

Dhaka Day by Day

'Oral surgery not just extraction of teeth'

By S.Y. Bakht

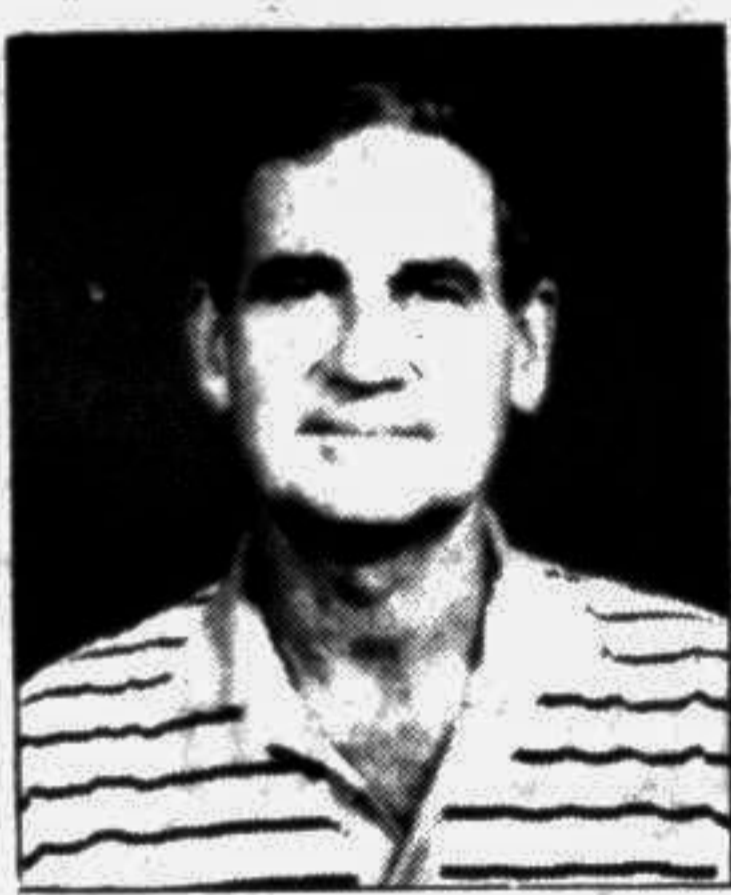
A large number of people requiring surgery for afflictions of the mouth and jaws remain untreated due to the lack of proper operation facilities in the country.

According to Dr. Barry N. Fitzpatrick, a visiting Australian oral and maxillofacial surgeon, even taking budget constraints into account, a lot more could be done than what is being done today—with only a little improvement of the existing facilities.

He was in the city recently to share his experience and expertise with surgeons at the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Unit of the Dhaka Dental College, the only unit of its kind in the country. Although the 20-bed unit was set up in 1983, it became fully operational only since 1987.

In an interview with The Daily Star, Dr. Fitzpatrick pointed out that, somewhat misunderstood by people, this form of surgery is much more than "just extracting teeth". He explained that this surgery is a specialized branch of dentistry managing oral cancers of the lip, tongue, cheek and jaws, together with cleft lips and palates, and facial deformities and fractures resulting from burn injuries and road accidents.

The operation theatre lacks proper equipment and there is also a shortage of trained nursing staff. At present there are severe restraints on the number of operations which can be performed due to shortage of such basic items as drills for cutting bones to supply of anaesthetic gases. Even the steam sterilizer used for sterilizing linen and instruments is old and outdated. The linens and drapes used to bandage wounds are also of poor quality, he said.



Dr. Barry N. Fitzpatrick Australian surgeon

Dr. Fitzpatrick said that the surgeons here are working under dreadful conditions with primitive instruments. The operation theatre complex is not functioning optimally at all, thus surgeons are not performing as many operations as they would like to, he remarked, adding, "there is no reason why efficiency cannot be enhanced, particularly when existing facilities can be improved at a very low cost."

He was so moved by the lack of basic equipment at the surgery unit that he donated all his personal hand tools that he bought along from Australia.

During his short stay here, the amiable Dr. Fitzpatrick consulted about 30 patients daily and also performed a number of difficult surgeries. In the process, he helped local surgeons upgrade their skills and also demonstrated techniques of bone and skin grafting to rectify facial deformities.

