

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1996

The Daily Star 5

Bangladesh

Open Letter to the Prime Minister

INTELLECTS INC.
intellect@intellects.com
USA:

I would like to know whether it is possible to launch high tech entrepreneurial venture in Bangladesh without paying any bribe to any government official. I plan to dupli-

cate Bangalore in Bangladesh and also intend to be in Bangladesh in near future. Mohammed Hasanuzzaman mhasan@dp.eecs.umich.edu USA: Good passionate posting. Thanks for objective thinking and civil language.

Internet vs. Intranet

ASHK AHMED
ashkahmed@aol.com
USA:

Andrew Robins seems to be upset or disappointed over the fact that Bangladesh got into the information highway through the two ISP's. Instead of lauding them for their pioneering role, he is apparently trying to pull them back by saying that they should form a network amongst themselves instead of connecting internationally via Hong Kong etc. He seemed to have strong objection against these ISP's because they put profit before the national interest. Mr. Robins as far as I know you are in the Ford Foundation, can you tell us what you or the Ford foundation has done for Bangladesh, except drawing fat salaries out of the Ford-Foundation funds. Did the emergence of internet in Bangladesh hurt your own interest some how? After all whose interest are you serving? etc...

Andrew Robinson
andrew@bangla.net
Bangladesh:

It seems poor Mr. Ahmed enrolls simple businessmen and "laudatory pioneers" in the same nursery school.

Providing Internet access to computer users cannot be called "pioneering" -- the Internet has been around now for 30 years and linking the notebook computers of BBC correspondents, or UNICEF workers, or World Bankers in the jungles of Gambia to the Internet is the natural progression of an expanding (almost imperially so) network. But has Mr. Ahmed forgotten the condition of his own country? Visit any town in Bangladesh, my friend, and ask the people who live there if Bangladesh is on the information highway. They will look at you and laugh.

Providing Internet access to non-computer users, such as users of newspapers, radio and television -- that is what we've been exploring (with a very short-term individual grant from Ford), and it's as applica-

ble in Dhaka, Bangladesh as Atlanta, USA. This work, however, cannot be called "pioneering" either, as people have attempted throughout history to bridge various forms of media. It is common sense that some semblance of a government-run domestic network should have been installed in Bangladesh "before" the arrival of full-fledged private Internet servers. The computer-accessed Internet -- with its growing emphasis on pornography, entertainment and junk advertising (90 percent of Internet information originates in America and Europe) is simply not appropriate for public consumption in Bangladesh. The non-computer-accessed Internet (in which our argument will no doubt appear, ala the Daily Star), especially within the Bangla language media, is certainly a more suitable forum for the exchange of ideas, even if it can't be "surf'd."

Whether or not the ISPs impede upon the growth of better communications within Bangladesh is difficult to say, but I do know that whatever minimal domestic email existed in Bangladesh was virtually free of cost before the ISPs arrived. Today, as email providers must now compete to provide Internet services, Bangladeshis who simply want to communicate domestically must pay a 10,000tk membership fee and 3tk per minute of on-line time. In other words, I can talk -- literally talk (as in voice-talk) with my friends and family in the US over the Internet for a mere 3tk per minute. And yet I can't even get a call through (nevermind email) from Dhaka to Chittagong, my communications scholar will tell you that such a situation is disastrous for a country, especially at a time when Bangladesh has everything it needs -- the resources, the brains, a single national language and a surfeit of data managers (namely, people) -- to become a tremendous vortex of power in the age of information.

The Daily Star invites its readers to participate in the following Internet discussion groups by sending or faxing Internet posts to: M. Shamimuzzaman, Page-in-Charge, 'Live from the Internet', The Daily Star, House # 11, Road # 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. We will mail your letters to the Internet and responses will be published the following week. Letters should be titled and be no more than 100 words.

We Are Not Concerned About The Real Issues

Rabbul H. Mirza
rhm44@po.cwru.edu
USA:

Lately, I have read infinite number of discussion on the title of SMR, Special Powers act, rivalry between AL and BNP and the list goes on and on. No one however took any time to propose solution or discuss our real problems such as corruption, illiteracy, poverty...

We never try to come up with answers to these problems and blame every one else for not doing so while looking back and pointing to our past for our current destitution and a broken economy.

