

# Dhaka Day by Day

## City's 'International Focus' and 'Standard hotel'

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

"The spirit was very high at that time ... just after independence," he recalled his first trip in 1972. In Dhaka, after twenty years, last week, he spoke of the "biggest change" — the city's "international focus."

And in the capital of the "twenty-year-old country," Ichigo Umehara who heads a hotel network spanning the Pacific, wants to develop the best hotel in Asia.

"It is the best in Dhaka but we have to improve the human resources to be the number one in Asia," the 51-year-old Japanese told The Daily Star while greeting guests at a reception in his honour at the Sonargaon Hotel's Ball Room.

Sonargaon Hotel is one of the 17 that the Pan Pacific Hotels & Resorts (PPH&R) owns or manages across the continents. The PPH&R is a sister concern of the Tokyo Hotels — both being members of the Tokyo Companies headquartered in Tokyo.

Umehara talked about three objectives to reach his target. First, to ensure PPH&R standard upheld throughout the network, no matter whether the hotel is in Los Angeles or China, Macronesia or Canada. "Local flavour ... yes, we need that ... but the fundamental should be the same."

Second, to develop the human resources. The PPH&R president during his two-day tour of Dhaka approved a "comprehensive training programme" in which the company's experts will train the "rank and file staff" of the Sonargaon Hotel in "new techniques and service."

The third objective that Umehara wants his hotels to achieve is that each of them be the "best team" in respective towns by 1993, "best service" by 1994 and "best reputation" by 1995.

Umehara's company is only the manager of the Sonargaon Hotel, Hotels International Limited (HIL) being the owning company representing the Bangladesh Government. The PPH&R which shares the hotel's profit as management fee renewed its contract last August after completing two five-year terms.

During his stay, he met the Civil Aviation Minister and the HIL Chairman. With HIL chief, he discussed the "results" of the first six months of 1992, "plans" for the next

six months and the 1993 training programme. While being modest in admitting that "it's near the international standard," Umehara was all praise for the "high standard of service and high staff morale" in Sonargaon, the country's only Five-Star hotel.



Umehara being greeted by the Sonargaon staff.

## Death sentences on four carried out

By Staff Correspondent

Death sentences against four convicts were executed during the fiscal 1991-92. Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury Monday told the parliament.

They were: Abdul Kuddus of Pabna, Nurul Islam of My-mensingh, Moila Rafiqul Islam of Bagerhat and Md Saheb Ali Khan of Jhalakati, he said.

The Minister was replying to Principal MM Nazrul Islam (Bhola-4) during the question-answer hour in parliament Monday morning.

Responding to another query, the Home Minister said that a total of 1061 prisoners were released from different jails on the occasion of Victory Day, 1991.

## 264 weapons looted from police

By Staff Correspondent

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury Monday informed the parliament that 264 weapons and 13,773 rounds of cartridges were looted from the police during the last 19 years.

Replying to Kazi Md Anwar Hossain of Jatiya Party, Chowdhury said that 36 self loading rifles (SLR), 42 sub machine guns (SMG) and three light machine guns (LMG) were also snatched away from the police from 1972 to 1991.

The year 1973 topped the list of the lost fire-arms in which 56 rifles, 12 SMGs, one LMG and 4962 cartridges were looted from the police, he added.

The Home Minister told another questioner that the government has created 1135 new posts in the newly installed Rajshahi metropolitan police.

Another 1120 posts in the armed battalion of police were also under consideration of the government, he added.

## Prof Yunus awarded Doctor of Letters

By Staff Correspondent

Prof Muhammad Yunus, founder and Managing Director of Grameen Bank, has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Letters by the University of East Anglia, Norwich, England, reports BSS.

In their annual congregation held on July 9, the university in its citation, for the degree enumerated the achievements of Prof Yunus in conceiving the idea of the banking for the poor and implementing it in rural Bangladesh. It also mentions that Grameen Bank concept is now being implemented widely around the world including the advanced country like the United States.

Grameen Bank, operates in 28,000 villages of Bangladesh. It is now being replicated in 40 countries around the world. Repayment rate of the bank is over 98 per cent.

## Machinery worth Tk 1.2 lakh recovered

By Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 20: Port police recovered some stolen machinery parts worth Taka one lakh twenty thousand from a house at South Halishahar here last night, reports BSS.

According to police, the parts were earlier stolen from factory of Export Processing Zone (EPZ). Police arrested Md Sellim in this connection.

## Weather

### Moderate rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday) says, light or moderate rain or showers are likely to occur at many places over Dhaka, Khulna and Chittagong divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi division with moderately heavy falls at places.

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The Met Office says, rainfall activities are likely to decrease after two days.

