

Dhaka Day by Day

Unwelcome Intruders

by Farhana Yusuf

Innumerable vehicles have always been forwarded as the reason for all the traffic jams that take place every hour in some or other areas of Dhaka city. Yet going behind the scenes we'll find that it would be a bit unreasonable to put all the blame on a very high number of vehicles all the time. Because if you try to find out why and how some of these jams occur, you'll just have to look out of the window and see half the road radically transformed into a fish and vegetable market. The atmosphere is unbearable, making you feel stifled, the intolerable buzzing noise directly attacking your nerves making you feel dizzy and angry.

Getting stuck in the middle of the road for ages, having forced to inhale some poisonous gases and being subjected to all the dust while the very thoughtless and noisy hawkers resume their daily buying and selling at leisure isn't the kind of picture you'll often or ever see anywhere else. In fact, there's no law laid out that hawkers can carry their fish and vegetable baskets and encroach upon half the road which is specifically intended for smooth passage of vehicles. These hawkers seem to think that it's an inherent part of everyday life, but the fact

that so many people are given so much inconvenience by them hardly seems to bother these men.

Dustbins overflowing with garbage is a common picture but that shouldn't interfere with our daily lives. Instead of this, the picture we often see is that the garbage pouring out of the enclosed gap of the bin like an avalanche, hitting the streets and occupying some part of it. What's more intolerable is that many dustbins are actually set up right at the sides of the road, when they should be in a quiet and remote corner, away from all the hustle and bustle. These trashes, that are basically inimical substances, not only block space but are actually unhealthy for the people nearby, not to mention the fact that they pollute the atmosphere. Therefore, as roads are strictly intended for vehicles, such unwanted interferences should not be encouraged as it is simply improper and inexcusable. Since every object is built with a definite purpose, so all things must follow their own course and rule. Because otherwise a lot of things tend to be miscait and mislead.



Chief Election Commissioner Md Abu Hena called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday. — PID photo



The dustbin is meant for what it is not. — Star photo

Helen Keller's 116th birth anniversary observed

Speakers at a discussion meeting on the occasion of 116th birth anniversary of Helen Keller, a leader of the visually-impaired worldwide, called for creating social awareness for ensuring welfare of the disabled people in society, reports UNB.

National Forum of Organisations Working with the Disabled (NFOWD) and Helen Keller International Bangladesh, an international organisation working for the visually impaired, jointly organised the discussion.

Speaking on the occasion, Additional Secretary in-charge Shah Mohammad Hannan of the Ministry of Social Welfare said, a national policy for the disabled has already been formulated by the government and programme for the disabled will get topmost priority.

A photographic exhibition depicting the life and works of Helen Keller, who herself was deaf and blind, was also held. Later, a video show on her life and works was also arranged to mark the day.

Education apparatus for the visually impaired, including talking computer and chess for the visually impaired was also displayed.

Two books titled "Protibondhder Jonno Somonno Shikha Karjocrom Nirdeshika" (booklet for the visually impaired of the integrated education programme) and "Helen Keller - Protibondhder Jonno Sangrami Joddha" published by HKI were launched at the function.

NGOs to submit report on children to UNCRC

A group of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and several other institutions working with street children are continuing dialogue among them under the auspices of Save the Children Fund, UK (SCF/UK) to produce alternative and supplementary report on the social, economic and health situation of children in Bangladesh to the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), reports BSS.

Bangladesh government forwarded a report on the subject to UNCRC in November last.

The NGOs and organisations participating in the dialogue which began in April and will continue till the end of September this year included ASK, Aparajito, BLAST, BARC, CAMPE and CSKS.

The discussion in the dialogue mainly focused on monitoring children's precarious and rapidly changing circumstances in Bangladesh and possible gaps in the government's report in an attempt to put forward effective recommendations which both the government and the NGOs can act upon in near future.

The dialogue also looked at how the NGO sector can support the work of the government and its institutions on child rights and also how they could strengthen child related research, sources of the coordinating agency, Save the Children Fund, UK said.

Weather

Light rain forecast

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at many places over Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged across the country during the period.

In its outlook for subsequent five days, Met Office forecast increase in rainfall activities.

Country's highest temperature 34.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and the lowest 24.3 degrees at Faridpur.

The sun sets today over Dhaka at 6:50 pm and rises on Saturday at 5:14 am.

Stolen parts of vehicles recovered

Police recovered a large number of stolen parts of car, microbus, truck, auto-rickshaw and motor bike worth about Tk five lakh during raids in Dhaka's Dholaihal area of the city Wednesday.

Some unscrupulous businessmen were involved in selling motor vehicle parts stolen from different parts of the country, police said. They had liaison with an organised gang of thieves involved in stealing the motor parts, police added.

