

Dhaka Day by Day

Checkmate With a Smile

by Fayza Haq

Rani Hamid, today, is surrounded by a family of national players. Her son, Kaiser Hamid is famous for his football. Bobby is known for his handball while Sohail plays squash. Rani's husband Lt. Col. Hamid (Retd.) is the chairman of the National Handball Association.

Rani could not go into chess in a serious way till '77, when her children had grown up somewhat. Despite all her difficulties and shortcomings, Rani is today eight times National Women Chess champion, and has been the British Women Chess Champion thrice.

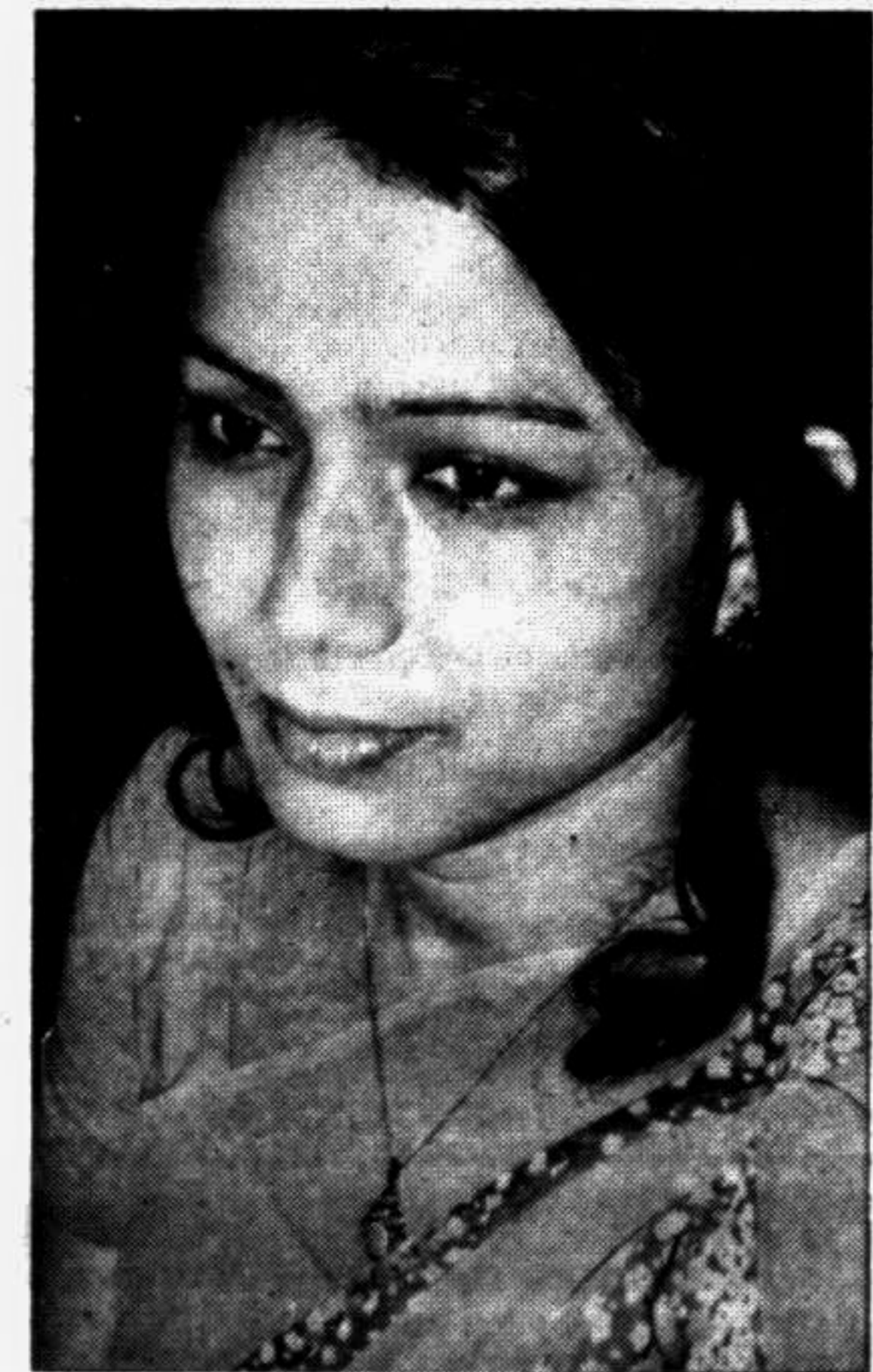
Talking of the memorial moments of her career as a chess player Rani says, "I was really excited when I got my first norm in England in '83 when everybody praised me for my end game. I got enormous pleasure playing with the Russian Grandmaster Nana Alexandria in '87 and with the Yugoslavian Grandmaster at the same tournament.

