

## Dhaka Day by Day

## Old Roads for the New

by Parveen Anam



The famous lines from Aladdin spring to the mind, and we are transported back to our childhood, as visions of the wicked magician and his deeds come crowding back. Only, the horrible magician was selling genuine old lamps; roads were not on his list of wares to be peddled. But then, the wise will nod their heads and prophesy, 'if there were roads, of course he would have sold them' Or at least rented them out. Ah yes, rented them out for sure. Think of the money he would have minted, because there were not too many roads in those old days and the couple that were around, would have fetched millions.

The Dhakaite by all accounts, is a species on the verge of extinction. And the city fathers are hastening the poor souls towards that end. By making sure they start to suffer from blood pressure and its related complications. How else can they explain the reason for his waking up one fine morning to find the little metal piece of concrete, the authorities so lovingly like to call 'road' and the Dhakaite so proudly drives along, quite happy with the potholes and all, is suddenly no more for him to drive on. It's his nightmare come true. The road is on rent. The Dhakaite sputters and the Dhakaite stammers and the Dhakaite throws a tantrum. To no avail. The authorities have deemed it fit to rent out a public piece of property, for which the debt-ridden citizen is charged yearly, supposedly for its maintenance and he can no longer use it for his convenience.

How it can even occur to someone that major roads in the city can be rented out, to people who love their little spades and shovel, so they can dig holes in it at will! This actually leaves

the Dhakaite speechless in indignation. The question which arises foremost in his mind, in spite of his fury is, 'Are they also going to rent it out for weddings, or it is just limited to political meetings? Perhaps we should keep the wedding and party ideas out of print just now; it would never do for the brilliant keeper of the roads, to start thinking the roads can also be rented for the endless rounds of weddings. The community centres would all go out of business. The weddings would all be taking place in the middle of the public roads!

Oh, the relevant authorities are quick to add, the holes will all be filled up with dirt and coal tar once the purpose has been served. Till it rains for about twenty minutes and the entire road can safely cave in. Not that the authorities do bother. They never do, it seems. Only the citizen is bothered. He is not important enough to bother with. The authority has hired the road for the express purpose of digging it up and covering it up again. The old road will be new all over again. The Dhakaite should be thankful for the ingenuity of the authority. And stop whining. It's the little mercies of life in Dhaka which make life so interesting. In fact, he can consider himself lucky the road before his house is not rented out. That would shut him up, if anything. Think of the miracle of the situation. An old road is rented out and it comes back into commission. In a newer form. What more can the Dhakaite ask for? The landlord and tenancy act is in full force here, mind you. Any damage to the rented property and the onus is on the tenant to repair it. Thus, the latest in peddling roads in Dhaka is

## 'Establish rule of Allah'

Jamaat-e-Islami chief Prof Golam Azam yesterday called upon all for the establishment of the rule of Allah and administration of honest people, reports BSS.

Prof Azam was speaking as chief guest at a discussion on Secratunnabi organised by his party at the auditorium of the Engineers Institution. Jamaat-e-Islami leaders Maulana Matur Rahman Nizami and A T M Azharul Islam participated in the discussion.

Jamaat chief Golam Azam speaking at a discussion on Secratunnabi at the auditorium of the Engineers Institution in the city yesterday.

