

Dhaka Day by Day

The cable TV Invasion

By Aasha Mehreen Amin

Iqbal a banker in his thirties unwinds after a hectic day in front of the TV switching on any one of the seven channels thanks to the huge flying saucer on the roof of the five storied building he lives in. The satellite dish, probably the most popular gadget of the Dhakaite, allows Iqbal and many of the other tenants to watch an assortment of programmes ranging from soppy soap operas on Star TV to an old Dev Anand movie on Zee to a live golf match in the Bahamas on Prime Sports. With just a press on a button, the world is at the tips of the Dhakaite's fingers. The close proximity of buildings allows tenants to share the expenses of a satellite dish which may cost from Tk 11,000 upwards. Some lucky tenants can even watch a few channels for free with just a few adjustments of the television aerial. The satellite dish therefore has certainly changed the Dhakaite's life.



Yet there is no denying that cable TV is largely responsible for the tongue-tied silence in a sitting room filled with family members who are glued to the tube. The days of family reminiscing, pulling each other's legs, talking about each other's problems are long gone. The notion of togetherness, today means long sessions of watching anything and everything on TV with a feeling as impersonal as an audience in a movie theatre.

The Dhakaite's life has also become quite limited with the cable TV invasion. Going out for a walk in the park, playing a game of tennis or reading a good novel have all been replaced by the satellite monster. Children no longer know the excitement of Tillo Express, Chiburi, Hide and Seek or Ha doo doo. Instead they spend hours and hours gulping down unsavoury images of MTV and love scenes from The Bold and the Beautiful. As far as communication goes, the only interaction between family members amounts to petty bickering and sulky pouts over who has power over the remote control and therefore the channel that he or she wants to watch.

Those who have been completely converted by the cable virus, a sizeable number, no doubt, will violently protest at such criticisms. Admittedly satellite TV is a major source of entertainment for the amusement-starved Dhakaite. There are also many programmes of great educational value. But when a four year old yells "Sexy sexy mujhe lok bolte" (people call me sexy) at the top of his lungs at a wedding reception, and a teenager asks which band Chopin plays for, perhaps it is time to draw the line on how much we will allow satellite television to take over our culture.



The Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal (BNB) laying wreaths at the mazar of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Protect environment on moral grounds: Akbar

Adverse effects of the structures in the upper reaches of common rivers flowing through the country were discussed at a seminar in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Addressing the seminar as the chief guest, Environment and Forest Minister Akbar Hossain said man-made floods are causing colossal damage to the economy and the environment of lower riparian Bangladesh.

He stressed the need for protecting the environment pursuing a philosophy based on moral and ethical considerations. State Minister for Water Resources Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan, who attended the function as special guest, called for a flood plan which will provide a comprehensive and lasting solution to the recurrent flood problem and create a secure environment for sustained economic growth and social upliftment.

The seminar on "Comparative evaluation of flood control approaches for Bangladesh and the Mississippi," was sponsored jointly by the Bangladesh Environment and Flood Committee in America (BEFCA) and the Institute of Flood Control and Drainage Research (IFCDR), BUET at a city hotel.

Presided over by acting Vice Chancellor of BUET Prof Dipak Kanti Das, the seminar was also addressed by Secretary, Water Resources Ministry

Nazrul Islam, Prof Mozammel Hoque of the IFCDR, and Prof Salm Rashid and Meer Maksud Ali of the BEFCA.

The Environment and Forest Minister narrated the miseries caused to the people of Bangladesh by frequent floods and droughts. He said, we have to find out ways to mitigate the sufferings of the people due to the floods and repeated droughts.

Dwelling at length on the background of floods in Bangladesh, Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan said there is no effort to contain the wet season flood flows in the upper reaches of the transboundary rivers flowing through Bangladesh. Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan said there is no effort to contain the wet season flood flows in the upper reaches of the transboundary rivers flowing through Bangladesh. He said scores of man-made structures that have been put into operation in the upper reaches in India are allowing the flows of these rivers only to trickle down in Bangladesh throughout the dry season. He cited the cases of the Ganges, the Teesta, Mohananda and Gumati as a few examples.

Earlier, sponsors of the seminar in their speeches narrated the objective of bringing together experts for discussions on interdisciplinary aspects of the flood problems in two very different countries.

New DU Commerce bldg soon

By DU Correspondent

The construction work of the five storied Commerce building of the Dhaka University is beginning from July '95, according to a source close to the chief engineer's office of the university.

It will be build on the space between the Lecture Theatre and the IBA building. The estimated cost of erecting this building is around Taka 5.5 crore.

It is one of the projects of the five-year-plan starting from July 1995.

The Commerce faculty has some 85000 student in its four departments, according to a faculty source. They are in need of a separate Commerce building for a long time. The classes of various departments under this faculty are now being held in the Lecture Theatre and the Arts faculty building. It is very difficult for the

departments under this faculty to adjust their class-routines with arts and social science faculty, said a teacher of Finance Department.

For this reason most of the classes of the Commerce faculty are held at the odd hours of afternoon. It is seen that sometimes the examinations of the Commerce departments are held on holidays due to the shortage of class room.