In one such bone grafting surgery, a bone was taken from the hip to fix the jaw of road accident victim. Although this kind of surgery is quite common in other countries, he said that this was said to be the first time such an operation was carried out on Dhaka.

Born in Perth, he graduated in dentistry from the Perth University and received advanced training in the United Kingdom, United States of America and Switzerland. He worked as a fulltime teaching staff at the 1200-bed Royal Adelaide Hospital and was also a senior national consultant to the Australian Armed Services.

Currently in semi-retirement from his private practice of 20 years in Adelaide, Dr. Fitzpatrick was here on a self-funded trip to find possible avenues of cooperation between a number of Australian surgeons and local surgeons, with a view to formalizing the training of surgeons locally.

Together with a number of his colleagues in Australia, he said, he has been planning for the last few years to set up such a cooperative programme on a voluntary basis in a less developed country in Asia. Having researched the possibilities in Myanmar, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Laos and Vietnam he said, he found Bangladesh to be most suitable for such a project. As the infrastructure—in the form of a Dental college—was already here and this is where such surgery was needed the most, he remarked.

Dr. Fitzpatrick pointed out that, as overseas training is quite expensive and takes about four to five years to complete, it is likely to be prohibitive for local physicians to train abroad. Thus, training locally with foreign trainers coming here will be much more cost effective, he added.

"Moreover, it's of no use sending someone overseas for training unless they are trained for problems that exist here. You learn more appropriate surgery in your environment, suited to the local context", he explained.

Dressed quite casually, Dr. Fitzpatrick said that he is hoping to set up such a programme, possibly with the Association of Australian Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, to send a number of surgeons to help local surgeons set up a post graduate training programme at the Dhaka Dental College. He noted that a number of Australian surgeons have already shown an interest to volunteer their services in such a project, and he is quite confident that he will be able to send about six to seven surgeons a year, very soon.

These surgeons, he said, will provide technical expertise and will also introduce a more systematic approach to surgery. The services will be totally voluntary and the visiting surgeons will come at their own expense. "There is something to be gained by the Australian surgeons as well, seeing untreated pathology in such large numbers," he added.

He ran a number of surgery clinics in many places in this region, he said. An avid mountain climber, Dr. Fitzpatrick has travelled to India, Nepal and Bhutan on a number of occasions. He even scaled 21,500ft of the mighty Kanchanjanga mountain during one of these visits. He is also an avid clarinet player which, in his words, "helps retain my sanity."

This was his second visit to Bangladesh and he hopes to be back next year, but before that he would like to send the first batch of Australian surgeons to Dhaka, he said. He enjoyed his stay here and said that he was moved by the friendliness of the people. "Bangladesh's greatest asset are its people," he said, adding, "they are warm, friendly and they are beautiful people."

Coming from a facial surgeon, that is quite a compliment.

Ershad's release demanded

KHULNA Mar. 19: The Jatiya Party Khulna Unit recently brought out a big procession in the city demanding release of the party chief and former president Ershad.

The processionists paraded the main thoroughfares and later held a rally which was addressed, among others, by former whip Mia Musa Hossain, former minister Momtuddin Ahmed, former mayor of the City Corporation Kazi Aminul Haque and other JP leaders.

The speakers demanded immediate release of Ershad and other JP leaders.

The Jatiya Jubo Shanghati, the youth front of the Jatiya Party Khulna District Unit demanded withdrawal of all cases against Ershad and other JP leaders.

In a statement to the press here on Monday the convenor and joint convener of the organisation Hasibul Haque Bablu and Shamsher Ali Mintu demanded withdrawal of cases filed against city Jubo Shanghati President and former deputy mayor Ikhtiaruddin Bablu.

Mahmudul Hassan's writ resumes April 24

The writ petition challenging the detention of Ex-Minister Major Gen (Retd) Mahmudul Hassan will come up for hearing on April 24, reports BSS.

The petition will be heard before a Division Bench of the High Court Division comprising Mr. Justice Mohammad Abdul Jalil and Mr. Justice Kazi Shafiqul Haque.

World Meteorology Day Mar 23

World Meteorology Day will be observed on March 23 in the country as elsewhere in the world, reports UNB.

World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) each year selects a theme to celebrate the day. This years theme of the day will be "the atmosphere of the living planet earth".

