

Dhaka Day by Day

Little Man Walking Tall!

Md Rezaul Haque

For them who think life is very much unfair for the physically retarded people, here is one with an exception. Not far from Farmgate if one walks along Green Super Market, amidst a thick forest of crowd, plying rickshaws, cars and street-vendors, he can be seen sitting at his tea-stall making cups after cups of tea with his small but dexterous hands to onlookers' wonder.

Hashem Ali, 32, standing not more than two feet on the ground, is a proud father of two children, raises a family of seven. He wakes up not long before the sun announces the day, while many of us are still busy lengthening the night till the last possible minute in the morning. As early as seven he takes his brew inside a wheeled tea-stall, well furnished compared to the other ones in that area with all the accessories like biscuits, cakes and chocolates etc.

In sharp contrast to a general view that a person like him is most expected to be a beggar, he manages an honourable livelihood with the earnings from the tea-stall. He earns about 150 to 200 taka a day; pays a house-rent of Tk 500 per month; bears his elder son's school expenses apart from other household costs. This, he says, did not come from Aladdin's lamp. He has worked up his way through this topsy-turvy world. Back in 72, he came to Dhaka in quest for a job bidding goodbye to his native place Mymensingh. He was staying with his brother who had been working in a Chinese

restaurant that time. With the help of his brother he got a job there at Tk 70 per month. As it was too little a sum to stand on his own, he searched for better opportunity. After trying his luck at different places, he finally settled down with tea-stall. In 1982, eleven months after his mother's demise, he married the girl whom he loved. Now he leads a happy life with his beloved wife and children with a couple of nephews to assist in his business.

Commenting on the prevailing situation in society, he sounded rather dispirited as he delivered with a sigh, "Corruption, snatching and all such malpractices are increasing in such an astronomical amount throughout the country that the future seems to be pretty bleak. God knows how our posterity is going to survive."

Then he went on adding that "politics has become a business of lies in our country; our leaders say something without meaning it. All the tall promises made by them before going to power end in smoke afterwards." When asked if he thinks things are going to improve in future he went on, "Not in near future, that's what I think." But, then added with conviction, "I love my country and I hope that things shall improve someday. I may not be that lucky to see it myself but my offspring might."

In a time when malpractices are order of the day and many are lured by it, Hashem Ali, the little big man, expresses his angst to hold on and try for an honest living.



Proving all the while that appearance is not all.

'Help implement market policy to boost national economy'

CHITTAGONG, Sept 25: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed said here today that the government had undertaken the policy of market economy with a view to bringing about a qualitative change in the socio-economic life, reports BSS.

He urged the private sectors to come forward to supplement to the government efforts toward successful implementation of this policy to boost the national economy for the welfare of the masses.

The Minister was addressing as chief guest the concluding session of a two-day seminar on 'Industrial Development: Problems and Prospects in Bangladesh' organised by the Institute of Cost and Management Accounts of Bangladesh at the Chamber House.

Presided over by Rafique Ahmed the session was also addressed, among others, by President of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ali Ahmed, Salamat Ullah, and Mozaffar Ahmed.

The Communications Minister said the government was determined to restore discipline in financial institutions and in the industrial sector.

Ahmed said entrepreneurs in the private sector had already started deriving benefits from the liberal industrial policy of 1991.

New office-bearers of puja udjapan Parishad

K B Roy Chowdhury and Swapan Saha have been made president and general secretary respectively of Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad central committee at the biennial national conference of the organisation Friday.

The conference, presided over by acting president of the organisation R Lalit Mohan Nath, also elected 19 other office-bearers of the central committee of the parishad for next two years.

Delegates from all over the country participated in the conference held at the Dhakeshwari Temple premises.

The conference called for immediate reconstruction of some 2,500 temples and places of worship, dwelling places and business establishments which were damaged in 1990 and giving compensation.

Computer Operator Council meet

An executive council meeting of the Bangladesh Computer Operator Council was held Friday with its president M A Monna Khan Rana in the chair.

Revival of Bhati Unnayan Board demanded

A gathering of Bangladesh Bhati Unnayan Parishad in Dhaka yesterday called for revival of the 'Haor Unnayan Board' for overall development of the 'bhati' areas, reports BSS.

The gathering, held at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium, was presided over by Chairman of the Unnayan Parishad Syed Strajul Huda and attended by the people of Kishoreganj, Sunamganj, Habiganj, Netrokona and Brahmanbaria districts living in the capital city.

It was addressed, among others, by Manzur Ahmed, former MP, Khalequzzaman Khan, former MP, Lutful Hye Sahchu, former MP, Shahjahan Yar Chowdhury, former MP and journalist Ashraf Hui.

