

Dhaka Day by Day

Walking Shop

by S Bari

Some shopkeepers reach towards drawers or shelves when you ask for their wares. Abu Taher reaches into his pockets. In and on his clothes, hanging on safety pins or tucked into special flaps, are the bracelets and clips, books and pens, badges and pins which are his stock-in-trade. Taher is a walking shop.

His beat ranges from Fakirapool to Baitul Mukarram and on to Gullistan. When Taher was jobless, he would wander the streets for hours. Till one day he was struck by the way-side vendors he encountered during his wanderings.

"I noticed how people just laid out a piece of matting and made it into a shop," he recalls. "They'd lay out soap and combs, books and bottles, anything. So I thought 'Why not?' But I wanted to improve on what was already around." Which is how he came up with the idea of carrying his goods to people rather than sitting around hailing passers-by.

Taher made himself a special outfit: miniature pockets line the front of his jacket; books and other fittings hold a selection of goodies. The reddish-golden chains that he sells for five taka, making him a profit of two taka a piece. "In a day? It depends — sometimes I can make 50 to 100 taka," Taher grins.

Thirty-five year old Taher has four children, two of whom are in school in his village back in Madaripur. When he took up this line of work, he promised himself he would always have a stock of books. From a ragged cloth jhola he extracts a pile of 'Barna Parichay' — alphabet readers. "I can't read, but I've always

wanted to. I want to make sure that my children have every opportunity for a decent education. When I sell alphabet readers I feel as if I'm contributing to people's knowledge."

Fortunately for Taher, the books sell well. Other best-sellers? Saddam Hussein badges. Along the way, Taher learns a great deal about human nature. "I watch people's behaviour. Rich men, poor men, beggars, educated people," he philosophises. "I know when someone is from a good family because their language is good. If someone speaks badly to me or uses

bad language I don't sell to them. You can tell that people who are crude are not originally from educated or decent backgrounds, no matter how much money they have. At least, in my opinion," he adds, a little embarrassed at having spoken so long.

Taher came to Dhaka at the age of fifteen. "There was no work to be had in the village, and the crops were not enough for the family to survive on," he explains. He found employment at a mechanic's workshop, where he worked for a number of years. No benefits were forthcoming, however, and Taher discovered that he could be out on the streets at a moment's notice. "I decided I wasn't going to be exploited by anyone," he announces. "So I left in order to become a rich-

kshaw-puller." The hardships of rickshaw-pulling are legendary. Taher merely smiles as he says, "It was just too physically demanding." After a period of uncertainty, he hit on the idea of the perambulating store. And now Taher, the walking shop, can be found covering his beat, key-rings jingling, brushes rattling, a paan-stained grin on his face.



Saddam Hussein badges are still a best-seller.

Tk 221.90 cr subsidy for agri sector

Agriculture Minister Maj Gen (Retd) Majeed-ul Haque told parliament Monday that the government would provide Tk 221.90 crore subsidy to the agriculture sector during the current fiscal year (1991-92), reports UNB.

Replying to a question from Mustafizur Rahman (AL), he said Tk 55.55 crore will be given as crop subsidy and Tk 166.35 crore has been earmarked for irrigation facilities.

The minister further informed the House that the government gives 16 per cent subsidy for TSP and MP fertilizer. But no subsidy is given for urea since its distribution has been transferred to the private sector.

He told Kazi Abdul Rashid (AL) that there are 218.78 lakh acres of cultivable land in the country of which about 64.63 acres were brought under the irrigation system.

Indian water experts leave for home

The Indian delegation led by M A Chitale, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, left Dhaka Monday after holding talks on common rivers of the two countries with Bangladesh side, reports BSS.

The talks were the sixth in a series at the secretary level on sharing of water of the common rivers.

Asafuddin, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, Water Resources and Flood Control, led the Bangladesh delegation to the talks.

BUET Technical Employees Union executives

By BUET Correspondent

Anwar Ali Khan and Abdus Sattar have been elected President and General Secretary respectively of Engineering University Technical Employees' Union, says a press release.

The office-bearers are: Nasir Ahmad and Ali Akbar — Vice Presidents; Shahjahan Kabir — Assistant General Secretary; Binay Bhushan Shah — Treasurer; Hasan Ali — Organising Secretary; Barnard Rozario — Office Secretary; and Sheikh Shahabuddin Ahmed — Sport and Cultural Secretary.

