

Dhaka Day by Day

No Jokes About "voulez-vous"

by Fayza Haq



Contributors to the "Delta" —Star photo

To bring out an adequate and interesting magazine in English in Bangladesh is an achievement...

"Delta", that is brought out monthly from Dhaka, is run by a handful of Bangladeshi students of the Alliance Francaise...

The magazine, distributed to all the members of the Alliance Francaise, is done free of cost and is naturally not to simply promote French culture...

Shahir Bhattacharya, who plays a major role in translating Bangla pieces into French, says that his work naturally helps him keep in practice...

Sabbir Ahmed Chowdhury, who has recently completed his M.A. from the Jahangirnagar University, and is waiting to do his M. Phil in African literature in English...

The magazine costs Tk 7000 per month, and has a circulation of 700 copies. Myriam explains that the reason why the "Delta" is based at the French cultural centre is because sitting there they can utilise the Alliance telephone, computer and even get financial aid when and as necessary...

independent it would have cut more of its strings from the Mirpur Road centre.

The writers and editors discuss their work at meetings, as is expected. Betty informs us that the writers, mostly Bangladeshi young men, choose what they want to write. "Anyone in the French community is welcomed to write. We print articles coming from the French too. We meet once a month and prepare the next three issues. Everybody gives his opinions and we work in close cooperation, keeping a general topic in view as the main guiding factor for that particular month. It remains a collective venture. But there is a lot of rewriting and editing to do."

It is naturally difficult to get sponsors for a magazine that has a limited circulation — and that too among people who are reading it in French. To get ads for even an English daily or magazine is a perpetual headache. Half a page costs Tk 6000, and it is not easy to lure people into patronising a periodical that is not in English or Bangla.

According to Myriam, the "Delta" is now "quite good", but at the beginning, four months ago, it was not a simple task to master the computer or the laser printer. The magazine originally began in 1990, and there had been a different group of people to guide the Bangladeshi writers. These editors, incidentally, have now left Dhaka.

Betty says that the most successful number was the one based on the subject of the cinema. "If we had printed 2000 copies we would have distributed them all," adds the Director of the French school.

Reading the magazine or even glancing through it — perhaps simply leafing through it — one gathers a mine of information about art, literature and life in Dhaka. Even if you do not have a good command over the language and can merely enjoy it as one does the "Paris Match" or "Elle" — having studied French once upon a time in your youth — you can pick up a lot of interesting factors about the country and specially the capital.

Going by the "Delta" one is convinced that the individuals who go to Alliance Francaise do not do so simply to while away their time, toying with a fancy European language. The students, specially the senior ones, are dead earnest about any jokes such as those regarding "voulez-vous".

PROGRAMME

Jubadal meet

An emergency meeting of Dhaka City Jubadal will be held tomorrow at 4 pm at BNP Dhanmondi Central Office.

All members of the City Branch of Jubadal have been requested to attend the meeting.

Optical Dept

A modern optical department was opened Friday at the Lions Eye Hospital at Lions Foundation Office at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar here, reports BSS.

Mr M.R. Siddiqui formally inaugurated the department. The frames for the department have been donated by West Germany while patients would be charged for glasses only. The hospital will remain open every day between 8 am and 2 pm.

1 killed, 15 hurt in road mishaps

One person was killed and 15 others including a woman were injured in two separate road accidents on the Dhaka-Aricha highway during late Thursday evening and early Friday morning, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said an unidentified boy died on the spot when a Dhaka bound truck from Aricha ran over him at 5-30 am Friday at Barobaria on the Dhaka-Aricha highway.

In another incident, 15 persons including a woman were injured, two of them seriously when a Joypurhat bound night coach from Dhaka collided with a Dhaka bound speeding truck from Aricha at 8-30 on Thursday night.

Obituary

By Staff Correspondent

Begum Hasina Siddiqui, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics, Kabi Nazul Islam Government College, died of heart attack at a city clinic on March 7. She was 49.

