

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 peers...

Objective journalism to fight social evils urged

By Staff Correspondent

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

The journalists should use their mighty pen fearlessly while being objective to remove all social evils," he said.

The Speaker was inaugurating 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 Motnul

Hussein, Chairman, South Asian Working Journalists Coordination Council, Rezauddin Ahmed, Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) Secretary General Amanullah Kabir and PIB Director General Dr Tawhidul Anwar.

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 Kanth Math (Field of Embroidered Quilt) presented by the artistes of BFAA at the Shilpakala Academy Auditorium in the city yesterday.

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 day-long 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-

lem.

Presided over by Secretary of the Local Government Division Mushfiqur Rahman, the inaugural session of the workshop was addressed, among others, by Khulna city Mayor Sheikh Taibur Rahman, UNICEF official Dr. Dewar Ali Khan, Project director of the slum development project J R Choudhury, Chief Engineer of LGRD Q I Siddique, Dinaipur 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, Mushfiqur 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 Taibur 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 illahii rajiu). 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 well-wishers are requested to participate in the dua. S-190

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USIS Worldnet Dialogue June 16

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.

Concern sends relief for flood victims

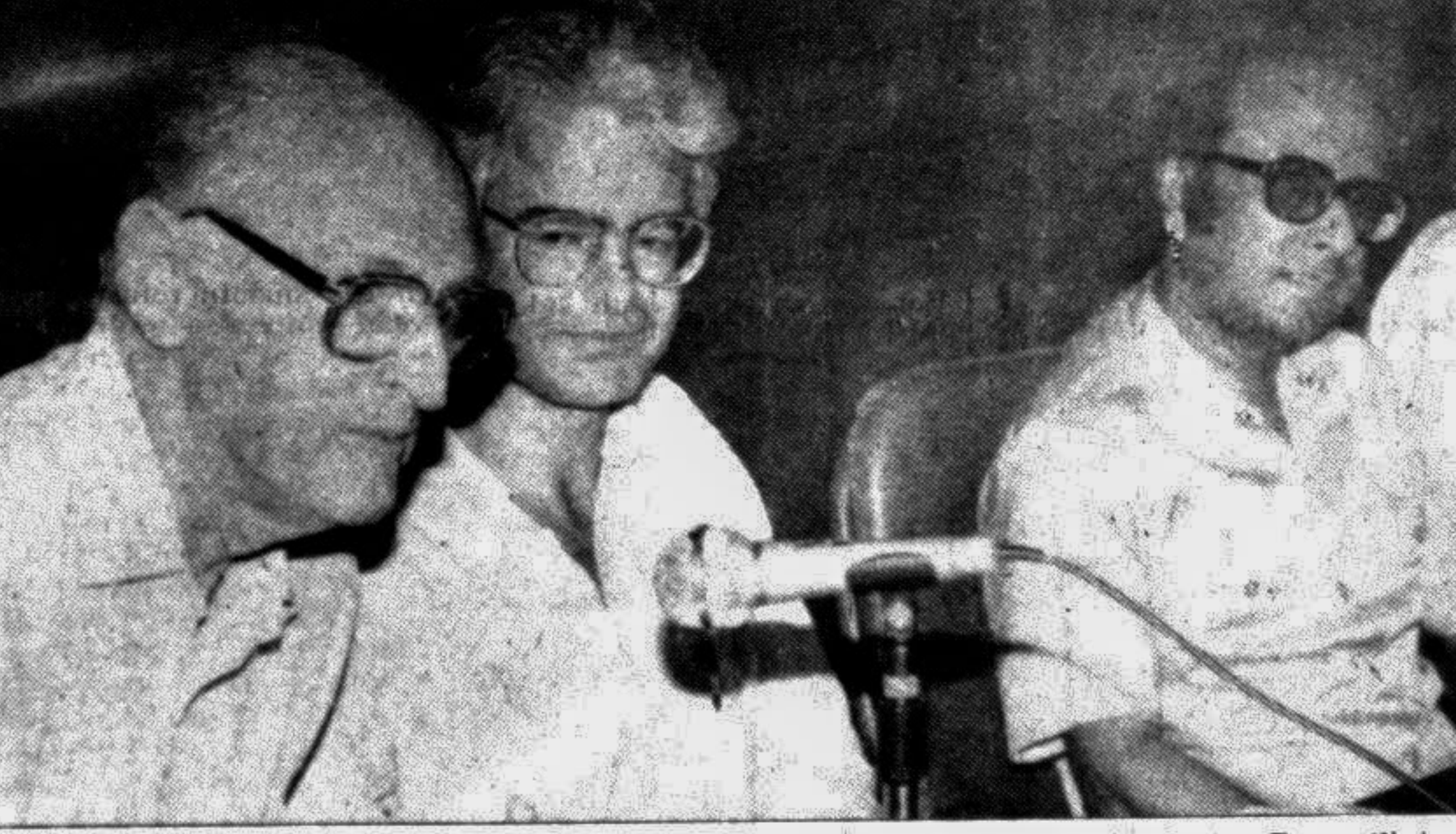
Concern has sent emergency relief goods including chira, gur and biscuits for distribution among the flood affected people in Hobgajonj district, a Concern press release said here yesterday, reports BSS. A Concern assessment team is now visiting Jokigonj thana to assess the flood situation.

Dhaka Sangbadpatra Hawkers Bahumukhi Co-op Society awarded Gold Medal

The Dhaka Sangbadpatra Hawkers Bahumukhi Cooperative Society expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for awarding it Gold Medal for being the leading cooperative society in the country, says a press release. Begum Khaleda Zia presented the Gold Medal to the society President A Hal Bhuiyan at a function at the Osmay Memorial Hall Saturday. The president and the general secretary of the society, in a statement, also expressed their gratitude to LGRD and Cooperative Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder, Deputy Minister A Hye, Secretary Mahe Alam, Cooperative Registrar Azizul Haque Bhuiyan, and president of cooperative union Salauddin, MP.

Govt permits 4 private varsities

The government has so far given permission for setting up four private universities in the country, Education Minister Barrister Zamiruddin Sircar 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.



Hugh Brammer, a British scientist, addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club 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 Kholiqzaman (right).

More reactions on budget

Narayanganj Chamber of 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. Rupail Bank Officers' Association in its reaction congratulated the government for the welfare oriented and pro-people budget.

Reactions on budget

Bangladesh Jute Mills 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. BJMA 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 government and which includes financial restructuring, downsizing and rationalisation of operations, privatisation, and phasing out of BJC.

Weather

Temperature may not change

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 Celsius 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:

Table with 4 columns: Cities/Towns, Temperature in degree Celsius, Humidity in percentage, and another column with values. Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Dinaipur, Rangpur.

Advertisement for Monowara Hospital (Pvt) Ltd. Health Card Scheme. Includes details about the scheme, health card benefits, and contact information for the hospital.

Advertisement for BTV (Bangladesh Television) Monday schedule. Lists programs like 'Opening announcement', 'News in Bangla', 'Cartoon: The Universe of Music', etc.

Advertisement for 'বঙ্গ শিক্ষকে চোরালানী ও অসাধু সূতার ব্যবসায়ীদের কবল থেকে রক্ষা ও পুনরুদ্ধারের জন্য মাননীয় স্পীকার ও মাননীয় সংসদ সদস্যবৃন্দের নিকট আকুল আবেদন'. Contains a detailed appeal and a list of names.