

# Dhaka Day by Day

## The important word 'Pollution'!

by Parveen Anam

A time comes in the affairs of men, when certain things take precedence over others. The time has now arrived for the important sounding word 'pollution'. It seems to be the favourite doing the rounds. The Pocket Oxford Dictionary (wherever would we be without one?) defines the word pollute as 'destroy the purity or outrage the sanctity of'. — Do we dare mention Dhaka, we wonder.

Pollution seems to be having the time of its life. It never had it so good. The competition is keen, to keep it going. Anybody who has seen those buses, merrily tearing down the city roads, in an opaque cloud of jet black smoke, is convinced of the truth of the statement. Polluting the entire environment seems to be the inalienable right of the Dhaka citizen. As for its control, it should be one of the primary concerns of the city fathers — at least in civilized and advanced societies.

The city fathers in this beloved city are busy controlling the powers that control their jobs. Who has the time to think of mundane things like pollution? Make statements for the Earth Summit, or something equally important sounding, and all is taken care of. In the meantime, let the vehicles, gas us all into oblivion one of these days. One way of controlling the pollution.

Lesser the people, lesser the pollution, the 'pundits' probably feel. And contribute actively towards that end. We have tanneries, located in the heart of the city. The obnoxious smell they emit, when in operation, is enough to make the most hard hearted, blanch. As to where and how they dispose of their waste, 'ours is not to ask where, ours is but to bear'. That is the unwritten law.

Pollution Control of any sort, is an alien concept to the powers that be. The tax payer pays all sorts of taxes, which should suffice for the supreme authorities, to at least do something about clearing the garbage and give the citizen breathing space. He has some rights; some en-

titlement, we hope. The garbage scenario, is pathetic. It is either emptied into the river, roadside, or lake. We should be thankful, it is not emptied into our front yard! Maybe someday it will, in the not too distant future; when the garbage man is in a specially bad mood. And you will more likely than not, end up with, tons of garbage, right at your front gate, spilling into your premises. We are regally reminded at regular intervals, that the taxes we pay, include municipal taxes, which include the garbage collectors pay. Whither the garbage collector, we wonder, in disgust. On strike, perhaps?

Go shopping and the shopkeeper will efficiently pack your groceries or whatever, into neat plastic bags. Has it ever occurred to anybody, who matters, that these bags, are the greatest damage to our entire environment? They are not biodegradable.

Hence, they clog up the entire drainage system, the lakes, the rivers, you name it. But who cares? Some big shot, has a plastic bag manufacturing firm, and that has to survive. Not the environment or its people. Again, the sewerage system, emptying into the lakes, has in all likelihood done away with most of the fish there; the ones that have bravely managed to survive, are probably so contaminated, that it would be wiser to keep away from them. Could it be that the city fathers want us all to turn into vegetarians?

Vegetarians live longer, some claim; but the way they are going about with the pollution business, vegetarian or not, the citizen has a tough job keeping his morale high and his lungs clean. The sooner he departs for the pearly gates, the better for the 'pundits'. He has the entire city to pollute; at will. With no complaints from the 'conscious' citizen. Do we detect a wicked smile on the lips of those 'who matter', or was it our imagination running riot? We wonder.



Pollution adds to the misery of the densely populated old part of Dhaka.

### Art competition in China

#### 7 Bangladeshi children win awards

A seven Bangladeshi children have won awards in the international children art competition '92 held in Beijing recently, reports BSS. Asim got gold medal, Sabrina Sharmin and Rifat Reza Joyce got silver medals and Nusrat Sharmin, Farjana Hug, Ruma Akhter, Shamima Ara Ruby got bronze medals. Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Tariqul Islam distributed the medals at a function organised by the Bangladesh Shishu Academy in the city Saturday afternoon. Hosne Ara was awarded the Bangladesh Shishu Academy Literary prize, 1398.

