

Dhaka Day by Day

God's Special Gift

by Raffat Binte Rashid

Children are God's special gift. Their presence in parents' life can be the height of happiness. Similarly parents' love for a child can be an unmatched source of inspiration. But this love gets jolted when anything goes wrong. It becomes very hard for any parents to accept the fact that their child is not like the others of his age, rather he is mentally retarded. Actually such children demand more attention and love are more special than others — albeit not in a positive sense.

Bangladesh Institute for the Mentally Retarded (BIMR), established in 1977, has 250 such special children. Md. Delwar Hossain, the physiotherapy teacher of BIMR said: "The first step towards helping your child is your acceptance of the reality. The fact that your child is not going to be able to perform all the actions like any other ordinary child, is confusing and sad but the parents must be positive in their attitudes and patient in their actions," he said compassionately.

If the limitations are accepted by them, the long perilous road towards development of the child is half reached. However the other half of the road is very hard to cross. It is unlikely that a mother will have the knowledge and experience to assist the full development of her

handicapped child. The parents should realize that not only the child will develop more slowly than normal children do, but some areas of his development may be proceeding more slowly than others of his type. This slow progress discourages many," Delwar said.

Professionals like Delwar and others believe that parental involvement is vital; a professional, academic attitude alone is insufficient. There must be a tender, emotional attachment to attain better results. A mentally retarded child should not be hidden under the mother's apron, he should grow as he tries to find acceptance in society.

Parents should take them out and invite friends, make them feel wanted. Over-protection and excessive concern may only aggravate situations. The teachers and parents of the mentally retarded children should train and teach them to live independent and meaningful lives. The child should be taught self-care and social independence, including self-feeding, dressing and toileting. Society cannot be negligent of the child's rights to education as well. And thus sending such a child to school is an important decision that must be made by the parents.

"In fact the main cause of physical and mental retardation should be analysed," volunteered Delwar. He said, "These misfortunes happen when a pregnant mother, or a child's mother is ignorant of many important facts of rearing a child. For example, if during pregnancy a mother

tries to abort the foetus or takes in medicine by accident for diseases like German measles, diabetes or she is under mental stress and unhappy during pregnancy or she severely hurts herself, the child will be retarded. Then again, if the mother goes through a hard labour, or the child gets insufficient oxygen at birth, or if it's a forced delivery. There are cases of premature birth or the mother is still herself a child and also for interfamily marriages."

"In our villages a well established term for such problems are 'hatash or Nazaar' (black magic). Illiterate parents fail to understand such complicated medical terms, which actually are results of high fever during natal stage and lack of proper treatment," informed Delwar.

"Mentally retarded or physically handicapped children are no longer a taboo in our society. We at BIMR are giving the best possible care for such children. We have four departments under medical treatment, counselling, physiotherapy, medical unit and speech therapy. Among these, speech and physiotherapy are totally new concepts in Bangladesh. Physiotherapy can help a disabled child both physically and mentally to develop his or her performance. Even though such therapy for a normal child and a

retarded child differs, the main objective of the therapy is to help improve movements, expand limitations change deformity, etc."

"The concept of physiotherapy is developing in our country, if we get aid from government funds or international organizations we can be more helpful to the disabled people of Bangladesh," Delwar said.

The BIMR is offering such facilities for these children. In fact the students' ages here vary from 2-1/2 years to 50. There is a mother and child group for children between 3 to 6, children group for 6 to 8 years and special education class for the rest. At BIMR these children are taught to learn sewing, bakery, carpentry and leather work besides reading and writing.

Their biscuits and cakes are very much in demand during Christmas. A shop has been opened on the BIMR campus where useful material fashioned by these children are being sold. Leather bags, purses, hair bands, cakes, biscuits, embroidered napkins, table clothes and many other accessories are the commodities on sale.

The participation of such children should be definitely encouraged, more work and facilities should be provided for them. They are already deprived but they make an effort to beautify society, at least in such noble efforts they are superior to the drug addicts who are self-made retardards.



Teaching the mentally retarded. — Photo Mohsin

Food Secy retires

A farewell meeting was held in the Food Ministry yesterday for A T M Shamsul Haque, Secretary, Ministry of Food, who went into voluntary retirement, reports BSS.

