

Dhaka Day by Day

Cellulite on Celluloid

by S Bari



Commercial films: where art doesn't stand a chance.

Once upon a time, the movies meant a magic world where the doe-eyed beauty won the heart of the faithful young man while terrifying villains gnashed their teeth and hummable tunes accompanied the whole thing. But Bangladeshi cinema has come a long way since those days.

On a basic level, the seats in the theatre have been redesigned to ensure that only one seat in three has an intact back. This modification caters to the people in the audience who look forward to spending three hours resting their backs on rusty tetanus loaded tin. For an even more demanding group, swingchairs are available. The management has accomplished this masterpiece by displacing a few nuts; your seat hinges swing both backwards and forwards, and you can creek in time to the music on screen.

Just as these adjustments signal a greater awareness of minority needs, film-makers have also made headway in depicting the equality of the sexes. Nowadays the size and breadth of the heroine make you wonder whether this is really the hero in drag. In a recent hit, 'Aalo Amaar Aalo', the damsel in distress is pushed against a pillar in preparation for a fate worse than death. The pillar shakes as her back hits the surface: this says more about the impressive bulk of the actress than about the solidity of the sets.

This could actually be a technological revolution. Somewhere a heavy weight girl waits to be discovered who will carry across the meadow and cause the very ground to shake (an entirely possible reaction, given the mass

of the average heroine). Steven Spielberg would envy such special effects.

While women in movies look like particularly menacing body-builders, the men are getting in touch with their feminine side. Of note is the teenager in 'Love in America', who serenades his sweetheart with a voice that is far shriller than hers and sounds like the result of an especially painful operation.

One thing that hasn't changed, though, is the total confusion of the villain. The hero knows that the heroine will say, "No" and really mean, "Grab me and hold on for dear life and I will be yours forever". When the villain does exactly that, it's a signal for the heroine to practice her karate. No wonder the villain questions the woman's sanity. He gets a bruised shin while all the hero gets are bruised lips.

Not that we will ever be allowed to see the consecrated kiss. It's much healthier for the nation to see villagers have their teeth kicked out than to see a pair of lips doing the unmentionable. And of course the upliftment of human dignity is much better served by the heroine's exposed cleavage and suggestive movements than by her simply kissing the guy and getting it over with.

For those of you who despair that realistic romance will never be seen in a movie theatre, never fear. See the couple in the next row, smooching away to their heart's content? Luckily, they are unaware of their audience, who are bored with the predictable bland on-screen fare and are enjoying the sideshow. Much more value for your money here.

Govt firm to ensure balanced uplift: Speaker

KHULNA, Nov 18: Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shaikh Ruzak Ali today reiterated the government's firm determination to ensure equitable distribution of resources and balanced development of all parts of the country to put the nation on the road to prosperity, reports BSS.

He was formally inaugurating the newly constructed Digholia Thana, Health Complex under Khulna district.

The thirty-one-bed hospital project built on about six acres of land has been completed at a cost of Taka seventy six lakh.

Presided over by M A Majid, the function was addressed, among others, by Mostafa Rashidi Shuja MP and Nurul Islam, President Khulna city BNP.

The Speaker called for national consensus on solution of national problems, overall development and economic emancipation of the country, irrespective of party affiliation and differences of opinions. National problems could only be solved through United efforts of all, he added.

BPRA biennial conference today

The seventh biennial conference of Bangladesh Public Relations Association (BPRA) will be held today (Thursday) at the auditorium of Bangladesh Jatiya Press Club at 10-30 am, says a press release.

Information Minister Barister Nazmul Huda will be chief guest while Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dhaka will be present as special guest. The function will be presided over by Md Nurul Islam, president of the association.

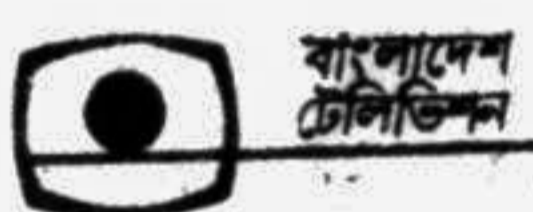
The conference will be followed by annual general meeting. Apart from discussion on the activities of BPRA, election of the executive committee of the association for 1993-94 will also be held.

A three-member election commission headed by A K M Shamsuddin Ahmed has already been constituted to conduct the election.

Mongla Port earns Tk 17 crore as revenues

Deputy Minister for Shipping A B M Zahidul Haque along with six other members of parliamentary standing committee on Ministry of Shipping yesterday visited Mongla Port and had a review meeting with senior port officials, reports BSS.

