

Dhaka Day by Day

The Changing World of Self-employed Typists

By A S M Nurunnabi

A city dweller must have observed the existence of colonies of typists at several locations in the city. They can be seen in droves, for example, at the place opposite the Press Club, in a long shed opposite the Central Telegraph Office and in a shed adjacent to the Labour Department in the Motijheel Commercial Area. All of them belong to a class of self-employed typists. They ply their business with their own typewriters with meagre items of required furniture, such as a table, a chair and a stool.



The concentration of so many of them in one place may give rise to the question whether there is enough work for all to make their existence worthwhile. Just as there is a tide in the affairs of man, so also in the state of their business, as stated by a veteran typist of that area. Their normal staple of work consists in typing applications for jobs or tender quotations are advertised, a spate of business comes their way, but such occasions were said to be few and far between.

Reportedly they eke out a precarious living. On an average they earn an income ranging from Tk. 50/- to Tk. 75/- per day, barring the peak occasions. Their income might have been more

if they could work on their machine throughout working hours. But since two or three persons work on the same machine in shifts, the scope of earning more income is limited. In spite of the limitation in income, there is reportedly a persistent demand from other typists seeking to work at these places. All this is because of the serious unemployment situation in the country.

Some of these typists complained of a threat to their earning arising out of the fast spreading use of photo-copiers. They explained that a good part of their income used to come from making carbon copies of their typescripts. This part of business is almost lost to them, because the customers now prefer photo copies, instead of carbon copies. This aspect of their business has therefore fallen a inevitable victim to the inexorable march of technology. Perhaps to cope with the changing times, they need to adjust themselves in future by learning to operate word processors and computer printers.

In these times of growing unemployment, this line of self-employment has perhaps some merit, as it ensures some dignity, though in a humble way, at the same time enabling one to somehow keep the wolf from the door.

Need for science education stressed

The central exhibition and competition of the 15th National Science and Technology Week concluded here Monday, reports BSS.

Organised by the Science and Technology Division of the Education Ministry, the four-day exhibition and competition was held at the premises of the National Museum of Science and Technology at Agargaon. Over 100 budding scientists with their innovative projects participated.

Besides, two symposia on "Science and Environment" and "Science and Development" were held during the exhibition.

State Minister for Education Principal M Yunus Khan distributed prizes to the winners of the competition.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Yunus Khan underscored the need for science education and building proper infrastructure for research, development and expansion of science and technology.

He said for non-formal science education the government was determined to strengthen the activities of the science week.

He said for our existence as a worthy nation in this modern age we must be up and doing for scientific and technological development.

Secretary of the Science and Technology Division Lt Col (Retd) Heshamuddin Ahmed presided over the concluding session.

It was also addressed by the Member Secretary of the 15th National Science Week Organising Committee and Director of the Science Museum Dr M Mubarak Ali Akhand, young scientists

Jahanara Begum from Bandarban Kali Biggan Club and M Selim from Pratidandhi Biggan Club, Rangpur Carmichael University College.

Khaleda greets new Thai PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has felicitated the New Thai Prime Minister Suchinda Kraprayoon, reports BSS.

In a message Begum Zia expressed her confidence that under his able leadership the cordial relations that exist between the two friendly countries would be further strengthened for the mutual benefit of the two peoples.

Begum Zia wished good personal health and happiness of Suchinda and for the progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Thailand.

Mostafiz

Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman Monday congratulated the new Thai Foreign Minister Pongpol Adreksarn.

In a message here Monday, Rahman expressed the hope that the close bonds of friendship and cooperation between Bangladesh and Thailand would continue to grow in strength in the years ahead.

Chief of Dawoodi Bohra community in city

Spiritual leader and the chief of Dawoodi Bohra community Dr Syedna Mohammad Burhanuddin Saheb arrived in Dhaka Monday for a week-long visit to Bangladesh at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reports BSS.

State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M A Mannan received his holiness at Zia International Airport.

A large number of Dawoodi Bohra community members in Bangladesh were also present at the airport to receive his holiness with a view to obtaining his blessings.

During his stay in Bangladesh, the spiritual leader is expected to call on the President Abdur Rahman Biswas, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and the Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman.

He will also visit Chittagong and will stay there for three to four days. He is now 80 years old.

The State Minister apprised his holiness the Rohingya Muslim refugee problems in Bangladesh and sought his blessings for early solution of the matter.

His holiness, Dr Burhanuddin Saheb expressed his sympathy for the refugees and wished quick solution of the problem.

