

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Missing Elements in New Mission

By Chapal Bashar

Living far away from Dhaka, Tunku will not only miss Bangladesh and its people, but also many other smaller aspects of daily life.

"I will miss the colourful rickshaws, the honking traffic, the bustling crowd, the Kurmitola Golf Course, the vendors at Gulshan Bazar and so many," said Tunku Dato Nazihah Bintu Tunku Mohamed Rus, the Malaysian High Commissioner, who left for home last week completing her tenure in Bangladesh.

Tunku Nazihah described her three-year stay in Dhaka as a happy one, but she is not that happy with her contribution here as it was not up to what she envisaged. "However, I tried my best," she said.

Expressing her feelings before leaving Bangladesh, Tunku Nazihah said that she was carrying the exciting experience of staying in this country.

"I have witnessed the change of government, the change in the form of government and so many events in these three years. It was an experience indeed," she said adding "I tried to understand the people and their problems as well as the need and necessities in the country."

Tunku Nazihah—one of the three women ambassadors serving in the Foreign Service of Malaysia, has been appointed, her country's High Commissioner in New Zealand. She is expected to take over the position there, in May.

In her 24 years' career in the Foreign Service, Tunku's posting in Dhaka in 1989 had some significance since it was her first posting as the head of a mission.

Previously, she served Malaysian missions in Germany, Sri Lanka, the Netherlands, China and Indonesia. She attended the United Nations general assembly meeting last year as a member of Malaysian delegation and stayed in New York for about four months. "It was a good experience. It helped me to gather knowledge of multilateral diplomacy," said Tunku.

The life in Bangladesh was very interesting for Nazihah. During her few years' stay here she became well acquainted with the social traits of the people.

In New Zealand, Tunku will surely miss the

crowd of Bangladesh. This country has a vast population of over 110 million while New Zealand's population is only 3.5 million. There also exist big gaps between the economy, social life, environment and climate of Bangladesh, a developing country and New Zealand, a developed one.

Tunku Nazihah is aware that she will have to work in New Zealand in a different atmosphere than that of Bangladesh. But this type of changes are the realities in a diplomatic career.

In Bangladesh, she had to look after only around one hundred Malaysian citizens, whereas over three thousand Malaysians stay in New Zealand.

For the small Malaysian community in Bangladesh, Tunku had much efforts to keep their stay pleasant. She set up Malaysian Women's Association and a club which had regular get-together and lot of other activities.

Tunku Nazihah was closely associated with Kurmitola Golf Club where Malaysia Cup Golf Tournament is being organised every year and attract large number of golfers. Tunku was the lady captain of the club for three years. "The club is well managed and disciplined as well," she maintains.

Gulshan market is one place which will be difficult for Tunku Nazihah to forget. "I will miss fresh fish, vegetables and the fun of bargaining with the vendors," she said.

"Initially, soon after my arrival here three years ago, I faced some problem in bargaining, particularly with fish vendors. They asked one thousand Taka for a fish which actually costs only Taka two hundred. However, I became used to the art of bargaining gradually," said Tunku.

Tunku Nazihah is a member of the extended family of the Sultan of Negeri Sembilan, the ninth state of Malaysia. She obtained BA (Hons) in International Relations from the University of Malaya in 1969 and later attended a one-year diploma course at Oxford University.

While Tunku Nazihah will miss so many things of Dhaka, the people here, particularly those who came in to her acquaintance, will, of course, simply miss her.



### Price of life Tk one only?

By Staff Correspondent

A 13-year-old boy, Jamaluddin, had to pay with his life when he failed to pay his bus fare. Taka one, Monday afternoon.

After the end of his Eid-purchase-trip at the Mirpur Zoo, Jamaluddin was on his way home at Mirpur Section 10 by bus.

When he failed to pay the bus fare, the bus conductor allegedly kicked him to death.

Mirpur police arrested both the bus conductor and the driver, Hikmat Ali and Abul Kasem respectively.

When contacted last night, Mirpur police confirmed the incident but could not provide details.

### Primary scholarship results declared

A total of 11,880 students secured scholarships from among 1,84,648 examinees who appeared in primary scholarship examinations held under four divisions, reports BSS.