We all work hard and try to solve problems for US industry and how US or foreign business can make more money but never bother to discuss how can we revive our JUTE (Remember Banglar Sonar Ash) industry. We talk about which regime violated human rights the most but never bother to discuss how should the government solve the existing tribal problem.

I can write forever. I ask everyone to start thinking for solution not problems. Even if we can come up with one solution it could make a big difference (Ex: Grameen).

Lets all be proud of our past but not hang on to it any more. We can't solve the problems that were in the past but we can certainly solve the ones at present. Its time to move on...

Ajker Sangsad

ZaEdM
szm2133@alpha.cc.OBERLIN.EDU
USA:

I guess the funniest and entertaining program on tv right now in Bangladesh is not Baywatch. It is Ajker Sangsad which BTV broadcasts everyday in 1/2 hr sessions after the 8pm and 10pm news bulletin! It give a totally new perspective into the silliness of our elected MPs. BMP was specially embarrassed after BTV showed the leader of the opposition shouting of word of caution at the AL MPs. Then there is the constant shouting of the AL MPs and Govt. Ministers. When you think that these people are running the country it is really SCARY!

Bangladesh

North South University

Abul Haque
ahaque@nsu.agni.com
Dhaka, Bangladesh:

Hello:

I am logged on from Bangladesh through agni.com. Is not this wonderful? What do you think about the North South University? I am a faculty in the Department of Computer Science. If you want to help NSU in any way you can please do so. We need your support, contribution to help NSU grow in the right direction.

Syed Haque
sue@nortel.com
USA:

Please correct me if I'm wrong. Isn't NSU a private school? I heard the only requirement to attend NSU is a HUGE contribution to the school general fund, and be able to pay high tuition fees. Now, why would you need outside support? Just raise the contribution level, or the tuition fee. But if the support is other than monetary, just ask.

hwre@ix.netcom.com
USA:

North South University is for profit no doubt. The days when some rich person in Bangladesh would set up such a noble or ambitious venture are long gone, with the fish and clean waters. Of course this institution is for profit. And from what I hear only the very rich can attend, because of the high fees and the salary etc that has to be doled out every year. Nonetheless, this university is fulfilling a basic need for our country -- the need for institutions of higher learning. I hope the faculty are atleast honest about what they do.

Skolastika
skolastika@aol.com
USA:

Can someone from the administration of the NS University explain the significance of the name of the university? It is very odd to have a name like that! Very often, in the US, you

Writer Humayun Ahmed

Ihtisham Kabir
kabir@eng.sun.com
USA:

Yeah, he is good. Except that his characters... for hor korey boni korey dilo... I.

see the name like Northwest or Northeast, or any other quadrant. During my last visit to Dhaka in June '95, I was told by a student of NSU that their school is affiliated with an institute in the US by the same name. But, I think it is not true. The western people have enough sense to pick a name like that.

The other concern that I have about the private universities of Dhaka is that -- Is the country yet ready for private universities? Private enterprises have to put up huge some of money to have science and technology curriculum in the university along side with the arts and commerce program. After investigating the curriculum of these institute, it is obvious to me that some academicians and businessmen in Bangladesh started these schools for financial reward, rather than helping the society. The irony of the matter is that the faculty member of the private universities in Dhaka are themselves the product of the public universities of the country! Furthermore, one look at the composition of the students in these universities will give credence to the notion that these institutes are "for profit organization." If someone at the NSU begs to disagree with me on this issue, I like to hear. I think, I am uniquely qualified to make criticism of these private universities in Bangladesh since I was connected with the three US universities over 15 years. I received my Ph.D. in 1974 from a mid-western University in the U.S. I am a research scientist for the U.S. Federal Government for the past 12 years.

Jahanqir Sardar
JHS1@students.str.ac.uk
UK:

Well, I don't have any clue to the reason of that name. I found lots of other universities recently have named them, like, EAST-WEST university, ASIA-PACIFIC university. The names sound so great!!!!

AIDS in Bangladesh

Saiful Haque
saif@love.acs.unt.edu
USA:

I was reading an article which really scared me. It says "Three million Indians may be affected by AIDS... Official sources indicate that India could well have one of the highest incidences of HIV

positive cases in the world. At last count, the number of people who have gone in for sero-surveillance for HIV infection was 22,804. AIDS control officials, however, figure that the actual incidence is far higher.

