

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Getting Tough with Smoke-Belching Babies

by Lisa Khan

Non-smokers, kill yourselves now. What is the point of abstaining from those lung blackening pleasure-givers when you end up inhaling the equivalent of a 20 pack as you step outdoors?

While we are busy complaining about rickshaws in Dhaka, the real culprit is getting away with murder. Smoke belching baby taxis are neither as harmless as 'babies' or anything remotely similar to 'taxis' (or have we forgotten what they are?)

The number of baby taxis has quietly mushroomed in the city without much protest from any one. Rickshaws may be vilified, but compared to scooters they are an eco-friendly and safe mode of transport.

Baby taxis somehow think that they can compete with Nissan Pajeros (sorry dudes, there is a class system of vehicles too. So stick to what you are capable of). They change lanes every minute, hover around cars, and make unpredictable turns with all the charm of a fly you want to swat dead. They might seem sturdier and safer than rickshaws but these babies turn turtle with the slightest collision.

Perhaps the erratic behavior would have been tolerable if it were the only irritant. Unfortunately, scooters also have the audacity to blacken our beautiful city. It is no longer possible to travel down the road from Sheraton past Farmgate up to Mahakhali without smothering your nose with a hanky. Environmental standards could easily be enforced

by the authorities concerned, but this doesn't seem to figure on their list of priorities.

We could learn a thing or two from India as far as baby taxis are concerned. The Business Standard reported in July that the authorickshaw would probably be unable to meet the new emission norms which will come into effect in India in 1996. The paper noted, "As most of the three-wheelers are powered by small two-stroke engines, they are high emitters of unburned hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide because of primitive design, low cost and high power to weight ratio."

In India it is estimated that these vehicles contribute 70 per cent of total unburned hydrocarbons and 46 per cent of carbon monoxide. In Dhaka, the numbers are likely to be similar judging by the condition of the scooters around town. Hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide are capable of causing cancer, reproductive problems, chronic organ toxicity, and reduction in hemoglobin. It's a good idea to keep your nostrils safely covered!

It is possible to make baby taxis more environmentally friendly, but the Indian scooter makers may find this economically non viable. Unless they can convince Indian law makers to relax the standards, baby taxi producers are likely to look to other countries. "Let's flood the Bangladesh market!" may be their next battle cry. Dhaka is so polluted, we've even notice the difference. Well, we've got news for you buddy.

It's time to get tough with the babies.



Deputy Leader in Parliament Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and Awami League leader Abdus Samad Azad seen among the winners of Rupasi Bangla Photo Competition at a function held in the city yesterday. The Bangladesh Photojournalists Association organised the competition. — Star photo

### Thai food festival at Sheraton begins

"Thai Food Festival" began at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel yesterday evening, reports BSS. Ambassador of Thailand to Bangladesh Sunthorn Vidhyameth inaugurated the nine-day festival at the Bithika Restaurant of the hotel.

Dhaka Sheraton Hotel has organised the festival in celebration of Thai International Airways' 30 years of services between Bangkok and Dhaka. Three Thai chefs and a fruit carver have been flown in from Bangkok to assist in the preparation of authentic Thai cuisine, hotel sources said.

An attractive feature of the festival is a raffle draw, to be held at the end of the festival. Ambassadors of Indonesia and Myanmar and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were, among others, attended the inaugural function.

Thai Airways is the co-sponsor of the festival.

### Weather

#### Downpour likely

Heavy rainfall is likely at places over Chittagong, Barisal, Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says moderately heavy to heavy rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over Chittagong, Barisal, Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions.

Moderate to moderately heavy rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at most places over Khulna and Sylhet divisions.

In association with rain or thundershower temporary squall at the speed of 45-60 kilometres per hour is likely at places over the regions of Chittagong, Barisal and Noakhali.

No appreciable change in night temperature is expected across the country.

