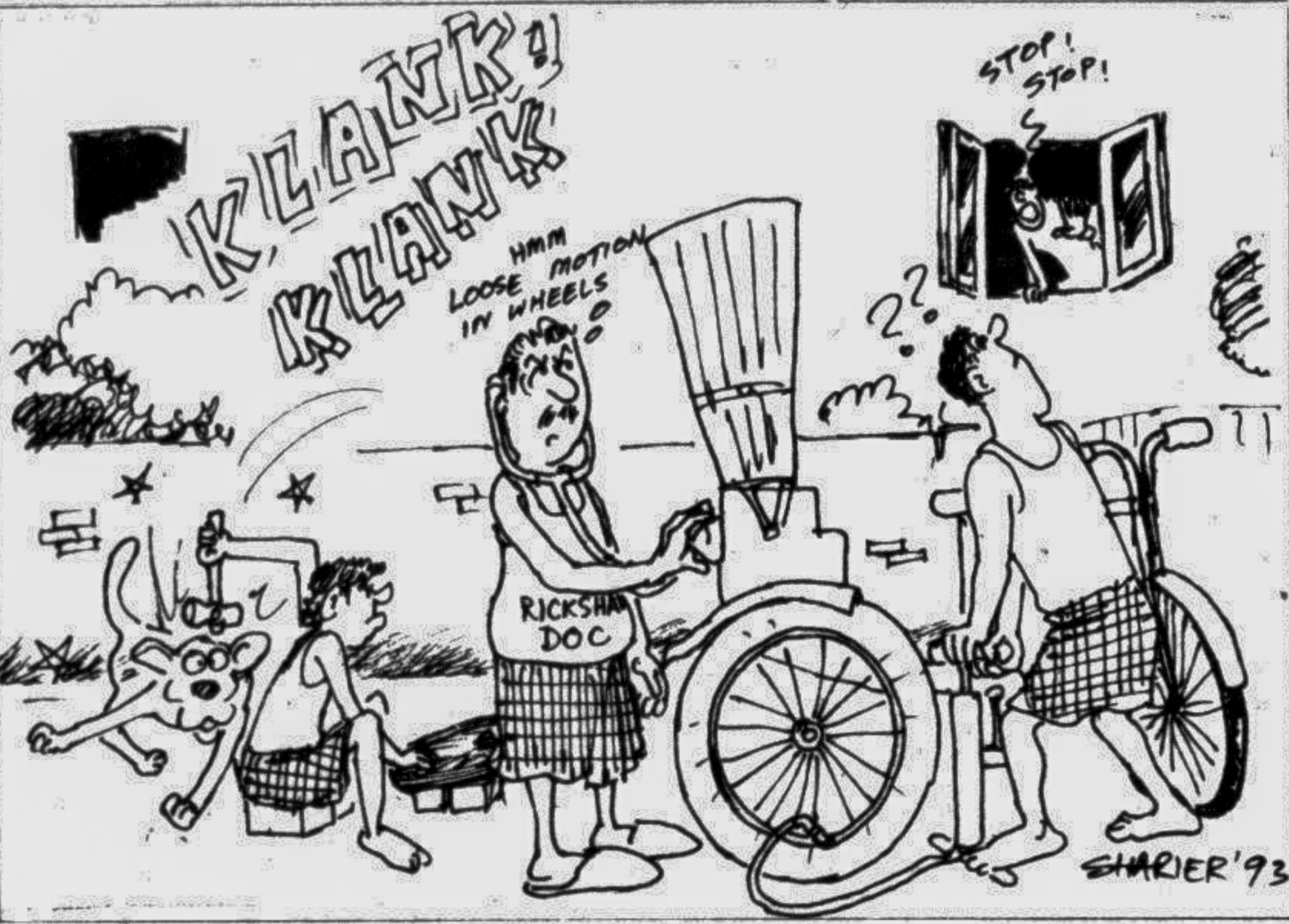


Dhaka Day by Day

The Rickshaw Healers

By Parveen Anam



As a mode of transport, the rickshaw is probably one of the best things that has happened to Bangladesh. Where would we be, if we did not have that wonderful three-wheeler, madly careening down the centre of the road...

the rickshaw tyres, spokes, seats, you name it, is a real pain in the neck. From early morning, that rickshaw repair shop is enough to drive one up the wall. If heavens forbid, the man has decided that the shade provided by the mango tree at your gate is the ideal spot...

System loss in power reduced to 35 pc

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharrar Hossain yesterday called upon the officials and employees working in power sector to sustain their concerted efforts for reducing system loss of electricity to an acceptable level, reports BSS.

The Energy Minister was addressing as chief guest the installation ceremony of Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) Sramik-Karmachari Union at Narayanganj.

