

Dhaka Day by Day

Too Noisy to Live

by Aditi Chowdhury

A terrible thing is happening to us. We are getting ourselves effected by a dangerous thing which is called "Noise."

Whether it is loud sounds, sudden blasts or a steady high-level grinding, noise is lo-

ded with threats to the health of all of us. Noise pollution is increasing day by day. It is turning Dhaka into a most noisy city. Thousands of vehicles such as automobiles, trucks, buses and rickshaws pound the streets every working day, creating tremendous sounds. The most irritating sound is one that comes from the taxi-cabs and tempos. If you are in a taxi or in a tempo with your friend and you want to talk about something interesting then I would recommend you to save your breath, because there is no use in talking when you can't even hear your own voice.

You can also see some vehicles with broken silencer pipes. Imagine how much noise pollution that is causing us. There are also the sounds of industry, factory, mills, buildings under construction, compressors, air-conditioning units, power generators, spinning and weaving machines, radio and television and of course the ever-increasing population of human beings surviving in this noisy atmosphere shouting their heads off to be heard, and in return causing more noise.

The beggars which you have to face when you stop at a traffic point start yelling at you saying the same things over and over again. You also get to see a man sitting on a three wheeler with a microphone in his hand luring people to buy a ten-taka lottery which might win Taka 40 lakh (Jodi Laga Jai). Then there are those people carrying roundbaskets on top of their heads selling various items such as fruits, vegetables, fish and other things, who shout as loud as they can so that you can hear them wherever you are. The sound that comes from the ice-creamwala, chabiwala, chanchurwala ringing their bells is also very annoying. During the public

meetings you can hear the screaming voices of our great leaders from a long distance. It seems to be a competition of who can shout louder than the other. Why can't they say these things in a calm and quite manner?

The roaring sound of the engine of a minibus accompanied with its irritating horn is dangerous for our health. The overhead fighter and passenger jets produce deafening sounds. Such loud noise can do serious damage to our eardrums. Often you get to hear music being played at full volume in cars or in microbuses, this also affects our hearing system.

According to otologists loud sounds can sometimes create permanent hearing loss. If we will notice that living in these hazardous conditions of noisy dwellings there is very little chance of escaping the side-effects of noise-pollution. Stress and black moods are also dire threats. People suffering from diseases such as asthma, ulcer, heart-trouble and gastrointestinal disorders are adversely affected by noise pollution.

Noise is a very real and growing national health problem. Our indiscipline traffic with interminable noise of vehicles is responsible for making psychiatric patients out of healthy humans. Anti-noise ordinances should be introduced. The rickshaw-pullers, and other automobile drivers should be told not to create any unnecessary sounds. I would also suggest people to wear earplugs once they are outdoors to minimise the noise level for the sake of their health. The Health Ministry can hand out leaflets among the general public, telling them about the side-effects due to noise pollution.

If Dhaka is to be turned into a calm and quite city then a tough policy has to be followed here the way they have implemented in the West. Only then we shall be saved from this disaster which is polluting our daily environment and assaulting our health. Whatever must be done has to be done quickly before we all become deaf.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia receiving from her Principal Secretary A N M Eusuf a cheque of one day's salary of the officers and employees of the Prime Minister's office yesterday in aid of the flood affected people. — PID photo

40 RU teachers protest RUTA decision

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, July 27: Forty teachers of Rajshahi University (RU) today termed the teachers' association's demand for the removal of the Vice Chancellor as 'illegal' and 'unacceptable'.

The protesting teachers in a joint statement also said that they were not bound to accept the decision of the Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA).

RUTA in an emergency meeting late Sunday demanded immediate resignation of the RU VC Prof Yusuf Ali alleging his 'failure' to run the university. The teachers, after RUTA decision, also started boycotting all sorts of activities to press their demand.

Meanwhile, the joint statement of 40 teachers also said that RUTA decision was contrary to the interest of the teachers, students and employees of the university. They also said that the

decision did not reflect the opinion of the RU teachers community as only a small number of the association members attended that meeting.