Meantime, Khulna, experienced the highest 113 mm rain yesterday. Jessore and Faridpur each had 89 mm, Rangpur 87, Barisal 81, Dhaka 75, Comilla 76, Mymensingh 44, Rajshahi 37, Sylhet 25 and Cox's Bazar 10 mm shower.

Country's highest temperature 29.1 degrees Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest 18.0 degrees at Faridpur.

The Sun sets today at 5:14 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:11 am.

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Admission for 1996 for Play Group, Nursery, KG1, KG2 & Class1 closes on December 15, 1995

Please contact :  
Miss Sarah Streeton (Principal) during office hours  
8 a.m. - 1p.m., Sunday to Thursday by telephone :  
608298 or at House 35, Road 118, Gulshan, Dhaka.



Chittagong Port Authority  
Office of the Project Manager

### Corrigendum

Sub: Consultancy Services for Construction of a Container Terminal in the New Mooring Area of Chittagong Port Authority

Due to unavoidable circumstances, the last date for submission of application for Short-Listing of Consultants for the container services is extended up to 20th November, 1995.

Project Manager

Project Implementation Unit

Chittagong Port Authority

Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Telephone : 712511

D-1117

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Wanted

Applications are invited from the Bangladeshi National for the post of a National Consultant under UNDP assisted "Bangladesh AIDS Prevention and Control" Project with the following terms and conditions:

#### Educational and other qualification:

- Minimum MBBS/Master Degree in Social Science in Behavioural Science.
- Ability to establish harmonious working relations with National and International Colleague.
- Fluent in writing and speaking both Bangla and English.
- Should have basic computer skills.

#### Experiences:

- The candidate should have a sound knowledge about STD/AIDS situation in Bangladesh.
- Candidate should have 5 years working experience in the related field including Information Education Communication (IEC).

#### Major duties:

- to assist the Project Director in implementing the project activities and he will be accountable to the Project Director for his duties;
- to assist the Project Director in assessing counselling needs in the area of STD/AIDS and develop a plan of action;
- to assist the Project Director to develop training capacity on counselling including planning, organising, conducting and evaluating training programmes, develop training modules and instruments;
- to assist with the National AIDS Committee, on programme matters, concerning STD/AIDS prevention programme;
- to perform any other related duties and responsibility that may be assigned by the government.

Duration : 12 months.

Salaries: As per provision of the approved TAPP following ERD's guideline.

Age limit: Not more than 65 years.

Interested persons with requisite educational qualifications and experiences are requested to submit their applications along with full C.V., 2 (two) copies of passport size recent photographs, and true copies of all educational and experience certificates. The applications should be addressed to the Secretary, MOHFW

Applications received after 20th November '95 will not be considered.

All applications should be sent by mail. Application will not be received by hand.

Incomplete application will be rejected without giving any reason.

Candidates presently working with government or non government organisations should apply through proper channel

Deputy Chief (Health)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Bangladesh Secretariat

Dated: 29.10.1995

DFP-27291-5/10

Building # 3, Room # 327

G-1659

Phone: 241321

### SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION (SSC) AND SPECIAL PURPOSE SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION (SPSSC) IN GROUND BRANCHES OF BANGLADESH AIR FORCE

Suitably qualified gentlemen of Bangladeshi nationality are invited to participate in selection tests leading to grant of Short Service Commission (SSC) and Special Purpose Short Service Commission (SPSSC) in Administrative and Education Branches respectively of Bangladesh Air Force (BAF).

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

##### Branches

- Administrative Branch (SSC) (Admin Br)
- Education Branch (SPSSC) (Edn Br)

##### Educational Qualifications

- B. Sc. (Ag) (Hons) At least Second Class.
- M. Sc. (App Phy/ Math/ Psychology), M.A. (Arabic/ Islamic Studies/ Psychology), M. Com (Mgt/ MBA), (Minimum Second Div/ Class all throughout).

##### Physical Standards

- a. Height : Minimum 1.63 meters (5'-4").
- b. Chest : 76 cm to 81 cm.
- c. Weight : According to age and height.
- d. Age on 31 December 1995 : 18 yrs to 30 yrs (For Admin Br) 21 yrs to 45 yrs (For Edn Br).

