

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Rambling on the Phone

by Fayza Haq

The Dhaka city may not be as sophisticated as the cosmopolitan places in other parts of the subcontinent but there is something here that is very technical and keeps many a citizen amused and entertained. This is the telephone about which my esteemed editor wrote of recently.

Bored wives who have nothing better to do after the household activities, tired of waiting for their husbands to arrive, and piqued with the indifference with which they are often greeted by their lord and master who has been gallivanting after the office hours — take to romancing on the phone. And who would not, when weary with the dictates of the in-laws with whom the poor ignored wife is often dwelling. It is comforting no doubt to have children but women need more mental and psychological comforts and consolation than a couple of children.

Most often the conversation is purely harmless passing of time and, an entertainment as simple as reading a novel or listening to some pop music but sometimes harm may be done to a rocky marriage by the endless, marathonic telephonic conversations.

And what do the sweet-talking young bachelors do? They too bored with their lonely life, dial all possible numbers to personal secretaries, telephone operators, ticketing agents or any other glibble young woman who is prepared to listen to their courting. The interesting point in the situation is that they telephone many women and repeat the same line of "Je t'aime". It is amazing how these young men can give the same line of devotion to half a dozen women in a single day. And who can blame them if they are not fully occupied with their

work and have failed to have found themselves a suitable bride or girl-friend in time?