This is the first visit of his holiness to Bangladesh since independence.

VT Tuesday

- 5.00 Opening announcement
- 5.05 Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5.30 Documentary: A Day in the Life of a Woman Shikshangon
- 6.00 Programme on Mother and Child Health
- 7.05 Nuzul songs
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Drama series: Showdh
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Mini series: Sword of Honour
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Wednesday's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing.



State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M A Mannan receiving the chief of Dawoodi Bohra community Dr Syedna Mohammad Burhanuddin Saheb at ZIA Monday. — PID photo

Prof Nurul Islam back home

By Staff Correspondent

The prevalence of smoking among the medical teachers is higher by 34 per cent compared to that of their non-medical counterpart.

This was revealed by National Professor Nurul Islam in a paper presented at the 8th world conference on Tobacco or Health in Argentina.

The Professor returned from Argentina on Sunday. The paper prepared by Professor Islam also revealed that general physicians smoke less.

Training course begins today

A 15-day training course for BCS information cadre officers begins today (Tuesday) at the Press Institute of Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Mahmudul Hasan made Chairman of ICIMD at Kathmandu

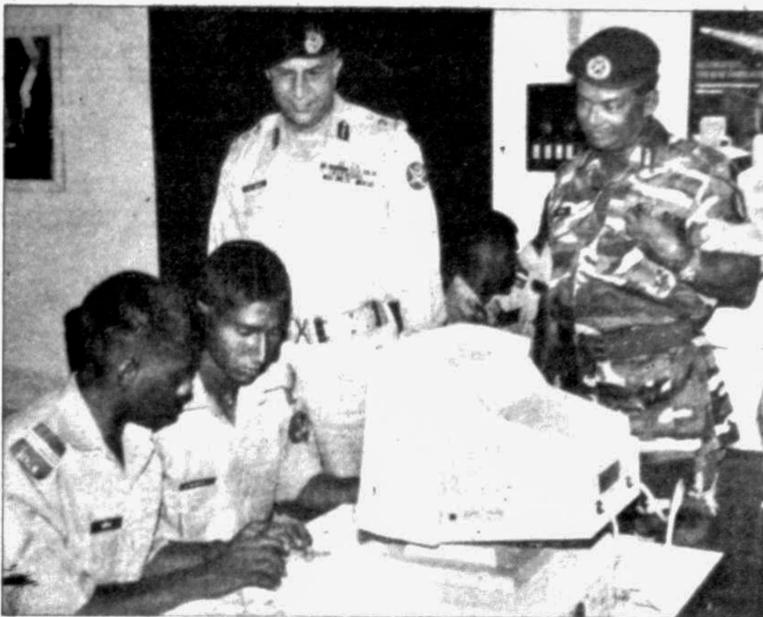
Major General Mahmudul Hasan has been elected Chairman of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development for a two-year term, reports BSS.

The election was held at the just-concluded 17th meeting of the 15-member Board of Governors of ICIMD at Kathmandu, officials in Dhaka said Monday.

Gaucha from Switzerland was elected Vice-Chairman of the Kathmandu-based organisation, they said.

ICIMD was set up in 1983 to help develop economic and environmental potentials of the mountain people of the Hindukush-Himalayan region.

Other members of the centre are Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Burma and China.



Pakistan Army Chief General Asif Nawaz witnessed training activities of the gentlemen cadets at Bangladesh Military Academy in Chittagong Monday. — ISPR photo

Pak Army Chief visits BMA

Pakistan Army Chief General Asif Nawaz visited Bangladesh Military Academy (BMA) at Bhatiyari in Chittagong Monday, reports UNB.

On arrival at the port city, General Nawaz and members of his delegation were received by local Area Commander Major General Mahmudul Hassan and the Commandant of the Academy.

The Pak general saw the on-going training activities of the Gentlemen Cadets of the Academy. He later visited Rangamati and Kaptal areas.

In the evening, a dinner will be hosted in his honour by Chief of Army Staff Lt General Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan at the AHQ Officers' mess in Dhaka Cantonment.

After the dinner, General Asif Nawaz will witness a cultural show at the AFMI auditorium in the cantonment.

Canadian food aid reaches Chittagong

A ship carrying 30,299 tonnes of wheat under Canadian food assistance reached Chittagong Port Sunday, reports BSS.

Another ship carrying 27,000 tonnes of wheat of the same origin is expected to reach Chittagong Monday.

Besides, four ships carrying 1,31,807 tonnes are expected to reach Chittagong within this month. The wheat was received under World Food Programme.

