

Dhaka Day by Day Snores Galore

by Parveen Anam

Many a spouse, I fear, has sat up in the middle of the night, bolt upright, in horror and apprehension, as she/he is torn by indecision because the 'better half' has stopped snoring and the spouse in question, is not very sure who to call, the doctor or the priest — or perhaps the moult in the Bangladeshi context.

Love is a many splendored thing, the poet eulogises and nobody is denying the joys of love, for sure, but somehow, love seems scarce, when the spouse lies there, in the dark, hour after lonely hour, counting sheep, making resolutions, using car-plugs, etc. etc., all to no avail, while the batter half, snores away, to his hearts content. Snoring comes in different

rythms and different wave lengths, as anybody who has been at the receiving end, will vehemently vouch. There are times, when it sounds as though the steam engine has made an appearance in the bedroom, while there are times, when the spouse could swear the wind was whistling at great speed through the room. Whatever form, sound or speed the snore takes, the receiver certainly takes only one view of the situation — a dim view. Exhausted and tired out, her only ambition at that late hour is to catch up on her eight

hours and just as she is about to drop off, in blissful sleep, there comes the nerve-jarring SNORE. The first half hour or so, it is ignored, in the hope that it will go away. But no, the snorer is the determined sort. Shake him, and he will only mutter, turn over — and continue with his nocturnal activity. While you resist a very distinct urge to smother him with the pillow. It is only the provision of the Criminal Procedure Code, which inhibits you, you swear, and think of all the awful things that could happen at that moment to stop him from continuing like a locomotive all night. Rhythmic pattern these snorers will insist on following. Perhaps a bolt of lightning would come in

through the window on his side of the bed, you wildly hope, but the stars glimmering away in the clear skies belie any such hope, of course. Perhaps, an earthquake would shake him out of it; but knowing him, he would probably sleep through it anyway — snore through it, more likely.

And woe befall you, should you try to bring the matter up during saner moments. He would swear by all that's holy that he has never snored in all his life and never intends to either. No matter what you say or do, you will not convince him of all these awful allegations. The only threat which will make some headway, it seems is if you promise to leave him for good;

but then again snoring is a ground which courts will most certainly frown upon in these parts. Its just not done. In some civilized parts of the world, snoring is a very positive reason cited for divorce, but we, in this country have perhaps not yet reached such heights of civilized behaviour and the judge would in all probability recommend psychiatric help, rather than grant a divorce on such flimsy grounds. All very well for him; his spouse never snores, you are sure.

So you put up with it, night after night, bleary eyed and exhausted. Sleeping in the extra bedroom is a possibility you have considered more than once, but invariably, it is always occupied by the 15th relative in as many days. So, all said and done, you just brave it out. Perhaps the non-snorers can form a club to physically intimidate the more determined species, the snorers. One versus the other; and may the best side win. But until that is achieved, the non-snorers will just have to learn to count sheep faster, develop their talent of patience; and use a better pair of ear-plugs, 'hope springs eternal in the human breast'. Ah well.



Children team meets Khaleda

A 20-member team, which will participate in the Turkish International Children's Festival, called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at Sugandha Friday, reports UNB.

The team comprising 12 girls, four boys and four officials of Zia Shishu Kishore Sangha will participate in the 10-day festival scheduled to begin April 16 in the Turkish city of Izmir.

The festival, featured by songs, dances and acrobatics, is organised every year on the occasion of the Independence Day of Turkey on April 23, which also marks the birth anniversary of Kamal Ataturk, father of the nation.

The children's team performed a popular song, 'Pratham Bangladesh Amar Shesh Bangladesh', with its Turkish version.

Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman, Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda, State Minister for Finance Mojtibur Rahman and president of the Shishu Sangha Serajul Islam Selim were present on the occasion.

Govt urged to restructure homeopathy

Chairman of Bangladesh Homeopathic Board Dr Md Mosharraf Hossain Friday urged the government to restructure homeopathy and integrate it with the health services to ensure 'Health for All by 2000' programme a success, reports BSS.

He also urged the government to appoint homeo physicians in the health centres at district and upazila levels for the purpose, a press release said.

