



E eager to distance itself from commerce in Bangladesh

MAHBUB ALAM MUNNA

The English letter, E, has been traumatised -- much like humans -- by its association with internet commerce in Bangladesh.

It has recently made clear that it does not want to be in the same post code as the word "commerce". E refuses to sit before the word as it feels that it has caused enough damage to its name, fame and prestige.

"I do have feelings too. I cannot tolerate it anymore. After consultation with the 25 other letters, I have

decided to quit sitting before the word 'commerce'. I cannot let my long-earned fame be destroyed that easily," E said in an email.

E's refusal to continue its relationship with "commerce" in the country is understandable as it has been an outstanding letter that has been giving stellar company to words.

Such a worditarian letter had to digest much abasement just because it gave company to commerce. Commerce, without E, is as useless as a phone without network.

"I have attached myself to mail

and thus it became 'e-mail', and that helped all of us to gain much popularity. Later, I earned much respect by setting myself before 'commerce' and thus Amazon, Alibaba and so on were born. I attached myself to paper and lo and behold, you can read newspapers online -- it's a different issue that no one does.

"It was all going well until I met Bangladeshi commerce. All my esteem was destroyed in the blink of an eye. The way my prestige is dropping, I will soon plunge below the Mariana Trench if I don't ban myself from dating or

sitting with 'commerce'. I ordered an oxygen tank online, but that was two years ago and I still haven't gotten it," E's email continued.

E's decision has drawn global attention. Emon Task, a poor man from USA, after reading the news in an e-paper, couldn't help but express his concern and compassion. "E doesn't deserve such defamation and disgrace. It's a shame that commerce has insulted the fine letter. E has taken the perfect and timely decision."

The global protest resonated locally too.

The unconsciously conscious people of Bangladesh have stood with E's decision. Social media was flooded with various posts carrying suggestions for the country's policymakers to bring e-commerce under control. A Facebook celebrity, studying EEE in East University, said, "I support E's decision. E deserves someone better. The letter should have taken this bold decision long ago. E, you are not alone. We are with you. Teach commerce a lesson and let it realise that without you, it is like Barcelona without Messi. #WeSupportE."

Destroy the E-cigarette market, says chief wealth officer

THE TOBAGGO CORRESPONDENT

In a recent announcement the Ministry of Wealthfare announced that they were going to come down hard with a ban on e-cigarettes. This was in conjunction with their plans to create a tobacco-free country by 2099.

While the roadmap for the eventual plans was yet to be disclosed, Chief Wealth Officer Solaimon Bidhi Miya stated that they would destroy the e-cigarette market in the country with "fear and fury". Miya, who was heavily criticised upon his appointment to the ministry for holding a position as an executive director at Bidesh Markin Tobacco, revealed ongoing plans to ban the import of e-cigarettes.

Miya, no stranger to controversy, perplexed the country with this announcement as e-cigarettes



did not contain any form of tobacco. This was pointed out by a reporter during the press conference.

Not to be deterred, Miya immediately retaliated by calling the boys in black to take away the reporter, remarking that dissenting views against the government had no place in

society.

"E-cigarettes are tobacco-free. That's the whole point. We want to rid the country of any tobacco-free alternatives. This will make it easier to become a tobacco free country by 2099."

When asked when they would be banning tobacco companies such as Bidesh

Markin Tobacco from operating in the country, he responded by saying, "Banning tobacco is not the answer. It's easy to ban tobacco, but that will not bring results. Many people have also said tobacco should be heavily taxed. I do not think that's the solution either. We must have an open market for tobacco products, and reduce the taxes on cigarettes. This will allow tobacco companies to compete in an open market and find the solution for a tobacco-free country by 2099 through their CSR projects."

After the press conference, Miya also handed out samples of Bidesh Markin Tobacco's new premium cigarette which comes in a variety of flavours ranging from classic nostalgic bidi to gummy bear.

This article does not support smoking of any kind. Seriously

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Settled in Dhaka
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Can be short in height but has to be fully vaccinated with Pfizer-BionTech
jabs at least 2 months prior to sending biodata.
All family members will have to show vaccine cards certifying double
Pfizer doses.

If you are the right match, write to samir.mizan@gmail.com