

**Dhaka Day by Day**

**A Day in Fantasy Land**

by Shankar Bihari Nath



Thursday is a special day for hundreds of homeless children of Dhaka city. On this day the Shishu Park is open only for destitute children who roam around aimlessly in the streets of the metropolitan. Every event and ride is free of charge for them. These hungry, hapless children come to the park as if to feed their hearts. For a few moments at least, they forget their sorrows and helplessness and create a dream world of their own.

To share their moments of joy, this writer of "The Daily Star", one day, appeared among them. It was a sultry evening that Thursday. Poorly-dressed boys and girls were playing their games with unbounded pleasure. Among them, was also a group of children who had been taken under the care of a non-government organisation (NGO), and were better dressed. They were the luckier ones and went on each and every ride with the help of an instructor. A lonely boy riding the mini train said, "I have no friends. I come here every Thursday. It gives me relief from my usual chore of collecting rubbish and selling the paper. Some days I earn good money and then I buy ice-cream." Hasna, a girl who had come with an NGO seemed to have mixed feelings about these Thursday visits. "It's a happy day", she said, "every week, yet when shadowy figures of my parents come to my mind all my pleasure is lost." Hasna's friend Iqbal expressed in a carefree attitude, "Every week I wait for this day. I enjoy it very much. We live like friends in our camp and there is no scarcity of food."

A woman guide of RHT, a Swiss-backed NGO, leading a group of teenagers said, "This is my job and I feel very lucky at having a chance to help these uncare children. Salina, one of the children under her responsibility, reciprocated the same warmth." When asked whether she would be happier with her parents, she answered plainly, "No I am more happy with my Apamoni. My parents do not take care of me but my Apa is very kind to me."

Another boy Yusuf, about 12-year old, said that he and three of his friends made a living by selling polythene bags. "When we earn enough we come here," he said before running away to join his friends.

The lady who monitors the park activities said that this special programme of letting homeless children come to the park every Thursday, started during 1980s. She said that she felt happy to see the children getting such an opportunity.

An elderly member of the staff, however, expressed his dissatisfaction at the disturbances created by a lot of the children who come from nearby 'bastis'. According to him, if all these children could be brought under an institution, they could grow up in a healthy environment. If only they could get the education they deserved, what a different life they could look forward to. Sadly, however, where hunger is a constant threat, healthy housing a mirage and education for all a mere political jargon. Such noble ideas may amount to no more than wishful thinking.

But as twilight descended, it was hard to ignore the hundreds of little faces glowing with pleasure as they went on the various rides. Tomorrow would be another day of harsh reality but there was always next Thursday to look forward to!

**Tk 14 cr for BMDA projects**

RAJSHAHI, May 20: The government has sanctioned Taka fourteen crore for implementing various development projects of Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA) during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

The executive director of BMDA Asaduzzaman said that 300 tubewells will be installed in Barind zone by June for extending irrigation facility. 2,148 deep tubewells are functioning in Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj and Naogaon and 90,000 acres have been brought under Boro cultivation during current season, he said adding that about 1,62,000 tons of paddy are expected to be produced. Harvesting of paddy has already started in the zone.

Besides 42,000 acres have been brought under transplanted aus cultivation in Barind zone for the first time. Random deforestation and adverse effect of Farakka have created problem in the area. To overcome the situation, the BMDA will plant ten lakh saplings by June in the region in addition to thirtyeight lakh already planted in phases previously, he said.

**JCD panel for JUCSU polls**

**Liton, Mithu nominated**

Election to the Jahangirnagar University Central Students Union (JUCSU) only less than a fortnight away, the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of BNP, finalised its nominations yesterday, reports UNB.

The JCD nominated Masud Hasan Talukdar Liton and Shamsul Tabriz Mithu to contest the election scheduled for June 3 as Vice President and General Secretary respectively.

Although the election campaign has begun, no other student organisations have announced their nominations yet.

Different student organisations are busy finalising their respective panel.

Campus sources said parleys were continuing to form a joint panel to face JCD in the election. But, they added, some of the student bodies aligned with the left-leaning parties are reportedly reluctant to form any alliance with the Awami League-backed Chhatra League.

**'Environmental hazards, population boom hinder development efforts'**

RAJSHAHI, May 20: The three-day long sixth conference of the Bangladesh National Geographical Association began at Rajshahi University campus on Tuesday, reports BSS.

Vice-chancellor, Rajshahi University, Professor Amanullah Ahmed opened the conference. It is being attended by about one hundred geographers, hydrologists, geologists and environmentalists including one from the USA and twelve from India.

