

Dhaka Day by Day

Dream of a Maidservant

by Barbok Shameem

For a maidservant to have her children educated is more an illusion than a reality, but sometimes the unreal gets realised.

Kalpana, who works at a flat in the city, wants her children, a son and two daughters, to go to school and study at least up to Class-V so that they, when grown-up, can write to their mother.

"To translate my desire into action I have to enter Dhaka city leaving my kids behind", said 32 years old Kalpana. The children are now being looked after by their grandmother in the village of Charkumra under Kotwali thana of Faridpur district.

It's not the government plan to raise the literacy rate in the country, which inspires her to send her children to school, but a wild desire to have her son and daughters educated.

Through media campaign she is aware of the slogan of the government 'education for all by 2000', she knows nothing about the ministers and policy-makers addressing the public meetings and announcing the government's steps to free people from the curse of illiteracy.

"I depend on my initiatives for my kids' education", informed Sabiha Karim alias Kalpana. Considering the edge of competitiveness provided by coaching, she also kept a tutor for her children.

Rekha is her first child, Tusho second and

only son Sohag third. The two sisters read in Class III while Sohag reads in Class I. The school is located in their village.

Kalpana said that she was pinning all her hopes on them. Before Sohag's birth, seven years ago, she left her husband when he got married for the second time. But, because of

her children she still has to maintain relations with the husband.

Two hundred and fifty taka, her own income, is too small to bear the expense of living and education. So Kalpana forced her husband to give her on an average Tk 350 per month. Her brothers-in-law and husband's bosses at his office have helped her a lot.

"I want nothing from life but to educate my children", said Sabiha. She does not know how long it will be possible for her children to go to school, but she is not unnecessarily afraid of the future. She will think later how she will face life then.

Kalpana has known enough of life's misery. She had seen in her childhood how Kumar river washed away their houses,

their lands and everything. The landless family had move from door to door for a long time. Then a relative, giving a shelter, took pity on them. Even after twenty-two years there's no house which really belongs to her. Her tryst with destiny cannot after all be worse if her children get education.



Kalpana with her children.



Visitors at the on-going week-long solo painting exhibition of G S Kabir yesterday at the gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University.

Discussion on International Literacy Day Education system must be made attractive to children

Deputy leader of parliament Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday called for evolving an education curriculum that would suggest measures for poverty alleviation, reports BSS.

"We must adopt a curriculum that would solve the problems of the poor people living in rural Bangladesh," Prof Chowdhury said while speaking as the chief guest at a function marking the International Literacy Day at the UNIC auditorium in Dhaka in the afternoon.

Prof Chowdhury said the education system must be made attractive to the children to check drop-outs without which the campaign for mass literacy would be a failure.

Organised jointly by the National Association of UNESCO Clubs in Bangladesh (NAUCB) and the Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO and UNIC, the function was chaired by SM Saifuddin, secretary, Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO.

He called for mobilising people from all strata of life including politicians, bureaucrats, social workers, NGOs and students to make the mass education programme a grand success.

Prof Muhammad Shahjahan, Vice Chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Ms Sophie de Caen, assistant resident representative, UNDP, attended the function as special guests. Prof Muhammad Muniruzzaman of Dhaka University and Mahbubuddin Chowdhury, secretary-general of NAUCB also spoke.

Meanwhile, Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury yesterday called upon the people irrespective of their political affiliations, caste, creed and religion to extend their helping hand to the government efforts to eradicate illiteracy from the society.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a discussion on the occasion of the observance of International Literacy Day in Narayanganj Shaheed Zia Hall in the morning.

Presided over by Habibur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner, Narayanganj, the discussion was addressed, among others, by the members of parliament Advocate Abul Kalam, Prof Rezaul Karim and Strajul Islam, Alhaj Md Badur Rahman, Principal Tolaram Government College; Mrs Rajia Rahman, district primary education officer, Asgar Hossen Bhuiyan, former vice chairman,

Narayanganj Paurashava and Halim Azad, president Narayanganj Press club.

Chittagong

BSS adds: Planning Minister AHM Zahiruddin Khan underlined the need for education to enhance our image in the world and said no nation could be developed without education.

The minister was addressing a discussion as the chief guest at the Municipal Model School, yesterday on the occasion of International Literacy Day here.

With Chittagong Deputy Commissioner AHM Abul Kasem in the chair, the function was addressed, among others, by Chittagong City Mayor Mir Md Nastruddin as special guest, former principal A A Rezaul Karim and chief of Chittagong division UNICEF AK Masud Ahmed.

The minister said education is the backbone of the nation and it is education which is the key to development. He said that present government had undertaken pragmatic programmes for the education sector.

Rajshahi

International Literacy Day '93 was observed in the divisional city of Rajshahi yesterday with great enthusiasm.

A big and colourful procession led by Mayor of Rajshahi city Corporation Mizanur Rahman Minu and participated by thousands of school students, teachers and government officials paraded the streets to mark the day.

Starting from the Rajshahi Collegiate School the procession paraded the main city streets and ended at Moulibazar Zila Parishad auditorium premises.