The university was declared closed *since die* following a clash between the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and the Islami Chhatra Shibir on July 22.

The joint statement of teachers was signed by Prof Abu Bakar Siddique Bhuyan, Prof S G Mahtab Wali, Dr Abdur Rahman Siddique, Dr M Rakibuddin and Dr Shamsul Alam Sarker among others.

Meanwhile, the VC's scheduled meeting with the teachers could not be held today following the absence of the RUTA president.

The VC held a meeting with the officers of the university today and discussed the overall situation.

More flood relief

The officers and employees of the Prime Minister's office yesterday donated their one-day salary in aid of the flood-affected people of the country, reports BSS.

Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister A N M Eusuf handed over a cheque to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office.

Embassy in Riyadh

The Ambassador, officers and staffs of the Bangladesh Embassy in Saudi Arabia have decided to donate their three days' salary in aid of the flood hit people of the country, according to a message received in the city.

The decision was taken Wednesday at a meeting held at the embassy in the Saudi capital under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin.

Tk six lakh ASA sanction

Meanwhile a press release says: Association for Social Advancement (ASA) has primarily sanctioned Tk six lakh for the flood affected rural poor of Gaibanda, Rangpur, Jamalpur and Netrokona districts.

The amount will be distributed among the flood victims as credit of Tk 1000 per head which will be repaid by the borrower without any interest within two years. The distribution will start from next month.

BIBM advance course ends

The two-month advanced course on bank management for the senior executives of different banks and financial institutions concluded at the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM) in the city yesterday, says a press release.

Director General of BIBM, A H M Nurul Islam Choudhuri distributed certificates to the participants.

Dr Bandana Saha and Md Abu Bakar, faculty members of BIBM were the coordinators of the course.

Flood-hit roads, bridges to be repaired soon: Oli

Communications Minister Oli Ahmed yesterday said steps are being taken to repair the recent flood affected roads and bridges immediately, reports UNB.

The minister was presiding over a meeting held in the city to review the progress of different projects taken under Roads and Highways Department.

Communications Minister advised all concerned to complete the construction of national highways as per schedule. He stressed the need for completion of Pukshii Bridge by the end of 1997, the time fixed for completion of Jamuna Bridge.

With the completion of Pukshii Bridge, all obstacles made by rivers in road transportation excepting a bridge over the Padma on Dhaka-Mawa-Khulna road will be removed, he said.

It was disclosed in the meeting that the rehabilitation works of Dhaka-Aricha road will begin by the next winter and pre-investment review is now underway to

construct a bridge on Meghna at Bhairab on Dhaka-Sylhet highway by British grant.

He instructed all concerned to take steps to remove unauthorised stands on national, regional and feeder roads, said an official hand-out.

He also underlined the need for doing preliminary planning to construct a road linking Bangladesh-Myanmar and China besides another one linking Bangladesh-Myanmar-Thailand-Singapore and Malaysia.

The minister advised all concerned to straighten the roads, build toll-plazas and plant fruit-bearing trees along the sides of the road. He also expressed satisfaction over the performance of roads and highways department.

Roads and Road Transport Division Secretary Syed Rezaul Hayat, high officials of Planning Commission and concerned officers and engineers were also present at the meeting.

New DIG of Sylhet range

The government has appointed Modabbir Hossain Chowdhury, Commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police as the first Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police of newly-constituted Sylhet Range.

Modabbir will join Sylhet Range on August 1. He had earlier served as Additional DIG of Dhaka Range and Police Superintendent of Tangail, Jessore, Comilla and Mymensingh districts.

A former army officer, Modabbir participated a training programme in Tokyo and also represented Bangladesh at an international seminar in Paris.

Meanwhile, M Aminul Islam has been appointed Commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.

Publication contest

LIFE, an anti-drug organisation, has arranged a competition on anti-drug publications on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, reports UNB.

Anti-drug articles and write-ups published in the newspapers in between January 1 to June 30 1995 can be submitted for the competition to LIFE chairman Qumrul Islam Sony, House No 2, Road No 9, Block-G, Banani.

