

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Coping with In-laws in Bourgeois Homes

By Fayza Haq

You have to always play the low key with your in-laws. This applies to the women in Dhaka, as elsewhere in the villages and cities of the east. From my personal experience of travels, in-laws are items to be handled with care even in places like Boston and Liverpool.

They do not like it if you are younger and more academically qualified, complains a friend of mine in Dhanmondi. She has been doing her masters and law, and instead of appreciating this, her in-laws simply taunt her and find faults with her. she laments.

Another acquaintance of mine at Fakirapool says that her sisters-in-law are conscious of their fair complexion and tall height, and ask her repeatedly "Is your sister as short and dark as you? Not having seen this gorgeous sister, who lives in Canada. Nasreen, my acquaintance had half a mind to say, "I have more physical attraction than all of you put together," but she had to hold her tongue and feign an inferiority complex.

When it comes to cooking, they do not like it all that you have beaten them to it, despite having been a bride only a few years ago. They do not like their children to admire your "curries". They will stand no competition in culinary matters. They will tolerate only the pudding, because they feel the dessert is for "juniors".

If you sew and wash to please your husband, they simply tolerate it as they are often superior to you in the art of housekeeping. They sometimes have a decade or two lead ahead of you as regards how to please the male heart, and lead an impeccable married life.

They do not like you to give your reading novels or poems or even magazines like "The Cosmopolitan" as it is a waste for your husband's hard-earned money. They would prefer you to be content with "Desh" or some such production from India, or simply fill your soul with "Chitrali" or even what the pages of "Ittefaq" or "Dainik Bangla" have to offer to women.

Sometimes envy is so obvious that you never wear the jewellery your colleagues gave you when visiting your in-laws. If you look like a "rat-bag", they appear to be inwardly and secretly satisfied. As a result, all the years of your parents' savings to give you gorgeous "saris" and jewellery go to the dogs. This is especially so if your husband depends largely on his relatives, and family members live in each other's pockets. My cousin in Malibagh has boxes of clothes, which she has put away, simply to make her life with her new family easier. From riding cars she is reduced to trespassing on the side-walk or taking a

"rickshaw" at best and her "dewars" brothers in law have had the audacity to call her "nonir putul" (doll of butter).

When they are giving presents, you will have to give them a bound book on beauty, or ropes of pearls. In return, for your own birthday, you should be grateful if you are lucky enough to get a nondescript busted pot of face-cream, or a huge tin of imported chocolates to add to the midriff bulge.

I know of a friend of mine in Kathalbagan who scours the city for beautiful items to send to her in-laws who live abroad. She can hardly afford to do it as she earns a limited sum. In return she gets artificial cartops, that come off on the first wear. Why does she suck-up to her in-laws? Should Jolly's mother die, her "bhab" the most senior lady in the extended family, will then exert her pressures on her.

If you happen to know sewing well, this is turned and twisted, as in the case of a cousin of mine in Mohakhali. The rest of the family praise her to her face but the measure of envy and sarcasm is not left out. Poor Shahana is bewildered and baffled. She lowers her eyes and makes no comments.

Should you have an ailing father or mother-in-law, the situation is not easy, as is the case of many of my friends and relatives. You have to work at a school or office, look after the husband and children, and tend to the patient on wheels or is prostrate in bed. Sick people can be so cantankerous and demanding. They need the bed-pan so often, or their bodies have to be sponged or massaged ever so many times, that it is not a wonder that there are repeated articles and "letters to the editor" on "old homes" in Dhaka dailies.

The mother-in-law is often possessive about the son, and reportedly, sometimes pours out imaginary tales of misdoings of the wife. It is normal then, that the husband is not amused and bickerings and ill-feelings ensue.

Added to the ailing parent are the husband's cousins and brothers and sisters. These have to be petted, soothed, mollified. You have to give them your own clothes and sometimes even jewellery to win them over, as is the custom, well-known in Dhaka. Sometimes the husband pays for the education of your brothers-in-law, or the marriages of your sisters-in-law. Yet the in-laws act in a manner of princings and princesses even when your own imported earnings or treasured gold chain have gone into their dowry, or a present to the in-laws of the "dewar".