The inaugural function was addressed among others by Prof Serajul Arefin and Prof Mirza Mofizuddin, President and General Secretary respectively of Bangladesh National Geographical Association, Prof Golam Rahman, Vice Chancellor, Khulna, University, Prof

Shubhash Ranjan Basu of Calcutta University, Prof N K Dey of Burdwan University and Prof Zafar Reza Khan, Secretary, organising committee of the conference.

Prof Amanullah Ahmed in his speech said that "environmental hazards and population boom" were the main problems hindering our development efforts.

He said "drought, flood, cyclone and other natural calamities were causing human sufferings. He appealed to the participants to properly evaluate the causes of environmental degradation. "We must learn technology from developed countries to face the problem."

Prof Serajul Arefin said that without industrial development and boosting food production, socio-economic condition of the country would not

be improved.

He however expressed his concern over the "environmental problems and said that world environment condition had already reached a 'danger point' through pollution. "If the developing countries follow the path of industrialisation like Europe and population boom continue unabated, "disaster is imminent."

Prof Arefin stressed the need for proper formulation of national environment policy suiting the need for the hour to overcome the present environmental problems.

He said that a world conference on environment will be held in Brazil next June with a view to adopting a charter.

About fifty papers will be read in the conference highlighting environmental problems in the sub-continent.

**New radio transmitter to be opened today**

A new 100-megawatt medium wave transmitter of Dhaka centre of Radio Bangladesh will go on-air from today, reports BSS.

The new transmitter replaces the old transmitter of the same capacity installed in 1963.

According to Radio Bangladesh sources, the new transmitter will cover at optimum level nearly a radius of 225 kilometers.

**Govt will foil conspiracy at any cost: B Chowdhury**

Deputy Leader of Jatiya Sangsad Professor AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury has said the conscious people had voted BNP to power for its nationalist and pro-people politics and it (BNP) would rule the country for the full term of five years, reports BSS.

The deputy leader was addressing a big public meeting at Gomastapur Soleman Mia College ground under the Chapainawabganj district Tuesday.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Aminul Haque, Local MPs Syed Manzur Hossain and Lutfunnessa Hossain.

Professor Chowdhury said that when the government was implementing development programmes some vested quarters were indulging in conspiracy to hinder the development process by clamouring on non-issue to serve their interest.

**Dr Lutful Huq dead**

Former Chairman of the Department of Islamic Studies, Dhaka University, Dr Syed Lutful Huq, who was also the Principal of Dhaka Alia Madrasah died at PG Hospital here yesterday afternoon. He was 72, reports UNB.

Namaz-e-Janaza of the deceased was held at the Dhaka University Mosque after Magrib prayers.

**Art exhibition**

By Staff Correspondent

The Turkish Embassy in Dhaka is sponsoring an art exhibition to be held on Saturday at House 13, Road 96, Gulshan from 10 am to 5 pm.

The exhibition will put on paintings by Professor Massuda M R Chowdhury, Gudrun Cedreblad, Mary Coldren, Shamsud Doha, Jamal Ahmed, Mohammed Mohsin, Shukumar, Cemal Sangu and Jahangir Hossain.

**Congratulations**

To  
**Nashid Sadeque (Senora)**  
And  
**Md. Mashful Azam (Shajid)**

Who are getting married today.

Goodwishes and blessings from all their relatives and friends.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

MRS. MARGARET MENDES AND FAMILY DESIRE TO EXPRESS THEIR GRATEFUL THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ONE WITH THEM IN THEIR BEREAVEMENT.

MRS. MENDES AND THE FAMILY HOPE THAT THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED AS AN EXPRESSION OF DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS OFFERED FOR THE SALVATION OF THE SOUL OF LATE MR. J. L. MENDES.

**গভীর শ্রদ্ধায় স্মরণ করি**

১৯৭৫ সালের এই দিনে আমাদের প্রিয় ম্যানেজিং ডাইরেক্টর জনাব মুজিবউদ্দিন আহমদ আমাদের ছেড়ে চলে গেছেন। আজ শ্রদ্ধাবনত চিন্তে তাঁকে আমরা স্মরণ করছি। অতীতেও যেমন তাঁর অনুপ্রেরণাই আমাদের সকল শক্তির উৎস ছিল বর্তমান ও ভবিষ্যতেও তেমনি থাকবে। আল্লাহ তাঁর আত্মাকে শান্তিতে রাখুন।

**ন্যাশনাল ল্যাবোরেটরিজ লিঃ**  
ঢাকা - বাংলাদেশ

**Sales Notice**

At Katur under Mohammadpur Police Station 4.63 acre of low land and 1.05 acre of land at Tejkunipara attached to Industrial Area of Tejgaon Police Station will be sold on urgent basis.

