



PHOTO: STS

Tri-state residents fuming because other areas got power back sooner

“I started watching the second part of the fourth season of Stranger Things just this afternoon, and that’s when the power went out. The mobile data also stopped working after a while and I had to stop watching midway, let alone be able to call anyone. Wait, I am talking to you, so that means ...” the line went dead.

ELITE CORRESPONDENT

On Tuesday night, residents of Gulshan, Banani and Baridhara were beside themselves with rage after learning that electricity supply to other areas of Dhaka city resumed earlier than the posh part of town (PPT) following the eight-hour blackout due to a failure in the national grid.

According to reputable sources, the electricity supplies in a lot of areas outside the PPT resumed one, two and, believe it, three hours before Wifi was back on in the diesel generator-powered living rooms of the tri-state area.

Dhoni Malik, a resident of Baridhara, talked to Satireday over phone at 8:30pm that night, and one could hear the despair in his voice.

“This is too much to take man, I thought we were living in a developed country,” he said.

When reminded that Bangladesh were still very much not a developed country, he



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

started weeping.

“Man, why are you splitting hairs. Do you think it’s possible to speak the King’s English under duress? I meant a developed part of the country.”

Concerned at the desperation that was emanating from the other end of the call, this correspondent

to call anyone. Wait, I am talking to you, so that means ...” the line went dead.

Neela Asman, a resident in Gulshan, was in no better state. On this correspondent’s visit to her apartment building, she could barely hear herself speak because of the roar of generators all around her.

Neela was reluctant to let the correspondent into her apartment, saying that it would raise the room temperature and render the air condition a little less effective.

“And then, heavens forlend we will have to rely on ceiling fans. Please pray that it does not come down to ceiling fans and that my daughter can watch the latest episodes of The Crown tonight. She needs it after such a tough day. I cannot imagine why places like Mirpur and Mohammadpur needed the electricity back first. They always use candles.” Neela said and slammed the door.

Employee who constantly quotes boss reveals company secrets, fired



JEAN-PAUL SATIRE

On Thursday morning, a marketing executive at Dalal Inc. discovered that his employment had been terminated as he mistakenly revealed company secrets.

Arbaz Ahmed had been sharing almost everything that came out of his boss’ mouth on Facebook for months at this point. Even at the time of writing this report, his latest status update on the social media site read:

“When I was little, I hated my dad. I still do” – Tasnim boss

But it came to him as a shock when he was called into a meeting with his superiors and told that something he posted the day before gave away closely guarded company secrets, and now that the rivals knew it, the company would be facing losses worth millions of dollars.

“I could hardly believe what I was hearing. Throughout my career, I had always followed what my first boss, Fardin bhai, had told me. He said, ‘Always quote things you hear me say, and then credit me for it. This will create an aura of wisdom and heroism around me, and in the future this might make me like you just a little bit more’. I had taken this advice to heart and adhered to it everywhere I went, from the shadow of Fardin bhai to the shoulder of Debashish da, then back to Fardin bhai for a

year before I finally ended up here with Tasnim bhai,” Arbaz stopped, finally.

Although the repercussions of his mistake could be felt instantly by the fact that clients had stopped coming to Dalal Inc to get their services, Arbaz was defiant in his position that he wasn’t guilty.

“Like Tasnim bhai once said, ‘If you ever make a mistake, think about how it happened, who it affects, and then cover it up and pretend you were never there,’” Arbaz went on, even though no one asked him anything.

Arbaz’s colleagues explained that this obsession with quoting his superiors is not simply limited to social media. “This guy literally speaks in the language of boss,” said one colleague, wishing to stay anonymous.

“We have multiple games set up in the workplace around this.

For example, sometimes after a meeting, everyone makes a guess about how quickly Arbaz will repeat something the boss said to someone else in the room. The one with the best guess wins!” he further explained. “Once, we tried to guess how many times he’d quote a former or current boss in a single day. We eventually lost count, but since then, we’ve assigned marketing intern Dalim to shadow him and simply tally his number of quotes in a day. Dalim is not very good at this as his BBA degree from Bidirectional University did not equip him to count more than 10.”

