

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Posters, 'Engleesh' and — mother tongue

by Parveen Anam

When the burdens of life are weighing heavily on ordinary mortals like ourselves, there is nothing like a walk or a rickshaw ride down a city street, to put a 'twang' into our otherwise drab existence. And this 'twang' can very well be provided by the posters, in English, which will immediately have you in splits, and compel you to wonder later, that the fellow painting these posters either has a terrific sense of humour or was just in a bad mood when doing them or probably both. For what other reason can he have for asking us to 'Vote for a party' of his choice? Surely, the Indianization of English has not reached such standards, yet? The teaching of English may not be upto a desired standard—admittedly, but our schools could at no point teach the tiny tot, to 'caste his voat' for a 'party' of somebody else's choice.

As though 'cating' your 'voat' was not bad enough, the same fellow, hoping it is the same fellow, because surely you cannot have a whole lot of these chaps walking around insisting you 'voat' for them—will also advise you to have your 'cloathes' tailored, at 'You asked for it' tailors. You will no doubt scratch your head, forget to smile, and wonder where you went wrong. Because nobody in his right senses, could 'aks' any tailor to stitch 'cloathes' for him, who sounded or seemed so determined to be rude, at the least. Heaven knows what you might land up in having to wear, with the tailor insisting you 'aksed' for it. Or, perhaps, the story of the 'Emperors new clothes' will take on a whole new meaning. Thank you, but I do not think there are very many people, who are exactly interested in finding out in vast detail, what exactly they had 'aksed' for. The risk in-

olved in such curiosity might be far too much. Cinema is surely a means of entertainment, but a walk to the cinema hall, if one has any intention of watching a new 'film', will instantly put the individual on guard. For who has the courage to walk into a 'film' show, where they will insist they 'cheque' your ticket first and 'taste' it to see if it is genuine? By the time you have managed to decipher what exactly they mean, you will have lost any enthusiasm you might have convinced yourself into working up, to see the latest in the movie-world. Heaven knows what other novelty they might have up their sleeve, if they want to 'taste' your ticket at the door? And 'cheque' it as well.

Apparently, it has never occurred to these chaps, going around with their little paint brushes, that not only is the entire meaning of the message lost, they would probably do just as well, to advertise in their own mother tongue i.e. Bangla. Not very many parents of my acquaintance, would like to put their little darlings, into 'tutorials' no matter how real or authentic they might seem from the outside. After all, we do have to draw the line somewhere, be it outside the 'film' show, which, I am afraid, we can happily do without, or outside the 'tutoral' which is again a real problem for us, for no matter how determined we are to impart the best to our small ones, we must keep in mind, that they cannot be taught to 'voat' wrongly, when they reach adulthood. For who was it who said, very rightly, that 'grooming begins in childhood? Let us try and teach the future generations of the land, a sense of humour, fine, but not at the cost of their phonetics and or spellings. Please.



## Journalists' leaders condemn attack on Nabin

Leaders of journalists Tuesday condemned the attack on the life of photo journalist of Dainik Sangbad Mahub Hossain Nabin by a group of armed youths on April 3, reports BSS.

In a statement, President and Secretary General of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists Reazuddin Ahmed and Amanullah Kabir and President and General Secretary of Dhaka Union of Journalists M Shahjahan Mia and Altaf Mahmood demanded exemplary punishment to the persons responsible for the incident.

They said the culprits attacked Nabin on the by-lane opposite to National Sports Control Board while he was on his way to office. He faced the attackers bravely as they tried to knife him on the chest. He, however, got injuries on the thigh.

The journalists leaders said it was a planned attack because the culprits did not touch his valuable camera, wrist watch and cash.

They said attack on the newspapers and the journalists continued despite the fact that the government was apprised of the situation.

## Kibria ends tenure as ESCAP Executive Secretary

S A M S Kibria returned to Dhaka Tuesday from Bangkok at the end of his tenure as the Executive Secretary ESCAP, reports BSS.

Kibria, a career diplomat since 1954, was the Foreign Secretary of the country before his appointment in 1981 as the executive head of the ESCAP.

He was the Under Secretary General of the United Nations for the region and thus was the highest ranking Bangladeshi to serve ever the world body.

United Nations officials and Foreign Ministry officials, office bearers of the Forum for Environmental Journalists as well as friends, relations and well-wishers of Kibria received him at the airport.

## Mitalee, Bhupinder's ghazal concert

The Rotary Club of Metropolitan city has arranged a two-day ghazal concert of renowned Indian singers Mitalee and Bhupinder Singh at Sonargaon Hotel ball room on April 10 and 12, reports UNB.

The concert has been arranged for raising fund of the Club's Integrated Rural Development Projects for the benefit of poor and under privileged people of the community.

It may be mentioned that under the projects, the club provides free education to illiterates, safe drinking water and sanitary facilities to the poor villagers, child health care, fishing boats and net to the fishermen co-operatives, assistance to village women in making them self-reliant, scholarships and books to meritorious students.

