Dens of Vices

by Raffat Binte Rashid

It is a small shabby shop, Alam, the shopowner is busy making tea, his shop's special. Rickshaw pullers, drivers, passers-by and many others like them are his customers, but definitely not Alam's favourites. Their demands are usual: tea, biscuits or pan (betel leaf) and these small dealings do not interest him at all, even though his daily earnings from these customers are not bad either. But he waits patiently and anxiously for the chauffeurdriver ones, the sons of rich daddies and others like him. Their needs are special and urgent. They want drugs

From the look of the shop, it is hard to guess Ala m's inside business. Drugdealing is highly risky. There are the police, the narcotics people, the local people to consider. Bribing

them does not alw-ays work; after all not all can be: bought or satisfied. But when the profits are considered, the temptations are

too strong to give up the clandestine business. Its addiction is both ways, for the dealer the attraction for easy money, and for the customers, it's the hard habit. These drugs are imported very carefully across the borders. The lot first reaches the points located at Sayedabad bus terminal, Gabtali, Farmgate, Baridhara lake and a few other places and then those places act, in turn, as the supplying points. These places are no less discreet than Alam's own shop. The purchase centres are situated in dark alleys or behind any garage, workshop, club or cinema halls. Mostly they look like the living place of a poor salesman, offering cigarettes, biri, pan etc. The carefully disguised can fool anyone. When these deals are over, they dispose of the purchases as quick as possible to people like Alam, from where the curse reaches the customers.

Phensidyl, known as daal, because of its low effect, is the favourite among many. It is cheap, a bottle of such daal sells for Tk. 80 to Tk 90 whereas Alam procures it for Tk 45 to Tk 50 only. This syrup is usually, diluted with water or other drink before taking in. Alam has approximately 500 customers, including foreigners, on a regular basis. It is easy to calculate how much he earns by selling daal alone. No doubt this is a big business. A small pinch of heroin powder, they call it 'purias' like the homeopath medicines, sells for Tk 400 to Tk 500 each. There is an unusual way of inhaling the fumes.

The powder is placed on a piece of broken glass and then a note of Tk 1, curved exactly

Country's leading anti

smoking organisation, Adhunik

made an appeal to the

raise tax on tobacco to dis-

courage smoking in the coun-

taxes on books and educa

executive committee of the or-

ganisation at an emergency

meeting held at its office yes-

It also called for waiving

The appeal was made by the

অনুযায়ী ২৪২ জন বিজয়ীর টিকেট নম্বর নিমে দেয়া হইল

তিন লক্ষ টাকা

দুই লক্ষ্টাকা

এক লক্ষ টাকা

পচান্তর হাজার টাকা

পঞ্চাশ হাজার টাকা

পটিশ হাজার টাকা

Members of Parliament

try, reports UNB.

tional equipment.

১ম প্ৰছাৰ - ১টি:

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তয় পুরস্কার – ১টি :

৪র্থ পুরস্কার - ১টি ঃ

৫ম প্রকার - ১টিঃ

৬৪ পুরকার - ১টিঃ

Call to waive tax on books

The meeting, chaired by

Adhunik President National

Professor Nurul Islam, decided

to invite research protocols on

any aspect of tobacco. Effect of

tobacco on health, nutrition

and economy will be given

tional convention of the organ-

isation in November this year.

of the organisation through its

74 branches across the coun-

try was emphasised by the ex-

ल होती '% २ – त यना यन

বাংলাদেশ ভায়াবেটিক সমিতির দটারী '৯২ এর ড ২৫শে জুন, ১৯৯৩ ইং তারিখে সমিতির বর্হিবিভাগে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। উক্ত ছ

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বাংলাদেশ ডায়াবেটিক সমিতির

ecutive committee.

It also decided to hold na-

Strengthening the activities

like a cigarette is set to fire, and slowly as the note burns to black ashes the fumes are inhaled. Injecting morphines, or pathedrin smoking marijuana or 'ganja' have become common here. In fact a stick of 'ganja' is cheaper than many brands of cigarettes. It costs Tk. 3 only.

According to a doctor "phensidyls were used till the late 70's as a cough suppressant syrup, one spoon was enough to make a child sleep soundly for the night. But the whole bottle being gradually taken in at a time is

> surprising. Actually these give a feeling of euphoria, everything they do is fun, they have a C temporary elevation, light headedness and that's when the world becomes the best place to live in, something close to heaven they sup pose. But these cclings are all lemporary, withers away when the SHARLER drug loses

effect on the person.

"When the need for the drug is strong in his blood, he suffers from various irritations, high fever, running nose, shivering, itching and many such symptoms. Then the pain overcomes happiness. I fail to understand such fake temporary contentment and satisfactions," the doctor stated.

