

Dhaka Day by Day

Schools, Education and Admissions

by Parveen Anam

It is the birth-right of every child born in any country, to be given and receive the best education, the country is capable of giving. In some countries the opportunities are admittedly better than in other countries. But in Bangladesh, and especially in Dhaka, we are fast reaching the stage, where if a child can get any education at all, he can consider himself lucky! Every adult has a nightmare and that nightmare has an uncanny way of coming true, when it is time to educate the offspring, in this, our beloved city.

Schools, particularly good schools, are a rare commodity indeed and those that are there, somehow seem to be too busy, to pay

much attention to the genuine needs of the genuine student, with of course the rare exception. It seems, while applying for admission, an account of the father's bank balance needs to be included along with the particulars of the aspiring student. True, every child has to take an admission test, but whispers abound, that many a child is admitted without a glance at the results, when his father or guardian, eagerly agrees to pay the required 'donation' to the school authorities. A well-known girls school, regularly adopts this very dubious policy, it is rumoured. And what is astonishing is that these donations are also demanded or 'requested' from the parents of govt employees as well, when the poor man probably does not earn the amount asked for, in a month of Sunday's. But then, who cares? Either pay up, or try your luck elsewhere, seems to be the attitude of the school authorities. Or perhaps they are only trying to encourage bribe taking? Its a guessing game all the way.

The scenario is perhaps a little bit different in the govt run schools, but then, the situation in these schools, is deplorable at best. 200 students crammed into a room meant for 40

students is nothing uncommon and fans and other basic essentials are considered positive luxuries. And as these schools remain closed more often than they are open, it is a frustrating experience, for both parent and child. Psychologists will definitely have you know, that the early years are the most formative years for the growing child and grasp and absorption of knowledge is the quickest at this point; but unfortunately in this beloved city of ours, the children at this stage of their lives, seem to be busy being carted from pillar to post by their harassed guardian, in search of a reasonable school, which considers the merit of the child far more important than the size

of the purse of the parent.

And the most tragic point of the whole deal seems to be that most of these institutions, claiming to be schools, are actually not schools at all but 'tutorials' which in all honesty, cannot be bracketed with proper schools. But the harassed parent of the harassed child, is hardly in a position to point it out to the relevant authorities. Its all he can do, by extending his purse strings to the extreme, to get his child admitted into any one of

these institutions, be it a school or a 'tutorial'. As for the curriculum followed by most of these institutions, there does not seem to be any 'quality control' as such, by most of these schools or 'tutorials'. The situation seems to be a 'free for all', kind of a situation! And the teachers in most of these institutions, seem to be of the attitude, that they are doing the child and the parent a great big favour, by merely being there. But the parent is mute; for after all, 'beggars cannot be choosers' or so they say. But at the end of the day, or rather the school year, many a parent, I am sure has sat back and possibly wondered if the whole exercise has not been one in futility.



Will their kids make it?
Photo: A. K. M. Mohsin



Students of Dhaka City College brought out a procession in the city demanding reopening of the college Wednesday.

Khaleda urges people to help implement uplift programmes

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Wednesday called upon the people belonging to all strata of life to cooperate with the present government in implementing various development oriented programmes aimed at achieving national progress and prosperity, reports BSS.

"We have to be united for the sake of the country's interest," Begum Zia said while handing over keys and documents of transports to different educational institutions at a simple function at the International Conference Centre (ICC) here.

The function was also addressed by Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar, DUCSU Vice-President Amanullah Aman MP, CUCSU Vice President Nazimuddin and Vice President of Eden Girls College Central Students Union Helen Zerin Khan.

Welfare Fund to Chittagong University, Islamic University, Sir Saitmullah Medical College, Eden Girls College, Titumir College, Ananda Mohan College and Shah Sultan College.

Begum Zia called upon the teachers and students to help keep educational institutions free from violence so that those could function properly without affecting the careers of the students. She said the high hopes of the guardians about their wards were shattered due to campus violence leading to session jam.

She said violence and indiscipline could never lead a country, besieged with many problems, to progress and prosperity. She said that the autocratic regime had left behind a trail of devastation in all the sectors which she said could not be solved just in one year.

1,400 teachers were promoted by this government and more teachers would be appointed. On primary education, Begum Zia said, we want to educate our children properly and added that 'the base should be solid'.

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What's on today . . .