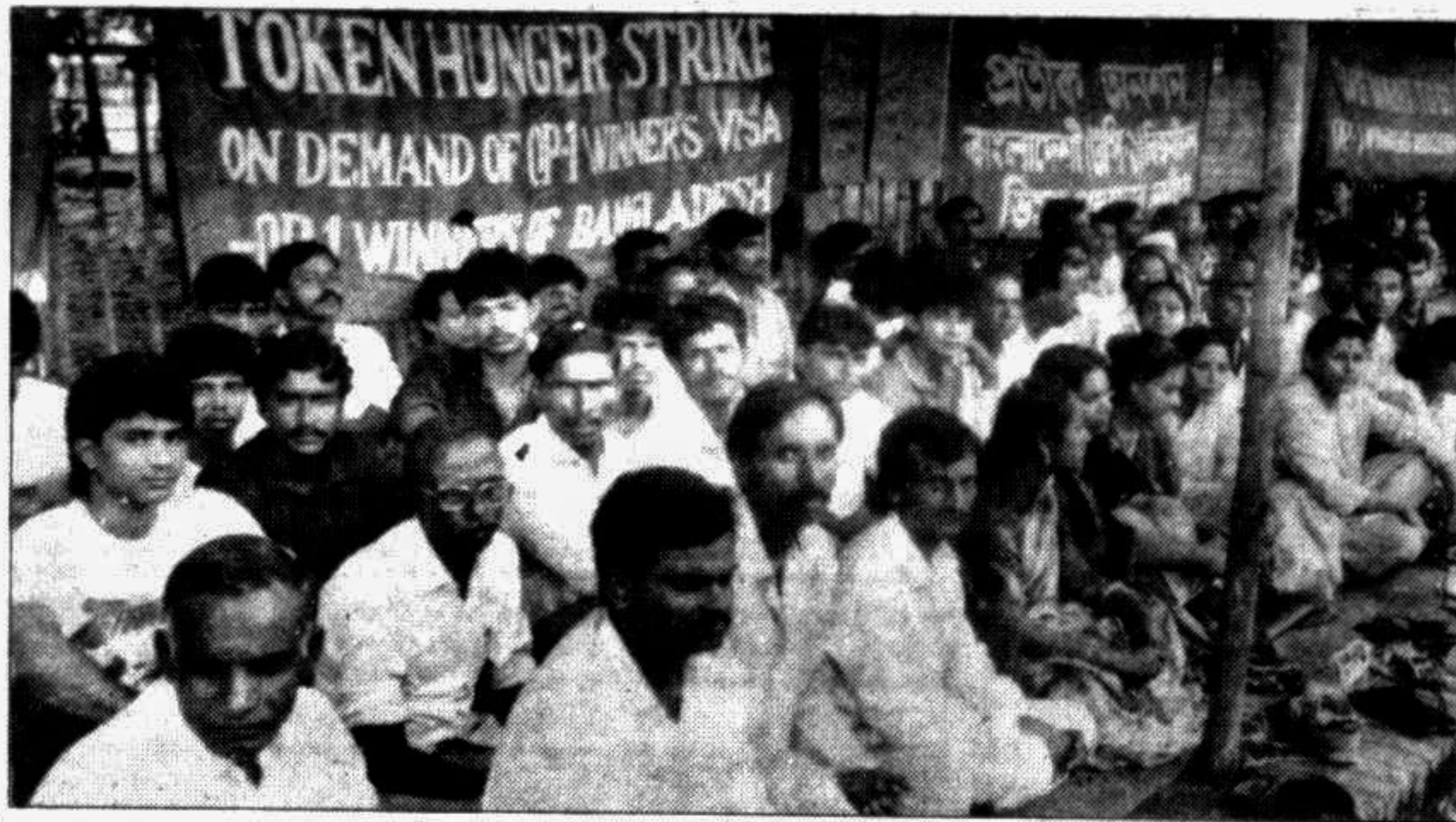
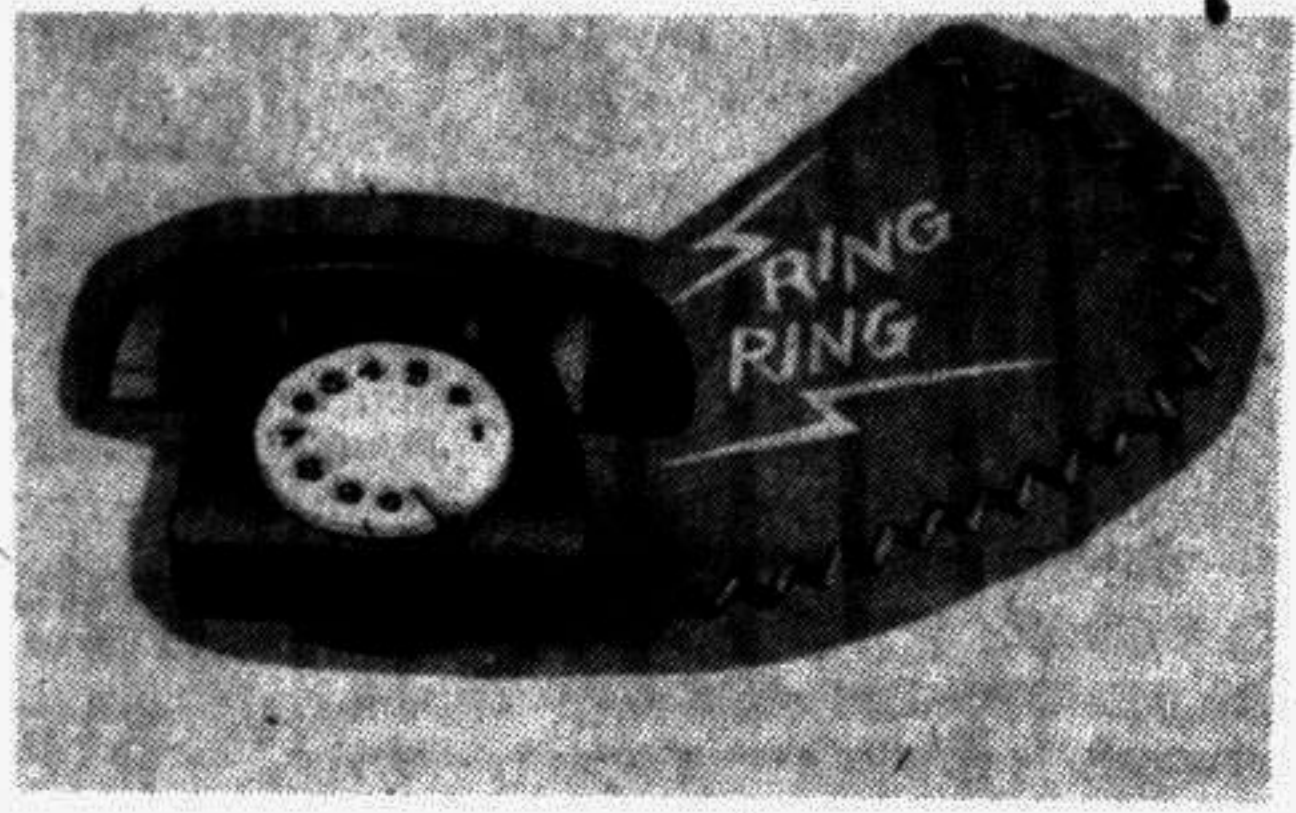
As for the telephone operators and personal secretaries, they too can hardly be blamed for the romance on the line. Sitting the rooms for hours on end, leading insipid lives at home, often being either single, divorced or widowed, it is naturally sweet to their ear to have some man admire them on the phone and give them a load of flattery. It is not for nothing perhaps that mothers-in-law have heart attacks at the prospect of their sons bringing home a personal secretary for a wife.

