

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Bringing 'Kalis' Back in Mode

by Fayza Haq

'Catline' had an interesting exhibition of its summery and pastel shaded dresses at the Alliance Francaise. Iflat and Rahat, the two sisters who operate 'Catline' from their house, have regular sales and exhibitions. They both have full-time jobs of their own, and manage the boutique in the evening. Before an exhibition they work as late as two in the morning, having begun work after five in the evening, with only cups of tea to steer and prop them.

There was a large variety of materials ranging from 'jamdani' sari, 'motka' silk, muslin and pure silk to cotton, linen and some foreign material bought at Chandni Chowk. 'We would love to popularise the 'jamdani' and other traditional material like the muslin but the customers don't hanker after them. It is difficult to maintain these traditional materials. People also love to copy the western style and anything occidental is good to their belief,' Iflat remarks.

'I would like to bring in the typical Subcontinental clothes such as the 'ghagras', 'peshwas', and 'lehengas', which are coming back in time. There are the dresses with the 30 'kalis' and 40 'kalis'. But you need a lot of material for them. The material must also necessarily have a nice fall. All this makes it expensive,' the dress designer continues.

'People are not careful about maintaining their figure in Bangladesh. My customers would like to wear tight fitting and flared clothes such as the angarkhan which has the traditional Moghul 'achkan' style with 'kalis' and buttons, but they must have the figure for it. The same applies to 'lehengas' and 'ghagras', Iflat adds.

Iflat says that when she is designing a dress the most important thing for her is the material. 'I have to be tempted to take it,' she explains. 'I next think of the pattern that will suit the material. People say that my designs are too stylish with the 'peshwas' and 'angarkhans'. I am advised to stick to traditional styles. They find the pleats and gathering too modern or suitable only for teenagers.'

'She reminds you that the mode of wearing 'shalwar-kameez' among the adults is a recent development. As soon as a girl came of age and reached her late teens, she used to go in for the 'sari'. It is only five or ten years ago that women have started wearing 'shalwar-kameez' even if they are married and when they are not going out to work. People have realised how practical this style of clothes is.'

Iflat and Rahat, when they prepare their clothes, make them a free size and then alter them according to the shape. 'Sometimes the dresses do not suit the customers. They are made for slimmer people. And we tell the customer this. The dresses in fashion wouldn't suit someone with a dumpy figure', is Rahat's

opinion. Iflat — who plans to set up a proper boutique, along with her sister, niece Batul and other members of her family — says that she is extremely happy designing clothes, as here she is doing something of her own and is not taking orders from anyone. She follows her own timings and convenience. Since she enjoys the designing, cutting and sewing, she does not think of it as work. 'It's pure pleasure when you love something that you are doing', Iflat insists. She adds that she seldom feels weary even when she works past midnight.

She is also extremely pleased and proud that she gainfully employs about ten men under the tailor apart from the women who do the embroidery. She and her sister hope to open a sewing and cutting centre at their Faridpur village home sometime in the future.

Even though she adores her work and is devoted to it, Iflat has her difficulties. 'There is the problem of cutting and tailoring. The tailors are not very well trained. They have often picked up a little and have no idea of cutting. I have to constantly give directions. Sometimes they completely spoil a piece and the dress becomes a dead loss. At times you wish to repeat a pattern but the same material is not available. If you have a shop it runs well. It is difficult to handle the business from the house. At times I want patterns done more elaborately. But this involves more expenses.'

'I would need Taka six lakh to open a shop whereas in the house we have invested only Tk. 80,000 in our project so far. Of course we do have a profit otherwise we wouldn't continue with the venture. In the exhibitions we managed to sell only sixty per cent of our materials.'

Rahat adds, 'People would like to buy something that is Indian or Pakistani. As soon as they know the material is made here they are not so enthusiastic.'

In the recent exhibition the sisters had highlighted their dresses with 'zari', machine embroidery, 'zari' lace borders, 'toi kaam' — where pieces of cotton and tissue were cut into tiny flowers and leaves, applique work, pearls, beads and sequins.

