

Dhaka Day by Day

Feathered Houseguests

by Parveen Anam

Winter is the time of the year, when we are visited more or less regularly, by birds from afar. These birds fly into this land of ours from thousands of miles away to seek refuge from the biting cold in the land of their origin. They are known to fly endless miles for the more temperate climate of our country. Sometimes we welcome these birds, some of them landing on our dining table as part of the menu. And that after the 'authorities' have shouted themselves hoarse about 'illegal' bird catching. Its quite hilarious actually, these warnings.

If we remember, one winter morning not so far away even as the highest executive authority of the land was making speeches at one of the

innumerable conference venues, about the dire consequences to be faced by any soul who dared catch and sell these birds, the little 'bird-wallah' was happily peddling his wares hardly fifty yards down the road right under the nose of the 'arm of law'. Perhaps in future the 'arm of law' needs to be locked away for a change. We should definitely see some changes in the law and order situation. For the better, undoubtedly.

But again, it is not the birds which live in the open, which attract us at times as much as the birds which decide to keep us company within the four walls of our very own abode. For who can deny that he or she has not, perhaps at times been rather irritated by the little birds called the

'choroi', which dangle live with us in our impeccable homes? Delightful little rascals, these birds, we admit to ourselves when we can sit back and watch the little feathered fellow's antics. In fact, if we have the time which most of us do not, I am afraid, we can watch these birds for hours as they busily fly to and fro, with their 'house-building materials' in their beaks, chirping, scolding, arguing with each other. At times, when they get too rowdy, we shoo them away, when they will promptly

sit on the ceiling fan or some such fixture safely out of reach and scold us in turn!

It is fascinating to watch these little busy-bodies at work. The more considerate amongst us will make sure that at least one window is left open, for these feathered little guests who have decided to make our home their own, without so much as a 'by your leave'. One fine morning, when we see that little fellow twittering and chirping, happily flying in and out of the window, left open by the maid to air the room, do we realize that our home has been invaded? He has made his 'home' in the shade of the light bulb, or on top of the fan, or wherever he thinks he will not be detected easily.

The elderly will promptly inform us is solemn tones that it is a good omen, for the bird to choose to nest with us; whereas the fastidious housewife will just quietly groan to herself at the thought of the extra hours of cleaning up after these little guests, who will litter the carpet, the arms of the chairs, the table tops, you name it, without much consideration.

But at the end of the day we all like to admit that we are fond of those little intruders, especially when we hear the inevitable 'cheep-cheep' of the babies, who have been so lovingly hatched and will now be reared within the confines of our homes. Many an irate housewife has been heard warning all in the house to keep the

cat away from the room where the mother bird is tending her young. And that in spite of the fact that she at times could herself throw that bird and everything alongwith it, into the wilderness.

Sort of 'go back where you belong' perhaps, but we still have a bit of kindness somewhere in our hearts, and cannot be inhospitable to the tiny guest who certainly does not make any demands either on our time or our resources. All he asks for is to be left alone, which is perfectly justified. We all feel that way at times.



DUTA condemns police attack on nirmul rallies

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) brought out a silent procession yesterday morning to protest the attack on Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Jatiya Samannaya Committee rally last month.

More than a hundred DU teachers, students and employees joined the procession which began from the Aparajco Bangla at the university and dispersed at the Central Shaheed Minar after marching the campus.

The DUTA President Professor K M Mohsin in a short rally at the Shaheed Minar condemned the police attack.

The DUTA President urged all to be alert against the repetition of such activities.

The DUTA, earlier on March 31 in its emergency general meeting protested the attack on Samannaya Committee rally and procession on March 26th and 28th.

Jobs under int'l bodies

Some International Organizations have invited applications for filling up certain vacancies at their disposal, says an official source.

Name of the organizations along with the post titles and last dates for receipt of the applications by the head offices of the organizations are: SAARC Tuberculosis Centre; Deputy Director (ICC Division) - 15 April; International Civil Aviation Organization; Chief, Internal Audit Office (P-5); Chief, Economic Policy Section (P-5); Training Officer (P-4); Chief, Trainer Central Unit (P-5 or P-4) - 19 April; Technical Officer, Communications (P-4); Technical Officer, Communications, Navigation and Surveillance/Air Traffic, Management Systems Implementation (P-4) May-25; UNESCO; Chief of Section (P-5)-June 5; Asia-Pacific Telecommunity; Expert on Digital Transmission Study for the local Loop in Thailand-19 April; International Telecommunication Union; External Relations Officer (P-3)-12 May; International Atomic Energy Agency; Director (D-1); Director (D-1/D-2)-July 2.

