

Dhaka Day by Day

An Unusual Aid for Feeding Reluctant Babies

by A S M Nurunnabi

Babies as a class are usually fastidious about food, but those with a rich and urban background of three or four years old, are only more so, having definite likes and dislikes in such matters. A paediatrician will tell you that the more a child's mother bothers with this biological need and tries to bring about discipline in her child's food habits, the more the child will resist her attempts and will try to go its own ways. All mothers, more or less, and particularly the new ones get terribly upset over these problems and consult the doctor frequently to find out ways of dealing with the child's food habit problems. The commonsense view that a child will take its food when hungry and that the mother should not worry about it, does not ordinarily impress an over-protective mother. The result is persistence on one side and resistance on the other. In this struggle, the mother worries and suffers a lot.

Lately some urban mothers seem to have found an answer to the problem. They have observed that some children of 3-4 age group are strangely attracted to TV commercials. When these programmes are on the air, these children become oblivious of their surroundings and offer no resistance if food is given to them. This stroke of good luck was previously limited in its effectiveness, for TV programmes used to begin from the afternoon and for the rest of the day, the same problem remained. This gap has lately been filled in luckily by CNN/BBC programmes. Now at the beginning of the day, the children themselves remind their mothers of the TV programmes which they mention specifically. When these programmes run, the mothers find an easy way of feeding their children. Some mothers have found an additional means of distracting their children at feeding times. It has also been observed that such children are equally attracted by cartoon films. So with the help of VCR/VCP, they play cartoon films when CNN and BBC are off the air. The cartoon films are also found very helpful in

keeping children engaged and out of harm's way at other times.

Tutul is my daughter's baby. The baby is normally well-behaved except at feeding times. In view of the attraction of CNN/BBC, my daughter has been obliged to synchronize the feeding times of the baby with the TV times in the morning and at noon. For the feeding times in the afternoon and at night, the TV advertisements and cartoon films come handy. The baby of my daughter's friend in the same neighbourhood has special tastes. It is attracted more by cartoon films. The problem is that the baby is so fastidious that it is not satisfied with the same film. So its mother has to keep in stock new cartoon films from the neighbourhood video clubs.

The whole strategy of the parents to get their babies fed goes awry when there is load-shedding. At such times, the parents get really helpless and fervently pray that the power failure may be short-lived. Some times their prayer is answered, and sometimes not. One parent suggested an alternative strata-gem which has been found to be effective when power restoration gets delayed. The parent uses a torch light with coloured papers on the glass cover. The multicoloured make-believe display seeks to distract the child and has been found to be as effective in helping the child to take its food.

The problems of feeding the young ones get intensified if the child happens to belong to a nuclear family where the mother always remains worried about the dietary habits of her child. The mother's insistence makes the child all the more obstinate. In this context, the new prescription found effective by some mothers—the prescription of hooking a recalcitrant child to the CNN/BBC programmes as well as cartoon films and TV commercials—may be tried by other mothers who are experiencing troubles in properly feeding their children.



CARRIER '93

Ministry asked to import one lakh ton sugar

The present stock of sugar with the mills of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) is sufficient to meet the requirement, reports BSS.

The cabinet was apprised of this at the regular weekly meeting held at Bangabhaban with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

However, the cabinet reviewing the stock of sugar has directed the Ministry of Industries to go for phase-wise import of 1 (one) lakh ton sugar through BSFIC to meet any probable short fall.

The cabinet approved the draft of the ordinance proposed by the Ministry of

Agriculture to make the Institute of Post Graduate Studies in Agriculture (IPSA) into an autonomous organisation.

The ordinance is aimed at making IPSA a centre of excellence for post graduate education in agricultural science and a research centre of international standard which is being implemented in the fourth five year plan period (1990-95) with the financial assistance of Bangladesh, Japan and the United States.

The cabinet also approved the draft to amend the narcotics and Drugs Control Act of 1990 proposed by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

SKOP rally in Narayanganj

From Our Correspondent

The Sramik Karmachari Otkhya Parishad (SKOP) and various workers' unions of the Narayanganj district held demonstrations yesterday here in support of the 72-hour strike from today.

