

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Dressed to Kill

by S. Bari

Walk into a downtown office or a government ministry. You can't miss her. She sits at the desk, red petticoat peeping out from underneath her brown sari, navy sock-clad feet stuck into mud-caked sandals, damp hair squiggling down her back. This epitome of carelessness and indifferent dressing is a fairly senior officer in a respectable firm, or maybe high up the ladder in government service. But one look and you would not feel inclined to entrust even your laundry to her, far less your bank account. Her air of inefficiency may be deceiving, she is probably very good at her job, but you would never guess. Cleanliness and neatness don't seem to figure in her personal vocabulary.

The same lady appears at a wedding caked with make-up, gleaming with jewels, and dressed in the latest Indian smuggled sari (with matching petticoat). Which is merely to point out that she is perfectly capable of over-dressing. So why is the professional woman in Dhaka such a torture to look at? One woman I see every day never frons her saris or seems to have brushed her hair, yet she wears golden heel-heeled pumps. "What if your salary doesn't permit to buy nice clothes?" one girl complained. Please spare the pumps and spend the money on hair pins to avoid looking like a sheepdog when you come to work. The matter has nothing to do with money. It has everything to do with tradition, respect, and effort.

There is no traditions of working women in Bangladesh. Barely two generations of women have been in the work force. This lack of precedent is often blamed for the non-existence of a dress sense among middle and upper-class working women. You would never guess these women have attended college, where the standards of dressing are gener-

ally better. No one is asking for Joan Collins-designer wardrobes (God forbid), but surely neatness is a crucial element of an efficient look. A crisp cotton sari of the cheapest kind confers more dignity on the wearer than an expensiveorgette falling all over the files. Nor does wearing that grey blouse with the brown sari inspire confidence in your prospective clients. Hair may look attractive all wind-blown on the beach, but it will not help you hook the next assignment.

Respect for professional women has made enormous strides in this country. But since life is still considered incomplete without a husband and family, the advent of women in the workplace has not freed them from expectations back home. Many feel their real role is as mother and wife, and that their working persona is secondary - or worse, not as prestigious. Dress reflects that lack of pride. A woman who would not be caught dead at a party without her lipstick and freshly pressed sari comes to work in a crumpled salwar-kameez

with stains on it. What does this say of the way she takes little effort. Dhaka women are unrestricted by "Cosmopolitan" fashion dictates and trendy clothes. They have a choice a wide variety of saris and salwar-kameez, in terms of both price and style. Make-up or no make-up is not the issue. Nor is "dressing-up" in any quantitative sense. But it is within everyone's means to look clean, and to a certain extent, efficient.

Tone down the flashy shoes. That's not what gets the job done. There is as yet no shortage of safety pins or combs: women can pin their saris and brush their hair, if nothing else. Please let's not look like the "what-not-to-do" pictures in fashion magazines.



## Spring Poetry Festival '91 held

The first ever Spring Poetry Festival '91 organised by Dhaka University Sahitya Sangsad and Muktamam in cooperation with DUCSU, was held at battola of the Arts Faculty premises of the University, reports BSS.

Prominent writer Abu Rushd inaugurated the festival, while the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. M. Moniruzzaman Miah, attended it as the chief guest. Eminent writer Lutfur Rahman presided over the inaugural function.

The theme of the festival for this year was "Poetry for heart, poetry for beauty."

Besides Dhaka University, a good number of poets and reciters from Jahangirnagar University and Eden Girls College attended the festival. About one hundred young poets recited their self-composed poems.

## Homeo Peshajibi Samity wins

By Staff Correspondent

Nominees of Bangladesh Homeo Peshajibi Samity (HOPES) have won in all the posts in the teacher representative election of Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions.

The elected leaders are: Principal Dr. Hossain Raja Chowdhury Faruqi (Chittagong division), Principal Dr. Yasin Ali (Rajshahi division) and Dr. Arifur Rahman (Khulna division).

## Jubadal members asked to form unit committees

The central leaders of Dhaka City Branch of Jubadal has called upon all members of Jubadal to form committees at unit level to strengthen the organisational base at grass root level and took part in the flourishing of democratic process in the country, reports BSS.

The leaders were addressing a workers rally at Dholakhal Tuesday at ward number 46 of the City Jubadal. The rally was addressed, among others, by the City Jubadal President Abu Syeed Khan Khokan, General Secretary Giasuddin Chowdhury Khokan and executive committee member Sharif Hossain.

The rally also demanded immediate trial and punishment of deposed president Ershad.

## Plea to set up Tajuddin memorial institute

Over eighty Supreme Court lawyers Tuesday called for the establishment of a memorial institute named after the first Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Tajuddin Ahmed, a great hero of the liberation war, reports BSS.

The lawyers at a discussion on the martyrs of the War of Independence at the Supreme Court Auditorium said all the developed countries of the world honoured the heroes of their independence in struggles including building of memorials after their names. They said paying tributes to their heroes had enhanced their national dignity and consolidated unity.

## PROGRAMME

### Rotary meeting

The 9th regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Uttara will be held today (Thursday) at 5.15 pm at the residence of Rtn. A. Rouf, Managing Director, United Leasing Company, House-23, Rabindra Sarani, Uttara. The meeting will be followed by iftar, say a press release.

