

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Fishy Change!

by Rahat Fahmida

"I don't get to eat fish very much, because none of my children has a taste for it," states a mother of an upper-middle class family in Dhaka. She goes on to say, "Not that I miss it very much. Thank God, it saves me the botheration, too." It is rather strange to see that the lady is in a way proud of her children's food habits!

The percentage of such mothers are not only common but, sadly enough, on the rise. This sort of an attitude is beyond our imagination. As for us, we would have been walloped in similar situations. But why this change now? What is the inescapable economic or social reason behind this?

We often see people crowding around mobile fish vans. They offer quite a variety of choice, ranging from 'rut' to 'nilotika'. Depending on the availability, they also have prawn packets. The prices are reasonable, too.

In Dhaka, we no longer have to go all the way to the main markets to buy fish. Though they are available in a number of varieties and

common and favourite amongst the Bengalis. Some of the delicacies were or rather still are special fish preparations. It is always expected that there will be a preparation of 'Hilsa' or 'Rut' in an informal lunch/dinner get together. 'Hilsa' is a favourite even amongst the foreigners, who are equally impressed by the availability of fish in our country although, buying fish can be tricky. When one shops for fish, one should carefully look at prices, for it fluctuates a great deal. This is due to seasons or weather which determines a good or bad catch and the fact that at certain periods of the year there can be a glut of certain fish.

There are a number of ways of making sure if a fish is fresh. First, its smell; this may not be easy to identify in a place or shop full of fish, but stale fish has a very definite smell of ammonia.

White fish, when fresh, should be quite firm, the flesh should not look limp in any way, and the eyes and the scales should look bright and clear. Oily fish, have a bright silvery look about the scales and skin. If they are dull and



Customers scramble around a fish van. — Star Photo

great quantities in the markets, an average choice is offered in these three-wheeled fish vans, in most of the localities, including the commercial areas.

The Bangladesh Fisheries Development Corporation thoughtfully took this step of having these fish vans for an easy accessibility to fish. In some areas, vendors sell fish at your doorstep. Who are the customers? They are mostly from middle-income group.

Some of the upper-middle class and the upper-class families (without being rude) takes it to be quite trendy when they mention that no one in the family has a liking for fish. Often we come across some who even say that it is a botheration to buy and prepare fish. And the most common cause is — it is smelly, too bony and this and that.

Bangladesh is a land of rivers. From time immemorial rice and fish have been both a

the eyes cloudy, they are stale.

With shellfish, it is fresh if it is of bright colour. In the case of lobsters, and prawn, the heaviest are the best; and if the tail strikes quick and strong, they are in good condition. But if weak and light and frothing at the mouth they are exhausted and worthless. Prawn and lobsters are undoubtedly a favourite amongst all age groups! Apart from the freshness of the fish, it is a safe bet to say they have the best flavour if eaten in the right season.

All said and done, doctors are continually advising people to increase the intake of fish and green vegetables. Cardiologists fear an alarming increase in death due to heart disease in this country. Some of the major factors for this are that the intake of red-meat has gone up, some people are exposed to different life style with their food habits changed radically,

## 'Teachers' attendance in pry schools to be ensured'

Agriculture, Irrigation, Flood Control and Water Development Minister M Majid-Ul-Huq Thursday said due importance would be given in the education sector for the development of human resources, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the 17th national conference and seminar of the Foundation for Research on Educational Planning and Development (FREPD) at the



### PROGRAMME SIPHSA meet

Smoking and Intoxicant Preventive Human Service Association (SIPHSA) will hold a general meeting today (Friday) at 4 pm at Malibagh Biponi Bitan (First Floor) in the city, says a press release.

### Udity Club

A special general meeting of Udity Club will be held today (Friday) at 7:00 pm at the club premises, says a press release.

All the members of the club have been requested to attend the meeting.

### Pangsa Upzila samity

The installation ceremony of the newly elected office bearers of Pangsa Upzila Samity, Dhaka will be held today (Friday) at 4:30 pm at ICMA Auditorium, Nilkhet, says a press release.

### Reception

By Staff Correspondent

A reception for the recognition of organisations and individuals who have contributed to the successful immunization programme in Dhaka City will be held at Hotel Sonargaon tomorrow (Saturday).

Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation and Chairman of the Expanded Programme on Immunization Mirza Abbas will be the chief guest at the reception.

### TV Friday

- Morning Session
- 8.00 Opening and recitation for Al Quran
- 8.10 News in Bangla
- 8.15 Zoo 2,000
- 8.40 Natun Kuri: Children's programme
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.05 Documentary film
- Evening Session
- 3.00 Opening and recitation for Al Quran
- 3.12 Recitation from the Tripitak
- 3.15 Alor Dishari
- 3.40 Childcare programme
- 4.10 Drama series
- 4.40 Life and Technology
- 5.20 News in Bengali
- 5.30 Sports programme
- 6.30 Education programme
- 7.05 Madhuchhanda: Songs programme
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.40 Drama of the week
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Film: L. A. Law
- 11.30 News
- 11.45 Closing

Nisear Auditorium in city, the Agriculture Minister said education is the key to all the roads leading to prosperity.

