

Dhaka Day by Day

Those Mouth-watering 'Achaars'

by Parveen Anam

No housewife in this beloved place, would dream of serving a meal to her family or guests, without an accompaniment of the most delicious pickles, set out lovingly in advance, on the dining table. The knowledgeable will inform you that chefs in modern lands are offended if a guest will ask for a sauce to accompany the food. But the Bengali cuisine is definitely enhanced by the accompanying 'chutneys' and 'pickles' thoughtfully made by the mistress of the house or the grandmother, who probably has more time on her hands than the hard-pressed housewife.

It is a matter of great pride and privilege for the Dhakaitte, to serve her guests chutneys she has taken ages to prepare and perfect. The seasons is now just over for the raw mangoes, which are one of the most perfect ingredients for the pickles and chutneys. It takes days for a housewife, to make a bottle of pickles. The mangoes has to be just the right size and texture, the spices prepared days in advance and the mustard oil or vinegar mostly used for this delicious side dish, is vital, as any Dhaka housewife will haughtily inform you. She would go up in arms at the drop of a hat, if she were to be asked to settle for anything less than the most perfect of any of these. Her efficiency would be questioned and her culinary talents at risk. She will go to any lengths, to procure each and every item, to make the most perfect pickle and chutney, to be served with flourish and pride to her honoured guest and family.

But then, mangoes are not the only 'raw material' used for her pickles. She will make pickles out of raw olives and the most mouth-

watering pickles and chutneys of raw 'amra' golden apple and 'amloki'. It is fascinating to think how the Dhakaitte will manage to make a delicious chutney out of just about anything and how the imagination of the Dhaka housewife, will know no bounds, to keep her table adorned with the most delicious chutney.

It is a tradition handed down for generations and many a 'mistress of the house' will jealously guard her secret of a pickle or 'achaar' she has been taught by her grandmother. The 'achaar' made with big red chillies, stuffed with spices prepared with great care, is an item which many do not know how to make any more, and those who do, protect their secret most zealously.

Of course, the enterprising Bangalee has now come up with pickles commercially and there is no lack of pickles available in stores and shops. They cater for practically all demands and tastes and many a Dhakaitte, hard pressed for time, will happily rush off to the stores to buy his monthly ration of pickles. The home-made ones definitely take precedence over the ones purchased from the stores which are mass produced and hence looked down by the more discerning Dhakaitte, but certainly welcomed by the busy housewife. Because at the best of times, it takes anything upto a month for a bottle of 'pickles' to be well seasoned and ready for the table. It has to be put out in the sun, not spoiled by rains, of which we have enough now, and also not to be contaminated in any way at all. It's a serious business, this business of 'achaar making' and not to be taken lightly at all.



Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding release of Prof Golam Azam. — Star photo

Tk 1722 cr interest on loans waived

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday informed the Jatiya Sangsad that different nationalised banks and financial institutions had waived Taka 1721.74 crore interest on various loans from March 1, 1991 to April 30, 1993, reports BSS.

In a written reply to a question from Treasury Bench member Begum KJ Hamida Khanam, the Finance Minister

said Krishi Bank had waived Taka 887.05 crore interests, Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank Taka 288.90 crore, Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha Taka 174.54 crore, Janata Bank 162.99 crore, Sonali Bank Taka 103.75 crore, Agrani Bank Taka 61.87 crore, Shilpa Bank Taka 19.13 crore, ICB Taka 10.36 crore,

Rupali Bank Taka 9.04 crore and House Building Finance Corporation Taka 4.91 crore

during the same period. Responding to another question from Jatiya Party member Shah M Rafiqul Bari Chowdhury, the Finance Minister told the Jatiya Sangsad that the disbursement of agricultural loans amounted at Taka 744.98 crore from July 1, 1992 to May 31, 1993 which was Taka 38.89 crore higher than those of the corresponding period of the previous year.



Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman speaking at a AIBS (American Institute of Bangladesh Studies)-CDRB (Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh) seminar on "Faculty Development: Capacity Building in Social Science Research" held Saturday at WVA auditorium. William B Mailam, US Ambassador in Bangladesh (extreme right) and Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley (2nd from right) seen in the picture. — Star photo

Biswas, Khaleda greet president of Venezuela

President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday greeted Dr Carlos Andres Perez, President of Venezuela, on the independence day of his country, reports UNB.

In a message on the occasion, President Biswas wished him personal wellbeing and the friendly people of Venezuela progress and prosperity.

In a separate message of felicitation, Begum Zia also wished him good health and happiness and the friendly people of Venezuela continued peace, progress and prosperity.

Tree plantation programme launched in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, July 4: Tree plantation programme has been launched in the district by the government, semi-government and other organisations with effect from the first day of the week, reports BSS.

The district administration has taken up a decision to plant seventy lakh saplings of various timber and fruit bearing trees in seventy-one unions of the district under social tree plantation programme.

Officials have already started motivating people and Union Parishad chairmen and members to plant saplings along the roads and in the premises of the government offices and along the educational institutions.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan yesterday inaugurated the tree plantation programme in Nowabganj thana by planting saplings on the Kharsur-Benukhali road.

The programme is part of the countrywide tree plantation drive that began on Saturday.

The thana administration has undertaken the programme for planting 60,000 saplings in the area through 14 union councils, 24 high schools and 90 primary schools besides the thana administration in the current year.

Railway deficit comes down to Tk 90 cr

The deficit of Bangladesh Railway has been estimated at Taka 90 crore during 1992-93 as against Taka 150 crore during 1989-90 as a result of some pragmatic steps taken for the rehabilitation of the railway sector, reports BSS.

The deficit of Bangladesh Railway, which was making profits till early 1980s, was only Taka four crore during 1982-83, the source said the steps, undertaken to improve the efficiency of railway include voluntary and normal retirement of about 15 thousand surplus employees by 1998-97. A total of 9500 employees have already gone on retirement, creating a favourable impact on expenditure of railway, the source said.

Other steps to reduce expenditure in the railway include restriction on all types of overtime and introduction of telecommunication system of its own for reduction of expenditure under the telecommunication head.

It has put emphasis on long distance passenger service and increased container transportation. Besides, the railway has decided on the formation of a coordination committee at local levels to check travelling without ticket.

Besides, the authority has

decided disposal of scrap and unnecessary goods and commercial utilisation of surplus railway land. The system of issuance of complimentary passes has been abolished and steps for realisation of outstanding dues from different organisations have been strengthened.

Govt firm to eradicate illiteracy by 2000: Sircar

The government has taken proper steps for restoring academic discipline on the campus through holding examinations and publishing results in time, said Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar, reports UNB.

Speaking as chief guest at a reception at Fazlul Haq Womens' College here yesterday, he said the government had already taken pragmatic steps for eradicating session jam.

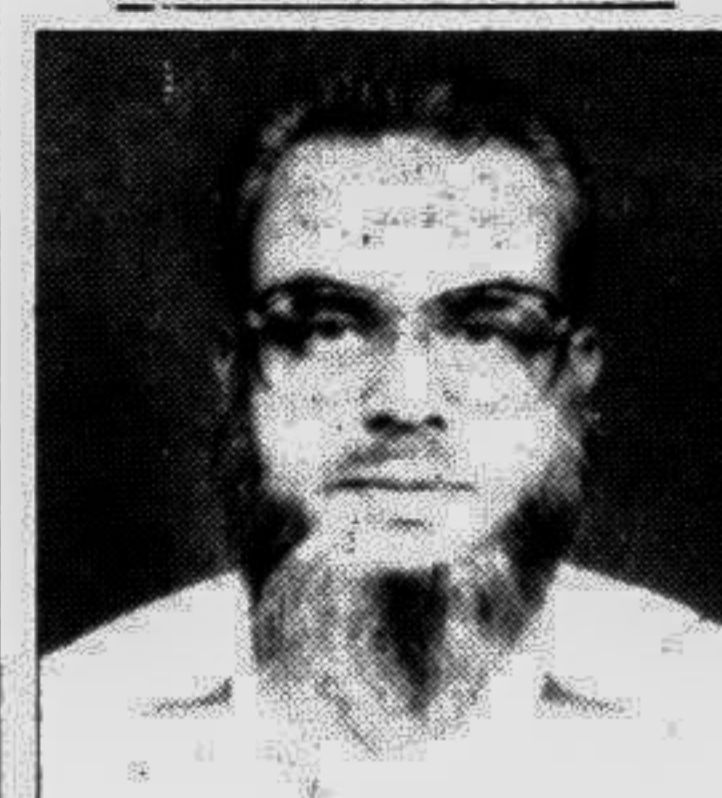
The BNP government is totally committed to eradicating illiteracy from the country by the year 2000, the Education Minister told the function.

