

# Dhaka Day by Day

## The Lady Who Brings You Luck

by Fayza Haq

Nazmun Nesa is today working as an editor in the public relations department in Deutsche Welle. She went in '76 on a three year contract in Bengali service. After her contract finished she had been working as a regular freelance journalist since '80, working for different newspapers such as the "Observer", "Ittefaq", "New Nation" and "Holiday". She did interviews with important personalities in Germany for readers in Bangladesh.

Since September '91 Nazmun got the job in the public relation office. "I like this job as it is creative. I can use my talents for design and painting," she said.

Nazmun had begun her career as a lecturer in chemistry in Sheshdri Women's College. She was influenced by her father who was a professor of biochemistry. She was at the same time, always interested in literature and art. As a teacher she was in charge of cultural affairs and had a hand in the college magazine. "I wanted to study painting in Paris. The only offer I got was from the Deutsche Welle Bengali service. We had to read, write and translate. We have 50 minutes daily programme which includes world news, commentary on current affairs and different features on Asia and Europe. Besides these there are features in science, literature, economics and music," she narrated.

When in Germany Nazmun learnt German in a school for foreigners. "I really picked up the language by talking to people. German was not my favourite language. I prefer French and Spanish. For my work, at first, I had to be perfect in Bangla only as the programme was broadcast in Bangla."

Dwelling on the Bangla service in Germany Nazmun says that it is more of an informative nature. "We don't have much time for music or such entertainments. It is only a 50 minutes programme. It is a news plus feature programme," she informed me.

"With the new job I need knowledge of German. Since I've joined the public relation job I am still doing work with the Bengali service. I write my own programmes, I do moderation programmes too. Apart from that I am doing work with the German section of Deutsche Welle. The name of the item is Stadtbunnen (city tour) It is a stage show of two hours. We go from city to city, interviewing important people of the area. The programme also includes music. This is for German listeners outside Germany, the world over. We give an impression of the city. There is also a quiz. The first prize is a two week trip to Germany. I am the "glucksbringer" (luckbringer) for the quiz. I draw the prizes along with the city mayor in the presence of the press," she said.

"In Berlin there is a TV programme called Rias TV. Since 1st of April '92 this TV has joined the Deutsche Welle. This was the brainwave of Dieter Weirich, who is the director general of Deutsche Welle. As a public relation officer, I work for this too. The programme is in four languages. In future there will be a programme for Asian countries too," Nazma added.

Giving her impressions of the Germans she said that they were very hard working. "They are very health conscious. They are open minded and keen to travel and meet different people. I find them very sincere. The mentality of the young is such that they are ready to absorb new ideas. They are a very disciplined nation and this fascinates me."



Nazmun doing the 'Stadtbunnen' programme.

Talking about her life in Cologne she said "I am a permanent resident and enjoy all the rights of a citizen except the right to vote. I live in the apartment and walk to the office which is close to my house. When I go to work I wear western clothes except for the Deutsche Welle special shows and formal parties."

"In the beginning the weather was too cold for me. I had to combine office work with housework which I was not used to. In the beginning I found it difficult to handle everything of my own. With time I have good friends and I don't feel lonely now. At the outset it was not easy to adjust because of the language problem and the difference in culture. But over the years I feel very much relaxed and at ease. Today I feel that Germany is my home — I didn't do anything consciously. It just happened with time," Nazmun added.



Chhatra Moitree brought out a procession in the city demanding the execution of the verdict of Gana Adalat Tuesday. — Star photo

## Govt put Golam Azam into jail to save him, alleges Sajeda

Awami League General Secretary Sajeda Chowdhury Tuesday urged party workers to be alert against all conspiracies designed to distort the spirit of the Liberation War, reports UNB.

Addressing a conference of the Chhatra League (A-A) city unit at the Engineers Institution in the afternoon, she called upon the party workers to prepare themselves to take revenge for the killing of Bangabandhu.

Presided over by the outgoing president of the organisation

## JS body on communications meet held

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Communications met Tuesday at the committee room of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with the Minister for Communications Col Oli Ahmed in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed at length the railway recovery programme and extended the time frame by a month for sub-committee on Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) headed by the State Minister for Communications Mohammad Fazur Rahman to probe into different alleged anomalies and submit the report to the standing committee.

The members of the Standing Committee observed that inspections should be geared up and stringent measures be taken to root out irregularities in the railway service.

