

Dhaka Day by Day

Repairing the Past

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

We know of people collecting stamps, old coins, books and even coloured foil paper from chocolate wrappers. But how many of you know of someone collecting and repairing antique motor cycles? Well, let me introduce you to a person who does just that. Sabir Hussain Babu. His fascination for anything mechanical has led him to take up this unusual hobby.

Hussain spends a large part of his time in his garage which he has turned into a regular workshop. It is here that he works on the motor cycles. People from as far as Rangpur come to him to get their vehicles including cars, to be repaired, reconditioned and made brand new. When a motorcycle comes to Hussain, the first thing he does is dismantle it and study the parts carefully. "Sometimes," says Hussain, "the model is so old that it is impossible to replace damaged parts with what is available in the market, in which case they have to be made. If I myself don't have the proper materials to make the device, I go to various auto shops and give them ideas regarding how to make it."

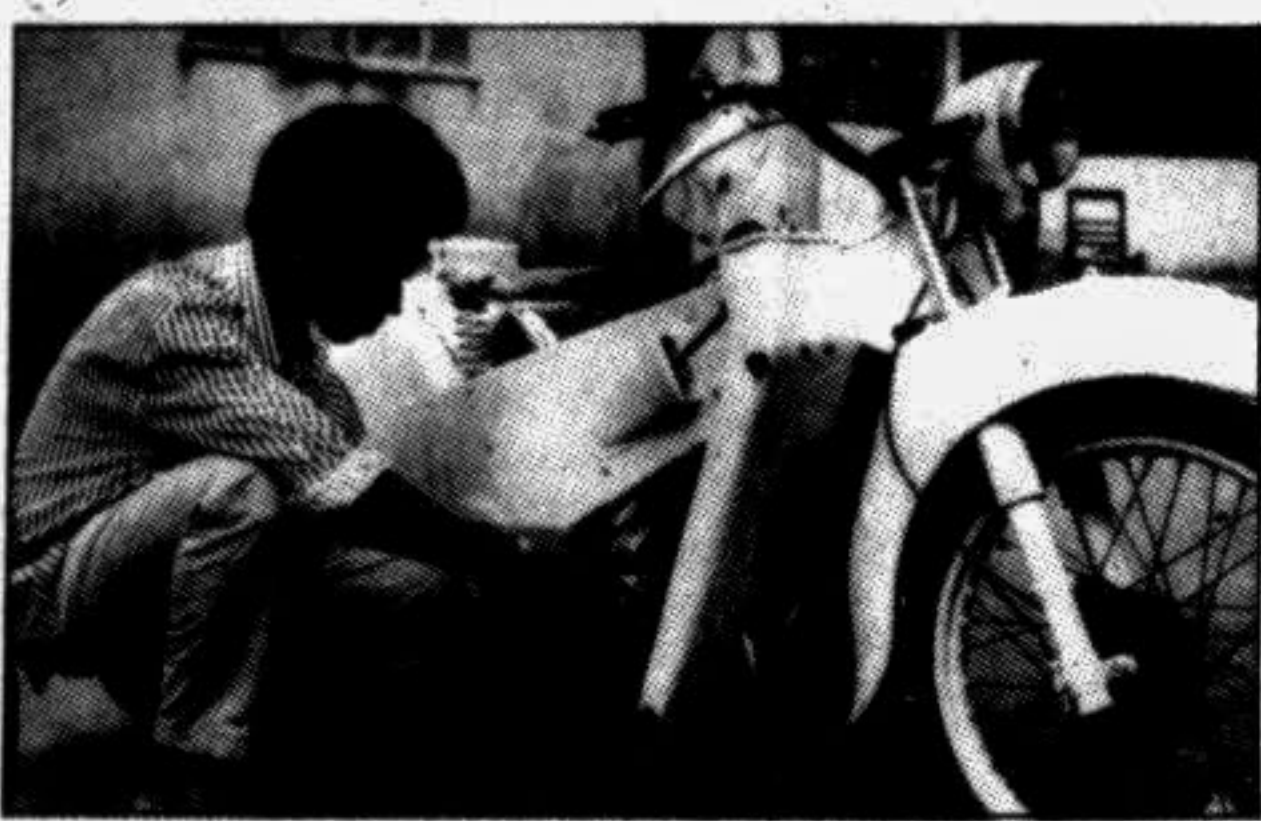
Hussain labours over every detail replacing and repairing in such a way that the original components and design are completely intact. The result is a unique antique in perfect working condition. For Hussain the most exciting moment is when a close to obsolete object has

been transformed into something operational yet original. Says Hussain with a laugh, "It's a bit like plastic surgery when a face is not only repaired but made to look even more beautiful than before."

