

# Dhaka Day by Day

## 'Roads of the Rich'

by Parveen Anam



Roads were meant for traffic. They were built for the motor car to travel on and the pedestrian to walk on. Whether safely or not, is of course always a debatable issue. The owner of the motor car pays a tax for the privilege of using the strip of concrete the mighty beings like to call "road."

The reason we refer to the road as the 'strip' is because that is exactly what it is; a thin little strip of potholes held together by bricks and cement loftily referred to as the metal road. The audacity of the tax collector is beyond all comprehension.

But it is the audacity of the other things which takes the cake, actually. These other things fall in the category of those who like to think that they and they alone have integral rights to the usage of that road. And naturally, they are the ones who fall in the category of the rich. Unfortunately the country or better still the roads, are at this moment being overrun by them.

We, the ordinary sort, do not mind the roads being used for the purpose they were meant to be used; it's when the rich like to think that they can use it any way they like, that we object. And by 'anyway' I mean the gall of those people who build their mansions to rent out for thousands of takas, using the public road to pile up their construction materials. Oh, mind you, a 'wee bit' is left on one side for the likes of us, who like to use the road for the basic purpose it was meant for, i.e. drive on.

The rich building their endless villas, block off the road as and when they like, either with the stuff they use to build their houses with or by that monstrous truck delivering the 'lord and master's goods' parked 'bang' in the centre of the road nonchalantly unloading bricks,

## Bangladeshis abroad urged to work for uplift

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandkar Mosharruf Hossain has called upon the Bangladeshis working abroad to play a more vital role in economic uplift of the country through investing capital for quick industrialisation, reports BSS.

The minister was addressing a rally of the Bangladeshi citizens in London Tuesday at the last leg of his fortnight long tour to the United States and the United Kingdom.

Dr Hossain said that the Bangladeshis working abroad were playing a laudable role in socio-economic progress of the country.

He said that the present government had been launching all its activities and endeavours for the wellbeing of the common people.

Referring to various developmental activities of the present government the minister expressed the hope that the Bangladeshis working abroad would play a more dynamic role for consolidating democracy and giving greater push to national economy.

The minister said that the present government had enunciated a very liberal and attractive industrial policy for encouraging foreign investment in both private and public sectors. He called upon them to come forward to invest capital in setting up industries in Bangladesh availing themselves of the present facilities.

## Chinese envoy calls on Hafiz

Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Zhang Xujiang yesterday met with Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz and discussed matters of common interest, reports UNB.

During the meeting at the minister's office at Bangladesh Secretariat, the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador exchanged views with him on the existing bilateral relations.

They expressed the hope that the existing bond of cordial and friendly relations between the two countries would be further strengthened and expanded to various new avenues in the years to come.

The Law Minister, who is also in charge of parliamentary affairs, thanked the Zhang Xujiang for the Chinese assistance to Bangladesh for development activities specially in the communication sector.

The people of Bangladesh considers China as one of the best and trusted friends, he said.

As the president of China-Bangladesh Friendship Association for a long time, Mirza Hafiz dwelt on the background of how the relations between the two countries had reached the present stage.

## Shafi presents credentials to Sihanouk

Ambassador C M Shafi Sami presented his credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and President of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia at the royal palace in Phnom Penh on February 17, reports BSS.

Upon his arrival at the palace the ambassador was presented a guard of honour, according to a message received here.

Speaking on the occasion Prince Sihanouk expressed his deep appreciation to the government and people of Bangladesh for the support extended to the people of Cambodia in their efforts to regain national unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

He thanked the Prime Minister and the government of Bangladesh for sending personnel for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia with orphans at an Iftar party at Sugandha yesterday. — PID photo

## Arms recovered in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, Feb 24: A special team of the Detective Branch of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) recovered one LG and two rounds of bullet from the possession on the three persons at a residential hotel at Laidigh here yesterday, reports BSS.

Acting on secret information, the detective branch raided a room of the hotel and found three miscreants there. The police searched their bodies and recovered the fire arm and the bullets.

## Business Advisory body meet held

The 21st meeting of 'Business Advisory Committee' was held yesterday at Sangsad Bhaban with committee Chairman Speaker Shaikh Razaque Ali in the chair, reports BSS.

## BCU launches campaign to solve DU problems

Pro-CPB Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) yesterday launched a campaign to resolve the genuine problems of the students of Dhaka University, reports UNB.

The campaign with the slogan -- Save the Campus, Change the Campus -- is part of a movement to press for a 4-point demand put forward by BCU to resolve some students' problems on an emergency basis.

The demands are: reduction of fees on mark-sheet and certificate, fixation of xerox charge at 50 paisa in the campus area, adequate supply of necessary books to the

University Book Centre and 30 per cent commission, and increasing students' scholarship.

BCU also put forward another 6-point demand to the university authorities as well as the government.

It includes: introduction of scientific academic calendar at the beginning of each academic year, departmentwise examination and publication of results, appointment of more teachers, building more residential halls, adequate number of transport for the students and construction of a complete Commerce Bhaban.

The Save the Campus, Change the Campus campaign

was announced at a press conference organised by BCU Dhaka University unit last evening at Madhu's Canteen.

A written statement, read out by DU unit General Secretary Mostafa Kamal Pasha, said that the university authorities assured them to meet their 4-point demand immediately.

