

# Dhaka Day by Day

## An Eyesore for the Public

by Aasha Mehreen Amin



TV dramas are becoming more and more popular, thanks to BTV's good sense of getting some of the best playwrights and directors in Dhaka. But watching these plays, if one has the privilege of having a colour TV, is a major eyesore. This is mainly due to BTV's bizarre sense of colour combination, decor and well, basic aesthetics.

Take for example an office scene in an otherwise bearable play about two people who spend all their time speaking sweet nothings to each other on the phone. The man, who is supposed to be a business executive (Lord knows how he has so much time to be a lover boy of the year) speaks from a phone that is coloured a fluorescent orange. Next to this is another phone set, this time a fluorescent green. The curtains have a nightmarish zigzag pattern on a dirty yellow background. While the carpet is a strange green strikingly bright — to go with the orange and green phones, one assumes.

What tops it all, however, is the shoddy towel on the big boss's revolving chair in staid yellow, pink, orange and blue stripes. Here, one must admit, BTV's zeal to be authentic cannot be minimized. These damp looking towels on chairs are a common phenomenon in many offices nowadays although why they have been uprooted from their true home — the bathroom, is still an unsolved mystery. Perhaps it is to absorb the sweat and hair oil of the self-important occupant, who knows. Whatever the reason, maybe, BTV should know that towels on office chairs do not add to the image of a sophisticated business executive.

Leaving this gorgeously gaudy office the cam-

era may shift to something else to shock your senses — the sitting room from hell. Remember this is supposed to be the parlour of a business tycoon, so all kinds of excesses are to be expected. On one corner is the parrot green sofa set in shiny velvet competing with other pieces of furniture that have sort of, well, brownish colour. The carpet this time is plain and mustard; the curtains with the good old zigzag design. On top of the 'show case' will invariably be one or two yellow haired, pink faced (and needless to say, ugly) dolls staring vacantly into space, arms outstretched, while the chandelier will take on a funny greenish or pinkish tinge. The centre table will have crooked, crumpled table cloth that badly needs a wash and the carpet is as scruffy and rusted as the prop manager's imagination. And this, mind you, is supposed to be the picture of elegant affluence.

The depiction of the 'poorer' person's home fares slightly better since it matches with BTV's stinginess regarding stage props. Even so, one must point out to our favourite (and only) television station, in real life the probability of having four identical holes in the wall at exactly equal distances to one another, is fairly low.

The only thing one can say, and hope that the message gets through, is that unless BTV does something about its interior decoration sense, rather the lack of it, many of these wonderful productions will not be fully appreciated. Another little tidbit BTV should know, though this is a slight digression from the subject, is that very few middle class men and women wash their hands after meals on their plates — at the dinner table — an event constantly shown in many BTV dramas.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia inaugurating the installation of a new 500-line Telephone Exchange at Faridpur by making a call from her office yesterday. (Story on page 1/12). — PID photo

## Dhaka, Lusaka ties to grow further : Khaleda

The newly appointed High Commissioner of Zambia, Ian Cilanzi Beattie Sikazwe, called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday, reports BSS.

Begum Zia welcomed the new envoy and hoped that the existing friendly relations between the two countries would develop further during his tenure in Bangladesh.

The Prime Minister recalled her visit to Zambia with late President Ziaur Rahman in 1979 on the occasion of Commonwealth conference.

Begum Zia said there was ample opportunities to expand bilateral relations, especially in trade and commerce.

The Prime Minister laid special emphasis on direct export of jute and jute goods, ceramic items and readymade garments from Bangladesh to Zambia which would give fillip to the national economy.

Felicitating the people of Zambia on establishment of democracy, the Prime Minister hoped that the two democratic

## Zainul Abedin's painting albums published

An album on Zainul Abedin's paintings, comprising two volumes was published at "Shilpangan" yesterday. Each part consisted of 25 pictures, 14 inches by 20 inches, and cost Tk 750 each.

The cover design was by Qayyum Chowdhury, while three-member committee — Prof. Abdur Razzak, Qayyum Chowdhury and Fatz Ahmed — selected the pictures.

