Dhaka Day by Day

Yet Another Cable Novelty

by Chandra Shekhar Das

Community concept in entertainment is fading out in familiarity. Having contributed to the further complication of the urban wirescape and to the birth of a sub culture marked by more TV hours than ever before, a sophisticated spate of imitation and the banishment of video libraries, cable connections have seemingly completed their conquests.

Are we done away with our share of celebration of cable novelty? Far from it. It looks like cable concept has still a bit of residual novelty left delaying in the process the wholesale wireless phase of our endless honeymoon with technology.

There is hardly anything new in the mushroom growth of private phone booths. With signboards or walls announcing their presence in inscriptions like ISD, NWD phone and Fax, they tend to remind you of the time-tested authenticity of Charles Darwin's scientific observation on the origin of man's descent. Monkey sees, monkey does. Years ago those who had money to invest in the realms of food, developed an unscrupulous chinoiserie syndrome. Dhaka looked like a city aspiring to beat any town from China itself to appear dishy before the connoiseurs of Chinese food. Then came garment factories and the only way to climb upto the economically elite class seemed to be the establishment of at least one garment factory.

Returning to the mutton, the great family of private phone booths which does not have any element of curiosity in itself though except for the anomaly in charges for overseas calls in particular, looks set to market a practice that is seemingly begotten by convenience upon illegitimacy. They are dishing out telephone connections like the cable TV wallahs. In other words, community telephone connection.

For this they are charging an amount which is much less than the installation charge of the government agency which recently came under critical scrutiny of the World Bank. With the markets almost awash with products emblematic of the entrepreneurial energy and enthusiasm of our South Asian neighbours in the telecommunication sector, managing a set that too at a competitive price, is no problem nowadays. So there you are on parallel, nevertheless effective, lines of communication nationally and internationally. However, reach out you may to the people you want to in this way, but never quite without the sense of disconcertment of betrayed privacy. Because every time a call arrives, the mother set or the one with the 'distributors' is going to ring and if some eavesdropping Tom makes it a point to be a silent party to the dialogue, there is nothing you can do apart from cursing your luck for walking into the trap of community communication convenience.

Nonetheless you may learn to live with the accompanying inconvenience as a poetic justice for being a party to practice in pilferage. For the telecommunication department of the government has no provision for such connections. But the catch which ensures the flow of this convenient corruption is that there is no law either yet to smother the possibilities of such bypassing system of mutual service. We are truly in the age of cable connection.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Eden College unit, brought out a procession in the city yesterday protesting 'terrorist' activities at the city's Begum Badrunnesa Women's College. —Star photo

What's on today....

Seminar on Poverty Monitoring: Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific has arranged a seminar on 'Poverty Monitoring'. Chief guest: Md Zillur Rahman, Minister for Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium. Time: 9 am.

BAFA discussion meet: Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts has arranged a discussion meeting in observance of the death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. A cultural function will follow. Chief guest: Obaidul Kader, State Minister for Youth Sports & Cultural Affairs. Venue: Shilpakala Academy auditorium. Time: 6 pm.

Discussion on Bangabandhu: Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) will jointly hold a discussion on father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in observance of 21st anniversary of death of Bangabandhu. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time: 11 am.

DCCI Seminar: The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Centre of Development Research Bangladesh have jointly organised a seminar on 'The Effects of Exchange Rate Volatility on the Aggregate Export Growth of Bangladesh'. Venue: DCCI auditorium. Time: 3 pm.

Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Sonargaon hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Sonargaon hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Dilkusha: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Purbani hotel. Time: 5 pm.

Wildlife protection project taken up

Forest and Environment Minister Begum Motia Chowdhury told Jatiya Sangsad yesterday that the government was implementing "wild animals preservation and management develop-ment" project with an aim to protect the country's birds and animals, reports BSS.

Answering a question from Mohammad Nurul Am-in Talukdar (BNP-Netrokona) said the improvement work of four of 12 sancturies and game reserve forests had already been taken up under the project.

Weather

Light rain forecast

Heavy rain is likely at one or two places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says occasional light to moderate rain is likely at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Barisal divisions and at a few places over Khulna, Sylhet divisions with cloudy sky across the country.

Met office says day temperature may remain nearly unchanged throughout the country.

Country's highest temperature 32.6 degrees Celsius was recorded at Jessore yesterday and the lowest 23.6 degrees at Rajshahi.

The sun sets today at 06:29 pm and rises tomorrow at 05:36 am.

WANTED

Foreign NGO invites application for immediate appointment of:

1. FEMALE M.B.B.S DOCTOR for a semi-urban Primary Health Care project near Dhaka. Responsibilities include management of MCH-FP Programme and other Primary Health Care activities. Candidates with training and experience in midwifery, child health and family planning may apply. Experience in preventive health care activities will be given preference.

2. FEMALE PROGRAMME ASSISTANT (COMPUTER) for its Dhaka office in Dhanmondi. Candidates having Bachelors degree with computer skills in MS Dos based packages (WORD PERFECT, LOTUS, DBASE), Window based packages (Ms Word, Excel) and good command in written and spoken English may apply. Experienced candidates will be given Preference.

