

Letter from Chittagong

You're in the Army Now!

by S. Bari



In the Army Photo: Shabid Aziz

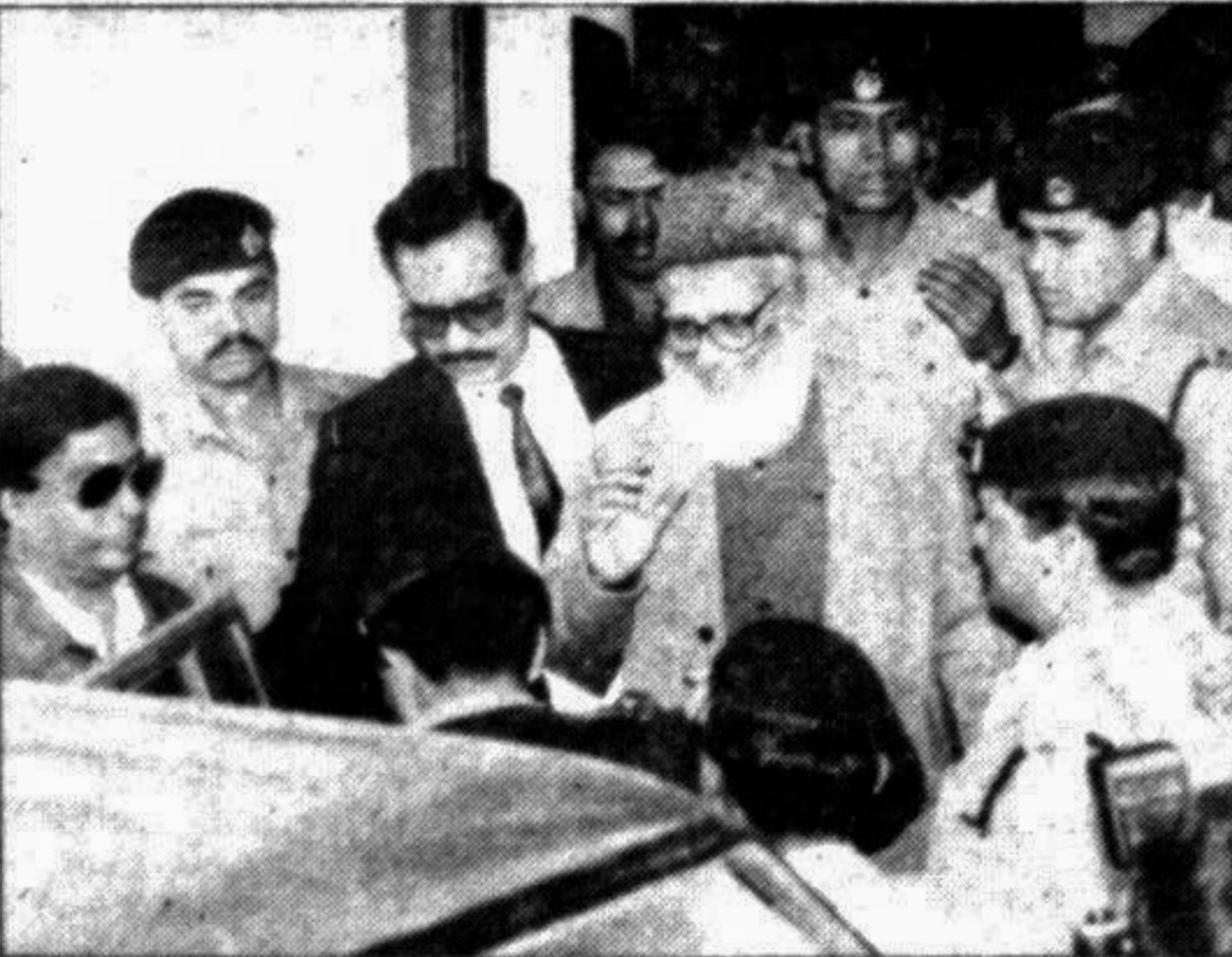
Remember the first day you sent your child to school? You watched her walk away in her white uniform, she a little scared, you a little left behind, no longer as all-essential to her as you once were. With modifications, the same mixture of fear and pride crops up on other milestones in your child's life, from the first time he takes public transportation alone, to the day he gets married.

One such threshold was being crossed a few days ago at the Kamalapur Railway Station. On the early morning Probhati express, a set of nervous young men in their late teens hauled large suitcases aboard. Tearful families crowded the windows. Mothers murmured prayers, fathers offered firm handshakes. The new batch of "gentlemen cadets" for the Bangladesh Military Academy was off to Chittagong.

