

# Dhaka Day by Day

## A Miscellany of Road Scenes

by A S M Nurunnabi

It is a common sight to find a class of pedlars with bamboo rod slung across their shoulders with a load on each side. The loads consist of wares of plastic, aluminium, etc. The characteristic feature of their trade is that they do not normally sell their wares. They rather prefer an exchange proposition. That is, you give them some old clothes and get in exchange a particular item of utensil or plastic object. This is in fact a trade in old clothes on exchange basis.

With the advent of cold weather, colourful markets make their appearance on some important sidewalks and selected areas in the city. With the beginning of winter, these makeshift markets grow in variety and range. These markets deal in old clothes of different kind. These old clothes are imported mainly from the West. The affluent people of these countries normally wear new clothes for a comparatively short period. When these are disposed of, they ultimately find their way to markets of developing countries through export. Some of these old clothes keep their shape, colour, and texture that sometimes do not lose their appeal. The way a brisk trade normally goes on at these markets, it seems that they meet a great demand. They form as much a part of winter milieu as that season's fruits and vegetables.

It may not be much common knowledge that there are also markets for indigenous old clothes which the roving pedlars collect in exchange for utensils, etc. The knowledge dawned on me as I once chanced to pass

through Chawkbazar area, where there are rows of shops dealing in these commodities. You may well imagine what kind of customers are attracted to these old indigenous clothes and then your conscience may be ruffled, as it shores an unedifying aspect of our social life.

We sometimes find evidence of an improved way of life in small details. Take, for instance, the much too common thermos flask. Lately these flasks are available with much greater capacity. This has proved to be a boon to the roving tea-vendors. Previously their profession was encumbered with pans, pots and braziers. They formed a cumbersome paraphernalia which much restricted their movement and also their custom. The wide-bodied thermos is much more convenient to carry from that angle.

It has also opened up an expanded line of business. Instead of moving from place to place which is easy with the new container, they sometimes prefer to set up shop near busy street corners with some extra-items like a jar of biscuits or balls of pulsed rice. I felt inquisitive about this business and asked Rahim, a vendor in this line, about the state of his business. He said that he started his business with a capital of Tk 500/-. His daily sales average 75 taka to 90 taka. His customers are mostly rickshaw pullers, and day labourers. He spoke of his plan to extend his business by adding sales of betels and cigarettes.

In the rough and tumble of city life, there are innumerable tea vendors like Rahim who are making an honest living with their small business efforts.



SHARPER '92

### Oli asks railway officials to keep themselves above corruption

RAJSHAHI, Nov 11: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed today called upon the railway officials and workers not to mix up duty and responsibility with politics and keep themselves above all corrupt practices, reports BSS.

He was addressing a big workers rally of the west zone of Bangladesh Railway organised by Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Rail Sramik Dal here at Rail Bhaban premises.

The rally was also addressed by State Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Barrister Aminul Haq, Rajshahi City Corporation Mayor Mizanur Rahman Mtnu, Azizur Rahman MP, Begum Lutfunnesa Hossain MP, Railway Sramik Dal leader S A Khaleq and Kabir Hussain and BNP leader Qamrul Monir and Salahuddin Babu.

Oli Ahmed said with sincere efforts, hard work and strict adherence to honesty railway could be free from loss and deficit within two years.

He said "Rail Bhaban" the headquarters of west zone railway would be constructed in Rajshahi soon and necessary fund has been allotted for the purpose. Steps were underway to modernise the railway station at Rajshahi, he added.

### Call to increase production in mills

Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah yesterday called upon the jute mills workers to increase production in the mills to make the politics of production of the BNP government a success, reports BSS.

He was speaking at a workers rally at the Latif Bawany Jute Mills premises here.

The meeting was also addressed by local MP Salahuddin Ahmed and labour leader Strajul Islam Straj.

Jute Minister said some identified quarters are trying to create unrest in the mills and factories but general workers and labour leaders are aware of this ill motive.

### Handicraft exhibition from Nov 20

A three-month-long handicraft exhibition will begin on November 20 at Sonargaon aiming at revival of rural Bangladesh tradition, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Folk and Handicraft Foundation has organised the special programme at its premises at Sonargaon, said a press release.

Traditional folk functions and sports will be held every Friday from dawn to dusk during the fair to keep folk culture alive the people.

A week-long national folk festival will also begin on December 22 at the foundation



People's League held a rally in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday. —Star photo

