

Dhaka Day by Day

No Fire without Some Smoke

by Farah Ghuznavi

Most educated people these days are aware of the health hazards caused by cigarette consumption. It is hard not to be given the clear linkages that have been established between smoking and lung cancer, as well as a variety of other illnesses, including respiratory problems and cardiac illnesses. Under the circumstances therefore, it is hard to understand why so many people go on smoking, despite their awareness of the damage that it does to their health. Nevertheless, many smokers would be well advised to note that there is nowadays and additional health hazard posed by smoking in public places, which consists of opposition from fed-up non-smokers!

As a reasonably tolerant person, I can accept that people have the right to kill themselves if they so choose (whether they choose tobacco or euthanasia is up to them!) However, like many others, I find it completely unreasonable when smokers insist on inflicting their effluent on others. Of course, there are smokers who are considerate enough to do their smoking on their own time and in their own space, and my comments are not directed at them. I refer to the vast majority of smokers, who act as if they couldn't care less how much hassle they create for others.

During a trip to the US some time ago, I was amused to see a group of smokers huddled together outside a building smoking up a storm. It was winter and freezing cold, and the building's non-smoking policy meant that they had to come outside to have a cigarette! What was amazing was that they were desperate enough to do that in that weather (clear proof, if any is needed, of how addictive nicotine is), but then nobody ever got anywhere by underestimating the determination of the habitual smoker.

What is rather less amusing is when smokers insist on smoking in "no smoking" areas, such as designated rows in airplanes. I think virtually everyone has had an experience of this nature, but I was shocked recently to see a stewardess on Bangladesh Biman struggle unsuccessfully for two hours, trying to prevent a group of men seated in the non-smoking compartment from smoking. And for those compassionate souls who drag out the tired excuse of how deprived smokers suffer on long-haul flights (those of us who have to inhale their smoke suffer as well!), I would like to clarify that this was only a two-hour flight!

Nor is it only rude yobs who contravene such regulations. I was told a story about a Bangladeshi ex-diplomat who insisted on smoking in the non-smoking section of an

airplane during a flight some years ago, despite the stewardess' entreaties, until he was moved to the smoking section. His offspring proudly related this story as an illustration of the father's strength of will, but there are those of us who would describe such behaviour in less complimentary terms!

With passive smoking being a major killer of women in the US (and no doubt elsewhere, too), it is perhaps not altogether surprising that non-smokers are beginning to fight back. Not just by getting planes, buildings, restaurants and other areas designated as no smoking zones, but with direct action at the individual level as well! Smokers who persist in ignoring rules deserve to be treated in exactly the same way as they behave, and there seem to be some non-smokers these days who are willing to challenge such behaviour.

A classic example of the aggressive non-smoker is a Japanese woman I met recently, while attending a conference. We went in for dinner, where (despite the conference having been designated a non-smoking one) a number of ashtrays had inexplicably been placed on the dining tables. Without missing a beat, the fiery Akiko went up to the table, picked up all seven ashtrays and thrust them at the dining hall manager, saying, "Are you aware that this is a non-smoking conference? Why are these ashtrays here? Take them away immediately!"

Subsequently, when confronted by a Chinese participant, who was a persistent smoker, and pretended not to understand the objections of other participants (despite having another Chinese participant request him in the same language to stop smoking), she made such a scene that even he was forced to stop. But that was only after Akiko had indicated her disapproval by acting out an entire theatrical production where she choked, gasped and clutched at her throat, and then finally held out an ashtray to him in which to stub out his cigarette! Talk about desperate situations requiring desperate measures. Finally, for those who feel that her behaviour was excessive, I would just like to point out that if smokers followed the rules in such situations, she would not have had to go to those lengths.

Corrigendum

An inadvertent omission and a mistake concern Friday's Dhaka Day by Day piece. The omission is the writer's name. Samia Islam is the writer of "The Securities Who Make People Insecure," in which 'make' was wrongly printed as 'makes'.



The Dhaka University Alumni Association brought out a grand rally on the campus Friday marking the 75th founding anniversary of the university. — DU photo

What's on today....

Cassette launching: The launching of the album *Antar Theke Balchhi* by Rabi Chowdhury will be held. Venue: Rajmoni Isa Kha Hotel. Time: 7 pm. Chief guest: Music composer Satya Saha.

Publication ceremony: The publication ceremony of the book *Pita, Aamra Mukta Aakash Dekhchi* by Dr Syed Modasser Ali will be held. Venue: National Museum. Time: 6:30 pm. Speakers: Justice K M Sobhan, Mamtajuuddin Ahmed and Syed Hasan Imam.