Twice a year, the army interviews some ten to fifteen thousand hopefuls fresh from the HSC exams. Many young men want to join, explains a senior army official, "but we only have a capacity of maximum 150 men per term at the BMA." After written tests and medicals in Cantonments around the country, the lucky three or four hundred are summoned for the legendary Inter-Services Selection Board (ISSB). This gruelling three-day session in the Dhaka Cantonment consists of interviews and tests designed to gauge a candidate's psychological profile, his leadership qualities, his strengths and weaknesses.

Recalls one army officer who took the test nearly thirty years ago, "It's notoriously difficult, and nerve-racking, and all the horror stories you hear about it are true." One involves a fish course during dinner; anyone who does not use the knife and fork provided, fails.

On the way to Chittagong, the compartment rang with the voices of gawky young men who moved loosely inside ill-fitting suits with their unaccustomed ties. These were among the 130 who passed the rigours of the ISSB. As the train sped towards what one of them described as "two years of voluntary prison," they swapped experiences gathered during the three famous days. "He asked me why I didn't go America, if I had friends or family abroad," said one eighteen-year-old, smiling now that the tension was behind him.



Jamaat leader Golam Azam was brought to the High Court division of the Supreme Court yesterday. Story on Page 1 -Star photo

Disinvestment Board meet held

The Disinvestment Board in a meeting yesterday took a number of decisions on some disinvestment government enterprises, reports UNB. The meeting was held in the conference room of the Ministry of Industries with Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan in the chair. An official handout said the meeting had detailed discussion on the present position of the disinvested units and adopted the decisions. The handout, however, didn't give details of the decisions.

BCIC International Tender Notice

The Managing Director, Bangladesh Insulator and Sanitary-ware Factory Ltd, Bux Nagar, Mirpur, Dhaka invites sealed tender in two envelope system for supply of "PLASTER OF PARIS" against Tender No 013 on "C&F(C) Chittagong" basis under any suitable source of financing. Tender documents obtainable from (i) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha, Dhaka, (ii) BCIC, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong and (iii) BISP at Taka 300/-. Tender will be received up to 11.00 AM on 15.02.93 and opened immediately thereafter. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening of tender.

BCIC-16-6/1 DFP(BA) 144-7/1 G-52

Tk 50 prize bonds draw results

The 43rd draw of 50/- Taka prize bonds was held yesterday at the conference room of the commissioner office, Dhaka says a press release.

Draw results: First Prize of Tk 2,50,000/- 0452883. Second Prize of Tk 50,000/- 0374801

Four Prizes of Taka 5,000 each: 0148490 0269251 0287424 0383274

Four Prizes of Taka 2,500 each: 0165925 0271755 0287599 0372718

Ninety Prizes of Taka 500 each: 0011208 0026327 0026562 0031023 0032537 0038147 0041196 0042131 0051399 0055398 0057150 0069650 0070374 0083096 0084743 0087691 0096751 0108701 0112911 0120197 0122760 0129871 0131126 0137177 0139384 0140390 0141158 0151940 0157523 0160215 0163347 0172110 0174243 0178770 0188769 0190232 0193111 0196795 0198846 0202517 0205243 0213984 0215871 0215932 0217562 0225889 0248042 0253204 0257638 0258177 0265024 0268598 0270398 0273486 0273676 0276194 0278771 0286591 0288133 0290219 0290360 0298452 0300158 0305240 0311843 0316886 0318214 0338841 0343694 0348906 0350046 0365024 0365336 0371783 0374935 0381162 0386789 0391551 0391839 0397340 0398384 0429982 0430969 0440327 0443831 0473464 0473868 0480459 0486081 0490099

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BTV Sunday program schedule: 5:00 Opening announcement, Al-Quran Programme summary, 5:10 News in Bangla, 5:20 Cartoon: Tom The Nasty Cat, 5:30 Sports programme, 6:30 Open University, 7:05 Tagore Songs, 8:00 News in Bangla, 8:30 Probaha, 9:00 Film: The Wizard, 10:00 News in English, 10:30 Sour Lahare, 11:30 Khabar/The News

DU students protest clash at Rajshahi

By DU Correspondent

Two student organisations yesterday brought out procession and held rallies here to protest the student clash in Rajshahi Thursday.

One student was killed and at least 30 others were injured in clashes between All Party Student Alliance activists and Shibir workers at Rajshahi Government College Thursday noon.

The Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) brought out a procession from the Madhu's Canteen of the Dhaka University and held a protest rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday morning.

