Objective journalism to

Dhaka Day by Day

A Child's World

by Nilratan Halder



Born free but ... Photo: Mohsin

She has the luxury of having two names, both famous in their own right, one - a central character of Homer's Illiad; and the other, of contemporary Bangladesh Politics. The little girl from a remote village in Kurigram has nothing else common with her more illustrious peeress. Indeed Helen and Hasina are two names too heavy for this emaciated girl to carry. The incongruities in her names have been amply betrayed by the very look she wears. Even the chronic food-deficient area she hails from has left a mark of its own on her in the most typical manner. Bewildered and lost in this affluent metropo-

lis, this our Helen or Hastna has known for the first time what it feels like being miles away from her poor but dear parents and brothers and sisters. The prospect of getting enough quality food to eat has brought her to this capital of many opportunities, but for the time being she and her parents have settled for her for the job of a house-maid. Tender and innocent, the girl could not think of a better place for her work than in the residence of one of her relatives, a career woman, who works in a government office.

So far so good. But the problem begun the very first day the girl was left alone in the flat locked from outside. For a girl who has never seen even a district town, this is the ultimate isolation from human society. The shock of being confined within the four walls was too much for the hapless little girl. She cried her heart out. The confinement and banishment have together proved too overpowering for this frail, tender soul. Perhaps the memories of her village life no matter how much deprived and destitute that may be - came crowding to make her situation even more pathetic.

enough sensitive to the psychic need of the little

to the biological need of the poor girl. The helplessness of this girl, surprisingly, has not drawn attention of many of the residents of the fourstorey flat. But one who is more sensitive than others find oneself in an equally, like the girl helpless situation. Such a person is most likely to be misunderstood and his/her praying attitude will not be well received. After all the woman who has hired the girl has not yet tortured the little one for her misdemeanor. Compared to the brutal treatment and bizarre atrocities meted out to maid servants and boy servants, hers is not a very cruel working environment. That is however the conventional view.

Beyond such skin-deep observations, there is a mental crisis for each and every human being Born free, the human child is afterwards chained everywhere at each of his/her step. In the natural surrounding, childhood is a most divine thing to happen to the human species. But this has been marred by existing inequalities, injustice and exploitation by some in society. So Helen's name will ring hollow, Hasina's will smack of mockery. The fear of being lonely and removed from the surroundings she has known since her birth is as painful as of the untimely separation from her mother's umbilical

Rare are the people who can appreciate this inescapable mental mooring; and still rarer are the people who would volunteer to go through the sacrifices necessary for attempting to correct this human and social defect. Children are angelic, they are wiser too. Tolstoy new better than us. The question of banning child labour is not the issue here we can reasonably do justice to: what however we can do is to give a little more compassion and understanding for these little members of our society at no extra cost on our family budget.

fight social evils urged By Staff Correspondent Hussein, Chairman, South

The Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Shaikh Razzaque Ali yesterday called for objective journalism coupled with responsibility by the mediamen of the country for improving the social values.

their mighty pen fearlessly while being objective to remove all social evils," he said. The Speaker was inaugurat-

"The journalists should use

ing a seminar on "Media Cooperation in South Asia - Prospects of Cooperation" at the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) in the city yesterday.

Presided over by Chairman, PIB Gazi Shamsur Rahman, the seminar was also addressed by special guest Barrister Moinul

Asian Working Journalists Coordination Council, Reazuddin Ahmed, Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) Secretary General Amanullah Kabir and PIB Director General Dr Tawhidul

Speaking on the role of newsmen in consolidating democracy in the country, the Speaker suggested that the journalists through their investigative reports should unveil wrong doings in an objective manner.

Editors and senior journalists took part in the discussions at the working sessions of the seminar.



A sequence of the Nakshi Kanthar Math (Field of Embroidered Quilt) presented by the artistes of BAFA at the Shilpakala Academy Auditorium in the city yesterday. Star photo

Salam assures allout help to better lot of slum dwellers

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder yesterday assured all possible government assistance to improve the living conditions of the slum dwellers in various cities and towns of the country, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating a daylong orientation workshop on the slum development project under Local Government Engineering Directorate at the Local Government auditorium here at Agargaon.