The type of work daughters-in-law are expected to take delight in



The central five-party's procession in the city yesterday demanding trial of killing in Chittagong. — Star photo

## Kamal for introducing Community Medicine in medical syllabus

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf yesterday urged the principals and teaching staff of medical colleges to introduce courses on Community Medicine for undergraduate medical students and interne doctors from the next academic session, reports BSS.

Speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural session of a three-day consultative meeting on community oriented medical education held here, the Minister said the physicians must go to the villages and ensure benefit of modern science to the rural masses.

Sponsored jointly by the Health Services Directorates and the World Health Organisation (WHO) the inaugural session was held at the auditorium of national institute of preventive and social medicine at Mohakhali.

Chaired by the Director General of Health Services Prof Kazi Mashur Rahman the inaugural session was also addressed by the President of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) Prof MA Majed, acting representative of WHO in Bangladesh Prof Myo Thew, Director of Medical Education Prof AK Shamsuddin Siddique and Prof Falahuzzaman of Dhaka Medical College Community Medicine Department.

## Election of four DUJ units held

Election of four units of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) were held yesterday as part of the election schedule announced by the union, reports BSS.

In the election of BSS unit of DUJ, Ihsanul Karim Helal and Abdul Basher were unanimously re-elected unit chief and deputy unit chief respectively.

Ahmed Jobayer and Mujibur Rahman were elected unit chief and deputy unit chief of Janata unit while Syed Borhan Kabir and Al-Mamun were elected unit chief and deputy unit chief of Dainik Bhorer Kagoj.

In the election of weekly Chitrali, Enayet Hossain and Shah Alam were elected unit chief and deputy unit chief respectively.

Besides, elections of three more units of DUJ were held Tuesday.



Thursday

- 5.00 Opening announcement Al-Qumun
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.25 School debate
- 6.30 Open University
- 7.05 Tarunnya
- 7.30 Jiboner Alo
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.40 Drama of the week: Sonalee Roddure
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Film show: Chitra Beach
- 11.30 Khabar/ The News
- 11.45 Closing

The aim of the meeting is to design teaching and training programme for undergraduate medical students and interne doctors.

The Health Minister said reluctance of the medical graduates to work in rural situation was due to the legacy of education system which makes the students, who mainly comes from the rural areas, to forget their background.

He said introduction of the new community oriented medical education would go a long way in providing health services in the rural areas and added that without involvement of the community all efforts in this direction would be wasted.

Prof Majed suggested that provision should be made requiring the medical students to spend one month of their academic period in the rural

areas every year during their five-year degree course and be acquainted with the rural situation and the way of life of the rural people so that after graduation they do not feel reluctant to go there.

Prof. Myo Thew said all the physicians and medical teachers should have orientation to Community Medicine and make integrated efforts by all disciplines to translated the strategies of community health care to action.

Prof. Mashur Rahman said both the teachers and the students should go to villages as part of their orientation towards community medicine. Assuring implementation of the recommendations of the meeting he said it was the duty of medical faculty members to introduce the syllabus on Community Medicine in the medical colleges.

## Navy recovers pipeguns in Khulna

KHULNA, Jan 6: Bangladesh Navy recovered three pipe guns and some country made weapons from a place near the Bokhtar Khal under the Chandpai Forest Range in Khulna this morning, says a press release.

The BN personnel acting on a secret information raided the place and recovered the weapons from a boat abandoned by the pirates during exchange of fire. The recovered arms were later handed over to the police.

## 'Play bold role in checking crimes'

KHULNA, Jan 6: The Director General of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) Maj General Mohammad Anwar Hossain today called upon the BDR personnel to play a bold role in checking border crimes for strengthening the economy of the country, reports BSS.

He was addressing a darbar of BDR officers including battalion commanders of the sector, JCOs and other ranks of BDR personnel while visiting Khulna sector.