In case of teenagers gossiping, giggling and carrying on the telephone, it is again normal and natural at their age to contact their sweethearts on the phone when the parents are away, even if they have

just gone to visit the ailing cousin in the hospital. A school child has only to be 15 when he has a series of sweethearts at school or through some other connection. The Rumanas and Ruhizas in the college too have similar marathonic conversations with their admirers. And the telephone is the magical musical means of getting together just by dialling a known number.

Meanwhile conniving husbands, weary with their wives, they too have little qualms about telephoning available women and charming them with their voices. It is of little consequence to them that they have a wife and children at home and have nothing to offer the guiled female.

The telephone then remains not only a scientific and useful piece for commercial, industrial and domestic purposes. It is a missing link from Cupid's arrow.



Winners of OP-1 Visa for the United States on hunger strike in front of Jatiya Press Club on Saturday demanding their early departure. — Star photo

## Parties urged to help protect environment

# Polythene to be banned

Environment, Forest, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah al-Noman Saturday called for waging a social movement in combating the curse of pollution of environment, reports BSS.

Speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on "Our role in resisting pollution of environment," organised by "Prochesta", a non-government social welfare organisation, Noman said that there was no alternative to mass participation in maintaining environment against pollution.

He described the issue of environment pollution as a national problem and sought cooperation of the political parties in mobilising and motivating people in maintaining environment.

Held at the auditorium of the National Book Centre, the seminar was presided over by Prof K M Mohsin of the Department of History of Dhaka University who is also the chief patron of Prochesta.

Dr M A H Pramanik, Director General of the Directorate of Environment gave a key note speech underlining the causes of environment pollution and the remedies.

Prof Aminul Islam of the

Department of Geography of Dhaka University, Prof Iktikhar Omar of the Department of Chemical Engineering of BUET, Prof Ali Asgar of the Department of Physics, BUET, Dr A K M Nazrul Islam of the Department of Botany of Dhaka University and writer Begum Momtaj Hossain and Dr Mahfuzul Huq participated in the discussion.

Regarding the use of polythene which the speaker identified as one of the major causes of environment pollution, the Minister said the government had already decided at the cabinet level meeting to stop the use of polythene within one year. The government has given one year time to the owners of polythene manufacturing units

to close down their factories by next year, he added.

Appreciating the role of the Prochesta, the Minister said the non-government and social welfare organisations could play an important role in educating and motivating people to check pollution of environment. He also highlighted the role of mass media in educating the people about the know-how of maintaining environment in the society.

Referring to the global efforts to maintain the environment from pollution, the Minister said: "We shall combine all our efforts with those of international efforts".

In his key-note speech, Prof Pramanik said: "We should think globally and act locally" for presenting a fair environment for the posterity.

## 'Bishad Sindhu' first epic in Bangla prose

Speakers at a discussion in Dhaka on Saturday termed 'Bishad Sindhu' as a successful first epic in Bangla prose style, reports BSS.

The discussion was held on the occasion of the hundred years publication of Mir Mosharrar Hossain's book Bishad Sindhu at the seminar room of Bangla Academy.

Presided over by Prof Mohammad Abul Qutub, it was participated by Sayed Abul Maksud, Shamsuzzaman Khan and Bashir-Al Iktal.

Shantanu Kaiser presented an article while Director General of the Academy Prof Mohammad Haroon-ur-Rashid gave the address of welcome.

