

# Policing the bad vehicles

Four outposts soon to check emissions. Six mobile teams will roam the city and frequently visit bus-stands and inter-city bus terminals to monitor vehicles.

CITY CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) is planning to set up four outposts at the end of this month to check emissions of the vehicles plying city streets in an effort to improve the air quality.

Six other mobile teams will roam the city and frequently visit bus-stands and inter-city bus terminals to monitor vehicles.

"The objective of the plan is to cut pollution through close surveillance on vehicles that send out toxic fumes into the air," said a DoE official.

"Initially, the outposts will identify the gross polluters and will ask them to maintain the engines in prescribed formats. If the same vehicles are detected again, we will fine them," the official said of the DoE plan.

The four outposts will be built at Mirpur Darussalam, in front of Airport Railway Station, on the eastern side of the Bangladesh Secretariat and near Syedabad bus terminal.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Environment and Forest Ministry at a meeting at the Sangsad Bhavan Thursday approved two standards to check emissions from vehicles.

The diesel vehicles will be checked in line with Bangladesh standard-1, while Bangladesh standard-2 will check petrol

vehicles.

The parliamentary committee meeting also approved the air quality index (AQI) for Dhaka city. "Now the index will be sent to the law ministry for completion of legal formalities," the official said.

The AQI will update people on the air pollution rate and create awareness among them to cut hazardous emissions.

The index will be released to the media through the meteorological department every second day of a week.

The DoE Air Quality Management Project (AQMP) is now preparing the index internally. "We are ready to give our finds to the media," said an official working for the AQMP.

The project, financed by the World Bank and the government, has been monitoring the air of Dhaka city from the Continuous Air Monitoring Station at the Sangsad Bhavan for the last one and a half years.

The air quality index will be based on the data collected from the monitoring station.

The air quality of Dhaka has improved approximately 30 per cent after phasing out the two-stroke three wheelers plying in the streets this year.

The particulate matter (PM) contained in the smoke emitted from vehicles during winter is now the major cause of air pollution. Among the particulate, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, which a person can easily inhale due to its small diameter is now the major concern for Dhaka's air.



Outposts are being set up to identify gross polluters with the aim to improve air quality.

## City jives to cricket

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Cricket fever has gripped the city with Bangladesh taking on England in their first ever Test series.

There is a lot of excitement and nervous anticipation of a dream victory for the Tigers on home soil. To add colour to the occasion, a formidable band of English supporters and media crew have accompanied the England team to Dhaka.

Usually, the common public are not as interested with Test cricket as the are with one-day internationals. But with Bangladesh performing creditably in Pakistan last month, even the less privileged section of the society have joined the mania.

Crowds have gathered in front of every television show-room and any spot with a TV and many people have been carrying portable radios with them to hear the running commentary.

Teenagers, college and university students though are the most enthusiastic of the lot.

"I am supporting the Bangladeshi team even though, I have a gut feeling that they will lose," said Irfan, a student of the North South University.

Irfan would be watching the matches from the comfort of his drawing room, as he could not get hold of tickets.

Tickets for the third, fourth and final days of the first Test, that started yesterday in Dhaka, have been in most demand.

"The most exciting part of the match could unfold on the third day or the fourth. Therefore, people are buying the tickets for those days only," said Salman Mahmud, a student of Independent University of Bangladesh. Salman along with most of his friends bought tickets for the third day of the Test.

The one-day matches, which will begin next month are sure to draw full houses.



Students of Imperial College performing at the cultural function.

## Ban student politics

"Students should explore their own faculties rather than being engaged in useless politics"

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a function in the city yesterday said it is better to ban such student politics that creates anarchy on the campus.

They said student politics in old days never hampered peace on the campus.

The function was organised to accord reception to the freshers' of Dhaka Imperial College at the auditorium of the Engineers' Institution.

Speaking at the function as chief guest, Editor of the Prothom Alo Matur Rahman said the students should explore their own faculties rather than being engaged in useless politics.

He stressed the need for better interaction between the teachers and the students

to solve their problems.

He also appreciated that 98 per cent of HSC candidates from Imperial College passed the examination.