A sequence of Jatra "Shwarger Shesh Station" performed by Sabuj Opera last night on the occasion of National Jatra Festival at Shilpa Kala Academy. — Star photo

## Public lecture at BIRDEM Country has potentials to be industrialized

Bangladesh has enormous potentials to be an industrialized country if she pursues an economic policy which encourages domestic production and the development of indigenous technological capability, said Dr M M Huq of the University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom, reports BSS.

Dr Huq was delivering the first public lecture on 'Industrialization in Bangladesh: Aid dependence and the failures of technology transfer' organised by the Independent University Bangladesh (IUB) here yesterday afternoon at BIRDEM conference room. IUB President Dr Abdul Majid Khan presided.

Dr Huq, Associate Director, Development Countries Research Unit of the University of Strathclyde said the country was so heavily dependent on foreign aid and during the autocratic Ershad regime that there had emerged a 'dependency climate,' causing

serious adverse effects on the process of technology transfer.

Criticising the economic policies pursued during the autocratic regime, Dr Huq said with imports financed by aid, local supplies of machinery and equipment were being replaced by foreign supplies. The economic situation had been worsened by the autocratic government policies which he said had directly or indirectly discouraged domestic production, to the detriment of the development of indigenous technological capability.

Stressing the need for raising the level of investment in the industrial sector of the country, he said the manufacturing sector remained a weak performer in the economy of Bangladesh while its share was only 9 per cent of the GDP compared to 17 per cent in Pakistan and 19 per cent in India.

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The containerised cargo ex. M. V. LADY ROSE V-SWZ3B from Santos, ex. M. V. VERMILLION BAY V-42B from Karachi, ex. M. V. KITANO V-16249 from Rotterdam, ex. M. V. DRESDEN EXPRESS V-08351 from Hongkong, ex. M. V. HANSA CARRIER V-03161 from Nagoya, Keelung, ex. M. V. BENJA BHUM V-57N from Jakarta have been relayed to M. V. SHENTON V-10W, Import Rotation No. 1011/92 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 6-1-93 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: 503317, 500686/88.

## NOTICE

The Dhaka Sheraton Hotel will remain closed to general public from the afternoon of 8th January 1993 till the morning of 16th January, 1993 in view of the Seventh SAARC Summit to be held in Dhaka.

The Management regrets any inconvenience caused to its valued clients, patrons and well wishers during this period.



Tel: 863391, 861191

## WORLD BANK VACANCY

Position: Secretary  
Requirements: Completed at least O-level, excellent typing skills; very good experience with Word Processor and Spreadsheets, preferably Word Perfect and Lotus 1-2-3. Strong command of written and spoken English; ability to work accurately under pressure and in a team environment. Skills in audio typing and shorthand will be given preference. Proven abilities/experience in office organization, file management and making appointments. The candidate should have good communication skills.

Applications should reach the following address by Jan. 15, 1993.

The World Bank

(Ref.: Secretaries)

3A Paribagh, G.P.O. Box 97, Dhaka 1000



## Painting show of Tania begins today

By Staff Correspondent

The first solo painting exhibition of Tania Tabassum will begin here today (Thursday) in the Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University at 5 pm.

Poet Shamsur Rahman will inaugurate the exhibition, while artist Rafiqun Nabi will be present as the special guest.

The exhibition will remain open for the admirers from 2 pm to 8 pm daily from today to 13th January except on Friday. On Friday it will be open from 10 am-8 pm.

Tania Tabassum got her Bachelor degree in fine arts in 1986 from Dhaka University and completed her M S from University of Baroda, India in 1991.

## Jobs under international bodies

Some international organizations have invited applications for filling up certain vacancies at their disposal, say a PID handout.

Name of the organizations alongwith the post titles and last date for receipt of the applications by the head offices of the organizations are: International Atomic Energy Agency: Instrumentation Software Specialist (P-3); Unit Management Information Specialist (P-4); Nuclear Engineer (P-4); Unit Head, Applications Development Unit (P-4); Translator (P-3) - 9th February, 93; Commonwealth Secretariat: Debt Management Adviser, date as soon as possible.

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: Regional Adviser in Population Statistics- date as soon as possible.

Further details of the posts and procedure of applications will be available with the Ministry of Establishment, concerned Ministry or Division, Divisional Commissioner, District Public Relations Officer and District Labour and Manpower Offices.