Presiding over the inaugural function to observe the 237th birth anniversary of Dr Samuel Hahnemann, father of homeopathy, at the Board's office in the city Dr Mosharraf Hossain hoped that the government would give state recognition to the homeopathic system of treatment in the country.

Programmes on Sher-e-Bangla's death anniversary

Elaborate programmes have been chalked out in observance of the 30th death anniversary of Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazul Haq which falls on April 27, reports BSS.

A decision to this regard was taken at a joint meeting of Sher-e-Bangla Jatiya Smriti Sangsad, Bangladesh Jatiya Baktiya Gabeshana Kendra and Bangladesh Manabdhikar Sangathan held Thursday at the mazar of the late leader.

The programmes include discussion on the life of the leader, milad mahfil, Quran khwani throughout the day at the mazar and a seminar entitled 'Sher-e-Bangla: The Champion of Democracy'. A Sher-e-Bangla National Award will be distributed among poets, litterateurs and educationists on April 26.

Dr A Q M Karim, Vice President of the Smriti Sangsad, was in the chair at the meeting that took decisions on anniversary observance programme.

AL concern at losses by fire in Rangpur

Awami League Acting President Abdus Samad Azad and General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury Thursday expressed their deep concern at the losses caused by a devastating fire at Rangpur on Eid day, reports UNB.

In a joint statement, they urged the government to help the victims so that they could restart their business.

Over three hundred shops in the main wholesale market of Rangpur were gutted in the blaze.

Weather

Dry weather may persist

By Staff Correspondent
The weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 pm Friday, Met office forecasts.

Day temperature is likely to rise by one degree Celsius over the Rajshahi division and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia and Khulna, it says adding that it is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the rest of the country.

The highest temperature of the country 41 degree Celsius was recorded at Rajshahi Friday and the lowest 21 degree Celsius was reported from Rangpur.

The sun sets today (Saturday) at 6:19 pm and rises tomorrow (Sunday) at 5:40 am.

The temperature and humidity recorded Friday at the important cities and towns of the country are:

Cities/Towns	Temperature		Humidity	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	37.0	25.7	74	63
Chittagong	31.7	24.8	75	75
Rajshahi	41.0	23.5	48	30
Khulna	38.5	24.6	75	61
Cox's Bazar	32.8	24.9	68	76
Sylhet	33.5	24.0	74	62
Rangpur	35.6	21.0	78	41
Jessore	40.1	25.0	-	41
Comilla	34.0	24.0	82	82



A procession of Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirml Committee City Unit to press for execution of 'People's Court' verdict on Golam Azam in the city Friday. —Star photo

Five more snakes caught from Sangsad Bhaban

Five more venomous snakes were caught by snake charmers from the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban Complex at the Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city Friday, reports BSS.

'Sarpasaj' Nurul Islam, who caught three snakes Thursday from the same premises, conducted Friday's massive hunt and caught five snakes — all belonging to various species of Cobra.

As the news of Thursday's snake-operation at the area appeared in the newspapers Friday morning, a large number of curious city dwellers along with their kids gathered at the Sangsad Bhaban premises and enjoyed the technique of snake-catching, a traditional fun of the rural

Dhaka. Press photographers of various news media took snaps of the playful snakes and the snake charmers on the occasion.

Of the five snakes, three were caught from hostel area while two were from lake-side drainage structures.

Reja-e-Sattar Faruque, MP hostel catering contractor, while talking to BSS, expressed sign of relief for making the area snake-free only a day ahead of the parliament session.

Some employees of the Sangsad Bhaban saw one Cobra several days ago as they were cleaning the hostel and the complex vicinity.

DUJ condemns attack on two more journalists

The President and General Secretary of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), Shajahan Mia and Altaf Mahmud, Friday strongly condemned the naked attack on the journalists on their way to cover a meeting of a political party at Srinagar in Munshiganj Thursday, reports BSS.

In a joint statement they said a reporter of daily 'Khabar', Tahir Duttia and a photographer of 'Telegraph' Bulbul Ahmed were seriously injured when the vehicle of the journalists came under attack on way to Srinagar from

Science and Technology Week begins Apr 17

A four-day central exhibition and competition of the 15th National Science and Technology Week will begin on April 17 at the National Science and Technology Museum at Agargaon in Dhaka, reports BSS.

About 150 competitors with their innovated projects will participate in the exhibition.