- Sangstratik Sanghstha Seminar**
The 'Jattya Sangstratik Sanghstha' will hold a seminar and a cultural function in observance of the birth anniversary of the poet Rabindranath Tagore today (Thursday) at 4-30 pm at the central office of the party at 52, New Eskaton.
- HBFC Borrower Assoc meet**
A meeting of the newly elected executive committee of the Association of the Borrowers of House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) will be held at the central office of the association at 246, New Circular Road at 6.45 pm today (Thursday).
- Public Stage inauguration**
The inauguration of a 'Public Stage' to press home demands of radio-TV coverage of the killings by Pakistanis in the Liberation War and execute the public trial verdict will be held by the Sammilita Sangskritik Jote today (Thursday) at 4 pm at the Central Shaheed Minar premises.

. . . and tomorrow

- Jamalpur Samity reunion**
The Eid reunion programme of the Jamalpur Samity in Dhaka will be held tomorrow (Friday) at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium at 4.30 pm.
- Samyabadi Dal (ML) Conference**
The city unit of Bangladesh Samyabadi Dal (ML) will hold its workers conference tomorrow (Friday) at the Engineers' Institution at 4 pm.
- SSF**
Samajtantrik Sramik Front (SSF) will hold a rally tomorrow (Friday) at the Shaheed Nur Hossain Square at 4 pm.
- Rabindra Charcha Kendra film show**
Rabindra Charcha Kendra will screen Satyajit Ray's documentary 'Rabindranath' on the occasion of the poet's 130th birth anniversary tomorrow (Friday) at the Shishu Academy at 6.30 pm.
- Legal Aid Assoc meet**
A meeting of the Legal Aid Association for the Distressed Persons will be held tomorrow (Friday) at 4 pm at its head office 13-B/1-8, Mirpur. Members of association are requested to attend the meeting.

Weather

Day temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent
Rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over the region of Mymensingh and Sylhet during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Wednesday. Met office says.
Weather will remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the period.
Day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degree Celsius.
Little change in weather would be noticed in subsequent two days.
Forty mm of rain was recorded at Rangpur, five mm at Khepupara, three mm at Sylhet and two mm each in Dhaka and Tangail, Wednesday.
Sun sets in Dhaka on Thursday at 6-30 pm and sun rises Friday at 5-20 am.
Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns on Wednesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	34.5	24.6
Chittagong	32.2	25.0
Rajshahi	37.4	22.5
Khulna	35.0	22.8
Barisal	34.8	23.2
Com's Bazar	33.5	25.4
Sylhet	30.2	21.3
Dinajpur	33.7	23.2
Ishurdi	37.7	22.5

Teachers, students urged to help eradicate illiteracy

KHULNA, May 6: State Minister for education Principal Mohammad Yunus Khan said here Wednesday that the present democratic government had been taking effective programmes for bringing about qualitative change in existing education system and eradicating illiteracy from the society in phases, reports BSS.

He called upon the people of all walks of life including teachers and students irrespective of party affiliation to extend full cooperation for successful implementation of these programmes for greater national interest.

The minister was addressing as the chief guest the installation ceremony of the newly elected Central Students Union of Azam Khan Government Commerce College here.

Presided over by the Principal of the College, the function was also addressed, among others, by the Mayor of Khulna City Corporation.

Stressing the need for maintaining academic atmosphere in the educational institutions, Khan urged the students community to play a leading role for establishing rule of law in addition to their studies.

Cyprus envoy meets Speaker

The High Commissioner of Cyprus to Bangladesh Theophilos V Theophilou, called on Speaker Shaikh Ruzzaque Ali at his office chamber in Sangsad Bhaban Wednesday, reports BSS.

QUL KHWANI

'আনি পুরা গাফিলত নই,
নই সাক্ষর সত্যকার
জানি শুধুই এক-
নিজে করে গাবার'

The Qul Khwani of Dr. Akhlaqur Rahman, Professor of Economics, Jahangirnagar University will be held on Thursday May 07, 1992 at the 'ANURAAG' Community Center, 1, Babar Road, Near Suhrawardi Hospital immediate after the 'Asar' prayer. The deceased's, friends, colleagues, students, well wishers and relatives are cordially invited to participate at the Qul.

"NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES"

The containerised cargo ex. M.V. Choyang World V-EE218 from Antwerp, ex. M.V. Choyang Star V-28 from Dubai, ex. M.V. Choyang Sun V-EM211 from Hamburg, Antwerp, ex. M.V. Peter Metz V-8 from Istanbul have been relayed to M.V. 'CGM BRETAGNE' V-9201, Imp. Rot. No. 324/92 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 8-5-92 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.

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8th Top Management Seminar in Japan

24 - 29 August 1992

Chairmen/Managing Directors of reputed Business and Industrial Groups in the Private Sector of Bangladesh are invited to apply for the above programme immediately. The number of participants from Bangladesh is limited to 3 only. A selected participant will have to bear about 30% of the total cost involved. The remaining 70% will be borne by the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS), Japan.