The speakers urged the government for taking measures for cultivation of two crops in the 'bhati' areas and electrification of the irrigation system.

Call to make female edn programme a success

The Deputy Leader of the House Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury Friday called for making a success of female education programme for the overall development of the country, reports BSS.

He was addressing a gathering of elite organised by Gandaria Social Reform and Development Association at the auditorium of the Fazul Haq Women's College.

The function was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain, Chairman of the Public Service Commission Dr Faizuddin Ahmed and president of the association Gias Uddin Ahmed.

Emphasising on female, general and mass education, Prof Chowdhury asked the teachers to educate the students with modern outlook and in an attractive manner so that the students would not indulge in terrorism and violence. He said healthy atmosphere must be ensured in educational arena.

'Painting contest helps flourish child's talent'

Humayun Khan Panni, Deputy Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad, Friday said painting competition would help flourish the creative talent of the children, reports BSS.

The Deputy Speaker was inaugurating an "Open children painting competition" at Bangladesh Shishu Academy here.

Organised by juvenile organisation "Fulkuri" on the occasion of its 18th founding anniversary the competition was participated by about 300 child artists.

Panni stressed the need for organising such competition in other parts of the country.



Saturday	
5-00	Opening announcement
5-05	Al-Quran
5-10	Programme summary
5-15	News in Bangla
5-20	Recitation from the Tripitak
5-25	Documentary
6-00	Cartoon: Care Bears Family
6-30	Mati O Manush
7-05	Banshari
8-00	News in Bangla
8-30	Probaha
9-00	Anirban
10-00	News in English
10-30	Drama series: Dallas
11-30	Khabar/The News
11-40	Sunday's programme summary
11-45	Closing

Weather

Thundershower likely

By Staff Correspondent

Temporary light or moderate rain or thundershower may occur at many places over Chittagong, Khulna divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Saturday).

The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to fall by one to two degree Celsius over the southern part of the country and remain nearly unchanged elsewhere of the country.

The Met office adds, rainfall activities are likely to increase within two days.

The maximum temperature of 33.0 degree Celsius was reported from Bogra yesterday (Friday) and the minimum of 21.4 degree was reported from Sylhet.

The sun sets today at 5.51 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.49 am.

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

Cities/Towns Temperature in degree Celsius Humidity in percentage		9 am		6 pm	
Dhaka	Max	32.0	26.6	83	92
Chittagong	Max	32.5	25.6	74	85
Khulna	Max	31.4	26.2	88	86
Rajshahi	Max	32.7	25.2	77	80
Cox's Bazar	Max	31.8	25.0	72	83
Sylhet	Max	32.0	21.4	82	78
Dinajpur	Max	30.1	23.0	84	82
Barisal	Max	29.0	24.7	85	92



Railway Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad held a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday.

Rly will be free from losses in two years: Oli

CHITTAGONG, Sept 25: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed said here today that Bangladesh Railway was expected to get itself free from incurring losses within the next two years, reports BSS.

Although it is a difficult task yet the concerted and sincere efforts by the 56,000 members of the railway family could build the organisation on a sound footing, he added.

The minister was speaking at a seminar on 'The Role of Railway in the Development of Bangladesh', a PID handout said.

Organised by Institute of Engineers of Chittagong the seminar was presided over by Engineer Sultan Mahmud while Engineer Atiqul Hossain Khan presented the key-note paper.

Among those who spoke at the seminar were Dr Mah-

bubullah, Advocate Abdus Salam Mamun, president of Chittagong Chamber Ali Ahmed, Advocate Shamsuddin Ahmed Mirza, engineers Abdul Khaleq Mia and Nurul Huda and journalists Ataul Hakim and Zahidul Karim Kachi.

The Communications Minister said when the present democratic government was installed in power it was feared that the railway's annual deficit might reach Taka 180 crore but certain steps taken by the government brought down the deficit to Taka 105 crore.

If this trend continued, Oli Ahmed said, this deficit could be further brought down to Taka 80 crore this year.

Referring to the Karnaphuli Bridge the Minister said the reconstruction work of this bridge had to be completed in the next seven months.

Janata Tower case

HC judgement on Raushan's petition resumes tomorrow

The judgement on the petition of Begum Raushan Ershad, wife of former President H M Ershad, for quashment in the Janata Tower case on charges of corruption could not be delivered Thursday, reports BSS.

The two-member vacation bench of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court which heard a total of six prayers including that of former President Ershad had the judgement incomplete when the court rose for the day at 4-45 pm. The court will resume on tomorrow.

Justice Habibur Rahman Khan and Justice M A Mannan who comprised the bench, disposed of the petition of M Rahmatullah, former Chairman of RAJUK.

The court Wednesday rejected Ershad's criminal revision prayer to relieve him of this case and directed trial court to proceed with the case.