"Any achievement of Bangladesh is earned by students," said noted author Imdadul Haque Milon in his speech as special guest.

He hoped that the students of Imperial College would contribute to the betterment of present situation of the campus.

Mahfuzul Haque, acting principal of the college, said the united efforts of students and teachers followed by well-planned teaching method contributed to the success of the college.

Md Waliullah, member of the governing body of the college, presided over the function.

# Fair for car at 'fair' price

Six car lovers have joined hands to try to alleviate the traffic congestion by selling cars at cheap prices as the government is trying to ban rickshaws

SYED TASHFIN

A car fair is held every Friday at the Siddeshwari School ground.

The idea was the brainchild of six friends in their early thirties who wished to do something useful and unique for the community.

"The government is trying to ban the rickshaws on most roads. In future, thousands of commuters will be left to travel in public transports, which are not adequate enough. So we are trying to encourage people to buy affordable used cars, which have been kept in good condition," said K. G. Muhit, director of the car fair.

The fair is being held for the last three months and the organisers also have an office at Motijheel where interested parties can contact them.

Most people who are looking to sell their cars, stand every chance of making a loss if they take the help of car showrooms and brokers. On the other hand only Tk 100 is charged at the fair for displaying a car till its sale.

The fair also has a web site [www.garimela.com](http://www.garimela.com), where the details of the used cars including their pictures are available until they are sold.

There are seven technical hands, who are owners of car workshops in the city, who check the condition of any car brought into the fair.

To date, the fair has sold over 28 cars and each car had a warranty.

Price of cars at the fair sometimes are very reasonable. For example, a 1978 Toyota Starlet (1000cc) was sold at Tk 50,000 while one lucky customer got a 2000 Mitsubishi Mini Pajero for Tk 6,00,000.

"We do not want to promote the fair as a

market only where car buyers and sellers come together. We are also trying to promote the fair itself," said Muhit.

"Already we have contacted some individuals, who are the proud owners of

vintage and rare models. We have requested them to bring these cars on any Friday of the month for exhibition purpose only."

The fair is already become the envy of its rivals, mostly brokers of showrooms and local

hoodlums, who are trying to close it down.

"We hope that the government, the local public, car lovers and everyone concerned, would encourage and support our fair in the coming days," said Muhit.



The car fair at the Siddeshwari school ground is drawing more crowds every week.

## useful telephonenumber numbers

### COURIER SERVICES

#### International

Air Borne Express- 9561371, 9561372, 9550724  
Air Couriers Intl (BD) Ltd.- 8815970  
Aramex International Courier- 9558003, 9559582, 9565075  
Airspeed Express- 9563494  
Asian Courier Services Ltd.- 8313543  
Baishakhi Courier Service- 9558606  
Banmgladesh Express Co. Ltd.- 9565114  
Bangladesh Courier Service- 9563989  
Bengal Express- 9560642, 9552666  
Bangladesh Intl Courier- 953636  
Continental Service Ltd.- 9552948, 9558425  
DHL Worldwide Express- 9881703-7, 9886305-9, 9882057  
Enem Express- 9330699  
Fedex Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.- 9565114  
Modhuban Courier Service-

9550884  
Overseas Courier Service- 9352431, 8321169  
Pacific Courier- 9568446  
Reliance Express Service- 9558515, 7110249  
Sky International Service- 9660442  
Skynet world Wide Express- 9558062, 9560258, 7114787, 7113184  
TNT Express- 9566662, 9558239, 8618155  
Union Courier Service- 9341722  
United Parcel Service Air Alliance Ltd.- 8826429, 8810223

#### National

Asian courier Service Ltd.- 8313543  
BAE- 9884851  
Central Courier Service- 9881118  
Confidence Courier Service Ltd.- 9567036  
Chisty Courier- 7110177-9, 7100842-4  
Cosmopol Services- 9552793, 9557975

Dhaka Courier Services- 7236222  
Dolphin Courier- 9558802  
Dreamland Courier Service- 9550326, 9566975  
Pioneer Courier Services- 9561727, 9569759  
Probashi Courier Services- 9346359  
Rainbow Express Parcel Services Ltd.- 8322773, 8315703  
Reliance Express Services- 9558515, 7110249  
Sundaban Courier Services- 9551984, 9556189, 9551656  
Sunrise Courier Services- 9568751