The oldest motorcycle Hussain has repaired is a 1942 Velocity model made in England and belonging to a British Railway engineer. Currently he is working on a 1968 Harley Davidson model. This model is particularly unique in that it has an engine, a radiator and hand gear system similar to a car. Having a Mechanical Engineering degree from Dhaka

Polytechnic, Hussain is very thorough with his work and is primarily interested to know how the system works. When asked why he does not do this on a professional basis he replies, "It wouldn't be practical. Not too many people know about me. So I don't get too many antique motorcycles to repair which are rare items in any case."

His main occupation is being in the construction business and auctioning reconditioned cars. Earning a livelihood takes up most of his time but he is never too busy to take a look at a motorcycle or car that needs repairing. His next project he says, with an excited gleam in his eyes, is to work on an antique car, a 1929 model.



Sabir Hussain working on an antique motorbike. —Star photo.

What's on today . . .

Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Majlis

Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Majlis will hold a Guardian and Ulema rally in protest against the incidents concerning Babri Masjid at the Majlis auditorium at 3 pm today (Tuesday).

BNP city unit meeting

Emergency meeting of Dhaka City BNP will be held today (Tuesday) at the Nawab Eusuf Market office at 6 pm to discuss measures to be taken on historical November 7, a party press release said in Dhaka on Monday.

City BNP President Lt Gen (ret'd) Mir Shawkat Ali, MP, will preside over the meeting.

The secretaries of city BNP and all Thana presidents and General Secretaries have been requested to attend the meeting.

Rotary Club of Ramna

A joint meeting of the Rotary Club of Ramna and Rotary Club of Sher-e-Bangla will be held today (Tuesday) at Hotel Sonargon at 5.15 pm. Prof Aminul Nishat, Department of Water Resources, BUET will speak on environment and development.

Club assembly of Rotary Club

The Club Assembly of Rotary Club of Dhaka will be held today (Tuesday) at 3 pm at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel followed by regular weekly meeting at 6 pm at the same venue. The district governor Prof Jalal U Ahmed will attend both the meetings as part of his official visit to the club.

. . . and tomorrow

BSD discussion meeting

A discussion meeting on the occasion of 11th founding anniversary of Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) will be held at the party office tomorrow (Wednesday) at 4 pm.

PDB Merit Award ceremony

The PDB 1989 Merit Award distribution ceremony will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at WAPDA auditorium at 10 am. The Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources, Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain will be the chief guest.

Seminar on Japan's economic strength

A seminar on Japan's economic and financial strength: Implications for South Asia will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at 1/46, Elephant Road at 9 am. It will be organised jointly by the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies and the Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh.

Tanbazar women oppressed due to inter-group conflict

Representatives from NGOs and women organisations on Sunday condemned the recent attempts to forcibly evict prostitutes from the Tanbazar brothel in Narayanganj, reports UNB.

Women in Tanbazar are being oppressed as a result of inter-group conflict of interests and they are not at all responsible for the incidents, they said during an open discussion here this afternoon.

Organised by the Coordinating Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB), the discussion, held at CCHRB office at Siddeshwari, was chaired by Brother Jariath D' Souza, Secretary of Bangladesh Inter-Religious Council for Peace and Justice.

CCHRB Director Philip Gain presented a statement based on the investigations carried out by the organisation. Prostitution is a legalised profession in Bangladesh but a major part of legitimate earnings of the girls goes to the 'middlemen' engaged with the 'business,' Gain said.

The alleged eviction attempts by the UnIslamic Activities Resistance Committee was consequence of conflicts among 'vested' interest groups and girls were used as instruments of the whole episode, he said. Zarin Rahman Khan of

Dhaka University urged all concerned for cautious steps in dealing with this highly delicate matter.

Rina Shen Gupta of Naripakkha said the girls from Tanbazar drew attention of the society because they wanted their rights as human being. The participants at the discussion slated the role by a section of press who capitalised the issue while covering the incident.

