

Dhaka Day by Day

The White Rabbit's Rule

by Rahat Fahmida

Today our society needs, first, a truthful, comprehensive, and intelligent account of the day's events in a context which gives them meaning. Second, a form for the exchange of comment and criticism. Third, a means of projecting the opinions and attitudes of the groups in the society to one another. Fourth, a method of presenting and clarifying the goals and values of the society. Fifth, a way of reaching every member of the society by the currents of information, thought, and feeling which the press supplies.

Sadly enough, some of the major news stories in almost every paper in our country seem to be dead after the initial report. Without hurting the journalist friends, there is definitely a dearth of inquisitive people. Though Ben-

order of their value. The end is that portion which can be rubbed out with the least regret. And the total result is a top-heavy composition that is shaped like nothing else in the literary world.

From the reporters point of view, the complexity of events increases. The difficulty of getting at the facts behind the news grows greater. All our time has been fogged one way or another by censorship, secrecy, security, the new science of propaganda, the Iron Curtain, to say nothing of the murkier fog of demagogic distortion of the facts.

Some of our most responsible magazines, not really recognising this need, ignore to sought out the topical article to interpret the background of the most timely and important

and complicated events. This means they have turned their back to reporting — reporting in depth — to pick up from where the daily headline left it and go on from there.

We value efficiency in the writing of the things we need to read. With our leisure we may choose to devote our time to reading im-

aginative works, philosophy or art. But for our need of information, for our bread and butter reading to keep up with events, whether by book or magazine or newspaper, we require direct, simple economy of statement, an informed report. It must arrest our attention to the compulsion of knowing the score, and it must hold our interest to the essentials of what is happening. If it is wordy and diffuse or difficult, we lay it aside as something we ought to read when we have time; but in the competition for our attention, the chances are against our going back to it. We find other material less demanding of us.

This passage from Alice in Wonderland has been called the greatest rule of writing that was ever laid down. Newspapermen might agree with the rule if they could define the terms. To them, the beginning is whatever statement spills the beans in the most precipitate manner. The body of the story is an inventory of additional facts, usually listed in the diminishing



The White Rabbit put on his spectacles. "Where shall I begin, please Your Majesty?" he asked. "Begin at the beginning," the King said, very gravely, "and go on till you come to the end: then stop."

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'Labours main force behind economic development'

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday said the government was taking all possible efforts to build up the country's economic infrastructure, reports BSS.

He said the democratic process which has been attained by the combined struggle of all sections of people including the labours would not exist if the limited resources of the country could not be increased.

The Minister was addressing a rally of disabled freedom fighters and labours and employees of Freedom Fighter Welfare Trust arranged by the Federation of the Labours and Employees of the Trust at Tejgaon here.

He said the labours are the main force behind the country's economic development and the government is concerned about their problems. But the labours in different in-

dustrial units also have the responsibilities to raise the production for the betterment of the nation as well as their own, he said.

Referring to the world economic situation, he said reduction of production cost along with increased production also should be taken into consideration to keep pace with the competitive world market.

Mannan said during the past autocratic regime, the economic base of the country was almost destroyed. Inheriting the huge anomalies in the industrial sector, the ruling party is now trying to generate peace in production.

Referring to the employment constraints in the agricultural fields, the Minister said industrial development is a must to minimise the employment problems in the country.

He said government has

taken different initiatives to revive the sick industrial units side by side establishing new units. Cooperation of all concerned is required in this regard for the sake of political and economic stability, he said.

Mannan regretted that while the government is endeavouring to ensure the process of democracy, the opposition parties are trying to disrupt the ruling party's efforts.

Member of the Jatiya Sangsad Quamrul Islam and Managing Director of the trust Brig. Shahidul Islam, Bir Pratik, also spoke.

The representatives of the Labours Employees Federation of the trust in their addresses called for withdrawal of VAT on the industrial products of the trust for the sake of its survival and healthy pace. They also urged the government to reopen the units of the trust closed earlier and initiate for their proper running.

French spirulina expert in city

The French spirulina expert MO Bonnin arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a four-night visit to Bangladesh, says a press release.

During his visit, the spirulina expert from BECCMA Paris will meet BCSIR Scientists engaged in spirulina research and prospective growers of spirulina who have already received lease from BCSIR.

Bonnin will also meet IPGMR Pharmacologists engaged in Pharmacological research on spirulina.