Begum Siddiqui is the wife of Abdullah Hossain Siddiqui, Chief Technical Adviser, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Asia and the Pacific region. First daughter of former Income Tax Commissioner Ikbalur Rahman, Begum Siddiqui taught in Nazimabad Bangalee College, Karachi, Dhaka College, Badrunessa College, and Chittagong Girls' College.

She left behind her husband, three daughters and one son-in-law.

1,400 Bangladeshis trained in Ikebana

Mr. Toshio Saiki, the Ambassador-designate of Japan in Bangladesh on Friday pledged further strengthening of bilateral relations and cultural cooperations between the two countries, reports BSS.

Mr. Saiki who arrive in Dhaka on Thursday evening to take up his new assignment, in his first public function said culture transcends geographical boundaries, which has been exemplified by the popularity of judo and Ikebana in Bangladesh.

The Ambassador-designate was the special guest at the 17th annual Bangladesh-Japan cultural evening and Ikebana contest held at the National Museum here. Prof. Munturuzaman Miah, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University was the chief guest on the occasion.

The Vice Chancellor gave away prizes among the winners



Principal Dewan Mohammed Azraf addressing a discussion meeting in city on Friday on Abul Kashem, a pioneer of historic Language Movement. Also seen (from left) are Mohammad Mahfuzullah, DU Vice-Chancellor Dr Maniruzzaman Miah and Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury.

A party playing foul play: Justice Chowdhury

'Yahya-Mujib-Bhutto drama being re-enacted'

Speakers at a discussion meet on Friday called for ensuring use of Bangla language in all spheres of life, reports UNB.

The meeting, organised in observance of the historic language day of March 15 and to commemorate the death of Principal Abul Kashem, observed that the pioneers of the movement were being neglected in the history. On this day in 1948, an agreement of some demands regarding Bangla and to declare it as state language was signed between the "Bangla Vasha Sangram Parishad" and the then Chief Minister of the erst-

while East Pakistan, Late Khawja Nazimuddin.

The discussion meeting organised jointly by "Rashtra Vasha Dibas Uddhapan Parishad" and "Vasha Andolon Gobeshona Chhatra Parishad" at the auditorium of Planning and Development Academy was presided over by Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury while Prof Munturuzaman Miah, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University attended as the chief guest.

Prof Munturuzaman Miah said Bangla is yet take its due place in our national life. The main obstacle was spirit and mentality, the Vice-Chancellor said adding "our statesmen and policy makers were never mentally prepared to do such task".

Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury in his presidential speech said if Nazimuddin did not betray the agreement, the necessity of bloodshed in February 21,

1952 could have been averted.

The movement to establish Bangla language as one of the state language of the then Pakistan began from 1948 and not from 1952, Justice Chowdhury said. "True history of the movement were being distorted and those who led the movement did not get their recognition," he added.

Turning to the present political situation of the country Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury demanded that opportunity should be given to the single majority party to form government.

He said "I am observing the staging of same old drama today as in 1971 between Yahya-Mujib-Bhutto".

A party has been indulging in foul play much like what Bhutto did in 1971, Justice Chowdhury observed.

Turning to Jatiya Party's recent statement that they would paralyse the country Justice Chowdhury said for such statements these people should be arrested.

He further said "A man who plundered the national economy and looted thousands of crores of taka was kept in palace while in this very country, a man is sent to jail for stealing one taka".

French Embassy opens scientific information centre tomorrow

The French Embassy will open a Centre for Scientific and Technological Information (CESTI) on Sunday, reports UNB.

To be located at the Alliance Francaise in Dhanmondi, CESTI will organise regular conferences, seminars and exhibition besides encouraging diffusion of scientific and technological information.

It will also lend books and video programmes and deliver information about French educational institutions, school, scholarship and trainings.

The centre will also publish its own periodical bulletin, the press release added.

Basanta Utsab at JU Mar 17

SAVAR, Mar 15: A day-long Basanta Utsab will be observed on March 17 at Jahangirnagar University to mark the arrival of spring, reports BSS.