### Weather

#### Rain with gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent

Moderate rain or showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind with moderately heavy falls is likely to occur at many places over Chittagong division, at a few places over Khulna and Dhaka divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi division during the next 24 hours commencing from 6 am today (Sunday). The Met office forecasts day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country. Rain and thundershowers occurred at most places of Chittagong, Rajshahi Khulna divisions and at a few places over Dhaka division yesterday. The highest rainfall of 38 mm was reported from Cox's Bazar while Rangamati had 23 mm, Sylhet had 25 mm, Chittagong 8 mm, Rangpur 7 mm, Dhaka 2 mm and Jessore below 1 mm of rainfall yesterday. The maximum temperature of 32.8 degree Celsius was reported from Bogra and the minimum of 21.4 degrees from Sylhet. The sun sets today (Sunday) at 6.50 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 5.15 am.

### BTV Sunday

- 5:00 Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:20 Recitation from the Bible
- 5:30 School Bichitra
- 6:00 Rock sports
- 6:30 Sports programme Cricket
- 7:00 Tagore songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Probaho
- 9:00 Oshin
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:25 Parliament Round Up
- 10:35 Chhayachhanda
- 11:30 Khabar/ The News
- 11:40 Monday's programme
- 11:45 Closing

### STAR TV Sunday

- 00:00 World News
- 00:25 Business Matters
- 01:00 World News
- 01:25 Crime Lid
- 02:00 World News
- 02:25 World News Week
- 03:00 World Headlines
- 03:25 The Late Show 1
- 04:00 World News
- 04:25 The Late Show 1
- 05:00 World News
- 05:25 Whicker's World
- 06:00 World News
- 06:25 The Human Element
- 07:00 World News
- 07:25 How do you Manage?
- 08:00 World News
- 08:25 Everyman
- 09:00 World News
- 09:10 Assignment
- 10:00 World News
- 10:25 The Racing Game
- 11:00 World Headlines
- 11:05 TBA
- 12:00 World News
- 12:25 On the Line
- 13:00 World News
- 13:25 How do you Manage?
- 14:00 World News
- 14:25 Everyman
- 15:00 World Headlines
- 15:05 TBA
- 16:00 World News
- 16:25 The Late Show 2
- 17:00 World News
- 17:25 Spain on a Plate
- 18:00 World News
- 18:25 On the Line
- 19:00 World News
- 19:25 The Racing Game
- 20:00 World News
- 20:25 The Late Show 2
- 21:00 World News
- 21:10 Assignment
- 22:00 World Headlines
- 22:05 TBA
- 23:00 World News
- 23:25 On the Line

### Sunday

- 00:00 Asian Top 20 Video Countdown
  - 02:00 Rockumentary: John Mellancamp
  - 02:30 Just Say Julie
  - 03:00 Music Videos-VJ Danny McGill
  - 05:00 Queen Tribute: These are the Days of our Lives
  - 06:00 Earth to MTV
  - 06:30 Best of Saturday Night Live
  - 07:00 Yo! MTV Kaps
  - 08:00 120 Minutes
  - 10:00 Headbanger's Ball
  - 12:00 Unplugged: R & B Show
  - 12:30 MTV Sports
  - 13:00 Music Videos
  - 15:00 Music Videos-VJ Danny McGill
  - 17:00 Queen Tribute: These are the Days of our Lives
  - 18:00 Asian Top 20 Video Countdown
  - 20:00 MTV Weekend Special: Yes - Around the World in 80 Days
  - 22:00 Earth to MTV
  - 22:30 Unplugged: R & B Show
  - 23:00 Yo! MTV Kaps
- (Please deduct 2 hours from all programs from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)

### STAR Plus Sunday

- 00:00 Crime Story
- 01:00 Movie: Horror Express
- 02:30 Big City Metro
- 03:00 Eye on Asia
- 04:00 Travel Travel
- 04:30 Asian Horizons
- 05:30 Fame Fortune & Romance
- 06:00 Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous
- 07:00 Cartoon
- 08:00 Terrahawks
- 08:30 Goose Girl
- 09:00 Cartoon Classics
- 09:30 Smoggy
- 09:45 Enchanted House
- 10:00 Attitudes
- 11:00 Joan Rivers
- 12:00 Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous
- 13:00 Sally Jessy Raphael
- 14:00 Mafinec Classics: Dementia 13
- 16:30 Opera: Idomeneo
- 18:30 Eye on Asia
- 19:30 This Week on Star Plus
- 19:45 The Wonder Years
- 20:00 Crime Story
- 20:50 Hollywood Stars
- 21:00 Movie: Bonanza-The Next Generation
- 22:30 Asian Horizons
- 23:30 This Week on STAR Plus