For prospectus and application form, please contact: BANGLADESH AOTS ALUMNI SOCIETY (BAAS) Block - A, 3rd Floor, Aziz Cooperative Housing Complex, 72, Purana Paltan Line, Dhaka-1000, Tel: 413566

The last date to receive application is 14 May 1992.

'We can prosper only through sincere work'

A six-member delegation of the Distressed Welfare and Employment Project called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban Wednesday, reports BSS.

Led by its Chairperson Nazma Begum, the delegation apprised the President of its productive activities including the cottage industries set up by the Project with its own initiative at Dania near Dhaka.

Death condoled

Bangladesh Sangjukta Sramik Federation yesterday condoled the sudden demise of workers leader Mostaq Ahmed.

The federation held a condolence meeting at the National Book Centre in the city. Mokhlesur Rahman, President of the federation, chaired the meeting. The meeting was addressed by other leaders of the federation including its General Secretary Shariatullah, Joint Secretary Mokaddem Hossain and Harunur Rashid.

Saudi envoy meets Matin

The Saudi Arabian Charge d' Affaires Ali Ahmed Abdal Wahab called on Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury at his office in the city Wednesday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters of common interest, including visa, passport and immigration issues between the two countries.

During the discussion, they expressed the hope that the long standing and historical fraternal relations between the two brotherly Muslim countries would be further strengthened and consolidated in the days to come.

Bazlul Karim dead

A K Bazlul Karim, a former member of erstwhile Bengal Civil Service, a brilliant scholar, an eminent administrator, litterateur and mathematician passed away in Dhaka at midnight Tuesday. He was 90, says a press release.

He was Deputy Commissioner of Jessore, Noakhali and Kushtia districts and his last assignment was Member, Public Service Commission.

He left behind four brothers, three sons and three daughters, friends and admirers to mourn his sad demise. He was buried at the Banani graveyard.

His Qul Khwani will be held at his residence at Dhupchaya, 108, Lake Circus Road, Kalabagan, tomorrow (Friday) after Asr prayer.

TV Thursday

5.00	Opening announcement
	Al-Quran Programme Summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.20	Recitation from the Geeta
5.30	Balite Paro
6.00	Film: The New Three Stooges
6.30	Jibanan Ajo
7.05	School debate
8.00	News in Bangla
8.40	Drama of the Week: Gupta Dhan
10.00	News in English
10.30	Drama series: Twin Peaks
11.30	Khabar/ The News
11.40	Friday's programme Summary
11.45	Closing

Ref. No. 22.16/24 Dated: 5 May, 1992

International Tender for Supply of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) and High Speed Diesel Oil 23-26 June, 1992

Tender Notice

- I. (a) Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) hereby invites offers for supply of 80,000 Barrels of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) and 70,000 Barrels of High Speed Diesel (HSD) on C & F Chittagong basis in accordance with the terms and conditions set out herein after.
- (b) Each of the quantities mentioned at (a) will be subject to an operational tolerance of 5 (Five) per cent.
- (c) Barrel means 42 United States Standard Gallon each of two hundred thirty one (231) cubic inches at sixty degrees (60° Fahrenheit).
- II. Entire quantity as mentioned above must be delivered at Chittagong between 23-26 June, 1992 in one Shipment.
- III. Tender will be received up to 1200 hours (BST) on 02 June '92 and opened at 1205 hours BST on 02 June '92 at Buyer's Head Office, HBFC Building 1/D Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong in presence of the bidders or their authorised agents who would wish to be present.
- IV. Other terms and conditions will be as per BPC's general terms and conditions of supply of Petroleum Products (Ref. 22.16 dated 27 March, 1991). Except offers through facsimile will not be accepted.
- V. Offers must be valid up to 1800 hours BST 08 June, 1992.
- VI. Local Agents of reputed buyers interested in the tender with proper application and due authorisation of principal may collect tender documents on all working days during office hours from:
 - (a) The Commercial and Operations Division of the Corporation at its Head Office, HBFC Building, 4th Floor, 1/D, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong - 4100.
 - (b) Jamuna Oil Company Limited (JOCL), Dhaka Office at 28 New Eskaton Road, Dhaka.
 - (c) Bangladesh Mission in Singapore.
- VII. No rights of any kind shall be created in favour of any person by virtue of having obtained the tender document, nor shall any right be created in favour of any person by virtue of submitting a tender. The Corporation reserves right to accept or reject any or all offers in part or in full without assigning any reason.

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1/D, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong.

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