Underlining this feeling, the International Conference on Aids in Vancouver, Canada in early July named India as having the largest number of HIV-infected people in the world." The use of unclear syringes by drug users being given as the chief reason for spreading this deadly disease.

I wonder what's the situation in Bangladesh now. Doesn't matter what's the current situation now the Bangladesh Govt. should take serious steps for public awareness about AIDS in EMERGENCY basis. Let's fight this disease now before things get out of control.

Cellular Phones in Bangladesh

Kirk Kuykendall
kirkk@austin.aus.sig.net
USA:

Does anyone know of any attempts at implementing cellular phone technology in Bangladesh? What are the regulatory hurdles one would face in implementing such a system?

Shabbir M. Hossain
smh5965@ts4.NYU.EDU
USA:

When I visited last summer, I noticed several people with cellular phones and can confirm that there is a system set up for use. But the toll for using this service is quite steep in Bangladesh standards. It's about 10 taka per call. Due to this, it lacks any practical use. The only purpose of using a cellular phone that I saw was to showcase it in public in a very undignified manner. It's ridiculous to see young people spend money so frivolously in public to only showcase it in front of the many less privileged in Bangladesh.

Business

Home-based Business

KEVIN SADLER
ksadler@ltd.net
USA:

A list of over 800 Companies that need YOU!!! Opportunities Include--Free-Lance Artists, Free-Lance Photographers, Free-Lance Writers, Free-Lance Illustrators, Free-Lance Programmers, Medical Billing, Assembly Products at Home, Vending Machine Businesses, Photo and Negative Re-Touching, Windshield Repair Business, Writers needed for Greeting Cards, Technical Writers, Cosmetic and Jewelry Products, Phone Company Reps, Tele-marketing, Word Processing, Engraving, Sell Computer Software, Import-Export Business, Mail-Order Catalog Business, and MUCH MUCH MORE!!! Over 20 Pages of Information!!! write to T.A.Sadler 16992 County Road 527 Bloomfield, MO 63825!! Get started in your own Home-Based Business today!! The information includes Company Names and addresses and also the Type of Opportunity that they are Offering. All YOU have to do is write to them for Free Information!! Don't Delay, Send for Info TODAY!!!

Karen Skaar
kskaar@dcct.com
USA:

Successful home based business owner seeks to help others get started in their own business. Individuals selected will receive up to \$750.00 to get started in a business that can produce unlimited income. Stop working to make someone else rich. Take control of your destiny and join the MOST SUCCESSFUL MLM IN HISTORY? Send email, include "Freebie" in the subject line for more information.

Bruce Ashbury
cn528@FreeNet.Carleton.CA
Canada:

I would like to introduce you to the hottest program ever devised for making ordinary people earn small fortunes. It generates HUGE CASH PROFITS, and there is no limit to what you can earn. This program works because there is no buying or selling, takes hardly any of your time to do, and is so simple it can be done by virtually anyone. It is fun, completely legal, and it WILL make you alot of money.

Education

Typewriter or Pen?

Jennifer
jchua3@osu.edu
USA:

Is it really necessary to complete the applications with a typewriter instead of a pen? Would the admission officers disregard applications completed with pens? My brother is trying to decide whether he should buy a typewriter just for the applications. Please help.

RozMW
rozmu@aol.com
USA:

College admissions committees will not throw your application in the JUNK pile just be-

cause they see handwriting. But, typewritten applications do make good first impressions. Neatness counts whether by hand or machine. I recommend typewritten applications.

