

Dhaka Day by Day

30 p.c. Dhakaites live in slums

By Special Correspondent

Among its other attributes, such as the 'City of mosques' or 'City of rickshaws', Dhaka has come to be known also as the city of the poor. Of its 6 million population, nearly 70 percent are poor and 30 percent live in slums and squatters. It is, however, difficult to provide the actual number of the slum and squatters population.

In a survey conducted in 1987, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) found that Dhaka had a total of 989 slums having a population of about 515,409. Centre for Urban Studies (CUS) found a total of 1,125 slums on 1,340 acres of land having a total population of 878,000 (CUS survey 1988) within the Dhaka Municipal Corporation. Other surveys had different

figures. These figures varied according to definitions adopted. The latest CUS estimate has put the figure at about 2 million or about 30 percent of the total estimated population of 6 million. They live in over 1500 slum and squatter settlements. In any case, the problems of slums and squatters and their poor inhabitants are acute. So far it has been the subject of research, but recently it also drew the attention of the President himself.

A 30-member committee was formed for Dhaka City's Slum Problem Redressal (Dhaka Mahanagar Bastee Samasya Nirodhan Committee) under the directive of the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. The committee was headed by M. Mikammel Haque, Secretary of the Ministry of Land. The 30-member committee consisted of the heads of the relevant departments and officers of the Government, Chairman RAJUK (Capital Development Authority) and Mayor of DMC (Dhaka Municipal Corporation). Professor Nazrul Islam, Director CUS was later invited to join the committee. Dr. Amanatullah Khan, former-Executive Secretary of CUS was also co-opted in the committee. They played very active role as members of the committee. Professor Islam also served as the Member-Secretary of the Report Drafting Subcommittee.

The committee delivered its report (in Bangla) in three weeks' time. The report was formally presented by Mr. Mikammel Haque and Professor Nazrul Islam at the Bangabhaban (President House) in the presence of the President, the Vice-President, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, other ministers and secretaries of the Government.

The report recommended a ten-year thrust in solving the complex problem of the ever increasing number of slum dwellers and suggested short term, medium term and long term solutions to the slum and squatter problems.

The short term programme is for period of six months and has a target of rehabilitating nearly 10,000 families in Lalbagh, Mohammadpur, Dhanmondi, Mirpur, Gulshan, and Tejgaon areas. These families are to be rehabilitat-

ed on government (khas) land within the city. The medium term programme will address 41,000 displaced families and provide them with shelter and basic services within the first three years beginning 1st July 1990 to 30th June 1993 of the 4th Five Year Plan. On the average, about 14,000 families are to be rehabilitated each year. This rehabilitation would take place within and around the city.

The long term programme will be a comprehensive ten-year plan from 1990 to 2000 A.D. to improve environment and provide infra-structural facilities and essential services like safe water and energy supplies, schools and health centres, proper sewerage disposal system as well as community facilities. Execution of this phase of

the programme will mainly be entrusted with DMC and RAJUK. Other organisations and departments will help them as associate bodies. The committee has urged specially to draw a national policy for the country's slum and squatter improvement. Following guide lines and principles have been forwarded as recommendations:

(1) As Dhaka city slum and squatter problem is directly linked with settlement and housing problem of the country, a National Housing Policy is to be drawn on a priority basis. Along with this policy, a National Human Settlement Policy is also to be formulated for the country as a whole. These policies will lay principles and suggest measures relating to short term, medium term and long term

solutions with regard to housing and settlement in the Metropolitan area and other municipal district towns and rural areas of the country.

(2) Relevant principles, proposals and recommendations suggested for Dhaka City Slum Improvement can well be applied and executed in other Metropolitan cities, district towns and municipal areas of the country.

(3) In tackling this problem a core measure should be low cost housing development by establishing a Low Income Housing Authority by the government as an example.

(4) The committee recommends on urgent basis establishment of Slum Improvement and Low Cost Housing Cell in each 'pouroshava' (Municipal town) of Bangladesh.

(5) Housing problem in slum areas being so enormous in dimension and scale, it will not be possible for the government alone to solve it. Private and individual initiative to build low cost houses in greater number should be encouraged by the government providing loans with low interest.

(6) To encourage private initiative to build low cost houses in cities, a housing bank can be organised. Urban Poor Bank like the 'Grameen Bank' can also be organised to generate self employment among the urban poor.