Zahir Raihan Film Society: The society has organised a four-day Indian film session. Today's film: *Mrigaya* (the Royal Hunt) by Minal Sen. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road 2, Dhanmondi. Time: 6 pm.

Nazrul Institute: A discussion, musical soiree, poetry recitation, prize-distribution among child artists and a dance drama will mark the closing of the three-day programme of the institute. Venue: Kabi Bhaban, Dhanmondi. Time: 4 pm. Chief guest: Minister of Commerce and Information M Shamsul Islam. Prof Anisuzzaman will preside. Artists of Kathakali will present the dance drama — *Kaberi Teere*.

Bangla Academy lecture on Nazrul: The academy will hold a discussion on the rural life in Nazrul's poetry. Venue: The 'batamul' of the academy. Time: 10:30 am. Dr Tashiqui Islam will read the keynote paper.

Discussion on Nazrul: A discussion meeting and cultural function will be held in observance of the 19th death anniversary of poet Nazrul. Chief guest: KCC mayor Sheikh Tayebur Rahman. Venue: Shilpakala Academy auditorium. Time: 7 pm.

Blood donation programme: The Vivekananda Shiksha O Sanskriti Parishad, Dhaka University, has organised a voluntary blood donation programme to mark the 19th death anniversary of poet Nazrul. Venue: Aparajeyo Bangla, DU. Time: 9 am.

Nazrul Academy: The academy will host a discussion on poet Nazrul in connection with the observance of 19th anniversary of the poet. Venue: Engineers' Institution. Time: 5 pm. A cultural function will follow. Keynote speaker: Prof Mobasher Ali.

Lekhak Sangsad awards 3

By Staff Correspondent

Three personalities from the world of literature, journalism and public relations were honoured yesterday by the Bangladesh Lekhak Sangsad (BLS) for outstanding contribution in their respective fields. The honourees — novelist Shams Rashid, veteran journalist Rokunuzzaman Khan (Dada Bhai) and the PRO of Hotel Sheraton, Rashida Mohiuddin — were presented with the first BLS gold medal and crest by M Shamsul Islam, Minister for Commerce and Information at a brief ceremony, held at a city hotel.

"Where genius is not recognised, geniuses are not born," the minister said quoting Dr Shahidullah. The initiative taken by Lekhak Sangsad to honour deserving persons in all spheres of national life, is indeed a welcome one," he added.

The function was attended by Reazuddin Ahmed, president of the Jatiyo Press Club, Dr Ashraf Siddiqui, Prof Nasim Banu and Sayeeda Zaman, chairperson and general secretary of the BLS respectively.

Plan to fill up Dhanmondi Lake decried

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhanmondi Residents Association of Welfare (DRAW) has protested the proposal to fill up the Dhanmondi Lake partially and threatened to resist any such move through legal action.

The association, in a handout yesterday said that the lake, being the only breathing space for the residents of the area, has been a part of the master plan of the capital.

The association urged the authority concerned to drop the plan to fill up the water body.

NOTRE DAME COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

SSC marks will be used to determine merit for admission into this college. Candidates will be evaluated separately for city, town, village and minority and humanitarian categories.

The test of Aug.30,31, Sept.1 will be held as scheduled since it is required for placement and grouping of all successful applicants.

We regret the use of our college name and false claims regarding our admission process given to candidates by unscrupulous coaching centres.

Principal

Titas Gas team meets Biswas

A 35-member delegation of Titas Gas Employees Welfare Association of Barisal division called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangladesh yesterday, reports UNB.

Advisor of the association GM Anwar led the delegation. Talking to them, President Biswas called upon the members to work with sincerity and devotion.

Earlier in a memorandum the delegation put forward their demands including a permanent office of the association in Dhaka.

PROJECT MANAGER FOR NEW PHARMACEUTICAL FACILITY

PED is a specialist consultancy to the pharmaceutical industry worldwide and is advising Square Pharmaceuticals on the design and construction of its new pharmaceutical plant in Dhaka, which will be of international standard.

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Applications close: September 07, 1995



Qulkhani

Late Ambassador M. A. Qayyum, Bangladesh Ambassador to Morocco, Mali, Algeria and Mauritania will be held on Sunday, the 27th August '95 at the residence of his father late Professor Abdul Moktader at House No. 302/A, Tally Office Road, Rayer Bazar Dhaka at 5 PM after Asar prayer.

