

Dhaka Day by Day

Dinosaurs of Tomorrow

by Sabah Chowdhury

Ancient Remingtons clattering, tiny Olympiaettes running scared. Brothers no longer friendly with each other and screaming at the top of voices together, produce a bazaar of noises at any of the type-writing sweat shops which Dhaka is still maintaining despite the challenge posed by computers and other writing machines of our latest age.

These typing shops are a class by themselves, because the kind of services they provide are never classy or clean. The sheets that are hacked out by the ramshackle machines and equally rundown operators are barely presentable as they are ordered by people who dare not ask for anything more. It is a classic exercise of convenience and in some ways desperation. The men, the machine and the clients have no other place to go, as they are out of system with time, quality and money.

But such men are many in Bangladesh, which is why typewriters are still able to provide a second job to the needy and the desperate. Though for some it is a second means of income, filling that tiny gap we without which life is difficult to carry on. For others it is a full time job also.

Firoz Ahmed, one such operators of typed sheets selling at a price, informed that one sheet of Bangali type written page costs taka two. He is one of the many who sit near the Dainik Bangla, and sell their merchandise at a rate which only those who can buy, do. Generally he starts his day, corresponding to office timing. This way the chances of getting customers are greater. His customers want to have their bio-data done, or an application typed in a hurry as perhaps they have little

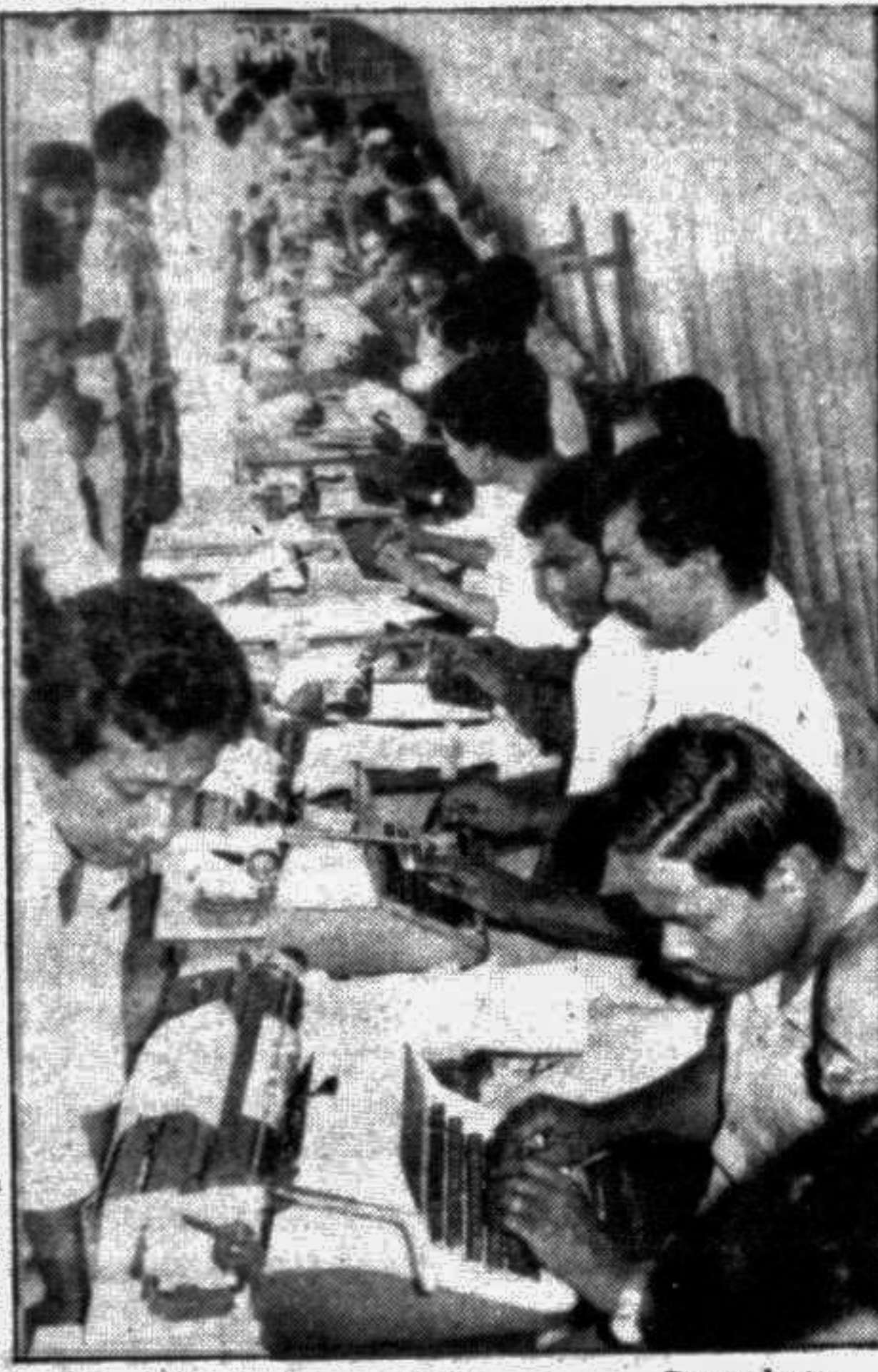
time in hand. They usually stand quietly disappearing into a world of fantasy, while hopes and dreams turn into reality, where those like Firoz hammer on sullenly so that they can move on to another client as, naturally, more clients means some more money.