Interested buyers are requested to Contract the under signed, the representative of the owner of the land.

**Md. Abdul Mobin**  
Advocate  
124/1 New Kakrail Road,  
Shantinagar (1st floor),  
Phone : Chamber : 410646  
Res : 861841

**Indian HC meets Huda**

The Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh, K Raghunath, yesterday called on Information Minister Nazmul Huda at his office, reports BSS.

**Thursday**

5.00 Opening announcement  
Al-Quran  
Programme summary  
5.10 News in Bengali  
5.20 Recitation from the  
Geeta  
5.30 Balic Paro  
6.00 Cartoon film: The New  
Three Stooges  
6.30 Jibaner Alo  
7.05 School debate  
8.00 News in Bengali  
8.40 Drama of the week  
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

Samoy Sangkritik Gosthi, staged a play at the Shaheed Minar premises Wednesday on the occasion of its founding anniversary.

— Star photo

**What's on today . . . .**

**Seminar on public expenditure**  
BCS Audit and Accounts Association will hold a seminar on "Parliamentary control of public expenditure" today (Thursday) at 10 am at the auditorium of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas will attend the seminar as the chief guest.

**Khelafat Majlish meet**  
The second general meeting of the central Majlish-e-Sura of Bangladesh Khelafat Majlish will be held at 10 am.

**Weather**

**No change in day temperature**  
By Staff Correspondent

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

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged during the period, Meteorological office forecast.

Only 2 mm of rain recorded each in Patuakhali and Khepupara.

The sun sets in Dhaka today (Thursday) at 6-37 pm and rises at 5-13 am tomorrow (Friday).

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	35.0	22.5	64	74
Chittagong	34.0	24.0	65	77
Rajshahi	34.4	21.2	73	65
Khulna	25.4	21.9	71	73
Hurail	33.6	23.5	73	74
Cox's Bazar	33.0	24.0	71	78
Sylhet	33.5	23.8	72	60
Dinajpur	33.4	22.2	71	60
Chauddanga	37.5	21.6	66	53

**Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology**  
Dhaka

**Tender Notice**

No. P&D/L. P-1 (247)/91-92/D-2525(2) Dated: 20/5/92

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide suppliers for supply of Laser Printer and Hard Disk at an estimated cost of Tk. 96,000/-.

Intending tenderers shall have to obtain permission for purchasing tender papers etc. on application to the undersigned. Application must accompany G.I.R. certificate, Trade Licence and certificate of experience about works/supplies etc. from reputed organisations. Tender papers and other terms & conditions will be available from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk. 100/- (non-refundable) to the Sonali Bank, BUET Branch, Dhaka. Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft or Pay Order from Nationalised Bank amounting to 5% of the quoted amount as Earnest Money deposited in favour of the Comptroller of this University without which no tender will be considered. Tenders must be put into the Tender Box kept for this purpose in this office up to 2-30P.M. of 1.6.92 and will be opened on the same day at 2-45 P.M. before the tenderers present.

The University authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders or one or more items of any tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.

No tender papers will be sold on the opening day of the tender.

**Deputy Director**  
Planning & Development

**EVERGREEN**

**NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES / SHIPPERS**

FEEDER VESSEL M.V. CGM BRETAGNE VOY 9203 IMP. ROT NO. 376/92 IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE CHITTAGONG OUTER ANCHORAGE ON OR ABOUT 22.05.92 WITH EVERGREEN CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE EX FOLLOWING VESSELS :-

VESSEL	PORT	VESSEL	PORT
E. GAINING	PUSAN	E. GUEST	PUSAN
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CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO CLEAR THEIR CARGOES IMMEDIATELY ON DISCHARGE. CARGOES UNCLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE ARRIVAL DATE OF THE VESSEL WILL BE DISPOSED WITHOUT ANY REFERENCE TO THE CONSIGNEES, AS PER CUSTOM RULES.

M. V. CGM BRETAGNE VOY 9204 WILL ALSO LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO. 375/92 FOR SINGAPORE FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO U.S.A. WEST & EAST COASTS, EUROPEAN, U.K. & MEDITERRANEAN PORTS.

**FOR DETAILS AND CARGO BOOKINGS PLEASE CONTACT OUR BANGLADESH AGENTS:**

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