

Dhaka Day by Day

Commanding Voices

by Gemini Wahhaj



A Bangala music sir (voice teacher) says, "Don't yell too loud, it'll spoil your vocal chords." But if you're a Bangalee, can you help it? Your most important faculty is, no not your eyes, legs or hands, but your voice. Life cannot go on without it. For example...
 You need a cup of tea. What do you do? "Abdulla, ak cup chal!" Water? "Rabeya ma!!! O, Rabeya ma!!!" Thanks to domestic help, not only are we spared the burden of cooking our own meals, cleaning our homes, and driving our cars, but we needn't even bend down to get our shoes.
 I once took stock, and was horrified. Somebody else switches off the lights when I've finished reading, clears the table after dinner, hangs up the mosquito net at night, and makes my bed in the morning. I might as well be an invalid. The only thing I do myself is lift and dust my own harmonium, because, in the words of my ganesir sir: "If you let them touch it [the harmonium], their pain and sense of injustice will speak to it, and it won't sing so sweetly anymore."

Science fiction says that the future people of the world will be tiny people with feeble limbs and huge heads, since we shall be using our brains more than anything else. Following that theory, Bangalee evolution demands buxom opera-singer look-alikes with good, strong diaphragms.
 There is nothing wrong with domestic help. In Dhaka, it makes absolute symbiotic sense. They need work, and we can make our days more efficient and meaningful by unloading some chores to them. It is an excellent way to generate more quality time. The question is, is there a limit?
 As we grow more and more detached from all physical labour [some of us don't even brush their own hair], are we likely to become vegetables? Do we want to turn into Roman emperors, reclining our paunchy selves on fat cushions, while our servants dangle grapes bunches above our feeble mouths? Uh-huh, not me. Excuse me while I dust my computer screen, myself. "Aiee, Kamal, get me the dusting cloth!!!"

S Asian women demand equal representation in politics

South Asian women at a regional conference in Nepal demanded their equal representation in politics and decision-making process, reports UNB.
 The conference on "Towards Equal Political Power: South Asian Women's Voice" was held in the capital city of the Himalayan Kingdom August 3-4, said a message received here yesterday.
 It was one of the first South Asian conferences on the question of women's political empowerment which was organised in preparation for World Conference on Women in Beijing in September.
 On the first day of the conference, hundreds of women marched on the streets of Kathmandu, shouting

slogans against the increasing criminalisation of politics in the region.
 Earlier, the Deputy Prime Minister of Nepal, Madhav Kumar Nepal, inaugurated the meet which was participated by delegates from the SAARC countries.
 The Kathmandu conference provided an opportunity for women from the South Asian countries to voice their demands for equality and their need for the creation of a common platform for political empowerment of women in the region.
 The conference finalised a regional lobby document for the New Delhi Planning Meeting of South Asian Coordination Committee on Political Empowerment of Women.

2 killed, 20 hurt in N'ganj road accidents

From Our Correspondent
 NARAYANGANJ, Aug 6: Two persons were killed and 20 others injured in two road accidents on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway this morning.

At around 7:15 am, a speeding bus hit a minibus parked at the Darikandi Bus Stand near Sonargaon, killing the minibus helper Saleh Mia (25) and injuring 20 passengers of both the vehicles.
 The bus (No. Comilla Ba 6961) was heading towards Dhaka while the minibus (Dhaka Metro 7844) was about to start for Daudkandi.
 The injured were taken to hospitals in Dhaka and Narayanganj.
 Bandar thana police seized both the vehicles. The drivers escaped.
 In another accident, a motor vehicle ran over a 60-year-old man at Keodala under the same thana at around 5:00 am.

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What's on today...