The members are: Nurul Haq Tipu, Mark Shankar Rozario, Hasan Ali, Sabdar Ali Mollah, Abul Kashim and Md Shahjahan.

MPs Club adhoc body

An adhoc committee of Parliament Members Club has been formed with Chief Whip Khondakar Delwar Hossain as the President, Akbar Hossain MP as the General Secretary and Begum Farida Rahman MP as the Treasurer, reports BSS.

The Speaker and Chief Adviser to the Club Shaikh Razzaque Ali has formed the adhoc committee under Section 20 (Amended) of the Club's constitution to run the activities of the Club till next election to the Executive Committee of the Club was held.

The members of the adhoc committee are: Afazuddin Fakir, former MP, Shahjahan Siraj MP, Tajul Islam Chowdhury MP, Mantrul Huq Chowdhury MP, Azizur Rahman MP, A S M Firoze MP, Zainul Abedin Faruq MP, Al-Haj Amanullah Chowdhury MP, Harunur Rashid Khan MP, Major (Retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed MP, Sheikh Ansar Ali MP, Salahuddin Kamran MP, Abul Hasnat Mohammad Abdulla MP, Selima Rahman MP, Khurshid Zahan Huq MP, Mostafa Rashidi Suja MP, Major (Retd) M Akhtaruzzaman MP, Advocate Fazole Rabbi MP, Khondakar Abdul Huq, Joint Secretary of the Parliament Secretariat, Kazi Shamsuzzaman, Deputy Secretary of the Parliament Secretariat, Shaheed Ahmed Khondakar, former MP and Nazrul Islam, Executive Engineer.

Two persons — Abdul Berek and Abdur Rouf were arrested in this connection.

A case has been registered with Sabujbagh police, the press release added.

Tuesday

5:00	Opening announcement Al Quran Programme summary
5:10	News in Bangla
5:20	Recitation from the Geeta
5:25	Documentary film: One Life on One Shikkhangan: Educational programme
6:00	Documentary film on National Day of Sri Lanka
7:05	Nazrul songs
8:00	News in Bangla
8:30	Drama series: Project No-202
10:00	News in English
10:25	Parliament round-up
10:35	Mini series
11:30	Khabor/The news
11:40	Wednesday's programme summary
11:45	Closing



A two-day photographic exhibition on 'Mass mother and Child killing' in the Chittagong Hill Tracts began at the National Press Club on Monday. — Star photo.

Shantibahini kills 2,000 so far Foreign hand behind CHT crisis alleged

Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali Monday called for national consensus to solve the staggering problem in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region, reports UNB.

"Save the nation, not only the people of the hill tracts," he said while inaugurating a two-

day photographic exhibition on 'mass mother and child killing in the Chittagong hill tracts' at Jatiya Press Club.

The Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad emphasised on moulding public opinion against the killing of innocent people in the hill tracts. The

hill tracts issue is a national problem and there is an international conspiracy behind it, he observed.

"We need international co-operation to solve it and all have to work to create consciousness among the people against the barbaric act in the region," he said.

All called on all to work untidely to institutionalise democracy the nation earned after nine years of struggle against an autocratic regime.

Save the Mother and Her Child (SMC), a non-government has organised the exhibition.

The opening function was also addressed by Barkat Ullah Bulu, MP, BFUJ President Reazuddin Ahmed, SMC President Moyeenul Alam and Chief Executive Mirza Zillur Rahman.

Reazuddin Ahmed said the journalist community will extend all-out cooperation in moulding public opinion against the massacre perpetrated by the so-called Shantibahini with their sanctuary in a neighbouring country.

The outlawed Shantibahini have killed 2,000 people, including 200 tribal women and children, and abducted 12,000 others in the hill tracts area since 1980, said Zillur Rahman quoting a survey of Human Rights Commission.

BBC to put up 'Tiger's Eye' from February 10

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) will put up an English teaching programme, Tiger's Eye, in its world service specially for the Indian subcontinent from February 10, reports UNB.

This was disclosed at a press conference here Monday by BBC's Senior Producer Sue Cokyll who produced the series.

'Tiger's Eye' will be a multimedia Basic English Course, specifically designed for the

Indian subcontinent with teaching explanations in Hindi and Bengali, she said.

The press conference, jointly organised by BBC World Service and University Press Limited (UPL) at a local hotel this morning, was also addressed by Sagar Chowdhury of BBC Eastern Service, Prof Anisuzzaman of Dhaka University and BBC World Service Correspondent in Dhaka Ataus Samad.