Further details of the posts and procedure of application will be available with the Ministry of Establishment, concerned Ministry/Division, Divisional Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, District Information Offices and District Labour and Manpower offices.

'Freedom Party to foil conspiracies'

Acting Chairman of Freedom Party, Col (Retd) Rashid, yesterday said that his party was determined to undo all conspiracies against the country's independence and sovereignty, reports BSS.

Addressing the national council of the party at Dhanmondi here, he said that despite various obstacles his party was carrying ahead its activities to protect the country's interests since its inception in 1987. Being jealous with the advancement of the party, he said some vested quarters were now making evil designs against it.

Rashid called upon the nationalistic forces to forge strong unity to face the anti-people forces and uphold the spirit of independence. Only through unity against the expansionist forces the spirit of the War of Liberation and independence could be upheld, he said.

The minister said prevalence of child malnutrition was more acute in the villages than the towns and suggested to involve rural people in steps taken to protect their children from malnutrition. NGOs and social workers also should come forward to supplement the government efforts, he added.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanaara Begum, Martin I Souter of CIDA, child specialist Prof M Q K Talukder, Director General of Family Planning Directorate A K M Rafiq-Uz-Zaman, Director of Programme for the Introduction and Adaptation of Contraceptive Technology (PIACT), Bangladesh, Abu Yusuf Choudhury and Project Director of Women's Vocational Training for Population Activities (WVTPA) Mrs Rebeka Rahman also spoke at the inaugural session. Health Secretary Syed Ahmed presided.

The workshop was organised by PIACT, Bangladesh, in collaboration with Directorate of Family Planning, WVTPA, Rural Women's Co-operative of Rural Development Board, and Rural Mothers Club. It was sponsored by CIDA.

Prof Jahanaara said breastfeeding is the best for children which builds a mental attachment of the child with the mother.

She said to ensure proper breastfeeding especially in the rural areas women's rights should be enhanced further.



DUTA procession in city yesterday in protest against police attack on Nirmul Samannaya Committee rallies last month. — Star photo

\$ 95 m project to combat malnutrition undertaken

The government has taken up a 95 million dollar project to check malnutrition which plays havoc particularly on children of the country, reports UNB.

The 5-year inter-sectoral nutrition project starts in 1995 to combat the serious health hazard.

This was disclosed yesterday by Fazlur Rahman, Joint Secretary of Health, while addressing a day-long workshop on 'Development of Strategies for GOB/NGO Complementary in Nutrition Programmes for the Women and Children.'

Voluntary Health Service Society (VHSS) — a health sector NGO — and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) jointly organised the workshop in the VHSS auditorium.

Fazlur Rahman said the problem of malnutrition could be solved through coordinated efforts of NGOs, government organisations and private sector. None alone can solve it.

He informed the workshop that the Bangladesh Nutrition

Council would soon be reorganised with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia heading it.

Speaking as chief guest, Faizur Rahman Chowdhury, Director General of the NGO Affairs Bureau, said a mass awareness should be created to ensure healthcare of mothers suffering from malnutrition. A malnourished mother gives birth to malnourished baby, he added.

Non Government Organisations (NGOs) can play a greater role than that of the government as the government does not have enough manpower to create awareness at grassroot level, he said.

The DG of NGO Bureau said at present 37 lakh (3.7 million) children are born in the country each year and one-third to half of them die owing to underweight (less than 2.5 kg) as their mothers suffer from malnutrition.

Each year, he said, 30,000 children become blind due to vitamin 'A' deficiency, 110 children die per thousand children and one-third of

them die owing to diarrhoea caused by malnutrition. Many children are also dying due to iodine deficiency.

Growth of 60 per cent girls and 55 per cent boys are stunted due to malnutrition, he said.

Referring to the government's programme for ensuring Health for All by the Year 2000, he said nutrition programme is one of its important component.

He suggested that a national coordinating agency should be formed to help solve the nutrition problem.

Presided over by Dr Nasiruddin, Director of VHSS, the workshop was also addressed by Dr M I Talukdar, Division Chief of Planning Commission, Abu Zafar Amanullah, Deputy Secretary of Bangladesh National Nutrition Council, Dr A F M Iqbal Kabir of UNICEF, Sophie De Caen, Assistant Resident Representative of UNDP, and M Aminul Haq Bhuiyan of the Institute of Food Science of Dhaka University.

A total of 72 participants from NGOs, donor agencies and government organisations participated in the workshop.

Mostafiz greets Japanese FM

Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman felicitated Kabun Muto, on his appointment as Foreign Minister of Japan, reports BSS.