Shantanu Kaiser, in his article, said the writer of the Bishad Sindhu had to deal with social problems and aesthetic sense for writing such an epic, based on the background of thousand years before, which still draws our deep attention even after hundred years later. Sayed Abul Maksud said the

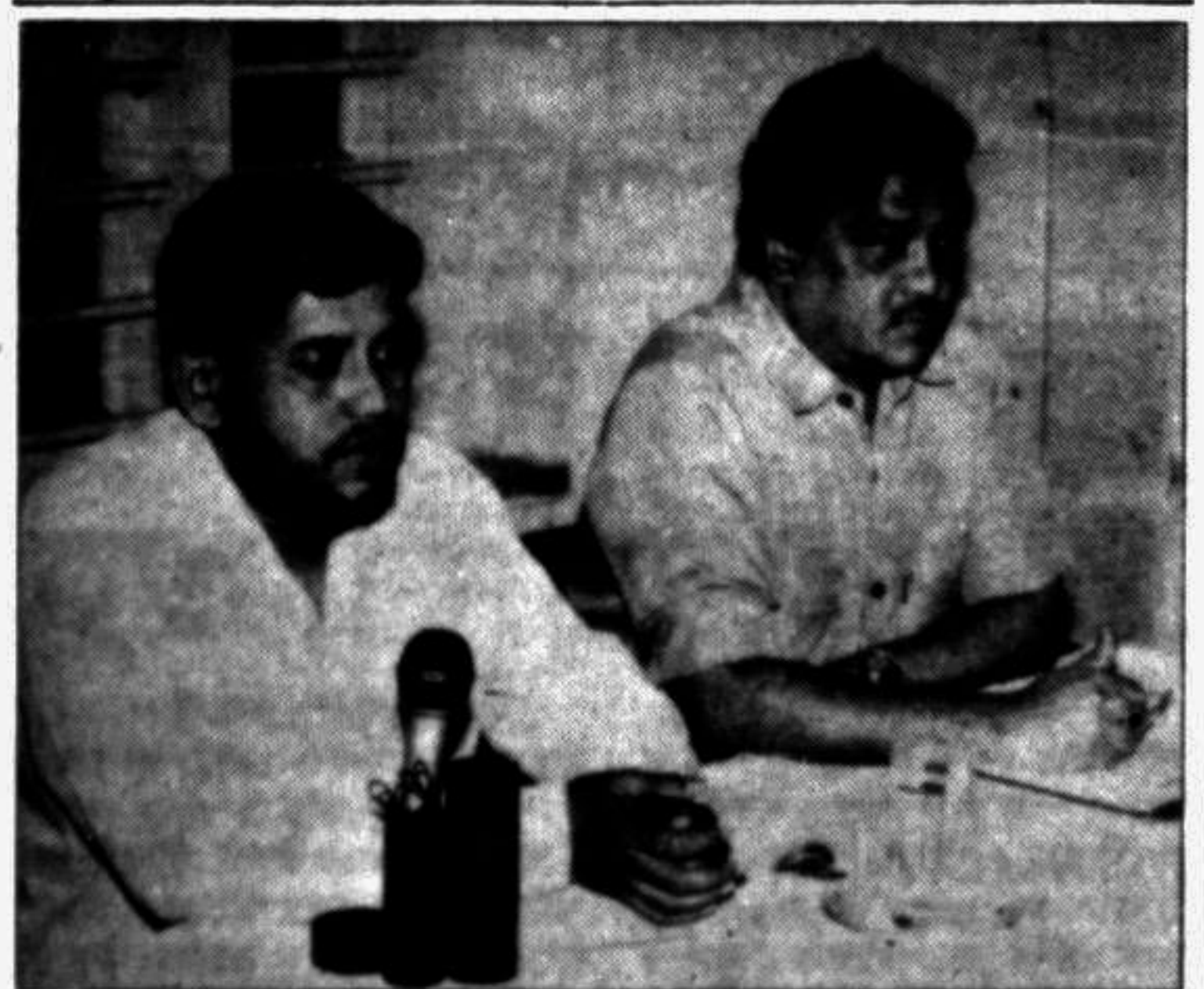
theme of Bishad Sindhu was not merely a history. It has not been read in every family over a century if the episode is not related with life, he added.

Prof Mohammad Abul Qutub, in his presidential speech, stressed the importance of the evaluation of aesthetic and social values of the Bishad Sindhu.