The Narayanganj unit of the SKOP held a rally at the No-2 rail-gate in the afternoon and later brought out a torch procession in the town.

The rally, presided over by Jatiya Sramik League leader Shukkur Mahmud, called upon all to make the strike a success.

Similar rallies were held at the Adamjee Jute Mills, Luxmi Narayan Cotton Mills, Chittaranjan Cotton Mills and the Sohagpur Textile Mills.

Storm kills woman

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, May 10: A young lady, Taslima (25), was killed when a wall fell on her during yesterday's nor-wester that lashed over the Sonargaon, Bandar, Fatullah and Sadar thanas of the district.

Taslima, who lived in Mahanpur village of Kalagachhia union, was a worker of Nayan Rice Mill.

The storm started at 9-15 pm and lasted for about two hours damaging a large number of houses, trees and electric poles of the areas.

Power supply was disrupted in the district because of the nor-wester.

Academic calendar for DU planned

By Staff Correspondent

Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Emajuddin Ahmed Monday said the university authorities are planning to introduce an academic calendar to remove sessions jams.

He was addressing as chief guest a certificate distribution ceremony at the Institute of Modern Languages for the participants of the English Remedial Course.

The Vice-Chancellor also called upon the students of the university to refrain from seeking shifting of examinations dates which have contributed in aggravating the crisis.

JU employee killed in road mishap

By JU Correspondent

A Jahangirnagar University employee was killed in a road accident yesterday morning on the Dhaka-Aricha highway near the Public Administration Training Centre.

Shusanta Chandra, an employee at the varsity post office, was crushed under the wheels of the campus-bound varsity bus carrying students.

The accident took place around 9 am when the university bus hit a truck while trying to overtake it. Shusanta, who was hanging near the bus door fell and died on spot.

Dhaka to get Tk 162 cr Swedish grant

Bangladesh will receive from Sweden kroner 240 million (equivalent approximately to Tk 162 crore) as grant during the next two financial years, reports BSS.

Two agreements and an agreed minute to this effect were signed in Dhaka yesterday between governments of Bangladesh and Sweden.

Alf T. Samuelsson, Under Secretary of State for International Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, government of Sweden and M. Sirajul Islam, Joint Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance

signed the agreements on behalf of their respective governments.

Sweden has been providing assistance to Bangladesh since liberation. The main sectors of their concentration are rural development, health and education.

Four fake policemen arrested

By Staff Correspondent

City Detective Branch arrested four impostors impersonating policemen near the RAJUK building at Matijheel, Monday.

The arrested persons are Kamrul Islam, 36, Shah Jahan, 28, Abu Siddiq, 26, and Abu Kalam alias Madhu, 27.

Detective police also recovered a false identity card of an Assistant Sub-inspector from the possession of Kamrul Islam.

Nepalese officials team visits Ministry of Land

An eleven-member Nepalese team of senior officials, now on a week-long study tour here visited the Ministry of Land yesterday, reports BSS.



Workers of CSD godown at Teigaon in the city staged a demonstration yesterday demanding immediate payment of their 15 months' arrears. —Star photo

Tagore's birthday programme at Bangla Academy

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangla Academy organised a recitation and musical soiree yesterday at its premises as part of its three-day celebrations of the birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore.

Shahadat Hossain Nipu, Kamrul Hasan Manju, Ahkamullah, Sadhan Roy, Sabina Jahan and Lutfunnahar Lata participated in the recitation while Tapan Mahmud, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Rokatyia Hasina Nili rendered songs.

4,032 new pry schools in current FYP

The Minister of State for Education, Principal Mohammad Yunus Khan yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government had a programme to set up 4,032 new primary schools in the country during the current five-year-plan, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Kazi Abdur Rashid (Gopalganj-AL) the State Minister said a total of 10,08,000 students would get opportunity to study in these new schools.