- Painting exhibition:** Nasim Ahmed Nadevi depicts the landscape of Krasnoyarsk region of Siberia. State Minister for Cultural Affairs Jahan Ara Begum will inaugurate the week-long show. Venue: Shilpakala Academy. Time: 5:30 pm. Open daily from 2 pm to 7 pm till August 14.
- Releasing of audio cassette:** The releasing ceremony of an audio cassette based on the life of Bangabandhu will be held. Chief guest: Mayor Mohammad Hanif. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time: 4 pm.
- German Cultural Centre:** Presents Die Zweite Heimat (The Second Homeland) Chronicle of a Generation, in 13 parts. Venue: Goethe Institut, House No 10, Road No 9, Dhannondi. Time: 5 pm.
- USIS exhibition:** On "four decades of VOA and VOA Fan Clubs in Bangladesh." US Ambassador David N Merrill will open the exhibit. Venue: USIS auditorium, Jiban Bima Bhawan, 10 Dilkusha C/A. The exhibit will remain open from Aug 8 to 19 from 9 am to 4 pm.
- Rotary Club of Dhaka Central:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Guest speaker: Md Ashrafuzzaman, MBA, Manager Human Resource, DHL World Wide Express. Topic: Staff Motivation. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30 pm.
- Rotary Club of Dilkusha:** The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Purbani Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm. Guest speaker: Prof Dr Md Abdul Moyeen.
- Discussion:** On the occasion of the death anniversary of musician Ustad Mohammad Hossain Khasru. Chief guest: Sved Ahmed. Venue: Shilpakala Academy. Time: 7 pm.

SHIKHA MONI: THE WRITER-BUD
She is seven today.
 Greetings from U.S — of Nana Bhai, Khala Moni, Khalu, Yasmine Apu, Samina Apu. All our blessings for the little writer.

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by seasonal gusty wind is likely at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.
 Met Office says light rain or thundershower may occur at one or two places over Khulna and Barisal divisions.
 No appreciable change in day temperature is expected over the country.
 In its outlook for subsequent two days Met Office predicted little change. Giving extended outlook for another five days weathermen forecast that rainfall activities may increase.
 Country's highest temperature 34.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Ritmangal and the lowest 25 degrees at Chuadanga.
 The sun sets today at 6:38 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:31 am.
 Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.1	26.0	83	76
Chittagong	31.2	26.0	81	79
Rajshahi	32.6	25.9	86	76
Khulna	33.0	26.6	86	-
Barisal	33.0	26.2	86	86
Sylhet	31.0	25.2	98	83
Cox's Bazar	31.5	26.8	82	78

Seminar on SCO Release 5

By Staff Correspondent
 Technohaven Co and SCO UK Ltd jointly conducted a day-long seminar and held an exhibition of the Next Generation Business Critical Server "SCO open server release 5" at Hotel Sheraton in the city yesterday.
 Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan, State Minister for Planning, attended the function as special guest while Prof M Abdul Mannan, State Minister of Science and Technology, as chief guest. Habibullah N Karim of Technohaven Co presided over the seminar.
 R N Raja, Regional Sales Manager, Phillip Dawson, Market Development Manager, and Jhon of the Santa Cruz Operation (SCO) Ltd, UK also spoke on the occasion.
 Some two hundred senior and mid-level executives, officials, teachers of different organisations and institutions attended the seminar.

US cadet team visits BMA

CHITTAGONG, Aug 6: The visiting cadet team of the United States Military Academy (USMA) visited Bangladesh Military Academy (BMA) at Bhatliary today, reports UNB.
 The five-member USMA team, including a female cadet, arrived in Dhaka on Saturday night, said a press release.

Tribute paid to Aminul Huq

By DU Correspondent
 The Muktiyoddha Sanghati Parishad (MSP) held a memorial meeting on attorney general Aminul Huq at the TSC auditorium of Dhaka University yesterday.
 Speakers at the meeting paid tribute to Aminul Huq for his strict principles, upright personality and for his significant role in the struggle for country's independence.
 Aminul Huq died following a massive heart attack on July 13.
 The meeting chaired by Col (ret'd) Shaokat Ali was also addressed by Fazlul Hoq Sarkar, Major (ret'd) Rejaul Karim, Ajoy Ray, Sayed Ahmed Hossain, Col (ret'd) M M Ali, Ataus Samad, Mahbul Hoq, Prof Mojaffar Ahmed, and Sudhansu Shekhar Halder.
 Ataus Samad, a leading journalist of the country, said Aminul Huq was a courageous man, true patriot, and a honest lawyer.
 Ajoy Ray said Aminul Huq had played a vital role for establishing rule of law in the country.