Socialism must be based on realities: CPB

By Staff Correspondent

Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, the President of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) on Friday said the approach towards establishing socialism should be taken upon the realities of the country.

Speaking at a discussion meeting at the premises of CPB office on the 74th anniversary of the October Revolution he said lessons should be taken from the revolution and the developments which followed. He stated that the capitalist system cannot emancipate the oppressed.

The General Secretary of CPB, Nurul Islam Nahid said the goal of the October Revolution was realised for the people of the Soviet Union. But, he mentioned, the goal of the revolution was justified as it strengthened the movement against the imperialism in many countries.

CPB central leaders Mujahidul Islam Selim said that the forces inspired by the October Revolution should be united.



Sheikh Hasina among the winners of Bangabandhu Award at the Dhaka District Sports Association auditorium on Friday.

Talk on Greenhouse gases

Prof Syed Zahir Haider of the Department of Chemistry of Dhaka University will speak on 'Greenhouse gases and environmental impact' today (Saturday) at 4-30 pm at German Cultural Centre Goe-the-Institute Dhaka. Dr S D Choudhri former Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University will be the chief guest.

What's on today . . .

NASCIB training course

A concluding session of a four-day training of the women entrepreneurs on 'the method and techniques of marketing the products of small and cottage industries' will be held at the conference room of the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation at 137-138 Motijheel Commercial Area in the city today (Saturday) at 4 pm.

The course was organised under the partnership project of the National Association of Small and Cottage Industries, Bangladesh (NASCIB), NASCIB-Z D H and technocrat Asia (Singapore).

Chairman of the Board of Editorials of the Ittefaq and the New Nation Moynul Hossain will attend the session as the chief guest while the Chairman of the Small and Cottage Industries Corporation Md Muniruzzaman Choudhury will be the special guest on the occasion.

Workshop on human rights

A seven-day-long workshop on 'Applied Research and Investigation in Human Rights' begins in the city today (Saturday).

Organised by the Coordinating Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB), the workshop is being participated by about 40 representatives of human rights organisations, NGOs and women organisations.

With theoretical inputs on technical aspects the participants will have an opportunity to discuss on various human rights issues accompanied with field visit.

Garments workers

Bangladesh Garments' Sramik Federation will submit a memorandum to the office of the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers' and Exporters Association (BGMEA) today (Saturday) at 11 am.

The memorandum will include various demands of the garments workers. Prior to submission of the memorandum, a demonstration will also be held in front of the BGMEA office and hold a rally near the National Press Club.

A week-long workshop on 'Applied Research and Investigation in Human Rights' begins in Dhaka today (Saturday) under the auspices of the Coordinating Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB).

Forty representatives from different human rights organisations, NGOs and women's organisations will participate in the workshop, said a CCHRB press release.

BSD (Khaleq) public meet

Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD-Khaleq) will hold a public meeting at the Baitul Mokarram premises today (Saturday) at 3 pm in observance of the party's 11th founding anniversary and the 74th anniversary of the October revolution.

Central leaders of the party will address the meeting.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of the book 'Abhimat-Proshna-Uttar' written by National Professor Nurul Islam will be held at the National Museum auditorium in the city today (Saturday) at 11 am.

Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar will attend the function as the chief guest while the State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahannara Begum will be the guest of honour. Health Secretary M Mikammel Haque will be the special guest.

Prof Abu Zafar, Director of the national heart disease, journalist Rahat Khan and Khan Ataur Rahman will take part in discussion on the book.

Breastfeeding conference

The first National Conference on Breastfeeding will conclude today (Saturday) at the M A G Osmani Memorial Hall.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas will attend the conference as the chief guest. He will be the first signatory of the 'Dhaka Declaration' on the protection and promotion of breastfeeding.

Founding anniversary

The third founding anniversary of the monthly news magazine 'Banker' will be today (Saturday) at 4.30 pm at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel in the city.

State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman will grace the occasion as the chief guest. Chairman of the Sandwip Group of Publications Mustafizur Rahman will chair the function.

Chittagong Samity

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Chittagong Samity (Association) will be held today (Saturday) at 4 pm at the Chittagong Bhaban in the city.

All the members of the committee have been requested to attend the meeting.