Replying to another ques-

tion from Mohammed Shamsul Huq (AL-Mymensingh), the State Minister said that a total of 8,358 posts of Primary school teachers were lying vacant since December 31 of 1992.

He said that the government had already taken examination for the appointment of the teachers in the vacant post. The answer scripts of the examinees were under process. After completion of the process viva examination would be taken for appointment, he said.



The tree in front of Madhu's Canteen of Dhaka University was uprooted during the storm on Sunday night. —Star photo

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday) says rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind may occur at a few places over Barisal, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna and Dhaka division. 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 (Monday) of 34.8 degree Celsius was reported from Rajshahi and the minimum of 19.6 degree was reported from Sylhet.

The sun sets today at 6.32 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.17 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in 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	32.1	21.0	69	65
Chittagong	31.4	21.5	67	71
Rajshahi	34.8	20.7	73	57
Khulna	33.6	23.3	77	67
Barisal	31.8	22.8	80	75
Cox's Bazar	32.0	22.4	64	74
Sylhet	31.0	19.6	79	60
Dinajpur	29.8	20.3	82	89



Sangbarta Group Theatre of Calcutta staged Rabindranath Tagore's 'Dakghar' at the German Cultural Centre in the city yesterday. —Star photo

Biswas opens National Book Fair

Need for improving quality of books underscored

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday underscored the need for improving the quality of books and reach them to all to spread real education, create skilled manpower and follow the course of democracy, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the 14th national Book Fair at Osmani Memorial auditorium here the President said books should be used as a means of national emancipation and building the nation.

He said at the same time efforts should be made to improve the habit of reading books, increase the acceptance of books and encourage giving books as gift.

Presided over by State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahanara Begum the inaugural function was also addressed by secretary of the Ministry Islam Uddin Malik and Director of the National Book Centre Sakhat Hossain.

Organised by the National Book Centre a 64 publishers

including two diplomatic missions have set up stalls in the fair at the premises of Osmani auditorium.

The fair will remain open for the public, from 10 am to 8 pm everyday. Entry fee to the fair is Taka two only.

President Biswas called upon the writers and publishers and the book lovers to continue their sincere efforts to increase attraction of books through quality production and expand horizon of creativity.

He said in spite of limitations, book fair should be organised in different areas of the country. Increase of literacy would also enhance the number of readers, he added.

Referring to government efforts to expand the public library network, he said combined bids of the government and the people would help reach this benefit to both urban and rural areas. He said this would create more readers, publishers and authors.