He may also deliver a speech on spirulina at CESTI, Alliance Francaise, Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

His visit to Bangladesh is being sponsored by the Embassy of France in Dhaka.



CPB President Saifuddin Ahmed Manik speaking at a discussion at its central office yesterday on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of October Revolution. Story on page 1 — Star photo

DPRK envoy meets Hannan

Ambassador of Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Bangladesh Kang Dal Son called on Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah at his office here yesterday, reports BSS.

Happy Birthday to



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Abba & Amma



Rana, Dina & Alsan

X-ray machines in rural hospitals not maintained properly

Take steps to modernise radiology, pathology depts: Medical experts

Medical scientists here yesterday urged the government to take initiative to modernise the radiology and pathology departments in hospitals with new technology to ensure proper treatment of patients in the country, reports BSS.

They said, hospitals can only be recognised as full-fledged when their Radiology and Pathology departments are modernised but unfortunately they are still lagging far behind the minimum level of international standard in this regard.

The medical scientists were speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the third national convention of "Bangladesh Society of Radiology and Imaging" at Hotel Sonargaon with its President Prof S A Sobhan in the chair.

Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Syed Ahmad, society's General Secretary ASQ Muhammad Sadeque, Chairman of the Reception Committee Prof K S Haque and Prof Moqaddur Rahman addressed the inaugural ceremony.

Health Secretary Syed

Ahmed said the problems in treatment of patients could be reduced substantially with the proper utilisation and maintenance of the available machinery and equipment in hospitals.

He said modern equipment like X-ray machines were supplied to the hospitals in mufassil areas but they were not being properly maintained or utilised.

In his presidential address, Prof S A Sobhan said the health sector could be developed to the standard of other Asian countries by properly utilising the money allocated for it.

He urged for modernising the X-ray departments in all hospitals and medical colleges by installing ultra-sonogram machine there.

Prof Sobhan said X-ray was being done here with low standard of equipment which was not beyond doubt whether it was "machine radiation leak proof".

That is why, he said, issuance of clearance is very much necessary before mar-

keting of an X-ray machine.

Prof ASQ Muhammad Sadeque called for installation of "CT scan" and "MRI machine" in the IPGMR and "CT scan" in the medical college hospitals in the greater interest of treatment.

He also called for maintaining consistency in the appointment of medical teachers and specialists from IPGMR to thana level to ensure proper and modern education as well as proper treatment.

Prof Sadeque stressed the need for enactment of law under the title "Radiation Protection Law" on the basis of the International Commission for Radiation Protection in view of the hazard created by the private X-ray clinics in the country.

"An X-ray clinic should be established in a specially built building to protect the neighbours from radiation hazard," he said regretting that in most cases this rule was not being followed.

He urged the government to make arrangement for training of the radiologists abroad

to help them acquaint with the latest technology in this field.

Prof K S Haque stressed the need for developing neuro radiology, interventional radiology, angi radiology and paediatric radiology departments in the hospitals of the country.

Otherwise, he said, Bangladesh will remain far behind the level of modern treatment facilities being provided in other countries of the world.

Govt, IUCN sign MOU

The World Conservation Union also known as the International Union for Conservation of Nature IUCN and Natural Resources has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Bangladesh yesterday, says a press release.

This MOU will help promote identification, formulation and implementation of specialized projects on conservation of nature and natural resources in Bangladesh through government and non-government organisations.

DU M Com admission test Nov 27

The admission test for M Com first part in Accounting for the 1991-92 session of Dhaka University will be held on November 27 (Friday) at 10 am, reports UNB.

The test will be held at the Arts Building, says a DU press release yesterday.

Mostafiz condoles death of Nakanishi

Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman has expressed deep condolence at the death of Ichiro Nakanishi, Chairman of Japan-Bangladesh Association and President of Japan-Bangladesh Parliamentary League, reports BSS.

In a message to Madame Ichiro Nakanishi, the Foreign Minister said Nakanishi had served the cause of Bangladesh with sincerity and devotion. With his passing away Bangladesh has lost a great friend and Japan in notable leader, the minister added.

Pilgrim management fund board may be formed

The government is actively considering to set up a "pilgrim management fund board" to enable the people, specially those of the lower income group, to perform the Hajj, reports BSS.

