

Dhaka Day by Day

Music With a Difference

by Rahat Fahmida



Piano students with their teacher Shantha. (standing third from the right).

The piano-children, who were from eight years of age to maximum 16 years, all arrived. This house was invariably the place of meeting and preparations were made for the start. It was a palatial white building surrounded by trees, dressed with lush green money plant creepers, and to cap it all, romantically facing a 'beel'. A twisting Victorian style staircase took the children and the other guests to a big hall, where the function was to be held.

Recently in Dhaka, for the first time, a certificate and prize giving ceremony was held for piano students. Though Bengalis have an inborn instinct and culture for learning music, until very recently it was confined to just Eastern music.

Playing the drum or learning to play the guitar has been quite trendy for sometime. But piano has come about only since 1985, when the initiative was taken by a Sri Lankan lady Shantha Gunasekera Shah Jalal. Before this there might have been piano classes somewhere in the city although not many people knew about them. Married to a Bangladeshi, Dr Shah Jalal, Shantha did not waste much time after coming to Bangladesh.

Shantha has been playing piano since she was six. She qualified from the Trinity College of Music, London and earned an associated teacher's diploma. Later she went on a scholarship to the then USSR for higher studies at the Leningrad Institute of Culture, where she completed masters in music and post-graduate fellowship in teaching methodology in piano for children.

All this qualified Shantha Gunasekera Shah Jalal to affiliate her Bangladeshi piano students with the Royal School of Music in London. This grand instrument which existed mostly in name and in films for people here, is slowly being introduced, though to a handful, of the

music lovers in the city. This instrument is not grand just in the way it looks, but even in cost. An upright piano costs about taka one lakh and a grand piano obviously costs much more!

On that evening, just before the clock struck six the host lighted the lights in the hall. The moon, in her third quarter had risen. The breeze had been blowing, and the rustle of the children's feet and tones of their whisper echoed. The students were restless for their results, which meant certificates, ranks and prizes, while the parents sat tensed.

There were about fifteen students who successfully and in most cases brilliantly completed their individual grades. They gleefully held on to their valuable certificates that had come straight from London, through courtesy of British Council, Dhaka. Their performance started immediately after this illustrious ceremony of receiving medals and taking photographs.

It was not Mozart or Waltz. But nevertheless, their performance was much above anyone's expectation. There was pin drop silence, as they played on, one after the other. The only interruption was the applause after each presentation. "Music is that which cannot be said but upon which it is impossible to be silent", goes a famous saying. This can be rightfully said about the performance of these young children. The definition of this expression in words is the hardest thing any critic or historian ever has to undertake.

Dedicated piano teacher Shantha Gunasekera Shah Jalal, takes her classes mainly in her house in Lalmaia. And she has no fixed month for admission. Fees for the courses vary according to the seniority of the student in piano studies which involves both theoretical and practical knowledge.

Four ordinances placed in JS

State Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Barrister Aminul Haq, Thursday laid four ordinances in the Jatiya Sangsad, reports BSS.

The ordinances are: The Presidential Security Force (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992, Brick Firing (Control) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992, Commercial Court for Recovery of Financial Loan (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992 and Rajshahi Metropolitan Police Ordinance, 1992.

Nurul Islam new DG of BIBM

A H M Nurul Islam Chowdhury took over charge as Director General of Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM) on June 15, reports UNB.

Prior to this assignment Chowdhury was Economic Adviser of Bangladesh Bank, said a press release Thursday.

Courier companies will continue business

The courier companies in the private sector at a meeting held recently in the city have expressed great concern at the move of Bangladesh postal department to tarnish their image, says a press release.

The meeting held with Imamul Kabir Shanto, Managing Director Sundarban Courier Service (Pvt) Ltd, unanimously decided to continue their business as per internationally followed courier norms.

Garments factory gutted

A store room of Society Garments Limited at Yusuf Market at Noyabazar in the city was gutted Thursday.

Fire reportedly stemmed from an electric short circuit at around 4:45 pm and fire service men brought it under control at around 6:30 pm yesterday.

Fire service office source said six units from different fire stations tried hard to bring the fire under control adding that rejected cloths of the garments were gutted during the incident.

Crop production increases

Production of the major crops paddy, jute, sugarcane, oil seeds, pulses, sweet potato, tobacco and vegetables increased during the current fiscal year, according to Bangladesh Economic Survey released along with the budget Thursday, reports BSS.

