

Dhaka Day by Day

Travails Of Lending And Leasing

by Fayza Haq

When I returned home to Dhaka after five years, I found my collected works of Shakespeare and Shaw missing, along with my favourite novels by PS, Buck and Maugham.

I myself have lent prized books to friends, which I collected with great difficulty over the years, and which are not available in Dhaka today.

There was a time I lent a treasured French book, complete with cassettes to a friend, when I needed the item myself badly.

Lending books, clothes and other personal items can really break up friendship. I know of a friend of mine who lent her gorgeous embroidered 'sari' to a colleague, and got it back only covered with turmeric stains.

I know of my sister lending her best French chiffon 'saris' to my cousins, with whom she was apparently hand in glove.

I myself have lent items like typewriters, heat-ray lamps, and baking trays to get the typewriters and the other items, busted, cracked or the essential non-stick base missing.

Our aunts and uncles too have constant problems with their tenants. Even though they have all the money in the world, and live in exclusive places in Banani, Eskaton, and Dhanmandi, and can afford gala parties twice a week, getting the rent out of them is like getting blood out of a stone.

Recently when a friend of mine, working at

a Naya Paltan office, asked me to lend him my typewriter - admired and trusted him as I did - I am sure I annoyed him no end by flatly refusing to lend.

If it is a matter like lipstick, eye-shadows or pencil-heeled court shoes, I have had them back as stubs, with the leather nicked off, or the friend simply forgets the entire matter of ever having borrowed your entire range of make-up set, and then ensues the embarrassment of wondering to oneself, 'Shall I remind her or is her job at Motilal running her down and she needs the set just to boost her ego?'

It's not just books and clothes. Sometimes I have known people to borrow radios, tape-recorders, VCRs and even cars and to return them in a damaged condition.

I have the experience of lending money to my male colleagues who have come up with comments like 'What do you as a woman require money?'

So buddy, you must return my Tk 2000, were the lines my girl friends taught me.

We happen to lend out a small cottage with a corrugated tin roof to a well-to-do and well-known member of Dhaka society, he flaunts swanky cars and his wife sports the finest 'saris', and he himself creates a stir, with his carry-ons, of late, in the Sangsad Bhaban. To get a petty sum of rent from these tenants has always been a Herculean task. I would have to fly from Melbourne to Dhaka, before any due payments were ever paid.

Earlier, the State Minister inaugurated tree plantation programme '91 organised by BRDB, Paba, planting a sapling at the Paba premises. About 8,500 saplings are being planted under the programme.

COX'S BAZAR, Aug 22: A frigate of Bangladesh Navy Wednesday rescued all the 15 crew members of a trawler named 'Shammi Aktar,' an ISPR release said, reports BSS. The trawler sunk about 29 miles west off Cox's Bazar



What's on today...

Public Works Directorate Employees' Union

The employees Union of the Directorate of Public Works will hold a press conference today (Friday) at 5 pm at the National Club in protest against, what it said, violation of rules of business of the Directorate.

Mymensingh Zila Samity

A discussion meeting of Mymensingh Zila Samity will be held today (Friday) at 5 pm at the Samity Office at 384, Maghbazar (Second floor) in the city.

Moitry Samaj meet

The annual general meeting of the Moitry Samaj Kalyan Sangha will be held today (Friday) at 9.30 am at its central office at Faridabad in the city.

... and tomorrow

BARC workshop

A four-day workshop on 'risk management in Bangladesh agriculture' sponsored by the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) will be inaugurated at the International Conference Centre in the city tomorrow (Saturday).

A seminar on 'the role of telecommunication in the context of developing countries' will be held at the German Cultural Centre and Goethe-Institute at House No. 23, Road No 2, Dhanmondi in the city tomorrow (Saturday) at 5 pm.

Seminar on telecommunication

The Professor Mofassiluddin Ahmed Trust Fund Lecture 1991 will be held at the auditorium of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (ASB) tomorrow (Saturday) at 5 pm.

Mofassiluddin trust fund lecture

BCU-backed Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) will organise a country-wide mass hunger strike tomorrow (Saturday) to press home its demands of reopening all the closed educational institutions.

BCU mass hunger strike

After much persuasion the Iraqi authorities have finally agreed to issue exit visa to 14 stranded Bangladeshi nationals who have taken refuge in Bangladesh embassy premises in Baghdad since July 27, this year, a government handout said, reports BSS.

Iraq to issue exit visa to 14 Bangladeshis

Three Bangladeshi nationals living in Baghdad who had gone to Amman a few days ago are being repatriated to Bangladesh through IOM flights. They are expected to arrive Dhaka on Thursday or by Friday.