It is reported that a clashes had taken place in the middle of 1993 between the Economics and Accounting departments for taking possession of a classroom where classes of both the departments were scheduled to be held at the same time.

The construction of the new Commerce building is expected to be completed by July 1997.

Lankan envoy meets Shawkat

High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Bangladesh B Atugoda called on Labour and Manpower Minister Mir Shawkat Ali at his secretariat office yesterday, reports BSS.

They exchanged views on existing bilateral relations between the two countries. They also discussed matters of common and mutual interest.

They expressed the hope that the excellent and cordial relations prevailing between the two SAARC countries would further be strengthened with the exploration of new avenues of cooperation in the coming years.

PIB course

Bangladesh Press Institute (PIB) has arranged a five-day training course for BCS Information Officers beginning from May 28 at its seminar room, reports UNB.

Twenty District Information Officers will participate in the course.

Kamal attends OGSB meet

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf urged both government and non-government organisations to extend their help and cooperation to ensure the quality of health services at the grass-roots level, reports UNB.

He was speaking as chief guest at the 8th National Convention of Obstetrical and Gynecological Society of Bangladesh at the Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons auditorium yesterday.

Postponement

The Coordinating Council For Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB) has postponed its forum meeting, scheduled for Saturday, due to unavoidable circumstances, reports UNB.

A fresh date and venue for the meeting will be announced at a later date, said a CCRB press release.



BUET students of 1989 session brought out a procession in the city marking the completion of their study at the institute. — Star photo

Four terrorists held in city

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested a terrorist gang known as 'H-Force' at the Mohammadpur area in the city yesterday.

Mohammadpur police in a swoop at the Noorjahan road arrested the gang leader Hares and his three accomplices — Abdus Sattar, 32, Siraj, 30, and Shaffiqur Rahman alias Babu, 35.

The gang was involved in various criminal activities including extortion and terrorism in Mohammadpur area for a long time, police said.

There were seven cases against the gang members. Chargesheets of four cases have already been filed while three other are under investigation.

LOST

EXPORT PROMOTION BUREAU OF DHAKA ISSUED ONE NON-QUOTA VISA NO 58D 744611 DATED 30-04-95 OF CAT 659 IN FAVOUR OF DADA (DHAKA) LTD IS LOST. ANY ONE FINDING THIS VISA IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT DADA (DHAKA) LTD, SECTOR: 6, PLOT NO. 28, UTTARA C/A. PHONE: 894825/892153/892168. S-263

CAREER OPPORTUNITY ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

RHÔNE-POULENC RORER BANGLADESH LTD

is looking for a self motivated person in his early thirties, ready to accept challenges & with a commitment to perform at the very high standards required to meet the growing needs of the company, for the plant in Tongi.

The person would be a B. Sc Engineer (Electrical) with good academic record, be computer literate & have at least 5 years' working experience, preferably in a pharmaceutical industry with a good command in electrical H.T. / L.T. distribution system. A sound knowledge on Electronics is also required for maintenance of Modern production equipment.

This is a mid-management position & the compensation package, commensurate with qualification and experience, is at the higher end in the industry.

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Notice Inviting Tenders No: 59,60,61,62 of 1994-1995

1. Sealed tenders are hereby invited from Class-I/II/III/IV, PWD Civil/Sanitary contractors/firms in BD Form No. 2911 which will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division-I, Khulna/Satkhira/Bagerhat up to 12:00 Noon on 4-6-95 and will be opened at 12:15 PM on the same day in presence of the tenderers who may like to be present. No tender papers will be sold after 3-6-95.

Name of works	Estimated cost	Earnest money
(a) Supplying fitting, fixing ferroceom over head tank including repairing of pipe line for multi-storied Govt. owned house low cost colony at Boyra, Khulna.	Tk. 1,48,379/=	Tk. 2468/=
(b) S/R to boundary wall of CGS colony at Boyra, Khulna.	Tk 1, 14,608/=	Tk. 2295/=
(c) Repairs and vertical extension of existing boundary wall around the PWD Bhaban at Boyra, Khulna.	Tk. 1,27,712/=	Tk. 2560/=
(d) Providing tack coat, seal coat work of approach road in front of PWD Bhaban at Boyra, Khulna.	Tk. 1,66,505/=	Tk. 3335/=

3. All other information can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours in all working days.

Executive Engineer
Khulna PWD Division-I
Khulna

DFP-12712-22/5
G-811



A large number of unauthorised shanties have recently cropped up on the Mohammadpur flood protection embankment. This photo was taken yesterday. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

BCIC International Re-Tender Notice

খুলনা নিউসপ্রিন্ট মিলস লি., টাউন খালিশপুর, খুলনা invites International sealed Tender No, PD (F)-23A/94-95 for purchase of spare parts of Ruston Diesel Engine which will be opened on 05-07-1995 at 3-00 PM. Tender documents will be available on payment of Tk 200.00 (two hundred) per set from (1) KNM Ltd., (2) BCIC, 30-31, Diikusha, Dhaka & (3) BCIC, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC 492-16/5995
DFP-12367-17/5
G-809

EC's decision slated

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Islami Bi-plabi Parishad has urged the government to extend the time for the registration of voters by two more weeks, for the sake of free and fair general elections.