## Hannan, AJM labour leaders discuss problems

The labour leaders of Adamjee Jute Mills Limited Tuesday had a meeting with Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah at his residence and discussed the prevailing situation and problems arising out of the short supply of jute and spare parts in the mills, reports BSS.

The Minister said adequate supply of jute and necessary spare parts would be ensured very soon for the mills.

The labour leaders assured the Minister of their all-out cooperation and support to boost production in the mills.

Chairman, BJMC M A R Talukdar, Executive Director of Adamjee Jute Mills Ltd Inamul Kabir were present.

The meeting was attended by labour leaders, CBA President Rehanuddin Rehan, Jatyo Sramik Party leader Siddique Sarder, Jatyotabadi Sramik Dal leader Abul Khayer, United Employees Union leader Abdul Maleque, and Adamjee Mills Sramik Shingha leader Reazuddin Renu.

## Wednesday

- 5:00 Opening announcement, Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:20 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5:30 Tarunya
- 6:00 Sports programme
- 6:30 Moder Garab Moder Asha
- 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

## BARC signs MOU with Canadian instt on soil fertility study

By Staff Correspondent

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) and the Potash and Phosphate Institute of Canada has been signed Tuesday for a period of five years.

Under the MOU, Bangladesh will receive the Institute's cooperation in strengthening research on soil fertility and inputs management for maximum economic yields and soil conservation for high yield sustainable agricultural development in Bangladesh.

The MOU also provides for training the local scientists through research grants and improving knowledge in soil management practices at farmers' level through demonstrations, training and publications.

The MOU was signed by Dr M Sujayet Ullah Chowdhury, Executive Vice-Chairman of BARC and his counterpart Dr J D Beaton, President of the Institute.

## JU Shahitya Utsav begins

JU Correspondent

The three-day long "Shahitya Utsav '92 (literary festival) began Tuesday at the cafeteria of Jahangirnagar University.

Poet Shamsur Rahman inaugurated the festival organised by Jahangirnagar University Central Students Union (JUCSU).

Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed attended the ceremony as the chief guest with JUCSU Cultural Secretary Md Mintu in the chair.

The opening day included inter-hall debate competition, exhibition of photography and paintings, folk songs and discussion.

Barrister Rafiqul Islam, Minister of Works, attended the discussion session held at the amphitheatre in the evening as the chief guest.

Local MP Niamatullah Sabu attended the programme as the special guest while Vice-Chancellor Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed chaired the programme.

Acting VP of JUCSU Samsul Tabriz Mithu and GS Rashedul Hasan Masum addressed the session.

## Need for code of conduct of newsmen in S Asia stressed

Information Minister Nazmul Huda stressed the need for consolidation of democracy in the South Asian region and urged journalists to help nourish democratic culture, reports BSS.

The Information Minister also stressed the need for a code of conduct of the journalists in the region.

He was addressing the chief guest the concluding session of the Second South Asia Regional Working Journalists Conference (SARWJC) at a city hotel Monday night.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury was also present on the occasion. Aidan White,

General Secretary of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) and K N Gupta, Regional Coordinator of SARWJC, also spoke. Reazuddin Ahmed presided.

The Information Minister said the democratically elected government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia firmly believes in the freedom of the press.

Referring to the adoption of the Dhaka Declaration at the concluding session of the conference, the Information Minister said the free flow of information, the press freedom and the exercise of independent journalism were the guarantors of freedom of ex-

pression and opinion in a democratic society.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is personally keen to see the Dhaka Declaration come into reality, he added.

Lauding the role of journalists for the overall development of their countries, he said the Prime Minister of Bangladesh would use her good offices to improve the quality of journalism further in the region.

All the speakers thanked the Prime Minister for showing her personal interest in the functioning of the SARWJC. Earlier, she had inaugurated the three-day conference.

## Directive to release 1285 acres of land to owners

Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia Tuesday directed RAJUK and other concerned authorities to immediately release 1285 acres of land to the concerned owners of Badda, Ulan, Bhatara and Joarshahara areas of the city, reports BSS.

He was presiding over the second meeting held for the purpose at the conference room of the RAJUK here.

The Minister said the government was determined to ensure return of these lands to the owners to remove misunderstanding of the people of Badda, Ulan, Bhatara and Joarshahara.

The Works Minister directed the concerned authorities to prepare a list of the affected people of block 'J' of the said areas.

The meeting decided on the rehabilitation of the affected people of link road of Progoti Sarani.

Among others, Major (Retd) Kamrul Islam, MP, A H M Shahjahan, Secretary, Ministry of Works, representatives of the Ministry of Law and Ministry of Land were present.