Barrister Salam Talukder, quoting surveys, said there were about one crore people in the country who live in the slums. He said the slum dwellers

were nearly 10 per cent of the country's population, of which 60 per cent live in various slums of the Dhaka metropolis. If the problems of the slum dwellers in Dhaka can be removed, the Minister said, the country would be able to overcome 60 per cent of the prob-

Presided over by Secretary of the Local Government Division Mushfigur Rahman, the inaugural session of the workshop was addressed, among others by Khulna city Mayor Sheikh Taiebur Rahman, UNICEF official Dr. Delwar Ali Khan, Project director of the slum development project J R Choudhury, Chief Engineer of LGRD Q Siddique, Dinajpur Paurashava Chairman Mohsin Ali and Barisal municipality Administrator Ahsan Habib Kamal. A number of paurashava Chairmen and ward commissioners from Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chittagong and Khulna attended the workshop.

Salam Talukder, who explained government's utmost sincerity to mitigate the sufferings of the slum dwellers, observed that government would always want to see these problems solved. But he pointed out that such a problem could not

be solved by any government alone unless the task was jointly approached by various concerned quarters.

In this context, the Minister underlined the importance of involving the slum people in the slum development projects. He said without their active cooperation no such project could be made successful.

In his presidential speech, Mushfigur Rahman said that the key role in the development of slums was mainly vested on the municipalities or the city corporations and the government could only cooperate with their ventures. In this context, he pointed out that the government would extend all possible help to the municipal corporations in this regard.

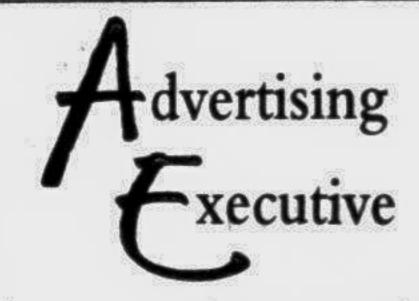
Khulna City Corporation Mayor Taiebur Rahman said that under the rule of the present government his city corporation was getting adequate fund for developmental projects.

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Obituary

Dewan Abdul Basir, aged 78, of Ita Dewan Bari, Mansurnagar, Maulvi Bazar breathed his last on 11th June at 4:30 PM (Innalillahi-wa-inna illahi rajiun). He was a retired Deputy Chief Inspector of Explosives. His Qul Khani will be held at his own Dhanmondi residence on Monday, 14th June after Asr prayers. All friends, relatives and wellwishers are requested to participate in the dua.



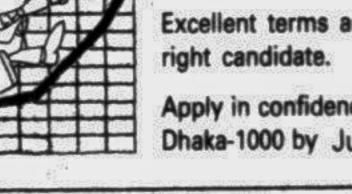
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yesterday at the conclusion of a two-day workshop on "Greenhouse effects and climatic change: An assessment of the effects on Bangladesh," organised by the Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (BUP). Also seen are: Richard Warrick (c) and Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman (right). - Star photo

Evidently, neither the woman has been soul although she might have been mindful only

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The United States Information Service (USIS) in Dhaka will hold a televised Worldnet Dialogue on "Judicial Reform" Wednesday (June 16) evening, reports UNB.

Chief Judge of the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Abner Mikva and Professor of Law at Georgetown University in Washington Paul Rothstein will discuss judicial reform.

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Dialogue June 16

Dhaka Sangbadpatra Concern sends relief for flood victims

Concern has sent emergency relief goods including chira, gur and biscuits for distribution among the flood affected people in Hobigani district, a Concern press release said here yesterday, reports BSS.

. A Concern assessment team is now visiting Jokigoni thana to assess the flood situation.

Co-op Society

The Dhaka Sangbadpatra

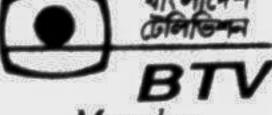
Begum Khaleda Zia presented the Gold Medal to the society President A Hai Bhuiyan

eral secretary of the society, in a statement, also expressed their gratitude to LGRD and Cooperative Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Deputy Minister A Hye, Secretary Mahe Alam, Cooperative Registrar Azizul Ilaque Bhuiyan, and president of cooperative union Salauddin, MP.