Ambassador Qayyum died of a massive heart attack on 22nd, August, at Zia International Air port, Dhaka, on arrival in connection with state visit of President of Mali. Relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to kindly attend the Qui.

Qulkhani

The qulkhani of Jebun Nahar, 45, Headmistress of Dhanmondi Government Primary School will be held today after Asr prayers at her 32/1/B Shukrabad residence, says a press release.

Jebun Nahar, wife of Abu Musa, Deputy Director of FPAB, died of cardiac arrest Thursday last in the city.

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Our valued shareholders are hereby informed that the Company has declared 15% interim dividend i.e. Tk. 1.50 for each share of Tk. 10 from the profits of the Company shown in the unaudited Half-Yearly Accounts of 30 June 1995. All shareholders whose names appear in the Share Register will be entitled to the interim dividend.

For the payment of interim dividend the Transfer Book and Share Register of the Company will remain closed from Thursday, 14 September to Wednesday, 20 September 1995, both days inclusive.

Shareholders are kindly requested to collect their cheques for interim dividend from the Registered Office of the Company from Saturday, 7 October 1995. The cheques which are not collected by 15 October 1995 will be mailed to the Shareholders on 16 October 1995.

Sheema Huq
Company Secretary

Dated 26 August, 1995

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Sl. No.	Name of position	Qualification/Experience requirement	Indicative Range of salary
1.	Manager/ Sr. Manager Production	B.Sc. Engg. (Mechanical / Electrical) with 3 to 7 years practical experience in a manufacturing unit, preferably in a steel fabrication/hardware making industry.	Tk. 14,000-20000 P.M.
2.	Manager/ Sr. Manager Commercial	M.B.A./M.A./M.Com. 4 to 8 years practical experience in independently handling Import/Export documentation with thorough knowledge of correspondences in English.	Tk. 14,000-20000 P.M.
3.	Manager/ Sr. Manager Accounts	FCA/MBA(Major in Finance) M.Com.(Accounting). 5 to 10 years practical experience to manage overall Company accounts with knowledge of Company Law.	Tk. 14,000-20000 P.M.
4.	Executive Officer Sales	MBA/M.A./M.Com. 2 to 5 years on the job experience in a reputed Industrial/Commercial Organization. B.A./B.Com. with 7 to 10 years on the job experience may also be considered.	Tk. 8000 -10000 P.M.
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6.	Executive Officer Accounts	MBA/M.Com. (Accounting) with 2 to 5 years working experience in financial planning & Budgeting, working capital management, taxation, general accounting in a reputed Industrial/Commercial Organization.	Tk 8000- 10000 P.M.
7.	Executive Officer Production	B.Sc. Engg (Mechanical/Elect) 2 to 5 years on job experience in a reputed industrial concern, preferably in a steel fabrication industry.	Tk 8000- 10000 P.M.

For Sl. 4 to 7, highly experienced persons with requisite qualifications may be considered higher grade with higher salary. Age limit for SL 1 to 3 is 45 years and SL 4 to 7 is 35 years.

Applications with complete Bio-data (with telephone No., if any), Certificates of academic qualifications and experience along with two passport size photographs to be sent by 10-09-1995 to: The Director, Karim Galvanized Steel Ltd., Ibrahim Chamber (1st Floor), 95, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.

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Slimline Desktop: 3 expansion slots x 3 drive bays			
Processor	Memory	Model	PCI Graphics
486 DX2/50	4 MB RAM, 8 MB RAM	M1 or M270	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
486 DX2/66	8 MB RAM	M1, M270 or M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
486 DX4/100	8 MB RAM, 128 KB Cache	M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
586 75	8 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M270 or M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
Standard Desktop: 4 expansion slots x 4 drive bays			
486 DX2/50	8 MB RAM	M270 or M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
486 DX4/100	8 MB RAM, 128 KB Cache	M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
586 75	8 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M420 or M720	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
586 90	8 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
	16 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M720	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
	16 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M720	Orion 2000 Graphics Controller
Minitower: 5 expansion slots x 5 drive bays			
486 DX2/50	8 MB RAM	M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
486 DX4/100	8 MB RAM, 128 KB Cache	M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
586 75	8 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
	16 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M720	Orion 2000 Graphics Controller
586 90	8 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M420	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
	16 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M720	Integrated PCI Local Bus Graphics Controller
	16 MB RAM, 256 KB Cache	M720	Orion 2000 Graphics Controller

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