##### Marital Status

- : Married or Unmarried.

##### Ineligibilities

- a. Withdrawn/ Discharged from Army/ Navy/ Air Force or any other Govt Services.
- b. Convicted by any Court.
- c. Screened out Once and rejected twice by ISSB.
- d. Rejected by Appeal Medical Board for ground branch.
- e. Rejected twice by Air Headquarters Selection Board.
- f. Incomplete information in the Application Form.

##### Selection Procedure

- a. Preliminary Medical Test at Information & Selection Centre (I&SC), BAF, at Old Airport, Tejgaon.
- b. Written Test (IQ and English) at I&SC, BAF.
- c. ISSB (Only For Admin Br, not applicable for SPSSC in Edn Br).
- d. Medical Examination by CMB.
- e. Final Selection by Air Headquarters.

##### Training and Rank on Commissioning

- a. Selected candidates will undergo 06 (Six) month's General Service Training and Professional Training.
- b. On Completion of training successful cadets will be commissioned in the rank of Pilot Officer. Cadets of education branch, however, would be given higher initial rank of Flying Officer or Flight Lieutenant depending on qualification, experience and suitability as determined by Air Headquarters.

##### Pay & Allowances on Commissioning

- a. Basic Pay : Tk 2850/- to Tk 8900/- , Plus 10%
- b. Other Pay & Allowances : Tk 1891/- to Tk 3277/-

Sl. No. 4/95 of Air HQ/10609/Rect dt 16 October 1995

ISPR/Biman/95/1832  
DFP-26279-26/10  
G-1658

#### FACILITIES

##### During Training.

- a. Free accommodation, messing, medical treatment and clothing for self.
- b. Monthly salary Tk. 1100/- (Unmarried) and Tk. 1300/- (married).
- c. Family Pension for disability during training.
- d. Free transportation as per rules.

##### On Commissioning

- a. Family accommodation or house rent support for married Officer, Accommodation for self (Unmarried Officer).
- b. Family Welfare Scheme Tk. 2,50,000/-
- c. Free medical treatment for self and family.
- d. Free transportation as per rules.

#### COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM

- \* Prescribed Application Form may be collected from BAF Information and Selection Centre (I&SC), Old Airport, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215 on submission of a Bank Draft/ Pay Order of Tk. 75.00 (Non-refundable) which should be issued in favour of "Central Non-Public Fund, BAF". Bank Draft/ Pay Order should be payable to Agrani/ Sonali/ Janata/ Rupali Bank of Mohakhali/ Farmgate/ Kawran Bazar/ Cantonment Branch of Dhaka Area.
- \* The Application Form may also be obtained by post on submission of above Bank Draft/ Pay Order along with a self addressed envelope (Size : 9" X 4") which must be affixed with stamps of Tk. 8.00 only.
- \* Application Form should be submitted by the candidate physically at I&SC on the date of examination marked on the application form. Application Form submitted via mail will not be considered.

##### Documents Required with the Application Form

- a. Attested copies of all Academic Certificates/Testimonials and Mark Sheets.
- b. Nationality Certificate with marital status from Class-1 Gazetted Officer or Union Parishad/Municipal Chairman
- c. Two copies recent passport size photographs duly attested by Class-1 Gazetted Officer.
- d. No Objection Certificate from the Head of the Organization (for serving person).

Application Forms. Interested candidates are to obtain Application Forms not later than 20 Nov 95. Test/ Examination schedule will be announced at the time of distribution/ collection of Application Forms from I&SC, BAF.

For additional information please Contact I&SC, BAF, Old Airport, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215, Tel: 888077 or 888011, Ext : 4255, 5149



DIRECTORATE OF RECRUITMENT  
BANGLADESH AIR FORCE  
AIR HEADQUARTERS DHAKA CANTONMENT