'Our designs are different from that of the other boutiques. We have a lot of variety and our prices are reasonable. Whereas other shops charge Tk 3,000 for a set, we charge Tk 1,900 for it. If we had a shop we could have catered for clothes of lower range too,' Iflat comments.

Apart from working in the evenings and weekends for 'Catline', Iflat works for the Custom and Excise project of the UNDP and Rahat has a school of her own.



## BIT exams from July 4

CHITTAGONG, June 11: All postponed examinations of Bangladesh Institute of Technology (BIT) including those of the third and the fourth year-1988 and the first, third and fifth semester final of 1989 will commence on July 4, a BIT press release said, reports BSS.

Residential halls of the institute will reopen on June 27.

## ML hails BNP PP decision

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Muslim League (ML) has congratulated the decision of BNP Parliamentary Party to switch over to parliamentary system of government.

The former Parliamentary Party leader of Muslim League Ayenuddin in a press release on Tuesday said that this was an achievement of the mass movement of the past years.

He hoped that it would help uproot the autocracy from the country forever.

## Manik condoles death of Naag

By Staff Correspondent

The General Secretary of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Saifuddin Ahmed Manik on Tuesday expressed his deep condolence at the death of Nirod Bihari Naag, member of the erstwhile East Pakistan Provincial Assembly.

In a statement to the press, he said Naag was one of those leaders who played a vital role in steering the democratic movement ahead with courage.

Saifuddin Manik expressed his sympathy for the bereaved family of Nirod Naag.

## Special BRTC coaches from June 20

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) will operate some special coaches between June 20 and 22 in addition to its normal services to the passengers on the occasion of coming Eid-ul-Azha, reports BSS.

The special coaches will operate on Dhaka-Dinajpur, Dhaka-Rajshahi, Dhaka-Khulna, Dhaka-Kushtia and Dhaka-Barisal routes, a BRTC press release said.

Advance tickets of the normal and additional coach services will be sold at the BRTC's Motijheel bus depot, Kamalapur, from June 15.

## PROGRAMME

### JSD meet

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) will hold a meeting today to discuss the budget at its office in Motijheel.

Members of the executive committee and the organisers of Dhaka city unit have been requested to take part in the discussion.

### ADAB press conf

By Staff Correspondent

The press conference of the Association of Development Agencies of Bangladesh (ADAB) will be held on Sunday instead of Wednesday at ADAB seminar room.

ADAB as coordinating agency of the NGOs will speak on post-cyclone massive relief operations in the cyclone-hit areas.

## Weather

### Heavy rainfall likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thunder shower accompanied by moderately heavy fall is likely to occur at places over Chittagong, Khulna, Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours ending 6 am on Thursday.

On Tuesday the maximum temperature recorded at Rajshahi was 34.2 degree Celsius while the minimum temperature recorded at Feni and Sylhet was 23 degree Celsius. The day temperature till Thursday morning may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Heavy rainfall warning: Heavy to very heavy fall is likely to occur at one or two places over Khulna and Chittagong divisions, during next 24 hours commencing 6 pm on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, heavy downpour fell on Tuesday at many places over Chittagong, Dhaka and Khulna divisions.

The amount of rainfall were in Kutubdia 209 mm, Chittagong 120 mm, Shitakunda 53 mm, Dhaka 67 mm, Tangail 59 mm and Khulna 32 mm.

Outlook for subsequent two days : Little change

Extended outlook for another five days : No marked change.

The Sun sets today (Wednesday) at 6.47 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5.11 am.