These competitors topped the list at the junior and senior group competitions held at district level exhibitions of the Week during January-February this year.

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar will inaugurate the exhibition on April 17 at 10:30 am.

Symposium on different important scientific issues will also be held during the exhibition in which eminent scientists and educationists will participate.

Organised by the Science and Technology Division of the Education Ministry, the theme of the Week is 'Science and Technology in the Socio-Economic Development'.

The competitors have been requested by the organisers to report to the Science Museum two days before the opening day of the exhibition.

Rotary Int'l President's confce next week

Ministers, judges and senior officials from the SAARC countries will attend the Rotary International President's conference scheduled in Dhaka next week, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will open the April 17-19 conference dedicated to the theme 'Together for better tomorrow'.

Countries Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman, Nepalese Education Minister Govind Raj Joshi, Indian State Minister for Personnel and Public Grievances Margaret Alva, Deputy Chairman of Indian Planning Commission Pranab Mukherjee, Sri Lankan High Commissioner to India Meville Kanekaratne, Former Chairman of Press Trust of Pakistan Qutubuddin Aziz and Justice Mostafa Kamal of Bangladesh Supreme Court will speak at the conference.

Rotary International President Rajendra Baboo will preside over the conference which will deal with functional literacy, economic cooperation, human resources development, preservation of environment, communications and rule of women.

IGP visits Rohingya camps

Inspector-General of Police M Enamul Haq returned in Dhaka Thursday after visiting several camps of the Rohingya Muslim in Cox's Bazar, Ukha, Teknaf and Bandarban, reports BSS.

He instructed the police and ansar personnel deployed there to discharge their duties properly.

A police source said the IGP was accompanied by DIG, Chittagong range, and SPS of Cox's Bazar and Bandarban.

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Protesting the decision to terminate surplus staff of the corporations and nationalised institutions, Samajtantrik Sramik Front brought out a procession in the city Friday. —Star photo

'Govt fails to keep commitment to SKOP'

By Staff Correspondent

Samajtantrik Sramik Front at a rally Friday in front of the National Press Club demanded withdrawal of the government decision to terminate the surplus staff of various corporations and nationalised industries.

The rally said that the decision was imposed by the World Bank, IMF and the Imperialist countries and it would aggravate the unemployment situation of the country.

It alleged the government has failed to keep its commitment to the Sramik Karmachari Otkya Parishad (SKOP) of fulfilling its five-point demands.

The rally presided over by Golam Mahmud was addressed among others by Abdur Razzak and imam Hossain Khokon.

The speakers also demanded effective measures by the government to solve unemployment problem and restart of all closed industrial units.

Obituary

Moulana Mohammad Yusuf, popularly known as Haqqani Alem, died in Dhaka Friday morning at his Mohammadpur residence due to old age complications. He was 82, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife and a host of relations and admirers to mourn his death.

His Namaz-e-Janaza was held at Mohammadpur Jame Masjid after Juma prayers. He was later laid to rest at Shaheed Buddhijibi graveyard.

DCC completes work of 300 km road

The development and repair work of 300 kilometres of the main roads and streets of the city has already been completed at a cost of about Taka 60 crore, Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Mirza Abbas said in Dhaka Friday, reports BSS.

Shahjahan, Baby's death condoled

Acting President of Awami League and Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdus Samad Azad and party General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury MP, Friday expressed their deep shock at the death of Begum Kamrunnahar Baby, a director of Dally Ittefaq and daughter of late Tofazzel Hossain Manik Mia, reports BSS.

In a joint statement they expressed deep sympathy to the bereaved members of the deceased's family and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

In another statement the Awami League leaders expressed their deep shock and sorrow at the death of noted sports organiser Mohammad Shahjahan, also a celebrated footballer in his youth.

They recalled the contribution of the deceased in the sports arena of the country. The Awami League leaders expressed sympathy to the bereaved family members of late Shahjahan and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

TV Saturday

- 5.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.15 Recitation from the Tripitak
- 5.30 Sports World
- 6.00 Drama series : Little Sir Nicholas
- 6.30 Jiban O Projukti
- 7.05 Bansharee
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Probaha
- 9.00 Anirban
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Drama series : Dallas
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.45 Closing