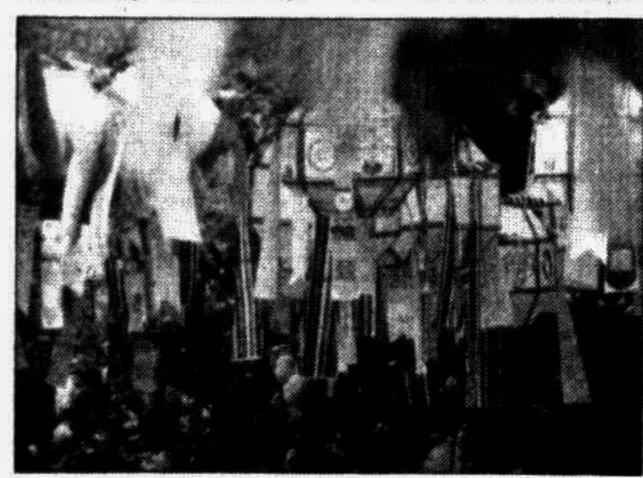
# Eating Out — Chinese!

by Tasneem Mosaddeq

Dhaka was once know as the city of. mosques. At present it would not be a misnomer to call this metropolis the city of Chinese restaurants. There is hardly any area in Dhaka where a Chinese restaurant has not erupted as yet. Though, a couple of restaurants have recently opened serving European and other Far Eastern food at exorbitant prices. And there are the equally expensive cases and restaurants at the five star hotels catering delicacies from all over the world. But for those who cannot afford these fancy places and yet want to dine out in apparently hygienic and air-conditioned luxury it is the indelible Chinese restaurant.

Eating at any of these Chinese restaurants is a memorable experience — good and otherwise. The interior decor is invariably Chinese lan-

terns, dragons and splashes of red. At present the trend is for more elaborate decoration, but the patrons really do not get a chance to admire these work of art, because of very unusual lighting effects. Restaurants all over the world create a relaxed mood with dim lights and soft music. But reducing the lights to near darkness can create only confusion. In



Plea to translate Nazrul's

majority of these restaurants one has to grope restaurants catering local food it is rather diffiand stumble in the dark to find an empty table. cult for her to arrange for the extra curry and And then once seated it is difficult to converse rice. And serving mandarin fish and chow mein because the person sitting next looks like a with beef curry and dal would certainly embarphantom against the cerie blue and red lights. rass the guest for his ill timed visit. Placing the order proves to be an ordeal as it is Then there are the odd in-between-mea impossible to decipher the menu peering in hours when shopping or working one needs semi-darkness.

with a torch. Anyway, when the food arrives store and revive ourselves with chilled soft one's senses are put to the ultimate test. Not drinks and whatever snacks are available. But in much can be said about the presentation of the the evenings the thirst for tea is difficult to dishes, because not much is visible. And in the quench if one happens to be out of the house. pallid glow of blue, green and red lights all the still recall how I had to take an Irish friend all items appear mushy. So, instead of guessing we the way to our five star hotel for tea and snacks pile our plates at random with all the food and at the end of our shopping. She wondered, how consume a mixture of prawns, chicken, vegeta- in a city like Dhaka brimming with Chinese reble, rice and noodles with a confusion of spicy, staurants there were no proper cases where tangy and salty taste combined together. Pro- you could stretch tired legs and laze over hot, fuse use of monosodium glutamate or more strong tea and scrumptuous local snacks. commonly tasting salt robs the food of the natural flavour of ingredients. Therefore, garlic prawn and lemon chicken smell the same. A much travelled aunt who is an avid sampler of food refers to the fare served in most of our Chinese restaurants as "Beng-Chi", short for Bengali-Chinese food. A blending of our cuisine with the quick stir fry and boiling method of Chinese cooking.

food but that does not justify the mushrooming pulao and mutton rezala.

What's on today . . . .

Tajuddin Smriti Sangsad

on "the nationalist movement in Bangladesh" at the National

Press Club auditorium today (Tuesday) at 4.30 pm. Prof

Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir will present the key-note paper

on the topic while Prof Zillur Rahman Siddigi will be in the

Gana Azadi League

niversary of death of the party Vice-President Gazi Shamsul

at its central office (504/A, Malibagh) in the city in the after-

noon. Party chief Alhaj Abdus Samad Advocate will chair the

Rotary Club Meeting

Rotary Club of Dhaka

will be held today (Tuesday) at 5 pm. at Dhaka Sheraton

Lions Club of Dhaka Oriental

of Dhaka Oriental will be held today (Tuesday) at 6 pm. at

Humayun Khan Panni, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament.