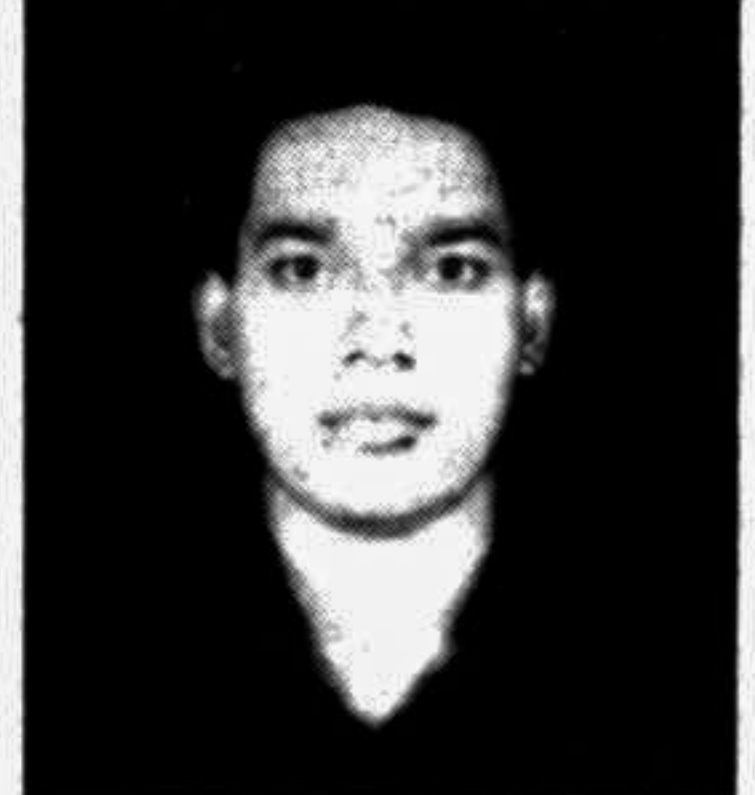
## Removal of irregularities in RAJUK plot allotment ordered

Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Mia Saturday directed the RAJUK authority to remove bottleneck and irregularities, if any, in the allotment of plots made by the previous regime, reports BSS.

The minister was talking to the officers of the RAJUK during his visit to the headquarters.



Md Tajuddin, Senior Research Fellow, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, delivering his keynote speech on "Diplomacy of Bangladesh in post-Mujib Era" at a seminar in the city on Saturday. Organised by the Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB), the seminar was presided over by Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley, Chairman, CDRB.



## First Class 2nd in B.Com exam

Moinul Hossain Asif, a student of Dhaka College, stood First Class Second in the B.Com Examination-1990 under Dhaka University.

Asif is the eldest son of late Mohammad Tofazzal Hossain — the former Resident Director of Daffodil Garments Limited. He also passed both S.S.C and H.S.C Examinations with Star marks from Chittagong Collegiate School and Dhaka Notre Dame College respectively.

## TV Sunday

- 5.00 Opening announcement Al Quran
- Programme Summary
- 5.15 Recitation from the Bible
- 5.20 News in Bangla
- 5.30 Hasikhusi
- 5.55 Abbot & Costello
- 6.20 Sports Programme — Cricket
- 7.05 Tagore Songs
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Probaho
- 9.00 Drama Series : Oshin
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Chhayachhanda
- 11.30 Khabar/ The News
- 11.45 Closing.

## 'Electronics enters a revolutionary phase'

A seminar on 'surface mounting device (SMD)' for electronics components design, a revolutionary concept in electronics, was held at the auditorium of Atomic Energy Centre in Dhaka on Saturday, reports BSS.

A key-note speaker was M Quamruzzaman, a principal engineer of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC), according to a press release.

Quamruzzaman said that the back dated conventional manual method of placing components in one side of the Printed Circuit Board (PCB) and connecting by lead track in other side is laborious, time consuming, slow, more space occupying and require more materials, thus raising the cost.

The SMD is the method of placing the electronics components on the PCB by auto-

system. It is free from lead problems, because of least use of lead. In this device very small components are pisted on both sides of the PCB, thus saving space, weight, material cost and transportation cost.

Quamruzzaman said that although leaded components skill predominants in most circuit boards today, the future belongs to this revolutionary device for its high quality performance, reliability and compactness.

The SMD technology is now widely used in USA, Japan and even in India. SMD technology is used in half of total electronics products of Japan, he said.

The speakers in the seminar stressed the need for taking out projects for adoption of this technological know-how, so that we may not lack behind in the ever-growing field of electronics technology.

## Preparations for SAARC summit in Lanka under way

Full-scale preparation is afoot in Sri Lanka to host the sixth SAARC summit early November although it has been locked in an intensified offensive to crush Tamil insurgency in northern Jafna of the island, reports UNB.