### Mime show

Renowned France mime artist Loret Decal and his associates will hold a mime programme at the Satprikala Academy auditorium tomorrow (Friday) at 10.30 am, a press release said.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and French Embassy will jointly organise the programme. Moniruzzaman Miah, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University will attend the function as chief guest.

### Obituary

Philip Gomes, a leading social worker of the Christian community died of old age complications on March 22, at St. Locus Hospital, Bangkok. He was 72.

## Weather

### Rain, gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent

The city dwellers experienced sultry on Wednesday due to excessive moisture in the air. Met office said adding that this is nothing abnormal in the dry season.

Met office forecast that rain and shower accompanied by gusty or squally wind may occur at a few places over Chittagong division and the region of Dhaka, Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra and Barisal during the next 36 hours. Weather is likely to remain dry elsewhere over the country.

Rain and shower occurred at a few places over Chittagong division including Chittagong city. Dry weather prevailed elsewhere in the country.

Tuesday's complex low over Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and adjoining area moved eastward and later lay over Bihar, West Bengal and Bangladesh.

The highest temperature recorded on Monday at 36.7 degree Celsius at Shatkhira and the lowest recorded at Sylhet at 19.3 degrees.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Little change. Extended outlook for another five days: Weather likely to improve at first half period.

Temperature recorded in important cities and towns of the country on Wednesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percent	
	max	min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	34.2	26.7	78	70
Chittagong	26.7	25.3	53	80
Khulna	35.0	26.1	78	72
Rajshahi	35.7	21.6	90	50
Sylhet	25.4	19.3	98	80
Cox's Bazar	30.0	26.0	74	82
Dinajpur	30.5	19.5	81	74
Barisal	33.4	26.8	80	78
Shakunda	29.5	28.0	82	78
Satkhira	36.7	26.9	82	66



In the burning heat of the day this is their home. They sleep, perhaps with dreams of a roof over their heads, if someone provides it. — Photo: Enamul Huq

## Red Crescent asked not to yield to pressure

A 16-member delegation of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society headed by its Chairman Major General (Retd) AFM Abdul Haq called on the Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, at President's Secretariat Wednesday, reports BSS.

The delegation briefed the Acting President, who is also the President of the Red Crescent Society, about its on-going activities. They also discussed various problems faced by the organisation.

The Red Crescent delegation which included all members of its managing board informed the Acting President of the interference from high quarters in the affairs of the society, Justice Shahabuddin

advised the society that since the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is an independent non-governmental organisation, it should not yield to any pressure from any quarter.

He also pointed out that the Chairman of the Red Crescent Society was the Chief Executive of the Organisation and he along with managing board is responsible only to the President of Bangladesh, who is the President of the Society.

Referring to the writ petitions regarding the dissolution of previous managing board, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed advised the lawyer members of the managing board-former

Attorney General Nurullah and Barrister Sawkat Ali Khan to remain vigilant in the writ cases and take necessary measures for their quick disposal.

In this connection, he also said that there is hardly any country in the world where litigation is resorted to in the affairs of the Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies.

The delegation among others, included Vice Chairman of the Society Mirza Mehdi Ispahani, Treasurer Ekramul Ameen and members Mohammad Nurullah, Barrister Sawkat Ali Khan, Alhaj Siddiqueur Rahman, Hamida Ali and the Secretary General Major (Retd) A. Qureshi.

## Preparation on to hold Gram Sarkars' rally

Preparation has been going on for holding a grand rally of the former members of the Gram Sarkars at the directive of BNP Chairperson Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, a BNP press release said in Dhaka Tuesday night, reports BSS.

The former functionaries of the village, union, thana and district level units of the Gram Sarkar have been requested to send the lists of the former committees to House No 19/1, Road No 27 (old) Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka, the press release added.

## Rly to issue advance tickets from Apr 6

Bangladesh Railway will issue advance tickets for inter-city trains on account of holy Eid-ul-Fitr from Dhaka and Chittagong counters from April 6 for convenience of the passenger, according to a railway press release Wednesday, reports BSS.

The advance tickets for onward journey on April 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 will be issued on April 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 respectively. Counters will remain open from 9 am to 4 pm on those days.

Selling of advance tickets from Fulbaria city booking counter, Dhaka for onward journey from April 11 to April 15 will remain suspended. All inter-city trains will run on the aforesaid days irrespective of weekly off days.

## Murshed fought for freedom of judiciary

Speakers at a discussion Wednesday tributes to late Chief Justice Syed Mahub Murshed and said Murshed fearlessly held aloft the rule of law in the country, reports BSS.

They said Murshed, an eminent jurist and independent thinker was one of the most independent constitutional judges of the sub-continent who fought relentlessly against autocracy for establishing judicial independence.

Organized by Dhaka Sanskritik Sangsad in observance of the 12th death anniversary of Chief Justice S.M. Murshed. The discussion was presided by Poet Kazir Salahuddin and participated by lawyers, jour-

nalists and academics. The meeting adopted a resolution to preserve the judgements, speeches and writings of Chief Justice Murshed.