Housewife commits suicide

A housewife, Noorjahan Begum (18) allegedly committed suicide Sunday morning by hanging herself to the ceiling fan of her residence at 16/1 Moulavirtek in Khilgaon in the city.

The cause behind her tragic death could not, however, be ascertained so far, police said. Noorjahan was the wife of Ruhul Amin.

A case of unusual death has been filed with the Sabujbag thana in this connection.



Mohibuddin new VC of Shahjalal University

From Our Correspondent Professor Syed Mohibuddin Ahmed has recently joined the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet as the new Vice-Chancellor. He replaced Professor Sadruddin Ahmed Chowdhury who completed his 4-year term.

Born in 1941, Syed Mohibuddin Ahmed passed the D. Sc(Civil Engineering) in 1978 from the Laval University, Quebec, Canada. Prior to joining here, he was the professor of Civil Engineering and the Director of the Institute of Flood Control and Drainage Research (IFCDR). Since December, 1988 he has worked in the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).

A Life-Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB). Professor Mohib has about 20 publications in different national and international journals on Engineering.



Monday

- 5-00 Opening announcement, Al-Quran, Programme summary
- 5-10 News in Bangla
- 5-20 Recitation from the Bible
- 5-25 Sports programme
- 6-10 Desh-o-Biggan
- 6-35 Open University
- 7-10 Nazrul songs
- 8-00 News in Bangla
- 8-30 Janamat
- 9-00 Special programme: Eto Barasha
- 10-00 News in English
- 10-30 Comedy series: Murphy Brown
- 11-00 Musical programme: Disco Rally
- 11-30 Khabor/The News
- 11-45 Closing

Weather

No change in temperature

By Staff Correspondent

Light to moderate rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Chittagong and Rajshahi divisions and at one or two places over Barisal and Khulna divisions during the next 24 hours commencing 6 pm Sunday, Meteorological Office forecast.

Weather will remain mainly dry over Dhaka during the period, it said.

Day temperature is likely to remain unchanged across the country during the period.

The sun sets today (Monday) at 6:50 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5:16 am.

Temperature and humidity recorded in important cities and towns on Sunday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree		Celsius Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	32.3	27.2	74	78
Chittagong	32.1	26.0	74	79
Rajshahi	34.0	26.5	84	75
Barisal	31.6	26.1	86	90
Cox's Bazar	31.5	26.0	77	85
Sylhet	32.4	24.0	82	82
Dinajpur	33.0	27.2	85	72

US role in uplift of Bangladesh lauded

Speakers at a discussion here on the occasion of National Day of the United States of America termed United States as the best friend of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The discussion, organised by the International Pen-pals Club, was presided over by its President Mahbubuddin Chowdhury, MA Mattin, Prof. Md. Shamsul Huq, Md. Sharif and Afiaz Ahmed participated in the discussion.

The speakers appreciated the role of the United States for the co-operation in the economic uplift of Bangladesh.

They said the role of US Task Force in distributing relief goods and clean water in 1991 cyclone devastating areas in Chittagong was highly commendable.