The scholarships included 2,308 in talent pool and 9,571 ordinary scholarships. In Dhaka division which had 52,331, the highest number of examinees among four divisions, 680 got talent pool and 2623 got ordinary scholarships, 608 examinees got talent pool and 2628 received ordinary scholarship out of 45,443 students in Chittagong division.

In Rajshahi division, out of 44,241 examinees, 550 got talent pool 2348 got ordinary scholarships. Khulna, which had the lowest number of examinees (42,633), had 471 students who got talent pool and 1972, who received ordinary scholarships.

The results of the primary scholarships have been sent to the offices of divisional primary education and district and thana education offices.

### Two pedestrians killed in city

By Staff Correspondent

Two pedestrians were killed while a speeding passenger minibus ran over them near Shanirakhra, Demra, Wednesday morning.

Of the victims, Abdur Razzak, 35, died on the spot while Babul, 20, succumbed to his injuries after he had been rushed to the Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital.

Demra police seized the minibus which ran over the two on its way to Dhaka from Narsingdi. Its driver, however, managed to escape.

### Medical team for Rohingya refugees due tomorrow

A four-member medical team from Japan-based Association of Medical Doctors for Asia (AMDA) arrives here on April 10 in aid of the Rohingya Muslim refugees taken shelter in Bangladesh, according to a message received from Tokyo Wednesday, reports BSS.

During its stay the team, led by Dr Sardar Abdul Nayeem, will provide medical assistance to the Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar.

The other members of the medical team are: Dr Paumagari, Dr Nohda and Dr Manthwa.

### Bangladeshi child artist gets gold medal

Bangladeshi child artists received seven awards, including one gold, in the children's painting exhibition held last month in Beijing, reports BSS.

Ashim had the distinction of receiving the gold award. Paintings of 20 Bangladeshi children were sent to the exhibition, which was participated by a total of 17 countries.

Other awards received by Bangladeshi children included two silver and four bronze.

## Homeless' problems to be solved in phases: Biswas

A 15-member delegation of the Bangladesh Homeless Welfare Association Wednesday called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban, reports BSS.

Led by the President of the Association Gazi Mohammad Shahjahan, the delegation apprised the President of different problems of the bastuharas (homeless) of the country and placed before him a memorandum.

While talking to them, President Biswas said that the elected representatives of their respective areas should

extend cooperation in bringing out a solution of the problems of the homeless.

President Biswas assured the delegation to look into their demands and keep inform the government to solve the problems of the homeless in planned manner in phases despite resource constraint.

He said, the country was over populated and all should work for stop population boom.

He also stressed the need for increasing per capita income and finding out ways and means for more employment

opportunity. President said the present democratic government was aware of the problems of the down-trodden to improve their lot through achieving economic prosperity.

He also emphasised the need for hard labour and dedicated efforts with determination to change the condition of the poor and needy.

The President of the association expressed his gratitude to President Biswas for giving them opportunity to apprise their problems.

## 'Improved extraction of jute' project to be discussed Sunday

The first meeting of the Project Coordination Committee of the International Jute Organisation (IJO) will begin in Dhaka Sunday, reports BSS.

The four-day meeting will discuss, among other things, the recently launched agricultural project "Improved Retting and Extraction of Jute" by the IJO, a press release said.

Executed by Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, the project will be participated by six regional jute producing countries — Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal and Thailand. The project is aimed

at developing low-cost, improved techniques for jute kenal fibre extraction/ribboning and retting for the improvement of fibre quality.

Akhtar Ali, Additional Secretary in-charge of the Ministry of Jute will be the chief guest at the inaugural session of the project coordination meeting to be held at the IJO headquarters.

KM Rabbani Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and FJ Myers, FAO representative are also scheduled to attend the meeting.

### Khaleda greets new French PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has congratulated Pierre Befegey on his appointment to the high office of Prime Minister of the Republic of France, says a PID handout.

In a congratulatory message to French Prime Minister Begum Zia hoped that under his wise and mature leadership, cooperation and bilateral relations that exist between the two countries would be further strengthened.

Begum Zia wished good health, happiness and long life of the French Prime Minister and the people of France continued peace, progress and prosperity.

### 1,25,000 SSC candidates under Rajshahi Board

RAJSHAHI, Apr 8: A total of one lakh twentyfive thousand candidate will appear at the SSC examination under Rajshahi Education Board this year, according to official sources, reports BSS.