Temperature and humidity in some cities and towns of the country on Tuesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	28	25.5	100	90
Chittagong	26.4	26.1	88	100
Khulna	28.5	25	Na	98
Rajshahi	34.2	26	84	84
Jessore	33.3	28.6	Na	Na
organ	32.6	26.4	86	85
Sylhet	30.5	23	85	95
Cornilla	26	24.5	100	100
Barisal	28.6	25	Na	100
Cox's Bazar	26.5	25	98	100
Satkhira	31.7	25.9	92	92
Feni	Na	23	79	Na

## Writ challenging RAJUK notification rejected

A Division Bench of the High Court on June 6 rejected the writ petitions filed by Abdul Jalil and others, challenging the notification by RAJUK in the 'Dainik Bangla' dated 12-4-88 regarding LA-Case No 138/61-62 inviting applications by 28.4.88 for allotment of plot from the lands of Badda Mouza.

The Bench comprised Mr Justice AM Mahmudur Rahman and Mr Justice Mah-

modul Amin Chowdhury, reports BSS.

Their Lordships rejected seven analogous writ petitions because these petitions were on the same matter and same cause of action.

Mainul Hossain, the counsel of the petitioners, submitted his arguments that the lands which were released from requisition, could not still be treated as lands under requisition.

He also submitted that since the requisition of lands in question was abandoned and the lands were released by the RAJUK as such without fresh requisition, the government could not hold the land.

Fakhru'l Islam, the Assistant Attorney General, submitted his arguments that the government had not taken any final decision in the matter of derequisition of the said lands and in the absence of a gazette notification to that effect, it could not be said that there was any derequisitioning.

He also submitted that the land requisition under the Town Improvement Act was public purpose.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS  
1. The weight  
2. Turning --  
6. Beauty and the  
11. All  
13. Follows  
14. Sunday  
15. Tarantula  
16. Opposite of  
17. Negative prefix  
18. Moham-  
19. median leader  
20. Test  
21. Sundry brew  
22. Permits  
24. Offspring  
25. Declare  
26. Nerve network  
28. Tired  
30. Meadows  
32. Entrance  
33. Ate to lose

Answer to Previous Puzzle

LOAF CHAT FOG  
ARGO AERO ENA  
PEERED MI EYA  
GREW LABOR  
THREATEN IL  
HEATS DIN EBB  
IR SEW BIT EB  
NEW DIP BERET  
TO TUMBLERS  
BINDS YILL  
LEO OE DEEPER  
LEO FLEA RARE  
DEW TAMS SLAP

4. Penpoint  
5. Jog  
6. Rose, Sugar or Orange  
7. Abstract being  
8. Paid notice  
9. Went by

DOWN  
1. Flower part  
2. Wild ass of India  
3. That thing  
10. water  
11. Mary - Moore  
12. Goss stray  
13. Groaned  
14. Disturbance  
15. Studio  
16. Avoided  
17. Beef animal  
18. Make amends  
19. Old French coin  
20. Mexican shawl  
21. Marchant  
22. Secured  
23. Marini  
24. Ingredients  
25. Squander  
26. Look cautiously  
27. Scheduled  
28. Phi - kappa  
29. Cook slowly  
30. Obstruct  
31. Hearing organ  
32. Asper's st.  
33. man (strong person)

# Biotechnological Research Centre may be set up

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Tuesday stressed the need for setting up of an international Biotechnological Research Centre in the country to carry out modern research on food, health, medicine and nutrition, reports BSS.

'I can assure you that government will extend all support for the establishment of such a centre with international assistance', she told the inaugural function of the 8th symposium of the Federation of Asian and Oceanian Biochemists (FAOB) at Sheraton Hotel Tuesday morning.

Prof M Maniruzzaman Miah, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University attended the function as the special guest. Prof K Ahmed, Chairman of the Organising Committee; Prof J Svasti, President, FAOB; Prof Rafiqur Rahman, President, Dr SS Qadri, General Secretary and Prof Mustafizur Rahman, Organising Secretary of Bangladesh Biochemical Society (BBS) spoke on the oc-

casional. Begum Zia said that development of various branches of science and technology was the core of the overall economic development of a country.

She said the bio-scientists had a great role to play in the development of our industry, agriculture, health and nutrition.

The Prime Minister said hundreds of thousands of people in Bangladesh fall victims of Malaria, cholera and hepatitis diseases every year.