Dipu, who has his shop near the courts in the old part of the city said that their income vary, as they charge according to the kind of document typed. Naturally those who own an English typewriter earn more, as they can always charge more. The average rate for an English typed page varies between taka five to twenty, depending upon the urgency and the complexity of the material typed. Those who have accomplished the art of typing in English have a feeling of superiority complex. This is easily felt in the tone of their voice when they talk.

We all are aware of the fact that, word processors are the kings these days. There are air-conditioned shops which provide similar services, but at a much higher cost. A page of computer composed costs more than double the price of a typewriter. The reason is simple, a of a typewriter word-processor costs taka eighty thousand, whereas a manual typewriter costs Taka five thousand only.

Perhaps a day will come in the near future when these typewriters will become extinct, as computers slowly take over. People will probably visit the museum to see what typewriters look like.

But the question still remains as to what will happen to the vast army of people who make a living out of it. Will they too become extinct or will they not get a second job?



Roadside typists at work.

—Star photo

Water everywhere, but not a drop to drink

Water, water, everywhere but not a drop to drink, the well known poetic expression is showing all truth in the cyclone-battered areas of the country, reports UNB.

Observers say, the degree of scarcity of drinking water in the affected areas has reached such a stage that various water-borne diseases might spread soon and become a death-threat to the distressed humanity living in the cyclone-hit areas.

A Fire official who returned from the cyclone-battered areas of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar said on condition of anonymity that it was urgently needed to save the distressed.

"Otherwise", he cautioned, death toll for epidemic might surpass that of the cyclone.

Relief organizations fear cholera may break out in epidemic form as decomposing bodies are contaminating water.

The Red Crescent said an estimated 100,000 more people may die if the impending epidemic is not contained immediately.

meanwhile, fire services and civil defence units at Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Bhola have supplied 2.5 lakh gallons of pure drinking water to surrounding affected areas.

Water supplied to the affected areas is not sufficient, fire servicemen in the affected

areas admitted. However, they suggested water-barrels must be dropped from air immediately to save the cyclone-hit islanders.

The situation is so grave that government should immediately announce these areas as emergency zone and mobilise maximum manpower from all sectors to face the situation, one volunteer working in the Cox's Bazar area said.

Public Health Engineering personnel should be rushed to those spots and tubewells sunk to ensure drinking water, the volunteer added.

Local people alleged that the quantum of relief goods is very negligible compared to the actual need in the affected areas.



French Minister for Humanitarian Action Bernard Kouchner visiting the ICDDR,B Hospital on Monday.