Sircar visits Dhaka College

Education Minister Barrister Jamruddin Sircar yesterday visited the Dhaka College centre where 5,156 students from four colleges are appearing the on-going degree examinations, reports BSS.

Congratulations



Md. Sayem Ur Rahman for being awarded with Government Talenpool Primary Scholarship. He is the only son of Md. Mozibur Rahman and a student of Ahmad Bawany Academy

Happy Birthday



Syed Nageeb Mustajfa Ali Greetings from his parents, brother, uncles, aunts, grandmothers, cousins, friends and other loved ones.

Biswas seeks Japan's cooperation to improve trade imbalance

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday sought cooperation of the Japanese trade and commercial community to improve Bangladesh's adverse balance of trade with Japan, reports UNB.

He was talking to the Japanese delegation to the sixth meeting of the Bangladesh-Japan joint committee for Commercial and Economic Co-operation that ended here Wednesday.

The delegation led by Kiko Ekeda called on the President at Bangabhaban yesterday.

President Biswas said the present government had adopted a liberal industrial policy and provided enough facilities to foreign investors. Bangla-

desh expects more and more Japanese government as well as private investment for socio-economic development of the country.

As a big development partner, if Japan comes forward with investment through joint venture, other countries would follow, he added.

The President requested the leader of the Japanese team to convey his warm greetings to the Emperor, Prime Minister and the people of Japan.

Ekeda said the economic relationship between the two countries is growing faster since the setting up of the joint committee for commercial and economic cooperation

in 1980.

Japan is keen to provide economic assistance to Bangladesh and the committee has been making continuous efforts to help Bangladesh in developing sufficient infrastructure for economic progress.

Ekeda said he would report the outcome of the joint committee meeting to the Japanese Prime Minister and hoped that the volume of Japanese investment in Bangladesh would increase considerably in future.

President of Bangladesh Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Mahabubur Rahman was present on the occasion and participated in the discussion.

Improper breastfeeding prime cause of child malnutrition, Kamal says

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf yesterday said the government was aware of the problem of child malnutrition and was fully prepared and committed to solve it, reports BSS.

The main cause of child

malnutrition is that the child is not properly breastfed by the mothers, he said.

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural session of a one-day workshop on 'Prevention of child malnutrition through promotion of proper breast-

feeding' held at Sasakawa International Training Centre at ICCDDR, B here.

The minister said prevalence of child malnutrition was more acute in the villages than the towns and suggested to involve rural people in steps taken to protect their children from malnutrition. NGOs and social workers also should come forward to supplement the government efforts, he added.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanaara Begum, Martin I Souter of CIDA, child specialist Prof M Q K Talukder, Director General of Family Planning Directorate A K M Rafiq-Uz-Zaman, Director of Programme for the Introduction and Adaptation of Contraceptive Technology (PIACT), Bangladesh, Abu Yusuf Choudhury and Project Director of Women's Vocational Training for Population Activities (WVTPA) Mrs Rebeka Rahman also spoke at the inaugural session. Health Secretary Syed Ahmed presided.

The workshop was organised by PIACT, Bangladesh, in collaboration with Directorate of Family Planning, WVTPA, Rural Women's Co-operative of Rural Development Board, and Rural Mothers Club. It was sponsored by CIDA.

Prof Jahanaara said breastfeeding is the best for children which builds a mental attachment of the child with the mother.

She said to ensure proper breastfeeding especially in the rural areas women's rights should be enhanced further.

HERE and THERE

National Museum seminar

Bangladesh National Museum organised a seminar on 'Jewellery Industry in Bangladesh' Wednesday at its auditorium.

The seminar presided over by Prof K M Mohsin was addressed, among others, by Prof Rokeya Rahman Kabir, Prof Abdul Hafiz MP and Md Sayedur Rahman MP.

Dr Abdul Momin Chowdhury presented the keynote paper at the seminar. Students of Badrunnesa Girls' College attended the function and questioned the speakers on the subject.

Garments factory inaugurated

The Managing Director of Agrani Bank Mostafa Aminur Rashid inaugurated a garments factory, financed by the bank, on Monday.

Former Secretary Kazi 'Fazlur Rahman and former Director of Agrani Bank Kazi Aftabuddin Ahmed attended the function as special guests.

General Manager of the bank Khandaker Ibrahim Khaled, Naziruddin Ahmed, Md Helal Uddin and Mirza Abdur Rashid were also present at the inaugural function.

IFRCS meet

A meeting of the Steering Committee formed with the representatives from IFRCS and donor consortium was held Thursday at the central office of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.