Quran Khawani was held at his graveyard at Hanani in the morning. Syed Mahub Murshed Memorial Committee also laid floral wreaths there.

### 18 arrested

The regional task force on anti-smuggling arrested 18 persons and seized 8,504 kg of Indian sugar from the main market of Feni town Tuesday, and official handout said in Dhaka Wednesday, reports BSS.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	A	P	I	L	E	D	A	S	H	
E	L	L	A	N	E	W	I	S	L	
S	P	E	A	R	S	E	M	S	O	
A	R	E	T	R	Y	W	E	D		
C	A	S	T	P	R	A	S	O	E	
A	L	E	F	A	R	I	N	T	E	
P	E	P	I	C	T	U	R	E	L	
S	E	V	E	R	A	T	E	M	A	
I	T	O	R	E	P	I	N	E		
A	M	A	G	A	S	C	O	L		
B	E	L	O	S	S	O	D	D	E	
E	R	I	E	I	D	O	L	E	T	
L	E	F	T	S	O	L	D	R	A	W

ACROSS

- 1 Triangular
- 4 Railroad station
- 9 Perform
- 12 Harem room
- 13 Positive
- 14 Tibetan gazelle
- 15 Hindu cymbals
- 16 Hawaiian
- 17 Precious metal
- 18 Censure
- 20 Lighthouse
- 21 Dawson ID
- 23 Limb
- 24 Great
- 28 Mace
- 30 Made
- 32 Richard of "Night Court"

DOWN

- 34 -- of war
- 35 Rational
- 36 Entrustee
- 39 Dress border
- 40 Visagoth king
- 41 Hearing organ
- 43 Tantulum symbol
- 44 Evigan ID
- 45 Small islands
- 47 Strong wind
- 50 Aware of
- 51 Spider's trap
- 54 Japanese
- 55 Communion
- 56 Affirmative
- 57 Mom's
- 58 Urge on
- 59 Still
- 60 Youngster
- 61 Festive occasions
- 62 Spanish article
- 63 Barney Miller star
- 64 -- Bay
- 65 Buccaneers
- 66 Laughable
- 67 Mormon
- 68 State
- 69 Doctrine
- 70 Droopy
- 71 Name for Athena
- 72 -- The Naked
- 73 Big
- 74 Expire
- 75 Drawing rooms
- 76 Concerning
- 77 Toward and within
- 78 Move from side to side
- 79 "Oh, --"
- 80 Arabian garment
- 81 Cover
- 82 Faddle
- 83 Hurricane center
- 85 Wager
- 86 Prealy ID

## Agreement for manufacturing CMC, detergent

A tripartite agreement has been signed among the Engineering University (BUET), Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) and a private firm for manufacturing Carbonyl Methyl Cellulose (CMC) and liquid detergent, says a press release, reports UNB.

Director of the Bureau of Research of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) Dr. M. Abu Taher Ali and BSCIC Chairman M. Moniruzzaman Chowdhury signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations.

## 17,956 candidates in JU Honours admission tests

By JU Correspondent

A total of 17,956 candidates are seeking admission into 19 departments of the Jahangirnagar University in the Honours classes for the session 1990-91.

Tests for admission into the departments will commence from April 7 to April 9 under four units. The tests will be held everyday in two shifts from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

পানির অপচয় রোধে কাজ শেষে কলের মুখ বন্ধ করুন, সার্ভিস লাইনের লিকেজ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে মেরামত করুন এবং আপনার বাড়ির ছাদে রক্ষিত জলাধারে বলকক লাগান।

পানির দূষণ রোধে আপনার বাড়ির জলাধারসমূহ স্বাস্থ্যসম্মতভাবে ব্লিচিং পাউডার দিয়ে নিয়মিত পরিষ্কার করুন এবং জলাধারে ঢাকনা ব্যবহার করুন।

সারচার্জ ও সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নি এড়াবার জন্য বিল জারীর প্রথম মাসের মধ্যে অবশ্যই আপনার বিল পরিশোধ করুন।

সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নি ও পিডিআর এ্যাঙ্কের অধীনে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা এড়াবার জন্য আজই নির্দিষ্ট ব্যাংকের শাখায় বকেয়াসহ আপনার পানি/পয়ঃ করের বিল পরিশোধ করুন।

কিস্তির টাকা যথাসময়ে পরিশোধ করুন। অন্যথায় সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন করা হবে।

বিল পরিশোধ সম্পর্কিত বিষয়ে প্রয়োজনে সংশ্লিষ্ট রাজস্ব আঞ্চলিক অফিসের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ বিল পরিশোধ করে ঢাকা শহরের পানি সরবরাহ ও পয়ঃনিষ্কাশন ব্যবস্থার উন্নয়নে ঢাকা ওয়াসার সাথে সহযোগিতা করুন।

ওয়াসা-৩৪ তঃ প্রদর্শনী-৩১/৯১  
ডিএফপি(জি)-৩৮০০-৩/৪  
জি-৪৬

ওয়াসা ঢাকা ওয়াসা  
আপনার সেবায় নিয়োজিত