A total of 3,28,106 tonnes of wheat received from various donor agencies and countries would also reach in Dhaka within the next month.

BUET freshers submits memo to VC

First year (new) students of the session 1990-91 of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) Monday submitted a memorandum to the Vice-Chancellor Prof M Shahjahan, requesting him to take initiatives for starting their classes immediately and to ensure the completion of their courses in time, reports BSS.

In the memorandum they stated that they had completed HSC examinations in August 1990 and got themselves admitted into BUET in July 1991. The session is scheduled to begin by late August this year, i.e., with a delay of two years.

They noted that every year the session is delayed by four to five months resulting in loss of two years.

Earlier they brought out a silent procession on the campus in favour of their demand.

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely

Rain or showers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka division and the regions of Pabna, Bogra, Kushtia, Comilla and Sylhet during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Monday.

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country.

Day temperature would remain nearly unchanged during the period. The sun sets at Dhaka today (Tuesday) at 6:23 pm and rises tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5:32 am.

The minimum and maximum temperature recorded on Monday in important cities and towns were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	36.5	23.4	74	66
Chittagong	32.0	25.0	78	76
Rajshahi	40.6	25.4	76	39
Khulna	36.4	25.0	76	67
Mymensingh	32.3	20.6	72	71
Sylhet	29.0	18.1	74	70
Rangamati	33.5	22.3	65	58
Rangpur	31.4	21.5	78	67

The highest temperature was at Rajshahi.

Political solution of CHT problems demanded

RANGAMATI, Apr 20: Parbatya Gano Parishad held a protest rally here (Monday) against continued atrocities by the Shantibahini terrorists in the Hill Districts, reports BSS.

President of the organisation Jalaluddin Alamgir presided over the rally which was addressed, among others, by Maniruzzaman Manir, Harunur-Rashid and Belal Chowdhury.

Condemning the recent killings by the outlawed Shantibahinimen, including a young boy, Nurullah, who was abducted and chopped to death in Longedu upazila of the district on Saturday, speakers at the rally demanded that the government take stern actions against the terrorists.

They also demanded political solution of the staggering Hill Tracts problems.

Meanwhile, President of district Islami Chhatra Sena

Borhanuddin Ahmed protested remarks of some so-called intellectuals at a meeting here organised by Pahari Chhatra Parishad on April 14.

In a statement, he alleged that the intellectuals in their speeches made provocative remarks aimed at destroying communal harmony in the region.

A non-tribal minor boy was stabbed by some tribals at Sadeep, upazila Monday under Khagrachhari district.

Injured Babul Mia (14) was rushed to Sadar Hospital in a serious condition.

Witnesses said Babul came under sudden attack of the tribals as he was going to Khagrachhari Bazar at about 2.30 pm.

On hearing hue and cry patrol police rushed to the spot and rescued the boy. The tribals, however, managed to flee away.

Noor Hossain inaugurates 1st West Bengal literary confce

Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner in Calcutta Syed Noor Hossain has inaugurated the first West Bengal Literary Conference in the State Capital on Saturday, reports BSS.

The two-day conference titled "Pashchim Bangla Sahitya Sammelan" and organised by the local branches of all India Bengali Literary conference held at the Rabindra Sarobar Stadium Hall, Annada Shankar Roy, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Shrishendu Mukhopadhyay and Dr Hosenuur Rahman were among the renowned litterateurs and scholars associated with the conference.

In his brief speech, Hossain gave an account of the development of Bengali literature since independence of Bangladesh. He informed that Bengali is used as official language in all walks of life including in offices and courts.

Syed Noor Hossain hoped that Bangladeshi books and publications would be more easily available in West Bengal in near future.

In his address Sunil Gangopadhyay lauded the role of Bangladeshi writers and mentioned that younger generation in Bangladesh are interested and proud of Bengali language.

Zahurul Islam's death condoled

Dhaka University authorities held a meeting at the TSC Monday to condole the death of Dr Zahurul Islam Chowdhury, a former Dean of Law at the University, reports BSS.

The Department of Law of the University also held a meeting Monday to condole the death.

Dr Wakil Ahmed, the acting Vice-Chancellor, Dr Ershadul Bari, the Dean, Dr Mofizul Islam Patwari, the Chairman, the teachers, and the students of Law spoke on the life of the great educationist.

The meetings were followed by mlad mahfils seeking peace of the departed soul.

Dr Chowdhury died here on April 16 after a prolonged illness.