They discussed matters of mutual interests.

During the discussion, Chowdhury and Gauvrau expressed the hope that the long standing good relations between the two friendly countries would be further consolidated.

## Canadian envoy calls on Matin

The High Commissioner of Canada in Bangladesh, Emile Gauvrau, called on Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury here Tuesday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters of mutual interests.

During the discussion, Chowdhury and Gauvrau expressed the hope that the long standing good relations between the two friendly countries would be further consolidated.

## Pak Navy ship arrives in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, May 5: Two destroyers of the Pakistan Navy PNS Asiat and Taimur arrived in Chittagong this morning on a four-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh, reports BSS.

Soon after arrival, Rear Admiral Khalid M Mir, Commander of the Pakistan Navy fleet who is also the leader of the goodwill delegation, along with the commanding officers of the ship called on the Commodore

Commanding Chittagong, the Commodore Commanding BN Flotilla and the Commodore Superintendent BN dockyard.

## GEF membership may be expanded

Some of the largest developing and industrialised countries have agreed to expand the membership and share power in a global environmental fund, reports UNB.

Mohammed-EI-Ashry, Chairman of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), recently said in Washington the new rules would go into effect to govern fresh programmes begun at the facility when new international environmental agreements are reached, according to a USIS press release issued in Dhaka Tuesday.

## Biman's rejoinder

Manager, Public Relations of Biman, in a rejoinder said that State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan was not grieved by the Biman employees on Monday as stated in a news item under the headline 'Mannan grieved by Biman employees' published on Tuesday in the Daily Star.

It said that the State Minister attended the regular board meeting uninterrupted but a small section of Biman employee chanted slogans when the meeting was on.

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## What's on today . . .

- Condolence meet**  
The Economics Department of the Jahangirnagar University will hold a condolence meeting at the death of Professor Akhlakur Rahman today (Wednesday) at 10 am.
- Certificate distribution ceremony**  
The certificate awarding ceremony of a drama workshop on 'Costume and Makeup' organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will be held today (Wednesday) at the academy auditorium.  
Academy Director General Kamal Lohani will distribute certificate among the trainees.
- Seminar on govt structure**  
Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad will hold a seminar on 'The Structure and Strata of the Local Government of Bangladesh' at 4.45 pm at the auditorium of Planning and Development Academy today (Wednesday).  
Minister for LGRD Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar will be present at the seminar as the chief guest.
- Rotary Club of Dhaka North West**  
Regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held today (Wednesday) at 5:30 pm at Sonargaon Hotel.
- Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga**  
The regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga will be held today (Wednesday) at 5:30 pm at Sonargaon Hotel.  
The guest speaker for this week is ATM Shamsul Haque, Director, Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP). He will speak on "The Role of CIRDAP".
- Muktijodha Gobeshana Kendra**  
The second session of a series of discussions organised by Muktijodha Gobeshana Kendra will be held today (Wednesday) at 5 pm at its office at Rahman Chamber at Motijheel.

## Weather

### Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Khulna and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka division during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Tuesday.

Meteorological office source said that weather is likely to remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country.

Day temperature is likely to rise by 2-3 degree Celsius during the period.

Rainfall was recorded on the day (in 12 hours from 6 am) were 38 mm in Patuakhali, 16 mm in Sylhet, 3 mm in Feni and 1 mm each in Hatlyia and Majdee Court.

The sun sets in Dhaka today (Wednesday) at 6:30 pm and sun rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5:20 am.

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

| Cities/Towns | Temperature in degree Celsius |      | Humidity in percentage |      |
|--------------|-------------------------------|------|------------------------|------|
|              | Max                           | Min  | 9 am                   | 6 pm |
| Dhaka        | 32.4                          | 21.5 | 87                     | 68   |
| Chittagong   | 32.6                          | 22.6 | 71                     | 76   |
| Rajshahi     | 31.0                          | 21.8 | 85                     | 71   |
| Khulna       | 33.8                          | 19.8 | 83                     | 73   |
| Burisal      | 33.6                          | 22.0 | 77                     | 73   |
| Cox's Bazar  | 33.6                          | 24.0 | 60                     | 76   |
| Sylhet       | 30.5                          | 19.3 | 91                     | 71   |
| Dinajpur     | 32.0                          | 20.5 | 69                     | 76   |
| Satkhira     | 35.0                          | 23.0 | 82                     | 62   |

The highest temperature of the day was at Satkhira.

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