Dhaka Day by Day

Good Service Goes Unnoticed

by Aditi Mubin Chowdhury

Thousands of vehicles are plying the streets of Dhaka City every day. Such as automobiles, buses, double-deckers, trucks etc. All of these vehicles require an essential thing and that is either petrol, octane or diesel. The engine of the automobile is in front. It is covered with a thing called 'bonnet'. The petrol is changed into gas. The engine works on account of this gas. Thus this gas is necessary to make the car run. It can run very fast. But the speed can be increased or decreased. If there is no petrol, the car cannot run. Fresh petrol is then taken. But from where? Obviously from the filling station. A place which is necessary for a car, or a bus or a truck to visit once or twice a day. As soon as you enter the filling station, a guy will come up to you and ask you how much petrol you require. You tell him the amount and he fills it in your car. You are then given a receipt, pay the money, receive change if there is any and leave the station

It all seems so simple, doesn't it? May be, it is for you, but what about the man who gave you the service? Imagine him standing there from 6 am to 11 pm. Whether it is raining or extremely hot he has to be standing there. Talking to one of these guys it was learnt that the job isn't that easy as it seems. They get tired of standing near the pumping machines but they have no choice, because any time a car or a bus can enter the station asking for petrol or diesel so they have to be alert all the time. Sometimes it is also boring for them doing the same work over and over again. But still you will see them serving us with a smile on their face. Besides filling in petrol inside various vehicles they have to tackle other situations as well. Such as during the rush hours of the morning the station is crowded

A boring job!

with many types of vehicles, each driver demanding quick service. So these guys also have to be very swift. They try their best not to disappoint their customers. In a filling station you have to maintain a line but some drivers cause inconvenience by breaking the line and by doing this they bump into other cars causing a chaos. They start yelling at each other while the rest of the cars start pressing their horns to get their service. A noisy atmosphere is then formed. This is where the men at the petrol pump show their patience and try to handle the situation smoothly.

Extra petrol is always stored for various circumstances like hartals, road blockades etc. So if the hartal breaks at 2 pm it is possible to get petrol even at 2.05 pm. These guys are not that much educated Most of them haven't even completed their primary education. These people usually don't receive a handsome salary. Some of them have complaints that it is not always possible to bear their family expenses from their salary. They do sometimes receive tips but only on "Chand Raat" (The day before Eid) and that is only Tk 100 to Tk 200 per person. While standing in the station they get to witness various models of cars coming and going.

When asked how they feel doing this work most of them replied that the work is OK but sometimes tiresome. One man said that sometimes he feels upset because he thinks that he is born only to fill in petrol in the various types of cars but not to ride in one. He said that one day he wishes to have a car of his own and will come to the filling station and some one will pour petrol in his car. So let's wish that his dream comes true. Meanwhile, it has remained entirely a man's job, no woman has come to the profession.



Memorial meet on Mao Tse Zdong: Mao Tse Zdong Smriti Udjapon Committee will observe the 19th death anniversary of the Chinese leader. Venue: TSC seminarroom. Time: 5 pm.

Theatre workshop: Centre for Asian Theatre will organise the workshop. Venue: Goethe Institut, Juni Dahr will conduct the workshop. The workshop is open to the invitees only

Seminar on social development: Bangladesh Social Science Research Council of Ministry of Planning will organise a seminar on 'Local Impact of Global Transformation with Special Reference to Social Development Issues: Bangladesh Perspective.' Venue: NEC auditorium. Time: 9:50 am. Chief guest: Abdul Moyeen Khan, Minister of State for Planning.

and tomorrow

Reception for Juni Dahr: Theatre Centre will organise the programme. Venue: Theatre Centre auditorium. Time 6:30 pm.

Seminar on AIDS: French Embassy, Centre for Scientific and Technical Information (CESTI) and ICDDR,B will organise the seminar. Venue: Sasakawa auditorium. ICDDR, B. Time: 8:30 am.

NU to introduce M Phil, Phd

Vice-Chancellor of National University Prof M Abdul Bari said the university has planned to introduce M Phil and PhD courses in near future, reports UNB.

He said this in the inaugural function of a six-week training course for Political Science teachers of government and non-government degree colleges at the Eskaton office of NU yester-

A total of 35 teachers including lecturers and assistant professors are participating in the training

Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University Prof Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury, while inaugurating the course as chief guest, stressed the need for studying political science to find out solutions to various problems.

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Weather

Thundershowers likely

Many places of Rajshahi, Sylhet divisions and a few places of Dhaka, Chittagong divisions may experience light to moderate rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty wind in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says light rain or thundershower is likely at one or two places over Barisal division and may remain mainly dry over Khulna division.

There is chance of moderately heavy fall at one or two places over Rajshahi division.

Meantime Rangpur experienced the highest 393 mm rain yesterday. Dinajpur had 226 mm rain, Cox's Bazar 43, Sylhet 20 and Mymensingh 18 mm rain. Country's highest temperature 32.5 degrees Celsius was

recorded at Chittagong and Khulna while the lowest 23.2 degrees at Dinajpur.

The sun sets today at 5:55 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:47 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	morning	evening
Dhaka	31.5	27.6	82	85
Chittagong	32.5	26.0	76	78
Rajshahi	30.6	27.4	95	90
Khulna	32.5	26.6	87	85
Barisal	32.0	26.4	86	92
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25.0

30.5

104 held in city

Police rounded up 104 people, including 10 wanted criminals from different parts of the city yesterday on various charges, reports UNB.

All the arrested people

were produced before court.

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The lottery will be held in presence of the representatives of Securities and Exchange Commission, Dhaka Stock Exchange, Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (trustee), and Bangladesh university of Engineering and Technology today the 23rd September, 1995 at 3.00 p.m. at Company's Head Office, Dhaka.



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