Research Assistantship

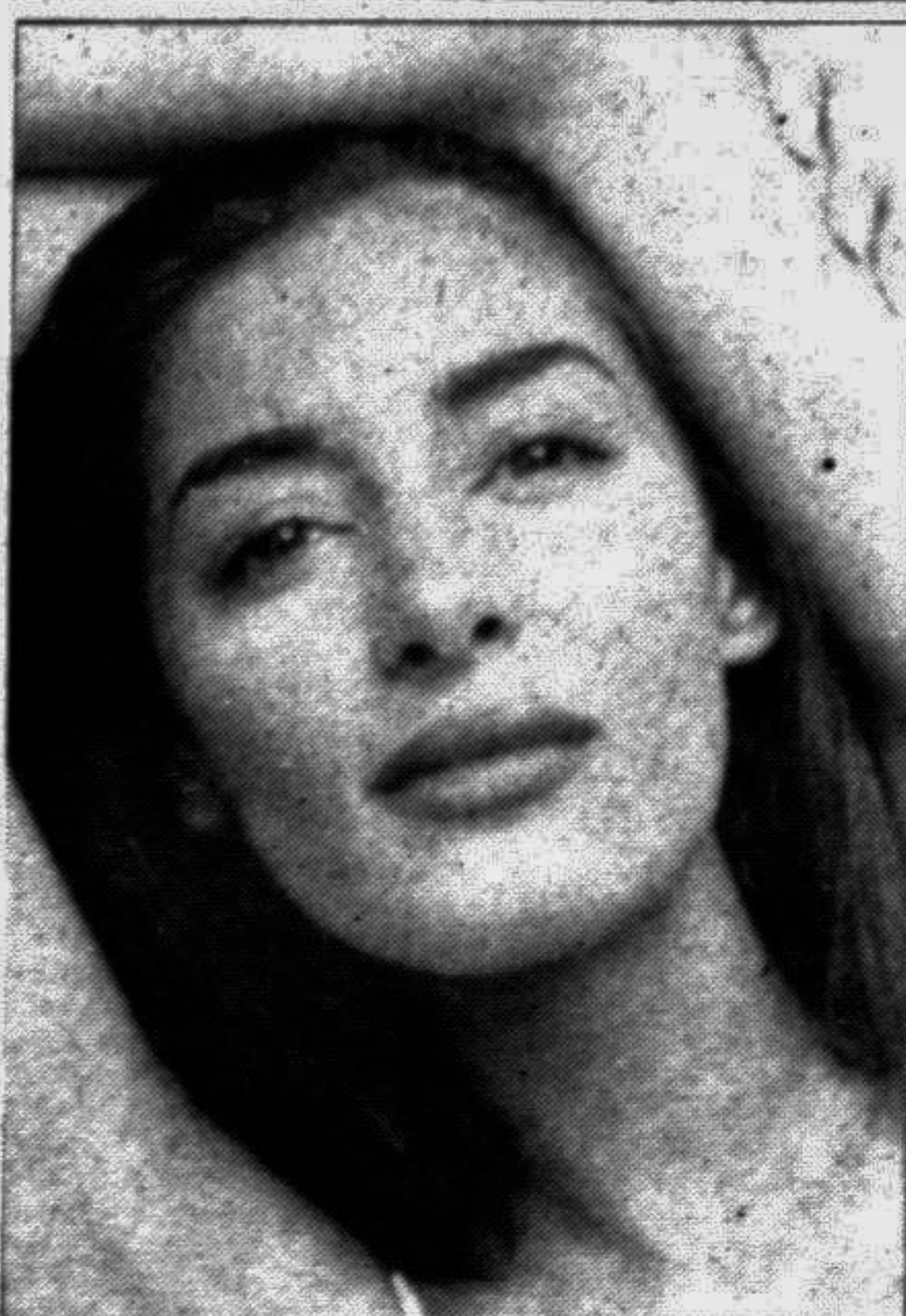
Affan Habib
affan@ksu.ksu.edu
USA:

There are two immediate research assistantships available under Dr. Mustaque Hossain, Asst. Prof. K-State University in the field of transportation/geotechnical engineering. Interested candidates are advised to contact me immediately.