Yesterday (Monday) the country experienced rainfall at many places. Rainfall recorded in 12 hours from 6 am to 6 pm were: Sitakunda 40 mm, Jessore 39 mm, Kutubdia 30 mm, Chuadanga and Feni 23 mm each, Teknaf 21 mm, Rangamati and Majdi court 18 mm each, Khepupara and Rajshahi 6 mm each, Faridpur 4 mm and Dhaka 1 mm.

The maximum temperature of 32.5 degree Celsius was reported from Chuadanga yesterday and the minimum of 23.5 degree was reported from Rangamati.

The sun sets today at 6.47 pm and rises at 5.23 am tomorrow.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	30.4	25.0
Chittagong	29.3	24.6
Rajshahi	29.0	25.7
Khulna	30.0	24.2
Dinajpur	30.4	25.5
Sylhet	29.2	24.4
Cox's Bazar	28.0	24.8
Jessore	29.5	24.6

## Rotarians asked to extend service upto village level

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday asked the rotarians to extend their services to the villages for the benefit of the vast multitudes of under privileged who live there, reports BSS.

"Don't confine your service programmes to towns only, but take those to the villages", the President told members of Rotary Club at a function held here last evening.

The President was the chief guest at the 25th Installation ceremony of the office bearers of Rotary Club of Dhaka North for the year 1992-93. The function was also addressed by Rotary Governor for district

3280, LK Siddiqi MP, and incoming President of the club Aftab-ul Islam.

Referring to abject poverty in the country, the President said government alone cannot tackle this gigantic task. He sought support and initiative of voluntary organizations like Rotary Clubs to supplement government programmes for attaining self-reliance, the declared objective of the present democratic administration.

The President asked the well-to-do section of the society to come forward for alleviating poverty and help others in becoming self-reliant.



IBM expert giving demonstration of Pumori Banking Systems at a local Hotel on Monday. — Star photo

## IBM introducing easy computer system for banking

By Staff Correspondent

The International Business Machine (IBM) is introducing a computer system for banking in Bangladesh, namely, the 'Pumori On-line Banking System'.

This system can be installed in all categories of banks of the country, from small to complex types, and would provide numerous facilities to both the bankers and the clients, if installed.

At a seminar on 'Pumori On-line Multiuser Banking System', jointly organised by IBM, National System Solution (NSS) and Mercantile Office Systems, Nepal, speakers said the Pumori system would be very cheap to install and easy to operate.

The seminar, addressed by experts from Mercantile Systems Sanjiv Rajbhandari and Prakash Bajracharya and IBM Bangladesh executive Shahjahan Majumdar Bir Pratik, was told that the Pumori system very much flexible in application, could easily set up an interactive network among several branches of a bank.

The Pumori system had been developed in Nepal and made to suit the needs of the banking system of the sub-continent.

The seminar was largely attended by officials from various government and private banks and business executives. Speakers suggested that a small banking system take the IBM-offered Pumori Lite System, a bigger network pick Pumori Base and a complex banking go for the Extended System, and thus options for the buyers being offered.

The system would also provide a high security system for both the clients and the bankers. It was able to restrict unauthorised access to bank information, the speakers said, minimize chances of errors, ensure data integrity but still offered sufficient management control.

The system also has accommodations of programmes or instruction needed by particular banks to suit its own set of requirements and operational methods.

With the introduction of this system, the banks would be able to do complex and long auditing works, which may take a month with the existing system, within two or three days.

If a client installs a personal computer at his disposal out of the bank, he can exchange information on his own financial matters with the bank, the speakers said.

The seminar was followed by a demonstration of the Pumori System.s

## Sohearto's special envoy visits Women's Affairs Department

Special envoy of Indonesian President and State Minister for the role of Women A Sulastikin Murpratoma Monday visited the Women's Affairs Department in the capital, reports UNB.

State Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Sarwari Rahman accompanies the special envoy during the visit.

The envoy went round different sections including training units — Secretarial Science, Tailoring, Embroidery, Knitting and Computer courses.

Sulastikin was briefed the aims and objectives of the on going development projects of the department.

She planted a sapling at the premises of the women's affairs department. State Minister Sarwari Rahman also planted a sapling there.

The envoy, later, visited the Women Support Centre.

## বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

মতিঝিল  
পোস্ট বক্স নং-৭০৮  
ঢাকা-১০০০।

### কারণ দর্শনার নোটিশ

১। যেহেতু তিনি বাবু মনু শিকারী, মুদ্রা/নোট পরীক্ষক ১ম মান (সাময়িকভাবে বরখাস্তকৃত) বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা, পিতাঃ বাবু মনোহর শিকারী, স্থায়ী ঠিকানাঃ গামঃ রাজাপুর, পোঃ রামশীল, জেলাঃ গোপালগঞ্জ, বর্তমান ঠিকানাঃ ২৬ নং কবি জসিম উদ্দিন রোড, উত্তর কমলাপুর, ঢাকা, বিনা দরখাস্ত/ অননুমোদিতভাবে বিগত ১৯-২-৯২ইং তারিখ হইতে নিজ কর্মস্থলে অনুপস্থিত রহিয়াছেন;