## BCL (N-S) central body meet begins Apr 11

By Staff Correspondent

The extended meeting of central committee of Bangladesh Chhatra League (N-S) will be held at the Teacher Student Centre (TSC) of the Dhaka University from April 11 to 13.

Chhatra League central President Nazmul Haq Pradhan and General Secretary Shaif Ahmed called on all its central committee members and all zila committee Presidents and General Secretaries to attend the extended meeting.

## Weather

### No change in day temperature

By Staff Correspondent

Rain and thundershower accompanying temporary gusty wind likely to occur at one or two places over Dhaka division and the regions of Comilla and Sylhet today (Wednesday), forecast Met office Tuesday.

Weather will remain mainly dry all over the country and day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged.

The maximum temperature, 39 degree Celsius, in the country was recorded at Chuadanga while the country's lowest 19.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Dinajpur.

Temperature and percentage of humidity recorded in some major cities and towns in the country were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature		Humidity	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	35.5	25.2	77	56
Chittagong	31.4	23.6	76	72
Rajshahi	36.3	23.4	50	27
Khulna	35.7	24.0	78	-
Jessore	38.8	24.8	-	-
Sylhet	31.0	19.6	80	73
Dinajpur	34.9	19.2	-	-
Bartala	33.4	25.5	82	78
Cox's Bazar	32.5	24.4	78	77
Ishurdi	38.2	24.5	65	28



President Abdur Rahman Biswas, ministers and high officials offering Eid-ul-Fitr prayer at National Eidgah Sunday. — Star photo

## 'Some elements out to create chaos in industrial sector'

CHITTAGONG, Apr 7: Environment, Forest, Fisheries and Livestocks Minister Abdullah-al-Noman Monday called upon the owners and workers of industries to maintain cordial relations in order to maximise production in mills and factories, reports BSS.

Speaking as the chief guest at the Eid reunion function of sea resources group Jahaz Sramik Union at Ichanganar near Chittagong Port the Minister said, peace and order was pre-requisite for ensuring unhindered production in industrial units.

Without increasing production employees and workers cannot expect to improve their lot, he added.

The Minister regretted that workers of eight fishing com-

panies had been observing strike for last few months. He said, some undesirable elements were out to create chaos and confusion in the industrial sector with an evil motive to destroy our economy.

The workers should identify and resist the elements so that they cannot harm national interest, he said.

The function, presided over by the Union President Nurul Islam, was also addressed by BNP leader Badrul Anwar, Union leaders Amanullah Chowdhury and Shaifuddin Chowdhury.

## Noman leaves for Delhi

Minister for Environment, Forest, Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah-al-Noman left Dhaka

Tuesday for New Delhi to attend the SAARC ministerial-level conference on environment beginning in the Indian capital today, Wednesday.

The two-day conference is the follow-up of the India's offer during the meeting of the SAARC heads of state/Government on environment held in Colombo in December 2 last.

The aim of the conference is to harmonise the views of the SAARC countries on environmental issues. For that SAARC officials level meeting on environment held in Dhaka in February last and also the SAARC declaration to be highlighted in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) scheduled to be held in Brazil in June next.

## Govt firm to fulfil election pledges: Hafiz

Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz has said the construction of Panchagarh-Dinajpur highway at a cost of Taka 120 crore has already started and it will be completed within the next three years, reports BSS.

He said the highway would bring about a revolutionary improvement in the communication network of northern districts after its completion.

The Law Minister was addressing as the chief guest a function of the newly-elected Union Parishad chairmen and members of Panchagarh district at the Zila Parishad auditorium Monday.

Speaking about various development programmes so far initiated, the minister said the government was committed to fulfil elections-pledges in phases. He said the re-construction of 50 kilometre long five separate roads in rural areas of the district at an estimated cost of Taka 11 crore would be completed soon. It would improve the socio-economic condition of the rural masses," he said.

Mirza Golam Hafiz said the town protection embankment of Panchagarh at a cost of Taka 15 crore would be taken in current fiscal year.

He said the present government having been accountable would ensure rule of law through independent and impartial judiciary in the country. He called upon the UP members to come up with definite upliftment scheme of their respective areas.

## RU postpones admission

RAJSHAHI, Apr 7: Rajshahi University authorities have postponed admission to First Year Honours classes for the 1991-92 session due to unavoidable circumstances, reports BSS.

The registrar of the university, in a notification, said the postponement order will be applicable to other affiliated colleges under the university.

- TV Wednesday**
- 5:00 Opening announcement Al-Quran
  - 5:10 Programme summary
  - 5:25 News in Bangla
  - 5:30 Tarunya
  - 6:00 Sports programme
  - 6:30 Programme on health of mother and child
  - 7:05 Hizal Tamal
  - 8:00 News in Bangla
  - 8:30 Biswa Parikrama
  - 9:00 Film: MacGyver
  - 10:00 News in English
  - 10:30 Mukhomukhi
  - 11:30 Khabar/The News
  - 11:40 Thursday's programme summary
  - 11:45 Closing

## Programmes to welcome Bengali New Year

By Staff Correspondent

Traditional religious congregation of Bengali Year of 1398, will be inaugurated at 9 pm tomorrow (Thursday) by the Bangladesh Santa Mahamandal, a Hindu religious organisation at Langalbandh near Narayanganj.