While addressing the rally, GCO leaders Ragib Ahsan Munna, Kazi Sazzad Jahir Chandan and Md Shahidullah called upon the students to resist the communal forces in the country.

The leaders demanded immediate release of the student leaders who were arrested during the clash.

The JSD (Inu) backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (B-K) also held a rally in front of the Madhu's Canteen of the Dhaka University yesterday to protest the "Shibir attack" in Rajshahi.

The rally was addressed among others by the BCL (B-K) leader Obayedur Rahman Churnu.

Quran contest in Mecca Bangladeshi Hafez made judge

A Bangladeshi Hafez has been made a judge of the 15th international Holy Quran competition beginning at Mecca in Saudi Arabia on January 23, reports UNB.

An official handout said here Hafez Maulana Nuruddin, Pesh Imam of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque, had been included in a 9-member jury committee as judge from Bangladesh for the first time. This is a rare honour to a Bangladeshi Hafez.

Five competitors taking part in the Quran recitation competition from Bangladesh are Mohammad Mahfuzullah of Muktagacha, Mohammad Enayetullah of Brahmanbaria, Altaf Hossain of Narsingdi and Mohammadullah from Feni.

What's on today . . .

Women for Women: Women for Women, a research and study group, has arranged a three-day national conference on "Reproductive Rights and Women's Health" which begins today (Sunday) at the auditorium of National Museum in the city. Health Minister Choudhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf will attend the inaugural session beginning at 10:00 am as chief guest. State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahannara Begum will be the special guest while Dr Hamida Akhter Begum, president of the organisation, will preside.

Lions Club of Dhaka Golden: The first regular monthly meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Golden will be held on today (Sunday) at Sonargaon Hotel at 6:00 pm. Renowned journalist Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury will be present as guest of honour.

Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikya: Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikya will hold a rally today (Sunday) at 11 am at the Madhu's Canteen compound protesting US imperialist activities throughout the world.

Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad: Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad will hold a rally today (Sunday) in front of the National Press Club. A memorandum will also be submitted to the Speaker of the Parliament after the rally.

. . . and tomorrow

Rotary Club of Dhaka North: The regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held tomorrow (Monday) at 5:30 pm at the Hotel Sonargaon. US Ambassador William B Milam will speak on US-Bangladesh business relations at the meeting.

Weather

Night temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent: Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Sunday) says, light rain is likely to occur at one or two places over Barisal division and the regions of Khulna, Noakhali, Chittagong and weather will remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the regions of Jessore, Faridpur, Dhaka, Comilla and weather will remain dry with fair sky elsewhere over the country.

The Met office forecasts, night temperature is likely to rise by 1 to 2 degree Celsius over Barisal Division and the regions of Khulna, Chittagong, Noakhali and remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country.

The minimum temperature of 5.0 degree Celsius was reported from Ishardi yesterday (Saturday), and the maximum of 26.5 degree from Jessore. The sun sets today (Sunday) at 5.34 pm and rises tomorrow Monday at 6.44 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity of some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Table with 3 columns: Cities/Towns, Temperature in degree Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (9 am, 6 pm). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Dinajpur.

Construction of Ganges Barrage seen a must for agro-rich region

Experts and the Members of Parliament from the south western region have stressed the need for constructing a "Ganges Barrage" for water flow in the river "Goral" for survival of the agro-rich region, reports BSS.

The need for activating the water flow of the "Goral" is of paramount importance for the agriculture, environmental and other requirements of the region and all steps must be taken towards giving fresh life to the river which is on the brink of becoming ineffective, they said.

The crying need for reviving the dying "Goral" emerged from the deliberations of a seminar in Jessore participated by national experts and as many as sixteen members of parliament from the south western region belonging to the ruling and opposition parties.

The seminar on "southwest area water resources management project" (for flood action plan-4) was opened here on Friday Flood Control, Irrigation, Water Development and Agriculture Minister M Majidul Haq and was addressed, among others, by Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman.

The Flood Programme Co-ordination Organisation (FPCO) of the Ministry of Flood Control, Water Development and Irrigation is organising seminars in five regions in the country in preparing studies for "flood action plan".

For the purpose of the "flood action plan", the country has been divided into five regions. The southwest area comprises 30,450 sq km and covers 30 per cent of the area of the country. It covers many districts including the area of greater Khulna, Jessore, Barisal and parts of Faridpur.