1 killed, 10 hurt in road mishap

One person was killed and ten others were injured when a truck overturned and was hit by a bus at Batuly in Dhamray upazila on Dhaka-Aricha highway Wednesday night, reports UNB.



Government employees brought out a procession in the city Thursday protesting new pay scale and office time schedule.

1385 acres of land released from acquisition in city

A total of 1385 acres of land have been released from government acquisition in Badda, Khilkhet and Zor Shahara areas, reports BSS.

DCC Mayor off to Canada

The Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Mirza Abbas left Dhaka on Thursday for Canada to attend a seminar on environment beginning August 25 in Toronto, reports BSS.

R & H employees reject pay scale

Roads and Highways Department employees on Thursday abstained from work rejecting the new pay scale announced by the government last Tuesday, reports UNB.

7,000 nabbed during Operation Durbar

Police netted more than 7,000 people during its special drive 'Operation Durbar' across the country in last six days, reports UNB.

Radio Engineers' Welfare Assoc executives

Nurul Haq and A M Mohiuddin have been elected President and General Secretary respectively of the BCS (Information) Engineers' Welfare Association of Radio Bangladesh for a two-year term (1991-92), a press release said on Thursday, reports BSS.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR TOEFL EXAMINEES

Examinees who register for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) in Bangladesh will be required to present a valid passport as identification, beginning with the November 16, 1991 test administration. No other form of identification will be accepted at test centers in this country.

Please note that no candidates will be allowed to take TOEFL without a valid passport beginning with November 16 TOEFL.

Commission to amend cooperative rules soon

RAJSHAHI, Aug 22: State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Kabir Hossain Thursday said the government would constitute a commission soon to recommend the amendment of cooperative rules and regulations for the welfare of the members of Cooperative Societies, reports BSS.

He called upon the members of Cooperative Societies to strengthen the cooperative movement for achieving self-sufficiency.

Addressing a meeting of a cross section of people including executives of different

Token hunger strike in Sangbad today

A three-hour token abstention from work was observed Thursday in the Sangbad Office from 10 am as part of the 11-point charter of demand of the Sangbad Unit of Dhaka Union of Journalists, a press release of the unit said, reports BSS.

The BPUJ and DUJ leaders will attend the rally, the press release said.

15 crew of sunken trawler rescued

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BCIC INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

General Manager, Sylhet Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd., Chhatak, Sunamganj invites 'Two Envelope System' sealed tender for supply of High Temperature Resistant Alkali Proof Gland packing against Tender No. 238 on C & F Chittagong basis under any suitable credit. Tender schedule available at Tk. 50/- per set from (a) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha, Dhaka, (b) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong and (c) SPPM Ltd., Chhatak, Sunamganj. Tender along with 1% earnest money will be received upto 3:00 P.M. on 02.10.91 and thereafter opened Technical Offer. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC-742-20/8 D-87



Philips VP arrives in city

K Huber Vice-President and Vice-Chairman, Philips Board of Management along with Mr A Veldhuizen, Director, Regional Bureau, Philips International arrived in city Thursday, says a press release.

During their stay in Dhaka they will have a busy schedule. They will have discussions with Government, business people and the Philips Organisation in Bangladesh.

Friday

Table with columns for Morning Session and Evening Session, listing times and program details.

Weather

Depression may intensify

Light to moderate rain / showers with a few moderately heavy falls at most places over Khulna and Chittagong Divisions and many places over Dhaka and Rajshahi Divisions during the next 36 hours. It may be accompanied by gusty wind.

UNB adds: The Well-marked low over the northwest Bay close to north Orissa-West Bengal coast rapidly concentrated into a monsoon depression and was centered at 6 pm Thursday about 240 kilometre southwest of Khulna town.

Under its influence, south-southeasterly squall at the speed of 40 to 55 kph is likely to sweep the coastal districts of the country.

All fishing boats and trawlers over north Bay have been advised to keep close to the coast and proceed with caution.

Table with columns for Cities/Towns, Temperature in degree, and Humidity in percentage, listing data for Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Tangail, Sylhet, Comilla, Cox's Bazar, Dinajpur, and Barisal.

BCIC International Tender Notice

Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Limited, Ashuganj, B. Baria, Bangladesh hereby invites sealed quotations as under :-

Table with columns for Sl. No., Tender Enquiry No., Description of goods, Terms of delivery, Due date of opening, Price of tender documents (non-refundable), Earnest Money, and Source of Financing.

Tenders will be received by the Chief Comm. Manager, Zia Fertilizer Co. Ltd. Ashuganj, B. Baria, Bangladesh upto 2:30 PM on the date mentioned above and be opened the same day immediately thereafter in presence of the tenderers representatives, if any.

BCIC-741-20/8 D-88