

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Looking Important, the Man Does Odd Job

by Samia Islam

One common sight in most shopping centres of the city these days is a man in decorous uniform awaiting the shoppers at the very entrance to the mall. This man attired in a very ceremonious outfit fit for defence personnel has become almost like a permanent and indispensable part of any shopping complex worth its glamour. Yet these security guards were unheard of only a couple of years back. People of yore went to shop in such establishments like they do now, they also needed to park their cars before disembarking for the long and tiresome shopping experience then as they do today. However something has changed somewhere and given birth to a new profession in town.

Dressed in a khaki outfit the parking attendant is an important looking person of medium height and wanting built is ever ready with his baton upheld like that of a conductor and his whistle forever pressed between his lips. At the slightest sign of a car he jumps to attention and immediately starts clearing a space for the approaching car in the rush hour traffic — an otherwise impossible task for any mortal in any street of Dhaka where rules are as fickle as pie crusts and are meant to be broken. In most cases removing any obstacles in the way is a frustratingly tedious process since nobody is prepared to listen or wait in this busy metropolis. There it's easy to understand the inhuman mental effort that he has to endure all day and every day. His physical exhaustion at the end of the day may not equal that of, say, the day labourer but his work is not devoid of all physical hardships since standing

around all day is not exactly an easy job. Previously only a handful of the big complexes had the need for a parking attendant. Now they are employed by the shopowners regardless of the size of the shopping area itself. What has changed so drastically in the past couple of years to make them so indispensable? Our growing sense of insecurity or the need for the spectacular in the minds of all concerned? Maybe, now they are more of a statement of pomp and pelf than anything else. Whatever the

reason one shopper says that they are probably the best thing since the invention of the wheel. She adds that without their assistance it would be quite impossible to squeeze a car into a parking area and get back onto the street afterwards. Another explains their increased need today because of the amazing rise in the number of reckless rickshaws on the streets and also the pressure of the city traffic. Some others suggest that these people look out for their cars and hence they can shop without extra worry. All these reasons are true and certainly everyone can appreciate the good fortune on the parts of

the men themselves since they were the lucky ones to bag the jobs in this city of broken dreams and empty promises. When thousands around you are walking the streets, you cannot be choosy so far as employment is concerned. With or without the logic behind the creation of this new job, shopping in town certainly won't be the same without the helpful hand of the parking attendant with, his shrieking whistle and flying arms.



Supreme Court Bar Association president M Hafizullah (L) presenting a crest to outgoing chief justice Shahabuddin Ahmed (R) at a farewell reception at the association premises yesterday. — Star photo

## Battalion Ansars Bill '95 placed before JS

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury yesterday introduced before the Jatiya Sangsad, the Battalion Ansars Bill, 1995, seeking provision for the constitution of battalion ansars, its responsibilities, duties and work procedures, reports BSS.

In his statement, the Home Minister said that the enactment of the bill and reorganisation of the battalion ansars under the new law would greatly help in maintaining law and order in the country.

It would also be possible to extend more cooperation to the defence force and the police forces in preventing economic activities, he added.

The Home Minister said at present there are 36 ansar battalions in the country under the existing ansars organisation. In addition to general members of the force, the total number of battalion ansars is about 10,555, he added.

These battalion ansars have been performing important duties in different parts of the country, he said, adding of them, 19 battalion ansars have been engaged in national defence duties in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, along with the

armed forces. But the existing Ansar Act of 1948 and ansar rules are inadequate and have become impractical in dealing with the responsibilities vested upon the battalion ansars. Besides, the necessity of keeping provision for punitive steps for the offences by the members of the force are being felt, he said.

The Home Minister said that the ansar organisation was formed in 1948 through an ordinance for facing various problems in the administration, social and law and order sectors.

He pointed out that the members of the force had played an appreciative role in the national defence as an auxiliary force of the armed forces in 1965, during the Indo-Pak War. In 1971, during the War of Liberation of Bangladesh, the members of the ansar force played a remarkable role in waging a strong resistance against Pakistani occupation forces.

The Home Minister also introduced the Ansar Force Bill, 1995, before the Jatiya Sangsad Tuesday.

## Three killed in city

By DMCH Correspondent

Three people were killed and a minor boy was injured in separate incidents of road mishaps and bomb blast at different parts of the city yesterday.

Abdur Rob, 50, a pedestrian, was run over by a speeding minibus when he was crossing a road at Paikpara, Mirpur, at around 3:30 pm yesterday.

Thirteen-year-old Habib was killed when a speeding truck knocked him down near Moghbazar wireless intersection at 3 am yesterday.

Sajib 7, who was injured in a road accident on Tuesday evening at Jatrabari bus stoppage, succumbed to his injuries at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday morning.

Shafiq Mia, 5, of 92 East Tejuri Bazar, sustained injuries in front of his residence at around 10:30 pm yesterday when an abandoned cocktail went off accidentally.

All the bodies were sent to DMCH morgue.