2 pro-Mantu BCL leaders held

Pro-Mantu Chhatra League president Mizanur Rahman Azad and general secretary Wahiduzzaman Lony demanded immediate release of Saidul Islam Khan Paul and Kabiruzzaman Kabir, who were arrested by police Thursday night, reports UNB.

In a joint statement yesterday (Friday), the pro-Mantu Chhatra League leaders alleged that Paul and Kabir were arrested on false allegations.

Meanwhile, a police press release Friday said notorious terrorist and extortionist Saidul Islam alias Paul (28) and his accomplice Kabir (24) were arrested Thursday night during a raid by DB police at Elephant Road in the city.

ADHUNIK hails Khaleda

National Prof Dr N. Islam, founder president and members of the executive committee of ADHUNIK Friday congratulated Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for declaring the Prime Minister's Secretariat as 'no smoking zone', reports BSS.

Happy Birthday

To

Rakib

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৩০ মিনিটের বার্নিং/এ
জান চার্লস (৩৬ জন) চরণ।

Happy Birth Day FAHIM

DAD, MOM AND VANEETA

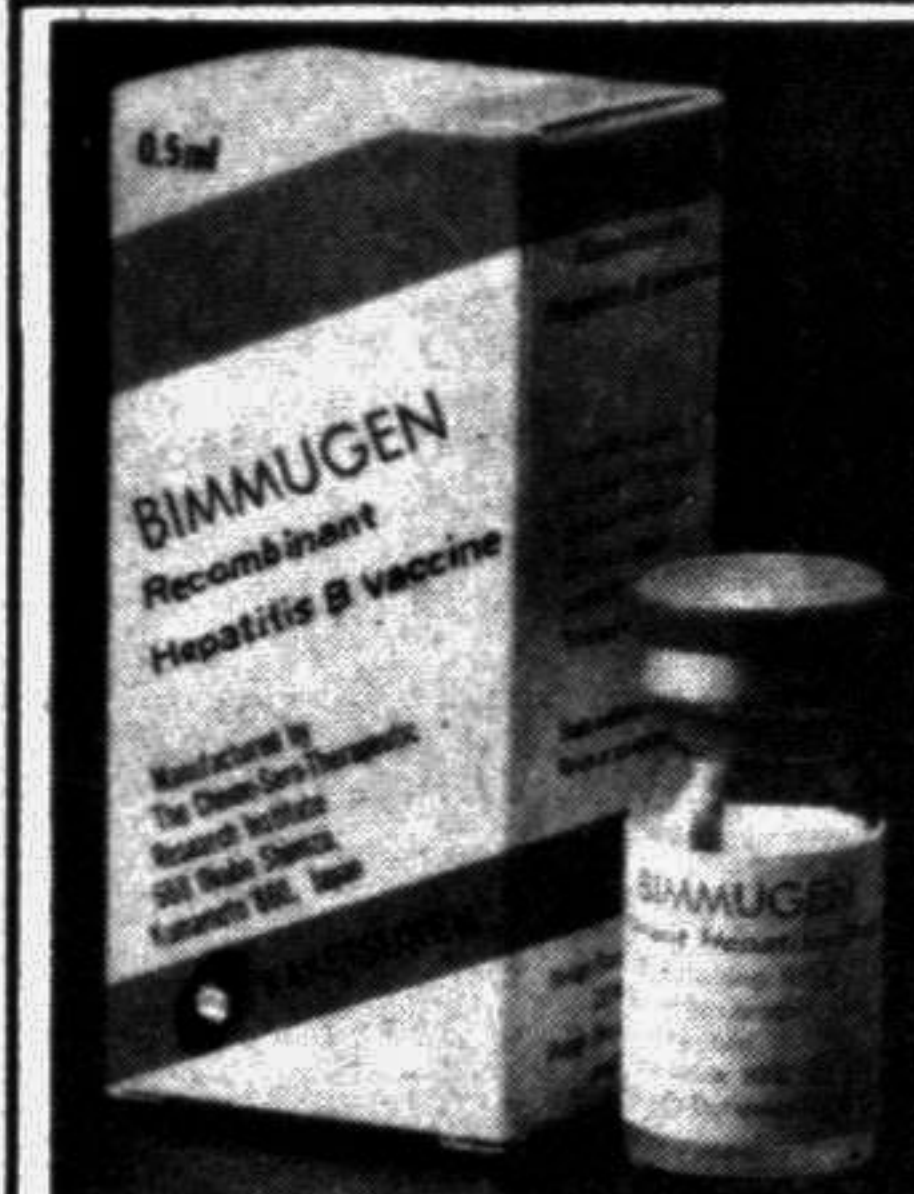


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