Production of paddy, the principal food crop, increased this year to about 189 lakh tons from 189.56 lakh tons last year.

Jute production increased by 12.12 per cent to 52.70

lakh bales, sugar cane by 4.14 per cent to 80 lakh tons, oil seeds by 7.99 per cent to 5 lakh tons, pulses by 0.95 per cent to 5.30 lakh tons, tobacco by 2.63 per cent to 0.39 lakh tons, sweet potato by 3.77 per cent to 5.50 lakh tons and vegetables by 4.55 per cent to 11.50 lakh tons.

But production of wheat decreased by 10.36 per cent and cotton by 6.49 per cent while production of potato remained static at 16 lakh tons this year than the previous year, the survey said.

What's on today . . .

Jubo Union meeting

An emergency joint meeting of the presidium and the 4th national conference preparation council of Bangladesh Jubo Union will be held today (Friday) at 7 pm at the central office of the union.

Assembly of Motivation

The inaugural ceremony of the Assembly of Motivation of Inner Wheel Club of Dhaka Mid-town takes place today (Friday) at Hotel Sheraton in the city.

Deputy Leader of the Jatiya Sangsad Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury is expected to inaugurate the function as chief guest at 9.30 am. Prof Asma Abbas, I I W representative and board member, will be the special guest on the occasion.

Grand conference

The two-day grand conference of the Coordination Committee of engineers, agricultural scientists, physicians and Bangladesh Civil Service officers will begin today (Friday) at the Engineers Institution in the city.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is expected to open the conference as chief guest at 3 pm.

The second day programmes include a seminar on 'Challenges for the 21st century and preparations for administrative reformation in Bangladesh'.

Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali will attend the seminar as chief guest at 3 pm. Information Minister Nazmul Huda and Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad will be special guests.

'Kone Bibhrat'

Lion Theatre will stage 'Kone Bibhrat' at the Mahila Samity Auditorium today (Friday) at 7 pm.

Inaugural show of 'Aantigone'

The inaugural show of the drama 'Aantigone' directed by Khairul Alam Sabuj will be held at the Guide House Auditorium in the city today (Friday) at 7 in the evening.

. . . and tomorrow

Sufia Kamal's 82nd birthday

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad has arranged a function to celebrate the 82nd birth anniversary of Poet Sufia Kamal at the seminar room of the National Museum tomorrow (Saturday) at 4 pm.

JS obituary reference

The Jatiya Sangsad passed obituary references on four distinguished persons of the country when its sixth session opened Thursday afternoon, reports BSS.

The four persons who died during the last three months were Dr. M A Mannan, a former member of the constituent assembly, Moslem Uddin Mridah, a former member of the constituent assembly, Abdul Majid Talukder, a former member of parliament and Shahjahan, a distinguished sportsman and sports organizer.

BTV Friday

Morning Session
8.00 Opening announcement
Al-Quran
Programme Summary
8.15 Anura Natun
8.40 Cartoon: Teenage
Mutant Ninja Turtles
Tookitaki
9.10 The Spectacular World
of Guinness Record
10.00 News in English
10.05 Moner Mukurey
11.15 Documentary film
12.30 Programme for evening
session
Closing

Evening Session
3.00 Opening announcement
Al-Quran
Programme Summary
3.12 Recitation from the
Tripitak
3.40 Movie of the week
5.10 News in Bangla
6.30 Sports programme
Shikshangan: Dur
Shikshan
7.05 Malancha
8.00 News in Bangla
8.30 Musical programme
Eurotop
9.00 Drishtikon
10.00 News in English
10.30 LA Law
11.30 Khabar/ The News
11.40 Saturday's programme
11.45 Closing



Friday
00:00 hrs World News
00:25 World Business
Report
01:00 World News
01:25 News from London
02:00 World News
02:25 UN Report
03:00 World Headlines
Horizon
04:00 World News
04:25 News from London
05:00 World News
05:25 The Racing Game
06:00 World News
06:25 Newsnight
07:00 World News
07:25 World Business
Report
08:00 World News
08:25 Newsnight
09:00 World News
09:25 Question Time
10:00 World News
10:25 Wogan
11:00 World Headlines
Documentary
12:00 World News
12:25 Tomorrow's World
13:00 World News
13:30 Business Morning
14:00 World News
14:25 Kiltory
15:00 World Headlines
16:00 World News
18:00 World News
18:25 Wogan
19:00 World News
19:25 Tomorrow's World
20:00 World News
20:25 News from London
21:00 World News
21:25 Question Time
22:00 World Headlines
22:05 Documentary
23:00 World News
23:25 Wogan

(Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)



Friday
00:00 hrs European Top 20
Video Countdown
02:00 Music Videos - VJ
Danny McGill
03:00 Music Videos
The Day in Rock
05:00 Just Say Julie
06:00 Awake on the Wild
Side
09:00 MTV Power Pack
10:00 MTV's Most
Wanted
11:00 Classic MTV
12:00 Awake on the Wild
Side
15:00 Music Videos - VJ
Danny McGill
18:00 European Top 20
Video Countdown
20:00 The Day in Rock
20:30 Just Say Julie
21:00 MTV Power Pack
22:00 MTV's Most Wanted
23:00 Classic MTV
(Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)

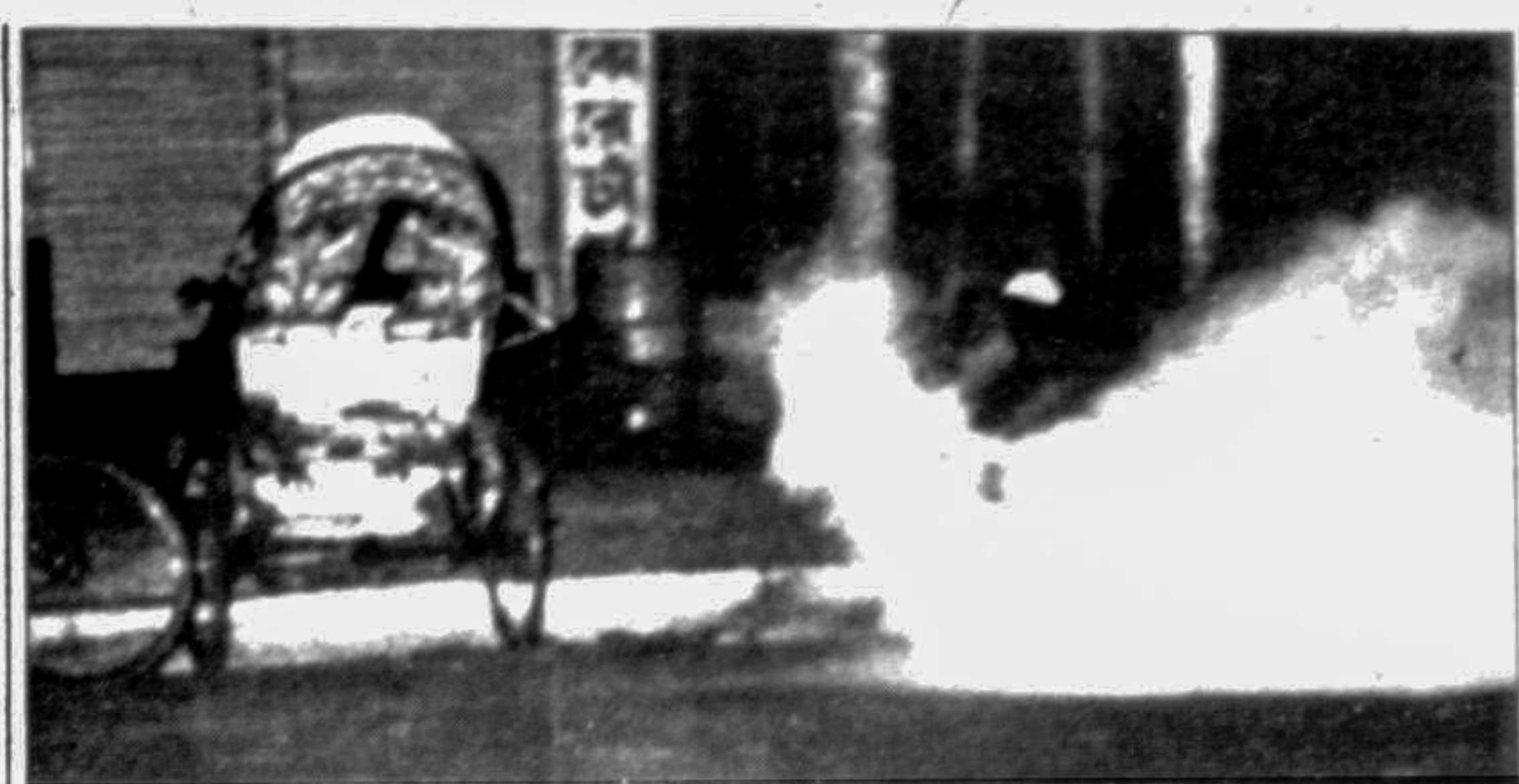
DUTA emergency meeting today

By DU Correspondent

Teachers of the working committee of the Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) will meet at an emergency meeting today to decide whether they will participate at the meeting of the Disciplinary Board and Academic Council of the university on June 22.

