

Dhaka Day by Day

Undeterred a Slum Boy Carries on...

by Nikesh Das

Unlike most of the teenage school-going boys Akter Hossain, 15, has set himself the task of devoting his time to just two duties' calls. On the one hand, he is a student and on the other, he is a hawker of steaming tea. Various constraints notwithstanding, he nurtures a dream like most other students for the future.

Akter lives with the member of his family in Golapbag, Demra in the south-eastern part of Dhaka city. Stark poverty is the way of life for Akter's family.

Only a few years back Akter's family migrated to Dhaka from Comilla, some 97 kilometers from Dhaka for employment and a better life. Akter's father Md Kurshed Alam started his life in Dhaka as a street hawker selling 'Muri'. But in 1990 he died due to liver complications survived by his wife, four sons and one daughter. His death only aggravated the suffering of the whole family. Akter then a student of class VI came forward to share some of the family burden. He started to sell tea in and around Gopibag bazar. From then on, he is a part-time tea-seller and a part-time student.

For his convenience Akter usually starts selling tea at 6:30 am and continues it till 1:00 pm. Then he retires to his shack eat whatever he gets and take rest.

Akter usually sells two flasks of tea (one flask contains 40/45 cups) and earns an average of Tk. 30 (US \$.75). Though Akter's investment is not big, yet the most worrisome day for him is the one when his flask bursts. Purchasing a new flask means at least Tk. 400 (US \$ 10) which is an enormous sum for him.

Expressing his feeling when he gets his flask burst he says, "I feel very shocked because this is directly related to my mother and sister's bread."

In this age of competition Akter's job is not exception either. Here the competition is not for more luxury or sophistication but for sheer survival. Akter has many colleagues in this line to compete with. Akter says, "Now-a-days competi-

tion is much more higher and tougher than when I started this trade. "But in Gopibag bazar I am the oldest and very familiar with the vendors. They love me and favour me taking a cup of tea from me," he added.

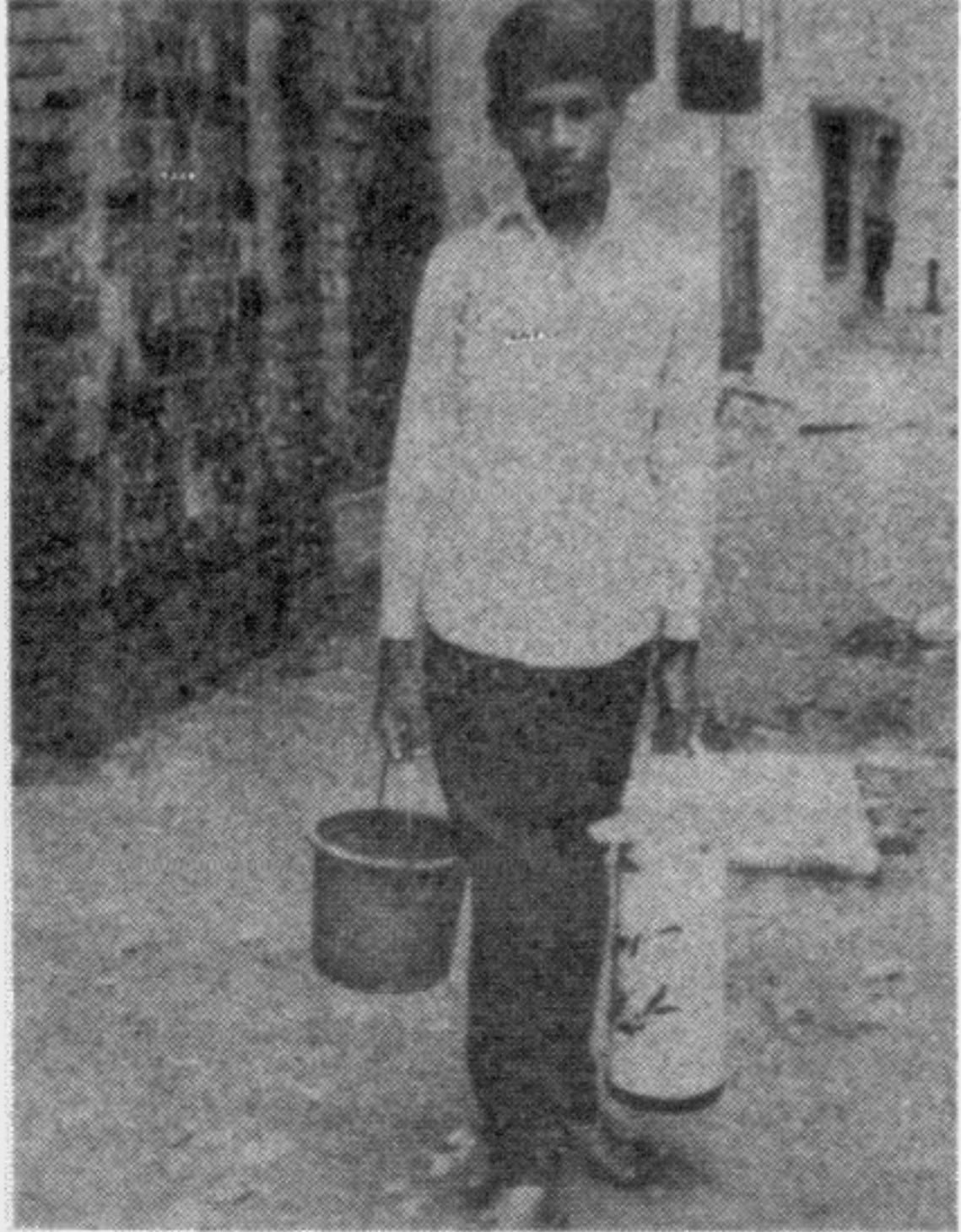
Except Akter, his elder brother Shaheed Alam, 17, works in a welding shop and earns about Tk 600 (US \$ 15) monthly to meet their daily needs including house rent Tk 800 (US\$20). Akter's living-cum-dining-cum-drawing room for six members is (15x12) sq. feet and they share one kitchen, latrine and tubewell with three other families. The environment, sanitation and sewerage system of his area are very poor.