He had a long and successful career in administration. He served as Secretary in charge of the Ministries of Information, Textiles and Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives. He also worked as member, Planning Commission and chairman, Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) before joining the erstwhile CSP (Civil Service of Pakistan), he taught in the Dhaka University.

ITAR-TASS to open office in Dhaka

Information and Telegraph Agency of Russia — ITAR-TASS will open its Bureau office in Dhaka, said an announcement here yesterday, reports UNB.

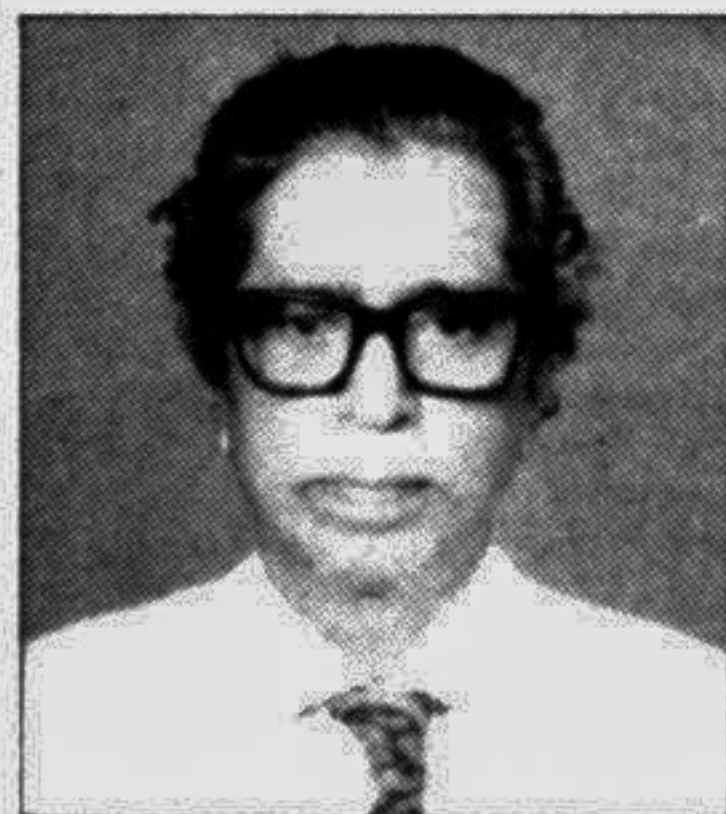
Salah Uddin Shoaib Chowdhury has been selected as the Dhaka Bureau Chief of ITAR-TASS. Salah Uddin is the editor of the weekly "Monomoy" and worked for a number of Bengali periodicals including monthly "Nipun". Chowdhury is expected to leave for Moscow on July 5, where he will be formally awarded with his new responsibility, said a press release.

The ITAR-TASS office will be fully computerized with all modern facilities. They will also establish a photo-service in its Dhaka office.

Tk 70cr IRDP loan recovered out of Tk 76 cr

A total amount of over Taka 76 crore 28 lakh has so far been given as loan to the cooperative farmers during the period between 1990 and 1992 under the former Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports BSS.

The amount of loan recovered during the same period was over Taka 70 crore and 62 lakh, the minister said in reply to a question from Awami League member Mirza Azam.



MH Khondaker's janaza today

By Staff Correspondent

The first nama-j-e-janaza of MH Khondaker will be held at 11:30 am today (Wednesday) at the High Court premises in the city.

MH Khondaker, the first Attorney General of the country and an outstanding lawyer of the Supreme Court, died on June 19. His body has been preserved at the BIRDEM for the arrival of his wife and other relatives from abroad. Mrs Khondaker returned yesterday.

The second janaza of Khondaker will be held at Baitul Mukarram Mosque after Zohr prayers and he will be buried at the Banani Graveyard today.

His Quikhwani will be held at his residence on Friday after Asr prayers at House No 64, Road No 11A, Dhanmondi (Tel: 311602).

He left behind wife, five sons and three daughters. His eldest son is a martyr of the Liberation War.

JU classes resume today

All classes and academic activities of Jahangirnagar University resume today after a month-long holy Eid-ul-Azha and summer vacation, JU sources said yesterday, reports BSS.

The results of the written tests for admission into first year honours courses will be published on July 7 and the viva-voce of qualified students will begin on July 12.