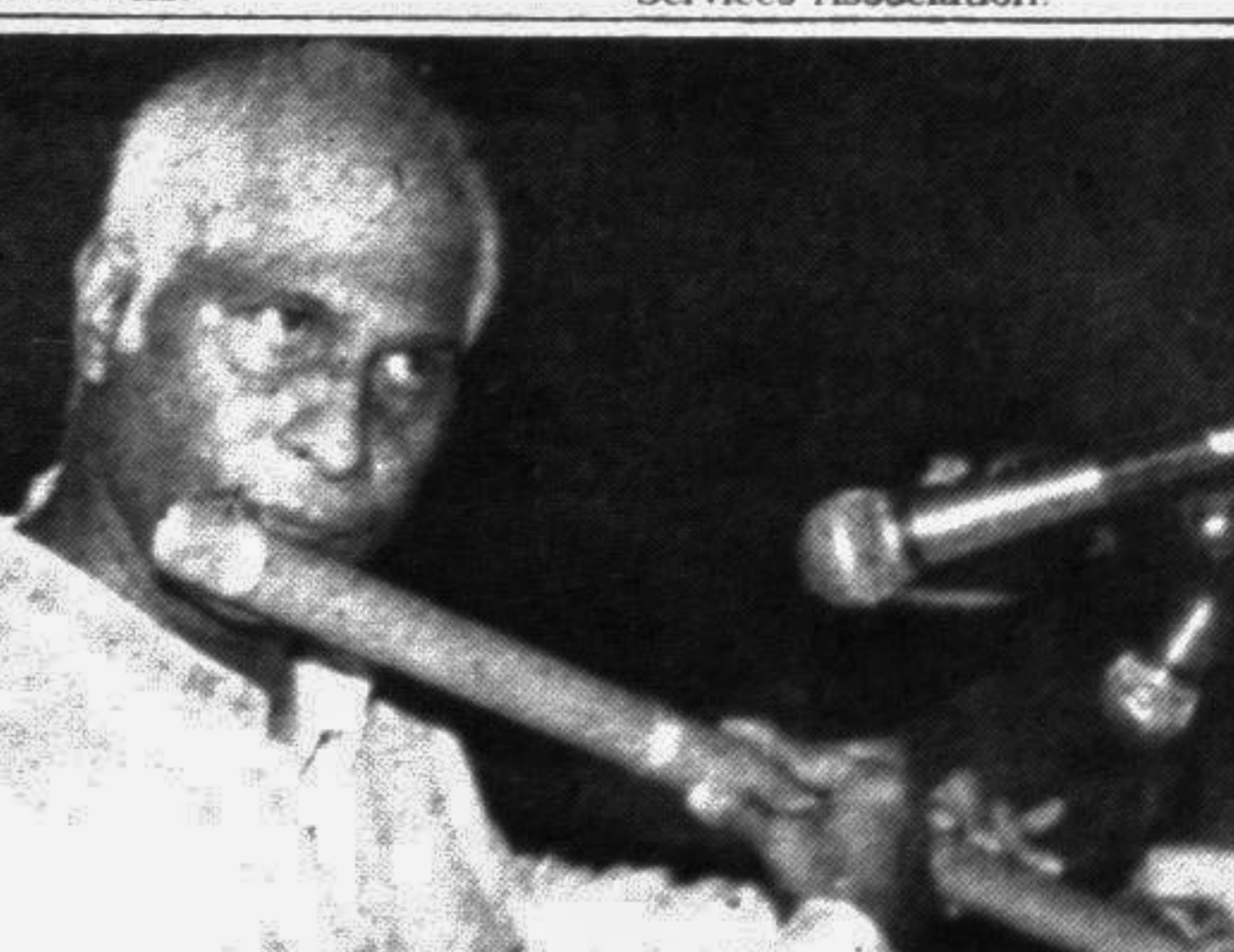
Detective police along with police from Sutrapur thana recovered the stolen parts.

The items included engines, dynamos, looking glasses, wheel rings, wheel caps, wipers, monograms of different vehicles, head lights, back lights and front grills.

ELPP starts July 1

A nation-wide English Language Promotion Programme (ELPP) has been taken up by the Redbridge Language Centre, one of the oldest language centres of the country. The programme will be formally launched July 1 at 23/1 Shaymoli, Road 2, Dhaka, says a press release.

The programme, first of its kind in Bangladesh, aims at expansion of use of English language among the students and the educated section of the society throughout the country to help attain a respectable and competitive position at national and international levels.



Captain Azizul Islam playing the flute at a solo musical soiree, organised by the Rotary Club of Sonargaon Dhaka, yesterday at the Kendriyo Kachi Kanchar Asar auditorium in the city. — Star photo

What's on today....