২। যেহেতু তিনি অত্র অফিসের ৩-৩-৯২ ইং তারিখের স্বরক নং সংস্থাপনঃ ১৮৯৫/ব্য, নথি-৯২ ও ২৩-৩-৯২ইং তারিখের তারবার্তার মাধ্যমে অবিলম্বে অফিসে যোগদানের জন্য প্রদত্ত নির্দেশের প্রতি সাড়া প্রদান করেন নাই; এবং

৩। যেহেতু তাহার বিরুদ্ধে অত্র অফিসের ৩১-৫-৯২ ইং তারিখের স্বরক নং সংস্থাপনঃ ৪০৪৭/ব্য, নথি-৯২ এর মাধ্যমে প্রণীত চার্জশীটের প্রেক্ষিতে তাহার আত্মপক্ষ সমর্থনের জন্য এতদুদ্দেশ্যে মনোনীত তদন্তকারী কর্মকর্তার নিকট প্রত্যক্ষ বা পরোক্ষভাবে নিজেকে নির্দোষ প্রমাণার্থে কোন প্রকার জবাব পেশ বা প্রমাণাদি উপস্থাপন করেন নাই, সেহেতু বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক (ষ্টাফ) রেগুলেশন্স এর ২২(II) নম্বর ধারাবাহীনে কেন তাহাকে অত্র ব্যাংকের চাকুরী হইতে বরখাস্ত করা হইবে না তাহার কারণ অত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি সংবাদপত্রে প্রকাশের ১৫ দিনের মধ্যে দর্শনার জন্য তাহাকে চূড়ান্তভাবে নির্দেশ দেওয়া হইল। উল্লিখিত সময়ের মধ্যে তিনি গৃহযোগ্য জবাব পেশ করিতে ব্যর্থ হইলে তাহার সহিত আর কোন প্রকার যোগাযোগ ব্যতিরেকেই কর্তৃপক্ষ একতরফাভাবে তাহার বিরুদ্ধে যে কোন শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গৃহণ করিতে পারিবে।

জসওপ্রবিঃ ৪৮/৯২-৭৫৩ আতাউল হক  
ডিএফপি (জি) ১৩৮৯৩-১৬/৭ মহাব্যবস্থাপক  
জি-৯০২ দুলাপানীঃ- ২৩৩৭০২

## What's on today . . . .

### JSD discussion meeting

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) will hold a discussion meeting today (Tuesday) on the death anniversary of Col Taher at Shaheed Col Taher Auditorium at 4 pm.

### Inauguration of tea sales centre

National tea company will inaugurate its tea sales centre today (Tuesday) at its 17 Kakrail road office at 11 am.

### Rotary Club of Dhaka

The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka will be held today (Tuesday) at 5.15 pm at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

Rin Haroun-er-Rashid will speak on reflections on the earth summit.

### Rotary Club of Ramna

The regular meeting of Rotary Club of Ramna will be held today (Tuesday) at 5.30 pm at Hotel Sonargaon.

The Danish Ambassador to Bangladesh Knud Kjaer Nielsen will be the chief guest.

### Certificate giving ceremony

The certificate giving ceremony of the workshop organised by Bangladesh Photographic Society (BPCS) and British Council will be held today (Tuesday) at the BPC office at 6 pm.

### Rotary Club of Motijheel

The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Motijheel will be held today (Tuesday) at 7 pm at House No. 8, Mitali Housing Society, East Kafil, Dhaka Cantonment.

### Course on export credit

The inaugural session of the training session of the training course on "Export credit guarantee scheme" jointly organised by the Export Development Project of USAID and Export Credit Guarantee Department of Shadharan Bima Corporation will be held today (Tuesday) at the auditorium of Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management.

### Workshop on fruits

The regional workshop on the utilization of traditional and under exploited fruits and nuts in Asia will begin today (Tuesday) at 9 am at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) conference room.

### Holy Cross School exhibition

A three-day science exhibition of the Holy Cross Girls High School will begin today (Tuesday) at 8:30 am.

## . . . . and tomorrow

### BCL Meeting

The 13th general meeting of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) central council will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at 8 pm at the BCL central office.



M Faizur Razaque, Chairman, BPDB planting a sapling in Jatrabari PDB Staff Quarters housing complex premises yesterday.



### Tuesday

- 5.00 Opening announcement
- Al-Quran
- Programme summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5.25 Euro-Cup '92
- Denmark vs Germany
- 7.05 Nazrul Songs
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.40 Drama series
- Baro Rakom Manush
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.25 Parliament round-up
- 10.35 Meni series : On the Reverse Run
- 11.30 Khabar/ The News
- 11.40 Wednesdays programme summary
- 11.45 Closing