I also enjoyed playing with the British woman champion Susan Arkell in '89 and '90. Perhaps more thrilling than many other moments was in '80 when I beat the Pakistan champion Shahzaad Mirza. It created quite a stir in the country."

She is the first international woman master of Bangladesh and she earned this title in '84. She is also the first woman in the Subcontinent who has won the British Chess Trophy thrice. She represented her country four times in the world Chess Olympiad, twice in Greece, and twice in Dubai.

She was runner-up in the Commonwealth Chess Championship (Women) in '86, and twice runner-up in the Lloyd Masters International Tournament in U.K.

Rani has written two books on chess.



Rani Hamid: We must perfect the atmosphere. We must play chess in a systematic way. There needs to be enough tournaments, good prize money, and more facilities for players. There ought to be programmes throughout the year. It should be introduced as a scheduled game in schools. Today it is played even at the village level but this must be organised."

shut all day."

Rani believes, "We must perfect the atmosphere to play chess. We should organise in a systematic way. There needs to be enough tournaments, good prize money, and more facilities for players. There ought to be programmes throughout the year. It should be introduced as a scheduled game in schools. Today it is played even at the village level but this must be organised."

Since winning the British Championship has her performance got worse? The chess expert admits, "I'm not playing any tournament for a fairly long time. I have no one to practice with. If I want to go abroad to participate in tournaments I must do it at my own expense. The women players are completely ignored. Last month there was an international tournament at Dhaka and I was not invited."

This is even though I'm fifth in the national rating and eight Bangladesh players had been called."

Does she believe she can beat her counterpart Anupoma Abhayankar from India? Rani thinks that as both of them have the same standard she could beat Anupoma or be beaten herself.

Talking about Niaz Morsheid she believes that "Niaz is definitely a good player. His future will depend upon how serious he is. He has been given a chess computer by the National Sports Centre. He has had coaching in USSR."

Dwelling on Niaz's retirement as the General Secretary of the chess Federation Rani comments, "I told him a year back that the post did not suit him. He is only a young player and is not meant to be an organiser. For this job you have to please a lot of people and this is not easy. He should have stuck to his game and his studies."

Discussing other young players in whom she had faith about good performance in future Rani named Ziaur Rehman and Rifat bin Satter. She also believes that Nipa and Babli from Dhaka and Tamima Perveen from Chittagong have considerable potentialities. "They all have international ratings and I expect they'll do well," she comments.

Talking of world masters Karpov and Kasparov, she says she prefers Kasparov as he is more social. "I find Kasparov so conceted!", she comments.

What is her opinion of "Deep Thought"? She has played with computers herself and would love to own one. But she is glad that the world famous machine has not yet defeated the human mind.

Rani who picked up chess as a schoolchild in Sylhet, watching her police officer father play in his off time, has done well for herself.

How did she combine her work as a housewife with her interest in chess?

"The children were always understanding and my husband helped with household responsibilities as did also my mother," she replies with confidence and a charming smile of a woman who knows she has had considerable success.

Huge drug seized in 12 months

1,471 addicts held

The Narcotics Control Department has seized 15 kg heroin, 3 kg cocaine, 6 kg opium, 15 kg charas and over 4 tonnes ganja in connection with 1,753 drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking cases filed during January to December, 1990, reports BSS.

During the same period 1,471 accused persons have been arrested in connection with these cases. 171 of them were connected with heroin, 10 with cocaine, 585 with ganja, 10 with opium and 530 with illegal distillation, according to a report published in

the current issue of the quarterly magazine of the Department of Narcotics Control.

The department also seized 45,000 Ganja trees and 20,327 ampules of pathidine.

The report further said during January-March, 1991 the department had arrested 292 persons in connection with 322 cases and seized 4 kg heroin, one kg cocaine, 3 kg charas, 235 kg Ganja, two lakh Ganja trees and 50 ampules pethidine.

Another report adds: Nearly three-in four of the drug addicts treated at the Drug Addiction Healing Centre at Tejgaon were youths below 30 years having little or no education, according to a report published in the current issue of the quarterly magazine of the Narcotics Control Department.

Weather Gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thundershower with moderate falls accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions and at a few places over Dhaka and Chittagong division during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am on Thursday, reports Meteorological Department.

On Wednesday the highest temperature recorded at Rajshahi was 34.5 degrees Celsius. The day temperature till Friday may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Little change. Extended outlook for another five days: Rainfall activities likely to increase.

Sun sets today (Thursday) at 6.50 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5.31 am.