The President said knowl-

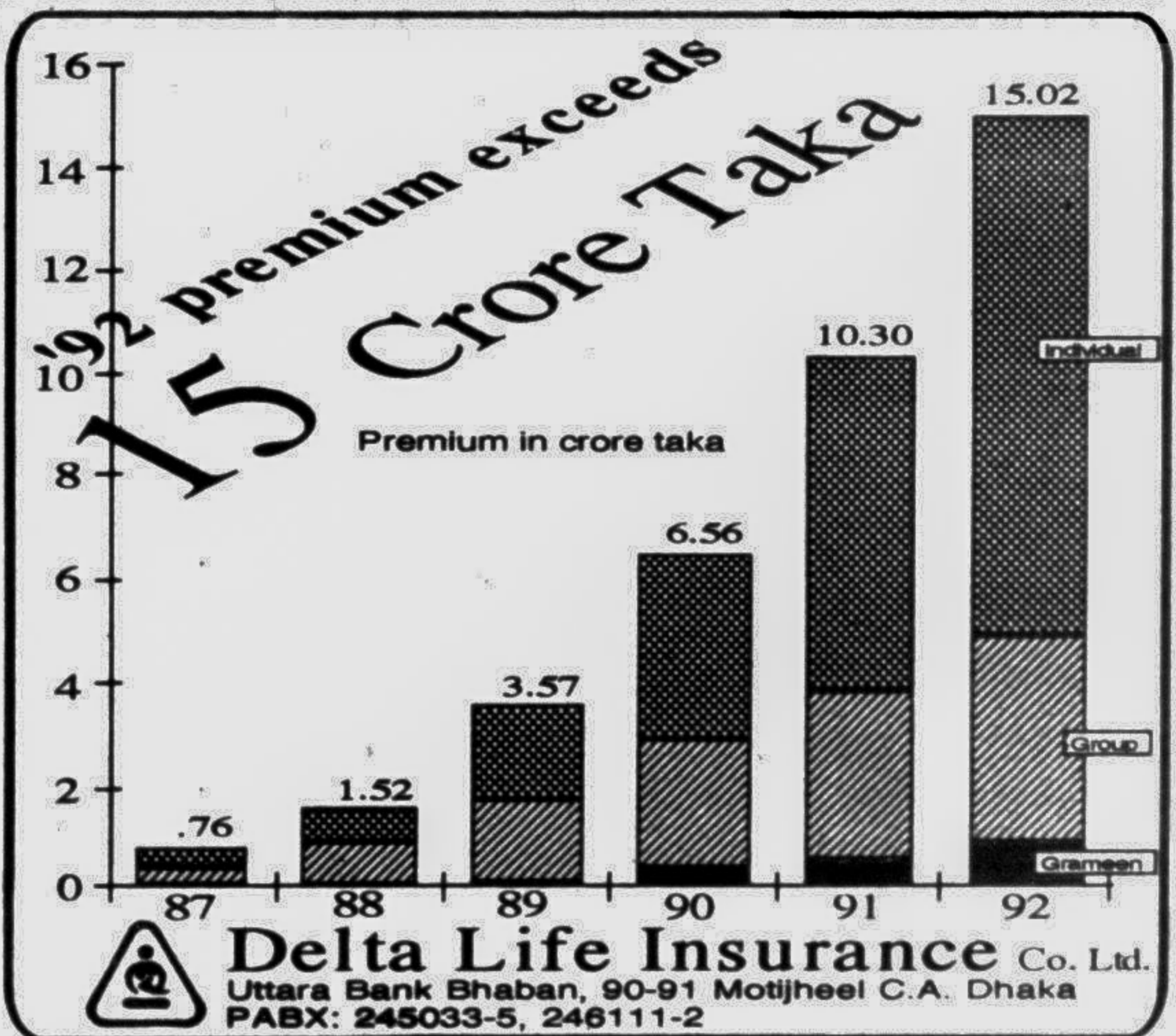
edge was the source of all strength and power of a nation and books were the main instruments to earn that. Good books develop talents and purify human souls, he added.

State Minister Jahanara Begum said a national book policy had been formulated by the government which would be announced soon.

Referring to people's spontaneous participation in different book fairs, she said the practice grew as a cultural activity and added that book fairs were the contact points of authors, publishers and readers.

Referring to the book fair held in Calcutta recently she said similar fairs would be organised in some other countries also.

Islam Uddin Malik said publishers were now giving more importance in publishing books other than text books and demand of Bangladesh books were increasing both at home and abroad.



Delta Life Insurance Co. Ltd. Uttara Bank Bhaban, 90-91 Motijheel C.A. Dhaka PABX: 245033-5, 246111-2

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice

পানির অপচয় রোধে কাজ শেষে কলের মুখ বন্ধ করুন

Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class civil contractors for the undermentioned works.

Name of work	Allotted cost	Date & time of receiving Tender
1. Cleaning sludged mud from sedimentation Tank Nos. 2&4 of Pagla Sewage Treatment Plant.	Taka 76,938/-	17-5-93 upto 12 Noon
2. Cleaning sludged soil from Grit Chamber of Pagla Sewage Treatment Plant.	Taka 42,240	-do-

Tenders will be opened on the same day of receiving tender at 12-30 pm in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their representatives.

Schedule of tender will be available at the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 98 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka & all MODS Zone offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed descriptions will be available at the office of the undersigned.

Address: Md. Abdul Mannan Executive Engineer Pagla Sewage Treatment Plant Division Dhaka WASA

WASA-P.I.-181/93 DFP(G) 7383-5/5 G-619