

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

Those Mindless Air Polluters

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

An integral part of living in this city is constantly being plagued by illness due to air pollution. Apart from those masochists who blacken their lungs on their own volition through paper sticks of poison, there are those innocent ones who are forced to gulp noxious emissions every day.

It is not just cigarette smoke we are talking of here, although that in itself constitutes a large part of the non-smokers' misery. For most smokers, and this city has plenty, are happily oblivious or at least pretend to be, of the suffering, irritation, not to mention physical harm they cause to the helpless passive smoker. But let us spare these poor misguided souls for the moment and concentrate on the real adulterers of the air — the trucks, buses, cars, tempos and other monsters of the Industrial Revolution, that emit the most obnoxious of gases playing havoc with our health.

Everyday, going to work, Kamal, a 35-year-old bank officer comes from Uttara to Motijheel in a baby taxi, and experiences his involuntary carbon monoxide high. Kamal religiously takes a clean handkerchief with him to cover his nose and mouth and save himself for a few minutes from the evil smoke. "But

what about the cost to the environment to human life? Medical studies have long ago proved that black smoke or carbon monoxide and other toxic gas emissions from vehicles are directly related to heart and lung diseases. Surely that in itself is enough reason to spend even a large amount of money on fixing a defective engine. If a survey could be taken of city dwellers who have to travel in one mode of transport or the other and so are exposed to at least an hour of this black smoke, chances are that ninety per cent of the people will have experienced some kind of physical discomfort such as cough, breathing problems or asthma. It is unlikely that anyone in his right mind would say that he does not really mind being sprayed with the dark gas, not even the most apathetic cigarette smoker!

Since the problem is only getting worse the city dweller may decide to try out solutions of his own. A few victims of this man-made menace have given some suggestions on how to battle with it. First of all, never wear a white shirt to the office, it will only turn black by the end of your journey; dark grey, brown or black are suitable colours even though they may not make fashion statements with your girl friend



this is not enough to protect myself, the smoke from the buses in front is so thick and strong that it seeps through the cloth and turns it totally black," he laments. Kamal, who has developed a chronic cough, that just does not seem to leave him, is so frustrated with vehicle smoke that he is even thinking of moving somewhere nearer to his office to reduce the time of travelling and hence inhaling the foul stuff.

Buses, trucks and private cars are the worst offenders. While the passengers of these monstrosities complacently ride along, little are they aware of what their vehicles leave behind. A cloud of foul smelling blackness engulfs the persons in the rickshaw or scooter behind. The black smoke is usually caused by the weakening compression in an old engine or a defective pump that allows too much petrol to come into it. In addition, adulterated petrol, diesel and mobile also contribute to this problem. The reason why these defects are not rectified, explains Md Delwar, a microbus driver, is that the cost of replacing a defective engine is quite high ranging from 30,000 taka to 60,000 taka depending on the type of vehicle. "So it is better to keep on using the old engine as long as possible since even the extra cost involved in using more mobile is less than fixing the engine," he says.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Chief Engineer

Construction and Maintenance Management Unit (CMMU)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

House No. 80, Road No 11, Bloc-E

Banani, Dhaka

No. MOHFW/CMMU/BCPS/94/2549

August 02, 1994

Addendum Notice

1. The Tender Notice issued vide this office Memo. No MOHFW/CMMU/BCPS/94/1439 dated 12-07-1994 for the work "Renovation/Modification and Furnishing work of the existing Auditorium of Bangladesh College of Physicians & Surgeons at Mohakhali, Dhaka" is amended due to unavoidable circumstances as under:

- Extended date of submitting application : 13-08-1994
- Extended date of selling tender documents : 15-08-1994 to 16-08-1994
- Extended date and time of receiving tenders : 18-08-1994 up to 1300 hours

- Extended date & time of opening tenders : 18-08-1994 at 1330 hours

2. Tender Documents shall be available from the office of the Executive Engineer, Dhaka Division, CMMU, 105-106, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka and also from the office of the Consultants, M/s. Sthpati Sangshad Ltd. at House No. 4, Road No. 9, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205.

3. Other bona fide contractors not prequalified under CMMU may participate in the tender provided that they have similar work experience. In such case their application for purchasing the tender documents should accompany the following documents for scrutiny and approval by the Consultant.

- Year of experience of the firm in construction field (minimum 5 years).
- Registration No. and Certificate of Incorporation/Partnership Deed/Affidavit.

- Copy of GIR No. and Tax Clearance Certificate
- Copy of VAT Registration Certificate.

- Uptodate Copy of Trade Licence.
- Copies of work order and completion certificate of similar work executed.

- List of Key Personnel with CVs & Academic Certificates.
- Financial Statements (a) Latest Audited Balance Sheet of the Firm (b) Credit Facilities enjoyed by the firm and (c) Bank Statement for 1 (one) year upto July 31, 1994.

4. Contractors who have already purchased tender documents must collect fresh copy of tender documents from consultant's office free of cost.

5. All other terms and conditions of the Notice Inviting Tenders will remain unchanged.

6. The Addendum Notice will also form a part of the Tender Documents and will be binding upon the tenderers.

M Majibur Rahman psc.

Colonel

Chief Engineer, CMMU



The Bangabandhu Sangskritik Parishad organised a drawing competition for children at the National Press Club yesterday.

— Star photo

Wakil for inclusion of debating in curriculum

By DU Correspondent

The pro-Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Wakil Ahmed yesterday hoped that debating would be included in the academic curriculum in future.

He was addressing the third session of the three-day National Debate Festival '94 at the TSC auditorium in the city yesterday morning.