Painting show

An exhibition of water colour paintings by Nasrin Sultiyun opened at the Drik Gallery in the city yesterday.

For her second solo exhibition in this country, freelance artist, Nasrin has chosen the theme of everyday life in rural Bangladesh.

"Nasrin's paintings portray various aspects of life in Bangladesh in a very vivid and striking manner." Prof Mohammad Yunus of Grameen Bank said while inaugurating the five-day show.

"I love my Bangladesh with all her facets... I tried to put my love and emotions on paper just to decorate my Bangla in colours of my feelings," the artist said of her creations, which depict the struggles and hopes of a people, lovingly painted in subtle hues.

Nasrin, the founder of the Exzora School of Art in the city, is a graduate of the Institute of Fine Arts, DU. She held her first solo exhibition here in January 1994 and showed at the PAO Gallery in Hong Kong in April of the same year.

OCAB

The half-yearly general meeting of Overseas Correspondents Association Bangladesh (OCAB) was held at the hall of the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Golam Tahaboor chaired the meeting, Shafiqul Bashar Chapan presented the secretary's report.

Bangladeshi soldiers safe in Bosnia

All members of Bangladesh military contingent including military observers in Bosnia Herzegovina are safe and sound, an ISPR press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

According to the latest report received in the city

yesterday, the condition of the Bangladeshi soldier sepoy Md Kazi Monirul Haq who was injured on July 21, has further improved.

Bangladesh army headquarters is in constant touch with them, the press release added.

আজ থেকে শুরু হচ্ছে

সেতর কাগজ - ফ্যালকন

আকর্ষণীয় কুইজ প্রতিযোগিতা

এতে থাকবে সাধারণ জ্ঞানের ওপর ৩০টি প্রশ্ন আর পুরস্কার থাকবে আকর্ষণীয়, অনেকগুলো—

প্রথম পুরস্কার : মডিন টেলিভিশন ১টি বা ২০ হাজার টাকার প্রাইজবন্ড
 দ্বিতীয় পুরস্কার : রেডিওর ১টি বা ১৫ হাজার টাকার প্রাইজবন্ড
 তৃতীয় পুরস্কার : সাদা-কালো টেলিভিশন ১টি বা ১০ হাজার টাকার প্রাইজবন্ড
 চতুর্থ পুরস্কার : ২০টি, প্রতিটি ৫০০ টাকার প্রাইজবন্ড

প্রতিযোগিতা সবার জন্য উন্মুক্ত
 একজন একাধিক কুপন পূরণ করতে পারবেন

ভোরের কাগজ-ফ্যালকন কুইজ প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশ নি নি
 জিতে নি ৫৫ হাজার টাকার আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার

কুইজ শুরু হচ্ছে আজই
 আজ অবশ্যই ভোরের কাগজ দেখুন

Standard Chartered

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK WANTED

Standard Chartered - a London based International Bank is looking to fill the following female position in their Dhaka office.

RECEPTIONIST - CUM - PABX OPERATOR

QUALIFICATION:

Personal:

1. AGE: Minimum 21 Years.
2. Well Groomed, Smart and Presentable.
3. Good Command Of Written and Spoken English and Bengali.
4. Ability to Work Under Pressure.
5. Willing to Take Extra Responsibilities and Workload.
6. Customer Friendly / Good Interpersonal Skills.

Educational:
 Minimum "O" Or "A" Level / "HSC" Passed.

Technical:

1. Should be able to efficiently and effectively operate the PABX System.
2. Knowledge of personal computers and working experience in a computerised environment will be an added advantage.
3. Must have the ability to operate Fax, Telex and Copier Machines.

SALARY: According to qualification and experience.

If you meet the above requirements then please forward your detail c.v alongwith one passport size photograph and contact telephone number latest by 3 August 1995, to:

Head of Human Resources, Standard Chartered Bank,
 Alico Building, 1st Floor, 18-20 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka - 1000.