The examination will be held from April 22 through 133 centres.

Meanwhile, all possible measures have been taken by the concerned authority for smooth holding of the examination.

### Portrait exhibition

By Staff Correspondent

The first exhibition of portrait artist Madhu Mollah will begin Monday at the auditorium of National Museum.

A total of 50 portraits including Mao Tse Tung, V I Lenin, King Fahad, Napoleon Bonapart, Rabindranath Tagore, late President Ziaur Rahman and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman will be placed in the exhibition.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanara Begum is expected to inaugurate the 9-day exhibition.

Madhu Mollah completed his diploma in Fine Arts from the Indian College of Arts and Draftsmanship.

He has so far sketched 300 portraits of noted world personalities.

## Weather

### Dry weather will continue

By Staff Correspondent

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country except Sylhet region during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Wednesday. Meteorological office forecasts.

In Sylhet region light rain or thundershower may occur during the period. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Sun set in Dhaka on Thursday at 6-18 pm and sun rise Friday at 5-42 am.

Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns on Wednesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Degroc Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	36.1	26.0	77	58
Chittagong	32.0	25.0	71	76
Rajshahi	39.0	22.0	40	30
Khulna	37.0	25.2	78	41
Khepupara	32.5	26.0	72	80
Cox's Bazar	32.0	25.0	74	77
Sylhet	32.6	20.5	83	76
Mymensingh	35.8	24.7	77	35
Rangpur	33.8	19.7	78	48

## Drought delays sowing

The current spell of drought might delay sowing of jute, Aush and Aman paddy while massive pest attack affected standing Boro crops across the country, officials said.

Sowing of the next rainy-season crops will be delayed if there be no rains within a week, a high official at the Agriculture Extension Department told UNB Wednesday. Delayed plantation may further be affected by flood, he feared.

He, however, ruled out any damage to standing crops by the drought, as reported by a section of newspapers.

An agriculturist said last year's flood and early rains in last November and December kept the sub-soil water at satisfactory level, for which deep and shallow tubewells are still functioning quite normally.

Deep and shallow tubewells are now being operated about

12 hours, instead of four hours in normal time, with the farmers bearing heavy cost of operation, he said.

But, the officials apprehended, the situation would aggravate if the drought continues to hit the country for another week.

Out of the 2.20 crore acre of cultivable land in the country, Aush is cultivated in 50 lakh acre while Boro in 70 lakh acre.

Generally, drought affects the western part of the country which includes the region of Rajshahi, Jessore, Kushtia and Khulna.

A source in the Agriculture Ministry Wednesday standing Boro crops in 33 districts had been attacked by pests. It, however, said spray of pesticide and netting insects continued in the affected areas.

Concerned authorities and farmers have so far netted 2,313 kilogram of insects from the affected fields in 33 districts, the source informed.

Pest attacks were reported from Dhaka, Narayanganj, Munshiganj, Manikganj, Gazipur, Narsingdi, Tangail, Kishoreganj, Netrakona, Comilla, Brahmanbaria, Jamalpur, Noakhali, Laxmipur, Faridpur, Rajbari, Madaripur, Gopalganj, Shariatpur, Bhola, Chandpur, Moulvibazar and Sunamganj.

### Khaleda condoles Shahjahan's death

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Wednesday condoled the death of noted football player Mohammad Shahjahan, reports BSS.

In a message of condolence Begum Zia said the country had lost an able sports organizer in the death of Mohammad Shahjahan. She expressed her sympathy for the members of the bereaved family and prayed for peace of the departed soul.

### Akhtar-ul-Alam made envoy to Bahrain

The government has decided to appoint Akhtar-ul-Alam as ambassador of Bangladesh to the state of Bahrain, an official announcement said here Wednesday, reports BSS.

Born on February 22, 1939 in Rangpur Alam obtained Master of Arts Degree in Journalism from the University of Dhaka. He worked as lead writer, assistant editor, columnist in various newspapers and was a director of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha.

Prior to his new assignment he has been working as the Editor-in-Charge of the 'Daily Ittefaq' since 1985.

He has so far authored 22 books and translated ten books. He visited Saudi Arabia, USA, UK, India, Turkey and Thailand. He has three children.

### Mannan visits Chaktaikhal excavation site

CHITTAGONG, Apr 8: State Minister for Textiles MA Mannan Wednesday visited Chaktaikhal excavation site to see for himself the on-going work of the project, reports BSS.