Federation Bhaban (4th floor) 60, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.

(510, Dhanmondt R/A, Road No. 7, Dhaka.)

held today (Tuesday) at 5.30 pm at Hotel Sonargaon.

All members have been requested to attend.

meeting while party leaders will also speak.

for salvation of the departed soul.

Bangladesh Gana Azadi League will observe the fourth an-

On this occasion, the party will hold a memorial meeting

The meeting will be followed by offering of munajat to pray

The regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Ramna will be

"The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka

The meeting has been arranged to accord reception to

Board of Directors and regular meeting of the Lions Club

All the members have been requested to attend the meet-

Rainbow Film Society in co-operation with Soviet Cultural

Rainbow Film Society

Centre will hold a film show of Androi Tarkovsky's "Andrei

Rublyov" today (Tuesday) at 4-55 pm at Soviet Cultural Centre

Tajuddin Smriti Sangsad will hold a discussion meeting

of only one sort of restaurant at the exclusion of eating places of similar standard serving our local dishes. It is rather difficult for visitors who do not enjoy our Chinese preparations. An acquaintance from England was quite disappointed at not being able to locate restaurants serving our curries. And for those who are allergic to tasting salt the choice is more limited. A young cuisine afraid of being left out from family or friends' eating out gatherings at the Chinese restaurants has started carrying antiallergic medicines to control the itching that starts immediately after he takes anything which has monosodium glutamate in it. And whenever we want to treat friends from abroad to our gastronomic delights we have to invite them over to the house. Agreed, it is all a part

of our eastern hospitality. But preparing several delicacies at short notice can at time stretch the hospitality to unnecessary limits. Moreover, Chinese cannot be the only alternative to eating at home. And when visitors drop in a meal time, the lady of the house gets al flustered trying to accommodate extra people at the table As there are no decent take-aways or

that extra bit of calorie for energy. We usually I remember once, an obliging water helped go into the nearest confectionery or general

We have such a rich and varied cuisine, recipes handed down the generations. And instead of promoting and integrating our food commercially, with the present social pace we have altogether neglected it for the concoction which goes by the name of Chinese. Lately, the Beng-Chi food has become a social cult threatening to change our palate. Even wedding receptions are being held at the Chinese restaurants. And people have started preferring fried rice and It is very well to enjoy a particular type of fried chicken to the traditional biriyani, murag

#### Fair trial in China murder case demanded

By Staff Correspondent Bangladesh Society for the **Enforcement of Human Rights** (BSEHR) on Monday urged the media to publish facts about China murder case of Narayanganj and demanded a

ends of justice. Farhad Sultana (China), wife of film actor Adil, was killed in May '91.

fair trial of the culprits for the

Adil claimed that his wife had committed suicide but China's relatives filed a case with the help of BSEHR accusing Adil as the killer.

In a press conference at the National Press Club Secretary General of BSEHR said some magazines were publishing distorted reports in favour of Adil.

She said that as it is a 'subjudice' matter. As such BSEHR should not make any comment on it but the proceedings of the case must given media coverage and the truth should come to light.

She said the 15-year old son of victim China made a statement in the court blaming his father but the reporters of some magazines are publishing one- sided interview of Adil which may influence the

Human rights workers, General Secretary of Mahila Parisad were present among others on the occasion.

#### UK Minister arrives Oct 31

The British Minister for Overseas Development Lynda Chalker MP will visit Bangladesh from October 31 to November 3, reports UNB.

During her four day visit, she will hold talks with ministers on bilateral cooperation. The talks will cover "the

British Aid Programmes" particularly in the area of cyclone rehabilitation where the UK has given Taka 74 crore. The British Minister will

visit the cyclone-prone coastal belts to see for herself the reconstruction projects.

Chalker is expected to call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

Besides, she will meet Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Dr Khandaker Musharraf Hussain and Finance Minister Md Satfur Rahman.