She appreciated that the biochemists were trying to discover and develop effective vaccines against these diseases of our region.

Begum Zia said in recent times biochemists had achieved remarkable progress in the field of health nutrition and medicine through biotechnology.

She felt the necessity of developing rice varieties that would withstand salinity. If it comes true, she said, paddy on

millions of acres in the southern part of the country could be saved from saline water coming from the Bay of Bengal during high tide and tidal upsurge.

Referring to the resource constraints, Begum Zia said scientists did not have adequate facilities for modern scientific research.

Begum Zia urged the biochemists to contribute to the scientific and socio-economic development of the country by using their talent, merit and patriotism. 'Every one has the responsibility to contribute in the removal of our backwardness and poverty', she added.

Prof Maniruzzaman Miah urged the government to establish a national biotechnological research institute to carry out biotechnological research and its practical application.

Over 20 biochemists from Australia, India, Japan, Myanmar (Burma), Pakistan, USA and Belgium are attending the three-day symposium.

# Unity of left forces for 'third trend' stressed

Speakers at a discussion in Dhaka on Tuesday said that all progressive left forces should unite to create a 'third trend' in the national politics, reports BSS.

The speakers said in the absence of unity among the left-forces, fruits of all movements and struggles went to the benefit of the national bourgeoisie though the workers and leaders belonging to left parties played a pioneering role in the movements.

Held at the Institution of Engineers in observance of the 13th death anniversary of Comrade Sukhendu Dasudar, the discussion was organised by Bangladesh Shamyabadi Dal

(M-L). Presided over by party's General Secretary Dilip Barua, the discussion was addressed among others by Rashed Khan Menon MP, of Workers Party, Ajoy Roy of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Mr Pankaj Bhattacharya of NAP, Bimal Biswas of Bangladesh Communist League, Prof Musa Ansari of Dhaka University, Nazrul Islam of Bangladesh United Communist League and Noor Ahmed Bakul of Bangladesh Chhatra Maitree.

Comrade Sukhendu Dasudar, who was known in the political circle as 'Bashir Bhai', was the youngest member of the historic Chittagong ar-

moury raid. He was exiled in the Andamans, later he went underground to escape arrest for his involvement with left revolutionary politics.

Paying rich tributes to Sukhendu Dasudar, Rashed Khan Menon said, the Naxalite politics infiltrated into the country through a 'hidden way' although Sukhendu Dasudar tried his best to prevent it. He was forced to accept the line of the majority of his partymen.

Pankaj Bhattacharya said, although the political line of Sukhendu Dasudar was not correct, he was totally committed to the cause of left politics.

# Tk 10cr WASA plan to solve city water-logging problem

Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) is working on a plan Taka 10 crore crash programme to solve the Dhaka city's acute water-logging problem.

WASA Chairman Group Captain (Rtd) Nurul Islam told UNB on Tuesday that a high-powered committee is expected to submit a report on the crash programme within a couple of days.

'We are hopeful that we would be able to do something before the next dry season', Nurul Islam said.

The crash programme envisages construction of a total of 15.19 kilometres of drainage system across the capital using 450 to 1800 diameter pipes.

The crash programme will also include re-excavation of 13 canals in different parts of the city. WASA will implement the programme which will take six months to complete.

The city-dwellers experienced acute water-logging problem in the last few days when, with the onset of monsoon rains, many roads and residential areas went under knee-deep water following heavy downpour.

The WASA Chairman who visited some water-logged areas in the city today said the vehicles piled like boats on main thoroughfares just after the rain. 'The sufferings are really terrible.'

identified 19 points in the city that have been constantly suffering from water-logging during monsoon. Under the planned crash programme at least 10 of those points would be taken up on a priority basis, sources at the WASA said.

The areas to get the priority are: Khlgaon-Basabo, Rajabag-Shajahanpur, areas in front of the President's Secretariat, Newmarket to BDR gate leading to Buriganga river, Elephant road, Phoenix road to Siddikbazar, Shantinagar, Kalmilata Market to Tejuni-para and Siddhesswari area.