He said that the academic life of the students is being lengthily due to frequent violence, anarchy and the influence of student and national politics and stressed the need for introducing an academic calendar to overcome the session jam.

The BCU General Secretary further demanded that the university authorities should take action against teachers who were staying outside the country for long without any permission of the authorities.

He called upon the general students to abandon the politics of hoodlumism.

The news conference was attended, among others, by BCU DU unit President Aslam Khan, Shafigul Islam Shafig, Enamul Haq Inu and Tarun Sarcar.

## Announcement

The Management of the Standard Chartered Bank is obliged to announce

that Mr Dewan Anwarul Latif is no longer associated with the Bank.

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## Weeklong Second Phase of Exhibition by Shahabuddin

at Shilpangan from Friday, February 26, 1993

## Kohinoor Chemical Company (BD) Limited Tender Notice

Sealed quotation are hereby invited by the Managing Director, Kohinoor Chemical Co. (Bd) Ltd, Tejgaon Ind. Area, Dhaka from the Genuine Manufacturers for supply of ALLUMINIUM COLLAPSIBLE TUBE WITH FITTED CAP for (a) 1,75,000 Pieces PAS TE DEE- 5 (75 Gram), (b) 24,000 Pieces PASTE DEE- 5 (Family) against Tender Enquiry No. PD-III/KCC/27 dated 23.2.93. Tender documents available at Tk. 100.00 (Non-refundable) per set from (1) Kohinoor Chemical Co (Bd) Ltd, 349-350, Tejgaon Ind. Area, Dhaka, (2) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha, Dhaka and (3) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong. Tender will be received upto 11:00 AM on 10-3-93 and opened immediate thereafter. No tender document will be sold on the date of opening. D-136



Chhatra Motre brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding trial of killers of Ayub Hossain, a student leader in Jessore. — Star photo

## CUJ condemns attack on office of Banglabazar Patrika

CHITTAGONG, Feb 24: Leaders of Chittagong Union of Journalists (CUJ) today strongly condemned the attack on the daily Banglabazar Patrika office by some armed miscreants on Tuesday last, reports BSS.

In a statement here tonight M Nasrul Haq, and Nirmal Chandra Das President and General Secretary respectively of the CUJ said such repeated attacks on newspaper offices would not bring any welfare to the country.

Expressing grave concern the CUJ leaders said such heinous act would greatly hamper the freedom of press. They urged all to restrain from such activities for institutionalising the democracy as well as greater interest of the nation.

The CUJ leaders demanded punishment to the persons responsible for the incident.

CUJ will hold a rally to protest the attack in front of its office on February 27 at 11 am, the statement added.

## Reduction of Bank rate hailed

The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) appreciated the reduction of the lending rate by the Bangladesh Bank from 8% to 7% to stimulate the economy and encourage borrowing for investment, says a press release.

However DCCI expected that the benefits of the reduction would be extended to existing borrowers as well as new borrowers. DCCI also expressed the hope that the Government will be looking into other issues raised by this Chamber from time to time.

## Iranian envoy meets Hannan

The Iranian Ambassador in Bangladesh, Mahmud Bayal, called on State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan at his office yesterday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters of mutual interest and bilateral relations.

## 90 held on various charges

Police arrested 90 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges, yesterday, reports UNB.

Of the arrested, seven were wanted criminals, two accused of kidnapping, three of robbery, another three for dacoity, ten of burglary and eleven of stealing. All the arrested people were produced before court.

## Weather

### Night temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country with partly cloudy sky over Barisal and Rajshahi divisions and the regions of Mymensingh and Khulna during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Thursday).

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

The minimum of 8.3 degree Celsius of temperature was reported from Srimangal, yesterday (Wednesday) and the maximum of 29.4 degree was reported from Chudanga.

The sun sets today at 5.59 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.23 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	26.0	12.5	61	43
Chittagong	26.0	13.2	63	47
Rajshahi	27.5	9.3	68	37
Khulna	27.5	12.0	62	53
Barisal	27.0	11.6	76	63
Cox's Bazar	27.4	14.6	45	54
Sylhet	25.0	—	—	57
Dinajpur	25.5	10.0	75	43

## HERE and THERE

### Taxes Bar Assoc

Mohammad Sohrab Ali and A K Nesar Uddin were elected President and General Secretary respectively of Dhaka Taxes Bar Association in the election held here on Tuesday, an association press release said yesterday.

The other office-bearers of the association are: Vice-Presidents — Helaluddin Ahmad and Khorshid Alam Dhuiyan, Treasurer — Mohammad Khurshid Alam, Joint Secretary — Mohammad Ali Azam Khan, Library Secretary — Kazi Shauhid Islam and Sports Secretary — Mohammad Torab Ali Khan.

### Art exhibition

The eight-day art exhibition of twelve female artists from Bangladesh and one foreign painter ended yesterday at the Gothic-Institute in the city.

### Govt Motor Drivers Samity

Abul Fazal and Abdul Matin were elected uncontested President and General Secretary of Bangladesh Government Drivers Samity at a general meeting held recently.

Harun-ar-Rashid was also elected uncontested Treasurer of the Samity.

### BSP meet Feb 28

An extended meeting of Bangladesh Sangbadpatrika Parishad (BSP) will be held at its office (90, Kakrali, Dhaka) at 11 am on February 28, reports UNB.

The meeting has been convened to discuss measures for strengthening the organisation, said a press release signed by BSP Secretary General Anwarul Islam.

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