#### Puja Committee rally Oct 31

Mohanagar Puja Sarbojanin Committee will hold a rally on Thursday afternoon at Dhakeshwari Temple premises in observance of "Black Day," reports UNB.

The "Black Day" called by Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad will be observed in protest against the incidents of temple attack during the autocratic regime.

Political leaders, cultural activists, lawyers, journalists and students are expected to address the rally, said a press release.

#### Milam calls on Energy Minister

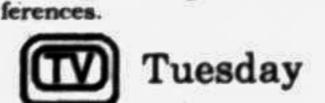
The US Ambassador to Bangladesh, William B. Milam Monday called on Minister for Energy Dr. Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain at his office in the Secretariat in Dhaka, reports BSS.

The envoy stayed with the Minister for some time and discussed matters of common interest including increase of bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

#### Juba Dal confce

The biennial conferences of Netrakona, Lohajanj and Narshingdi units of Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal will be held on October 31, November 1 and 2 respectively, reports BSS.

Juba Dal President and Mayor of Dhaka City Mirza Abbas will inaugurate the con-



#### of the country. SSMCH Juba Dal reception

The freshers reception of the Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital Unit of the Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal will be held today (Tuesday) .The Minister of Home Affairs, Abdul Matin Chowdhury will attend as the chief guest while the Minister for Forestry. Fishery and Livestock, Abdullah Al Noman, State Minister for Youth and Sports, Sadek Hossain and State

Geeta 5.20 News in Bangla Cartoon film: The challenge of the Gobots

6.00 programme Turkey 7.05 Nazrul songs 8.00 News in Bangla Drama series: News in English 10.25 Remembrance

#### 9 standing bodies on ministries

Nine Standing Committees on different ministries were Sunday night appointed by the Jatiya Sangsad to examine draft bills and other legislative proposals and to review the enforcement of laws and propose measures for such enforcement, reports BSS.

Proposed by the Deputy Leader of the House, Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury, each Standing Committee comprising ten members will meet at least once in a month and will review under the rules of procedure of the House, the works relating to a ministry which falls within its jurisdic-

The Standing Committees appointed by the llouse are on the health and family welfare, relief, education, home affairs, communication, industry, labour and manpower, cultural affairs and commerce.

The Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare: Chairman - Ilealth Minister, Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Members - Scrajul Huq. Alhaj Md Tajul Islam Chowdhury, Dr Kazi Abu Yusuf, Dr AKM Qamruzzaman, Khondokar Amirul Islam (Ilira Mia), Dr Habibur Rahman, Dr Mozammel Hossain, Dr Asfar Hossain Molla and Dr AKM

The Standing Committee on Communications Ministry: Chairman - Communication Minister Col (Retd) Oli Ahmad, Members - Messrs Advocate Abdul Karim, Fazlul Rahman (Patol), Advocate Mostafizur Rahman, Md Shamsul Huq, Syed Shahidul Huq Jamal, Abdul Wahab, Golam Mohammad Seraj, Tajul Islam, Mohammad Faruk and Alhaj Md Golam Hossain.

The Standing Committee on Industries: Chairman -Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan, members — Syed Manzur Hossain, Messrs Akhteruzzaman Chowdhury, ASM Feroz, Md Abdus Sobhan, Khurram Khan Chowdhury, Harun-Ur-Rashid Khan, Mia Abdullah Wajed, Md Sultan-Kabir Chowdhury and Begum Shamsun Nahar Khwaja Ahsanullah.

The Standing Committee on Labour and Manpower: Chairman - Labour Minister Abdul Mannan Bhutvan, members -- Ashraf Hossain, Begum Khaleda Rabbani, Mirza Muraduzzaman, Messrs Helaluzzaman Talukder Lalu, Abdus Shahid, Aminul Islam, Md Mozahar Hossain, Shari Ahmad Uddin and Shah Jozzaman.



Namaj-e-Janaza of Galib and Liton, two activists of JCD was held at Dhaka University Mosque on Monday.

- Star photo

# Maqsud Ali reappointed in public interest, says ministry

The Jatiya Sangsad Monday night debated once again on Maqsud Ali Khan, former Chairman of the T and T Board, who was reportedly reappointed a member of the board by a recent order of the Ministry of Establishment, reports BSS.