The chairman of the Parishad Al-haj Maulana Shaikh Mohammad Ubaidullah Bin Sayeed Jalalabadi in a statement yesterday protested the hastily taken decision of the Election Commission for the preparation of the voters list.

The Parishad feared that it would not be possible for many voters to be registered within this short time.

Kamal attends OGSB meet

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf urged both government and non-government organisations to extend their help and cooperation to ensure the quality of health services at the grass-roots level, reports UNB.

He was speaking as chief guest at the 8th National Convention of Obstetrical and Gynecological Society of Bangladesh at the Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons auditorium yesterday.

বাংলাদেশ অভ্যন্তরীণ নৌ-পরিবহণ কর্তৃপক্ষ

১৪১-১৪৩, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ অভ্যন্তরীণ নৌ-পরিবহণ কর্তৃপক্ষের প্রকৌশল বিভাগের তালিকাভুক্ত ট্রিকাদারপণের নিকট হইতে নিম্নে বর্ণিত কাজটির জন্য নির্ধারিত করমে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্র আশাশী ৭-৬-৯৫ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, ঢাকা সার্কেল, ৭ম তলা, বাবুনৌক, ঢাকা এবং নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, বাবুনৌক, সিরাজগঞ্জ-এর অফিসে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাস্তব দাখিল করিতে হইবে এবং এদিনই বেলা ১২-১৫ মিঃ সময় টেন্ডারদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হইবে। দরপত্রের আনুসঙ্গিক কাগজপত্র প্রত্যহ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (দরপত্র খোলার দিন ব্যতিরেকে) পাওয়া যাইবে। কাজের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিত বাস্তবের টাকা ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার "বাবুনৌক" এর অনুকূলে যে কোন তফসিল ব্যাংক হইতে করিয়া দরপত্রের সহিত সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে। কাজটির জন্য ১০০/- (একশত) টাকা (অফিসেরতথ্যে) কর্তৃপক্ষের হিসাব অফিস ঢাকা এবং সিরাজগঞ্জ অফিসে তফসিল সহায় করিতে হইবে।

কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার সর্বময় ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	প্রাকল্পিত মূল্য	বায়নার টাকা	কাজের সময়সীমা
১।	কর্তৃপক্ষের সিরাজগঞ্জ এন্ট্রিটে মসজিদের টাইলস, ১,০০০/-	টাই ২,১০০/-	৩০ শে জুন '৯৫ এর মধ্যে	অবশিষ্টাংশ ছাদ নির্মাণ কাজ।

আবুল কাসেম
তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী
বাবুনৌক ঢাকা সার্কেল, ঢাকা।

সিদ্ধান্ত - ০৫/৯৫
প্রকৌশলী - ১২৩৬৭-১৭/৫
ডি-১০৬

"কেবল মাত্র প্রয়োজনে বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহার করুন"

NOTICE

PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS/FIRMS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF CENTRAL WORKSHOP, WAREHOUSE AND ANCILLARY STRUCTURES AT SAVAR, DHAKA

Date : 04-05-95
Credit No. : 2129-BD
Reference No. : REB/SE/HO-27/95/488

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) in various currencies towards the cost of the Third Rural Electrification Project, and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit will be applied, through the Rural Electrification Board to eligible payments under the contract for the construction of Central Workshop, Warehouse and Covered Shed (a portion of the Workshop Complex) at Savar, Dhaka. Tenders for the construction of these buildings will be invited on local competitive bidding procedure under the guidelines for procurement of the World Bank and payments will be made in Taka. Tenders for construction are expected to be invited within the month of August, 1995.
- The Superintending Engineer, Dhaka Zone, Rural Electrification Board now invites applications for prequalification from the construction of Central Workshop, Warehouse and Covered Shed at Savar, Dhaka. The contractors/firms should have proven experience of successful completion of at least one large spanned (minimum 6 meter in one direction), high (minimum 7m high) steel framed building with a floor area of 1000 square meter or above during the last ten years under a single contract. Interested contractors/firms from World Bank eligible countries having similar experience may also apply for prequalification.
- Interested eligible contractors/firms may obtain further information from and inspect the prequalification documents at the office of the Superintending Engineer, Dhaka Zone, Rural Electrification Board, House No. 828, Road No. 19 (Old), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209, Bangladesh.
- A complete set of the Prequalification Documents may be purchased by any interested eligible contractor/firm during office hours on all working days upto 12:30 hours on 25-06-1995 on submission of a written application to the undersigned and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk 1000 (Taka one thousand) only in the form of Pay Order or Bank Draft from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Rural Electrification Board, Dhaka.
- All applications for prequalification must be delivered to the above office on or before 12-30 hours on 28-06-1995.

Superintending Engineer
Dhaka Zone
Rural Electrification Board
House # 828, Road # 19 (Old)
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209

পরি/অন(০৭)৯৪-৯৫
DFP-12459-18/5