Weather

Night temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast valid till 6 pm of Saturday says the day will remain mainly dry over the country. Night temperature is likely to fall by one to two degrees Celsius at most places over the country.

The sun sets at 5.17 pm Saturday and rises at 6.09 am Sunday.

The lowest temperature of Friday was reported 14.6 degree Celsius at Mymensingh.

The temperature and humidity of some cities on Friday were:

City	Temperature		Humidity	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	28.5	19.2	71	65
Chittagong	28.5	19.1	86	67
Rajshahi	29.5	16	76	69
Khulna	29.6	18	82	70
Rangpur	29	17	74	82
Sylhet	29.3	17.8	97	69
Comilla	28.2	17.5	80	91
Jessore	30.2	16.5	x	x

Rules of Business to decide BCS cadres relationship

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda Friday said the present democratic government under the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was working to establish the best possible administrative system having harmonious relationship among all cadres, reports BSS.

He said the relationship between BCS administration and rest of the cadres would be decided by rules of business now being framed.

The Information Minister was inaugurating a seminar on 'administrative reorganisation in Bangladesh' held in Dhaka the same day at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB).

Presided over by Engineer

M A K Azad, Chairman of IEB Dhaka centre, the inaugural session was also addressed by Engineer Mohsin Ali, Acting Secretary of IEB.

In the working session, the paper 'Administration reorganisation in Bangladesh', co-authored by Prof Iqbal Mahmud, Engineer Mahbul Haq and Engineer Md Golam Mohiuddin, all from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology was read out.

M A Khaleque, former IG, M A Hena, Member National Board of Revenue and Ataus Samad, BBC Correspondent in Bangladesh were among others who took part in the discussion on the paper.

Barrister Nazmul Huda said

the present government was promise-bound to implement programmes which would reflect the hopes and aspiration of the people. He said the BNP government would follow Shaheed Ziaur Rahman's ideals, policy and programmes which include administrative reorganisation.

Referring to various flaws of the existing administrative set up, the Information Minister assured the gathering that the government would see that popular interests of the majority officials were protected. He said the government would also like to see that the officials could contribute in making decision for better functioning of the administration.

Mannaf accredited to New Zealand

The government of Bangladesh had decided to concurrently accredit Major General Abdul Mannaf at present High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Australia, as High Commissioner of Bangladesh to New Zealand, reports BSS.

Gulrez's music evening today

Alliance Francaise Dhaka will present a light classical music evening by Gulrez Nahar at its auditorium today (Saturday) at 6-30 pm, says a Press release.

Gulrez Nahar was initiated into the vast and intricate world of vocal classical music from her early childhood under reputed vocalists in the country. Having participated in various children's shows in Television and winning various talent competitions her appetite for in-depth studies in the subject was whetted till a burning desire to muster this art form was kindled. Opportunity to pursue this dream arose with her being awarded a scholarship at the Sangeet Bhaban of the Viswa Bharati University (International University founded by Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore). Graduating with honours in



1982 her pragmatic desire for more was rewarded by further scholarship, this time, under direct tutelage of one of the maestros of yesteryear, Meera Banerjee, the worthy shagird of Ustad Bade Gulam Ali, keeping in line with the proven effectiveness of Guru Shiksha parampara over conventional modes of learning. Four years of rigorous training in Khayal and Thumri followed concretizing the foundation further. Avenues for advancing her chosen field of specialization became available, soon after, by an offer of studentship at the reputed Sangeet Research Academy, which in keeping alive the rich heritage and traditions of classical music provides research and training facilities, sponsoring the best talents available in classical art forms for better synthesis of science and the performing arts. Here Padmabhusan and Padmashree Girtja Devi was the artist's Guru and trained her under her personal guidance in various diversified forms of classical vocal music grooming her to become a versatile classical artist.

Returning to Bangladesh after 12 years, she has recently performed for Bangladesh TV, recorded at Bangladesh Radio and has been invited to perform at Shilpakala Academy.

Biswas apprised of southern districts' problems

A delegation of the Baufal Upazila Janakalyan Samity led by Dr Mahbubuddin Ahmed, General Secretary of the Samity, called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at his residence Thursday night to felicitate him on assuming the highest office of the country, reports BSS.