Deputy Minister who is also one of the members of this committee was apprised by the port chairman Rezwanul Haque about overall activities of the port.



BTV
Thursday

- 5.00 Opening announcement
- 5.10 Al-Quran
- 5.20 Programme summary
- 5.30 News in Bangla
- 5.40 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5.50 School debate
- 6.30 Open University
- 7.05 Campus
- 7.30 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

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Light rain may occur at one or two places over Khulna and Dhaka divisions and the regions of Pabna, Rajshahi, Bogra, Comilla and Noakhali during the next 24 hours commencing 6:00 am today (Thursday).

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country and sky will remain cloudy to overcast during this period.

The Met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to rise by one to two degree Celsius across the country.

The met office adds, weather may deteriorate in the next two days.

The minimum of 13.3 degree Celsius was reported from Dinajpur yesterday and the maximum of 30.2 degree was reported from Teknaf.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 5:11 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 6:17 am. The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity of some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday are:

| Cities/Towns | Temperature in Degree Celsius | | Humidity in Percentage | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|------|------------------------|------|
| | Max | Min | 9 am | 6 pm |
| Dhaka | 27.2 | 18.0 | 74 | 64 |
| Chittagong | 29.0 | 20.5 | 89 | 70 |
| Rajshahi | 26.5 | 16.4 | 77 | 82 |
| Khulna | 25.6 | 20.0 | 82 | 84 |
| Rangamati | 27.0 | 20.3 | 86 | 82 |
| Dinajpur | 28.0 | 13.3 | 68 | 79 |
| Sylhet | 27.0 | 17.8 | 92 | 79 |
| Barisal | 26.2 | 19.6 | 82 | 91 |



Jatiya Sramik League brought out procession in the city yesterday demanding immediate release of Adamjee Jute Mills CBA President Rehanuddin Rehan. (Story on page 1.)

—Star photo

'BDRCS will get all support from IFRCS'

The President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCS), Dr Mario Villarreal Lander, called the President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangladesh yesterday morning, reports BSS.

During the meeting, Lander informed the President Biswas that Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) would receive all out support and assistance from the IFRCS on priority basis for its programme on cyclone preparedness and natural disasters.

Lander pointed out that an agreement in this respect had already been signed between the BDRCS and IFRCS to provide necessary support to implement the programme taken by BDRCS to render services to the distressed people of Bangladesh.

Lauding the efforts being taken by the BDRCS Lander further said his delegation was deeply touched to see the performance of the BDRCS in rendering services to the affected people.

Lander said his organisation would support all humanitarian activities in Bangladesh with the active support of the two million volunteers of the IFRCS.

He apprised President Biswas of the activities and other programmes of his organisation.

Reciprocating the senti-

ment, President Biswas said since Liberation, extended co-operation of the IFRCS had been provided to Bangladesh and later at the hour of distress and natural calamity.

Elaborating the programmes of the BDRCS, the President said about 62 cyclone shelters have so far been completed in the coastal areas and another 42 more are nearing completion.

Chairman of the BDRCS Syed Shahidul Haq Jamal MP, Mohiuddin Ahmed MP, Secretary to the President Ataul Haq, Vice-President of the IFRCS Darrel Donald Jones, head of Asia Pacific Department of the IFRCS Jerry Talbot and head of delegation Daniel Prewit were among others, present on the occasion.

Anniversary of Hamidur Rahman's death today

The second death anniversary of Hamidur Rahman, the renowned designer of the Central Shaheed Minar will be observed today (Thursday), says a press release.

Different cultural organisations and institutes will hold discussions and other programmes in observance of his death anniversary.

Exhibition of Chinese machinery electronics opens

Commerce Minister M K Anwar yesterday inaugurated a 6-day Chinese machinery and electronics exhibition at a local hotel, reports BSS.

State Minister for Textiles Major (retd) M A Mannan, members of parliament, Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Chen Song Lu, vice-president of China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation Meng Guirong, and leaders of chambers of commerce and industry and members of the business community attended the inaugural function.

JU employees continue work stoppage

By JU Correspondent

The employees of Jahangirnagar University continued their work stoppage for the third consecutive day yesterday as negotiations between the authorities and the employees' leaders ended in a fiasco.

Called on by the Jahangirnagar University Employees' Union, the third and fourth grade employees are abstaining from work to press home their 18-point demands including the change in the existing promotion system.

The strikers brought out a procession on the campus chanting slogans against the Vice Chancellor yesterday.