State Minister for Establishment Nurul Huda, who faced a barrage of questions from the members of the opposition benches, said he personally shared the sentiments of the opposition members. He also said the Bureau of Anticorruption had already started investigation and several corruption charges had been filed against him.

Earlier, opposition Chief Whip Mohammad Nasim read out an order of the Ministry of Establishment regarding the appointment of Khan. The order, as read by Nasim said Maqsud Ali Khan had been appointed a member of the T and T Board "in public interest."

He identified Khan as "a close corrupt associate of Gen Ershad" and asked under what circumstances the government had taken such a decision.

NDP leader Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury and Awami League member A S M Feroj wanted to know from the minister concerned whether the said government officer,

#### Dhaka-Ankara ties to grow

President Abdur Rahman Biswas has felicitated Turgut Ozal, President of the Republic of Turkey on the occasion of the Republic Day of that country, reports BSS.

1913 killed in road mishaps in a year

### Action being taken against faulty vehicles, JS told

A total of 1913 people were killed and 2853 injured in 3185 road accidents during 1990-91 fiscal year, reports

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury replying to a question from Haji Rashed Mosharraf told the House that steps are being taken including increase of police activities in order to avoid road acci-

Replying to another question

from Shatish Chandra Roy, the Minister said 465 people died while 654 were injured in 355 road accidents during the first three months of the current fiscal 1991-92. Of these, he

840 vehicle

drivers with

fake licence

arrested

Chowdhury said here Monday

840 motor vehicle drivers with

fake licence were arrested

The Home Minister dis-

during the last seven months

closed the figure in reply to a

question from Abul Hasan

Chowdhury (AL- Tangail) dur-

ing question hour in the Jatiya

Satish Chandra Roy (AL-

Dinajpur) that 465 persons

were killed and 654 injured in

355 bus accidents in the coun-

try so far during the fiscal 1991-92. Of the 355 buses in-

volved in the accidents, 332

belonged to private sector and

20 to public sector, he added.

25,381 criminals

The Home Minister told

Sangsad.

since March, reports BSS.

Home Minister Abdul Matin

said, 332 involved private and 20 state-owned buses.

Those killed in the accidents included 97 women and 45 children. Among the injured 104 were women and 73 children. The Minister said signal

system has been developed and people are being motivated for growing awareness of traffic laws. Seminars have been ar-

ranged to find out ways and means of avoiding road acci-

Actions are being taken against faulty vehicles and mobile courts are being set up in

Tender No.

against whom corruption charges had been levelled was suspended under standing government rules.

The State Minister explained that although the order for appointment was issued by the ministry, "secret measures" were being taken against the officer in question. At one stage, the State Minister told the House that there was "no trace" of Maqsud Ali Khan.

Having not been satisfied with the reply of the State Minister the opposition members including Tofael Ahmed wanted to know from Nurul Huda what was the "secret measures" of the government that could not be disclosed to Parliament.

He said the minister should clearly explain why the "corrupt Ershad ally" was reappointed and what steps had been taken against him by the government. Sudhangsu Shekhar Halder of Awami League wanted to know what was the compulsions of the government to appoint an officer "on public interest," when he was being prosecuted on corruption charges.

The issue was subsided when Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury assured the members that he would soon talk to the Prime Minister about the order and necessary steps would be taken to honour the sentiments of the Members of Parliament.

# 2.50 lakh non-locals still in Bangladesh

An estimated 2,50,000 stranded Pakistanis are still left in Bangladesh, the Jatiya Sangsad was informed Monday, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Nazir Hossain (CPB-Sunamgani), Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman told the llouse that a little more than ten lakh non-local Pakistanis were in Bangladesh in 1972 after the country emerged as an independent nation.

The government of Bangladesh had given them a free choice to live in the

country under a survey organised by the International Redeross Committee, he said.

The Minister said more than half of these people opted for staying in Bangladesh and they were granted citizenship of Bangladesh while 5,39,669 gave clear option for proceeding to Pakistan.

Rahman said under the 1973 Delhi Agreement and the Tripartite Accord of 1974, 1,26,941 stranded Pakistanis had been repatriated to Pakistan with the approval of the Pakistan government.

# Our New Fax No. (880-2)863027

BRNG470137 **EXPRESS** 

Global Service Partner of



BANGLADESH EXPRESS CO. LTD.