The temperature and humidity of some cities on Wednesday were:

Table with columns: City, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in Percentage (9 am, 6 pm). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Sylhet, Comilla, Jessore, Barisal, Bhola, Satkhira.

4 with arms held in city

By Staff Correspondent

Mohammadpur police on last three days recovered huge quantity of arms include two country made shot guns, seven pipe guns, one cut rifle and 13 daggers and bayonets.

Police on Eid day recovered fire arms from a slum at Shyamoli and also arrested four persons for possessing arms.

Officer-in-charge of Mohammadpur Thana, Md Inteqar Rahman, with his force arrested one Abdul Haq from Agargaon area on suspicion and recovered two modern foreign made daggers from him. Upon his confession, police raided a slum at Shyamoli and recovered one country made pistol, two country made shot guns. They also arrested one Robin for possessing arms.

Police on the same day arrested Wadud and Rafiqul from Town Hall area with two daggers. The arrested persons later confessed that they to the Town Hall Market to kill a businessman.

EUCSU polls schedule

By BUET Correspondent

The Election Commission for Engineering University Central Students Union (EUCSU) and its nine hall unions has announced detailed schedule for the elections to be held on July 18.

According to the schedule preliminary voter list will be circulated on July 5. Any objection regarding the voter list would be considered on July 7.

Nomination papers would be submitted by July 10. The list of the valid candidates will be published on the same day.

Last date for withdrawal of candidature is July 12 and on the same date final list of candidates will be published.

Police officials asked to check robbery

By Staff Correspondent

A special meeting on crime held Wednesday at the Headquarters of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) stressed importance on curbing armed hooliganism and toll collecting, says a DMP press release.

Police Commissioner A S M Shahjahan who presided over the meeting directed all the police officials to check robbery and use of drugs.

Syeduzzaman back home

By Staff Correspondent

M Syeduzzaman, former Finance Minister, returned to Dhaka on Monday from a trip to United States where he attended the meeting of Board of Directors of International Food Policy Research Institute in Washington D.C.

During his visit, he met with high officials of World Bank and International Monetary Fund and discussed mutual interests.

Thai Crown Prince's brief stopover in city

The Crown Prince of Thailand, Mr. Maha Vajiralongkorn, passed through Dhaka on Wednesday on his way back home from an official visit to Bhutan, reports BSS.

He stayed at the VVIP Lounge of the Zia International Airport for 45 minutes.

Education and Cultural Affairs Minister Dr. Badruddoza Chowdhury received and saw him off at the airport.

Mr. Chaiya Chandawongse, Ambassador of Thailand in Bangladesh, was also present.

Parliamentary team meets Shahabuddin, Hasina Japan to extend cooperation for democratic system

Japan will extend all possible cooperation for continued progress of Bangladesh and strengthening its democratic system, reports BSS.

This was stated by the six-member Japanese parliamentary delegation, which led by Masayoshi Takemura, called on Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at the President's Secretariat Wednesday morning.

The delegation members said that they would explore the possibility of further Japanese investment in Bangladesh. They said the huge manpower of the country could be utilised as the tool for greater productivity and particularly described Bangladesh female workers as efficient.

The Japanese parliamentary delegation said their country had been in no better condition forty five years ago than

what Bangladesh is now. They recalled that Japan changed its economic lot through disciplined hard work and planned development under a stable democratic system. They said Japan which had a share of barely two per cent of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) after the Second World War now claimed a spectacular twelve per cent share in global GDP.

They said that South Korea and Taiwan have achieved phenomenal growth in the recent years following the Japanese example of disciplined hard work and planned development.

Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed said Japan's growth as Asia's economic power house was due to its continued political stability and sound democratic evolution. He said Tokyo earned the friendship of

neighbouring Asian nations, including Bangladesh, by pursuing its principle of co-prosperity of Asia after the Second World War by adopting the peace constitution.

The Acting President said Bangladesh would strive to follow the Japanese model of economic development. He expressed the confidence that the democratic system here would be strengthened and political stability secured by co-operation between the party in power and the opposition.

The visiting Japanese delegation called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Chief of Awami League Sheikh Hasina at the Bangabandhu Bhaban in Dhaka Sunday.

Among others, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdus Samad Azad,

Presidium Members Abdul Mannan and Zillur Rahman, party General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, MP, Opposition Chief Whip Mohammad Nasim, Matiya Chowdhury, MP, Shudangshu Shekhar Halder, MP, Sayed Abdul Hossain MP, and Japanese Ambassador in Dhaka Toshio Saiki were present during the meeting.

