coverage, there is a noticeable inclination towards adopting Western perspectives, standards, and topics of interest. This inclination can reflect the broader influence of Western media hegemony, where dominant cultural narratives, often originating from Western countries, tend to overshadow or marginalize local voices and perspectives. For example, one can think of the mainstream Western media's coverage of the Israel-Palestine conflict. Publishing unsubstantiated claims, telling only one side of the story, and portraying the ordinary Palestinians as terrorists whereas it is the Hamas who attacked Israel are examples of biased reporting by the western media. According to a report of *Al Jazeera*, "Western correspondents have gone to Israel where they reported extensively on the grief of Israeli families, but Israel has not allowed foreign journalists to enter Gaza, which means they're missing a vital aspect of the story."

Furthermore, *The Daily Star's* reliance on Western sources for news and information such as *AFP*, and *Reuters* contributes to the perpetuation of cultural imperialism. Moreover, the structure and format of *The Daily Star's* content often mirror Western media conventions, reflecting a broader trend of cultural homogenization driven by globalization. From news

presentation to editorial standards, there is a discernible alignment with Western media norms, which can inadvertently marginalize or exoticise non-Western cultures and experiences. As an intern, I have grappled with these dynamics, recognizing the complex interplay between media production, cultural influence, and power dynamics.

Chapter 10

Work Experience in Star Digital Team

My time as a sub editor at *The Daily Star* was a priceless experience that I will always remember. My supervisors and colleagues have been really supportive since the beginning. Senior sub editors like Ms. Sifat Shifa and Mr. Tanjeel Rezwan painstakingly helped me through the editing process, identifying mistakes and inconsistencies that I overlooked. They did not just point out mistakes; they explained the reasons behind adjustments, teaching me the intricacies of language, style, and clarity. This hands-on approach not only improved my editing abilities, but also developed in me a great appreciation for the clarity and impact of language. My supervisor Mr. Sakeb Subhan, Deputy Editor Ms. Farhana Ety and Chief Reporter Mr. Masum Molla never stopped encouraging me.



Figure11: *The Daily Star* “33 years anniversary” celebration with the employees.



Figure 12: Dhaka Metro Rail Visit with the Digital team of *The Daily Star*.

The sub editing crew had a great camaraderie. We would frequently huddle over difficult pieces, pondering the best way to express something or debating the nuances of a specific news item. The mood was collaborative, with everyone eager to help and learn from one another. There were moments when deadlines and pressure were high. Even so, my coworkers supported me. They volunteered to take on some of my work, share their editing shortcuts, or just crack a joke to lighten the mood. This supportive environment not only reduced working stress, but also promoted a true sense of teamwork and belonging.



Figure 13: A moment with the Editor Mr. Mahfuz Anam .



Figure 14: Part of *The Daily Star* Digital team

Furthermore, apart from my regular tasks I was also assigned to work with Senior Investigative Reporters like Ms. Zyma Islam, Mr. Martin Swapan Pandey. I learnt about data journalism from them . Data journalism or data-driven journalism (DDJ) is journalism based on the filtering and analysis of large data sets for the purpose of creating or elevating a news story. I worked on large sets of datas sometimes for political purposes and sometimes for educational purposes. This particular work made me very responsible towards my duty. I learnt how data collection and analysis is a crucial part of investigative journalism. I am also happy that senior journalists like Ms. Zyma Islam could trust me with entering data.

Looking back, I am happy for the numerous opportunities to improve my talents at *The Daily Star*. From ensuring factual accuracy to keeping a consistent house style, the experience gave me a solid basis for editing. However, beyond the technical aspects, the most important lesson I learnt was the need for clear and simple communication. Seeing how my colleagues turned raw content into polished stories fostered in me a strong appreciation for the editorial process. It was an honor to be a part of such a dedicated team, and I am convinced that the skills I learnt and information I gathered will help me throughout my career.

Chapter 11

Conclusion

During my time at *The Daily Star*, I learned that life is an adventure, and it is okay to step outside of one's comfort zone to discover new interests. It also taught me to be fearless in terms of sharing ideas and opinions. It consistently encouraged me to think outside of box and have a strong desire to distinguish myself from others. During my internship, I realized the importance of working with a supportive and cheerful team. Positivity not only enhances an individual's growth, but also motivates a team to perform better under duress.

The Daily Star's motto reflects its commitment to provide honest and ethical journalism to the people. The media outlet values its readers and strives to meet their expectations. My 12-week-long internship at *The Daily Star* allowed me to apply my writing skills and obtain valuable journalism experience. This journey allowed me to use my knowledge to improve and become a professional and responsible individual. Practical experience in the field of journalism is key. I enjoyed interning at *The Daily Star* and I hope to apply what I learned in my career.

Works Cited

Bass, A.Z. *The "Gatekeeper": A case study in the selection of news*. 1950. pp. 383-390.

SAGE Journals, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/107769906904600110>

Catford, J.C. *A Linguistic Theory of Translation*. Oxford University Press.1965.

Crystal, David. *English as a Global Language*. Cambridge University Press.2003.

Foucault, Michel. *Power/Knowledge: Selected Interviews and Other Writings, 1972-1977*.

Pantheon Books, 1980.

Hassi, Abderrahman, and Giovanna Storti. '*Globalization and Culture: The Three H Scenarios*'.

Globalization - Approaches to Diversity, InTech, 22 Aug. 2012.

Crossref,doi:10.5772/45655.

Nashed, Mat. "Western coverage of Israel's war on Gaza – bias or unprofessionalism?" *Al*

Jazeera, 29 Oct. 2023,

www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/29/western-coverage-of-israels-war-on-gaza-bias-or-unprofessionalism.