The day will be observed to create awareness among people on the global climatic change, protect environment and also to project the role of meteorological science in combatting natural calamities.

Met office will hold a day long programme at its premises which includes technical seminar, met equipment and chart exhibition and film shows.

PROGRAMME today

TV Wednesday

5-00	Opening and Recitation from Al Quran
5-20	News in Bengali
5-30	Shikhangon Educational Programme
5-55	Programme on Ramzan
6-20	Anu Paramanu : Science Programme
7-05	Songs programme for new artists
8-00	News in Bengali
8-30	Prabaha
9-00	Mac Gyver
10-00	News in English
10-30	Literacy Programme
11-15	Khabar/The news
11-30	Closing

Rotary Club meet

The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North West followed by Iftar at the courtesy of Rtn. PDG. Iqbal Ansari Khan and Ann Munira Khan will be held today (Wednesday) at 5.30 pm at their residence at 14, Green Road, Dhaka.

SC Bar Assoc

An emergency general meeting of the Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association will be held today at 1.15 pm at the southern hall of the Supreme Court Bar Association, a press release of the association said, reports BSS.

The meeting will review the progress of association's proposals for upholding independence of Judiciary, the release added.

Weather One more hot, humid day

By Staff Correspondent

Rajshahi experienced the highest temperature of the season on Tuesday which was 38.0 degree Celsius. The minimum lowest temperature was also recorded at Rajshahi at 17.0 degree.

Met office has forecast rain or shower for the two days commencing from Thursday. Dry weather will prevail over the country during the next 24 hours.

Temperature remained nearly unchanged on Monday except Faridpur, Taknaf and Bhola that was above normal by one to six degree Celsius.

Monday's complex low persisted over eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and adjoining Bangladesh. Seasonal low lay over South Bay.

Outlook for subsequent two days: rain/shower likely. Extended outlook for another five days: little change.

Temperature and Humidity recorded at the major cities/towns of the country were:

Towns/Cities	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	36.5	23.2	71	33
Chittagong	34.1	22.8	70	54
Rajshahi	38.0	17.0	53	-
Khulna	36.0	22.4	75	51
Dirajpur	36.0	18.3	43	27
Srimangal	36.0	19.5	67	57
Cox's Bazar	35.0	-	-	71
Feni	34.9	22.8	64	60
Ishardi	38.0	17.7	49	32

Highest temperature recorded at the important regional cities on Tuesday were:

Beijing 11 degrees Celsius	Hong Kong 21 degrees Celsius
Bangkok 32	Colombo 37
New-Delhi 31	Calcutta 32

'FDC promoting corruption'

By Staff Correspondent

Installed. This decision of BFDC would obviously put the new Government to hardship and loss of revenue.

"Before forming an alliance with the Samity to exploit the Exhibitors, the BFDC did not even consider giving a hearing to Exhibitors, who form an important segment of the

film industry. This is against the Principle of natural justice.

"Unilateral decision to lend support to the Samity without seriously considering all aspects may result in closure of Cinemas and consequent loss to the Government. Besides, it may lead to unemployment of thousands of people."

film industry. This is against the Principle of natural justice.