Representatives of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Caritas, Nijera Kari, Naripakkha, Moushomi, Asia Foundation, Gono Shahajjo Sangstha were among others who attended in the discussion.

Banks disburse Tk 2508 cr loan

Four nationalised banks have disbursed an amount of Taka 2508 crore as loan to the people during the current year. State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman informed the Jatiya Sangsad Sunday, reports BSS.

Replying on behalf of the Finance Minister to a question raised by a Treasury Bench member in the absence of AL member Dr Mozammel Hossain (Bagerhat) he said the interest rate of the loan ranged between nine and 18 per cent.

Meeting of JS body on campus violence held

The third meeting of the Special Parliamentary Committee on violence on the campus was held in the Sangsad Bhavan Monday night with Law Minister and Chairman of the Committee Mirza Golam Hafiz in the chair, reports BSS.

The Committee heard the opinions of the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University, Secretary, Ministry of the Home Affairs and the Inspector General of Police regarding violence in Dhaka University and other educational institutions of the country.

Egyptian help in gas, energy sector assured

The Ambassador of Egypt in Bangladesh M Kamal El-Miligy called on Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain at his office Monday, reports BSS.

The Envoy discussed different issues of mutual interests particularly the Egyptian cooperation and assistance in the exploitation and development of energy and mineral resources sector in Bangladesh.

The Minister apprised the envoy of the prospect and possibilities of the Energy and Mineral Resources of Bangladesh and expressed the hope that the bilateral relations between the two brotherly Muslim countries would be strengthened in the years to come.

The Ambassador showed keen interest to gear up all possible assistance and cooperation in the development activities of Bangladesh specially in the development of energy and gas sector of Bangladesh.

Morocco to provide scholarships for Bangladesh students

King Hasan of Morocco expressed his keen desire to extend further cooperation in the field of education and economy to the democratic government of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The message was communicated to President Abdur Rahman Biswas by the Ambassador of Morocco in Bangladesh Mohammad Saleh Zaimi when he called on him at Bangabhaban Sunday.

The ambassador said it has been planned to increase the existing trade relations between the two brotherly Muslim countries. He said Morocco would provide more scholarships to Bangladesh students for study in educational institutions in his country.

Obituary

Mrs Lutfunnessa Ollani, wife of late Dr. Oalam Ollani of Zindabahr Chowdhury Bari of Dhaka died on October 31, after prolonged illness. She was 72. She was the grand daughter of late K.O.M. Nawab Farrukh, Comilla. She was associated with many social organisations in the then Pakistan.

UK Red Cross to build 6 more cyclone shelters in Sandwip

British Red Cross will fund construction of six multipurpose cyclone shelters in Sandwip at a cost of \$50,000 pound sterling.

Talking with UNB on Sunday, Director General of British Red Cross Michael Whitlam said requisite formalities for early beginning of the programme will be settled soon.

The UK Red Cross had earlier built six cyclone shelters in Sandwip.

Whitlam, who came here with British Overseas Development Minister Lynda Chalker, said his organisation is keen to establish a long-term cooperation with Bangladesh Red Crescent so that it can respond quickly in times of need of the disaster prone country.

He is likely to make another visit to Dhaka shortly to discuss the possibility of such cooperation.

IDB to give aid for small, cottage industries

Islamic Development Bank (IDB) will provide assistance in the development of small and cottage industries of the country, reports UNB.

The assurance came from the IDB President Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali when he called on the Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan at his office in Dhaka on Monday.

Industries Minister, while briefing the IDB President about the new industrial policy, sought co-operation of the bank in developing the country's cottage and small industries.

IDB President congratulated the minister for the new liberal industrial policy and showed profound interest in chalking out specific programme for IDB assistance in developing the cottage and small industries sector.

He also assured continuous IDB help in Bangladesh's industrial development. Industries Secretary Dr. Ekram Hossain was also present during the discussion, said an official source.

National confce on breastfeeding begins today

The first national conference on breastfeeding will be held in Dhaka on Nov. 5, 6 and 9. The first two days will be a series of seminars to be held at the Sheraton Hotel. The final day of the conference will be held Saturday, at the MAO Osmani Memorial Hall. President Abdur Rahman Biswas will attend the conference as chief guest.