## Right use of Bangla, English in official work stressed

State Minister for Establishment Md Nurul Huda yesterday said the right use of Bangla and English language in official and everyday work is imperative in maintaining the national heritage, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating a two-week training course on "Language and administration for the officers and employees of Bangla Academy," at its auditorium here.

Presided over by the Director-General of the academy Professor Md Harun-ur-Rashid, the inaugural function was addressed, among others, by the member of the Planning Commission M Mokammel Haq and Rector of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) Kazi Mohammad Manzoor-e-Mowla.

The State Minister said, the people of the country established 'Bangla' in the position of state language in exchange of huge blood and sacrifice from 1948 to the December 16, 1971. To turn the sacrifice into reality, Bangla Academy was created, he said.

The State Minister said, as a country of the third world, Bangladesh has to always keep in touch with the outside world.

## Weather

### Night temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather will prevail over Bangladesh with partly cloudy sky over the northern part of the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Thursday).

The Met office forecasts, night temperature may fall by one to two degree Celsius over the country.

The minimum temperature of 8.6 degree Celsius was reported from Iswardi yesterday (Wednesday) while the maximum of 28.5 degree was recorded in Cox's Bazar.

The sun sets today at 5.27 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.43 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	25.0	13.5	79	64
Chittagong	27.1	15.2	83	70
Rajshahi	25.0	9.0	77	77
Khulna	26.4	14.5	85	74
Barisal	25.4	13.6	96	88
Cox's Bazar	28.5	16.0	77	78
Sylhet	23.0	11.8	100	77
Dinajpur	21.2	9.2	92	79
Ishardi	25.0	8.6	91	72

## BCIC International Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Managing Director, Karnaphuli Paper Mills Limited, 92, Sadarghat Road, Chittagong invites sealed quotation on C&FC Chittagong basis under IDA/YEN Credit/any suitable source of financing for the following items under two envelope system:

Tender No.	Materials	Opening Date	Cost of Tender
1. F/57/MPIC-59/92/POP	Paracol Wax Emulsion 30 M/Tons.	3/2/93	Tk. 200/=

The quotation duly supported by 1% (min. Tk.1000/=) earnest money will be received up to 11-00 a.m. in the mentioned date and will be opened immediately thereafter in presence of the tenderers, if any. The tender documents on cash payment may be obtained from (a) Dy. Chief Accountant, Karnaphuli Paper Mills Limited, 92, Sadarghat Road, Chittagong (b) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/Arca, Dhaka on all working days. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC-1190-31/12  
DFP (BA) 8-2/1

G-25

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department  
Rural Development Project-3  
Infrastructure Greater Sylhet District  
5/7, Lalmatia, Block-B, Dhaka-1207

### Tender Notice for Local (Direct) Purchase of 1 (One) No Computer Machine (2nd Call)

Memo No LGEB/PD(RDP-3) E-14/92/244

Dated: 17/09/99বাং/31/12/92

Under the IDB Loan Agreement (Code No 02-030-001-8693) between the Government of Bangladesh and the IDB. Sealed quotations are hereby invited from the bonafide firms/manufacturers for supplying 1 (One) No Computer Machine for Rural Development Project-3, Infrastructure Greater Sylhet District under Local Government Engineering Department. Tenderers will be received in the office of the undersigned up to 1.00 PM on dated 14.01.93 and will be opened on the same day at 1.30 PM in presence of the concerned tenderers or their representatives who may remain present. No tender will be considered for acceptance, received on expiry of the aforementioned date and time.

Tender documents with detailed specification, terms and conditions may be obtained from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk. 100.00 (One hundred) only (non-refundable) in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of the undersigned up to dated 13.01.93 on all working days during office hours.

The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereon and in such case no compensation will be entertained.

Sl No	Item	Quantity	Time for Delivery
1	Computer Machine	1 (One) No	15 (Fifteen) days

S M Zakaria  
Project Director  
Rural Development Project-3  
5/7, Lalmatia, Block-B Dhaka-1207  
Tel: 326674

DFP (G) 22661-31/12-92