Speaking at the function, Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed, the Chairman of the advisory council of "Shilpangan" spoke of how Zainul Abedin had been the pride of the nation and through the albums the artist would be introduced to the world at large.

Professor Abdur Razzak who could not attend sent a message. The message said that Abedin was one of the foremost artists of the country who had spent his life in promoting the culture of Bangladesh.

Jahanara Abedin, wife of Zainul Abedin explained how the selection had been done and how many of Abedin's paintings were still scattered in various places at home and abroad.

Fatz Ahmed commented that the albums should have been brought out 22 years ago.

Speaking to The Daily Star Fatz said, that it was a pity that many of the works of the painter were misplaced. He bitterly regretted how nothing could be done about the 17 stolen paintings of Abedin from Mymensingh.

## Mannan tells seminar Govt firm to build a healthy nation

Speakers at a seminar here yesterday underscored the need for promotion of breastfeeding not only for development of health of the children and the mothers but also for uplift of the national economy, reports BSS.

Held at the Planning and Development Academy auditorium, the seminar was jointly organised by Labour Directorate, Nari Motre, Campaign for the Protection and Promotion Breastfeeding (CPPBF) and the UNICEF.

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuyian inaugurated the seminar as chief guest.

In his inaugural speech the minister said that the present government pledged to build a healthy generation who would successfully shoulder the responsibility of leading the nation towards progress and prosperity.

The country had to spend 500 million dollar for importing powdered milk per year. However this expenditure could be reduced by increasing the habit of giving breast milk to the children, Mannan added.

Lauding the role of the organisers of the seminar the minister assured them that any constructive and pragmatic suggestions recommended by the seminar would be considered with great importance by the government.

In the main session of the seminar two papers were presented on the seminar subjects by Dr AQM Talukder and Dr Rukhsana Haider, junior scientist, ICDDR,B. Dr Rezaul Haq, deputy project manager, Bangladesh Population and Health Consortium, Redwan Chowdhury, president Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers Association, Dr Halida H Akhter, director, BARPAT and Shireen Akhter, president, Bangladesh Women Right Forum took part in the discussion.

## Body recovered

Police recovered a body of a teenage boy from bathroom of Gulshan Ladies Park Thursday noon.

The victim lying on the floor of the bathroom had a long slit in his throat when police arrived on the spot about 1.30 pm Thursday, sources said.

Police source said, the boy (16) was wearing only a stripe lungi and was bare otherwise.



## Friday Morning Session

- 8.00 Opening announcement, Al Quran Programme Summary
- 8.10 News in Bangla
- 8.15 Aor Dishari : Islamic teachings programme for children
- 8.40 Natun Kuri: Talent contest for children
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.35 Moner Mukure : Rerelease of selected drama
- 11.55 Film : Border Town
- 12.30 Closing
- Afternoon Session
- 3.00 Opening announcement, Al Quran Programme summary
- 3.10 Recitation from the Tripitak
- 3.15 Cartoon : Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 3.40 Bengali feature film
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.25 Special programmes of children on the occasion of Tagore's death anniversary
- 7.00 Open University
- 7.25 Rabindra Chitra: A special program
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Comedy series : Perfect Strangers
- 9.00 Magazine : Manabaddikar
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Drama series : L A Law
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.45 Closing



A view of Central Road during yesterday's rain. — Star photo

## 3 killed, one injured in separate incidents

By DMCH Correspondent

Three persons were killed and another one was injured in separate incidents in and outside the capital during the last two days.

A worker of a rubber industry was electrocuted at his factory 46/47 Urdu Road, Lalbagh when he was working there Thursday.

The victim identified as Mohammed Atahar Hossain (24) was seriously injured and immediately sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where the doctors on duty declared him dead.

In another incident, an under construction balcony slid off at plot No 75, Dhania, Demra in the city killing the land owner.

The victim, Hafiza Khatun Rahima (45) while standing on the premises of her house was injured when the balcony collapsed.