Application with complete Bio-data and a recent photograph should reach to Box No. A-877 C/O The Daily Star on or before 7th September, 1996.

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By Order of the Authority
Amalendu Sen
Senior Assistant Secretary
Ministry of Commerce
Room 22, Building no. 3
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
Phone: 865770

DFP-17532-10/8
G-954

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পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়
ঢাকা

নং-এডি-পি-১-০০৩৭ তারিখ ঃ ০২ভাদ্র ১৪০৩বাং/১৭ আগষ্ট ১৯৯৬ইং

বিষয় ঃ ২য় কারণ দর্শাও নোটিশ

যেহেতু, আপনি জনাব এস এইচ এম বি নূর চৌধুরী, কমিশনার, বাংলাদেশ কমিশন, হংকং সরকারী কর্মচারী (বিশেষ বিধান) অধ্যাদেশ (অধ্যাদেশ নং-১১, ১৯৭৯)-এর ৩(খ) ধারায় বর্ণিত অভিযোগে (কর্মস্থলে অননুমোদিত অনুপস্থিতি) আপনাকে অভিযুক্ত করা হয়েছিল এবং উল্লিখিত কারণে কেন আপনাকে সরকারী চাকরি হতে বরখাস্ত করা হবে না তার কারণ ০৫ (পাঁচ) দিনের মধ্যে দর্শানোর জন্য এবং ব্যক্তিগত শুনানিতে সম্মত আছেন কিনা তাও জানানোর জন্য "দৈনিক বাংলার বাণী" ও "বাংলাদেশ টাইমস" পত্রিকায় ৯-৮-৯৬ইং তারিখে প্রথম নোটিশ প্রকাশ করা হয়েছিল।

যেহেতু, আপনি উক্ত নোটিশ প্রকাশ হওয়ার ০৫ (পাঁচ) দিন পরও উল্লেখিত অভিযোগের কারণ দর্শাননি এমনকি ব্যক্তিগত শুনানিতেও হাজির হননি, সেহেতু, এক্ষণে সরকারী কর্মচারী (বিশেষ বিধান) ১৯৭৯ অধ্যাদেশ (অধ্যাদেশ নং-১১, ১৯৭৯)-এর ৩(খ) ধারায় অভিযুক্ত করে একই অধ্যাদেশের ৪(খ) ধারা অনুযায়ী কেন আপনাকে কর্মস্থলে অনুপস্থিতির তারিখ অর্থাৎ ৮-৭-৯৬ইং তারিখ হতে সরকারী চাকরি থেকে বরখাস্ত (Dismiss) করা হবে না তার কারণ এই নোটিশ পত্রিকায় প্রকাশের ০৩ (তিন) দিনের মধ্যে মন্ত্রণালয়কে লিখিতভাবে জানানোর জন্য নির্দেশ দেয়া যাচ্ছে।

ডিএফপি-১৮৪০৩-১৮/৮
জি-৯৬২

ফারুক সোবহান
পররাষ্ট্র সচিব

ATEO test results

Four twenty-nine persons, bearing the following roll numbers, have been provisionally selected for appointment to the position of Assistant Thana Education Officer, says a press release issued by the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (BPSC) yesterday.

[illegible]

BPSC is going to send recommendations for the selected persons to the Primary Mass Education Department. However the recommendations do not guarantee an appointment. Qualifying candidates will be informed of the final results by mail, the release added.

Syed Noor Hossain appointed envoy to Sweden

The government Saturday appointed Syed Noor Hossain, at present director-general, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ambassador of Bangladesh to Sweden, reports BSS.

A career diplomat, Syed Noor Hossain was born on January 5, 1945. He passed his matriculation and intermediate examinations from Barisal, obtaining first grade merit and talent scheme scholarships.

Hossain did his BA (Hons) in 1965 and MA in Economics in 1966 from Dhaka University. He joined the Department of Economics, Dhaka University as a lecturer in 1967 and served in that capacity till joining the Pakistan Foreign Service in 1969.

Errata

In a news item under caption "2 more US companies to sign accord soon" published on Page One of our Sunday's issue, the sixth sentence should read "From now on, the government will allow exploration by foreign private companies on the basis of "solicited bidding". It was inadvertently published as "unsolicited bidding." The mistake is regretted.

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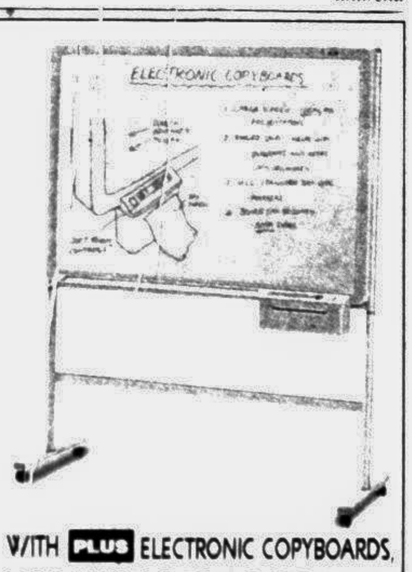

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