So does every one, these boys or girls lose their civic sense, they create any sort of public nuisance without being aware of it. They can't walk straight, think straight. In a trance, they discover the world unreal. For them, sitting beside the garbage is also fun, (the obnoxious smell perhaps is not as strong as the fumes they inhale).

Shops likes these, with young boys buzzing around are not uncommon in Dhaka now. Frustrated, girls and boys in search of easy so lutions fall into such vicious traps. Yet it's hard to believe that the future and present of our country is in the hands of thousands of such dopes.

Parents, friends, as well as society should try to help them to give up the self-annihilating habit. Drug Rehabilitation centres should be modernized and much more cooperative. It is the duty of the whole society to make

these people understand that the sound of music is real, not the colour of music, that's fantasy.

The 26th June of each year is observed as an International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. We should all work together to prevent the plague from deteriorating fur-

Ekramul Amin

laid to rest

Bangladesh Red Crescent

Society (BDRCS), who died

here Thursday night was

buried at the Banani graveyard

of the deceased was held at

the Battul Mukarram Mosque

Board of the BDRCS at a meet-

ing condoled the death of

Amin who was Treasurer of

Earlier, the Namaz-e-Janaza

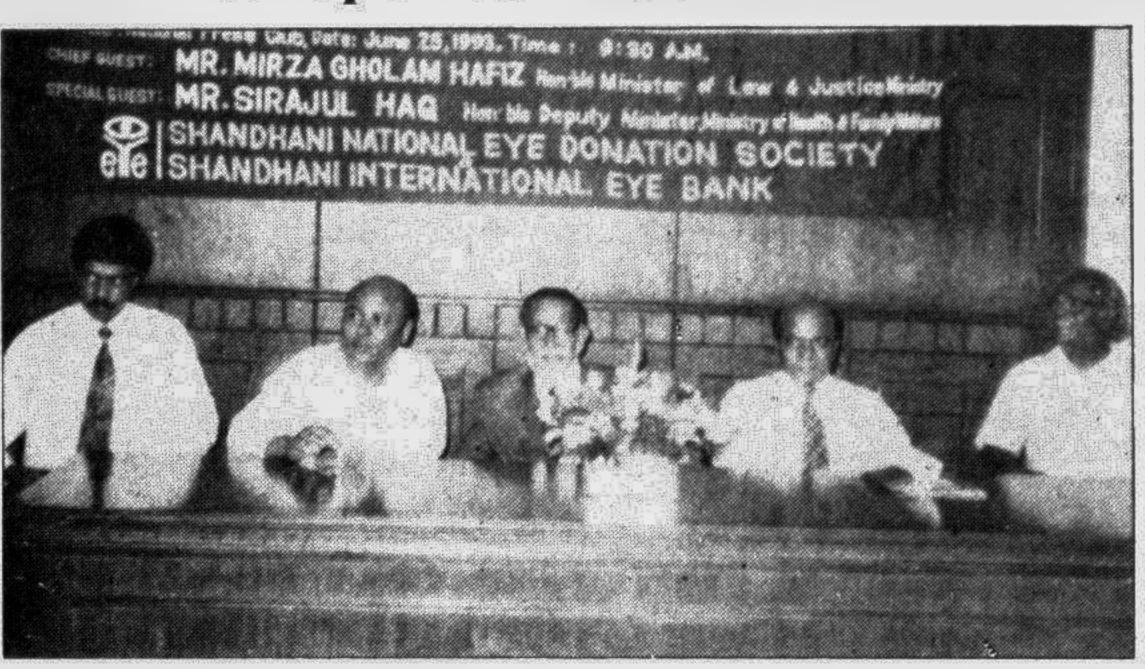
Meanwhile, the Managing

yesterday, reports BSS.

after Juma prayers.

BDRCS

Ekramul Amin, treasurer of



Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz (middle) inaugurated the biennial convention '93 of Sandhani National Eye Donation Society at the National Press Club yesterday.

Extend activities to rural areas, Hafiz asks Sandhani members

Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz, yesterday called upon the members of Shandhani National Eye Donation Society to extend cial guest. their activities to the rural areas where majority of the population live, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the third biennial convention of the Society at the National Press Club here, the Minister said that the Society should work for both prevention and curative measures so that people could get back their sight.

Chaired by Ruhul Amin Mazumdar, Convenor of the Organising Committee, the function was addressed, among others, by eminent jurist Gazi Shamsur Rahman, Director General of Health Services Prof Nurunnabi, Secretary General Dr Habibe Millat and Vice

President Dr Hassan Shahid. Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Strajul Haq. attended the function as spe-

Mirza Hafiz lauded the activities of the Shandhani and said this was very necessary in Bangladesh where millions of people are crying for light. Assuring all out cooperation

of the government, the Law Minister said "Your activities are complimentary to the efforts of the present government which is pledge-bound to serve the people."