Malaysian envoy, Matin discuss manpower issue

Malaysian High Commissioner in Dhaka Datuk Mahayuddin bin Abdul Rahman yesterday called on Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury and discussed the manpower issue, reports UNB.
 An official handout said the envoy spent some time with the minister and discussed matters of mutual interest with special emphasis on the issues of exporting manpower to Malaysia.

Nat'l symposium on medical education

Speakers at a symposium in the city yesterday underscored the need for developing innovative strategies and programmes to reorient medical education, reports BSS.
 The national symposium on medical education organised under the auspices of "further improvement of medical college project" was inaugurated by Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf.
 In his inaugural speech, Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf called upon the doctors to go to the rural areas.

Death anniversary

The 13th death anniversary of Mahbul-ul Alam, a noted litterateur, will be observed today, says a press release.
 Mahbul hailed from Fatehabad in Chittagong. He participated in the first World War as a member of artillery division of the British army.
 Widely known for his autobiographical novel *Mo'mener Jabanbandi*, Mahbul-ul Alam also edited the *Daily Zamana*, the first daily published from Chittagong.



Armanad, a youth welfare organisation inaugurated a tree plantation campaign in Mirpur in the city recently.

SINGER CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Singer Bangladesh Limited invites applications from the suitable candidates to fill-up the following vacancies in its Marketing Department:

- 1. AREA MANAGER:** This is a mid-level Management position and will be Incharge of Area/Division which requires:
 - Male, age group between 35 to 40 years.
 - Master's Degree and having at least 10 years on job experiences in Marketing/Sales Management in large company.
 - Ability to work hard and should have excellent communication skills both in English and Bangla.
 - Able to undertake extensive tours and need to be stationed in major towns.
- 2. DISTRICT MANAGER:** This is a junior level Management position in the Field Management which requires:
 - Male, age group between 25-32 years.
 - Master's Degree preferably with 2-3 years experiences in Sales Administration.
 - Ability to work hard and should have excellent communication skills both in English and Bangla.
 - Able to undertake extensive tours and need to be stationed in District towns.

Attractive salary and fringe benefits will be offered to the right candidate. Interested persons are requested to send their resume with a recent passport size photograph to the Personnel Manager, GPO Box No. 855, Dhaka-1000 on or before August 16, 1995.
 Only short listed candidate will be called for interview. Any kind of campaign/recommendation shall automatically disqualify a candidate for even an interview.

Re-Advertisement Situation Vacant World Health Organization Bangladesh

Applications are invited for one post of MIS Officer for one year with possible renewal. Candidates should be Bangladeshi, 25 years or older and must hold B.Sc. or higher in Computer Science/Engineering with knowledge of Management Information other subjects Specializing in MIS. Candidates must have excellent knowledge/experience of MIS concepts, with a thorough knowledge of the use of microcomputers operation and maintenance and relevant software in existence and have at least four years experience in these respective fields. They must be able to write computer programmes.
 Job description includes: (a) identification of various information needs at various levels of DPHE; (b) design the MIS information collection and processing system; (c) evolve different formats needed for implementing the designed MIS system; (d) design instruments to monitor/evaluate on going or completed projects, etc. (e) train personnel at the DPHE Computer Centre; (f) render advisory services to the Computer Centre.
 Application with full bio-data and photographs should reach the WHO Sanitary Engineer & Team Leader of the project, Community Water Supply and Sanitation C/O Department of Public Health Engineering, 12/L, 5th floor Moon Mansion, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka by 28 August 1995.
 Those who applied for the post as per advertisement of 14 July 1995 published in The Daily Star and Bangladesh Observer — need not apply again.

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