Wednesday

- 5:00 Opening announcement, Al Quran, Programme summary
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:20 Recitation from the Geeta
- 5:25 Gillette World Sports programme
- 5:50 Nibedon: Cultural programme
- 6:40 Open University
- 7:15 Tagore Songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Biswa Parikrama
- 9:00 Film: The Fall Guy
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Mukho Mukhi
- 11:30 Khabor/The News
- 11:45 Closing

Weather

Rain, gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent

Meteorological department forecast yesterday moderately heavy to heavy rain over Chittagong and Barisal divisions during the next 24 hours commencing 6 pm Tuesday.

Moderate rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind also may occur at a few places over Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions.

Rainfall was recorded on Tuesday at Teknaf, Sitakundu, Tangail, Khulna, Satkhira, Jessore and Chuadanga.

The sun sets today (Wednesday) at 6:49 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5:12 am. Temperature and humidity recorded in important cities and towns on Tuesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	30.2	26.2	89	74
Chittagong	30.0	23.8	97	85
Rajshahi	32.2	25.8	93	78
Khulna	26.8	23.5	100	
Barisal	26.5	23.4	97	100
Cox's Bazar	30.5	24.5	92	88
Sylhet	31.4	24.3	97	73
Dinajpur	33.2	26.0	81	74



Bangladesh Chhatra League (M-I) staged a protest rally in the city yesterday demanding release of Pankaj Nath, General Secretary of its Dhaka University unit. — Star photo

Biswas emphasises on greater use of herbal medicine

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday stressed the need for greater use of herbal medicine side by side with allopathy with a view to expanding scope of medicare for the vast majority of the people, reports BSS.

Inaugurating a regional seminar on herbal medicine at a hotel here in the afternoon, the President said that medicare, despite earnest efforts of the government, was still limited, therefore, easy and effective means of medicare should be cultivated to reach all the people.

Organised by the Hamdard Foundation, Bangladesh, the inaugural session of the seminar was addressed, among others, by Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Ibne Kamal Yusuf, State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof MA Mannan, National Professor Dr Nurul Islam and Secretary-General of the Hamdard Foundation Hakim Mohammad Yousuf Haroon.

Hakim Mohammad Sayeed, President, Hamdard Foundation, Pakistan and Chancellor of the Hamdard University, presented the key-note speech while it was also addressed by Hamad Ahmed, Mutuwalli, Hamdard India and Abdul Awal, Secretary, Ministry of Religious Affairs.

President Biswas said that the number of doctors are not adequate in the country.

He said that the thinking of alternative medicine is getting popularity in many countries and the World Health Organisation was lending support to it.

He pointed out that the Unani and Ayurvedic systems of treatment were officially recognised in Bangladesh and, therefore, a board was formed to develop these systems. The President said that two government colleges including 10 Unani and five Ayurvedic medical colleges are now functioning under this board.

The President sought greater attention of all concerned to developing these systems and praised the activities of the Hamdard Foundation. He hoped that this seminar would contribute a lot towards flourishing of the local medicines.

Turkish envoy presents credentials

The Ambassador designate of Turkey to Bangladesh, Kutlu Ozguven, presented his credentials to President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

Accepting the credentials, President Biswas said the relations between Bangladesh and Turkey had developed steadily and were deeply rooted in common religion, shared heritage and culture.

ICAB team leaves for Bangkok today

A five-member delegation of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) led by its President M A Halim Gaznavi leaves Dhaka for Bangkok today Wednesday to attend the three day 8th conference of the ASEAN Federation of Accountants scheduled to be held from tomorrow, says a press release.

The AFA conference will be held in conjunction with the 13th national conference of Thai accountants.



NGSHIP Management Pte Ltd

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES/SHIPPERS

M. V. NGS RANGER V-5193 IMP. ROT NO. 494/93 WILL TAKE BERTH CHITTAGONG PORT ON OR ABOUT 23RD JUNE 1993 WITH IMPORT CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE FROM VARIOUS DESTINATIONS AND ALSO CONTAINERS EX-SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE DELIVERY OF GOODS IMMEDIATELY AFTER DISCHARGE SURVEY APPLICATION MUST BE PRESENTED TO US WITHIN 3 DAYS OF DISCHARGE NO CLAIM WILL BE ENTERTAINED NOR ANY LIABILITIES ACCEPTED IN RESPECT OF DAMAGE TO AND OR SHORT LANDINGS OF CONSIGNMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM STORAGE SHED. IN EVENT OF CONSIGNEES TAKING DIRECT DELIVERY SURVEY TO BE HELD AT SHIP'S SIDE ONLY.

