

Dhaka Day by Day

For Joy and Health

by Tulip Ibrahim



Women in sports at Mahila Krira Sangstha

Enthusiastic children line up beside the swimming pool of the Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha. Their swimming lessons begin with frehand exercises under the guidance of a well trained coach. Once in the water, the children receive expert instructions. They receive hand to hand demonstrations on how to move their hands, feet and to stay afloat. The training course goes on for a month. At the end of the month the children swim quite well. They enjoy the newly acquired skill very much.

Swimming is a much needed life-saving skill in Bangladesh, a country with a network of rivers, lakes and ponds. Natural disasters such as floods, cyclones and tornados are quite frequent. One would be on the safer side to learn swimming in this land of waters. BMKS is safe for children to learn swimming.

Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha is located in Dhanmondi, Road No 11/A, Dhaka. It is a beautiful and well protected place for women and children. It offers lessons to girls and women in lawn tennis, judo, table tennis, badminton, gymnastics, athletics and frehand exercise. The coaches and refs are well trained. The cost of the training courses are reasonable. The place offers an excellent opportunity to achieve freshness of body and the mind.

There was a time when women here or elsewhere did not participate in sports. It was an event for men only. It was towards the twentieth century that women started to take part in different sports. At the early years of the history of sports women did not take part in games which included violence. They took carriage races and runnings. As time moved on women began taking over in different sports.

A nation can progress when its people are healthy and hard working. One way to keep a healthy body and mind is to participate in sports.

More than half of the total population of Bangladesh are women. This immense working force cannot remain unutilized.

The Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha aims at encouraging women to come forward to the world of sports. They train women in many

games to increase their participation of the women from all over the country. Through its branches at district and upazila level it reaches out to the women at different sections of the land. Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha arranges occasional tournaments to rise the standard of the games. However it has to take permission from any of the existing 29 federations in the country to arrange any tournaments.

After the liberation, a "Women's Complex" for swimming and sports was set up with the government's assistance. Since then, women began forming different teams for handball, hockey, volleyball, badminton etc. They moved on to the international world of sports in international chess, SAAF games, Asian swimming competition, Asian junior tennis competitions. The name of Rani Hamid in international chess has earned well-deserved distinction. In 1976, Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha was renamed Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha.

How do the women respond to this excellent opportunity of learning different sports at the Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha? Responding to this question one of the referees hinted that women have been rather slow to come out of their homes to play. Only those who have been playing from their early age earn an active participation. Women teams from schools and colleges receive training here. Yet, after finishing training courses only a few of them remain. These dropouts occur mainly from lack of awareness of the need for physical exercise.

In this crowded city of Dhaka, the Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha is an excellent place to play and relax. The complex is exclusive for women only. It feels great to go in twice or thrice a week to join others in some games. Unwanted fat could be cut down by the frehand exercises offered there. The well kept swimming pool is great for a swimming. With the first visit to the complex one feels encouraged to learn some games. Sports help to fight the every day stresses of life. In this busy wheel of life, a round of tennis or badminton is welcome at the Bangladesh Mahila Krira Sangstha.

USSR to help build new power station

By Staff Correspondent

Social Development Committee (SODEC) on Sunday held a farewell programme in honour of the outgoing Soviet Ambassador in Bangladesh DR. Vitali S. Smirnov at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

Smirnov in his speech said that the Soviet Union would continue its assistance to Bangladesh and would stand by Bangladesh in their hard times like the present one.

Soviet helicopters with huge relief materials will arrive in Dhaka today (Sunday) Smirnov said, adding that 62 thousand roubles have been sanctioned for Bangladesh for its relief and rehabilitation programme from the Soviet Union as a grant of its Asia and Africa Welfare Fund.

He also recalled the Soviet assistance, to be provided for one building a new 2 power

station, repairing Goral power station, which provides 75 per cent of power supply in the country and establishing a nuclear power station.

Smirnov stressed the need for development of mutual relationship between Bangladesh and the Soviet Union and said the USSR had helped Bangladesh not only in the liberation war but also at the time of getting international recognition through the membership of the United Nations in 1974.

Bangladeshi people are real friends of mine never got such warmth from anywhere in the world. I visited 50 countries so far, Smirnov said in an emotional voice.

Smirnov also expressed deep interest of the Soviet Union in expanding trade in public sectors and he reminded the audiences the USSR is the number one buyer of tea and jute of Bangladesh.