Disclaimer

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The Daily Star Entertainment Guide



Soul Curry with VJ Laila on Channel V, Tonight at 10:30

Wednesday 4th September
(All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programmes)

BTv

3:00 Opening Announcement Al-Qutain Programme Summary
3:10 Reelation from the Geeta
3:15 Ritecast of Selected Programmes 4:00 News in Bangla
4:15 Sports Programme 4:45 Tagore Songs 5:00 News in Bangla 5:25 Agami: The Programme based on Population Problem. 6:00pm News in Bangla
6:05 Lok-Lokalya: Programme by Tribal Artists 7:00 The News 7:05 Open University 7:25 Writer Tale Tale 8:00 News in Bangla 8:30 Chhaya Chhanda 9:00 Mini Series: Shin Toksaka Story 10:00 News in Bangla
10:30 Sheeshatir: Health Programme based on Child & Mother 10:35 Ujibon:Docuoy of Islam 11:30 News in Bangla

11:35 Thursday's programme
11:40 Close down

BBC

6:00am BBC Newsroom inc. World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 Heathrow 50 10:00 BBC Newsday 1:00 BBC World Headlines 1:05 Horizon 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out: The Travel Show 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out: Building Sights 4:00 BBC Newsdesk 8:00pm BBC World News 8:15 Panorama 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC Newshour Asia & Pacific 8:30 Time Out: Airport 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 Heathrow 50 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Time Out: Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld 11:00 The World Today 1:00 BBC World Headlines 1:05 White Heat 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out: Raymond's Blanc Marge

3:00 BBC World Report inc. World Business Report/24 Hours 5:00 BBC World News 5:10 Newsnight

CHANNEL V

6:30am Frame by Frame 7:00 Rewind VJ Sophia 8:00 Jump Start VJ Trey 9:00 Frame by Frame 11:30 The Vibe VJ Trey Beach Volleyball 12:30 By Demand VJ Trey 1:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 2:30 First Day First Show 3:00 Palmolive Extra Time Pass 4:00 Planet Ruby 4:30 By Demand VJ Trey 5:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 6:30 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 8:00 Planet Ruby 9:00 The Vibe 9:30 Sansul Mangia Hai 10:30 First Day First Show 10:30 Soul Curry 11:00 House Of Noise VJ Luke 12:00am Big Bang VJ Alessandra 1:00 Haysah 2:00 By Demand VJ Trey 3:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 4:30 V Spot 5:30 Speak Easy

STAR PLUS

6:30am Voltron 7:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 7:30 GI Joe 8:00 Saber Rider and the Star Sherif 8:30 The New Adventures Of Black Beauty 9:00 Aerobics Oz Style 9:30 Nanny and the Professor 10:00 Mr. Belvedere 10:30 Graham Kerr's Kitchen 11:00 El Extreme Close Up Pete Townshend 11:30 Gabrielle 12:30 Santa Barbara 1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 2:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 3:00 Remington Steele 4:00 Graham Kerr's Kitchen 4:30 El Extreme Close Up Pete Townshend 5:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 5:30 The New Adventures Of Black Beauty 6:00pm Lost in Space 7:00 Home and Away 7:30 Charles in Charge 8:00 MASH 8:30 The Golden Girls 9:00 Empty Nest 9:30 NYPD Blue 10:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 11:00 Santa Barbara 12:00am The Rock from the Sun 12:30 The Extraordinary 1:30 Picket Fences 2:30 El Extreme Close Up Pete Townshend 3:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 4:00 Hooperman 4:30 Home And Away 5:00 The Sullivan 5:30 Gabrielle

STAR Sports

6:00am Live US Open Tennis 1995 From Flushing Meadow, New York, USA Day 9 Night

Time Session Women's Quarterfinal Men's & Women's Mixed Double-Quarterfinal 9:00 1996 World M'cycle Champ. Imola Grand Prix Highlights 11:00 World Wrestling Federation SummerSlam 2:00 US Open Tennis 1996 From Flushing Meadow, New York, USA Day 9 Night Time Session 5:00 Tiger Cup 1996 Group B Philippines V Thailand From Nat. Stadium 7:00 Same Day Delay Tiger Cup 1996 Group B Malaysia v Philippines From Nat. Stadium 9:00 Live US Open Tennis 1996 10:30 Live US Open Tennis 1996 From Flushing Meadow, New York, USA Day 10 Men's & Women's Quarterfinals 4:00 1996 World M'cycle Champ. Imola Grand Prix Highlights 5:30 Live US Open Tennis 1996 From Flushing Meadow, New York, USA Day 10 Night Time Session Men's & Mixed Doubles Semifinals

STAR MOVIES

7:30am World Cinema: Through The Olive Trees PG (English Subtitles) 9:30 Classic: Rock-a-bye 12 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Adventure: Nurses on the Line 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Romance: Prelude to a Kiss 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Western: Dead or Alive 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Adventure: Florida