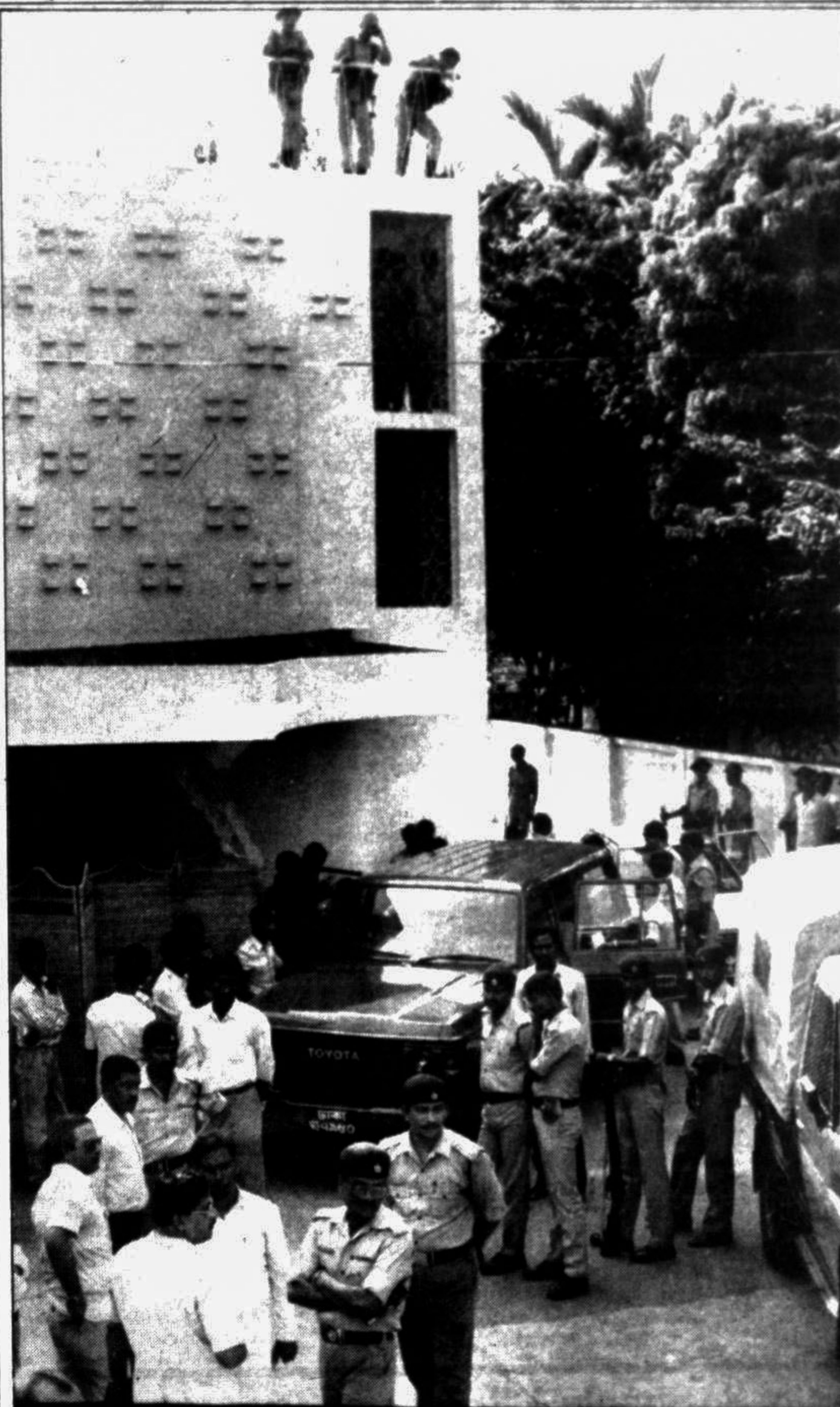
"Unilateral decision to lend support to the Samity without seriously considering all aspects may result in closure of Cinemas and consequent loss to the Government. Besides, it may lead to unemployment of thousands of people."

Homeo students' action programme

By Staff Correspondent

Homeo Medical Chhatra Gilya parishad will convene the offices of deputy commissioners all over the country and submit memorandums to the DCs today (Wednesday).

The parishad in a press release said it took the programme to press home its 19-point demands which include establishment of a complete homeo board.



Office of the Special Tribunal at Gulshan in city on Tuesday. Stringent security measures were taken to prevent any untoward incident during trial of deposed President H M Ershad. — Star photo

Student dies under train

A student was crushed to death under a train at a city rail crossing Monday night.

Shaheen Choudhury met his end when he was crossing the rail lines at Maghbazar at 9.15 pm. The Sylhet-bound express train ran over him causing immediate death. Shaheen was 20.

Students urged to maintain sanctity of Ramzan

Students Anti-smoking Committee-SASC has urged the students and the people to abstain from smoking during this month to protect the sanctity of the holy Ramzan, a SASC press release said here on Monday, reports BSS.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

Answer to Previous Puzzle

FINES	DONOR
SUTURE	EDITED
MT	NOVEL
PITA	AIL
SEVEN	CAR
SLAG	WRITES
IN	HEIRS
LEGIONS	
RAHS	SUDS
GUSSETS	SEATS
OG	PLEAS
SKIT	ALL
FARAD	ANA
LIES	MALARIL
SENATE	ENAMEL
RAPID	SEWER

