

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Old Traditions with a New Look

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

'Recycling', 'biodegradable' and '100 percent natural' may be the fashionable terms of the West today but they have been in practice for centuries in this part of the world. If anyone were to be ignorant enough to accuse Bangladesh of being environmentally 'backward', the Eco Exhibition of Sonargaon Hotel on September 7th would certainly discount such a presumption. Everything displayed at this remarkable gala was biodegradable and in tune with nature, even the jewellery!

The products, untouched by machinery, were all tastefully made and had a touch of class that was a nice break from the tedium of

the usual unimaginative handicraft exhibitions. They displayed age-old traditions in a new, innovative look in keeping with contemporary tastes and trends.

For starters, there was an impressive collection of 'shital pat' or cool floor mats from Nakhali in pleasing beige and chocolate



patterns. A 'patti making' demonstration gave an air of authenticity to the exhibit. As for the patti, themselves, they represented the essence of traditional Bengali life style — cool, laid back and lightly slumbering.

The natural dye products displayed by Aranya were also hot items among the visitors. They included shalwar kameez in splashes of indigo, purple or green — the dyes all extracted from vegetables or plants.

Miniature trees with little clay animals by Ikebana symbolized the exhibition's commitment to the environment. Small clay ducks, tortoises and birds decorated the plants which had banners with 'Save the Earth' slogans.

Traditional Jamdants from Demrah in vibrant colours were also on display. Unusual and in striking combinations of orange and green or purple and blue at the jamdants attracted many visitors, most of them female.

Also on display were colourful glossy posters with environmental messages. A UNFPA poster

had a man and a woman holding a globe with motifs of nature such as trees, fish, and water on their bodies to show mankind's relationship with the environment. Another UNFPA poster titled 'Safeguarding the Future' had a group of people holding the globe with a thin string in the form of a kite to show the precarious state of man and his connection with nature due to environmental degradation and the importance of preserving nature for the future. 'Let Us Live' by Tahsina Ahmed portrayed a woman with tears rolling down her cheeks to symbolize the suffering of women due to pollution and injustice. The paper used for the poster, one assumed, was recyclable.

Then there were the unique stationery products made from jute paper displayed by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). These included greeting cards, writing pads and folders in colourful designs.

But the most innovative items of all in this remarkable exhibition organized by various NGOs were the clay jewellery and water hyacinth furniture. The 'jewellery' from Potuakhali included bangles, earrings and necklaces all in red clay and were mostly sold out within an hour of the opening of the exhibition. Beautiful chairs, plant holders and laundry baskets all made from that seemingly useless plant we call 'kochuri pana' (water hyacinth), also attracted large crowds.

The 'environmentally friendly' products, as a visitor aptly named them, were all handmade by women and meant for both local and international markets. The exhibition, which was part of a day-long workshop titled women and the Environment by NARI (National Association for Resource Improvement) was an enterprising exposition of the talents of rural women and their intimate relationship with nature. A visit from Maneka Gandhi who was chief guest of the workshop, only added to the excitement.

### CMC reopens September 18

CHITTAGONG, Sept 9: Chittagong Medical College (CMC) will reopen on September 18, reports BSS.

The decision to reopen the college was taken at a meeting of the college staff council held today.

CMC hostels will be reopened from September 16.

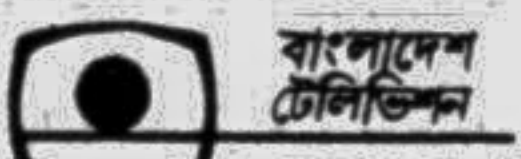
### 18,000 cases pending in Barisal

BARISAL, Sept 9: More than 18,000 various cases in the district are still pending in 17 courts causing untold suffering to the people concerned, reports UNB.

Under the district judge court, there are two additional district and sessions judge courts, two sub-judge courts, ten thana assistant judge courts and two additional assistant judge courts.

Many cases remained pending as there are no judges in some courts.

Of the total pending cases, more than 2000 are of civil appeal cases, 2000 criminal appeal cases, about 1000 criminal revision cases, 8000 civil cases, 1000 miscellaneous cases appeals, 2000 miscellaneous cases and 1000 decrees and other cases including special tribunal cases and election cases.



### Friday BTV Morning Session

8.00 Opening announcement  
Al-Quran Programme summary

8.10 News in Bangla

8.15 Alor Disha

8.45 Natun Kuri

10.00 News in English

10.35 Moner Mukure

11.35 Film: Tarzan

12.00 Film: Border Town

12.30 Closing

Afternoon Session

3.00 Opening announcement

Al-Quran Programme summary

3.10 Recitation from the Tripitak

3.15 Cartoon: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

3.55 Movie of the week: Blossoms in the Dust

5.10 News in Bangla

5.30 Sports programme: Badminton

6.45 Open University

7.15 Malancha

8.00 News in Bangla

8.30 Comedy series: Perfect Strangers

9.00 Magazine: Antoranga

10.00 News in English

10.30 Drama series: LA Law

11.30 Khobar/ The News

11.45 Closing

### Mahboob Alam made envoy to Brunei

The government has decided to concurrently accredit Mahboob Alam as High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam, reports UNB.