Fuelling of foreign aircraft suspended

Disruption in supply of aircraft fuel due to last week's cyclone has forced the authorities to suspend fuelling the incoming aircraft of foreign airlines.

Fuel supply is, however, being continued for all incoming relief planes, VIP aircraft and the national flag carrier — Biman, airline and oil company sources told UNB.

The disruption arose as tankers carrying fuel from Chittagong port became inoperative since Tuesday's hurricane. The authorities, however, said they would soon come up with alternative ar-

rangements to improve the situation.

The suspension of refuelling foreign planes landing on schedule flights at the Zia International Airport resulted in cancellation of flights by some airlines including Druk Air of Bhutan operating small aircraft.

British Airways and some other big airlines said, their planes will be able to refuel at other international airports and will not face any major problem.

ZIA needed nearly 50,000 gallons of fuel every day of which 40 per cent was used by foreign aircraft.

All examinees of Lalmatia School given admit cards

By Staff Correspondent

Lalmatia Girls School authorities contradicted the misleading reports published in a section of the press on admit cards of SSC examinees and said on Saturday that all the candidates of the school have been provided with admit cards and they are appearing in the examinations.

Press reports earlier said that 88 candidates were not issued with the admit cards. Refuting other allegations, the Chairman of the special Managing Committee Khandakar Abdul Haq said that the reports were baseless and false.

The special committee headed by a Joint Secretary of the Parliament was formed by the government on January 21. The previous committee was dissolved due to its failure to run the school properly. Since then, the new committee has been looking after the affairs of the school, said a press release.

Anniversary of Dulal's death today

The 10th death anniversary of journalist Ferdous Alam Dulal will be observed today, reports BSS.

A milad mahfil and quran khwani will be held at his village home at Ludriara under Choudhagram upazila of Comilla district to mark the occasion.

Dulal, a senior staff reporter of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) and prominent labour leader Abdur Rahman were killed on the Bijoynagar road on May 7, 1981 when a group of assailants opened fire on them.

Dhaka to close down mission in Namibia

Bangladesh has decided to close down its mission in Namibia, reports UNB.

Foreign office sources said today, the decision was taken as an austerity measure.

Obituary

Husne Ara Rahman, wife of M. Lutfar Rahman, ex-Secretary, Ministries of Commerce and Jute, died on Saturday at 11.15 pm, says a press release.

She left behind her husband, only daughter and a host of relatives to mourn death.

Her Namaz-e-Janaza was held at Dhanmondi Jame Masjid and she was buried at the Banani graveyard. Galkhwani of Husne Ara Rahman will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) after Aar prayer at House No 337 (Old), Road No 33 (Old) Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka.

WANTED
Experienced Accountant with knowledge in Company Law and Computer is requested to contact immediately with bio-data.
Delta Medical Center Limited
House No-20
Road No-4
Dhanmondi R/A,
Dhaka.
D-28

DID YOU KNOW THAT TK. 50 ONLY CAN PROVIDE BASIC SUSTENANCE FOR ABOUT 7 DAYS!!
AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF ALL EX-STUDENTS OF ST JOSEPHS HIGH SCHOOL, DHAKA WILL BE HELD AT THE SCHOOL PREMISES ON WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY BETWEEN 4-6 PM TO COLLECT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SUPPLEMENTING THE SJOBA'S ONGOING RELIEF EFFORTS FOR THE CYCLONE VICTIMS. THE ASSOCIATION INTENDS TO SEND TEAMS WITH DOCTORS, MEDICINES AND DRY RATIONS. PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND INSPIRE OTHER JOSEPHITES TO HELP TOO.
ST. JOSEPHS OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION
D-29

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Food
Bangladesh Secretariat : Dhaka.
No.MF(PRO. 10) JP-2/91/64
22-01-1398
Dated: 06-05-1991

International Tender Notice for Import of Wheat

Tenders in sealed cover are invited from the bonafide foodgrains traders to supply about 200,000 M. T. of wheat under Cash. The particulars of the tender are furnished below :