Sanaulah Nuri, Editor of the Dainik Janata, said a thousand year-old cultural bond is prevailing between the two countries.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Strain for breath
- Chore
- Cry
- Toward shelter
- of Man
- Chinese pagoda
- Colorful bird
- Old pronoun
- Kind of curve
- Abrasive instrument
- Real estate maps
- Pittsburgh footballers
- Early morn time
- Openwork fabric
- Health resort
- Running

Answer to Previous Puzzle

35 Attempt
37 Join of -
39 Negative prefix
40 Greek letter
42 Deposit
44 Chief artery
46 Mother
48 "Velvet"
50 Common-place
53 Fee
54 Staff
55 Tantalum symbol
57 Sleeping sickness fly
61 Paid notices
62 S-shaped molding
64 Chair
65 Still
66 Seines
67 Bind
68

DOWN

- Opening
- Cotton St.
- Indian weight
- Ideal
- Name
- Equality
- Crafty
- Retain
- Emits vapor
- Kin
- Choir voice
- Houston footballers
- See eagle
- Law
- Footwear
- Temporary shelter
- Printer's measure
- "- of Love"
- Spore
- Fiber plant
- Sea in Asia
- Strong desire
- Most composed
- Among
- Make lace
- Hosp. attendant
- Near
- Carries
- Server
- Was borne
- Short jacket
- Mature
- Beverage
- Weak
- Summer. Fr.
- Latin conjunction

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67

Dr Sharif's death condoled

By Staff Correspondent

Officers Club of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh organised a condolence meeting at Dr Ibrahim Memorial Diabetic Centre auditorium on Saturday to condole the death of eminent eye specialist and social worker Professor Ahmed Sharif.

Dr CM Delwar Rana presided over the meeting. The meeting adopted a resolution expressing sympathy to the bereaved family of Dr Sharif.

Society of Surgeons of Bangladesh Sunday expressed profound shock at the death of Dr. Ahmed Sharif, a renowned eye specialist and Director of the National Institute of Ophthalmology.

In a condolence message, the General Secretary of the Society, Dr. Shaikat H Khandaker said, at the death of Dr Sharif, the nation had lost a leading physician of the country.

The society also conveyed extended sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for his eternal peace of the departed soul.

Plea to pay dues of teachers killed in cyclone

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association (BPTA) has demanded payment of dues of the teachers killed in the cyclone. It has also urged the authority to grant house building loans to the primary teachers and other employees.

The BPTA also suggested building of primary schools as cyclone shelters and keep those under the care of respective headmasters. Free distribution of books among the primary students is also needed, the BPTA added.

A team of volunteers from the Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association (BPTA) led by its President Professor Abu Kalam Azad undertook a week-long relief and rescue operation in the cyclone-hit areas of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar. The team which concluded its relief operation on May 14 prepared a list of 26 primary teachers killed in the cyclone and tidal bore in those two districts.

The BPTA team visited Pukkhali, Maheshkhali, Kutubdia, Banskhal, Baharchhara, Anwara, Chokoria, Patenga and Sandwip. They distributed some cash and relief goods among the cyclone victims and enquired about the welfare of the family members of the teachers killed in cyclone.

Release of JP leaders demanded

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Sramik Party organised a silent procession from Motijheel Sonali Bank square on Saturday to press home their demand for the release of Jatiya Party Chairman President Ershad, party Acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, former Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed and former Ministers Mahmudul Hasan and Anwar Hossain Monju.

Shah Mohammed Abu Zafar, President of Jatiya Sramik Party led the procession. The procession ended at the Jatiya Press Club.

Arshaduzzaman resigns from AL

Arshaduzzaman has resigned from the National Committee of Awami League and severed all connections with the party on personal ground, reports UNB.

A former diplomat and Assistant Secretary General of OIC Arshaduzzaman had joined Awami League shortly before the 1989 parliamentary election.

Weather Rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast valid for 24 hours till 6 pm on Monday says: rain/thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind/nor'wester squalls at places likely to occur at most places over Dhaka and Chittagong divisions and at many places over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions. Day temperature likely to remain nearly unchanged.

The highest temperature recorded on Sunday at Sathkira was 34.2 degree Celsius while the lowest temperature recorded at Sylhet was 17.5 degree Celsius.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Little Change. Extended outlook for another five days: No marked change. The sun sets today (Monday) at 6.37 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5.14 am.

The Temperature and Humidity recorded in some cities and towns of the country on Sunday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Maximum	Minimum	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	29.7	21	86	81
Chittagong	33.2	25	83	79
Rajshahi	30.4	20.4	86	86
Khulna	33	21.8	74	82
Cox's Bazar	32.4	25	78	81
Rangpur	27.4	20.5	89	79
Dinajpur	27	20.8	84	79
Barisal	32.2	20.5	86	81
Sylhet	28.5	11.5	80	70
Iswardhi	30	21.5	83	85



A procession was brought out in city on Sunday calling for election of Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation. — Star photo

Plea to instal pillars with life buoys in coastal areas

By Staff Correspondent

M. A. Mohaimen, President of Bangladesh Nagarik Adhikar Parishad on Sunday urged the government to take up a less expensive and quick scheme to save lives of people in coastal areas from cyclone and tidal bore.

Addressing a press conference at National Press Club, he said that coastal people should have something near their homes to protect themselves from cyclone and storm surge as it becomes practically impossible to move to shelters which are usually miles away during such storms in the darkness of night.