Tariq off to Athens

Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Minister Tariqul Islam left for Athens yesterday on way to Cyprus to attend the 4th meeting of Commonwealth Ministers responsible for Women's Affairs, reports UNB.

93,172 grams of gold seized at ZIA in 4 months: JS told

Customs authorities seized 93,172 grams of gold from Zia International Airport (ZIA) in four months till April 30, 1993, parliament was told yesterday, reports UNB.

The seized gold was deposited at the Bangladesh Bank and at the Customs House. State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman said replying to a question from Rahmat Ali of Awami League.

50,000 acres come under aus cultivation in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, July 4: Fifty thousand acres of land have been brought under aus cultivation in the district during the current season, according to BSS.

Agriculture department sources say forty six thousand acres of land have been brought under sugarcane and nine thousand acres under jute cultivation in the district.

The prospect of these crops is bright, the source said.

IN THE COURT OF SUB-JUDGE AND ARTHA RIN ADALAT NO-4, DHAKA

TITLE SUIT NO-1/93

Al Baraka Bank Bangladesh Limited

Mirpur Road Branch
33, Mirpur Road
P.S.-Dhanmondi
Dist-Dhaka

Plaintiff.

- Vs -

1. Khaled Mosaraf
S/o. Ramij Uddin Sarkar
of Sarkar Bari
Uttar Kalshi
Mirpur
Dhaka.
2. Salim Ahmed
S/o. Zahiruddin Ahmed
of Plot No-64/65
Block-A, Road No-5
Avenue-5, Section-6,
Mirpur, Dhaka.
3. Ramijuddin Sarkar
S/o. Khalilur Rahman Sarkar
of Sarkar Bari
Uttar Kalshi
Mirpur
Dhaka.

Defendants.

The above Title Suit has been filed against you on 13-1-93 by the Plaintiff Al Baraka Bank Bangladesh Limited for realisation of Tk. 22, 27, 119.00 (taka twenty two lacs twenty seven thousand one hundred nineteen point zero zero) only upto 31-12-1992. You are directed to appear in the above mentioned suit in the learned court on 9.7.93 at 10.00 A.M. on either in person or through an authorised attorney on failure of which the suit would be heard ex parte.

By Order,

Md. Khurshed Alam Meer.

Sherestadar

Sub-Judge and artha Rin
Adalat No-4, Dhaka. Date. 28.6.93



Bangladesh Oil Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)

Petro-centre, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

Notice For Appointment Of Consultant For Maddhapara Hard Rock Mining Project

Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) invites proposal for consultancy services to be provided to Petrobangla for implementation of Maddhapara Hard Rock Mining Project. The selected firm is expected to assist in concluding a Turn-Key contract between Petrobangla and a foreign mining contractor for shaft sinking by freezing method, underground development of road-ways and hardrock (Room and Pillar Method), pit top and pit bottom development, haulage, ventilation and pumping systems. Assignment will also include among others checking and approving of the machinery to be supplied and also of the design; supervision of the mine development works and ancillary facilities related to produce about 1.65 million tons of hardrock per annum. The offers from the internationally reputed mining consulting firms having at least 10 (ten) years experience specially in shaft sinking by freezing method under single stage two envelope system will be received by Petrobangla upto 12.00 Noon Bangladesh Standard Time on 22-08-1993. A complete set of documents containing Terms of Reference and other relevant information, may be purchased by the interested consulting firms from the Accounts Division of Petrobangla, Petro-centre, 3, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215 on cash payment (Non-refundable) of Tk. 4000/= (Four Thousand) or US \$ 100.00 per set during the office time upto 21-08-1993. The offer in the prescribed forms with supporting documents must reach the Director (Mines & Minerals), Petrobangla, Petro-centre, 3, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Telephone: 814952, Telex: 642765 HNXN BJ within 12.00 Noon Bangladesh Standard Time on 22-08-1993. Petrobangla reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason.

Li Col Nazimuddin Ahmed (Retd.)
Director (Mines and Minerals)

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