Arrangements, according to a message received here, are being made to provide good accommodation and facilities to all delegates, officials and media representatives with full security measures.

The inaugural and the closing sessions of the summit as well as other meetings associated with it will be held at the Bandarnaike Memorial International Conference Hall, at the heart of Colombo city.

The media centre will be set up at Hotel Ceylon

International. The sixth meeting of heads of state or government of the seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, formally launched in Dhaka seven years ago, will be held in the Lankan capital November 7-9.

As per schedule, the conference will be preceded by a two-day session of the SAARC Council of Ministers. The fifteenth session of the Standing Committee of the association will be held on November 2-4, while the tenth session of the Programme Committee is due on October 31 and November 1.

The third meeting of the SAARC Food Security Board will also be held in the capital of the island state on November 2

## Weather

### Day temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Met office forecast Saturday light to moderate rain or shower at a few places over Chittagong and Khulna divisions and one or two places over Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions during the next 36 hours commencing 6pm Saturday.

Day temperature may rise by two to three degree Celsius over the country.

Little change would be noticed during the subsequent two days. Met office also forecast.

Mymensingh experienced 102 mm rainfall while it was only 1mm in Tangail. There was no fall elsewhere over the country.

Temperature and humidity recorded in the major cities and towns on Saturday were:

Cities/towns	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	31.0	24.6	89	81
Chittagong	31.6	24.8	89	79
Rajshahi	33.9	25.8	86	81
Khulna	35.0	25.5	90	84
Barisal	32.6	25.4	88	86
Cornilla	32.7	24.8	95	78
Dinajpur	31.5	23.5	92	80
Bogra	31.7	23.4	82	85
Sylhet	31.0	24.0	84	87

## BNPPP meet Oct 6

A meeting of the Parliamentary Party of Bangladesh Nationalist Party will be held on October 6 (Sunday) at 4pm at the committee room number one of the Jatiya Sangsad, reports BSS.

All members of Parliament belonging to BNP have been requested to attend the meeting.

## 2 killed in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

Two persons were killed in separate road accidents in the city on Saturday.

Two persons were seriously injured when a speeding truck (Dhaka-Da-5124) struck the Vespa motor-cycle they were riding at Mirpur Road near the Mohammadpur thana crossing at around 11 am.

The driver of the motor-cycle, Chopol, succumbed to the injuries after being admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). The passenger, Hassan Imam, was also admitted to the hospital and his condition is stated to be critical.

However, the driver managed to escape from the scene of the accident along with the truck.

In another incident, a delivery pick-up truck of the Pepsi soft-drink company struck a pedestrian near the Sonargaon Hotel at around 1.30 pm.

The unidentified man succumbed to the injuries after being admitted to DMCH.

A case was registered with the Tejjgaon police in this connection.

Police arrested the driver and seized the Pick-up bearing registration number Dhaka Metro-Na-7682.

## Day for the Elders to be observed October 1

The Government has decided to observe the International Day for the Elderly People at national level on October 1, reports BSS.

The day will be observed jointly by the Social Welfare Ministry, National Committee on Aging and Probin Hitotshi Shanga in the light of the United Nations programme already announced.

The themes of the day include contributions of the elderly people to the arts, science, sports and community development.

The day will be formally inaugurated by Law and Justice Minister Mizza Golam Hafiz at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy auditorium on Tuesday.

The other programmes of the day include walking procession of elders and a discussion meeting on elders at the United Nations Information Centre in Dhaka.

The day will also be observed at district levels and special programmes on elders will be publicized in national mass media.

## What's on today . . .

**Seminar on income tax ordinance**  
A seminar on 'Changes in the Income Tax Ordinance, 1984 and the rules made thereon brought by the Finance Act, 1991 and SRO issued' will be held today (Sunday) at 5 pm at the Chartered Accountant Bhaban, 100, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the city.  
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh has organised the seminar. All the members of the institute have been requested to attend the seminar.

**Anti-drug addiction programme**  
Life, an anti-drug addiction organisation, launches a fortnight long programmes today (Sunday) at different educational institutions and thanas under the metropolis to create awareness against drug addiction.  
Lawyer Hasmatullah will open the programme at Mirpur-14 at 11 am. Life Chairman Quamrul Islam Soni will preside over the function.