ACROSS

- 1 Diplomacy
- 5 Partner of Roy Rogers
- 9 Wire measure
- 12 Pain
- 15 ... and shut case
- 14 ... Life to Live
- 16 Chicago team
- 17 Oars
- 19 Reeks
- 21 Poems
- 22 Flying mammals
- 24 Aener ID
- 25 Purchase
- 28 Metric measure
- 27 "Experiment in ..."
- 29 Equally
- 31 Transgress
- 32 Above
- 33 Gold symbol
- 34 Sesame
- 35 "— Clid"

DOWN

- 36 Classify
- 38 — Alicia
- 39 Joan Van
- 40 Concerning
- 41 Saracely comfortable
- 42 Withered
- 44 Garment worn by Lamour
- 46 Roll-call reply
- 48 Lift
- 51 River island
- 52 Country of Asia
- 54 Paper measure
- 55 Born
- 56 Sight of Taj Mahal
- 57 Goddess of discord
- 3 Punish
- 4 "— of Endearment"
- 5 Fulfill
- 6 Come on the scene
- 7 Mosdosws
- 8 Goal
- 9 Musty
- 10 Arrow poison
- 11 Smaller number
- 12 Therefore
- 16 Sullen in aspect
- 20 Retains
- 22 Foundation
- 23 Seed coating
- 25 Conflict: set-to
- 27 Elephant's tooth
- 28 More unusual
- 29 Japanese native
- 30 Waste metal
- 34 Moroccan seaport
- 36 War god
- 37 Public speaker
- 39 Rugged mountain crest
- 41 Trap
- 42 Bridge
- 43 Great Lake
- 44 Unexpected difficulty
- 45 Alternative word
- 47 Guido's high note
- 49 Capuchin monkey
- 50 River in Germany
- 53 Samaritan symbol

10-30 © 1989 United Feature Syndicate

Three receive Rotary Award '91

By Staff Correspondent

Rotary Club of Dhaka west on Tuesday accorded Rotary Award 90-91 to three distinguished personalities for their outstanding services to the society.

The recipients of the Awards are: Nasiruddin Yousuf (Literature), Qamrul Islam Chowdhury of Danik Sangbad (Journalism), and Ahmed Ullah Mollah (Teaching).

Rotary District Governor Rotarian Mustafa Zaman Abbasi gave away the awards.

Dutch envoy meets DU VC

Mr. Henricus Gajentaan, Ambassador of Netherlands in Bangladesh paid a courtesy call on Professor M. Maniruzzaman Miah, Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University Tuesday morning in the latter's office, says a DU Press release.

The Vice-Chancellor discussed with the Ambassador possibilities of academic exchange programme between the Dhaka University and the universities in Netherlands.

ATAB greets ICAO chief

The President and Secretary General of the Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (ATAB) have greeted the new chief of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Mr. Philippe Rochat, reports BSS.



Henricus Gajentaan, Ambassador of Netherlands in Bangladesh paid a courtesy call on Professor M. Maniruzzaman Miah Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University Tuesday morning in the latter's office.

JU cuts Ramzan, Eid vacation

The Authorities of Jahangirnagar University has decided to shorten its Ramzan and Eid vacation to ease the current session Jam, reports BSS.

Classes of all the departments will be now going on till March 31. Due to this decision, students will now enjoy a 25-day vacation instead of 40 days.

One killed, 5 hurt in road mishap

One person was killed and five others were injured, when a speeding truck and a baby taxi collided head on at Katchpur area on Narayanganj Demra road Sunday police said, reports BSS.

DHAKA WASA TENDER NOTICE

সার্বভৌম ও সংসদীয় বিচারিক এজেন্সি জাতিয় বিন বিল জারির প্রথম মাসের মধ্যে অবশ্যই আপনার বিল পরিশোধ করুন

Tenders are invited from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd class supply contractors/genuine suppliers enlisted with Dhaka WASA for printing of Pad and Supply works. Tenders shall be received upto 12.00 hours on 28.3.91 and shall be opened on 12.30 hours on the same day, in presence of tenderers or their representatives (if anybody is present).

Tender schedule will be available from the office of the Chief Accounts Officer, Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhawan, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue and all MODES Zonal Offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed terms and conditions will be available from the officers of the undersigned.

Sd/-
Secretary
DHAKA WASA
"WASA Bhawan"
98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka.

WASA : PR:111/91
DFPG) 3081-17/3
G-21