

Dhaka Day by Day

Brandishing Knives and Pistols in Classrooms

by Fayza Haq

Chhanda Islam, who has graduated in Family Life Studies from Mississippi, and is working for the Ph.D in the same subject has, had a full time job with Health and Human Service at Hattiesburg. As the educational co-ordinator she has two schools under her. "I do the research on what type of education will be good for the children," Chhanda explained.

"I make the curriculum for four to five year olds. When I deal with disadvantaged children it is a real problem. They learn from their families that violence is the solution to their problems. These are the black Americans and some of them threaten to slash throats and shoot teachers when they are in a temper. Wife abuse, like teen age pregnancy and suicide, is a big problem in USA. The children learn to fight from their elders. We send social workers to the homes and there is a psychologist who evaluates them. If they are beyond normal cure they are sent to the hospitals. If the parents do not have money for the doctors we provide for it. We even supply breakfast, snacks and lunch. We have qualified and experienced teachers who try to build their self-esteem and put their goals on going to college and having regular jobs in the future. Thus, we hope that crime rates will go down," Chhanda added.

"Crime," she informed, "flourishes in the big cities like Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles. The centre of our work is at Washington D.C. Through the Family Life Studies the government can save millions of dollars because the crime rates are being halted."

"A lot of people are jobless. One out of five families does not have the marriage working. The people are earning less and spending more. The children get little loving and naturally try to take out their frustrations at school. I deal with 500 children and have 10 social workers, two psychologists, five nurses, two doctors, 26 teachers and 26 teachers aids to assist me. All over USA there are millions of children are helped by this

Head Start programme," she added. "When I came back to Bangladesh and learnt about the violence in the campus I was really concerned. Chhanda remarked about her impression of Bangladeshi education system. Doing research for Head Start, the young educationist has been visiting the public schools in Dhaka. "I find the education system in Bangladesh rather inappropriate and outdated. There is one teacher for 40 or 50 students. In the Head Start schools in USA, the children initiate the learning. The teacher simply guides. We do not lecture in classrooms. They have mathematics, science, dramatic play, language and literature areas. There are a lot of books and tape recorders. The teacher says, 'Do you want to read the story?' She then says 'Do you want to narrate it yourself?' and tapes the child's version and plays back. I think children learn best when they are in small groups. In Bangladesh everything is on paper and pencil and learning is structured. A child that is scolded will feel that there is something wrong with him, and he cannot pick up the activities going on in the classroom," she said.

"Where is the initiative, creativity or responsibility in the way they teach children in Bangladesh? In USA the student takes a major portion of the responsibility for learning. Another factor for the poor standard of education in Bangladesh is that the teachers are badly paid and have few fringe benefits. At times they also lack adequate qualification," she added.

Going to the village to do further research, Chhanda was impressed by the hard work of the rural people. A citizen of USA today, Chhanda will be going back with many memories and to begin life as a married woman. She hopes to ultimately get a job in one of the UN organisations so that she can do something for the third world countries. She opted for education as her field in the first place, because she wanted to do something for people in need.



Chhanda Islam

'Fish resources contribute 5 pc to national economy'

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain yesterday urged the people to be motivated towards pisciculture taking it as a permanent social movement to help build a healthy national economy, reports UNB.

"Fish not only caters protein in our daily food but also plays an important role in strengthening the national economy" he said adding that fish resources contribute five per cent to national economy and 13 per cent to export earnings.

The Energy Minister was addressing as chief guest a conference of fishermen in Daudkandi in Comilla.

It was also addressed by Planning Commission member Mesbah Uddin Ahmed, Mojibur Rahman and Abdul Latif Chowdhury, a social worker.

The Minister said nearly one crore people of the country were directly or indirectly dependant on pisciculture for their survival.

Earlier, the Energy Minister released fish fry in a lake and also planted some saplings on its bank.

The Minister also handed over a cheque of one lakh taka to the management of Dhannondi Eidgah Jame Mosque. The amount was donated by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

Badruddoza off to Singapore

Deputy Leader of the House Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury left Dhaka for Singapore yesterday, reports UNB.

He is expected to return on Sunday.

Ctg Press Club polls Aug 28

CHITTAGONG, Aug 13: The biennial election of the management committee of Chittagong Press Club will be held on August 28, reports BSS.

According to a press release, a meeting of the management committee was held today at the Press Club with committee chairman Mainul Ahsan in the chair.

The complete election schedule was also announced at the meeting.

New factories demanded in north zone

The newly elected office-bearers of Rajshahi divisional committee of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia last night at her Sugandha office, reports BSS.