The processionists carried colourful banners, festoons and placards and chanted slogans to create greater awareness for eradicating the curse of illiteracy from the country.

A seminar on the significance of the day was also organised at Rajshahi New Government Degree College.

Biswas, Khaleda greet President, PM of DPRK

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday felicitated DPRK president Kim Il Sung to mark the 45th anniversary of founding of his country, reports BSS.

President Biswas expressed the hope that the existing friendship and cooperation between the two countries would be further developed and strengthened in the coming years.

In a separate message Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia also felicitated President Kim Il Sung and Premier Kang Song San of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the same occasion.

Begum Zia expressed her sincere conviction that the existing friendship, mutual understanding and fruitful cooperation between the two countries would continue to grow in strength in the years ahead.

Narcotics seized

The Department of Narcotics Control has arrested seven people and recovered a huge quantity of beer, whisky and country-made liquor and ganja from different places in Narayanganj, reports UNB.

Happy Hearts Day

To
M
With My Boundless
Love
Your
Chico-Chili-
Chiju

Save spinning mills from ruination: BJSA

The Bangladesh Jute Spinners Association (BJSA) yesterday demanded immediate solution to jute yarn export problem to save the spinning mills of the country from ruination, reports UNB.

In a statement, chairman of the association M Mahmud said the composite jute mills, CBC and carpet mills were exporting low quality jute yarn/twine freely at lower price destroying international market of the product and losing due foreign exchange.

He said the sector earned Tk 233.76 crore in 1992-93 fiscal year by exporting 84,080.25 metric tons of jute yarn/twine against Tk 15.7 crore in 1979-80.

The composite, CBC and jute carpet mills were permitted by the government to export jute sacks, gunny bags, gunny, carpet and CBC while the spinning mills were approved to export only jute yarn/twine which is only used in carpet industries, he said.

He said the potential jute yarn industries would be ruined if the jute mills continued sale of jute yarn/twine instead of their own product.

Citing a FAO study, Mahmud said the demand of

jute yarn in the international market was limited, and India, Thailand and China emerged as competitors to the country's jute sector.

There is no significant prospect of expanding the market and the production capacity of the jute yarn mills was being eroded due to limitation in market expansion, he said.

A cabinet sub-committee had discussed the problem on December 24 in 1989, and a committee was formed to resolve the problem on February 28 in 1990, he said. Another committee was also formed with the Director of Monitoring Cell of the Jute Ministry on August 3 last year, he added.

Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah, in a meeting with members of the BJSA on January 3, also assured to solve the problem, but no realistic efforts were made in this regard, Mahmud regretted.

"The committees met several times, but they did not find any solution of the problem. Reluctance in the government policymakers frustrated us," he said, adding there should be proper guideline for every industry for its normal functioning.

Myanmar envoy presents credentials

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday hoped that the existing differences between Bangladesh and Myanmar would soon be resolved through mutual efforts, reports UNB.

The President expressed the optimism while accepting the credentials of Ambassador designate of Myanmar U Hla Myint Oo at Bangladesh.

Referring to the repatriation of Myanmar refugees sheltered in Bangladesh, Biswas also hoped that all the refugees would be able to return home at the shortest possible time.

He said both the countries are committed to improving the living conditions of their people and friendly and peaceful cooperation among the two neighbours is a precondition for this difficult task.

President Biswas observed that there existed considerable scope for mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation between the two countries in various fields, including trade, commerce and industries.

He said there are good investment opportunities in Bangladesh which Myanmar could avail.

OECF executive due Sept 12

Senior Vice President and Deputy Chairman of the Board of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan (OECF), Chikao Tsukuda, arrives in Dhaka on September 12 on a three-day visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

During the visit, Chikao Tsukuda is expected to sign five loan agreements with Bangladesh.

The new projects to be financed under the agreements are conversion of Chittagong Airport to International airport, construction of container and general cargo terminal at Dhaka Port, Haripur Power Station, Barge-mounted Power Plant and Sylhet Combined Cycle Power Station.

Chikao Tsukuda will also meet the Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman and other senior government officials.

The OECF, the largest donor to Bangladesh has so far provided US dollars 4368 million as ODA loans.

Moudud leaves for UK today

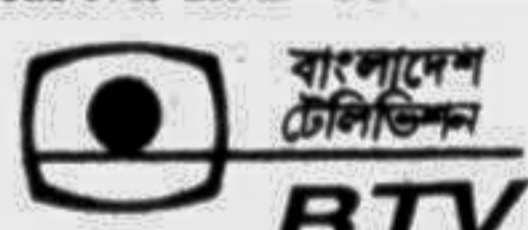
Moudud Ahmed, former vice-president and the acting leader of the parliamentary party of the Jatiya Party leaves for Oxford today on a Fellowship at the University of Oxford, says a press release.

Action for carrying passengers, goods on bus, truck rofs

The government Tuesday ordered the owners and workers of passenger buses and trucks to refrain from carrying unauthorised passengers on roofs and goods beyond the stipulated twenty maunds including passengers' luggage, reports UNB.