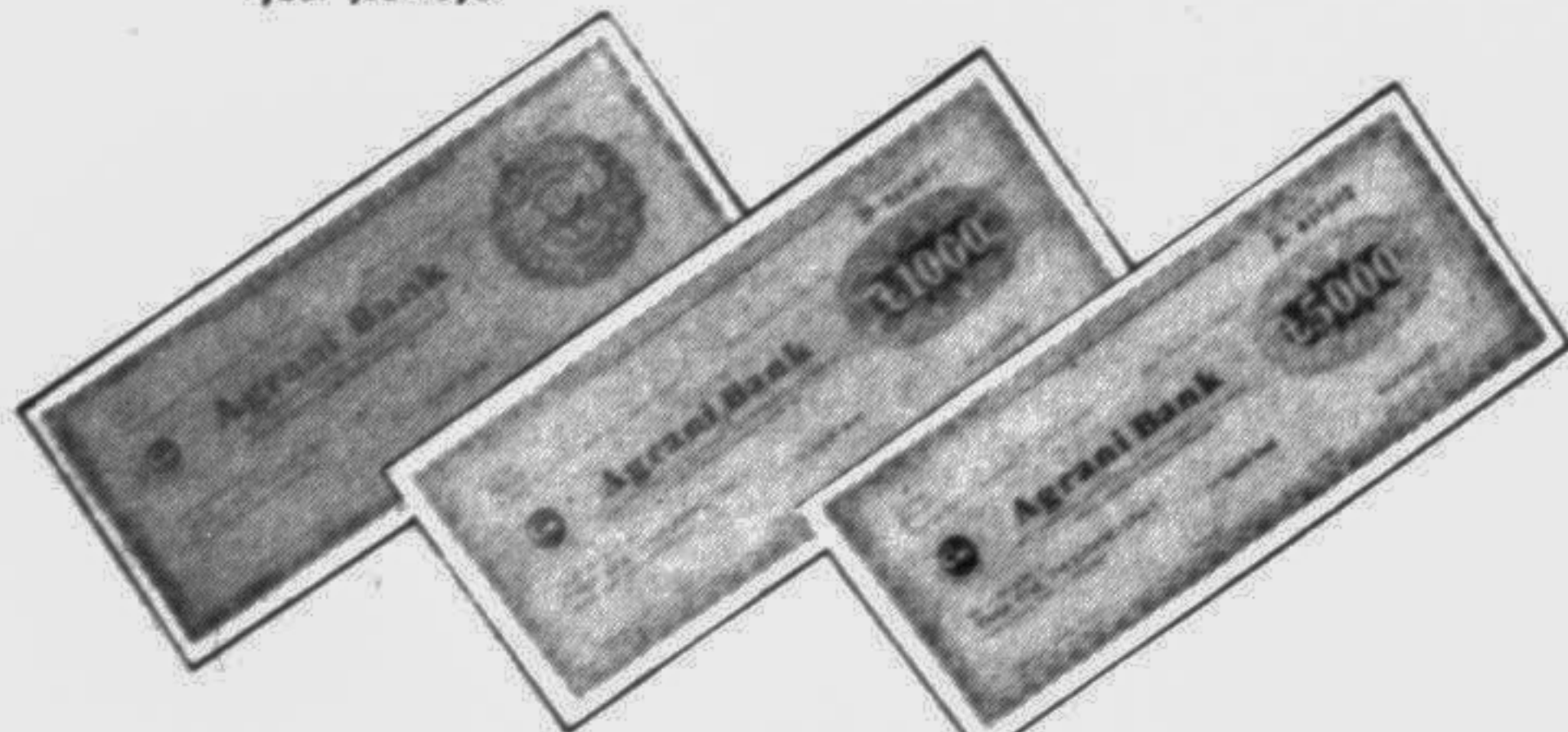
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| 5. S.W. Road Branch, Dhaka.              | 25. Kaptai Bazar Branch, Chittagong.              | 45. Thakurgaon Branch.                     |
| 6. Fawcett Exchange Branch, Dhaka.       | 26. Rangpur Branch.                               | 46. Tangail Branch.                        |
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| 8. S.W. Road Branch, Dhaka.              | 28. Monirpur Branch, Comilla.                     | 48. Hanoi Bazar Branch, Panchaj.           |
| 9. Shikha Shikha Road Branch.            | 29. Masum Bazar Branch, Chittagong.               | 49. Chak Bazar Branch, Barisal.            |
| 10. New Market Branch, Dhaka.            | 30. Sir Islah Road Branch, Khulna.                | 50. Faridpur Branch.                       |
| 11. Sonoma Branch, Dhaka.                | 31. Clay Road Branch, Khulna.                     | 51. Bara Bazar Branch, Kailash.            |
| 12. Elephant Road Branch, Dhaka.         | 32. Mangalpur Branch (Chama pora) Saghar.         | 52. Chapal Road Branch, Barisal.           |
| 13. Tuguegan Branch, Dhaka.              | 33. Al-M. Al-Road Branch, Jessore.                | 53. Hattah Branch.                         |
| 14. Jangampara University Branch, Dhaka. | 34. Ashraf Road Branch, Jessore.                  | 54. Separation Cantonment Branch, Jessore. |
| 15. Model Bazar Branch, Dhaka.           | 35. Ashraf Road Branch, Jessore.                  | 55. Nangan Branch.                         |
| 16. Model Bazar Branch, Dhaka.           | 36. Ashraf Road Branch, Jessore.                  | 56. Rajshahi University Branch.            |
| 17. Model Bazar Branch, Dhaka.           | 37. Ashraf Road Branch, Jessore.                  | 57. Shariatpur Branch, Rajshahi.           |
| 18. Model Bazar Branch, Dhaka.           | 38. Ashraf Road Branch, Jessore.                  | 58. Thana Road Branch, Barisal.            |
| 19. Model Bazar Branch, Dhaka.           | 39. Ashraf Road Branch, Jessore.                  | 59. Bara Cantonment Branch.                |
| 20. Model Bazar Branch, Dhaka.           | 40. Ashraf Road Branch, Jessore.                  |  |