An Awami League source said, during the discussions, Takemura appreciated the programmes Bangladesh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had taken for the reconstruction and development of Bangladesh after the war of independence in 1971. He also said that most of the Japanese people still remembered the contributions of the Bangladesh's founding father towards achievement of independence of the country, the source said.

Sheikh Hasina said that her party had been struggling for institutionalising democracy in all spheres of life for overall development of the country.

Referring to her party's programme on education, Sheikh Hasina said a good number of educational institutions were being run by the leaders and workers of Awami League and its front organisations with a view to raising the rate of literacy in the country.

Terming the country's unemployment problem as serious, the Leader of the Opposition urged the Japanese government and the private sector to invest on this soil for creating job opportunities, for the people in Bangladesh.

Meets Speaker

The delegation also called on Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas at his Sangsad Bhaban office Tuesday evening, reports UNB.

The members of the delegation, led by Masayoshi Takemura, MP, exchanged views on parliamentary affairs, bilateral issues and other matters of mutual interest.

Japanese Ambassador Toshio Saiki was present, said an official handout.

Calls on FM

Japanese team called on Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman Tuesday evening at his residence.

Bangladesh-Japan relations were prominently discussed during the meeting. They also discussed the possible Japanese technical and economic assistance for the construction of embankment and cyclone shelters in the coastal areas and offshore islands.

On Sunday the delegation was received at Zia International Airport by the Chief Whip of Bangladesh Parliament, Khandakar Delwar Hossain, and high officials of Parliament Secretariat.



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Uplift efforts being hindered by climatic changes

State Minister for Environment, Forest, Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al-Noman said that environmental degradation was a total global issue and it had to be combated by the world community collectively, reports BSS.

He said this while addressing the ministerial conference on environment and development held in Beijing recently, according to a message received in Dhaka Wednesday.

Referring to Bangladesh, Noman said, all the government efforts to improve the lot of people are hindered by the climatic changes resulting in repeated attacks of cyclones, storms and tidal surges.

The ministerial conference among the developing countries was held under the auspices of the government of China prior to the world summit conference on environment to be held in 1992 in Brazil.

The Bangladesh delegation to the conference included, among others, Faruque Sobhan, Bangladesh Ambassador to China, Dr M A H Pramank, Director General, Department of Environment and Hamiduzzaman Khan Chowdhury, Director, Bangladesh Meteorological Department.

The conference was attended by the ministers and representatives from 41 developing countries. Besides, representatives from nine developed countries and twelve international organisations also attended the conference as observers at the invitation of the Chinese government.

Noman said the climatic changes and consequent environmental degradation had become burning global issues to human heritage and these challenges must be met through global partnership.

In order to make this partnership fruitful three was urgent need for invention and transfer of technology, arrangement of larger financial involvement by developed countries, channelising additional fund to the developing countries and making a new economic order in the world.

Reliance is not just a Name. You can come and see for yourself. PROGRAMME Rotary Club. The 20th regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Uttara will be held today (Thursday) at 5-15 pm at "Chilling Restaurant" Sector-4, Uttara. Rtn A Rouf, Managing Director, United Leasing Co Ltd will speak on "Equipment Leasing in the context of Bangladesh."

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS: 1 Manifesting indifference to pain, 6 Defects, 11 Cheesecake, 12 Main dish, 14 Sandalwood, 15 Prepared, 17 Note of scale, 18 Corded cloth, 19 Pays attention, 20 Affirmative, 21 Printer's measure, 22 Core, 23 Speed contest, 24 Continued stories, 26 Separates, 27 Goes astray, 28 Dry. DOWN: 1 Calm, 2 Snare, 3 Paddle, 4 That thing, 5 Breakfast foods, 6 Trinkets, 7 Fishes, 8 Pigeon, 9 Roosevelt ID, 10 Choose, 11 Reveals, 13 Mollies, 16 Lampreys, 19 Listened to, 20 Distance measures, 22 Leaves, 23 Lift, 25 Pee Wee or Della, 26 Iron, 28 Affirms, asserts, 29 Trail, 30 Chaplaine, 31 Farm building, 32 Exertion, trouble, 33 Surflets, 35 Bazaars, 38 Somersault, 39 Toward shelter, 41 Capuchin monkey, 42 Devoured, 44 Phenol symbol, 46 Granite St.

Answer to Previous Puzzle: LAD TRIPS HOW, ORE AISLE AWE, BEFALL YELPED, ISLET DIP, BEES SAG DENT, OLDER GAS NEW, AD TAP GOB VE, REP GAB LEVEE, DROP SIR GIRD, LAB BASIS, TAILOR DENIES, AIT WOMAN OPA, ALE START NIP.