### Anti-Drug Day observed in Khulna

KHULNA, June 27: United Nations international day against drug abuse and illicit trafficking of drugs was observed here yesterday under the auspices of the Narcotics Department, reports BSS.



A BRTC bus packed up with passengers yesterday.

—Star photo

## 9 thousand non-govt pry schools to get Tk 230,000 each

Abdus Salam Talukder, Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives said 9,000 non-government primary schools would each receive 230,000 taka in the next three years for infrastructural development, reports BSS.

The infrastructural development is essential for spreading compulsory primary education throughout the country, he said.

He was inaugurating a two-day workshop on 'Compulsory Primary Education and the

Role of Journalists' here at the United Nations Information Centre Saturday. Presided over by the Senior Assistant Editor of the Bangladesh Observer Jawadur Rahman, the workshop was addressed, among others, by the Sr Programme Officer of UNICEF, Bangladesh, Delwar Ali Khan and special correspondent of The Daily Star Mahfuzullah.

He said the journalists could play a vital role in spreading education throughout the country by raising awareness among the people

through their writings. He lauded the role of the journalists in this regard.

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DM3150(320)	DM3167(299)	DM3222(348)	DM3228(152)	DM3238(298)
DM3253(94)	DM3280(251)	DM3381(42)	DM3395(105)	DM3405(13)
DM3436(143)	DM3447(174)	DM3476(90)	DM3477(165)	DM3530(31)
DM3611(74)	DM3705(228)	DM3741(175)	MM0009(264)	MM0061(203)
MM0064(212)	MM0079(252)	MM0100(144)	MM0162(153)	MM0167(324)
MM0184(336)	MM0221(148)	MM0276(111)	MM0296(117)	MM0311(55)
MM0318(330)	MM0403(340)	MM0412(127)	MM0413(214)	MM0442(249)
MM0444(302)	MM0490(245)	MM0499(236)	RM0038(284)	RM0054(272)
RM0073(113)	RM0095(333)	RM0147(195)	RM0259(2)	RM0321(26)
RM0328(145)	RM0376(277)	RM0382(52)	RM0392(283)	RM0414(220)
RM0453(318)	RM0458(70)	RM0480(178)	RM0659(155)	RM0695(186)
RM0816(187)	RM0850(342)	RM0985(273)	RM1006(171)	RM1108(15)
RM1127(225)	RM1135(280)	RM1438(112)	RM1466(142)	RM1472(250)
RM1493(258)	RM1525(323)	RM1583(99)	RM1586(122)	RM1670(294)
RM1807(182)	RP0044(314)	RP0070(50)	RP0091(331)	RP0170(235)
RP0223(243)	RP0509(110)	RP0604(242)	RP0633(185)	SB0009(248)
SB0033(289)	SB0043(107)	SB0070(12)	SB0086(172)	SB0163(43)
SB0225(39)	SB0343(5)	SB0348(232)	SB0363(261)	SB0370(124)
SB0404(206)	SB0416(260)	SB0454(36)	SB0457(147)	SB0458(9)
SB0461(48)	SB0462(134)	SB0535(286)	SB0575(163)	SB0627(210)
SB0766(114)	SM0053(309)	SM0070(290)	SM0072(334)	SM0075(198)
SM0078(211)	SM0079(208)	SM0134(295)	SM0148(253)	SM0151(156)
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SS0276(192)	SS0278(73)	SS0279(59)	SS0300(345)	SS0311(339)
SS0325(305)	SS0326(3)	SS0363(164)	SS0421(256)	SS0481(116)
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