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## Tk 907.21 cr earned from export in July

The country earned Tk 907.21 crore equivalent to 229.50 million US dollar from export in the first month of the current fiscal year (1993-94), an official source said Thursday reports UNB.

The amount is 31.71 per cent in Taka or 29.01 per cent in dollar higher than the export earning in July last year which stood at Tk 688.79 crore (US dollar 177.89 million).

The export target for the current fiscal year (FY) has been fixed at Tk 11,600 crore equivalent to 2,900 million US dollar.

The source said export earnings in the first month of FY 1993-94 also marked an increase over the earning in the previous month (June) when the country earned Tk 884.59 crore (US dollar 223.78 million) from export.

Export earnings from primary and industrial products in July this year stood at 39.39 million US dollar and 190.11 million dollar respectively recording rise of 56.50 per cent and 24.48 per cent over that of the corresponding period last year.

Some 27.83 million US dollar and 150.06 million dollar were earned through export of traditional and non-traditional items during the period, registering 11.10 per cent and 32.33 per cent increase over the earnings in July of the last fiscal year.

Earnings from the export of jute and jute goods and other products during the period increased to 21.39 US million dollar and 202.39 million dollar respectively.

A total of 74 products were exported to 71 countries in last July. The United States was the largest importer of Bangladeshi products, its import volume constituting 37.36 per cent of the total export of Bangladesh.

The other major importing countries were Germany (9.55 per cent), France (7.01), United Kingdom (5.76), Italy (5.71), Japan (4.68), Netherlands (3.97), Belgium (3.01), Singapore (1.89) and Iran (0.97).

These 10 countries imported 79.91 per cent of the total export of Bangladeshi goods. The rest 20 per cent was exported to 61 other countries.

Readymade garment was the highest foreign currency earner during the period with 55.35 per cent of the total export earning. The other foreign exchange earners were frozen food (10.19 per cent), jute products (9.16), knitwear (8.63), leather (4.65), raw jute (3.58), chemical products (2.39), tea (1.08) and handicrafts (0.33).

These products earned 95.36 per cent and the rest 65 products earned 4.64 per cent.

## Weather

## Temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

The weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country during the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Saturday).

Me Office forecasts, day temperature is likely to rise by one to two degrees Celsius over the country.

The country's highest temperature yesterday of 34.6 degrees Celsius was recorded in Dhaka while the lowest 24.0 degrees was recorded in Rangamati.

The sun sets today at 6.07 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.44 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperatures and humidities recorded in some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	32.1	26.0	78	71
Chittagong	32.1	25.0	75	73
Rajshahi	33.7	26.1	-	78
Khulna	34.5	26.5	81	67
Barisal	33.6	25.8	82	72
Cox's Bazar	32.5	25.5	72	76
Sylhet	33.6	26.3	83	75
Dinajpur	33.4	26.0	83	78



Saturday

- 5.00 Opening announcement  
Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Recitation from the Tripitak
- 5.25 Amra Natun
- 6.00 Cartoon: Young Robin Hood
- 6.30 Tarunika
- 7.00 Bishakhori
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Mati O Marush
- 9.00 Abhimat
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Drama serial: Dallas
- 11.30 Khulbur/The News
- 11.45 Closing

## Tribute paid to Jagadish Bose

The Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University, Prof Emajuddin Ahmed yesterday called upon the scientists to put in their best efforts to help ensure the well-being of the common people, reports UNB.

"We are trying to change the lot of the commonmen... this can be achieved only by utilising our knowledge properly," he told a discussion on 'Contribution of Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose' at the National Museum in the afternoon.

## Body recovered

By DMCH Correspondent

Police recovered the body of a guard of Amin Match Factory at Kamrangir Char on outskirts the city at about 7:30 am Friday.

The victim, Din Mohammed, 75, was a guard at main gate of the factory.

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

A case was filed at police station in this connection.

## Obituary

Badrunessa, wife of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's youngest uncle Sheikh Habibur Rahman and grandmother of Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina died here Thursday due to old age complications. She was 85, reports BSS.