What's on today....

Rainbow film show
"The Strike", a film by the great film maker S Eisenstein will be screened at the Russian Cultural Centre today (Tuesday) at 5.30 pm.
The programme is part of a week-long session on classical Russian films organised by Rainbow Film Society.

Health For All meet
The Executive Committee meeting of Health For All will be held at 4 pm at 4 Green Square, Green Road, Dhaka today (Tuesday).

Iranian photo exhibition
The Iranian photo exhibition and Video film show will be held today (Tuesday) at the cultural centre of Islamic Republic of Iran at House No 54, Road No 8A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka from 10 am to 7 pm.

Rotary Club of Ramna
The regular meeting of Rotary Club of Ramna will be held today (Tuesday) at 5.30 pm at Hotel Sonargon.
Abdul Jalil, a Chartered Accountant will be the guest speaker.

Rotary Club meet
The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka will be held today (Tuesday) at 5 pm at Dhaka Sheraton hotel. Rotarian PP Dr AMM Khan will be the guest speaker.
He will speak on "Rotary and world understanding".

... and tomorrow

Sitar recitation of Ravi Shankar
The great maestro, Pundit Ravi Shankar will play solo on his sitar tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5 pm at Osmani Memorial Auditorium.

Sandhani gathering
The 15th founding anniversary of Sandhani will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at the Institution of Engineers at 8.30 am.

Weather

Night temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent
Rain or thundershowers likely to occur at one or two places over Chittagong Division and the regions of Barisal and Patuakhali and weather will remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country till 6 pm today (Tuesday), according to Met office.

Night temperature likely to fall by 1 to 2 degree Celsius over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Khulna Divisions.
The highest temperature recorded in Comilla was 27 degree Celsius while the lowest was 10.4 degree Celsius in Dinajpur.

The maximum temperature recorded in Dhaka was 25.4 degree Celsius and the minimum was 17 degree Celsius. The percentage of humidity recorded in Dhaka was 83 at 9 am and 59 at 6 pm.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 5:47 pm and rises tomorrow (Wednesday) at 6:39 am.
Temperature and the percentage of humidity recorded in some major cities/towns Monday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature		Humidity	
	max	min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	25.4	17	83	59
Rajshahi	24	12.8	84	64
Chittagong	25.5	17.2	94	82
Khulna	26.9	16.3	73	75
Barisal	26.2	17	98	75
Sylhet	24.5	15.2	94	56
Rangpur	22.7	12.2	86	77
Cox's Bazar	25.2	17.8	91	74

Ban on polythene production under study

Forest, Fisheries, Livestock and Environment Minister Abdullah Al-Noman informed the Jatiya Sangsad Monday that the government had a plan to ban production of polythene articles and their use except in certain cases, reports BSS.

The minister disclosed this in reply to a question from Ataur Rahman Khan (BNP-Narsyanganj).

Shaban moon likely to be sighted today

A meeting of National Moon Sighting Committee will be held at 6.15 pm today at the conference room of Islamic Foundation with State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof. MA Mannan, also the president of the committee in the chair, reports BSS.

If any one can see the crescent-moon of the Hijri month of Shaban, which is likely to appear in the sky over Bangladesh Tuesday evening, by 6.00 pm, has been requested to convey the news to the committee Telephone Nos - 239493, 230280, 236407, 254457, 239643 and 259631.

Call to expand IPM programme

A seminar on the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was held Monday at the Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) auditorium, reports BSS.

Presided over by Agriculture Secretary KM Rabbani, the regional Coordinator of IPM, UN, Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) programme, Dr Peter E Kenmore spoke as the specialist at the seminar. Director General of Agriculture Extension Department and other concerned officials were present on this occasion.

Dr Kenmore said, besides the control of pests, there was no alternative to IPM for increased production and maintaining yield and quality to keep the environment free from pollution.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TO

ASHRAF

FROM: NIZAR, MOTHER, NADIA, AMYNAH, NAVEERA AND NATASHA

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 : 245063
PABX : 245061-2 & 246023-4. Ext: 20

"NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES"

The containerised cargo ex.M.V. Nanta Bhum: V-73 and "Thana Bhum: V-05 from Bangkok, ex. M.V. "Ocean Strength" V-41B from Karachi, ex. M.V. "Lever Kusen" V-05401 from Le Havre, ex. M.V. "Frankfurt Express" V-60303 from Hongkong, have been relayed to M.V. "K.Jespersen" V-045192, Imp. Rot. No. 67/92, is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 4.2.92 from Singapore.