The office-bearers first introduced themselves to the Prime Minister and apprised her of the problems prevailing in the industrial belt of the country's northern region.

They put forward seven-point demand including reopening of all closed mills and factories in Bogra, Rangpur and Rajshahi, setting up of new mills and factories in the northern parts of the country, reinstatement of the retrenched workers of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal at Rajshahi.

The Prime Minister assured the Sramik Dal leaders of looking into their problems.

Begum Zia said her government was working for the welfare of the workers and asked them to gear up production in their respective mills and factories for the interests of the country.

Workers' Party demonstration August 27

By Staff Correspondent

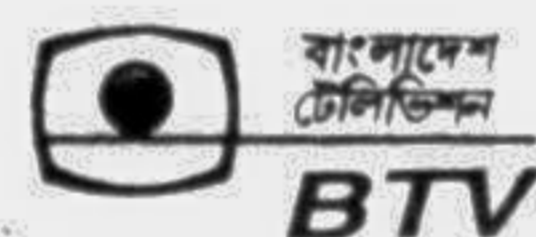
The Workers' Party will stage a demonstration in front of the Home Ministry as well as at all district and thana headquarters on August 27.

Speaking at a press conference in the capital Friday, the acting General Secretary of the party Haider Akbar Khan Rono explained that the demonstrations would be organised to register people's protest against the continued armed violence by the hoodlums belonging to BNP, Jamaat and the Sarbajhara party and also against the government's failure in nabbing the alleged miscreants who shot Workers' Party leader Rashed Khan Menon.

Rono accused the government of keeping the investigation in the 'cold storage' only to save a quarter closely associated with the ruling party.

Sohail Samad's death condoled

Members of Manabik Shahjya Sangstha (MSS) in a condolence message, expressed their deep grief at the untimely death of broadcaster Sohail Samad, says a press release.



Saturday

5:00 Opening announcement
Al-Qadran
Programme summary

5:10 News in Bangla

5:20 Recitation from the Tripitak

5:25 Amra Natun

5:50 Cartoon: Young Robinhood

6:20 Tarunnya

7:00 Banashori

8:00 News in Bangla

8:30 Mati O Manush

9:00 Abhimat

10:00 News in English

10:30 Drama series: Dallas

11:30 Khabar/The News

11:45 Closing



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia with the recipients of National Film Awards for 1989, 90 and 91 at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Tk 149 cr cooperative project underway

RAJSHAHI, Aug 13: The implementation of the five-year-long "Rural Poor Cooperative Project" at a cost of Taka 149 crore is underway in 82 thanas of Rajshahi, Natore, Naogaon, Chapainawabganj, Pabna, Sirajganj, Kushtia, Meherpur and Jessore districts, reports BSS.

The project being implemented with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB) aims at alleviating poverty of the rural masses by organising the cooperative societies.

With the head office of the project set up in Rajshahi, the

officials of the project had started working in all the thanas under the project. More cooperative societies have been formed in the meantime.

The first meeting of the project managing committee was held yesterday with project Director MR Osmani in the chair. Project officials and Sonali Bank representative were present.

Detailed discussion on banking plan of the project, cooperative activities, training of cooperators and project officials was held in the meeting.

Biennial confce of Narayanganj Mahila Dal opens

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury yesterday called upon the people to go-ahead with the development programmes of present BNP government and shun the politics of hartal and destruction. Some opposition political parties in the name of politics were giving frequent hartal and blockade programmes only to destabilise the democratically elected government, he added, reports BSS.

Addressing the biennial conference of Narayanganj district unit of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Mahila Dal at Shaheed Zia Hall as the chief guest he said the hartal and blockade mongers were damaging cars, buses, and other transport

JS body members visit Chandpur Power Centre

The convener and member of the number-2 sub committee of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry, Manzurul Hasan Munshi and Abdul Awal Mia, visited the Chandpur Power Supply Centre recently, reports BSS.

The visit was aimed at gathering information for making recommendations for reduction in the systems loss and improving the position of realisation of arrears dues from the subscribers.

During the visit a meeting was held at the Chandpur Power Supply Centre with Munshi in the chair.

Weather

No change in temperature

By Staff Correspondent

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Chittagong, Barisal divisions and at a few places over Khulna, Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Saturday).

The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The country's highest temperature yesterday of 35.6 degree Celsius was recorded in Rangpur and the lowest 22.3 degree Celsius was recorded in Rangamati.