She left behind one son, one daughter and a host of relations and well-wishers to mourn her death.

The body of the deceased was taken to Tungipara where her namaz-e-janaza was held after Juma prayers. Later she was buried at the family graveyard.

## PLO-Israel peace accord hailed

The Palestine Freedom Fighters' Association of Bangladesh yesterday welcomed the mutual recognition by the PLO and Israel, reports BSS.

In a statement, M Hossain Ali Chowdhury, chairman and Mohammad Mostaq Ahmed, secretary general of the central command council of the organisation felicitated the US President Bill Clinton, whom they described as the architect of establishing peace in the Middle East.

Bishwa Muslim Jehadi Council chairman A B Siddique Mollah in a statement issued in Dhaka yesterday also welcomed the peace agreement.

## 'Restore discipline, peace on campus'

RAJSHAH, Sept 10: Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Striar has called upon the students to put in efforts towards restoring pace and discipline on the campus, reports BSS.

He was speaking as chief guest at the installation ceremony of the Central Students Union of Bangladesh Institute of Technology (BIT) here yesterday.

The Education Minister handed over a cheque of Taka one lakh donated by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to

the institute authority for purchasing books for the library of the institute.

Presided over by president of the students union Dr Sirajul Karim Chowdhury, the function was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Establishment Barrister Aminul Haq, Rajshahi city Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu, Azizur Rahman MP and JCD leader Rijvi Ahmed.

Barrister Jamiruddin said that the BNP government was pursuing policies aimed at institutionalising democracy.

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- Name the city in America that is shown in the ad.
- Name the days Singapore Airlines operates its flight to Dhaka.
- Write in not more than 12 words what you like about Singapore Airlines.

Prizes: Two SIA tickets will be awarded, one for each competition to be held in July & September, 1993.

## Rules:

1. A competitor cannot enter more than once, in one month.
2. Immediate family members of SIA, their ad agency and travel agent employees and children below the age of 16 years are not eligible to enter this competition.
3. Closing date of entry for September is 10 October, 1993.

Winner will be notified by post.

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## Competitor's

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Singapore Airlines reserves irrefutable right to choose the winning answer and disqualify any entry.

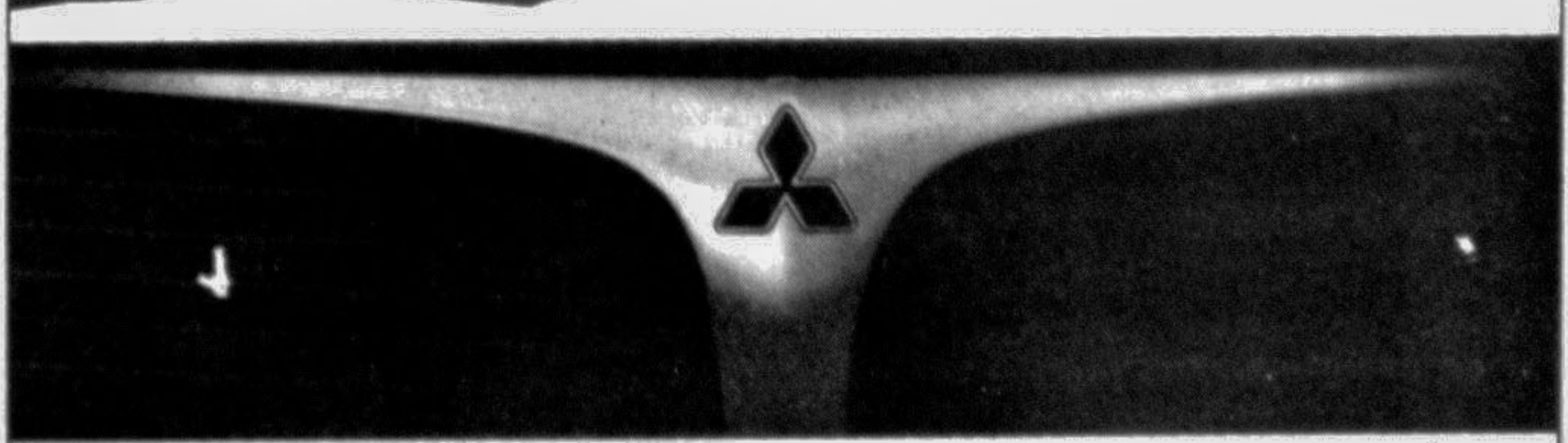
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