Mirza Golam Hafiz also urged the members to make more publicity of their programmes so that vast population could know about their activities.

Referring to the enactment of law which would allow peo-

ple to donate their eyes at free will, the Law Minister said the proposal of the Society was being examined.

Strajul Haq said lauding the efforts of Shandhani the Society had been rendering tremendous service through its eye banking activities in the country. He said Shandhani was the pioneer in the field of posthumous eye donation movement in Bangladesh.

The Deputy Minister called for projecting the activities of the Society in television and radios so that people could be motivated to donate their eyes.

The speakers noted that about 30,000 children are going blind every year in the country due to vitamin "A" deficiency. A large number of them could be cured through cornea grafting, they opined.

Moyeen Khan MP

meets major leaders

in Cambodia

in Cambodia to work as a

member of parliamentarian

team for post elections con-

sultations there met senior

leaders of all the three major

parties in Cambodia in their

Phnom Penh offices, according

to a message received in Dhaka

Thursday and Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Dr. Khan had

meetings with Dr Reginald

Austin, the chief electoral offi-

cer for UNTAC, A Karim, Chief

political adviser for UNTAC as

well as Charlie Twining, the

head of US mission, Phnom

Penh. The United States has

no formal mission in Phonm

Penh since its withdrawal in

The meetings took place

last night, reports BSS.

Dr. Moyeen Khan MP now

Project disparities, Badruddoza tells poets

Deputy Leader of the Jatiya Sangsad Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday urged the country's poets and litterateurs to project the inequalities that are keeping some men away from others, reports

Addressing the publication ccremony of a bilingual collection of poems "A choice of Verse on Human Rights brought out by the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) at its premises here as the chief guest. Prof Chowdhury said the government was trying hard to reduce disparities among people.

The Deputy Leader said it was a matter of regret that champions of human rights were turning a blind eye to the elimination of Bosnian Muslims. He said this double -standard was being practised all over the world.

BTV

Saturday

Al Quran

Tripitak

programme

teenagers

News in Bangla

News in English

Drama series: Dallas Khabor/The News

Programme

Amar Desh

11 45 Closing

Opening Announcement

Recitation from the

Moner Kantha: Childrens

Cartoon: Peter Pan and the

Tarunnya: Programme for

Mati O Manush: Agriculture

Banshori: Folk songs

Programme Summary

News in Bangla

Hamdard chief meets DUVC

The visiting president of Hamdard Foundation, Pakistan, Chancellor of Pakistan Hamdard University, WHO advisor on traditional medicine and UNESCO award winner for service to humanity Hakim Mohammad Said called on Professor Emajuddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor University of Dhaka at the latter's office Thursday, reports BSS.

During the meting they exchanged views on the development of the traditional systems of medicine in Bangladesh and future collaboration among Hamdard Foundation of Pakistan, Department of Pharmacy, Dhaka University and the College of Unani and Ayurvedic systems of medicine under Dhaka University. Hakim Mohammad Said also discussed matters relating to the Hamdard Foundation, a press release said.

First class first

(Alo) secured first class first position in the M Com final examination of 89-90 from the Departm-



ment, University of Dhaka. She also stood first class first in the B Com (Hons) examination from the same department, says a press release.

Afreen is the youngest daughter of Aminul Huq, retired Director General, Land Records and Surveys and Mrs Nurjahan Huq. She hails from Chhagalnayya

of Feni district.

Afreen is also a noted singer of both Bangladesh radio and television.

Weather

Showers likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today says moderate rain or showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at most places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Dhaka divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi division with moderately heavy falls at places. The Met office says day temperature is likely to remain

unchanged during this period over the country. The country's highest temperature of 32.8 degree Celsius was recorded in Srimangal yesterday and the lowest of 24.0 degree was recorded in Khepupara.

Rainfall recorded during day time yesterday across the country were: Dhaka 44 mm, Bhola 30mm, Teknaf and Cox s Bazar 26 mm each, Rangamati 21 mm, Maijdicourt 17mm, Patuakhali 20mm, Bartsal 14 mm, and other places below

The sun sets today (Saturday at 6:50 pm and rises tomorrow (Sunday) at 5:13 am. The maximum and the minimum temperature and

humidity recorded in some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Humidity in Cities/Towns Temperature in degree Celsius percentage 9 am 6 pm 92 26.6 29.3 Dhaka 80 31.4 24.6 Chittagong 86 30.4 26.5 Rajshahi 29.1 26.6 Khulna 92 100 28 4 25.6 Barisal 25.0 Cox s Bazar 78 32 2 25 4 Sylhet 26.7 32.1 Dinapur

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