Organised by the Jahangirnagar University Central Students Union (JU-CSU), the English and the Bengali Departments, the festival will be inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Kazi Saleh Ahmed.

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Principal Dewan Md Azraf, Md Mahfuzullah, Shamsul Alam, Dr. Nurul Huq Bhuyyan and Rafiqul Islam Jaghu also took part in the discussion.



ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন

প্রকৌশলী বিভাগ-অঞ্চল-৪

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন  
আপনার শিককে টিকা দিন

টেডার নোটিশ

নিম্নে বর্ণিত কাজের জন্য ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের তালিকাভুক্ত সকল শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদারগণের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১তে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে টেডার আবেদন করা যাইতেছে।

কোন টেডারদাতা দরপত্র ৫% এর অধিক উর্ধ্ব বা নিম্ন দর প্রদান করিলে উক্ত দরের স্বপক্ষে দর বিবেচনা সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে। ৫% এর অধিক নিম্ন দর প্রদানকারী দরপত্রদাতাকে কার্যদেপ প্রদানের সিদ্ধান্ত প্রদান করা হইলে নির্ধারিত বায়নার টাকা বিত্তপ পরিমাণ জমা দিতে হইবে।

Table with 4 columns: ক্রমিক নং, কাজের নাম, প্রাপ্তি টাকা, বায়নার টাকা, সময়সীমা. It lists various construction and maintenance work items with their respective budgets and bid amounts.

নির্ধারিত প্রকৌশলী, অঞ্চল-৪  
ডিসি/পিআরডি/২৪৯/৯০-১১  
D-06  
ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন।

Awareness to prevent heart disease stressed

RAJSHAHI, Mar 15: A day long people oriented seminar on "causes of heart disease and its prevention" organised by National Heart Foundation, Rajshahi Branch was held here

at local Zila Parishad Auditorium Friday, reports BSS.

Presided over by Prof. A.K. Shamsuddin Siddiqui, Director Health Service, the inaugural

function of the seminar was addressed by noted Heart Specialist Brig(Rtd) Prof. M.A. Malik, Secretary General, National Heart Foundation as chief guest.

The function was also addressed among others, by Prof.

BTV seeks viewers' opinion

Bangladesh Television urged its audience to forward their views and suggestions to bring about diversity in their programmes, says a PID hand-out on Friday night.

The audience have been requested to send their views and suggestions by March 20 to the Director (Programme and Planning), Bangladesh Television, Rampura, Dhaka.

TV Programme Saturday

- 5.00 Opening and Recitation from Holy Quran
5.20 News in Bengali
5.30 Esho Gaan Shikhi :Music lessons for Children
5.55 Cartoon: Popeye and Sons
6.20 Mati O Manush: Banshori : Programme of folk songs
7.00 News in Bengali
8.00 Chena Shur: Songs Programme
9.00 Udjiban : Religious Programme
10.00 News in English
10.30 Drama Serial: Return to Eden
11.30 Khabar/The news
11.45 Closing.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes 'Answer to Previous Puzzle' section with a grid and words like SHREDDER, HOARD, etc.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions for clues.

Weather

Thundershower likely

Rain or thundershower with temporary gusty wind likely to occur at a few places over Khulna, Dhaka, Rajshahi, Bogra, Pabna, Comilla, Noakhali, Chittagong and Sylhet. Weather will remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country. Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged.

Sun sets on Saturday at 6.08 pm and rises on Sunday at 6.07 am. Weather remained dry over the country on Friday. Day temperature also remained nearly unchanged. The highest temperature of 34.4 degree Celsius was reported from Srimongol.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Little change. Extended outlook for another five days: No appreciable change. Temperature and Humidity of some cities recorded on Friday.

Table with 3 columns: City, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity (9 am, 6 pm). Lists Dhaka, Chittagong, Rangpur, Sylhet, Comilla, Cox's Bazar, Rajshahi.