She was seriously injured and rushed to the DMCH but died soon after.

Abdul Khalek (65), a pedestrian was killed when a speeding private car hit him at Panchruki, Aradhazar, Narayanganj outside the city on Wednesday.

He was seriously injured and sent to the Narayanganj Hospital and shifted to the DMCH the same day where he succumbed to his injuries.

A businessman was seriously injured when a group of toll collectors stabbed him at Manik Nagar, Sabujbagh in the city Thursday.

The victim identified as Mohammed Faruk Hossain (27) alleged that a group of toll collectors demanded two thousand taka from him when he refused they stabbed him in his abdomen.

He was admitted to the DMCH.

## 174 held on various charges

Police arrested 174 people from different parts of the city in last 48 hours on various charges, a DMP press release said Thursday, reports BSS.

The arrested include 13 wanted criminals, one for murder, one accused in arms case, two for robbery, two on charge of kidnapping, two for women repression and four for stealing.

All the arrested people were produced before court.

## Community help to curb crime urged

By Staff Correspondent

A police official sought community participation to curb growing crime and anti-social activities in the Gulshan areas.

Officer-in-charge of Gulshan police station said as a guest speaker in a meeting of the Rotary Club of Gulshan early this week that drug abuse and a large number of gay girls were polluting the area.

He said that more than 600 gay girls were detained during the past couple of months. Sprawling guest houses in the posh residential areas bring most of the gay girls, he added.

## Ali Akbar's qul today

The qulhwani of Ali Akbar, Joint News Editor of Dainik Dinkal, will be held at the residence of the deceased at 276, Free School street here today after Asr prayers, reports BSS.

A milad mahfil will be held at the news room of Dainik Dinkal after Magreb prayers.

## Biswas, Khaleda greet President of UAE

The President, Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday felicitated Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of his accession as the ruler of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, reports BSS.

In a message to President Nahyan he wished him good health, happiness and long life and peace, progress and prosperity for the people of UAE.

In another message the Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia, felicitated the UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of his accession as the ruler of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

In the message to President Nahyan, Begum Zia expressed her admiration that under his wise leadership and able guidance the United Arab Emirate made tremendous progress and development in all walks of life. Begum Zia wished good health, happiness and long life of President Nahyan and peace, progress and prosperity for the people of UAE.

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 Principal

## Admission Going On

For admission in first year HSC (Science, Commerce & Humanities) classes for the session 1993-94, students who have completed O Level, SSC or any other equivalent examination successfully and are willing to study in English medium are instructed to enquire at the college office now.

**Dr. Nazma Yeasmeen Haque**  
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## Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Limited Short Tender Notice

Sealed quotations in two envelope system are hereby invited by the Managing Director, Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Limited, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka for supply of 7,500 Kgs PETROLEUM JELLY WHITE on site delivery basis against Short Tender Enquiry No PD-II/KCC/556/304(L) dated 30-7-93. Tender documents available at Tk 50.00 (Non-refundable) per set from (1) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka, (2) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong and (3) Kohinoor Chemical Company (BD) Ltd, 349-350, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208. Tenders will be received up to 11-00 AM on 15-8-93 and opened immediately thereafter. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening of tender. Earnest Money 1% minimum Tk 1,000.00 only. D-563

## Weather

### Moderate rain may occur

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Friday) says, moderate to heavy rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at most places over Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions.

The Met office also says, day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The country's highest temperature of 32.6 degree Celsius was recorded in Bogra and the lowest 21.5 degree Celsius was recorded in Rangamati.

The sun sets today (Friday) at 6:38 pm rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 5:30 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some of the major cities and towns of the country were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9m	6pm
Dhaka	30.6	26.4	85	92
Chittagong	30.7	23.3	95	82
Rajshahi	32.0	26.6	84	78
Khulna	29.4	25.7	95	90
Barisal	31.3	24.5	96	100
Sylhet	31.2	25.0	80	90
Dinajpur	28.6	26.3	92	98
Cox's Bazar	30.0	24.5	96	91