- Quantity : 200,000 M. T. (5% more or less at seller's option). The quantity may be increased or decreased depending on situation at the time of shipment.
- Basis : C & F Free out or FOB Stowed and Trimmed basis.
- Mode of payment : Payment will be made in cash through irrevocable confirmed L. C..
- Port of delivery : Chittagong or Mongla or both at Buyer's option.
- Quality, Class, Grade & Specification : Details are given in the tender document.
- Country of origin : Any traditional wheat exporting country.
- Packing : In Bulk.
- Date of Shipment : Shipment to be completed as per schedule below.
60-70,000 M. Ton by 15th June, 91 & balance to be shipped by 30th June, 1991.
- Port of Loading : Name of Loading port/ports to be mentioned.
- Time & date of closing : 11.00 hrs. BST on 25th May 1991.
- Time & date of opening : Tenders will be opened at 11.15 A. M. the same day.
- Validity of offer to : Upto 17.00 hrs BST on 28th May '91. be kept.

2. Intending tenderers are requested to submit their offer addressed to the Secretary, Ministry of Food, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in sealed cover which must reach the Deputy Secretary (Procurement), Ministry of Food by 11.00 hrs. on 25th May, 1991. The tender will be opened at 11.15 hrs. on 25th May, 1991 in the Conference Room of Food (Room No. 104, Building No. 4, inside Secretariat). Tenderers or their Representatives may attend the same. The offer of tender must be accompanied by earnest money in the form of Bank Guarantee or Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of the Secretary, Ministry of Food, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh equivalent to 1% (one percent) of the entire quantity offered. Further, on acceptance, a Performance Guarantee bond equivalent to 5% (five percent) of the value of the entire quantity accepted (on C & F or FOB basis as the case may be had to be furnished within 2 (two) days from the date of acceptance.

3. Tender papers containing instructions may be obtained during office hours of working days upto 23rd May, 1991 from the undersigned by paying Tk. 1,000/- (Tk. one thousand) by Pay Order/Bank Draft drawn in favour of the Secretary, Ministry of Food, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh by designation. Instructions contained in these documents should be carefully read and adhered to. These documents should also be submitted alongwith the offer being signed with official seal on each page.

4. Invitation of tenders does not in any way bind the Government to make any purchase from any intending supplier. Ministry of Food reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason and also to reduce or divide the quantity among different suppliers.
(SYED MONJURUL ISLAM)
Sr. Asstt. Secretary,
Phone : 23111/3035.
DFP(G)-5177-6/5
G-79

200 sea trucks to be pressed into service

Over 200 sea trucks will be put into relief and rescue operation in the offshore islands in a couple of days, reports UNB.

Two Biman flights between Dhaka, Ctg from today

Biman will operate two flights a day between Dhaka and Chittagong from today (Tuesday) instead of one flight, until further notice, says a press release.

BUET classes now to resume from May 18

The date of resumption of classes of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) has been shifted from May 11 to May 18 due to last week's devastating cyclone.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Cavil
- Fuel
- Cheapest
- Exchange premium
- Sicilian volcano
- Beverage
- Free
- Roman gods
- Edible seed
- Strike
- Sufferer from Hansen's disease
- Amended
- Myself
- Be
- sequitur
- At present
- Agave plant
- Lawmaker
- Brother of Odin
- Airline info.
- Perch

DOWN

- 1 Coolidge nickname
- 2 Time gone by
- 3 - de Janeiro
- 4 Own
- 5 - code
- 6 Latin conjunction
- 7 "Starkey - Hutch"
- 8 Afterpart
- 9 Occur
- 10 Toward
- 11 Rip
- 12 Makes happy
- 13 Gods of the household
- 14 Printer's measure
- 15 Nerve network
- 16 Way out
- 17 Math term
- 18 Speck
- 19 Inclination
- 20 Stove part
- 21 Dampens
- 22 Penpoint
- 23 Renovate
- 24 Apportions
- 25 Bond
- 26 nemesis
- 27 Maiden loved by Zeus
- 28 They're used for sniffing
- 29 "Some - Running"
- 30 River in Germany
- 31 Red-yellow in hue
- 32 Melissa - Anderson
- 33 Lubricate
- 34 Greek letter
- 35 Ocean
- 36 Sun god