Mayor visits Basabo

Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Mirza Abbas MP Wednesday visited various areas of Basabo Kadamtal to see the condition of the citizens.

He asked the people of the area about their problems and also attended a prize distribution ceremony at Kadamtala Purbobasabo High School.

CU Forestry Instt reunion

CHITTAGONG, Apr 8: A reunion of present and former students of the Institute of Forestry, Chittagong University was held yesterday at the institute premises, reports BSS.

Weather

Temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Friday) says rain or showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and the regions of Pabna and Bogra.

Meanwhile, weather will remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country.

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

The maximum temperature of the country recorded yesterday (Thursday) of 37.6 degree Celsius was reported from Rajshahi and the minimum of 19.0 degree was reported from Dinajpur.

The sun sets today (Friday) at 6.18 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 5.42 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	37.0	25.2	51	47
Chittagong	32.4	24.0	80	88
Rajshahi	37.6	25.4	39	24
Khulna	35.6	24.4	39	52
Barisal	33.2	25.0	56	65
Cox's Bazar	32.0	24.0	81	85
Sylhet	33.1	23.3	83	59
Dinajpur	36.0	19.0	47	30

Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited
(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)
Post Box No. 8, Court Road, Brahmanbaria

Tender Notice

No.PT/LP-51/92-93

Sealed Tenders in prescribed form are hereby invited from the bonafide Businessman/Dealer/ Firm/Suppliers for supply of following Machineryes:

JET TYPE WATER PUMP, ELECTRIC HAND DRILL MACHINE, COMPRESSOR SPRAY GUN, HAND GRINDING MACHINE.

Tender Schedule containing detail specifications, terms and conditions to be obtained from our offices (1) Court Road, Brahmanbaria (2) 97, Purana Pallan, Bijnayagar, Dhaka (3) BAPEX Complex, 3rd Floor, Port Connecting Road, Chittagong between 9 am to 12 Noon on all working days from Sunday to Thursday against payment of Tk. 75/- (Non-refundable).

Tender should be dropped in the tender box placed at our offices (1) Procurement Department, Paikpara, Brahmanbaria (2) 97, Purana Pallan, Bijnayagar, Dhaka and (3) BAPEX Complex, Port Connecting Road, Chittagong latest by 11.00 A.M. on 25-4-93 and will be opened on the same day at 11.30 A.M. in presence of the tenderers (if any). No tender document will be sold on the closing date. The Company reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFFPG/4963-3/4 Senior Manager (Materials Management)
G-470

Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Comilla Road Divn., Comilla.

Notice Inviting Tenders

- Tender Notice No.
- Name of work
- Estimated cost
- Earnest money
- Name of office where tender bids will be received
- Name of office of availability of tender bids
- Time allowed
- Last date of selling of tender bids
- Last date of receipt of tender bids
- Date & time of opening of tender bids
- Eligibility of Contractor

64/EE, RHD Road Divn. Comilla of 1992-93
Construction of pavement by water bound Macadam carpeting & seal coat work at different KM of Comilla-Burchong-Brahmanpara-Mirpur Road under Comilla Road Divn during the year 1992-93 in 2 (two) groups (Ch to Nikar).
As per group list
As per group list in BD/TC/Pratirakha Sanchaya Patras/5-years Bangladesh Sanchaya Patras/Bonus Sanchaya Patras in favour of EE, RHD Road Divn, Comilla.
Addl Chief Engineer, RHD Comilla Zone, Comilla/Supernintending Engineer, RHD/Road Circle, Comilla/Monitoring Evaluation Circle, Dhaka (R&B) & Office of the undersigned
Office of the undersigned/EE, RHD Road Divn, B. Baria/Noakhali/Planning & Divn (R&B), Dhaka & S.D.E's office under this Divn
As per group list
17-4-93/4-1-1400 B.S. during office hours
12-30 PM of 18-4-93/5-1-1400 B.S.
12-45 P.M. of 18-4-93/5-1-1400 B.S.

Gr No	Name of work & location	Estimated cost in Tk.	E/money in Tk.	Time allowed from the date of issue of Work Order	Eligibility of Contractor.
I	Constn. of pavement by water bound macadam carpeting & seal coat work at 1st KM of Comilla-Burchong-Brahmanpara-Mirpur Rd.	16,18,869/-	32,378/-	60(Sixty) days	A to C general category
II	-do- do- at 2nd KM (part) of -do-	11,44,219/-	22,885/-	45 (Forty five) days	A to D -do-

DFFPG) 5112-4/4
G-469

Anwar Ahmed
Executive Engineer, RHD
Comilla Road Divn., Comilla.