The meeting was also addressed, among others, by advocate Abul Kalam MP, Prof Razaul Karim MP, C B A General Secretary of P D B Zafrul Hasan, C B A President and General Secretary of DESA Abul Hossain and Kazi Mosharrar Hossain respectively.

Dr Mosharrar Hossain said the national system loss of electricity had been brought down from over 42 per cent to around 35 per cent due to the realistic measures taken by the present government. He, however, said that system loss of electricity ranging from generation to distribution should not be over 25 per cent.

Giving a break-up of reduction system loss in DESA, the Energy Minister said that the electricity system loss in DESA in February last was 29.09 per cent as against 38 per cent in September, 1991.

Electricity system loss of DESA should not cross the limit of 15-17 per cent as it was still entrusted with distribution network only, he added.

'Private schools, colleges getting govt attention'

Education Minister Bariar Jamiruddin Strcar yesterday said the government was giving due importance to development of the non-government educational institutions in the country, reports BSS.

The Education Minister was speaking as chief guest at the concluding function of a two-day training programme for the enumerators and supervisors of the survey programme of the non-government educational institutions here.

Presided over by director of Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (BANBEIS) Anwarul Hoq Khan Mojib, the function was also addressed by Director General of Secondary and Higher Education Prof M Ennus Mia.

The Education Minister said the non-government educational institutions were playing a vital role in the education system of the country. The government has given due importance to proper planning and development programme of the non-government schools, colleges and madrasahs for bringing about a qualitative change in the whole education system, he added.

He called upon the enumerators and supervisors to put in their best efforts for making survey programme a success.

Observer newsmen hospitalised

Ashraf Ali, a senior journalist of the Bangladesh Observer was admitted to PG Hospital on Monday with neurological complications, reports BSS.

Ashraf, who will undergo operation shortly, is now under the treatment of Professor Rashiduddin at Room No 219, Bed No-A, Block B (second floor).

He sought blessings of all for his early recovery.



Mujtaddah Command Council held a rally at Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday following the verdict on Golam Azam's citizenship case. — Star photo

Basanti Guha Thakurta hospitalised

Basanti Guha Thakurta, widow of martyred intellectual Dr. Jyotirmoy Guha Thakurta, has been hospitalised since Wednesday night in a critical condition, family sources said, reports BSS.

Thakurta (70) has been suffering from serious liver complications for the past few years. She suddenly fell critically ill Wednesday night at her daughter's residence in Dhaka University campus and was rushed to the Manwara Hospital at Shidheswar.

NGOs spend Tk 3000 cr annually

Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Minister Tariqul Islam yesterday said, Taka three thousand crore was being spent annually by about six hundred NGOs in the country for implementation of welfare programmes, reports BSS.

He was speaking as chief guest at a function organised by Rotary Club of Dhaka Mid-town at Pongu Hospital on the occasion of distribution of crutches to the disabled.

The minister said, disabled are not a burden to society. They can contribute to social development activities if they are imparted adequate training, he added.

He called upon the affluent to come forward for the welfare of the disabled.

Later the minister handed over a pair of crutches and a set of books to the hospital authorities for the disabled.

Former minister Rotarian Azrul Haq, Dr R O Ganf, Professor of Pongu Hospital Sirajul Islam and President of Dhaka Mid-town Rotary Club Rotarian K M Alam also spoke on the occasion.

Reforms aiming at socio-economic uplift adopted

Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan said here yesterday that the government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had adopted a series of reforms aiming at socio-economic uplift of Bangladesh, according to a message received here, reports BSS.

Speaking at the 49th session of ESCAP being held in Bangkok, the Bangladesh Planning Minister said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was committed to creating the environment for reaching "Daal-Bhaat", the basic nutrients and needs to every household. Our record in some sectors has been more than modest. Our macro-economic policies have been widely acclaimed, he added.

The Planning Minister said despite many constraints the Bangladesh government has succeeded in initiating liberalisation and privatisation of the economy. Bangladesh, he said, has appropriate policy infrastructures to attract foreign investments. "We have both potentials and prospects and with a little help, we hope to be able to go far," he said.

498 industries handed over to private entrepreneurs

Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan yesterday said that there was no alternative to that industrialisation in bringing dynamism in the economic activities of the country, reports BSS.

He said with this end in view the present government had withdrawn all restrictions in investing up to Taka 30 crore in any industrial venture.

The Minister was addressing a handing over ceremony of 51 per cent government shares in Dhaka Vegetables Oil Industries Ltd held at Fatullah.

Presided over by Sirajul Islam MP, the handing over ceremony was also addressed by Prof Rezaul Karim MP, Abul Kalam MP, Industries Secretary A H M A Haf, managing director of the mill Mohammad Ali, President of Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce

and Industry Afzal Hossain, Chairman of Al Baraka Bank Amanullah Mia, Chairman of Bangladesh Food and Sugar Industries Corporation Mir Belayet Hossain and President of Narayanganj Hosiery Industry Owners Association Abdur Rashid.