Bangladesh Photo Journalist Association: Annual family day of the Association will be held. Chief guest: DCC Mayor Md Hanif. Venue: BPUA auditorium. Time: 4 pm.

Drama festival: "Jibanto Lush", a production of Drama Circle, Pabna will be staged today on the concluding day of the week-long festival. Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy auditorium. Time: 7 pm.

Bangladesh Academy of Family Physicians: The Academy has organised a Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme. Venue: Lecture room, Bangladesh Society of Ultrasonography, 10/7 Eastern Plaza, 9th floor, Hatirpool. Time: 9 am-12 noon.

BAAIGM general meet: The 29th annual general meeting of the Bangladesh Association for the Aged will be held. Venue: Prabin Bhavan, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 9 am.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North: The weekly meeting followed by a fellowship dinner will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club, Ramna. Time: 7 pm.

Founding anniversary: The 12th founding anniversary and biennial general meeting of Narsingdi Thana Janakalyan Samity will be held. Venue: BCIC auditorium. Time: 9 am.

Radio compiles 'SAARC in World Broadcast'

To mark the 10th founding anniversary of SAARC, the Directorate of Monitoring of Radio Bangladesh has published a compilation of the SAARC activities as broadcast by important radio stations of the world, says a press release.

The compilation, titled "SAARC in World Broadcast" contains the SAARC spirit of cooperation.

It also contains various stages of the implementation of this cooperation spirit and ends up with the agreement of SAFTA. The compilation may serve as a valuable reference book for those who are researching on regional cooperation and relevant issues.

Call for holding by-polls before election to women's seats

Democratic and Human Rights Council (DHRC) has called for filling up the vacant seats of the Parliament through by-election before election in the reserved women seats to maintain the sanctity and supremacy of the Constitution, reports UNB.

By-election will have to be held in 16 constituencies, vacated by Parliament members who were elected from more than one seat.

There will be a "constitutional contradiction" if the election is held to elect 30 women members from the reserve seats by 284 MPs without representation from 16 constituencies, said DHRC general secretary Advocate Helal Uddin Ahmed, in a statement yesterday.

He cited various articles of the Constitution in support of his contention.

The election to 30 parliamentary seats reserved for women will be held on July 7, as per schedule announced by the Election Commission.

Obituary

Begum Anjira Khatun, wife of Salfur Rahman, a journalist of the Dainik Bangla, died of prolonged illness at the Holy Family Hospital here yesterday morning. She was 52, reports UNB.

Anjira Khatun was buried at the Shaheed Intellectual graveyard at Mirpur, family sources said.

She left behind six sons, Kamal Ahmed, sports reporter of the Dainik Bangla, is her eldest son.

Quikhwani of Anjira Khatun will be held on Sunday at 55, Golartek, Mirpur Section-I after Asr prayers.

Dewan Basit's Chehum today

The Chehum of veteran politician and former minister of the then East Pakistan government Dewan Abdul Basit will be held today after Magreb prayers in his residence at Gulshan Road 79, House 10, reports BSS.

WANTED

CCDB a national NGO invites application for its project offices in rural area for appointment in the following post:-

SL. NO.	DESIGNATION	AGE	QUALIFICATION	EXPERIENCE	POST
01	Trainer (Human Resource Development)	Minimum 27 years not above 35 years	Preferably a Masters in Sociology/Social Welfare/Social Work and/or Bachelor of Social Science.	At least 2 years.	6
02	Trainer (Health)	Minimum 25 years not above 30 years	Preferably a Medical Assistant, and/or a B.Sc. Nurse	At least 2 years	5
03	Trainer (Livestock)	Minimum 27 years not above 32 years	Preferably a B.Sc. in Animal Husbandry	At least 2 years.	5
04	Trainer (Horticulture)	Minimum 27 years not above 32 years	Preferably a B.Ag.	At least 2 years	6
05	Trainer (Fisheries)	Minimum 27 years not above 35 years	Preferably a B.Sc. in Fisheries	At least 2 years	1
06	Program Associate	Minimum 25 years not above 30 years	Preferably a Masters in Social Science	At least 3 years.	11

a) Should have a good command in both written and spoken English & Bengali.
 b) Women candidate will be given first preference for all positions.
 c) Those who are already in service requested to apply through proper channel.
 d) Mention the name of the post on the top of envelop.
 Please apply with Bio-data including two passport size photograph & attested copies of all academic certificates before 15th July 1996 to:
 Personnel Officer,
 88, Senpara Barabatta,
 Mirpur-10, Dhaka-1216.
 Please do not apply if you do not meet the above mentioned criteria.

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