The publication ceremony of the first book on debating in the country titled 'Theory of debate and its practice' was also held on the occasion.

Dr Shakhawat Ali Khan, Dr Ali Asgar, Professor Naren Biswas and Shah Alam took part in the discussions on the book. Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury was in the chair.

Professor Wakil said the drama festival had proved that a silent cultural revolution was going on in the country.

Professor SI Chowdhury in his speech said debating would help build a democratic culture in society.

After the publication ceremony, a parliamentary debate in English between the school and college students was held.

In the mock debate, the government side, comprising three students, moved a bill seeking a ban on tobacco advertisements on television.

Bhutanese FM leaves

The Bhutanese Foreign Minister said here yesterday that the just-concluded 14th meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers would help the association carry forward its activities to its cherished goal, reports UNB.

Lyonpo Dawa Tsering, who represented his country to the meeting in Dhaka on July 30-31, was talking to newsmen at Zia International Airport, prior to his departure for home yesterday.

"It's an important, very good and successful meeting," Tsering said.

He was seen off at the airport by his Bangladesh counterpart ASM Mostafizur Rahman.

Bangladesh ambassador to Bhutan Jilmat Ali Khan, Bhutanese Ambassador to Bangladesh T. Tobgyel and Additional Foreign Secretary Mohiuddin Ahmed were also present.

Referring to the planned visit by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to Bhutan in near future, Tsering said, "we attach much importance to the trip viewing that she is not only the SAARC chairperson but also the head of the government of Bangladesh who is coming to the Himalayan Kingdom."

The Bhutanese people and the government are looking forward to accord warm reception to her, he added.

1. Extension of Minor Drain at Road No. 1 of Mohammadpur Housing and Pisciculture Co-operative Society Block Kha.

2. Extension of Minor Drain at Road No. 4 of Mohammadpur Housing and Pisciculture Co-operative Society Block Kha.

3. Extension of Minor Drain at Road No. 5 of Mohammadpur Housing and Pisciculture Co-operative Society Block Kha.

4. Extension of Minor Drain at Road No. 6 of Mohammadpur Housing and Pisciculture Co-operative Society Block Kha.

5. Extension of Minor Drain at Road No. 7 of Mohammadpur Housing and Pisciculture Co-operative Society Block Kha.

6. Extension of Minor Drain at Road No. 8 of Mohammadpur Housing and Pisciculture Co-operative Society Block Kha.

7. Extension of Minor Drain at Road No. 11 of Mohammadpur Housing and Pisciculture Co-operative Society Block Kha.

8. Extension of Minor Drain at Mohammadpur C Block H/No. 28/8/12 to Tajmohol Road.

9. Rehabilitation of Surface Drain from Mohammadpur F Block H/No. 10/E/3 to H/No. 10/A/1.

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in Percentage	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	32.5	26.0	73	88
Chittagong	32.4	25.0	-	80
Rajshahi	32.4	26.6	85	76
Khulna	31.6	23.0	83	-
Barisal	30.1	25.0	98	89

Pak army chief calls on navy, air chiefs

The visiting Pakistan Army Chief of Staff General Abdul Waheed, called on Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral Mohammad Mohaiminul Islam at the Naval Headquarters yesterday, reports BSS.

During their stay, the members of the delegation would study the functioning of the parliamentary committees.

JS team off to Bangkok

A five-member parliamentary delegation headed by LK Siddiqui, MP, (BNP) left here for Bangkok yesterday afternoon on a six-day visit to Thailand and Republic of Korea (South Korea), reports BSS.

During their stay, the members of the delegation would study the functioning of the parliamentary committees.

NAJA NAJA SALE!

Dt: 5th & 6th August
Opening time: 10:00am

Venue: 'Lemon Grass'
House 58/C
Road 131
Gulshan-1.
S-405

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NOS.

OLD NOS. NEW NOS.

230242 869786
235220 868745

PREMIER CONSULTANTS LTD.
SIL TRADE INTERNATIONAL LTD.
Husain & Khan Center, 6th Flr.
13 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
Fax: 880-2-833517, Tlx: 632117 SIL BJ.

BANGLADESH MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, BMSRI

HOUSE NO-35, ROAD NO-14 (NEW), DHANMONDI R/A, DHAKA

NOTICE

INTERVIEW for recruitment of Group -A i. e. Teaching Staff of BMC will be held on 16th August at 10 A.M. instead of 15th August '94 as it was reported earlier.

Hon Secretary, BMSRI

CHANGE OF PABX TELEPHONE NUMBERS

OLD NUMBERS	NEW NUMBERS
506446	869336
508440	869337
509076	869338



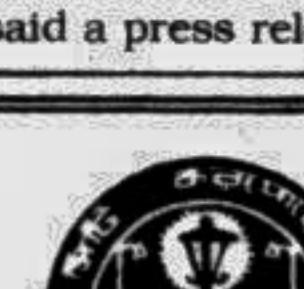
UNITED INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Camellia House

22 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000

Dhaka City Corporation Tender Notice

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখুন
আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন।



BTV
Thursday
Opening announcement
Al-Quran Programme
summary
Children's programme:
Esho Gan Shikhi
News in Bangla
National TV School Debate

6:30 Esho Para Shikhi: Mass Education

7:00 Jiboner Alo: Islam in daily life

7:25 Nazrul songs

8:00 News in Bangla

8:30 Drama of the week: Obooshehe

10:00 News in English

10:30 Mini series: Melba Khaber/The News

11:30 Tomorrow's programme

11:45 Closing

12:00

12:30

13:00

13:30

14:00

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15:00

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22:00