Ibrahim Chamber 95, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 TEL: 237784, 232224, 239147, 239225 Fax (880-2) 863027 Tix: 632184 BAE! BJ

BANGLA HOTEL 122, Nur Ahmed Road

Price of tender

G-787

Kazir Dewry, Chittagong Phone 209555, 222845

## Compressed Natural Gas Company Limited (A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

BSEC Bhaban (7th floor) 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1225

# **Tender Notice**

Sealed tenders are invited by Transformed Natural Gas Company Limited from bonafide suppliers /manufacturers /importers for purchase of the undermentioned goods:

Date of opening

ie 16-11-91	Tk 100/= (One hundred)
at 12-10 hrs	only
17-11-91	Tk 300/= (Three hundred)
at 12-10 hrs	only
18-11-91	Tk 100/= (One hundred)
at 12-10 hrs	only
19-11-91	Tk 100/= (One hundred)
at 12-10 hrs	only
Paper 20-11-91	Tk 50/= (Fifty)
at 12-10 hrs	only
21-11-91	Tk 100/= (One hundred)
at 12-10 hrs	only
23-11-91	Tk 100/= (One hundred)
at 12-10 hrs	only
24-11-91	Tk 50/= (Fifty) only
at 12-10 hrs	S
	at 12-10 hrs 17-11-91 at 12-10 hrs 18-11-91 at 12-10 hrs 19-11-91 at 12-10 hrs 20-11-91 at 12-10 hrs 21-11-91 at 12-10 hrs 23-11-91 at 12-10 hrs

Description of goods

Tender schedule can be purchased at the price mentioned against each tender in cash (nonrefundable) from Accounts Department of this office during office hours from 31-10-91. No tender will be sold on the date of submitting tender.

DFP (G) 12195-24/10

#### Film show: War and 70 65 87 Minister for Health and Family 31.8 30.6 23.0 19.6 Planning, Strajul Huq will at-Khabar/The News 11.30 21.7 tend the function as special 11.45

## Weather Thundershower likely

Haq today (Tuesday).

By Staff Correspondent Met office forecast Monday that rain or thunder shower is likely at one or two places over Chittagong division and the regions of Khulna, Barisal, Patuakhali, Dhaka and Faridpur during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Monday. Weather will remain mainly dry elsewhere in the country, Met office also said.

Day temperature will remain nearly unchanged during that Temperature and Humidity recorded at important cities and towns on Monday were:

Cities/Towns Temperature in degree Celsius Humidity in percentage 6pm Dhaka 69 87 85 77 82 32.5 24.2 31.5 20.4

works in foreign languages Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz said, the poems, lyrics and writings of our national poet Nazrul Islam are sources of great inspiration

> and patriotism, reports BSS. The Minister was inaugurating Nazrul Sangeet conference organized by Dolon Champa Sangeet Niketan at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in Dhaka on Sunday.

> State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanara Begum addressed the function as special guest.

Presided over by eminent Nazrul Sangeet researcher Prof Dr Rafiqul Islam, the function was addressed, among others, by Nazrul scholars and researchers like Executive Director of Nazrul Institute Prof Moniruzzaman, Dr Karunamoy Goswami, and Secretary General of Dolon Champa Sangeet Niketan M A Mannan.

Mirza Golam Hafiz underscored the need for translating Nazrul's works in different foreign languages. He said this effort would help much more high the image of the poet as well as our culture abroad. He called for establishing libraries in the name of the poet in the nook and corner of the country and help familiarize the poet and its works among the rising generation. He said this effort will encourage our posterity to get the essence of nationalism incarnate in the works on

Nazrul. Eminent Nazrul Sangeet vocalist Ferdousi Rahman was accorded a reception in the function by Dolon Champa Sangeet Niketan which was followed by presentation of Nazrul Sangeet by noted artists

By Staff Correspondent

guests.

#### Opening announcement, Al Quran Programme summary Reading from the

Educational Documentary film: The National Day of

**Granthic Gon Kohe** Parliament roundup Close down

held under Operation Doorbar Police arrested a total of 25,381 criminals including

mastans and 'miscreants of Sarbahara Party' in a threeweek special drive call "Operation Doorbar" which was launched all over the country on August 17 this year Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury told the Jattya Sangsad Monday evening, reports BSS.