Projonma's letter to UK envoy

By Staff Correspondent

Projonma 71, an organisation of the children of the martyrs of the Liberation War, yesterday sent a letter to the British High Commission in the city urging him not to issue a visa to Jamaat chief Golam Azam for his planned visit to the United Kingdom.

The British government should not grant him a visa since there are serious allegations that he was involved in war crimes during the Liberation War of 1971," the letter read.

The letter also said Azam can be categorised with former UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim who was refused entry by many countries due to his alleged offence during the World War II.

It further said, at a time when the International Court in the Hague is hearing evidence of war crimes committed during the conflict in former Yugoslavia, "we do not believe that the British government should allow entry to those alleged to be war criminals."



City Mayor Mohammad Hanif inaugurating the 200th show of the stage play 'Satghater Kanakori' at the Mahila Samity auditorium in the city yesterday. — Star photo

NIMC certificates distributed

By Staff Correspondent

A three-week 'Sports Commentary Workshop' and two-week 'Television News Readers Workshop' organised by the National Institute of Mass Communications (NIMC) concluded in the city yesterday.

Dr Ekram Hossain, Information Secretary, attended the programme as chief guest while Risalat Ahmed, Director General (DG) of BTV as special guest.

The programme was presided over by the DG of

NIMC, Abdullah Al Mamun. Dr Ekram said that if the trainees perform their best, the nation will benefit and the effort will be fruitful.

Special guest Risalat expected that the faulty equipments of the news section would be fixed within six months.

Mamun at his presidential speech informed that the programme would be expanded after shifting of the office to a new building.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Gonoshahajjo Songstha
 41, Sir Syed Ahmed Road,
 Mohammadpur, Dhaka - 1207

A fast growing national NGO working with the rural and urban poor, invites applications for the following positions;

Financial Controller (In charge of Finance Department)

Candidate must be an ACA/FCA with 5-7 years work experience in either an NGO or Commercial/Industrial enterprise as Chief of Finance Department. He must have the ability to run the Finance Department of the organization independently and efficiently. Computer Knowledge in package programme such as MS word/Word perfect 5.1 & Excel/Lotus 1-2-3 will be required for smooth functioning of this department. Age limit 35-45. Salary around Tk.30,000/- plus other admissible fringe benefits.

Chief Accountant (In charge of Accounts Department)

Candidate must be an ACA/FCA with 5-7 years work experience as Chief Accountant/Finance Manager/Accounts Manager in an NGO or Commercial/Industrial enterprise. Computer Knowledge in package programme such as MS word/Word perfect 5.1 & Excel/Lotus 1-2-3 will be required for smooth functioning of this department. Age limit 35-45. Salary around Tk.30,000/- plus other admissible fringe benefits.

Please apply to the above address for any of the above posts, enclosing your CV, copies of certificates of academic and professional qualifications and two passport size photographs along with a self addressed return envelope.

Closing date of application for the posts is 10.08.95.

Wanted

Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited based in Chittagong is looking for an enthusiastic and energetic young man having Honours and Masters Degree in Chemistry for their Research and Development Department. Candidates must have secured atleast two First Divisions and possess knowledge and experience in Polymer Chemistry.

Applications with bio-data and a recent passport size photograph should reach Box No. 353, Chittagong-4000 by August 5, 1995.

Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited
 D-769

Systems Engineer Wanted

Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited for its Head Office in Chittagong invites applications for the post of 'SYSTEMS ENGINEER' in the Systems Department.

Requirements

B. Sc. in Electrical & Electronics Engineering / M. Sc. Applied Physics.
 Minimum one year experience in Hardware Trouble Shooting & Maintenance.
 Should have sound professional knowledge and skills of applying general programming principles in the work situation.
 Should have sound knowledge in developing Application Programs in DBMS.
 Should have knowledge in Application Software like Windows, WP, Lotus, Excel, HG3 etc.
 Short listed candidates will only be called for interview.

Interested candidates may apply with their Resume including details of qualification and experience to P.O. Box 353, Chittagong 4000 latest by August 5, 1995.

Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd
 D-768