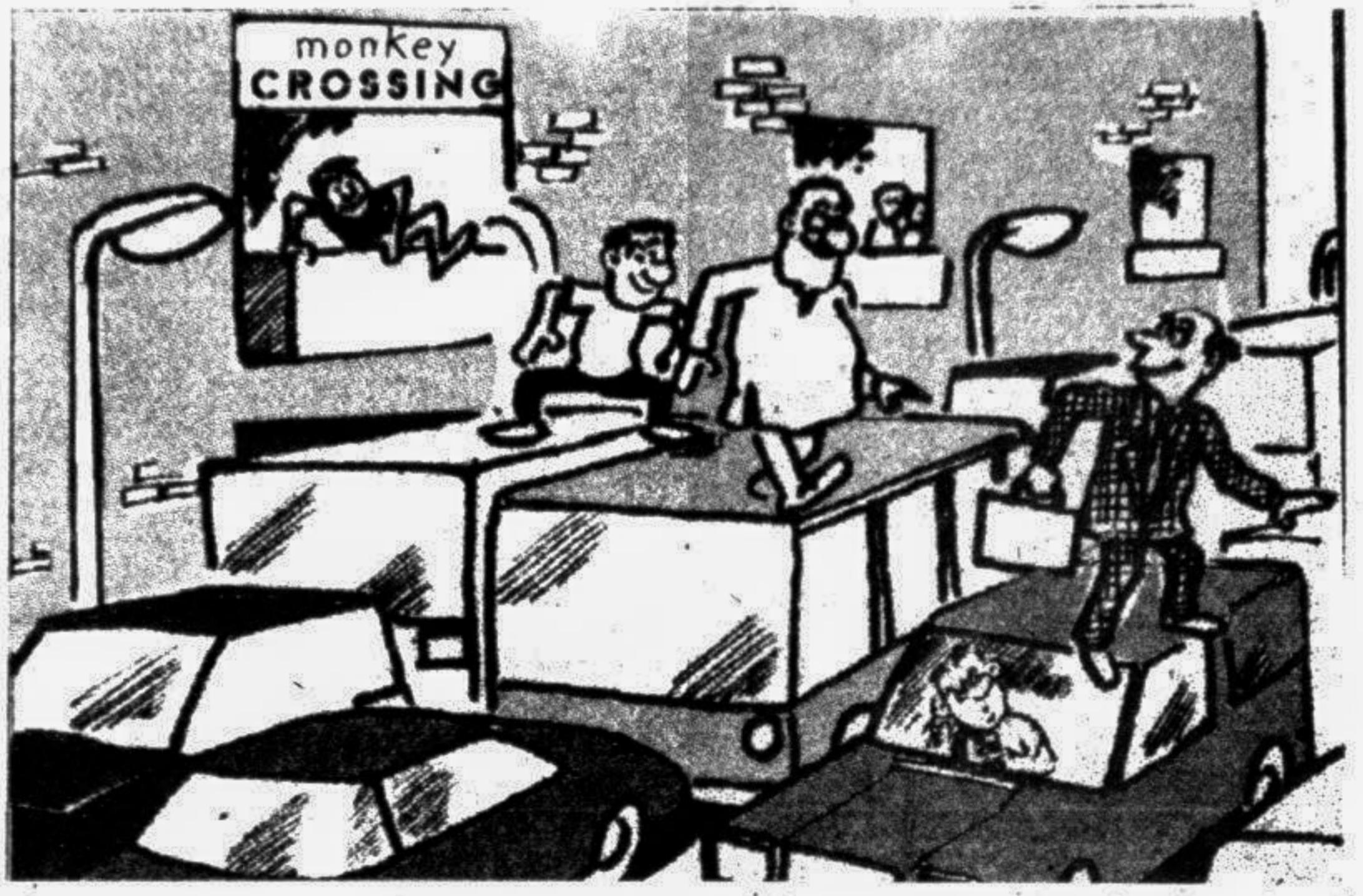


Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

Entertained Amidst clouds of Poison

by Aasha Mehreen Amin



It was no ordinary traffic jam last week. Practically all the main roads around the heart of the city were choked. All those fools (and there were many of them) who ventured outside after 5.30 pm were in for quite an ordeal that could last for hours.

If you were travelling from Dhanmondi to Gulshan, in one of those diabolic contraptions — a baby taxi (*baby indeed*) then the first thing the perverse scooter driver probably did was to take the wrong road — through one of the hell holes of Dhaka — Green Road.

By the time the driver had jerked you to and fro from various points on the way, turning around whenever he met with a jam, you were possibly feeling like a rattle in the hands of a demented infant. But this was just the beginning.

As you approached Farm Gate it seemed as if you were in the world's worst traffic jams. Practically thousands of rickshaws, baby taxis, trucks, buses, and cars were all tangled up in one miserable mess. It was useless to honk away (as many stubborn Dhakaites did) for the traffic was completely immobilized because the Victory Meeting of the Awami League had just broken up and the 'masses' had decided to take their celebrations to the streets.