Govt permits 4 private varsities

The government has so far given permission for setting up country, Education Minister told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Mirza Azam (AL), the Education Minister said these universities are North-South University. Central Woman University. Independent University, and Science and Technical University, Chittagong.



BTV Monday

5:00 Opening announcement Al-Quran, Programme

5:10 News in Bangla of Music Samachar

6:55 Open University 7:20 Nazrul songs News in Bangla Sukh Neer 9:00 Ghare Baire 10:00 News in English

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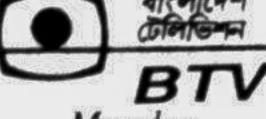
awarded Gold Medal By Staff Correspondent

Hawkers Bahumukhi Cooperative Society expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Begum Khaicda Zia for awarding it Gold Medal for being the leading cooperative society in the country, says a press release.

at a function at the Osmany Memorial Hall Saturday.

The president and the gen-

four private universities in the Barrister Zamiruddin Sircar



Cartoon: The Universe

5:35 Sports: Football 6:25

10:30 Comedy series: Murphy 10:55 Musical programme: 11:30 Khabar/The News 111:45 Closing

More reactions on budget Narayanganj Chamber of of Bangladesh expressed mixed

Commerce and Industry, while praising the budget, expressed concern over what it described as absence of protective measures for the local industries because of free import of various items also made in the country, reports BSS.

Rupali Bank Officers Association in its reaction congratulated the government for the welfare oriented and propeople budget.

Bangladesh Nagarik Adhikar Parishad stressed the need for reducing system loss in the power sector so that ultimately power rates could be reduced. It also pointed out what it said, the absence of budgetary allocation for housing sector.

Among others, Zia Parishad, Zia Health Foundation, Bangladesh Muslim League, Bangla desh Krishak Sangram Samity Bangladesh Development Forum, and Communist Party

reactions on the budget. BJMA Bangladesh Jute Mills

Hugh Brammer, a British scientist, addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club

Association (BJMA) hailed the budget saying it confirms the government's commitment to further deregulating and opening up the economy with the eventual aim of integration into the global market.

BUMA agrees with the Finance Ministry that much of the jute sector reforms undertaken by the previous regime were based on short-term political expediency rather than with a view to restoring long term financial viability. The Finance Minister in his budget speech has referred to the jute sector reforms that will be implemented by the present govern ment and which includes fi nancial restructuring, downstz ing and rationalisation of operations, privatisation, and phasing out of BJC.

Weather

Temperature may not change

By Staff Correspondent

Light or moderate rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours commencing 6 pm Sunday, Met office forecasts.

Day temperature is likely to remain mainly unchanged during the period over the country, it adds. The highest temperature of the country Sunday 35.7 degree

Celsius was recorded at Chuadanga and the lowest, 21,4 degree Celstus was reported from Sylhet. The sun sets today (Monday) at 6-47 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5.11 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in important cities and towns yesterday were: Humidity in Temperature in percentage degree Celstus

Cities/Towns 6pm 77 24.5 Dhaka 31.4 83 22.5 32.0 Chittagong 63 Rajshahi 23.8 33.3 88 92 31.5 25.4 Khulna 22.8 30.0 Barisal 31.0 23.5 Cox's Bazar 32.8 21.4 Sylhet 24.4 32.6 Dinapur 24.6 32.7 Rangpur

বস্ত্র শিল্পকে চোরাচালানী ও অসাধু সূতার ব্যবসায়ীদের কবল থেকে রক্ষা ও পুনরুজ্জীবনের জন্য মাননীয় স্পীকার ও মাননীয় সংসদ সদস্যবুদ্দের নিকট

মাননীয় শীকার ও মাননীয় সংসদ সদস্যবৃদ্ধ

আকুল আবেদন

আপনারা নিশ্চয় অবগত আছেন যে মাননিয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী দেশের বস্ত্রশীলের বর্তমান সমস্যাবলি সমাধানে ব্যাক্তিগতভাবে উল্যেগ নিয়েছেন। এ কারণেই তিনি দেশের বন্ধ শিব্ধ খাতকে "প্রাষ্ট সেইর" হিসাবে ঘোষণা দিয়ে সরকারীতাবে এর করুত্বকে স্বীকৃতি

