

Dhaka Day by Day

Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is

by Shamsad Mortuza

"Jeler Tala Bhangbo/Omuk Bhatke Anbo... Breaking open the jail we'll bring our brother out," the chanting of slogans brought a different tune to the busy old streets of the capital.

In an instant, the place was full of pseudo-hardliners — all pledge-bound to liberate their senior comrade, who was then at the state guest house. As the minibus carrying the processionists parked opposite to the main gate of the Central Jail at Nazimuddin Road, the young men, numbering 20 to 30, got off with their defiant look. Naturally, amidst such helter skelter, the jail guards on duty were supposed to be alert. But in contrast, they remained as indifferent as ever. Only one asked: "Which party?"

And as if the youths understood what the spectators were thinking, they began to yell... shera-dal (best party)... dal. Enough to quench the curiosity of all.

Interestingly, instead of any violent move there was quite a debate on the part of the activists: some went to the nearby confectionery, some for smoke, some for a little shade to protect themselves from the sun, only one harum-scarum looking leader with two underlings approached the guards. A beckon was enough to draw the attention of the pot-bellied man in khaki, and there was a deal. "There ten-taka notes are

enough to arrange a meeting with any of the captives," chuckled one onlooker adding meaningfully, "well... except one."

We shared a common laugh at the cost of the autocratic guest of democracy.

"You can also send anything inside that high wall through that massive iron gate and by those men... unless it is a hacksaw blade hidden in an umbrella," the onlooker added.

A deal was made and the gang moved ahead further from the main gate to an exterior iron bar where the desired prisoner is called on for a meeting.

"What is this?" asked one constable pointing out that the money was not enough to send in the foods inside. "I will give you more the next time... first let me see, what happened to the tips I gave last time." I came across the conversation at a snacks shop near the jail gate. "Everything is possible if you can just supply the tiger brand watermarked paper to these officially unofficial courier service. Not only can one

arrange a meeting, one can also send goods (and foods) inside the jail for money. These people simply lighely with the addition of money, proving all known chemistry wrong, confided one member of the agitating group. True, the guards at the jail gate are people's servant. But the way money holds sway over their normal duty is a cause for concern.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia signing the condolence book in the Belgian Embassy here following the death of the Belgian King Baudouin. Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman looks on. —PID photo

Khaleda signs condolence book

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia signed the condolence book at the Belgian Embassy here yesterday expressing her grief at the death of King Baudouin of Belgium, reports BSS.

"I am deeply grieved at the death of King Baudouin of Belgium," the Prime Minister wrote.

Begum Zia also wrote "in his death Bangladesh has lost a distinguished friend and the world a great personality".

The Prime Minister prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman and Belgian Ambassador in Dhaka Xavier Van Migem were present.

World Press Photo show begins

The 13-day World Press Photo exhibition began yesterday under the auspices of Dyik picture gallery here, reports BSS.

Deputy Leader of the House Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad jointly inaugurated the show in which 152 news photos on recent international issues from throughout the world are on display.

Speaking on the occasion Prof Chowdhury urged the country's photo journalists to depict the courage and confidence of the people here in facing the adverse situation and the excellent diversities of the nature and culture of Bangladesh through their cameras.

Prof. Chowdhury urged the photo journalists to develop their professional skills to achieve the international standard in the presenting the country in the world arena.

Azad said photography is the most objective medium to project the process and events of society.

Essay contest

Bangladesh Education Foundation, an organisation dedicated to improvement of academic standard, has arranged an essay contest for students, teachers and guardians of college and university levels, reports UNB.

The topic of the competition is "The Role of Students-Teachers-Guardians and the Government in Improving Academic Standards and Resisting Terrorism".

The awards for the first, second and third places will be given at a function, to be held in the last week of September.

'Dhaka has potential to lead global fish market'

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh has tremendous potential of being a leader in the world market of shrimps and fisheries. "Exports in this sector could even outstrip the volume of garments exports within a few years."

This was revealed by A H Mofazzal Karim, Secretary of Textiles and Deputy Chairman of Saudi-Bangladesh Industrial Company Ltd (SABINCO) while addressing a gathering of industrialists and mediators on the occasion of Fish Fortnight at a city hotel yesterday.

The SABINCO which was launched seven years ago as a joint venture investment company of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh has attached maximum priority to the development of shrimp and fisheries sector. SABINCO has approved financial assistance to six shrimp culture projects which are in operation and over a dozen projects are in the pipeline.

SABINCO's assistance to the project entrepreneurs had led to remarkable increase of yield in shrimp and fish production, the Deputy Chairman of the Investment Company informed. Previously the per acre production of shrimp was between 50

to 100 kg. Presently, the shrimp production level in the SABINCO financed projects ranges from 1200 kgs per acre per crop to 2200 kgs per acre per crop. Chances are, the yield could be raised to 3000 kgs or more in future. It may be mentioned that the current national production of shrimps is nearly 18,000 metric tons yearly. SABINCO projects contribute substantially not only in the production of shrimps but also in the production of quality fish feed like shrimp feed, catfish feed and other fish feed.

The Deputy Chairman of SABINCO suggested that Bangladesh restrict to semi-intensive shrimp cultivation and not attempt hyper-intensive shrimp culture as in countries like Taiwan, Thailand and China because it gives rise to tremendous pollution.

Several entrepreneurs also described the problems and prospects of their projects.

Those who spoke on the occasion included Nizamuddin Mahmud Selim of Pioneer Hatcheries, Ifthekar Ahmed of Dhaka Fisheries Ltd, Khalilullah of Satkhira Hatcheries, Mahmudul Hoq of Faridpur Association, and Zafar Sadek.