A press conference will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5 pm at Melonee Room of Sheraton Hotel. The speakers will be Dr Raj Anand, Pediatrician, Jaslok Hospital and Research Center, Bombay; Ms Margaret Kyenkyia-Isabrye, Project Officer, Infant Feeding, UNICEF headquarters, New York and Ms Annelise Allain of the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN).

Tuesday	
5.00	Opening announcement, Al Qoran, Programme summary
5.15	Reading from the Geeta
5.20	News in Bangla
5.30	Cartoon Film: The challenge of the Gobots
5.55	Educational programme
6.30	Health programme
7.05	Nazrul Songs
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Drama series: Bara Bari
10.00	News in English
10.25	Parliament Roundup
10.40	Film show: War and Remembrance
11.30	Khabar / The News
11.45	Close down

Weather

Night temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Met office forecast Monday that light rain or drizzle is likely to occur at one or two places over Chittagong and Khulna division and weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Monday.

Night temperature may fall by one to three degree Celsius over Dhaka and Rajshahi division. It will remain nearly unchanged elsewhere.

The lowest temperature recorded on Monday at Dinajpur at 15.6 degree Celsius.

Temperature and humidity recorded in other cities and towns of the country were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	30.2	20.0
Chittagong	26.2	21.0
Rajshahi	31.4	19.5
Khulna	29.6	22.0
Barisal	29.2	21.6
Sylhet	30.0	19.5
Cox's Bazar	25.5	22.0
Mymensingh	31.0	17.6
Dinajpur	30.4	15.6



A delegation of Bangladesh Council of Principals called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at his residence on Monday.

Sutrapur most densely populated area

By Asiuzzaman

Population density in Sutrapur in the old part of Dhaka city is the highest in the country and possibly in the world.

More than three and half lakh people live in 1.1 square kilometre area of Sutrapur, followed by Kotowal with two lakh five thousand in 0.8 (point eight) square kilometre area, according to Dr. Shahidul Ameen, Associate Professor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).

Dr Ameen was discussing on a paper titled 'conservation and preservation of historical buildings' by Dr Shaheda Rahman Imam at a day-long seminar on 'urban research application' jointly organised by Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Centre for Urban Studies, Centre for Dhaka Study and Faculty of Architecture and Planning, BUET, at the Auditorium of Asiatic Society.

Six papers were read out at the seminar. He said that according to the available data one lakh 16 thousand people reside per sq. mile in old parts of Bombay.

Magfur given Shelter Award in India

Rotarian Magfur Uddin Ahmed has been awarded 'Shelter Award '90' by Shelter Promotion Council of India.

Every year Shelter Promotion Council, a national



network in India with international affiliations, confers 'Shelter Award' on eminent personalities of different nationalities in recognition of their exemplary contribution to national development, international understanding, enrichment of life and outstanding achievements in their respective fields.

Mr Magfur Uddin Ahmed received the award at the Award giving ceremony in New Delhi on October 28 which was inaugurated by Indian Parliament Affairs Minister Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad and Indian Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mr Ajit Panja was the chief guest at the function.

Mr Magfur Uddin Ahmed is the first from Bangladesh to receive this illustrious award from India.

Mr Ahmed, Managing Director of Data Enterprises Ltd is an active Rotarian and known for his social activities. He is also associated with the Red Crescent Society and Diabetic Association of Bangladesh.

10,000 ballotee Haj pilgrims allowed in '92

An inter-ministerial meeting Sunday approved the Haj Policy for 1992 allowing 10,000 ballotee pilgrims to perform Haj under government management by Biman, reports BSS.

State Minister for Religious Affairs M A Mannan presided over the meeting while Secretary, Ministry of Religious Affairs Abdul Awal, high officials of different concerned ministries, directorates and organisations attended.

Non-ballotee pilgrims would also be allowed as before but emphasis was given for ensuring their numbers by concerned organisations before they leave Dhaka. Ten per cent quota for Haj-e-badal would be preserved for intending disabled pilgrims.