A former MPA he put forward a proposal to install strong wooden pillars, each 15 to 20 metres long, with life buoys placed around those at all homes so that people could float above tidal bores by holding those buoys during such disasters.

A scheme prepared by him also suggests for digging big ponds with high banks to store fresh water and provide shelter to domestic animals during cyclones.

Each family living in a coastal area could be supplied with a 'motka' (big earthen jar) to dig into the ground for storing grains and valuables

during such natural calamities, he said.

M A Mohaimen said the scheme can be implemented within two years at limited costs. He said that many coastal people do not follow cyclone warnings because they think that all cyclones which form in the bay, do not hit them. They wait with the hope that they will survive of cyclone. Again, they find it difficult to vacate homes leaving behind all belongings when storm becomes imminent and they find no way to escape.

Narrating experience of his visit to the coastal areas after several cyclones, he said the people living in the coastal areas hear the sound of storm surge and they face it. But if there is shelter near their homes to save life, at least 80 per cent of cyclone deaths can be prevented.

Replying to a question, he said that the scheme was first introduced following the Urr Char cyclone of 1965, but the then government did not attach much importance to it.



M A Mohaimen, President of Bangladesh Nagarik Adhikar Parishad addressing a Press conference at National Press Club on Sunday on "Save people of coastal areas from cyclone and tidal surge". Prof. Shahed Ali (R) and Advocate Nurul Islam (L) are seen in the picture.

Workshop on gender analysis begins at BRRI

A two-week international training workshop on "gender analysis and its application to rice-based farming systems research" began at Bangladesh Rice Research Institute in Joydebpur on Saturday, an institute press release said.

Twenty scientists from India, Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh are participating in the training workshop.

Dr A J M Azizul Islam Director General, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) inaugurated the workshop.

Cooperation to end session jam sought

By DU Correspondent

Prof Mohammad Shehjan, Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) sought cooperation from all quarters in order to eliminate sessions jam.

He was addressing a meeting organised by to university authorities Saturday at the central auditorium to accord reception to the new first year students.

Vice Chancellor also urged the students to uphold the tradition and goodwill of the university.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by Prof Shamim-uz-Zaman, Dean of Civil Engineering Faculty and Prof Ehsanul Huq, Director of Students Welfare.

JUJA seminar today

JU Correspondent

SAVAR, May 19: The 7th annual seminar of Jahangirnagar University Journalists' Association will be held today (Monday) at the Social Science gallery of the university at 10 am.

The Vice-Chancellor Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed will inaugurate the seminar.

The key note paper on "Anti-autocratic movement: our invocation, aspiration and achievement" will be presented by Dr. Anu Mohammad. Dr. Mosharraf Hossain, Dr. Kamal Hossain, Barrister Matul Hossain, Prof. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Ahsan Khanam, Rashed Khan Menon and Shamsuddoha will speak on the occasion.

Training on foreign trade concludes

The 15-day training course on "foreign trade and foreign exchange" concluded at the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM) in Dhaka on Sunday, reports BSS.

Organised by BIBM, the concluding session was presided over by BIBM Director, A B M Mahbubul Amin Khan.

Speaking on the occasion, Khan expressed the optimism that, the participants in the course would apply the knowledge and skills in discharging responsibilities in their respective institutions.

A total of 36 persons from different banks and financial institutions participated in the course.

Personnel management

A three-week training course on "personnel management and human relations" was inaugurated by M Mosharraf Hossain, Managing Director, Rapport Bangladesh Ltd (RBL) on Sunday afternoon at the RBL seminar Hall.

Sponsored by RBL, the training course is being participated by 12 officers from different sector corporations, banks, multinational companies, NGOs, and other private business organisations.

Public enterprise

A two-week training programme titled "Public enterprise management course" was inaugurated at the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre at Savar on Sunday with a call for removing inefficiencies from the public sector management.

The Rector incharge of the centre, Dr Ikramul Ahsan, inaugurated the course calling upon the participants to identify the problems in this field and remove those for ensuring development of the country through establishing an efficient management in the public sector.

Lt Governor of Lions Dist-315B

Ln. Engr. M Shahjahan Khadem was elected Lieutenant Governor of the Lions District-315B Bangladesh for 1991-92 at the fourth annual district convention held in city Friday, a Lions Press release said Sunday, reports BSS.

Khadem joined Lionism in 1976. He got the international leadership award in 1989 from the Lions' International President and "peace messenger" award from the UN Secretary General in 1987.

Governor of Dist-315A honoured

Lion Tauhidur Rahman, Governor of Lions District-315A, Bangladesh received International President's Leadership Gold Medal Award of Lions Clubs International.

He was formally decorated with the Gold Medal by Lion Sushiel Agrawal, Lions Clubs International Director. Rahman an Advocate of Bangladesh Supreme Court.

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