The factors attributed for water-logging are: inadequate drainage lines, blocking of canals, rapid growth of the city population, unplanned town development and lack of coordination among different government agencies.

It is alleged that some housing societies have been

constructing unplanned multi-storied buildings blocking drainage systems.

For example, sources pointed out, the city's posh Gulshan area could be affected if measures are not taken immediately to construct drainage line along the upcoming residential area at Bashundhara.

Besides, construction of a pumping station and sluice gate under Japanese assistance of Tk 68 crore at Kalayanpur for solving water-logging problem is yet to be started, it was learnt. Sources said some technical formalities delayed the project.

Another IDA-aided project costing Tk 116 crore for rehabilitation of the Dholaikhal and construction of a power station and a tidal gate also remained to be implemented by the Dhaka Municipal Corporation, sources said.

## Ruppur N-Project faces fund crisis

Work on the proposed Ruppur Nuclear Project could not be started due to lack of fund, State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain said, reports AF.

Replying to Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim of Awami League, Dr Hossain told the House that an estimated 80 crore US dollars would be needed for the completion of the project.

The project was first recommended in 1961, he said adding that 262 acres of land at Ruppur in Pabna district were acquired for the project in 1963.

He said if the fund is available, the main project can be completed within 5 to 6 years.

## 167,657m cft gas extracted annually

The quantum of annual extraction of gas in the country is now about 167,657 million cubic feet, State Minister for Energy Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain told the Jatiya Sangsad Tuesday, reports BSS.

Replying to a question by A Ebadur Rahman Chowdhury (JP-Maulvibazar), he said of the total the quantum of gas extracted from the Surma basin was about 39,763 million cubic feet.

Replying to a supplementary from the same member, The Minister said the gas extracted in the country was meeting the requirement of the consumers.

## 2 women injured in wall collapse

One woman and a girl received injuries following a wall collapse at the Rayerbazar in the city Tuesday morning, fire service sources said, reports BSS.

Sabura Begum (50) and Zarina Begum (12) were badly hurt when the old wall fell on them due to incessant rain in the morning.

The local people managed to rescue Sabura Begum while the fire brigade personnel rescued Zarina Begum after some time.

Both of them were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

## Japanese team due in city June 23

A Star Report

An eight-member Japanese delegation will arrive in Dhaka on a three-day visit on June 23 to assess the magnitude of cyclonic devastation.

The delegation will comprise senior parliamentary members of Japan and the Secretary General of Bangladesh-Japan Association Ito.

This delegation, led by Takemura, will be here, specially to look into the short-term, mid-term, and long-term rehabilitation programmes in the cyclone-affected areas. The team will visit the affected areas including the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) in Chittagong.

During the visit members of the delegation will call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, Ministers and high officials.

### Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Dhaka.

## Re-Tender Notice

No. P.&D/L. P-1(224)/90-91/D-3140(2) Dated: 10.6.91

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide suppliers for supply of Small tools, Washing soap, Emery cloths & other Misc articles for Machine shop at an estimated cost of Tk. 33,600/-

Intending tenderers shall have to obtain permission for purchasing tender papers etc. on application to the undersigned. Application must accompany G I R certificate, Trade licence and certificate of experience about works/supplies etc from reputed organisations. Tender papers and other terms & conditions will be available from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk. 50/- (non refundable) to the Sonali Bank, B U E T branch, Dhaka. Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft or Pay Order from Nationalised Bank amounting to 5% of the quoted amount as earnest money deposited in favour of the Comptroller of this University without which no tender will be considered. Tenders must be put into the Tender Box kept for this purpose in this office up to 2-30 pm of 17-6-91 and will be opened on the same day at 2-45 pm before the tenderers present.

The University Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders or one or more items of any tender without assigning any reasons whatsoever. No tender papers will be sold on the opening day of the tender.

Deputy Director,  
Planning & Development