Members of parliament Sa-luddin Yusuf, Abdur Rouf Chowdhury, Shah Ruhul Qudus, Seikh Ansar Ali, Kazi Shamsur Rahman, AM Riasat Ali, Mansur Ahmed, Abdur Rouf Mia, Mufti Maulana Abdus Sattar, Abdul Khaleque Talukdar, Shah Ha-duzzaman, Maulana Habibur Rahman, Raushan Ali, Khan

Contractor beaten up on DU campus

A building contractor was allegedly beaten up by some students of the Dhaka University on the campus Saturday afternoon, reports UNB.

The victim identified as Mir Ashrafal Alam, elder brother of arrested JCD Ilias group leader Mir Sarafat Ali Sapu, was admitted to Pangu Hospital. He was released later.

Witnesses said a group of youths belonging to the rival (JCD) Ratan group forcibly took Ashrafal into the premises of the Fine Arts Institute and mercilessly beaten him up there.

He said the region suffers from serious shortage of waters and gave figures to establish the fact that the effects of the shortage is disastrous agriculturally and environmentally in addition to creating health hazards caused by the saline water in the absence of fresh waters.

This is happening due to heavy consumption of the waters in the upstream by the neighbouring country and an alternate to this situation for the survival of the region is activating the "Goral" which is becoming moribund as a consequence of the shortage of water, he said.

To Pixie & Sami

Wishing you a mother of a wedding anniversary. May you have a Tiger's Son year! Tulie, Poupee, Lopita

জেলা পরিষদ ভোলা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ভোলা জেলা পরিষদের আওতাধীন নিম্নবর্ণিত প্রকল্পসমূহ বাস্তবায়নের জন্য অত্র জেলা পরিষদ এবং স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তরের চলতি ১৯৯২-৯৩ অর্থ বছরের নবায়নকৃত তালিকাভুক্ত টিকাদার/টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে জেলা পরিষদ চুক্তি বিধিমালা ১৯৯০-এর নির্ধারিত 'ক' ফরমে সীলমোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্রসমূহ নিম্নলিখিতকরকারী কর্তৃক পরিষদ অফিসে আগামী ২৮-১-৯৩ইং/ ১৫-১০-৯৯বাং তারিখ রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার দুপুর ১২ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং একই দিনে দুপুর ১২-৩০ মিনিট উপস্থিত আগ্রহী দরপত্রদাতা অথবা তাহাদের ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত প্রতিনিধিগণের উপস্থিতিতে খোলা হইবে। প্রতিটি দরপত্র সীলমোহরকৃত বামে কাজের নাম উল্লেখপূর্বক দাখিল করিতে হইবে।

Table with 6 columns: ক্রমিক নং, প্রকল্পের নাম, প্রাক্কলিত ব্যয়, বায়নার টাকা, দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য (অফেরত-যোগ্য), নির্ধারিত সময়, টিকাদারের শ্রেণী. Rows 1-12 listing various projects and their details.

চুক্তির দলিলাদি যথা ফর্ম 'ক', কাজের শিডিউল, অতিরিক্ত শর্তাবলী ইত্যাদি নিম্নলিখিতকরকারীর দপ্তর হইতে প্রত্যেক কার্যবিবরণে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দেখা যাইবে এবং নির্ধারিত মুদ্রা (অফেরতযোগ্য) কয় করা যাইবে। টিকাদার নিজে অথবা তাহার ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত সত্যায়িত স্বাক্ষরকৃত পত্রবহনকারী প্রতিনিধি ফর্ম কয় করিতে পারিবেন। দরপত্র খোলার দিন কোন দরপত্র ফর্ম বা শিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না। দরপত্র কয়ের সময় ১৯৯২-৯৩ সালের জন্য নবায়িত হু বই দেখাইতে হইবে এবং বাংলাদেশের যে কোন শিডিউল ব্যাংক হইতে বিডি/সিডি/পিডি আকারে বায়নার টাকা সচিব, জেলা পরিষদ, ভোলা-এর বরাবরে দরপত্রের সাথে অবশ্যই দাখিল করিতে হইবে। প্রাক্কলিত ব্যয়ের চেয়ে ৫%-এর অধিক নিম্নদরে দরপত্র দাখিল করিলে ইহা সত্যায়িত বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে। বিশেষ শর্তাবলীসহ এই দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির একটি অংশরূপে বিবেচিত হইবে। দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত জ্ঞাতবা বিষয় নিম্নলিখিতকরকারীর দপ্তর হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে জানা যাইবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন কারণে প্রদর্শন ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। উল্লিখিত সকল কাজের কার্যবোধন তহবিল প্রাপ্তির পর প্রদান করা হইবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ কার্যবোধন প্রদানে বাধা নহেন।

সহকারী প্রকৌশলী জেলা পরিষদ, ভোলা। ৩৬-৩৫