One must admit that at such times it is worthwhile to take a positive attitude towards such impossible situations. This is what many of the commuters did that day by watching the celebration procession as if it were a drive in film show.

And certainly the colourful procession helped to kill the time, at least for a while.

One of the first things one noticed among the hundreds of processionists as they marched away, was the new versions of the national flag — a green background with four red stars and another white flag with red waves and three green stars. With the thunderous beat of drums and tinkling of tambourines, along came a little black boat symbolizing the party mascot, carried by a few of the marchers. Others held blue flags or posters of Sheikh Mujib and Sheikh Hasina while the whole crowd of some thousands chanted their slogans. In between one could get a glimpse of

USIS to introduce membership fees for library users

In order to continue to maintain the services currently provided to its users, the USIS Library in Dhaka will begin to charge a membership processing fee effective May 1, says a press release.

The fee will be Tk 250.00 per year for all members (including students), effective the date of registration.

The membership processing fee will be charged to all new members who register. Current memberships will continue through the expiration date on the USIS Library card.

The processing fee will be charged when current memberships are renewed. All new membership cards will require two stamp-sized photographs.

On May 1, the library will also begin to charge modest user fees for overdue and lost books and videos, and for computer searches and printouts of research materials. A schedule of these fees is available in the library.

USTC admission test results

Following candidates have been selected for admission into the first year BBA Programme of the University of Science and Technology (USTC). The last date of admission is May 20, says a press release.

Roll numbers of the candidates are: 203, 231, 248, 204, 250, 240, 253, 06, 225, 252, 01, 249, 226, 222, 201, 243, 239, 209, 229, 256, 237, 257, 216, 214, 235, 251 and 218 (total — 27).

The following seven have been kept in the 'waiting list' 246, 241, 247, 230, 220, 202 and 254.

Lecture on law, tourism at BC

Professor Douglas Stoddart, a senior lecturer in marketing at the Buckingham University, UK, will give a public presentation at the British Council auditorium at 5 pm on April 24, says a press release.

Organisations and individuals interested in the areas of law, business, hotel management, tourism have been requested to attend.

Theatre Art apex body

The 4th annual general meeting of Theatre Art was held yesterday at a local hotel, says a press release.

Abdus Samad Azad, chief adviser of the organisation attended as chief guest.

A 14-member executive committee for 1996-98 has been formed in the meeting. The members are: Gazi Mohammad Shahjahan — President; Azizur Samad — general secretary; Habib Ullah Tubin — organising secretary, and Mir Faizur Rahman — accounts secretary.

CHEHLUM

Dr M H Khan, a veteran specialist on Tuberculosis and former Regional Director of World Health Organization, died in the city on Friday 8 March, 1996, following a stroke.

His Chehlum will be held on Friday 19 April, after Asr prayer at his residence, Khan Lodge, Road # 98, South side of DIT Market, Gulshan 2.

All relations, friends and well wishers are requested to attend the Chehlum.

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Annual General Meeting

Day	10th May 1996 Friday
Venue	Ladies Club, Easkaton, Dhaka
Program	
Morning Session	0900 - 1000 hrs Breakfast
	1000 - 1100 hrs Business Session
	1100 - 1230 hrs Election
Break	
Evening Session	1900 - 1945 hrs Organizational Matters
	2000 - 2045 hrs Ceremonial Dinner
	2100 - 2230 hrs Band Show by Renaissance
	2300 Adieu
Invites	OFns & family members And all ex teachers of FCC with their wives

Chairman : Election Of OFA, Dhaka Chapter 1996 & '97

Election to the following posts will be held as under :

Posts : President, 2 Vice Presidents, General Secretary, Jt. Gen. Secretary, Treasurer, Secretary-Organizing, Secretary-Sports & Cultural Affairs, 3 Members, 2 Lady VPs will be selected by the elected executive council.

Finalization of voter list 3rd May 1996

Please clear your annual subscription before 2nd May

Filing of Nomination Paper 5th May 1996

Scrutiny of Nomination Paper 6th May 1996

Withdrawal of Nomination Paper 7th May 1996

Announcement of Final List of Contestants 8th May 1996

All above will be executed at OFA Secretariat.

Election : At Ladies Club, Easkaton 10th May 1996

The Election Commission consists of :

Mr. Meesabuddin Ahmed (ex-teacher) : Chief Election Commissioner

OFn. Harun Ur Rashid & OFn. Fazlul Haq : Election Commissioner

Please confirm your attendance in OFA, DC AGM by 8th May 1996

OFn. Musleh Uz Zaman
General Secretary

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Professor Douglas Stoddart
MA (Cantab), PMD (Harvard), PGCE (Oxon), Senior Lecturer in Marketing will be pleased to talk to anyone requiring further information.

A presentation will take place on:
Date : Wednesday 24th April 1996

Time : 5.00 pm

Venue : The British Council Auditorium, 5 Fuller Road, Dhaka

Interviews will be held after the presentation.

For a personal appointment please call
Mahmuda Akhter
on 868905-7



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