NYPD Blue on Star Plus, Tonight at 9:30

Straits 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 7:30 Comedy: The Purple Rose of Cairo 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 9:00 The Movie Show 9:30 Double Bill: Kurt Russell 11:30 Double Bill: Kurt Russell Unlabeled Entry 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30 Film Club: For the Boys 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 3:30 After Dark: The Girl On a Motorcycle 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 Thriller: Criminal Mind 18 (Arabic Subtitles)

ZEE TV

5:30 Sur Tai 6:00 The News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 ZED 8:30 Through The Gears 9:00 Helpline 9:30 Gaane Anjaane 10:00 Lakme Khubsurat 10:30 No Problem 11:30 Shehar Aur Sapna 11:30 Hum Paanch 12:00 Sur Taa 12:30 Guldasta 1:00 ZED 1:30 Asian Sky Shop 2:30 Tara 3:00 Kurukshetra 3:30 Celeste 4:00 Suno Bhai Sadho 4:30 Namaste India 5:00 ZED 5:30 Hum Zameen 6:00 Cartoon 6:30 All Out For No Loss 7:00 Lijjat Khana Khazana 7:30 Gaane Anjaane 8:00 Aur Ek Minute 8:30 Mr. Minto 9:00 17 Shirley Road 9:30 Banegi Apni Baat 10:00 Parapara 10:30 News 11:00 Open Merchants 11:30 Aap Ki Adalat 12:00 Sailab 12:30 Campus 1:00 Hasratn 1:30 Aap Ki Pasand 2:00 Arabic Programme 2:30

TMM 4:00 Parivartan 4:30 Insight 5:00 Jagran

PTV

8:00am Tilawat Aur Tarjuma/ Hamd/Naat 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabrain 8:45 Mansoobajai Baran Khud Kafalat 9:00 Sur Savaria & Sehra Ka Safar & Sada-E-Kashmir 9:40 Shana Shana 9:50 Aaj Ki Kitaab-Aik Nazm 10:05 Boor Kay Ladoo 10:30 English Film: Chup And Dale 10:55 Milli Naghma 11:00 Khabrain 11:10 Ali Baba (Drama Serial) 11:35 Naghmaazari (Drama Serial) 12:00noon Urdu Khadi 12:55 Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 Gichan (Drama Serial) 2:00 Inteha (Drama Serial) 2:30 The Earth Revealed 3:20 Arashi Puda 3:40 Natural World 4:35 How Things Work

TOM and JERRY



James Bond

BY IAN FLEMING
DRAWING BY MORAK



BOND CRUMPLES AS SCARAMANGA'S TURTLED SHOT SMASHES HOME!

SONY ET

8:30 Rangeela Re 9:00 The Three Stooges 9:30 Dennis The Menace 10:00 I Dream Of Jeannie 10:30 Aina 11:00 Faasle 11:30 Cine Matinee-Hindi Feature Film 2:30pm Kismet 3:00

DD 7

10:30 Janmadin 10:35 Classical Music 11:00 Folk Song 11:15 Adhunik Gaan 11:30 Classical Music 12:30 Chaiti Hawa 1:00 Janani 1:30 TBA 2:30 Amake Dekhun 3:30 Parampurush Sri Ramkrishna 5:05 Nepali Pro-

EL TV



EL TV



00:30 Jhoome Nacho 1:30 Devotional 2:30 Tarane 3:30 Hanste Hanste 4:30 Ajeeb Dastan 5:30 Jhoome Nacho 6:30 Devotional 7:30 Tarane 8:30 Hanste Hanste 9:30 Ajeeb Dastan 10:30 Zandu Balm Dance Mania 11:00 V3+ 11:30 Kam 12:00 People's Club 12:30 Paranyas 1:00 Love Love Love 2:00 Nasir Hussain Special 3:00

ZEE CINEMA

6:30 Tarana 7:00 TBA 9:00 Movies Masti Magic 9:30 Film 12:15 Filmi Chakkar 12:30 Film 3:15 Songs 3:45 Film 6:30 Film 9:15 Songs 10:00 Film 12:45 Film 3:30 Aaj Anadi Kal Khiladi 4:00 Film.