Lions Club

Lions Club of Dhaka Capital and New Capital jointly organised a 'tree plantation programme' at Royal Nepalese Embassy in Bangladesh. Mr M B Bisht First Secretary of Nepalese Embassy in Bangladesh inaugurated the programme. Lt Muzammel Hossain Dy Chief conservator of forest, Lt Mazibur Rahman Zone Chairman and other Embassy official were present in the occasion.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer, (RHD) Road Division, Sylhet

Short Notice of RHD Inviting Tenders

- Tender Notice No. : 27/S.R.D. (RHD) of 1991-92.
- Name of work : Tender for repairing by carpeting/semi-grouting method and seal coat at different parts of different K.M. on different Road in 6(six) groups, under Sylhet Road Division, Sylhet during the year 1991-92.
- Name of offices availability of tender documents. : Undersigned/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Moulavibazar/Sunamgonj/Comilla Sub-Divisional Engineer, (RHD), Road Sub-Division No.I/II/III/1st line Sylhet.
- Name of offices to receive tender bids : Undersigned/Supersintending Engineer, (RHD), Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet/Project Manager (E.E.) O.D.A. Bridge Project, Sylhet-2.
- Last date of receipt. : 10-11-91 at 12-30 pm.
- Date and time of opening of bids : 10-11-91 at 12-45pm.
- Last date and time of selling of bids : 9-11-91 up to office hours.
- Group list of work :

Group No.	Location of work.	Estimated cost	Earnest money.	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractor
1(One)	4th(P), 8th(P) K.M. on Sylhet-Salutikur Road.	Tk. 4,18,303/-	Tk. 8,366/-	20 (Twenty) days	'A' to 'C' General categories of RHD and 'D' General category of Sylhet Road Circle, Sylhet and 'E' General category of Sylhet Road Division, Sylhet.
2(Two)	9th (P), and 10th (P) K.M. on Sylhet-Salutikur Road.	Tk. 3,12,240/-	Tk. 6,245/-	15(Fifteen) days	-do-
3(Three)	39th (P), and 40 th(P) K.M. on Sylhet-Tamabil Road.	Tk. 2,37,683/-	Tk. 4,754/-	-do-	-do-
4(Four)	26th (P) and 27th (P) K.M. on Sylhet-Tamabil Road.	Tk. 2,80,912/-	Tk. 5,619/-	-do-	-do-
5(Five)	11th (P) K.M. on Sylhet-Sutar-kandi Road.	Tk. 3,90,572/-	Tk. 7,812/-	-do-	-do-
6(Six)	8th(P), K.M. on Dhaka-Dhakshin Mogla Bazar Road.	Tk. 2,41,694/-	Tk. 4,834/-	-do-	-do-

Md. Mostafa Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Sylhet.

DFFP(G) 12591-31/10 G-821

1 killed in road mishap

By Our Correspondent

A helper of a truck was killed and another one injured when a speeding truck turned turtle on Dhaka- Tangail road at Kadha Baimair in Gazipur. Labourer Minnat Ali died on the spot and the injured Matzuddin (20) was taken to the hospital.

Biswas greets Chiluba

President Abdur Rahman Biswas felicitated Frederick Chiluba on his assumption of the office of President of Zambia, reports UNB.

French writers, artists keen on culture

The French Ambassador in Bangladesh, Serge Degallix, accompanied by noted French writer Gerard Xuriguera called on Minister of State for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan-ara Begum at her office Monday, reports BSS.

During the discussion, they agreed to renew the existing cultural agreement between the two countries in a comprehensive manner.

The State Minister apprised the French Envoy of the cultural aspects of Bangladesh. She said that the present government has undertaken a

massive programme for proper flourishing of the national culture.

The French Ambassador appreciated the role of Bangladesh in arranging the on-going Asian biennial art exhibition and stressed the need for such exhibitions and also inclusion of western art in them. He said writers and artists of France are keen about the traditional culture of Bangladesh. He also showed keen interest in the exhibition of Bangladesh art and culture in developed countries.

It's new just for you

The Daily Star is pleased to introduce a new column where individuals and organisations can publish Birthday and Anniversary Greetings, Congratulatory and Condolence Messages, Get-Well/Good-Luck Wishes, Birth/Death Announcements, In Memoriam, etc. at nominal charges.

For booking details please contact : Advertisement Manager Phone : 246023-4, 863035

Show Now on Nov 16

The solo musical performance of ALAMGIR will now be held ON NOVEMBER 16, Saturday, INSTEAD OF NOVEMBER 7, at Sonargon Hotel. The programme is shifted from November 7 because of Alamgir's visit to Sri Lanka as member of Pakistan delegation to the SAARC summit.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience caused to our patrons and well-wishers. Cards already sold will remain valid for the performance.

Inner Wheel Club, Dhaka North

Inner Wheel Club, Dhaka North