Vice Chancellor Professor Kazi Saleh Ahmed of the university will discuss today with the leaders of the employees union to dissolve the disruption caused by the strike. The employees, however, have planned to continue their work stoppage till November 25.

Businessman robbed in Chittagong

By Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 18: A businessman was robbed of about Tk 5 lakh this morning at Khatungonj commercial area.

A group of armed terrorists intercepted the businessman on his way to a local bank while he was carrying about Tk 5 lakh to deposit there.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The containerised cargo ex. M.V. HANSA CARRIER V-02156 from Busan, ex. M.V. OCEANUS OSAKA V-24292 from Fos, Kobe, ex. M.V. MAHA BHUM V-131 from Bangkok, ex. M.V. ALLIGATOR MIRACLE V-10057 from Kobe, Nagoya, Yokohama & Hongkong, ex. M.V. ASIAN VENTURE V-07291 from Fos, Trieste, ex. M.V. CALIFORNIA VENUS V-69394 from Keelung have been relayed to M.V. FONG SHIN V-9235 Imp. Rot. No. 87292 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 20-11-92 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 LTD.

103, AGRABAD COMMERCIAL AREA, CHITTAGONG.
AS AGENTS: MITSUI O.S.K. LINES LTD., TOKYO.
PHONES: 510317, 50668/88.

'Newsmen urged to be more responsible'

Information Minister Barister Nazmul Huda yesterday called upon the journalists to become more responsible in the presentation of news to make the profession of journalism richer and give the freedom of the press an institutional shape, reports BSS.

Addressing the ninth founding anniversary of Muktagachha Press Club, the minister said time has come to use the pens of the journalists to unveil the identities of the vested quarters engaged in foiling the hard-earned democratic process.

BFUJ President Reazuddin Ahmed and Secretary General Amanullah Kabir, eminent journalists Gias Kamal Choudhury, Ataus Samad, Zahurul Haq, Syed Jafar and President of Muktagachha Press Club AZM Imamuddin Mukta and General Secretary SMA Salam also spoke on the occasion.

Huda said the past regimes which were isolated from the people, used the press advertisements as a weapon to build up their images.

10 million affected in world Awareness of consequences of AIDS underscored

Speakers at a lecture series here yesterday underscored the need for educating the people and making them aware of the consequences of AIDS to prevent the disease, reports UNB.

They observed that community consciousness and global awareness are essential to check expansion of the disease, taking thousands of lives every year throughout the world.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism M A Mannan inaugurated the lecture series on "Education on AIDS Prevention" at Hotel and Tourism Training Institute (HTTI) here in the afternoon.

The lecture was jointly organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO), International Labour Organisation, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation and HTTI for the students of the institute.

Secretary of Civil Aviation and Tourism Habibur Rahman, Chairman Parjatan Corporation M A R Talukder, Assistant Resident Representative of

UNDP Bruno Pouezet and Principal of the institute M G Jahangir were among those who spoke on the occasion.

A total of 246 students of the institute receiving training on various discipline of hotel management and tourism took part in the lecture.

Dwelling on the consequences of the disease, the minister urged the people to be equipped with knowledge about AIDS, its prevention, and advised them to lead clean lives.

"If the disease gets its way, it will make epidemic and it will be very difficult to get rid of the curse like Africa" he said adding that there is no right kind of treatment for the disease.

Giving a detailed accounts of AIDS havoc, the minister said about 10 million people are infected by AIDS throughout the world of which 6.5 million are in Africa, about one million in Asia and pacific region.

Quoting some experts, he said there are only 10 registered cases of infection in Bangladesh, but apprehended that there are about 1,500 to 15,000 infected individuals in the country.

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice (2nd call)

পানির অপচয় ও দূষণ রোধে ছিদ্রযুক্ত সার্ভিস পাইপ তৎক্ষণিকভাবে পরিবর্তন/মেরামত করুন

Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class supplier contractors/bonafide suppliers/manufacturers for supply of Ammonia Blue Print Paper & Tracing Paper for P&D (Water) Division at an allotted cost of Taka 23,500/-. Tenders will be received upto 12-00 Noon on 23-11-92 and opened on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their representatives.

Bill of quantities of tender will be available from the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhavan, 98 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka and all MODS Zone Offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed descriptions will be available at the office of the undersigned.

Address: Executive Engineer
WASA Bhavan Procurement Division
98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue Dhaka WASA
Dhaka
WASA-P.I-389/92
DFP (G) 19692-12/11 G-1468

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Stands out for taste

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দুপানি বাস্তব জ্ঞান অতিক্রম