An official handout warned that stringent legal action would be taken against the law violators.

"Most passenger buses are found carrying commercial goods over the fixed 20 maunds."



Thursday

5.00	Opening announcement Al-Quran Programme summary
5.10	News in Bangla
5.20	Recitation from the Geeta
5.25	School debate
6.30	Esho Para Shikkhi: Education programme
7.00	Jiboner Alo
7.25	Nazrul songs
8.00	News in Bangla
8.40	Drama of the week: Mon Mohony story: Rabeya Khatoun
10.00	News in English
10.30	Mini series: Voyage of the Heart
11.30	Khabor/ The News
11.45	Closing

Weather

Temperature may remain unchanged

By Staff Correspondent

Sky will remain cloudy over the coastal regions and partly cloudy elsewhere over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6:00 am today (Thursday).

The Met office forecasts, light to moderate rain or thunder-showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Khulna and Barisal divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Rajshahi divisions.

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The country's highest temperature of 32.7 degree Celsius was recorded in Chittagong and the lowest 23.0 degree Celsius was recorded in Rangamati.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 6:08 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5:43 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	31.7	26.5	80	78
Chittagong	32.7	24.8	71	73
Rajshahi	32.1	25.5	85	90
Khulna	31.0	25.7	-	90
Barisal	27.4	25.0	95	93
Cox's Bazar	31.8	25.0	73	-
Sylhet	-	23.4	-	83
Dinajpur	31.6	21.9	77	82



Members of the Inner Wheel Club of Dhaka North West at the 8th installation ceremony of the club at Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice

Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class civil contractors for the under-mentioned works.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Allotted Cost	Dated and time of receiving tender
1.	Making and installation of 100 nos. round manhole covers with reinstallation of 50 nos. manhole covers.	Taka 2,07,554.56	13-9-93 up to 12 Noon
2.	2" dia new water line connection with lowering of 4" dia water main line at Narinda, Wari cleaners' colony.	Taka 56,745/-	20-9-93 up to 12 Noon

Tenders will be opened on the same day of receiving at 2:00 pm in presence (if any) of the tenderers of their representatives.

Schedule of tenders will be available at the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhavan, 98 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka & all MODS Zone Offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed descriptions will be available at the Office of the undersigned.

Address:
Fakirpool Steel Tank Compound, Dhaka
WASA-PJ-987/93
DPP (G) 13831-46
G-1170
Executive Engineer
MODS Zone-1
Dhaka WASA

Government of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer, (RHD) Cox's Bazar Road Division Phone: 3325.

Notice Inviting Tender

- Tender Notice No. 5, of Executive Engineer, (RHD), Cox's Bazar Road Division during 1993-94.
- Tenders are hereby invited from the enlisted contractors of RHD, according to the financial limit for the following works in 6 (six) groups.

Tender Notice No.	Name of work	Location	Gr No.	Estimated cost (in Taka)	Earnest money (in Tk)	Category of enlistment	Completion from the date of Worder
5	Repairing & providing premixed seal coat at diff. K.M. of Chittagong-Cox's Bazar Road.	97th KM	1 (one)	4,83,107/-	9,663/-	A to D general category of RHD, enlisted Contractors	25 (Twentyfive) days
		98th KM	2 (two)	4,82,103/-	9,643/-	-do-	25 (Twentyfive) days
		127th KM	3 (three)	4,82,103/-	9,643/-	-do-	25 (Twentyfive) days
		110(P), 121(P), 122 (P) K.M 133 (P), 137(P) KM 150,151 (P) KM.	4 (four)	7,79,870/-	15,598/-	-do-	30 (thirty) days
			5 (five)	7,91,345/-	15,827	-do-	30 (thirty) days
			6 (six)	8,22,050/-	16,441/-	-do-	30 (thirty) days.

- Name of office from which/where tender will be available for purchase:
 - Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Cox's Bazar.
 - Executive Engineer, (RHD), Chittagong Road Division.
 - Executive Engineer, (RHD), Dohazari Road Division.
 - Executive Engineer, (RHD), Planning (Roads & Bridges) Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.
 - Sub-Divisional Engineer, (RHD), Road Sub-Division-VIII/Chakaria & Mechl. Sub-division, Cox's Bazar.
- Name of offices where tender will be received:
 - Addl. Chief Engineer, RHD, Ctg. Zone, Ctg.
 - Superintending Engineer, (RHD), Chittagong Road Circle, Chittagong.
 - Superintending Engineer, (RHD), Monitoring & Evaluation, Dhaka.
 - Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Cox's Bazar.
- Last date of selling of tender: 18-09-93 up to 05:00 PM
- Last date & time of receipt of tender: 19-09-93 at 12:30 Noon.
- Date & time of opening of tender: 19-09-93 at 12:45 Noon.
- Chargeable to: Maintenance works.

DPP(G) 13867-5/9
G-1171
Mozammel Hossain Chowdhury
Executive Engineer, (RHD)
Road Division, Cox's Bazar.