BISF sets record in production, sale

Bangladesh Insulator and Sanitaryware Factory Ltd (BISF), a prospective enterprises of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) set a record production and sale during the 1992-93 fiscal year.

The managing director of BISF AEM Ishaque yesterday told BSS that it had produced the highest ever 2,327 tonnes of sanitaryware and 1,03,785 square metres of tiles during the period.

"All these were sold both at home and foreign markets," he said, adding export of 80 tonnes of sanitaryware and tiles to Russia had fetched 1,02,000 pound-sterling during the period.

Ishaque also explained the factory had made a record profit of Taka 3.99 crore and contributed to the national exchequer Taka 5.37 crore during the 1992-93 fiscal year breaking all previous records since its inception in 1981.

The chairman of BCIC Wasek Al-Azad ruled out the possibility of its selling out to the private sector and said a complete BMRE of the factory would be undertaken from January next for diversification of its products as well as increasing exports.

According to BCIC sources, the BISF has earned a total profit of Taka 16.44 crore and paid Taka 21.41 crore as VAT, customs and other duties to the national exchequer during the last six years.

BCU demands free education upto class eight

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) yesterday demanded turning the Jagannath and Eden University Colleges into full-fledged universities.

The BCU in a press conference in the afternoon also demanded free education upto class eight.

The conference held at the Madhu's Canteen at the Dhaka University.

Scope for higher education in Russia/ Ukraine

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Teachers and employees of Jahangirnagar University brought out a silent procession on the campus yesterday in protest against the armed vandalism on July 29. — Star photo

BNP workers urged to uphold spirit of War of Liberation

The Deputy Leader of the House in Jatiya Sangsad Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said Sunday that the spirit of the Liberation War was to ensure improving the lot of the people, reports BSS.

Addressing a gathering of the BNP Dhaka City Sutrapur unit at Mill Barrak Petrol Pump premises, he also called upon the party workers to uphold the spirit of Bangladeshi nationalism.

Prof Anis Waiz joins as BMC Principal

Major General Anis Waiz (Retd) who retired recently as Consultant Physician of Bangladesh Armed Forces has joined Bangladesh Medical College (BMC), the first private medical college of Bangladesh, as Principal and Professor of Medicine, says a press release.



Prof Anis qualified MBBS in August, 1958 from Dhaka Medical College. He joined the Army Medical Corps in 1959 and became a specialist in Medicine in 1963 from Armed Forces Medical College Rawalpindi (Pakistan). He became the Chief Physician of Combined Military Hospital (CMH), Dhaka in 1978 having obtained the MRCP the previous year. He was appointed Consultant Physician of the Armed Forces of Bangladesh in April, 1982 the post he held till retirement.

Dhaka to get Tk 18.8cr Tokyo grant for multi-purpose cyclone shelters

Japan will provide a grant assistance of 495 million yen equivalent to about Tk 18.8 crore to Bangladesh for construction of 10 multipurpose cyclone shelters in southern coastal districts, reports UNB.

Japan and Bangladesh signed here yesterday an Exchange of Notes concerning the Japanese Grant Aid Project for construction of the shelters.

Shigeo Takenaka, Ambassador of Japan in Bangladesh, and Dr Sadat Hussain, Additional Secretary, Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance, initialled the notes on behalf of their respective governments at the fifth Japan-Bangladesh Local Task Force meeting in Dhaka this morning.

Two of the shelters will be built in Chittagong district, four in Cox's Bazar and Noakhali each. All construction work is expected to be completed in one year.

The cyclone shelters to be constructed under this grant are designed to protect the lives

of some 17,000 people from tidal waves of 5-7 metre high and winds of 60 metres per second during severe cyclones.

Other times, when the shelters are not in need, they will be maintained and utilised mainly as school buildings, providing primary education to a total of 3,000 students living in the districts.

The project is designed in line with the Master Plan on Multi-purpose cyclone shelters conceived jointly by World Bank and UNDP which proposes the construction of 2,500 new shelters by 2002 for the protection of a total of 6.35 million people residing in the High Risk Areas vulnerable to cyclones.

BNP city unit meet held

An emergency meeting of the city unit of the BNP held here Sunday night formed eight sub-committees to make the conference of the Dhaka Metropolitan unit to be held on August 9 a success, reports BSS.



Tuesday

5.00	Opening announcement
	Al-Quran
	Programme summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.20	Recitation from the Gesta
5.25	Esho Para Shikhi: Mass education programme
5.55	TV debate competition: Shaheed Smriti Hall (BUET) VS Dhaka Medical College
6.55	Open University
7.25	Sangeeta: Modern songs
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Drama serial: Janmabhum
10.00	News in English
10.30	Film: E N G
11.30	Khabar/The News
11.45	Closing

Weather

Day temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast valid for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday) says, light to moderate rain or thunder-showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Khulna, Barisal Dhaka, Chittagong and Rajshahi.

Met office says, day temperature is likely to fall by one to two degree Celsius over the country.

The country's highest temperature of 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded in Srimongal and lowest 22.7 degree Celsius was recorded in Rangamatli.

The sun sets today (Tuesday) at 6:40 pm and rises tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5:29 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in the major cities and towns of the country were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	31.4	27.4	82	81
Chittagong	32.3	27.0	76	83
Rajshahi	32.8	26.8	82	79
Khulna	32.2	27.2	81	80
Barisal	31.8	26.2	85	77
Sylhet	33.5	26.2	88	81
Cox's Bazar	31.0	26.4	85	93



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