Appendix-1

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

The Daily Star E-paper Today's News বাংলা

Home News Opinion Sports Business Entertainment Life & Living Youth Tech & Startup Multimedia Feature More

BANGLADESH

RMG Workers' Protests: Normalcy returns, at least for now

New wage structure expected tomorrow

Staff correspondent
Mon Nov 6, 2023 12:00 AM
Last update on: Mon Nov 6, 2023 11:02 AM

31 Shares

Most Viewed

- 1 DSA case: Tithy Sarker gets 5 years with probation
- 2 Four Years of Dhaka Mayors: Failures stifle successes
- 3 Inflation eases but stays above 9% in April

Garment workers returning to work in Ashulia on Sunday, November 5, 2023, after their 12-day demonstrations for a hike in minimum wage last December in this area closed. The movement has ended on "sustainable minimum"

Related News

- 90% RMG units paid festival bonus so far: BGMEA 1y ago
- Garment workers propose Tk 20,393 as minimum salary 6m ago

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/rmg-workers-protests-normalcy-returns-least-now-3462611>

Appendix-2

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

The Daily Star E-paper Today's News বাংলা

Home News Opinion Sports Business Entertainment Life & Living Youth Tech & Startup Multimedia Feature More

BANGLADESH

BNP calls 48-hour hartal from Sunday

UNB, Dhaka
Thu Nov 16, 2023 04:34 PM
Last update on: Thu Nov 16, 2023 05:20 PM

429 Shares

Most Viewed

- 1 DSA case: Tithy Sarker gets 5 years with probation
- 2 Four Years of Dhaka Mayors: Failures stifle successes
- 3 Inflation eases but stays above 9% in April

The BNP today announced a 48-hour hartal across the country starting from Sunday (November 19) to protest the schedule for the next

Related News

- Gono Odhikar Parishad calls 48-hour hartal from Sunday 6m ago
- Are we running in circles? 6m ago

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/bnp-calls-48-hour-hartal-sunday-3471281>

Appendix-3

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

The Daily Star

E-paper Today's News বাংলা

Home News Opinion Sports Business Entertainment Life & Living Youth Tech & Startup Multimedia Feature More

NATIONAL ELECTION 2024

Star Digital Report
Mon Dec 18, 2023 01:33 PM
Last update on: Mon Dec 18, 2023 02:18 PM

23 Shares

Most Viewed

- 1 DSA case: Tithy Sarker gets 5 years with probation
- 2 Four Years of Dhaka Mayors: Failures stifle successes
- 3 Inflation eases but stays above 9% in April

AL to announce its election manifesto on December 27



The ruling Awami League will announce its election manifesto on December 27.

The Daily Star বাংলা



বাংলাদেশ
উখিয়ায় আরসার আস্তানা থেকে
অস্ত্র, গ্রেনেড, রকেট শেলসহ
গ্রেপ্তার ২
র্যাব আজ অভিযান চালায়
৩ এইমাত্র

বাংলাদেশ
ঢাকা-সিলেট-তামাবিল মহাসড়ক:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/national-election-2024/news/al-announce-its-election-manifesto-december-27-3497366>

Appendix-4

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

The Daily Star

E-paper Today's News বাংলা

Home News Opinion Sports Business Entertainment Life & Living Youth Tech & Startup Multimedia Feature More

BANGLADESH

Prajukta Roy Chowdhury
Sun Nov 5, 2023 06:02 PM
Last update on: Sun Nov 5, 2023 06:13 PM

Most Viewed

- 1 DSA case: Tithy Sarker gets 5 years with probation
- 2 Four Years of Dhaka Mayors: Failures stifle successes
- 3 Inflation eases but stays above 9% in April

A human hauler all to myself from Mirpur-2 to Farmgate

A commuter's experience on near-deserted streets amid the blockade



Photo: Collected

The Daily Star বাংলা



বাংলাদেশ
উখিয়ায় আরসার আস্তানা থেকে
অস্ত্র, গ্রেনেড, রকেট শেলসহ
গ্রেপ্তার ২
র্যাব আজ অভিযান চালায়
৩ ৫ মিনিট আগে

বাংলাদেশ
ঢাকা-সিলেট-তামাবিল মহাসড়ক:

<https://images.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/human-hauler-all-myself-mirpur-2-farmgate>

e-3462356

Appendix-5

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

The Daily Star E-paper Today's News বাংলা

Home News Opinion Sports Business Entertainment Life & Living Youth Tech & Startup Multimedia Feature More

BANGLADESH

Star Digital Report
Wed Dec 6, 2023 03:54 PM
Last update on: Wed Dec 6, 2023 04:13 PM

73 Shares

Most Viewed

- 1 DSA case: Tithy Sarker gets 5 years with probation
- 2 Four Years of Dhaka Mayors: Failures stifle successes
- 3 Inflation eases but stays above 9% in April

Forbes ranks Hasina 9th most powerful among women in politics



File photo

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been ranked 46th on the [Forbes list](#)

The Daily Star বাংলা



বাংলাদেশ
উখিয়ায় আরসার আস্তানা থেকে
অস্ত্র, গ্রেনেড, রকেট শেলসহ
গ্রেপ্তার ২
র‍্যাব আজ অভিযান চালায়
৮ মিনিট আগে

বাংলাদেশ
ঢাকা-সিলেট-তামাবিল মহাসড়ক:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/forbes-ranks-hasina-9th-most-powerful-among-women-politics-3487431?amp>