They discussed with the President various matters relating to the development of the southern districts.

President Biswas thanked them for providing voluntary treatment to the distressed people during the last tidal surge in the coastal districts and prevention of diarrhoea in that area.

Among others, Nur Mohammad, Abdur Razzak Khan, Gazi Abu Bakr Siddiq, M A Majid and Ismail, Hossain were present.

GULREZ NAHAR

Vocal Classical Music thumri, dadra, kajri, tappa, hori, ghazal, Nazrul ghosha

Alliance française de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road (Corner Road n°3), Dhanmondi, tel. : 50 47 32 / 50 36 73 Saturday 9th November at 7.00 pm

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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.

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Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-V, Segunbagicha
Dhaka

Notice Inviting Tender

Dated: 28-10-91
Memo No. S-N/1056 12-07-98 BS

1. Name of work	Providing electrical installation in the Class-I em-employees (600 sft.) 2-Units of Bangladesh Stationery Office at Tejgaon, Dhaka.
2. Estimated cost	Tk. 1,09,526/75
3. Earnest money	Tk. 2,191/-
4. Time allowed for completion of work	30 (Thirty) days from the date of issue of Work Order.
5. Class of contractors	PWD 1st/2nd Class E/M contractors those have got valid ABC/BC contractory and supervisory licence.
6. Tender papers & other connected papers where available	The tender papers and other documents can be seen during office hour at the office of the under-signed Executive Engineer, PWD, E.M. Divn. IV/V and Executive Engineer, PWD, Eden Building Divn. Dhaka and may be purchased on cash payment of usual charges (Non-refundable) up to 2-30 pm on 19.11.91.
7. Tender papers where to be received	Sealed cover tender will be received in the office of the under-signed, Executive Engineer, PWD, E.M. Divn. No. IV/V and Executive Engineer, PWD, Eden Building Divn. Dhaka on 20-11-91 up to 12 noon and will be opened on the same day at 12-30 pm in presence of tenders or his representative, if any present.

Executive Engineer
PWD E.M. Division-V, Dhaka.
DFP (G) 12673-2/11 G-841

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area
Dhaka-1000

Local Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders in duplicate are hereby invited by the Director, Conservancy and Pilotage Department, BIWTA, 141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka from reputed Firm/Dockyard (having previous experience) for construction of Mechanised Marking Boat, Package No. 290 under Third Flood Rehabilitation Project, 1988 (BIWTA Component).

- Tender documents will be available from the office of the Director of Accounts, BIWTA, 9th Floor, 141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka on all working days on payment of Tk. 500/- (Taka five hundred) (Non-refundable) only.
- No tender will be sold on the day of opening of the tender.
- Earnest money equivalent to 2.0% (two per cent) on the total quoted amount in the form of Pay Order, Bank Draft or Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of BIWTA, Dhaka must be submitted along with the tender. Bank Guarantee shall be valid for at least 90 (ninety) days.
- Tenders will be received on 24.11.91 till 11.00 am in the tender box kept at the Conservancy and Pilotage Department, BIWTA, BIWTA Bhavan, 10th Floor, 141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka and will be opened on the same date at 11.30 am in presence of the tenderers if there be any.
- The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason (s) thereof.

Director,
Conservancy and Pilotage Dept.
DP-141/91
FRP(G)12650-2/11
G-838

Housewife commits suicide

A young housewife allegedly committed suicide at government staff quarters at Green Road in the city on Thursday, reports UNB.

Police said Shaila Yasmin (30) reportedly committed suicide by hanging from a ceiling fan hook at B/F-2/8 Green Road staff quarter around 1 pm Thursday.

Dhanmondi police who registered an unnatural death (U/D) case could not give the name of Shaila's husband but said the records show her father's name as Sheikh Md Mokhteruddin.

According to Dhanmondi police, Shaila's body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. But another police source said that her relations took away the body for burial without post-mortem.

Two-hour work stoppage by teachers of pol institutes

By Staff Correspondent
Teachers of all Polytechnic Institutes and Teachers' Training Colleges begin today a two-hour work stoppage for three days to press home their 10-point charter of demands.

The teachers will also hold protest rallies, wear badges and distribute leaflets and posters during the 10 am to 12 noon work stoppage, called by Bangladesh Polytechnic Shikshak Samity.