#### TIPS

Do you know according to Dhaka City Corporation, you must deposit your waste at the collection site between 4pm and 10pm

### LIBRARY & INFO

#### Libraries, Cultural and Information Centers

Central Public Library- 8626001-4,  
Shishu Academy- 9564128  
Shilpakala Academy- 8614673  
Bangla Academy- 8619550  
Islamic Foundation- 9550280, 9556407  
Nazrul Institute- 9114602  
Ford Foundation- 8116133  
Alliance Francaise- 8611557  
British Council- 8618867-8, 8618905-7  
Community Development Library- 8113769, 8113604  
Goethe Institute Int'l- Dhaka- 9126525-6  
Indian Information Centre & Cultural Library- 8615096  
The Russian Cultural Centre- 9116314, 9118531, 9118314  
Drik Photo Gallery- 9120125, 8112954, 8123412

### OUTING

#### Museum and Zoo

National Museum- 8619396-9  
Open: 10 am - 5 pm, Friday 3 pm - 8 pm, Thursday closed  
Muktijuddha Jadughar- 9559091  
Open: 10:30 am - 6:30 pm, Sunday Closed  
Bangabandhu Smiti Jadughar- 8110046  
Open: 10 am - 5 pm, Wednesday closed  
Ahsan Manzil  
Open: 10 am - 5 pm, Friday: 3 pm - 7 pm, Thursday Closed  
Shishu Jadughar- 9666466  
Open: 10 am - 6 pm, Sunday Closed  
Sonargoan Jadughar

### CITY BUS ROUTE

#### Bus No. Route

1 Gulistan-Shahbagh-Banglamotor-Farmgate-Mirpur 10, 11, 12  
2 Gulistan-Shahbagh-Banglamotor-Farmgate-Mirpur 1, 2  
3 Gulistan-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Mahakhali-Airport-Azampur  
4 Shyampur-Motijheel-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Airport-Tongi  
5 Sayedabad-Kamalapur-Motijheel-Airport-Joydebpur-Gazipur  
6A Kamalapur-Motijheel-Gulistan-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Gulistan 1, 2  
6B Kamalapur-Motijheel-Gulistan-Maghbazar-Nabisco-Gulshan 1, 2  
6C Motijheel Shapla chattr- Malibagh- Farmgate- Gulshan 2  
7 Sadarghat-Gulistan-Maghbazar-Nabisco-Gulshan 2  
8 Chittagong-Motijheel-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Asad Gate-Kalyanpur-Gabtoi  
9 Demra Rani mahal-Motijheel-Kalbagan-Shyamoli-Mirpur 1, 10, 11, 12  
10 Sadarghat-Gulistan-Kakrail-Malibagh-Rampura-Biwa Road-Tongi Bridge  
11 Sayedabad-Motijheel-Fakirapool-Maghbazar-Mohakhali-Tongi Bridge  
11/A Sayedabad-Khilgoan-Malibagh-Rampura-Airport-Tongi Bridge  
12 Shanir Akhra-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Asadgate-Mohammadpur  
13 Motijheel-Shahbagh-New Market-Jhigatola-Shangkar-Mohammedpur  
14 Signboard - Motijheel-Shahbagh-New Market-Shyamoli-Mirpur 1, 12  
15 Chittagong Road-Motijheel-Shahbagh-Farmgate-Mirpur 12  
24 Gulistan-Maghbazar-Mohakhali-Airport-Uttara-Bipile

#### Starts from

Golap Shah Mazar  
Phoolbaria bus station  
Phoolbaria bus station  
Shyampur  
Sayedabad  
Kamalapur  
Kamalapur  
Motijheel Shaplachattr  
Sadarghat  
Chittagong Road  
Demra Ranimahar  
Sadarghat  
Sayedabad  
Shanir Akhra  
Motijheel  
Signboard (Chittagong Road)  
Chittagong Road  
Gulistan