## Chief Justice greeted

Chief Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman was accorded a felicitation by the president of the Supreme Court Bar Association and the attorney general in the court room of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday, reports BSS.

The Chief Justice sought cooperation of all concerned and said we would do our best to establish law in the judiciary.

## Australia keen to help develop livestock

Australia showed keen interest to extend necessary cooperation for development of livestock in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The offer came from the Australian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Kenneth William Aspinall when he called on Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al Noman at his office yesterday.

The minister informed the high commissioner of the country's interest in importing high-breed Australian cattle in the private sector, said an official handout.

Referring to the recent import of such cattle by a private farm, the minister stressed the need for appropriate technical assistance to nourish these cattle in the country.

## Govt college teachers' demonstration

Government college teachers will stage demonstrations in front of the Shikha Bhaban on Saturday demanding promotion and removal of discrepancy in pay-scale, reports UNB.

They will also submit a memorandum to the Director General of the Secondary and Higher Education, said a press release of the associations of lecturers and professors of government colleges yesterday.

The associations have also called for two-hour token strike for six days from March 11 and an indefinite strike from April 8 to press home their 12-point demand that includes filling up of vacant posts.

## AL trying to create instability, JCD alleges

By DU Correspondent

The leaders of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday alleged that the Awami League was trying to create instability in the country through terrorism.

The JCD were addressing a huge rally near the Jatiya Press Club yesterday to protest the bomb blast near the motorcade of the Prime Minister on January 24.

The leaders also added that the AL could not go to power by terrorising the people of the country.

The JCD leaders urged the student community and the people of all walks of life to unite against the conspiracy of the AL.

The rally was addressed by Amanullah Aman, MP, Najimuddin Alam, Fazlul Huq Milon, Shajahan Hawlader Sujon, Nasiruddin Pintu and others.

## BCIC Gallery of Arts opens

The Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) gallery of arts was inaugurated at the BCIC Bhaban in the city yesterday, says a press release.

Art works of renowned artists — Kamrul Hassan, SM Sultan, Saifuddin Ahmed, Aminul Islam, Hamidur Rahman, Syed Jahangir, Quayum Chowdhury, Debdas Chakravarti, Kazi Abdul Baset, Murtuza Baseer, Abdur Razzaque, Mohamimad Kibria, Navera Ahmed and other artists — have been put on display at the gallery.

Industries Minister AM Zahiruddin Khan performed the inauguration.

## Weather

### Slight fall in temperature

Dry weather is likely to prevail across the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says slight fall in night temperature is expected over the country.

In its outlook for subsequent two days, Met Office forecast rise in night temperature. Giving extended outlook for another five days weathermen predicted further rise in night temperature.

Country's lowest temperature 8.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Rangpur and the highest 28.4 degrees at Peni.

The sun sets today at 5:45 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:39 am.

Minimum and maximum temperature recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Min	Max	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	12.2	27.7	64	55
Chittagong	12.0	26.8	57	52
Rajshahi	10.5	26.4	63	58
Khulna	11.3	26.2	78	57
Barisal	10.0	26.4	77	57
Sylhet	13.2	27.5	70	50
Cox's Bazar	17.0	25.5	47	70



The Dhaka Jananattya Mancha staged the play '1971' at the central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday on the opening day of national street drama festival. — Star photo

## LOTTERY OF SHARE APPLICANTS

This is to inform all concerned that the lottery to ascertain the successful share applicants against the public issue of our 200,000 ordinary shares which opened on December 12 & closed on December 18, 1994 will be held on February 02, 1995 at 04:00 pm at:

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(ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা, ১৯৯৫)

এইচ আর সি কুইজ কমপিটিশন কুপন লটারিতে বিজয়ীদের নাম এবং কুপন নম্বর নিম্নে প্রদত্ত হলো :

পুরস্কার	বিজয়ীদের নাম	কুপন নং
১ম : ঢাকা-কলিকাতা-ঢাকা একটি এয়ার টিকেট	জনাবা সানজিদা তাহের	৭৫৩
২য় : ঢাকা-কক্সবাজার-ঢাকা একটি এয়ার টিকেট	জনাব এম. এফ. আলম	২৭১৪
৩য় : পেরাটন হোটেল-এ ২ জনের দুফে লাঞ্চ	জনাব টি. এন. খান	৬৪১
৪র্থ : বাই হাউজ-এ ২ জনের দুফে লাঞ্চ	জনাব এ. টি. এম. মাজহারুল হক	১০৬০
৫ম : একটি দেয়াল ঘড়ি এবং ২০০ গ্রামের ১২ প্যাকেট এইচ আর সি প্রিমিয়ার চা	জনাব খোরশেদ আনোয়ার হোসেন	২০৬১

পুরস্কার প্রাপ্তদের আমাদের অভিনন্দন। অনুগ্রহ করে তাদেরকে নিম্ন ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগের অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে।

এইচ আর সি  
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ঢাকা-১০০০। ফোন : ৮৬৪৫৪৬-৪৯