He said the government attaches top priority to the education sector and so the highest allocation has been proposed for education in the national budget for the fiscal 1990-92.

Presided over by National Prof Muhammad Shamsul Huq, President of FREPD, the function was attended by Education Secretary A N M Eusuf and Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. M Maniruzzaman Mia as the special guests.

Majid-Ul-Huq said stress should be given on mass education and non-formal education for raising the literacy rate.

He said infrastructural development and attendance of the teachers in the class rooms of the primary schools in the villages must be ensured for attaining the target in the education sector.

A N M Eusuf said education is the tool of development of human resources and social return in this sector is much higher than the individual return.

Prof. Maniruzzaman Mia underscored the need for building trained manpower through imparting education for the development of the country.

Prof. Shamsul Huq, in his presidential speech, said education, at all levels, is beset with manifold problems — illiteracy rate is increasing, drop-out rate at the primary level is rapidly increasing and girls' participation rate is even more discouraging.

Widespread malpractice in public examinations and violence and terrorism in the university campuses indicate serious erosion of moral values, he said.

He said educational development must be recognised as an integral part of development planning with adequate resource allocation for this purpose.



Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) brought out a procession in the city on Thursday demanding trial of the killers of Zafar Islam Runu. Runu was slaughtered by unidentified assailants at Noorjahan road, Mohammadpur Wednesday morning. — Star photo

## Bank deposit increases by Tk 737.90 cr in 9 months

The total bank deposit in the country (excluding inter-banks) increased by Taka 737.90 crore or 3.86 per cent during the first nine months (July-March) of the fiscal 1990-91, according to Bangladesh Economic Survey released in Dhaka on Wednesday, reports BSS.

The deposit in the banks rose from Taka 19,110.80 crore in June 1990 to Taka 19,848.70 crore in March 1991, the survey said.

The scheduled banks have disbursed loans to the tune of Taka 1240.30 crore in the first nine months of 1990-91.

The narrow money supply in the country during the first nine months of 1990-91 was reduced by Taka 155.80 crore and stood at Tk 6,368.70 crore while the board money supply (m-2) during the same period increased by Taka 702.40 crore and stood at Taka 23,000 crore.

The amount of reserved or high powered currency was reduced by 7.47 per cent and stood at Taka 5,845.60 crore at the end of March of the fiscal 1990-91.

The internal debt during July-March 1990-91 increased by Taka 790.10 crore and stood at Taka 23,622.90 crore, registering a rise of 3.43 per cent. During the period under review there was a net surplus of Taka 990.20 crore on foreign currency head while there had been a deficit of Taka 705.50 crore. On the same head during the corresponding period of the last fiscal.

## Two electrocuted in city

Two young men were electrocuted in separate incidents in the city on Thursday, family and Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) sources said, reports UNB.

Rabindra Chandra Mandal (28), a welder of 'Sundar Welding Shop' at Kadamtali Industrial Area in Syampur died on the spot while working in the afternoon.

Another young man Nurul Islam (20), worker of Hotel Modern at Jurain in the southern part of the city was also electrocuted.

### ML meet

An emergency meeting of Bangladesh Muslim League will be held at the Gulshan residence of Kazi Abdul Kader on June 19 (Wednesday).

Leaders and workers of the party have been requested to attend the meeting.

## VIPs to be selected from highest tax-payers

The nation is going to have a new type of VIPs (Very Important Persons) in the next fiscal year, reports UNB.

Finance Minister Saifur Rahman said in his budget speech at the Jatiya Sangsad on Wednesday that the government had decided to introduce a system of declaring VIP

(Income Tax) from among the country's highest tax-payers.

Ten assesses will be selected as VIP (Income Tax) to give them due recognition for the sacrifice they make in the greater national interest by paying taxes, he said.

But, he said, the assesses having a record of tax delin-

quency or tax paid by them falls short of the specified amount or who are defaulters to scheduled banks, including development finance institutions, shall not be considered eligible for being VIPs under this scheme.

### Feni Samity

The stipend awarding ceremony and reception of the meritorious students of Feni Samity in Dhaka will be held today (Friday) at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Auditorium.