Chittagong City Mayor Mir Muhammad Nasiruddin accompanied the Minister during the visit and apprised him of progress of the excavation work being implemented in 16 groups from Bahaddar police box in the city to Dhuniarpool point at Chawkbazar.

During the current fiscal year total earth work in 4935 metre Khal portion and construction of retaining wall in 16 groups of the project area would be taken up at a cost over Tk 4 crore.

### Motahar Hossain's release demanded

Strajul Islam Chowdhury, President and Nurul Islam, Assistant Secretary of Mouchak Market Bank Samity Wednesday demanded the release of its elected General Secretary Motahar Hossain, reports UNB.

In a press statement, they said Hossain is an established businessman and there is no evidence whatsoever that he had extorted toll at gun point.

They protested the arrest of Hossain who has been charged with extortion and a murder case.

### TV Thursday

5.00	Opening announcement
	Al-Guram Programme summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.15	Recitation from the Gecia
5.30	Baltea Paro
6.00	Carion: The New Three Stooges
6.30	Jibancr Alo
7.05	School debate
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Drama of the week
9.00	News in English
10.30	Drama series: Twin Peaks
11.30	Khabar/The News
11.40	Friday's programme summary
11.45	Closing

## UNEP announces awards on environment

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has recently announced this year's global 500 awards for outstanding environmental achievement, reports BSS.

Among the 74 winners is Harna J Moudud honoured for her work in promoting the protection of the marine environment and coastal areas of Bangladesh.

The global 500 awards, established in 1987, each year pay tribute to the individuals and organisations whose everyday actions and leadership in the front lines of the environmental agenda push forward the urgent goal of safeguarding the planet and building sustainable development.

Moudud, as a former member of the Bangladesh parliament, spearheaded efforts, both within parliament and among the public, to promote the formulation of action-oriented programmes designed to alleviate the special drainage problems of the coastal belt. Moudud has also contributed to the awareness and involvement of women in environmental issues.

UNEP's Executive Director, Dr Mostafa K Tolba, said UNEP hopes that the global 500 awards will inspire others to do their part towards building a sustainable future.

### Tk 1.41 crore for small industries in northern region

RAJSHAHI, Apr 8: The government has sanctioned Taka one crore 41 lakh for the development of small and cottage industrial estate in northern region during the current fiscal year, according to official sources, reports BSS.

Meanwhile, development works in nine industrial estates of BSCIC have already been started. A new site for sericulture industrial estate will be set up here for development of sericulture in the region, the sources said.

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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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 BTC BANGLADESH TOBACCO COMPANY LIMITED

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

This is to bring to the attention of our shareholders that the notice of the 19th AGM of the Company which will be held on 13th April, 1992 at 12:00 noon at the BCIC Auditorium at 30-31 Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka was sent to their respective last registered addresses through courier service.

Any shareholder who has not received the notice of the meeting should contact our Secretarial Department at 18-20 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka on the 12th April, 1992 to collect duplicate notice/attendance slip to enable them to attend the AGM.

To celebrate the Photofollies of May in France

## The 1st Alliance Francaise National Photo Contest 1992

BEGINNING OF THE CONTEST: 10th April 1992  
 END OF THE CONTEST: 20th May 1992

Each participant will have the possibility to submit a maximum of 4 photographs to the Alliance Francaise de Chittagong and Alliance Francaise de Dhaka.

SIZE OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS: 8 x 12 inches  
 COLOUR Photographs only.

Theme: "Transport in Bangladesh"

Copies of the rules and regulations of the contest as well as the necessary entry forms, are available at the two collection centres.

Presentation of prizes: 28th May 1992

Entry division: Professional, Amateur, Student of AF, Foreigner  
 Prizes to be awarded: Altogether, 60 prizes (cameras and books) will be distributed.

### Collection Centres for Receiving Entries

Dhaka: ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE DHAKA, 26 Mirpur Road, (Corner Road N° 3), Dhanmondi, Dhaka 1205 (Telephone: 504732/503673)  
 Chittagong: ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE CHITTAGONG, 123 K B Fazlul Kader Road, Panchlailsh R/A, P O Box 342, Chittagong 4000 (Telephone: 031-20 57 40)

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