বাংলাদেশের বন্ধ শিক্ষের অতীত ঐতিহ্য ও শৌরব বিশ্বব্যাশী স্বীকৃত। এক সময় এদেশের বন্ধ মিশর, পারস্য ও রোমে সমাদৃত ছিল। তথুমাত্র সম্রাজ্যবাদী বৃটিশ সরকারের কর নীতির কলেই বাংলার বন্ধ শিল্প ধীরে ধীরে বিলুক্তির পথে এশিরে যার এবং এক সময় দেশটি বিদেশী কাপড়ের বাজারে পরিণত হয়।

বন্ত শিল্পে বিরাজমান সমস্যাবলীঃ

(ক) ভটিকয়েক স্বার্থানেধী সূতা প্রস্তুতকারক, অসাধু মুনাকাধোর সূতার ব্যবসায়ী ও চোরাকারবারীরা সূতার ব্যবসায় অধিক মুনাকার উদ্দেশ্যে রাজ্য বৌর্ডের দুর্নীতিবাজ আমলাদের যোগসাজনে বন্ধ শিলে ব্যবহৃত মৌলিক উপাদান সূতার উপর নানা ধরনের তক্ক ও কর আরোপের মাধ্যমে সূতার ব্যবসা জমজমাট করে তুলেছে। ফলে দেশে সূতার কৃত্রিম সংকট সৃষ্টির মাধ্যমে দেশের তাত শিল, পাওয়ারপুম, শেপালাইজত টেক্সটাইল, ভারিং-ফিনিশিং, হোসিয়ারী ইত্যাদি বাততলোকে ধাংসের মুখে

ঠেলে দিয়েছে (খ) বর্তমান অর্থ বছরে সূতার উপর আরোপিত আছে ৮৫% করের বোঝা যার মধ্যে আমদানী শুরু ১৫%, ত্যাট ১৫%, ট্যারিফ ভ্যালুর ভফাৎ ৪৪% এবং বিবিধ ১.৫০%। ফলে দেশে চলভি অর্থ বছরে বৈধ পথে কোন সূতা আমদানী হয়নি বললেই চলে বরং চোরাই পথে আসা সূতা বাজারে পার্শ্ববর্তী দেশের তুলনার ৬০% অধিক মূল্যে বিক্রি হচ্ছে।

(গ) সূতা সহ অন্যান্য কীচামালের বাজারে কৃত্রিম সংকট ও অধিক মূল্যের কারণে আমালের দেশে ৫ লক তীত, ২৯০০০ পাওয়ারলুম, ৭৮ মেকানাইজড ডায়িং-কিনিশিং মিল, ৩৩৪টি হোসিয়ারী-নীটিং কারখানা, করেকশত বিভিন্ন ধরনের শাড়ী, মোজা, ছাতা, তোরালে, বেড শীট, বকরম ইত্যাদি কারখানা পুরোপুরি বন্ধ হয়ে পড়েছে। কলে বন্ধখাতের প্রায় ৩৫ শক্ষ শ্রমজীবী মানুষ বেকার হয়ে পড়েছে।

(খ) চোরাকারবারীদের চক্রান্তের ফলে বন্ধ শিমের সকল কীচামালের উপর অধীেক্তিক ও খদেশ বিরোধী ভদ্ধের চাপ কীচামালের আমদানী মূল্য জনগণের চাহিদা ও ক্রয় ক্মতার উপরে ঠেলে দিয়েছে। যা সরকারকে কর ও তত্ক থেকে বঞ্চিত করেছে। ব্য শিল্পকে চিরতরে উচ্ছেদের দুয়ারে নিয়ে পেছে এবং তীতীদের ভিক্তুকে পরিণত করেছে। বিনিময়ে সূতার চোরাকারবারী দেশদোহীরা বিশত ২০ বছরে ধনী থেকে আরও ধনী হয়েছে।

বর্তমান স্থবির অবস্থা ও বন্ধ শিল্পের দুর্গতি থেকে মুক্তি পাওয়ার একমাত্র এবং গুধুই একমাত্র পথঃ দেশের বন্ধ শিল্পে ব্যবহৃত সকল প্রকার কাঁচামাল যথা-তুলা, সূতা (তুলা ও কৃত্রিম আশ জাতীয়), যম্পাতি, রং-রসায়ন, জরি,