Consignees are requested to take delivery of their cargo from FCL containers within 5 days free time from the date of landing and if cargo not cleared within 45 days will be guided by Customs Act.

BIRDS BANGLADESH AGENCIES LTD.
103, AGRABAD COMMERCIAL AREA, CHITTAGONG.
AS AGENTS: MITSUI O.S.K LINES LTD. TOKYO
PHONES: 500440, 503317, 500686/88.

Uttara Bank Limited

Deadstock, Stationery and Records
Department, Head Office,
90-B, Malibagh Chowdhurypara,
Dhaka

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotations are invited from reputed printing firms having offset printing machines for printing & supply of Books, Registers, Forms & Vouchers etc. as per schedule to be collected on payment of non refundable Tk. 100/- from the Asstt. Vice-President (DSRD) Uttara Bank Ltd. 90-B, Malibagh Chowdhurypara, Dhaka.

Quotations duly accompanied by 5% Earnest Money in the form of PO/DD alongwith photo copies of current trade licence and GIR to be dropped in the tender box placed at the Office on or before 15.2.92 within 1. P.M.

Asstt. Vice-President

Plea to accept philosophy of Vivekananda for global peace

Eradication of disparity from society and love for the entire human community can bring peace in the present strife-ridden world, reports BSS.

This was stated by the speakers at the function arranged on the occasion of the 129th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda at the National Public Library auditorium Monday.

Arranged by Vivekananda Shikha and Sangskriti Parishad of Dhaka University, the function was inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor Prof Maniruzzaman Mia. Eminent poet Shamsur Rahman was present as the chief guest.

Presided over by the President of the Parishad, Dr Parash Chandra Mondol, the function was addressed, among

others, by the Principal of Ramkrishna Mission Swami Akharananda, Chairman of Dhaka University Prof ANM Raisuddin, Prof Durgadas Bhattacharya of the Management Department of Dhaka University, acting Provost of Jagannath Hall, Jagadish Chandra Shukladas and the VP of Jagannath Hall Students Union Subbass Singh Roy.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Maniruzzaman Mia said the religion, preached by Vivekananda was not only a religion in the parochial sense but also above all kinds of fanaticism and narrowness and that is why it became a universal philosophy all over the world, he said.

He called for accepting his

philosophy for establishing peace in society as well as in the world.

Poet Shamsur Rahman said Vivekananda gave utmost emphasis on human beings and humanitarianism was the main objective of his preaching. He called for serving the distressed humanity with open mind and thus to follow his philosophy.

Swami Akharananda regretted that religion now a days has become the hollow practice of some formalities. He called upon all to develop humanity in personal life for the fullness of life.

Dr Parash Chandra Mondol called for coming out from all narrowness for the development of greater human relations and establishment of peace in the world.

ADB to provide \$ 15m for small, cottage industry

Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide 15 million US dollars in credit to Bangladesh for the development of small and cottage industry, reports UNB.

This was communicated to Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan by leader of the visiting ADB delegation Paul M Dickie during a meeting at the minister's residence Monday.

The credit will be disbursed through five private banks.

An official handout said Dickie and Islam discussed at the meeting matters related to ADB financed programmes in Bangladesh.

The ADB executive expressed his institution's willingness to participate in the middle scale fertilizer and

Contraband seized: 2 held

Sabujbagh thana police Monday night recovered some contraband from a house at Basaboo and arrested two persons in this connection, a police press release said in Dhaka on Monday, reports BSS.

Acting on a tip-off, a police team raided house No. 249 of middle Basaboo and seized 56 cans of foreign-brewed Beer, 17 bottles of Whisky, five cartons of Benson and Hedges cigarette, 450 pieces of fuji film and some other contraband items.

Two persons — Abdul Berek and Abdur Rouf were arrested in this connection.

A case has been registered with Sabujbagh police, the press release added.

The Urs of Hazral Khwaja Enayetpur will be held with due solemnity at 'Biswa Shanti Manzil' of Enayetpur Darbar Shariff in Sirajganj February 16, says a press release.



The employees of Agrani Bank held a rally Monday in front of the Head office to press home their demands. — Star photo