

They add colour to the canvas of city life. They're all around us, an integral part of our daily routines, and yet they seem almost invisible to us. Hop on to the centrefold and meet these vibrant people.  
Photo: Munem Wasif



# Meet Greet and Assist

**H**OW often have you wished, upon landing or arriving at the Bangladesh airport that there could be someone who would take care of all your hassles starting from the check in to the immigration?

I am sure the answer to the aforementioned question would be many. After all the custodians of our borders, be it air, land or water are famous, or should I say infamous for their bottomless pockets and overzealous attitude towards cha-nasta.

In this regard, Meet Greet and Assist Services Limited, more commonly known simply as MGA have introduced, for the very first time in Bangladesh, a dynamic concept to provide the passengers with assistance in most of the essential needs within the airport and beyond it.

MGA have introduced these services in order to help the modern busy passenger whiz through the airport in no time at all by looking after almost all of the passenger's needs. With an almost thirty strong staff excluding some ten porters MGA provides services under the banner of 'salient assistance to passengers with comfort and style.'

MGA is headed by A.R.Khan, who had been involved for some twenty-two years with various agencies such as the UN and Unicef. In his travels he had noticed assistance services in many airports over the world and thus after his retirement conceived a plan of making one for Bangladesh where he would be able to help people within the terminal.

Ably guided by their airport manager, Ali Ashraf Chowdhury, MGA offers a variety of services, which includes personalized meeting and greeting, assistance with immigration and baggage, transport arrangement to hotel and/or residence and even baggage



storage services. There are also plans underway to ensure even more services, which include help in filling out the embarkation/disembarkation form and a TNT phone booth. In the future MGA also plans to introduce ambulance services and dead body transportation services.

A huge incentive for availing MGA's services is its affordable prices, which is inversely related to the amount of passengers. MGA regularly services customers from Jeddah, Riyadh and NewYork, where they have local representatives who refer them to MGA, in addition to servicing the Bangladeshi traveling abroad.

MGA is located at the Zia International Airport and can be contacted at 8955873, 8923806-9.

By Quazi Zulquarnain Islam

ESSENTIALS

They say that the greatest fear is the fear of the unknown. Certainly, during a job interview, it is this fear that takes precedence over all the emotions that an applicant feels. Am I going to make it? Am I qualified enough? Do they like me? How do you fight these fears? Arm yourself...with foreknowledge. Virtually all employers are looking for certain qualities/ assets in their interviewees. Let's take a closer look that these

**Skills**

Your resume will tell your potential employer about your academic profile and your work experience, but that's only half the picture. What they are looking for are your particular areas of strength. During the interview, talk about your particular skills. If you're good with people, let them know. If you're a computer whiz, well... tell them about it. If you've got it, flaunt it. Let them know how you can make a difference.



**Achievements**

Along with previous work experience, your employers will want to know what you will really bring to your job. If you've come up with a brilliant ad campaign, discuss this during the interview. If you're the paradigm of punctuality and people try to follow your lead, don't forget to let it be known. Let them see you less as facts and figures on a CV, and more as a person who has and can make a huge contribution.



**Confidence**

If you want your interviewers to think that you're the one for the job, you have to believe it first. Believe in yourself and let it show through your attitude. It starts from the moment you walk into the room. Hold yourself straight, look them in the eye, and give them a firm handshake. Don't mistake confidence for arrogance, though.



Ultimately, it's all about self-promotion. Don't be afraid to beat your own drum, within moderation of course, and you have a better chance of making a good impression.

By Sabrina F Ahmad

SHOP TALK



**Pet Dog**

The saying: "A dog is a man's best friend" might have become a bit of a cliché now, but trust us, this is one cliché that is valid. When all other forms of life will turn their backs against you, a dog will always be by your side to provide loyal support. Keeping a dog as a pet can be real fun and its mere presence will be sufficient to deter those pesky thieves from breaking into your house. The best place to buy a pet dog is Katabon. Over there you'll find numerous shops selling various breeds of dogs. Prices will depend on the type of dog you intend to buy and your ability to bargain, but as a rough guide we can tell you that you'll need to spend around Tk 2,000 to Tk 20,000 to buy one.



**Cookery Books**

After what the mobile courts have unearthed from the kitchens of various restaurants, you can be forgiven for wanting to skip eating at a restaurant. However, although eating at home somewhat guarantees you a meal that is hygienically prepared, there's no telling how good it will be unless your cooking skills are sharp. Fear not, though. Just grab a nice cookbook, follow the instructions, and presto! A fantastic meal is yours for the eating. Cookery books are available at most quality bookstores. Many cookery books can be found at Etc. (Gulshan & Dhanmondi) and their prices start from about Tk 296 onwards.



**Baby Frock**

Have you recently been blessed with a baby girl? If you have, then you'll surely want to dress her in clothes that are both comfortable and are reasonably fashionable. It's precisely for these reasons that a baby frock comes into the equation. Newborn frocks are widely available at places like New Market and Elephant Road, but if you can't be bothered to experience the hassle of shopping at these places, you can go to Shoppers World (Gulshan) to buy them. Over there, prices will start from around Tk 200 onwards.



**Walking Stick**

Is a relative of yours experiencing difficulty to walk due to old age or a physical disability? If this is indeed the case then you should perhaps consider buying a walking stick for them. By walking with a walking stick your relative will be able to walk with a bit of ease, and so the chance of sustaining a serious injury while walking will be greatly reduced. Walking sticks are available at many places nowadays, but one of the best places to go for them is the surgical stores at Babar Road, Mohamadpur (Opposite Shishu Mela). Over there, prices of walking sticks start from Tk 100 onwards.



**Blood Pressure Monitor**

With all the pressures of modern life many of us are increasingly being diagnosed with high blood pressure. People suffering from high blood pressure are expected to monitor their blood pressure every now and then in order to ensure that they do not stretch their bodies to the limit. It's not always possible to run to a doctor to get your blood pressure checked, and so it would be a good idea to keep a blood pressure monitor at home. A blood pressure monitor is easy to use, and if it shows a high reading then you take appropriate action. At Almas (Dhanmandi & Gulshan) a blood pressure monitor can be bought for about Tk 3,220.



By Sayeed Mahmud Nizam