Answer to Previous Puzzle

BASTE ELITE
POSTER LEMONS
AT YARD PUTT
SHY MORES RIA
SEES RIDES RB
ERATO PIRATES
RARE TILE
RESIDES NEARS
AL DELLS SLEW
TIP RYOTS STA
EDEN WOES IN
LESION PAPERS
SOBER ELATE

ABC stipends for 100 students

Assistance for Blind Children (ABC), a voluntary organisation, Monday awarded stipends to 100 blind students, reports BSS.

Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman attended the stipend distribution ceremony, held at the auditorium of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons in Dhaka as the chief guest.

Coordination of relief, rescue operation directed

Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed Monday visited the Operation Room of the Relief Coordination Cell at the Relief Secretariat to enquire personally the on-going relief operation following the catastrophic cyclone and tidal surge, reports BSS.

The President was briefed by the PSO to the Supreme Commander and Chief Coordinator, Brigadier M S A Bhuiyan, about the latest position of relief and rescue operation being carried out in all parts of the 13 affected districts involving 74 upazilas.

The Acting President instructed that there should be no gap of coordination in relief and rescue operation in pro-

viding succour to the distressed millions.

Meanwhile, the Rastrapatir Tran Bhandar (President's Relief Godown) and Relief Coordination Cell had been placed at the disposal of the High-powered Relief Coordination Committee, which is headed by the Prime Minister. The service of the Principal Staff Officer (PSO) to the Supreme Commander has also been placed at the disposal of the Prime Minister so far the relief coordination work is concerned.

The cell is conducting all the coordination of the relief work and will hold a regular evening briefing henceforth on the daily relief and rescue operation.

Kouchner calls on Kamal Yusuf

French Minister for Humanitarian Actions Bernard

Kouchner called on Health and Family Welfare Minister Kamal Ibne Yusuf at his Secretariat office Monday.

The Health Minister apprised the French Minister of the damage in coastal areas of Bangladesh caused by last week's unprecedented cyclone. He also told him about 75 upazila health complexes along with 500 union health and family welfare centres were destroyed by the cyclone and tidal surge.

The French Minister discussed the means and the possible French assistance for rehabilitations and reconstruction of cyclone affected zone. They also discussed the possibilities of incorporation of French assistance for short and long-term programmes for development of health sector in the cyclone affected areas.

Iran to provide scholarship to 27 physicians

The Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to provide scholarship to 27 physicians from different Islamic countries including Bangladesh, reports UNB.

A press release issued by the Embassy Monday said the scholarship will be provided to qualified doctors for specialising in the fields of general surgery, woman surgery and birth, internal medicine, children, E N T, orthopaedics, heart and blood vessels, psychiatry, unconsciousness and eye.

The Iranian government will undertake all expenses of the applicants during the study period including travelling, the release added.

Red Crescent Day tomorrow

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society will observe the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day tomorrow (Wednesday), reports BSS.

Weather

Light rains likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast valid till Wednesday morning says light or moderate rain accompanied by temporary squally wind likely to occur at many places over Chittagong, Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions. The day temperature is likely to remain unchanged.

Rain or thundershower occurred at most places in Chittagong division and many places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions. The chief amount of rainfall recorded over Sylhet and Rangpur 10 cm each, Dhaka 5 cm, Tangail 4 cm, Patuakhali 2 cm and Bhola .5 cm.

The day temperature remained nearly unchanged. The highest temperature of 37.5 degree Celsius was recorded in Jessore.

Bay inference: occasionally showery over north Bay. Outlook for subsequent two days: little change. Extended outlook for another five days: no marked change.

The temperature of some cities recorded on Monday:

City	max	min
Dhaka	32.5	20.4
Rangpur	25.5	20
Sylhet	22.7	
Rajshahi	33.6	21
Khulna	33.6	24.3
Jessore	37.5	x