যন্ত্রাংশ ইত্যাদির উপর থেকে সব ধরনের কর, ত্যাট, তঙ্ক পুরোপুরি প্রত্যাহার করা। এতে ছানীর বল্লের দাম ৪০% কমবে এবং কাপডের চোরাচালানী বন্ধ হবে। রফতানা বৃদ্ধি পাবে। দেশের বন্ধ শিল্পকে এই তদ্ধ করের শিকল মুক্ত করলে আমরা নিম্নোক্ত ১৪টি বন্ধ শিল্প বাতের ১৪টি মালিক সমিতি আপনাকে এবং দেশের আপামর জনগণকে আশ্বাস দিছি যে আমাদের আওতাধীন ৩০০০ এর অধিক শিল্প কারখানা ও ৫ বক্ষ তাঁত পুরোপুরি চালু হবে। ফলে দেশে বল্লের আত্যন্তরীণ চাহিদা মেটালো সন্তব হবে; সূতা ও বল্লের চোরাচালানী পুরোপুরি বন্ধ হবে, ৩৫ শক লোকের কর্মসংস্থানের নিশ্চয়তা কিরে আসবে; তদুপরি রঙাদীমুখী পোশাক শিল্পে বল্লের চাহিদাও আর্থশিক মোটালো সহ বল্প

त्रवानीत याश्रास्य त्मन विनुन नतियान वित्मन युगा जर्कतन नक्त्य इत्व। মাননীয় শীকার ও মাননীয় সংসদ সদ্যবৃদ্ধ

বাংলাদেশের অর্থনৈতিক স্বাধীনতা অর্জনের মাখ্যমে দেশের কোটি কোটি মানুবের, মুখে হাসি কোটালোর তাপিলে আপনার বস্ত্র শিলের উপর থেকে সকল প্রকার কর ও তন্ধ প্রত্যাহার করার সিদ্ধান্ত দিলে আমরা বন্ধ বাতের নিমন্তাক্ষরভারী সকল সমিতি আপনাকে আশ্বাস ও গ্যারাতি দিন্ধি যে, আমরা তথু বন্ধ শিল্প দিয়েই বাংলাদেশের দারিদ্যা লাখৰ করে দেশকৈ সমন্ধির পথে এগিয়ে নিয়ে যেতে পারবো।

আবেদনকারী আপনারই বিশ্বস্ত ১। বাংলাদেশ হ্যাভলুম ইভাষ্ট্রিজ এলোসিয়েলন; ২। বাংলাদেশ্র শেশালহিজত টেক্টাইল মিল্স এও পাওয়ারলুম ইভাষ্ট্রিজ এসোসিয়েশন; ৩। বাংলাদেশ হোসিয়ারী সমিতি; ৪। বাংলাদেশ টেক্সটাইল ম্যানুফেকচারার্গ এও এক্সপোটাস এসোসিয়েশ ৫। বাংলাদেশ টেক্সটাইল ভারিং বিটিং ইভাঞ্জি এলোসিয়েশন; ৬। বাংলাদেশ জামদানী শাড়ী ম্যানুফেকচারাস এসোসিয়েশন; ৭। বাংলাদেশ মোজা হোসিয়ারী শিল্প সমিতি; ৮। বাংলাদেশ আভ্যন্তরীণ পোশাক ও হোসিয়ারী নিটিং সমিতি; ৯। বাংলাদেশ টেরিটাওয়েল এড লিনেন ম্যানুকেকচারার্স এড এক্সপোর্টাস এসোসিয়েশন; ১০। বাংলাদেশ প্রেড ম্যানুক্ষেকচারার্স এসোসিয়েশন; ১১। বাংলাদেশ টুইটিং মিল ওনার্স এসোসিয়েশন; ১২। বাংলাদেশ টেপ, লেইস এড ব্রেইড भगानुरक्कातार्त अत्मानिरद्यनमः >७। भार्यकेन ७ अरक्कनतिम भगानुरक्कातार्म अत्मानिरद्यनम अवः >৪। ইनलामनुद्र वक्क ব্যবসায়ী সমিতি।