The company secrets revealed by Arbaz have since been deleted from the internet, but sources say he quoted his boss Tasnim Ajad saying, “Never let the clients find out that you have no idea what you’re doing. Just nod and say words like ‘engagement’, ‘target’, and ‘modality’ a bunch of times. That is how we’ve been making money since 2015!”

Although Arbaz denies any wrongdoing, he has chosen not to challenge his dismissal.

“My old boss Debashish da once said, ‘Be confrontational if you want to succeed, as long as the other person is your 4-year-old child or a subordinate at work who’s half your age’. I’m gonna heed his advice and head out,” said Arbaz.

Blackout was planned to get people off social media: Officials

THE UNSOCIAL CORRESPONDENT

After the blackout this week, rumours have been rife on social media speculating its causes.

Opposition parties have been quick to blame the authorities.

Some have gone so far as to say the authorities are stealing from the grid to maintain their lavish lifestyles.

But when this correspondent, who usually refuses to meet people, got down to investigate, he found something entirely different was going on.

With mental health awareness at its peak – peak because before people would straight up stigmatise anyone with mental health issues – in the country and World Mental Health Day coming up, authorities wanted to do something different this time.

Studies upon studies revealed that overuse of social media is directly proportionate with declining mental health.

But according to the government’s Superbly Difficult Goals-2100, by the year 2100, all people of this country should be somewhat happy with their lives.

And to achieve that goal the government decided it would find ways to keep people off social media, to which end it implemented draconian laws punishing people for posts on social media that “hurt” others.

But nothing seemed to be working. Children, adults, even infants were hooked to the machine, constantly consuming drama, constantly churning out drama.

With Mental Health Day fast approaching and this year being the first that the nation became a signatory to the SDG-2100, something needed to be done.

So, high authorities decided the only way to keep people off social media and bring back 90s nostalgia is to implement a long blackout – making sure IPS’ backups run out, generator fuel runs out, mobile networks glitch and people are well and truly plunged into darkness.

“It really seemed to have worked. People actually had candlelight dinners, children went to the roof and people took photographs of a dark and ethereal city. What can be more beautiful?” said one top authority, not willing to be named.

He further added, that since the campaign was so successful they are thinking of more blackouts in the future.

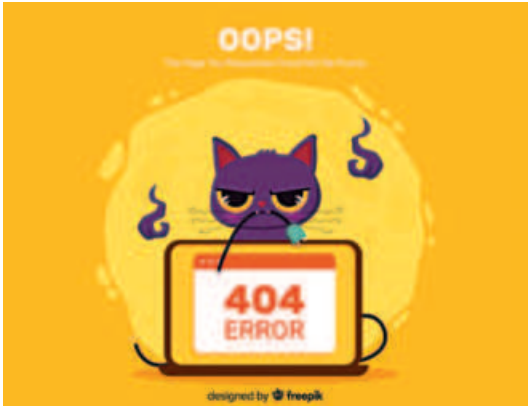


PHOTO: FREEPIK.COM

Script blank after crude words removed from Incel Point

MAHBUB ALAM MUNNA

A famous director recently became shocked seeing that his script was actually blank after he decided to remove crude language from his show, Incel Point.

He did it not because of puritanical reasons, but due to his own realisation that he was teaching young generations enough slangs to last their lifetimes.

The Association of Pasher Bashar Aunty (APBA) first flagged the show stating that it was unnecessarily crude.

“They tried to disguise their crudeness and vulgarity by dressing characters in T-shirts with lewd words. But they aren’t fooling me; I am well-versed in all lewd language. I employ three maids, you know,” said Sukhina Begum, APBA general secretary.

When the director was asked how he would continue episodes of the drama with scripts devoid of dialogue, he said, “Have you ever heard of silent film? I am going to be the first director of Bangladesh who will introduce silent drama.

“Besides this gives us the opportunity to express ourselves through visuals. I mean T-shirts of course. Where are we going to find those kinds of visuals? You know what Incel means, right? Involuntary Celibates.”

Fans and critics of the drama had mixed reactions. A fan said, “We cannot afford to send our children somewhere else to learn abusive slangs.”

A critic said, “I appreciate the decision. But who will take the responsibility of actors’ deaths when their stomachs burst for not being able to utter the vulgarity building up within?”



PHOTO: FREEPIK.COM