The Industries Minister said so far 498 small, medium and big industries had been disinvested and handed over to private entrepreneurs. Besides, 43 big industries had been identified for disinvestment and would be handed over to private parties. Out of the 43 industries international tenders have been invited for selling government shares from 16 industrial enterprises, he said adding that handing over of the tendered industries were in various stages of final-

isation. The Industries Minister said the present government believed in free market economy which he said was being followed throughout the world.

The Minister said the economy of the country would be geared up if the disinvestment programme proved successful.

He said the aim of the present industrial policy was to encourage private investment for the flourishing of industry in the country. The main opposition party in the parliament had also pursuing the same policy of free market economy, he added.

Citing the bleak picture of industrial growth during the past government, Mr Khan said, the progress was so slow that the rate of growth was only 2.9 per cent.

New surgical technique for gall bladder introduced

Diabetic Hospital (BIRDEM) here has introduced a new surgical technique for sophisticated gall bladder operation without opening the abdomen.

The technique called "laparoscopic cholecystectomy" is widely used all over the world. Talking to BSS Prof Motior Rahman, Head of BIRDEM Surgical Department, said they had successfully operated two female patients by applying laparoscopic technique on experimental basis.

Headed by Prof Rahman the team consisted of Dr Sader Abdun Nayeem, a laparoscopic

expert and Dr Humayun Kabir. They were assisted by house surgeons and nursing staff.

Dr Nayeem, a young Bangladeshi surgeon, had his training on laparoscopic operation of gall bladder at the Tokyo University in Japan and joined the Diabetic Hospital recently.

He along with Japanese Professor Dr Hashimoto Daigo performed the first laparoscopic operation in Bangladesh at the Diabetic Hospital one and a half years back. During that time they also performed another operation at the ICGMR here.

In laparoscopic operation wounds for the holes are minimal and dressing is given without any stitch in the skin, post-operation recovery is quick virtually without any pain, Prof Rahman said.

Dr Nayeem said the patient could be discharged after 24 hours and the patient could resume normal activities within a week. Dr Nayeem also performed a laparoscopic surgery in a city private clinic last week.

The new technique of gall bladder operation has very little side effects, do not cause hernia and reduces problems in case of any kind of second abdominal operation, the doctors opined.

Prof Rahman said within two months Diabetic Hospital would be fully equipped to perform regular gall bladder operations by using laparoscopic technique.

Govt promoting people's potentials: Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday said the present government had been activating the potentials of the people through various schemes of self-employment under macro-economic policy of the private sector based on market economy, reports BSS.

President Biswas was addressing as the chief guest the concluding ceremony of a workshop on "Entrepreneurship development" at a city hotel here yesterday evening.

Held under the aegis of the Association of Management Development Institutions in Bangladesh (AMDIB), the function was presided over by Dr

Mohammad Shamsul Haque, Director, Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Dhaka University.

Prof Shahiduddin Ahmed, Treasurer of Dhaka University, Prof Abdur Rab, Course Coordinator, Dr Saiful Azam, among others spoke on the occasion.

The President stressed the need for launching a movement on entrepreneurship and small business development to translate the government's policy into action.

He said the development of entrepreneurship makes speedy the overall progress and prosperity around the world. He said Bangladesh, which emerged as a nation two decades ago, has been considered a special case where entrepreneurship activities are most essential for attaining socio-economic progress.



Dr Ahmadullah Mian Director of UCEP speaking at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club in city on the occasion of the organisation's 20th founding anniversary yesterday. Story on Page 7

Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited (A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla) Tender Notice PT/LP-32/92-93. Sealed Tenders in respective letter heads are hereby invited from the bonafide businessmen/ Firm /Suppliers for supply of professional Drafting Machine/ Table.

Weather Dry weather likely By Staff Correspondent. Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Friday) says, rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal divisions and the regions of Dhaka, Faridpur, Noakhali and Chittagong while weather is likely to remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country.

BTV Friday Morning session 8.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran programme summary 8.10 News in Bangla Alor Dikhart 8.40 Natsun Kurri 10.00 News in English Momen Mukurey 10.05 Film show: Danny Wilson's Family collection

ANNOUNCEMENT Apex Footwear Ltd We are pleased to announce that the Public Issue of our shares has been over-subscribed. We wish to thank all esteemed investors for their interest and trust in our company.

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা ভাডার ও ক্রম বিভাগ আপনাদের পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন আপনার পিডকে ঢাকা দিন পুনঃ টেন্ডার নোটিশ ২য় বার