The sun sets today (Saturday) at 6:33 pm and rises tomorrow (Sunday) at 5:35 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some of 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	32.0	27.0	86	71
Chittagong	32.5	25.0	73	80
Rajshahi	32.4	26.7	82	90
Khulna	33.9	25.4	95	77
Barisal	31.5	26.5	92	82
Cox Bazar	31.0	25.5	80	80
Sylhet	34.3	27.0	64	65
Dinajpur	33.6	27.5	81	73

Steps taken for distribution of relief discussed

A meeting of the Feni District Relief Coordination Committee was held at the Deputy Commissioner's office, recently with Whip Mahbubul Alam Tara in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed various steps taken for relief distribution and rehabilitation of the affected people of the recent flood in the district.

Mahbubul Alam Tara said the present government was very much sincere in the service of the flood affected people for which Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia herself flown in the flood affected areas of Feni to see the condition of people.

The meeting was also attended by Joyanal Abedin Hazzah, MP and Begum Halima Khatun.

So far, 450 tonnes of rice, Taka 12 lakh for agriculture rehabilitation, Taka 13 lakh as relief, Taka 25 lakh as house building rehabilitation, 1000 bundles of CI sheet and 10 tonnes of paddy seeds were distributed among the affected people, provided by the government.

One crushed under wheels

By DMCH Correspondent

A pedestrian was killed when a speeding bus ran over him at Matuail at about 12 pm Friday. The victim aged about 60 was not immediately identified and died on the spot.

The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy.

Police however seized the bus but its driver managed to escape.

A case was filed at Demra police station in this connection.

Three terrorists arrested

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested three terrorists from Shahjahanpur on Thursday afternoon.

The arrested include Md Shaiful Bari alias 'Nata Babul' (22), M G Rabbani Munna (22) and Mofibul Haq Litu (21).

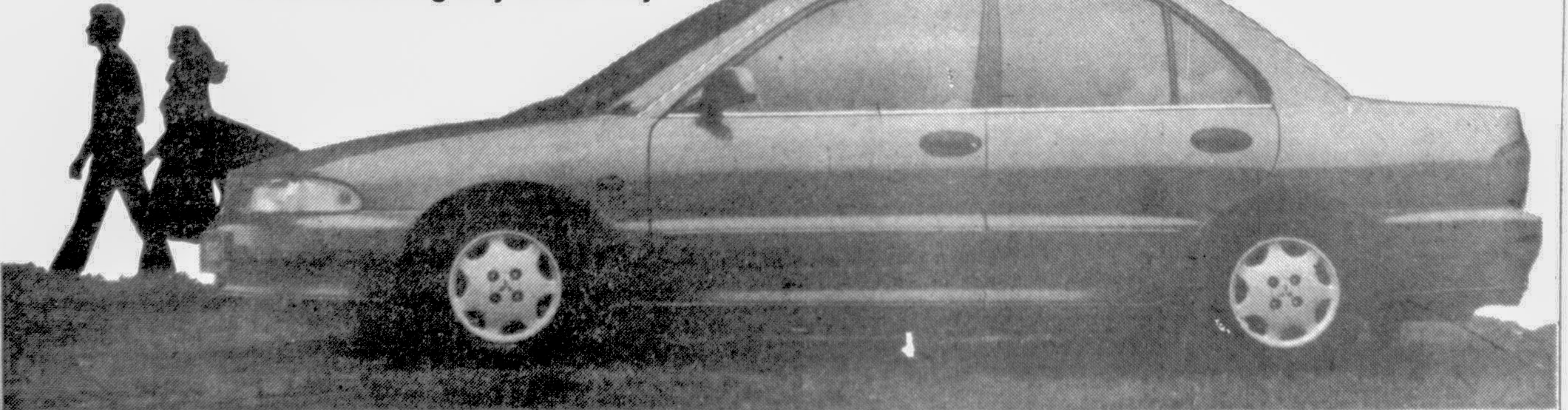
Litu was injured when he tried to flee away and was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Happy Birthday
Sacha
Happy returns of the day
Abbu/Ammu

'৭১-এর যাত্রীর উদ্যোগে
মুক্তিযুদ্ধভিত্তিক চিত্রকলা
এবং
গ্রন্থের প্রদর্শনী
১৪-২১ আগস্ট '৯৩
প্রতিদিন সকাল ১০ টা হতে রাত ৮ টা পর্যন্ত
লা গ্যালারী
৫৪ কামাল আতাউরুক এভিনিউ, বনানী

MITSUBISHI LANCER

Vacations don't come often enough to be travelling any other way



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