CONSIGNMENTS NOT CLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF UNLOADING EX THE SHIP ARE LIABLE TO BE CONFISCATED AND AUCTIONED AS PER SEC. 167(8) AND SEC. 82 RESPECTIVELY OF THE CUSTOMS ACT 1969 WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE/REFERENCE.

THE VESSEL WILL LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO. 475/93 FOR SINGAPORE AND ALSO FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO EAST/WEST COAST OF U. S., CANADA, UK/CONTINENT, MEDIT. FAR-EAST/JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND PORTS.

FOR BOOKING AND OTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT GENERAL AGENTS:



Bangladesh Shipping Lines Ltd.

(A BIRCO COMPANY)

CHITTAGONG G/F Jiban Bima Bhaban, 1053 Sk. Mujib Rd., Agrabad Tel: 504313, 502123, 500793 Tlx: 633027 BDSHIP BU 633126 HRC BU Telefax: 225625	KHULNA 1, Miapara Road (FTI Moor) Tel: 21175, 25255 Tlx: 633002 HRC BU Telegram: BDSHIP	DHAKA 19/F Sena Kalyan Bhaban 195 Motijheel Com. Area Tel: 984546, 984547 Tlx: 632105 BDSHIP BU 632656 HRC BU Telefax: 883734
---	---	---

RCC announces Tk 91.33 cr budget for '93-94 fiscal

RAJSHAHI, June 22: Rajshahi City Corporation today announced a Taka 91 crore 33 lakh 25 thousand 950 annual budget for the fiscal year 1993-94, reports BSS.

Announcing the budget at a press conference, the City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu said that the government will provide Taka 57 crore and 10,000 as special grant and Taka 25 crore 45 lakh as development grant to the corporation during the fiscal year 1993-94 while the corporation will earn over Taka 7 crore 97 lakh 38 thousand as revenue.

Mayor Mizanur Rahman said that no new tax was imposed or increased for the next fiscal year.

He announced that Rajshahi city will be turned into a green

education city from July next. For this he said a five year plan has been taken up by the corporation at a cost of Taka 50 lakh to plant sapling in the city. The programme will be implemented as per guidance of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

The Mayor also said that all the roads, lanes and by-lanes of the city will be constructed during the next fiscal year. He categorically said that the work on water treatment plant for Rajshahi would start soon at a cost of Taka 135 crore provided by the Japan government. He said the corporation completed various development projects at a cost of Taka over 9 crore 40 lakh 46 thousand during the current fiscal year.

Notice of Tender

Military Engineer Services (Army)

Applications are invited by AHQ, QMG's Branch, DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt for issue of tender document, for the following works by 30 June, '93.

1. Construction of 1x10 Mrd ORs qtrs at Mirpur Cantt.
2. Construction of 1x 'B' type qtrs at Mirpur Cantt.
3. Construction of 1x4 'C' type qtrs (1st floor) at Jalalabad Cantt (with 5-storied foundation).
4. Construction of 1x10 'E' type qtrs (modified) at Jalalabad Cantt.
5. Construction of Isolation ward for existing Nursing Unit at CMH, Jalalabad Cantt.
6. Construction of 2x10 Mrd ORs qtrs at Savar Cantt.
7. Construction of 1x10 BOQ at Savar Cantt.
8. Construction of 1x8 'C' type qtrs at Savar Cantt.

MES approved Contractors may apply quoting their Class and Index number. Contractors must have VAT Registration Certificate and VAT will be recovered from the amount received on service rendered.

ISPR-37(Army)/968
DFPG/10176-17/8

G-841

TAKE A SEAT AND EXPERIENCE THE IMPORTANCE OF STABILITY & SUPPORT

MITSUBISHI LANCER

RANGS LIMITED
113-116, OLD AIRPORT ROAD, TEJGAON, DHAKA-1215
PLOT # 3, CDA AVENUE, SHOLOSHAAR C/A, CHITTAGONG