The university authorities have called a meeting on June 22 to discuss the cancellation of BSc degree of Sheikh Anwar Ali.

The teachers of the Dhaka University started an indefinite strike protesting the assault on Associate Professor Dr Badrul Alam of Physics Department committed by student Anwar Ali.



Police lobbed tear-gas shell on the procession of Bharatiya Dal Protirodh Committee yesterday (Thursday) evening at the Dainik Bangla crossing. —Star photo

India will welcome book fair

The government of India will welcome Bangladeshi book fair and exhibition as well as other cultural programmes in its country, reports BSS.

The Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, K Raghunath, said this while he called on State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahannara Begum at her office Thursday.

The Indian envoy invited a Bangladeshi cultural delegation to take part in the first South Asian festival which is going to be held at ten cities of India including the capital New Delhi from October 9 to 24 this year. Various cultural

items including cultural programmes, crafts fair, feature film exhibition and painting exhibition will be held in the festival.

They discussed various aspects of the cultural exchange programmes between the two countries an agreement on which was signed during the recent visit of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to India. They also exchanged views to strengthen further the existing friendly relations between the two countries by implementing effectively the cultural tie.

Cultural Secretary Islam Uddin Malik was present on the occasion.

Weekly tea sale healthier

CHITTAGONG, June 18: The weekly tea sale held here on Tuesday was marked by a healthier tone in the sale following improved enquiry from internal market and the Pakistani Bazar, market sources said today, reports BSS.

Good liquoring fannings and small broken were a strong feature of the sale and they were sold mostly above last levels.

The highlight of this week's sale was the record prices fetched by Deundi Clonal teas. Large broken were again

mostly neglected and where sold declined further in value. Small well made broken, however, met with an increased demand and generally sold at higher levels particularly the good liquoring types.

Primary fannings met with more interest, especially for the clean liquoring types which often were a dearer market. Medium and plainer sorts sold well at around last levels and occasionally easier.

The season's first offering of 120 chests of green tea met with keen competition and sold above broker's valuations. Young Hyson averaged at Tk 70/19 per KG and fine Young Hyson was withdrawn as bids were below seller's expectations.



STAR plus Friday
00:00 hrs Wolf
01:00 Movie: Moonchild
02:30 Video Fashion
03:00 City
03:30 The Bold & The Beautiful
04:00 Joan Rivers
05:00 Santa Barbara
06:00 Attitudes
07:00 Everyday Workout
07:30 Smoggies
08:00 Animated Classics
09:00 Terrahawks
09:30 Dr Fad Show
10:00 Children's Room
10:30 Out of Control
11:00 Attitudes
12:00 Image Workshop
13:00 Santa Barbara
14:00 Joan Rivers
15:00 Saving the Tigers
16:00 Growing Up Together
16:30 Mac & Mutley
17:00 Adventures on Kythera
17:30 Movie: The Treasure of Jamaica Reef
19:00 Opera: Highlights from La Scala
20:00 Wolf
20:50 Hollywood Stars
21:00 Movie: Akhbar's Daughter
22:30 City
23:00 The Bold & the Beautiful
23:30 Runaway with the Rich & Famous
(Please deduct 2 hours from above timings for Bangladesh Standard Time)

Parties organise meetings today in support of June 21 hartal

By Staff Correspondent

Different political parties have organised public meetings in the city today (Friday) in support of the June 21 countrywide hartal.

The dawn to dusk hartal was called by the National Coordination Committee for Realisation of the Spirit of the Liberation War and Resistance to the Killers and Collaborators of 1971 in demand of execution of the 'Gana Adalat' verdict on Golan Azam.

The Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) has called its meeting at the Purana Palton crossing at 5 pm.

The meeting of the Five-Party Alliance will be held in the BSD-JSD office premises in the afternoon.

Bangladesh Janata Dal has called its meeting at Gulistan square at 4 pm.