**Betel Leaf Growers' Assoc**  
Bangladesh Betel Leaf Growers' Association has convened a press conference at the National Press Club today (Sunday) at 11 am to narrate their problems and demands for solution of the problems faced by growers.

**Rotary Club of Dhanmondi**  
The 264th regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhanmondi will be held today (Sunday) at 5.30 pm at Sonargaon Hotel in the city.  
Today's speaker Rtn PDG Iftekharul Alam will speak on 'youth activities' and recognition of meritorious SSC students of 1991 under the Dhaka Board. Education Secretary A N M Eusuf will be the special guest on the occasion.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka**  
The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka West will be held at Hotel Sonargaon today (Sunday) at 5.30 pm. Ms Ulfatwasim, a group study exchange team member, will speak on her tour experience at the USA. All rotarians have been requested to attend.

**Khaleda grieved at loss by typhoons in Japan**  
Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has sent a message of condolence to Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu expressing her deep shock and grief at the loss of valuable lives and property caused by the recent severe typhoons in Japan, reports UNB.

In the message, Begum Zia conveyed deepest sorrow and heartfelt sympathy on behalf of the government and people of Bangladesh.

State Minister for Establishment M Nurul Huda stressed the need for timely promotion of the public servants to avoid frustration among them, reports BSS.  
He was addressing the officials of the ministry at its conference room Saturday.  
Establishment Secretary Hasnur Rahman spoke on the occasion.

**Employment Notice**  
**Corrigendum**

বিদ্যুৎ বিল নিয়মিত পরিশোধ করুন

Advertisement published in the Dainik Bangla, Bangladesh Observer, Daily Star on 1.9.91 and the Daily Ittefaq on 5.9.91 for appointment to the posts of Additional Director/Deputy Director (Accts/Fin./Audit/Com. Opn.) under Power Development Board are hereby modified for information of all concerned that appointment to the above mentioned posts will be purely on contract basis.

DIRECTOR  
Die. of Personnel  
Power Development Board  
Dhaka

Biddut/Jan-338/4/91-92  
DFP (BA) 7868-28/9  
G-592

**Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation**  
**Tender Notice**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the Chief Engineer, BTMC, Bastra Bhaban, 7-9, Kawran Bazar C/A., Dhaka for construction of underground AC Plant duct and renovation work of existing UG ducts of Quaderia Textile Mills, Tongi, Gazipur from the enlisted A-1 contractors of BTMC. Enlisted A-2 contractors of BTMC who have previous experience in AC Plant construction may also participate in tender getting prior permission from Chief Engineer, BTMC.

Earnest money @ 2% of estimated value must be submitted with the tender in favour of BTMC in the form of Bank Draft/DD/PO etc. from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh.

Tender schedule may be purchased @ Tk. 750/- per set non-refundable on or before 7-10-91 from the Additional Chief Accountant (Cash), BTMC, Bastra Bhaban, 7-9, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka or Accountant-in-Charge, BTMC, Shipping Office, 79, Agrabad, Chittagong or Accountant-in-Charge of the mills. Tenders will be received on 8-10-91 up to 11-00 A.M. and will be opened on the same day at 11-30 A.M. in presence of the bidders if any in the office of the Chief Engineer as mentioned above.

TMC - 75  
DFP (BA) 7799-24/9  
G-576

**Essential Drugs Company Limited**  
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area  
Dhaka-1208

**International Tender Notice (Short Dated)**

EDCL invites sealed tender for supply of Pharmaceutical Raw Materials on C&F (C) Chittagong by Sea/Dhaka by Air basis.

Sl. No.	Tender No & Date	Name of the item	Cost of the tender schedule	Earnest Money	Source of finance	Last date & time of receiving	Date & time of opening
1.	IMP/PM/SEM/06/90-91 Date: 24-9-91	Pharmaceutical Raw Materials (as per schedule)	Tk. 200.00 equivalent to US\$ 6.00	Tk. 1%	SEM	27-10-91 at 11-00 AM	27-10-91 after 11-15 AM

Tender schedule with terms & conditions will be available for sale at the above address in all working days during office hour.  
No tender schedule will be sold on the date of opening of the tender.

DFP (G)—10930-25/9  
G—585

**MD. HARUN-AL-RASHID**  
General Manager  
For : Managing Director