### Tender Notice

No: 7 of 1992-93

Sealed tenders in T-1 form and other documents are hereby invited from 'B' & 'C' class contractors of BWDB enlisted during 1992-93, for earth work for Re-excavation of Gangnai River (5.48 KM) in connection with Improvement of Gangnai River Sub-project in Thana Shibganj, Dist Bogra under System Rehabilitation Project at an estimated cost of Tk 50.67 lac financed under IDA for SRP during 1992-93. The work is divided into 8 (eight) Reaches costing Tk 5.88 lac Tk 6.87 lac Tk 6.03 lac, Tk 6.70 lac Tk 6.53 lac Tk 6.75 lac Tk 5.65 lac and Tk 6.26 lac respectively for Reach No: 7/1 through 7/8. The earnest money is 2.50% of the estimated cost shown in the tender document which will be available at a non-refundable cost of Tk 400/- (four hundred) only per set during banking hours up to 3.8.99BS/17.11.92AD from Sonali Bank, BSIC branch, Bogra/Agrani Bank, Fulbari branch, Bogra/Rupali Bank, Main branch, Gaibandha/Pubali Bank, Serajganj branch, Serajganj/Sonali Bank, Joypurhat branch, Joypurhat and Sonali Bank, WAPDA Building branch, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka. Tenders will be received during office hours on 2.8.99BS/16.11.92AD and 3.8.99BS/17.11.92AD and up to 12.00 hours on 4.8.99BS/18.11.92AD in the office of the (1) Advertiser, the Executive Engineer (WDB), O&M Division, viz (2) Gaibandha (3) Serajganj (4) Sub-Divnl Engineer, Joypurhat (5) Dhaka O&M Divn-II, WDB, Rupali (6) Dhaka O&M Divn-I, WDB, Dhaka-1000 and opened on 4.8.99BS/18.11.92 AD at 12.15 hours in front of tenders present. Any other information on the tender may be obtained from the advertiser whose address is Executive Engineer, Bogra O&M Division, BWDB, Bogra Telephone No: 6298 (off).

PANI-148/92-93  
DFP (G) 19350-5/11 G-1429

### CID police recovers arms in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Nov 11: A special squad of the CID police recovered some arms and ammunition from the possession of four persons at Sheikh Mujib Road here last night, reports BSS.

According to Double Mooring police, four persons travelling in a bus were halted at Agrabad on suspicion. CID police searched their bodies and found two short guns, 59 cocktails, six cartridges and 12 daggers.

The four persons were taken into police custody and a case was filed with Double Mooring police in this connection.

### Anniversary of Siddique Master's death today

The 20th death anniversary of veteran freedom fighter, social worker and political leader Siddiqur Rahman Khan, popularly known as Siddique Master of Singair, Manikganj will be observed today, reports BSS.

Siddique Master first suffered imprisonment for his active participation in the historic six-point movement in 1966. As a mukil jodha commander, he led several operations against the occupation forces at Nobabpur, Dohar and Keraniganj during the War of Liberation.

## 'Govt adopts uniform uplift strategy to remove poverty'

CHITTAGONG, Nov 11: Planning Minister S M Zahiruddin Khan today said that the government had adopted a uniform development strategy to remove chain of poverty and alleviate the sufferings of commonman, reports BSS.

He pointed out that the BNP government was committed to bring about welfare of the people.

Addressing a press conference at the city Corporation Conference Hall here this afternoon, he said politics which does not aim at bringing about welfare of the people is meaningless and such politics brings disaster instead of welfare.

Zahiruddin Khan criticised what he called negative politics of Bangladesh Awami League saying, this party was out to disturb peace and stability in the name of opposition. He called upon Awami League leaders not to mix up politics with development programmes and extend their support to massive development programmes of the government.

He also appealed to the conscious section of the people to extend their support to government in implementing development programmes.

The Planning Minister said the government had changed its development strategies in the light of need of the time and was associating people with development activities. Execution of the annual development projects worth Taka 8,600 crore needed utmost care to avoid wastages and lapses, he added.

He said inspection, monitoring and evaluation cell had been created at divisional level to ensure that development projects were not left out or remained unimplemented. We are monitoring development programmes regularly to avoid lapses, he said.

Zahiruddin Khan said the BNP government was fulfilling its pre-election pledges and that welfare oriented development programmes were being executed on priority basis. He said there was no shortage of fund in any sector but what was needed most was peace and stability to carry on uplift programmes.

Zahiruddin Khan said Japan was extending financial assistance for development of Chittagong airport which would cost Taka 400 crore. We could start direct flight to Middle East countries from Chittagong in five to six months. He said adding development of Chittagong airport would add much to the economic uplift of the country.

Earlier, Chittagong City Corporation Mayor Mir Muhammad Nasruddin apprised the Minister that the corporation had completed 283 development projects worth Taka 20 crore during the fiscal 1991-92.

The mayor said the corporation also needed Taka 26.64 crore for executing 291 development projects during the year 1992-93.

He said the Corporation had received Taka six crore so far from the government.



French Ambassador in Bangladesh Serge Degallaix paid a farewell call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday. —PID photo

### French envoy pays farewell call on PM

Outgoing French ambassador Serge Degallaix paid a farewell call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday, reports UNB.

The ambassador thanked the Prime Minister for her government's support to him during his tenure.

Degallaix, who had been here for more than three years, lauded Begum Zia's uncompromising role during the anti-autocratic struggle for restoration of democracy in the country.

He expressed the confidence that the existing friendly relations between Bangladesh and France will be further strengthened in the days ahead.

### Major Ghani's contribution recalled

Speakers at a discussion on the occasion of 35th death anniversary of Major MA Ghani yesterday recalled his contribution for the welfare of the people of the country, reports BSS.

Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia attended as the chief guest the function which was organised by the Major Ghani Parishad at the Jatiya Press Club here. Begum Asia Ghani, widow of Major Ghani, was the special guest.

Presided over by Parishad convenor Dr. Ali Newaz, the function was also addressed by former minister Abul Kashem, former secretary Abdul Khaleque, Capt (ret'd) M Sujat Ali, Alhaj Major (ret'd) Afzaruddin, Abul Khair Moslehuddin, General Secretary of the Press Club Shawkat Mahmud and Rafiquddin Ahmed. Abdul Bari read out a paper on the life and works of Major Ghani.

## Science, Technology ministry under consideration: Shamsul

Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan, considering the energy constraint of the country, yesterday called upon the scientists to put in their efforts to find out better means of application of comparatively less expensive solar energy, reports BSS.

He made this call while inaugurating a three-day seminar on 'Solar Energy—Its Prospect for Tropical Countries' jointly organised by Alumni Association of German Universities in Bangladesh and Goethe Institut in Dhaka at the German cultural centre here.

The Minister said the ruling party has given due emphasis on the development of scientific and technological development and a separate ministry for science and technology is now under active consideration of the government.

Islam said increased consumption of energy and electricity is a must to develop the quality of life of the common people as well as to achieve self-reliance in the economic sector of the country. He said there are various types and sources of energy which are environmentally harmful and costly while solar energy is free from all the problems.

The minister referred to the service of the solar photovoltaic system, the renewable energy technology, planted by Atomic Energy Commission in a cyclone shelter in Sandwip. As a result, this was the only place where electricity had been available during and after the devastation tidal surge of 1991, he said.

He said application of properly designed solar photovoltaic system would strengthen the disaster management programme of the government and also boost the economic activities of the remote areas and off-shore islands of the country.

### Nation can achieve success with united efforts: Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Wednesday asked the youths to devote themselves in building a self-reliant Bangladesh to materialise the ideals of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman, reports UNB.

"We shall have to make all-out efforts to attain self-reliance in every sphere of life to survive as a nation with dignity in the present competitive world", he said.

The President was talking to a 30-member delegation of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Kalyan Parishad which, led by its President Advocate Zamrul Akhtar, called on him at Bangabhaban.

He expressed the hope that with the united efforts of all, the nation could achieve success in all sectors of development though hard work.

President Biswas lauded their efforts for welfare of the youths and further said the present government is making all efforts for rapid industrialisation in the country and solve unemployment problem.

He urged the youths to take up more self-employment projects.

### BIWTC introduces new system of bill payment

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) has introduced a new system of paying the bills of petroleum after its delivery to the ferries at Aricha-Nagarbari and Aricha-Dauladia routes by petroleum carrier barges, reports BSS.

The new system is expected to save one crore Taka annually besides ensuring regular supply of petroleum and plying of ferries.



### Sadiq Ahmed Chowdhury dead

Sadiq Ahmed Chowdhury, a retired Home Secretary to the then Government of Pakistan, died yesterday. He was 80, says a press release.

Chowdhury had a long and distinguished career in the Police Service of Pakistan having served as Director General, Bureau of Anti-Corruption in erstwhile East Pakistan and Inspector-General of Police, Pakistan Special Police Establishment, Rawalpindi, before taking over as Home Secretary.

Chowdhury was born on 11th September, 1912 in a very well-known family of Paragalpur in Mirerswarai, Chittagong, and had a distinguished academic career. He was associated with numerous philanthropic and social organisations.

He left behind wife, son, three daughters, two son-in-law and several grand children.



Thursday

5-00	Opening announcement
	Al-Quran, programme summary
5-10	News in Bangla
5-20	Recitation from the Gecia
5-30	School debate
6-30	Open University
6-55	Tarunya
7-25	Jiboner Alo
8-00	News in Bangla
8-40	Drama of the Week
10-00	News in English
10-30	Film Show: China Beach
11-30	Khabar/The News
11-40	Friday's programme summary
11-45	Closing

### Weather

## Moderate rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Light or moderate rain or shower may occur over the regions of Khulna, Barisal, Patuakhali, Noakhali, Chittagong and weather remains mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Thursday).

The met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to rise slightly over the country.

The maximum of 32.0 degree Celsius was reported from Comilla yesterday (Wednesday) and the minimum of 16.2 degree was reported from Jessore.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 5.13 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 6.12 am the maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity of some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	29.0	20.2	77	67
Chittagong	29.8	21.3	86	75
Rajshahi	29.5	17.4	86	85
Khulna	29.7	19.0	85	72
Cox's Bazar	28.8	20.0	89	76
Sylhet	28.5	19.3	71	75
Dinajpur	28.1	18.2	84	82
Barisal	29.0	17.6	80	83

## Milco 40 Years In The World Market



### DANO 30 years In Bangladesh

On the occasion of 40th Anniversary of Milco in the world market and 30 years of DANO in Bangladesh, we extend our heartfelt thanks and greetings to all our patrons.



Milco

Milco International amba  
Copenhagen, Denmark