BKB disburses Tk 328cr, recovers Tk 326 cr

The Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) disbursed Taka 328 crore as loan and recovered Taka 326 crore as on March 30 during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

It was disclosed at a review meeting of the BKB Monday. Bank Chairman Khurshid Alam presided. He asked the officials of the bank to work hard

Modabber's death anniversary today

The 8th death anniversary of noted journalist, litterateur and children organiser Mohammad Modabber will be observed in the city today (Tuesday), reports BSS.

Quran Khwani and mlad mahfil will be held at the deceased residence 'Joy Villa', 5/3 Gajnabi Road, Mohammadpur after magreb prayer. The poor and destitute will be fed on the occasion.

Admirers, friends and relations of late Modabber have been requested to attend.

DU 'ga' unit interview today

By Staff Correspondent

The interview of the first year examinees of the Dhaka University Commerce Faculty ('ga' unit) will be taken on April 25 at 10 am at the Dean's office of the faculty.

Examinees who obtained position upto 580 in the merit list will be interviewed that day.

Persons interested in collecting necessary information regarding the interview are suggested to contact the Dean's office of the faculty.

to ensure quick disbursement of loans for increased agricultural production and to ensure increased recovery.

He also advised the field level officials to ensure effective supervision for successful recovery of bank loan.

Khandaker Ruhul Quddus, Managing Director of the Bank asked the field level officials to work sincerely for effective and sound role of BKB in agriculture and rural development. He also advised to expand activities of the bank with programme chalked out based on local survey, to ensure business approach instead of bureaucratic approach, and to ensure clerical service at the door-steps of the farmers.

Turkish Embassy to organise children's function Apr 23

The Turkish Embassy here will organise a children's function at 3 pm on April 23 to celebrate the Children's Day, reports BSS.

The Turkish Grand National Assembly was founded on April 23, 1920.

The day which marks a turning point in the Turkish history has been proclaimed the "23rd April National Sovereignty and Children's Day" and dedicated to the Turkish children by Kemal Ataturk.

The day is being celebrated every year since 1979 in Turkey through holding an International Children's Festival to establish mutual understanding among all children.

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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Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology
 Dhaka

Tender Notice

No. D-2332 (2) Dt. 20-4-92

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited by the undersigned in the prescribed form from the bonafide and experienced Contractors who are enlisted with PWD/Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous bodies for (a) Supplying Sanitary goods for Maintenance work of Engg Office and (b) Supplying Electrical goods for Maintenance work of EUCSU Building and Residential Halls. Applications for purchase of Tender papers will be received up to 29-4-92 and Tender papers will be sold from 3.5.92. Tender will be received by the undersigned up to 11.30 AM on 5.5.92 and will be opened on the same day. No Tender papers will be sold on the opening day. For further detail information regarding purchase and dropping the Tender, the office of the undersigned may be contacted or the Contractor may see the Notice Board of the Office.

D-236 **University Engineer**

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission
 Atomic Energy Research Establishment
 Engineering & General Executive Unit
 Ganakbari, Savar, Dhaka.

Tender Notice

No. AERE-W-13(630)/92 Dated 08-4-1992
 Sealed tenders are invited for the following groups of work at Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Savar.

Group No.	Name of work	Earnest Money	Price of tender document (non-refundable)	Eligibility for the participants in the tender
A	Repairing and maintenance work of C-2 type quarters of Housing Colony.	Tk 7,000/=	Tk 300/=	Prequalified A,B & C category contractor of this Establishment.
B	Construction of garage and attached herring bone road for Housing Colony.	Tk 6,000/=	Tk 300/=	Do
C	Repairing and maintenance work of first floor (partial) of INST Building.	Tk 10,000/=	Tk 400/=	Do
D	Repairing and maintenance work of D-2, E-1, F-8,9 unit quarters of Housing Colony.	Tk 4,000/=	Tk 100/=	Prequalified contractors of this Establishment.
E	Repairing and maintenance work of bituminous road.	Tk 4,000/=	Tk 100/=	Do

= Tender document containing detailed specification and terms & conditions of the relevant groups of work can be collected at the cash price (non-refundable) mentioned above from this office through written application on prior permission of the undersigned on all working days during office hours up to 3-5-92 which can be dropped in the tender box with Earnest Money as mentioned against each group up to 2-30 pm on 4-5-92 and opened on the same day at 2-45 minutes. No tender document will be issued on the prescribed date of opening tender.

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.

BAEC-SC Int-383/92
 DFP(BA) 3332-15/4
 G-430

Director
 Engineering & General Executive Unit
 Atomic Energy Research Establishment
 Savar