### Weather

#### Day temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Sky will remain partly cloudy over the country during the next 24 hours from 6 pm yesterday. Met office forecasts.

Temporary light to moderate rain or showers is likely to occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions, it says.

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over Dhaka and Rajshahi Divisions, it added.

Day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degrees Celsius during the period across the country.

The highest temperature of the country Thursday was 33.6 degrees Celsius recorded at Rangamati and the lowest of 22.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at the same district.

The sun sets today at 6:08pm and rises tomorrow at 5:43am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature		Humidity	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	32.7	27.0	82	78
Chittagong	32.7	25.3	76	79
Rajshahi	33.4	25.8	81	93
Khulna	31.6	26.2	81	90
Barisal	31.5	24.0	83	79
Cox's Bazar	32.2	25.0	72	68

### Kashipur Samity team calls on President

A 15-member delegation of Dhaka-based Barisal Kashipur Samity called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at the Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

The members of the delegation in a memorandum apprised the President of some of the problems of the people of Kashipur and appealed for strengthening of the newly set up police camp for better protection of the people of the locality.

Biswas gave them a patient hearing and assured to look into their problems.

### Directive to complete road repair works by Jan 15

RAJSHAHI, Sept 9: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed today directed the Roads and Highways Department to undertake maintenance works all over the country by October 15 and complete by January 15 next, reports BSS.

He said the government is spending Tk 180 crore this year for road maintenance — the highest allocation made for the work so far.

The directive came in a project review meeting held here today. Additional Chief Engineers, superintending engineers, executive engineers and

sub-divisional engineers of the department working in Rajshahi division attended the meeting.

The minister also directed to start Tk 130 crore NICAR works for construction of thana connecting and other feeder roads in January and complete by the end of April.

Oli Ahmed asked all project directors to complete World Bank and Asian Development Bank aided works within the stipulated time. He categorically said that no extension of time will be allowed in this regard. He said the poor country can not afford the escalation in price for such extension.

### Dacoits loot Tk 1.5 lakh from bus passengers

Armed dacoits looted cash and valuables worth about Tk 1.5 lakh and injured several passengers of a Cox's Bazar-bound coach on the Cox's Bazar-Chittagong highway yesterday, reports UNB.

Police said a band of armed dacoits, numbering seven, travelling in the guise of passengers stopped the coach near Fashlakhal in Chokoria thana at about 3:30 pm at gun point and robbed the passengers.

The dacoits also stabbed the driver. After committing the dacoity, the gang disappeared in the deep jungle of the area.

A case has been lodged with Chokoria police.

### QUL-KHWANI

"..... the owl whose night-bound eyes are blind unto the day cannot unveil the mystery of light....."

The Qul-Khwani of late Advocate A.F.M Nizamuddin Haider will be held on Friday 10, 1993 at the Eastern Tower, 20 New Eskaton, Dhaka after Aazar Prayer. The deceased family humbly invites you to kindly attend the QUL-KHWANI.

The breaved members of the family



### Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that in its extraordinary general meeting held on 27-3-93, the share-holders of METALALLOY INDUSTRIES (PVT.) LTD. have resolved to wind up the company voluntarily and appointed Mr M A Mannan, Advocate, Bangladesh Supreme Court as Liquidator. Anyone having any claim against the company may intimate the undersigned within 15(fifteen) days hence, M A Mannan, Advocate and Liquidator Metalalloy Industries (Pvt.) Ltd., Mansur Bhaban, 1st floor, 72, New Elephant Road, Dhaka.

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সার্ক আলট্রা

কনসেনট্রেটেড ডিটারজেন্ট পাউডার



কাপড় ধোয়ার নতুন, সম্পূর্ণ পদ্ধতি মাত্র এক চামচে।



এক চামচেই এক বালতি কাপড় পরিষ্কার!

১ চামচ সার্ক আলট্রা ৪ চামচ সাধারণ পাউডারের সমান কাজ দেয়।

ভেলচরির দাগ দূর করা এখন আর কোন সমস্যাই নয়!

সার্ক আলট্রা এক সম্পূর্ণ পদ্ধতি: ডিটারজেন্ট, আলট্রা (এনজাইম সম্বলিত) শক্তিশালী উপাদান ও কাপড় উজ্জ্বলকারী উপাদানের সমন্বয়ে শক্তিশালী ফর্মুলায় তৈরি।

সার্ক আলট্রা কাজ করে দু'ধাপে। প্রথমত: সার্ক আলট্রার শক্তিশালী আলট্রা কাপড়ের বুননের ভেতরে বসে যাওয়া ঘাম, তেল চর্বি কঠিন দাগকে আলগা করে ফেলে। তারপর সার্ক আলট্রার সক্রিয় উপাদানগুলি সুতোর বুনন থেকে ময়লার সাথে সাথে সহজেই দাগ ও তুলে আনে।

সার্ক আলট্রা

● নিখুঁত পরিষ্কার ● ত্বক ও কাপড়ের প্রতি যত্নশীল ● সাশ্রয়ী