The pilgrim management fund board will be like the "Tabung Haji" (Pilgrims Management and Fund Board Malaysia), which has been functioning there very successfully since 1963.

State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M A Mannan, who returned home Saturday after studying the system of "Tabung Haji" in Malaysia, told BSS yesterday that preliminary steps had already been taken to study pros and cons about introducing such a system in the country.

In Malaysia, people intending to perform Hajj deposit money with the "Tabung Haji" in instalment and the money is invested in various industries and businesses.

When the invested money with the profit becomes enough to cover the pilgrim expenses, the "Tabung Haji" authorities invite the depositor to perform Hajj. The authorities also look after the Hajj management.

The State Minister for Religious Affairs, who led a three-member Bangladesh delegation, said the Malaysian side appreciated the proposal for setting up an organisation in Bangladesh similar to the "Tabung Haji".

Prof Mannan said Dato

Abang Abu Bakar Bin Datu Bandar Abang Haji Mustapha, Minister for Religious Affairs in the Prime Minister's department and in-charge of "Tabung Haji" told him that Malaysia was ready to offer all kinds of technical help and cooperation to Bangladesh in this regard.

He said one of the deputy director-generals of the "Tabung Haji" would visit Bangladesh soon.

The State Minister visited the "Tabung Haji" headquarters and associated organisations.

He also visited the Islamic Bank and Zakat collection centre at Kuala Lumpur Baitul Maal.

German team calls on Saifur

The visiting three-member German delegation led by Director for Asia and the Pacific in the Ministry of Federal Government for Economic Cooperation Dr Wolf Pruss had a courtesy call on Finance Minister Saifur Rahman yesterday, reports BSS.

During the meeting they discussed matters relating to bilateral interest with particular thrust on bilateral annual negotiation now in progress here from Saturday between Bangladesh and the Federal Republic of Germany.

An agreement is expected to be signed between the two governments today following the negotiation.

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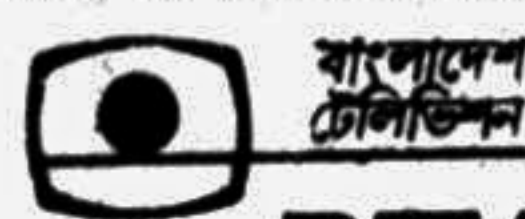


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Monday

- 5:00 Opening announcement Al-Quran
- 5:10 Programme summary
- 5:20 News in Bangla
- 5:30 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5:30 Sports Programme: Tennis
- 6:30 Open University
- 7:05 Debate
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Apsar Shaasthya (Programme on Health)
- 9:00 Bhara Nadir Bank
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Hill Street Blues
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:40 Tuesday's Programme Summary
- 11:45 Closing

Weather

Dry weather to prevail

Dry weather will prevail over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Monday).