Education Minister Prof. AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury is expected to be the chief guest

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

**ACROSS**

- 1 Modicum of drink
- 5 Mile swan
- 8 Pound down
- 12 Italy's capital
- 13 Arabian garment
- 14 Lamb's pen name
- 15 Mine entrance
- 16 Title of respect
- 17 Range
- 18 Courage
- 20 Inclinations
- 22 Babylonian deity
- 23 Sow
- 24 Hairless
- 27 "— Best!"
- 31 Employ
- 32 Rain and snow

**33 Guide's high note**

**34 Cybil — native**

**37 Meadows**

**38 Roman 51**

**39 Begs**

**42 — nature**

**46 Merit**

**47 Rubber tree**

**49 Bullying animal**

**50 Sand forth**

**51 Decay**

**52 Fat of swine**

**53 Camera part**

**54 Female sheep**

**55 Gaelic**

**DOWN**

- 1 Apothecary's weight
- 2 Was borne
- 3 Leave out
- 4 Fondled
- 5 Particular
- 6 Japanese sash
- 7 Traded
- 8 Shipworm
- 9 Wolfhound
- 10 Intellect
- 11 Stroke
- 19 "— Law"
- 21 Remainder
- 23 Prognosis
- 24 Public vehicle; colloq.
- 25 Hard-wood tree
- 26 Jamie — Curly
- 27 Delight; enjoyment
- 28 Born
- 29 In music, high
- 30 Unit of Latvian currency
- 32 Loan-to
- 35 Sows
- 36 Small
- 38 Bohemian
- 39 Pare
- 40 Crippled
- 41 Emerald Isle
- 42 Apportion
- 43 Gray with age
- 44 Goes astray
- 45 Was borne
- 46 Base

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

**TALES MOATS**

**POLITE AUDITS**

**EM PULPITS RE**

**ABA IDOLS YEA**

**LOSS ODE PRAT**

**SYSTEM DREAMS**

**IRE IMP**

**INSANE YOUTPEE**

**DUTY NEE RENT**

**EMS BLEND DUN**

**AB TAILORS RA**

**SEDANS ROUSES**

**ROAST SPEED**

## Weather

### Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain with a few moderately heavy fall accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over the country till Saturday morning, reports Meteorological Department.

Heavy rain fall warning: Heavy rainfall is likely to occur one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong Divisions.

Meanwhile, heavy rainfall occurred at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi Divisions on Thursday.

The Dinajpur city witnessed the highest downpour of 46 mm while the Dhaka city experienced 13mm downpour on Thursday. Rainfall in Bogra was 28mm, Sylhet 21mm, Kutubdia 17mm and Rangpur 29mm.

On Thursday, the highest temperature recorded at Bogra was 33.4 degree Celsius while the lowest temperature recorded at Mymensingh was 23.4 degree Celsius. The day temperature till Saturday morning will remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Outlook for subsequent two days: No appreciable change. Extended outlook for another five days: Rainfall activities may decrease.

The sun sets today (Friday) at 6.47 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 5.11am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	max	min
Dhaka	31.5	25.3
Faridpur	31.2	25
Sylhet	32	24.1
Srimangal	31.7	25
Chittagong	30.2	24.4
Rangpur	32.4	—
Dinajpur	31.5	—
Rajshahi	33	26.8
Jessore	33	26
Khulna	31.5	25.3
Barisal	32	24
Bogra	33.4	25.8
Mymensingh	30.7	23.4

The next step was to send out applications for the research fellowship. And believe me it took some doing. Hunting for addresses. Electric-typing each application. Photocopying all the certificates. And stamps, stamps, stamps. Posted each envelope personally. Settled down to a long wait. The postman became Man of the Year. But every evening found an empty mailbox. Until a moment ago. "It's Harvard, no less!" I think I deserve a Gold Leaf now.

**If you don't deserve it, who does?**

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সর্ববিশুদ্ধ সত্যকিত্তব: দুশান বাস্তব জন্ম কৃতিকর

শব্দে আজকের পৃথিবী

এ প্রথম সর্বোদ প্রথম বানিবন্ধ ক্যাসেট পত্রিকা

কর্মব্যতীতর জন্মে অনেকের পক্ষে বিবেক বিভিন্ন বেতার কেন্দ্রে সর্বোদ বা ভাষা নিয়মিত শোনা সভ্য হয় না। আবার অভিরো ক্যাসেটের মাধ্যমে প্রতিদিন আপনার কাছে জুলে ধরছি সর্বশেষ বিশ্ব সর্বোদ এবং দেশের উল্লেখযোগ্য ধরনাবন্ধ। এছাড়াও এ ক্যাসেটে থাকবে মহানগরীর প্রাত্যহিক এমন কিছু তথ্য যা আপনি ঘর থেকে বেঞ্চার আসে জেনে নিয়ে উপকৃত হতে পারেন।

এ ক্যাসেট জনতে পারেন

- মুম্বাী সর্বোদের শব্দায়
- প্রাতঃ জয়ন কালে
- প্রাতঃবেশের টেবিলে
- কর্মস্থলে বাবার প্রকৃতি
- গ্রহনকালে
- বিশেষ করে গাড়ীতে চলার পথে

এখন সদস্য অন্তর্ভুক্তি চলছে

যোগাযোগ করুন:- আজকের অভিরো ৬০-এ/১, পুরানা পটন ঢাকা ফোন:- ২৪৩২৮৯