BSD (Khaleq) held a rally in support of the June 21 at Mirpur Section number 10 in the city yesterday.

Party Chief Khalequzzaman Bhuiyan and other leaders including Bazul Rasheed Firoz and Razuquzzaman Ratan addressed the rally.

Weather

Thundershower likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind with moderately heavy fall likely to occur at many places over Khulna division and at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Chittagong divisions in the next 24 hours commencing from 6 pm today (Friday).

The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to fall by 1 to 2 degree Celsius all over the country.

The maximum temperature Thursday was 35 degree Celsius recorded at Rangamati while the minimum of 23.6 was reported from Sylhet.

The country experienced moderate rainfall at many places over the country. 5mm rainfall was recorded at Iswardi while 4 each at Khulna, Satkhira and Tangal, 3 each at Teknaf, Rangamati and Chuadanga. Dhaka experienced 1mm rainfall. The sun sets today (Friday) at 6.49 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 5.12 am.

The maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns Thursday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperatures		Humidities in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	33.7	27.2	72	74
Chittagong	34.8	26.7	68	67
Rajshahi	33.7	25.5	72	92
Khulna	33.0	25.2	75	78
Barisal	32.5	27.2	86	86
Cox's Bazar	33.0	25.9	85	77
Dinajpur	33.5	25.5	82	70
Sylhet	34.6	23.6	81	60
Rangamati	35.0	25.3	66	89

To Let
Flat C-1 (First Floor) at Fortuna Apartments 42/E-1 Indira Road, 3 bed, 4 bath, drawing/dining, kitchen, garden, lift.
Contact : 883318 D-336

Land for Sale
4½ kathas of High Land at 18, Siddeswari (New Baily Road), Dhaka will be sold immediately.
Contact : Mr Maroof
Phone : 400587 D-335

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES
The containerised cargo ex. M. V. Anro Adelaide V-2660 from Adelaide, M. V. California Carrier V-18141 from Nagoya, M. V. Maha Bhum V-110 from Bangkok, M. V. Mont Blanc Maru V-03035 from Kobe, Nagoya, Yokohama, Hongkong, M. V. Trieste V-04372 from Keelung have been Relayed to M. V. KOTA BUANA V-KBN-213, Imp. Rot. No. 458/92, is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 19.6.92 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.
BIRDS BANGLADESH AGENCIES LIMITED.
103, AGRABAD COMMERCIAL AREA, CHITTAGONG.
AS AGENTS: MITSUI O. S. K. LINES LTD, TOKYO.
PHONES: 500440, 503317, 500686/88.

Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
B' Baria PWD Division, B' Baria

Notice Inviting Tender

- Sealed tender in BD Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from the Approved Special Class-I (one), Class-II (one) Bldg. contractors of PWD, Class-II (two) Bldg. Contractors of PWD Zone, Chittagong and Class-III (three) Bldg. contractors of PWD Circle, Comilla, for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Comilla/Chand-pur/Noakhali/Feni/Lakshmi-pur in their respective offices up to 1.00 pm on 24.6.1992 and will be opened on the same day at 1.15 pm in presence of the tenderers who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.
Tender form will be : 23.6.1992 sold up to
- Name of work : Constn. of Upazila Health Complex at Sarail (sub-head: Constn. of Compound wall) in the District of B' Baria during the year 1991-92.
- Estimated cost : Tk. 6,20,639.00
- Earnest money : Tk. 12,415/-
- Time allowed for completion of work from the date of issue of work order : 90 (ninety) days.

Executive Engineer
B' Baria PWD Division,
B' Baria.
DFP (G) 12552-15/6
G-763

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Wanted

Biman Bangladesh Airlines invites application from suitable candidates for the following post:
JR PHARMACIST/STORE KEEPER: VANCANCY-03.
Qualification & experience: (a) Minimum SSC (b) Diploma in Pharmacy from Para Medical Institute. (c) 2 (two) years' experience in any recognised Hospital/Medical Centre. Age: Maximum 30 years as on 30.06.92. Re-laxable up to 32 years for Freedom Fighters.
Pay Scale: Tk. 1475-90-2195-EB-95-2860-100-3160- plus other admissible allowances. Candidates may write to us for further details/relevant information along with a self-addressed envelope affixed with necessary Postage Stamp or they may also collect information from our Notice Board displayed at the western side of Biman Head Office.
Last date of submission of application: 16.07.92
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