State Minister for Religious Affairs Professor M A Mannan will attend the congregation as the chief guest while State Minister for Forest, Environment, Fisheries and Livestock Sree Gayeswar Chandra Roy will be the special guest.

Jagtraj Sreemat Swami Brahmanand Purmaharaj will preside over the congregation.

The congregation will be attended by religious leaders, hermits, philosophers, traditional thinkers in religion and religion devotees.

Langalbandh, location of the congregation, is a historic sacred place for the Hindus of the Subcontinent which is largely attended by pilgrims to take holy bath during this time every year.

## Programmes on Pahela Baishakh

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote has chalked out an elaborate programme to observe the Pahela Baishakh, the first day of the Bengali new year, a jote press release said, reports BSS.

The jote will organise a colourful rally at the Bahadur Shah Park on the day at 8-30 am and it will end at the Bangabandhu Bhaban after parading main thoroughfares of the city.

Besides, the jote will hold a Baishakhi Mela at the Shishu Park near the Bangabandhu Bhaban. Eminent artists from Radio and Television and various drama and cultural groups will perform in the mela.

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A Saudi cargo plane carrying relief materials for the Rohingya refugees reached ZIA Monday. — PID photo

## Former Saudi Air Chief due Saturday

Former chief of the Saudi Air Force Prince Khaled Bin Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz arrives here on Saturday on a four-day official visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

General (Retd) Khaled was the joint commander of the multinational forces raised during the Gulf war to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

Bangladesh joined the 27-nation combined forces. During the good-will visit, the Saudi Prince is expected to call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

He is also scheduled to call on Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman besides meeting with senior officials of the armed forces.

His itinerary also includes visit to the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban.

## Two killed in road mishap at Nazirhat

CHITTAGONG, Apr 7: Two persons were killed and six others injured when a Chittagong-bound bus turned turtle at Nazirhat here this morning, reports BSS.

Hathazari police said the injured passengers were admitted to Nazirhat Health Complex for treatment. The bus was badly damaged.

The bodies of the two victims Abdus Sattar (38) and Sekander Byat (35) were handed over to their relatives after autopsy.

The driver and the conductor fled away after the accident.

A case was lodged with Hathazari Police in this connection.

## Historical relics found in Cox's Bazar

CHITTAGONG, Apr 7: A farmer in a remote village of Chakarua upazila under Cox's Bazar district has found some historical relics beneath the earth which may lead to the discovery of a lost human habitation when the area is properly excavated, reports BSS.

Ahmad Kabir (45), son of Chan Meah of village East Kakara under Chakarua upazila of Cox's Bazar district found one small vessel, two spear-like weapons and some spearheads like those of the ancient cavemen while cutting earth in his farm. He took the relics carefully to his home.

He first broke the small vessel into pieces believing it was made of gold. He had reason to believe so when a piece of the vessel was glittering after it was rubbed and cleaned.

He rushed to the goldsmith to confirm if it was really gold. But he was disappointed when the goldsmith confirmed after a test that it was brass.

Ahmad Kabir also broke into pieces the two spear-like weapons and some spearheads and sold them to blacksmith. He got Taka thirty only by selling the iron at the rate of Taka three per kg.

This was all about the finds of the simple village folk Ahmad Kabir.

The historical relics found at the foot of a hillock situated just one kilometre east of Hazrat Umar Shah (RA) Dargah Sharif of Kakara (Shah Umarabad) bear testimony to the fact that there was human habitation sometime in the past.

There are some other hillocks around the Dargah Sharif. There was also deep forest along the hillocks.

The village Kakara (Shah

Umarabad) has some other historical relics which are believed dug during the Magh rules some time in 17th century. Some people of East Kakara are believed to have found hidden treasure (gold bars, silver coins and bars) at some places during the past twenty-five years.

It is commonly believed, that the area was inhabited by Magh population who preferred concealing gold, silver and silver coins under the earth for security reasons.

Neyamatir Dighi, Moinamatir Dighi, Rajarpukur, Gajalia Pukur and Maga Para Pukur of the village bear eloquent testimony to the common belief that some Magh royal family or their courtiers dug those during their rule in this area.

## Discussion on Health Day held

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Ganaangikar Samaj, a social welfare organisation and Socropitist International Club jointly held a meeting in the city Tuesday to mark the World Health Day.

The meeting presided over by Samaj chairperson Quazi Azmeri Zaman discussed importance of the day. The meeting also decided to hold a blood donation programme to help needy patients on Thursday at 4.30 pm at the blood bank centre of the Red Crescent Society in the city.

The meeting was addressed by chairperson of the society Begum Salam, Samaj Secretary Abdul Jabbar Mehman, Md Shahjahan and Begum Hena Kabir.