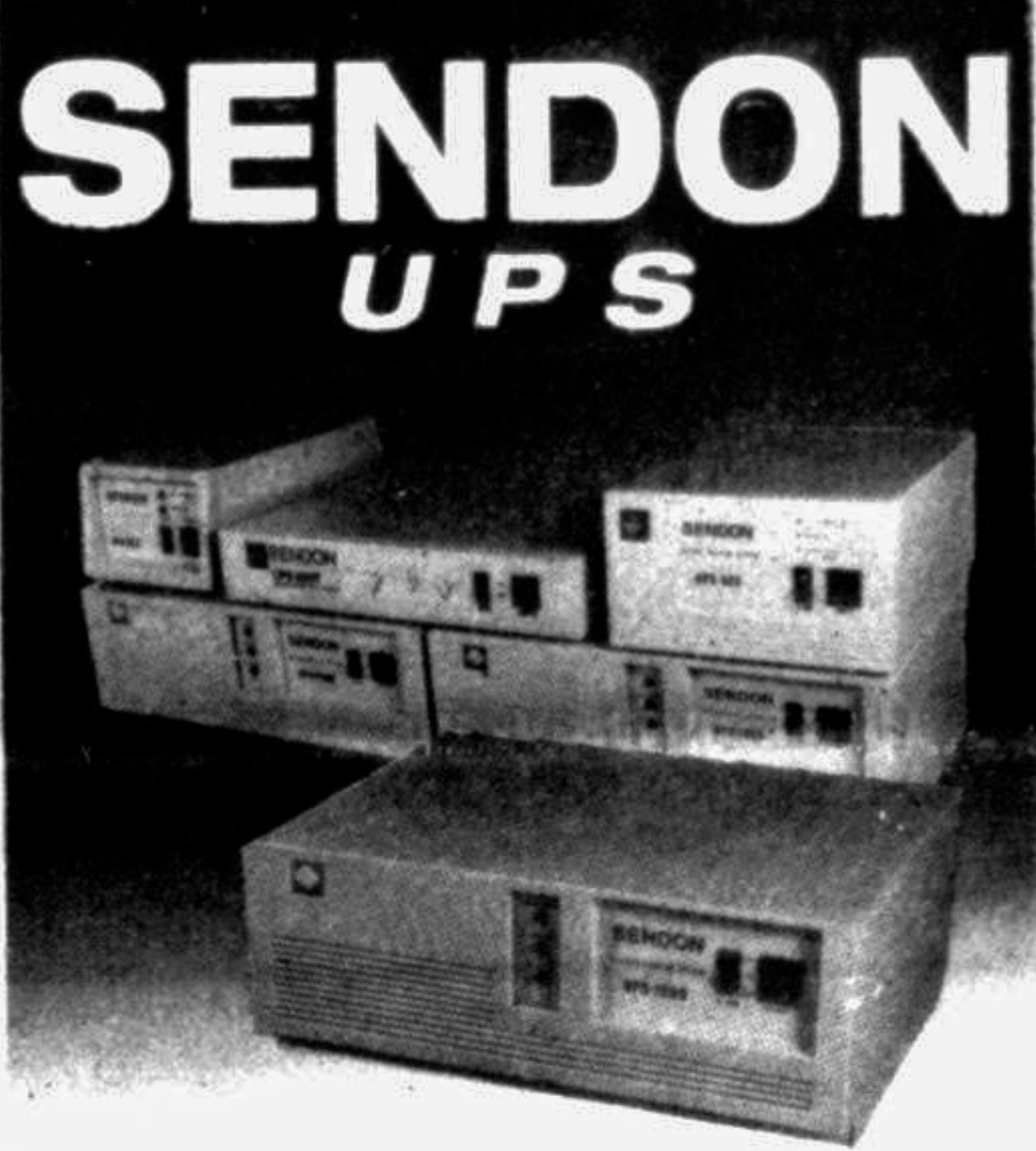
The Met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to fall by two to three degree Celsius over the country.

The minimum temperature of 13.9 degree Celsius was reported from Dinajpur yesterday (Sunday) and the maximum of 31.2 degree was reported from Bogra.

The sun sets today Monday at 5.11 pm and rise tomorrow Tuesday at 6.20 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 | 9am | 6pm |
| Dhaka | 29.6 | 17.2 | 69 | 70 |
| Chittagong | 29.7 | 20.2 | 83 | 78 |
| Rajshahi | 30.1 | 14.5 | 67 | 80 |
| Khulna | 31.0 | 15.6 | 65 | 75 |
| Dinajpur | 29.8 | 13.9 | 77 | 73 |
| Sylhet | 30.8 | 18.0 | 75 | 70 |
| Cox's Bazar | 30.2 | 19.8 | 83 | 79 |
| Barisal | 29.5 | 17.5 | 82 | 85 |



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APEX TANNERY LIMITED

65-66 MOTIJHEEL C/A, DHAKA

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

In an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of Apex Tannery Limited held on 19 November 1992 at the auditorium of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry Building, 65-66 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, a special resolution was passed authorising the issue of 3,81,000 right ordinary shares of Tk. 100 each in the capital of the company at a premium of Tk. 200 (i.e. each share @ Tk. 300). The right issue has been offered in the proportion 1:1 and the said offer will be made to each member by notice to be mailed separately specifying the number of shares to which the shareholder is entitled allowing him/her 21 days time to accept or decline the offer.

In view of the above the Share Transfer Registers of the company will remain closed from 14 December to 16 December 1992 (both days inclusive). Therefore the right share offer will be made to those shareholders whose names appear in the share Register of the company as on 14 December 1992.

Letter offering Right Share on the above basis will be mailed to the shareholders on 14 December 1992. The subscription will open on 04 January 1993 and will close on 11 January 1993 with the company's designated Banks whose names will be announced in due course.

By order of the Board
Date : 23 November 1992
Md. Rahmatullah
Managing Director