Akter is now a student of class IX in Fakirerpool Natsha (night) High School. He regularly attends school at night coming all the way on foot. Riding rickshaw is a luxury for him. He is very obedient and attentive to his study. He usually stands first in class examinations. His struggle an performance have moved World Vision, an international humanitarian organization to provide him with educational assistance. This assistance includes books, tuition fees, uniform, examination fees, exercise books etc.

In replying to the question how he reacts when he meets his classmates, friends or other teenage affluent boys during hawking his drink he says, "I generally do not initiate conversation with classmates or friends unless they do."

Akter wants, if possible, to have his graduation. Then he wishes to have a good job except in police department. Somehow he has developed the idea that there are many corrupt people in police department. Anyway he does not like to be a corrupt element in future.

There are thousands of young boys like Akter in our society, who are fighting an unequal battle against poverty and not-so-friendly a society but inspite of all the adversities they nurture the dream to be good and to do something positive for themselves as well as society. Butnobody knows what the future really holds for Akters!



Akter Hossain on way to his daily routine of selling tea.



The Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association (FBUTA) observed a token hunger strike at the Dhaka University Club yesterday.

Home Minister tells JS

Smuggled goods worth Tk 49cr seized

Smuggled goods worth Tk 49.14 crore had been seized by the authorities from border areas in Jessore and Satkhira districts in last two fiscal years (1991-92 and 1992-93), reports UNB.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury said this in parliament yesterday replying to a question from Prof Mohamed Waiullah (AL).

The seized smuggled goods included saree, cow, buffalo, salt, sugar, dal, jute seeds, bicycle, wood, leather, machinery spares, fish, onion, phenidyl syrup, imitation, jewellery, yarn, drugs, crockeries and nylon nets.

Goods seized while being attempted to smuggle out of the

country included polyester cloth, VCR, gold, old garments, brass and vehicles, the minister said.

He added that 1,568 cases were filed and 2,203 people arrested on smuggling charges.

Over 1 crore unemployed

Country's unemployed population now totals 1,22,76,000 including 40,74,000 educated people, Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan informed parliament yesterday.

Of the educated unemployed, some 1,59,000 are graduates and above, the Planning Minister said replying to a question from Begum Rashida Khatun of Jamaat-e-Islami.

Happy Birthday

To
Tushar



From
Tomal, Arman, Dadi, Ammu,
Abbu, Nina & Parvin Fupu,
Bakul & Farook Fupu &
Pavel Chacchu

Weather

Moderate rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

The sky will remain cloudy over the country during the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday) due to low over northwest Angle Bay and adjoining coastal area, Met Office forecasts.

Occasional moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind are likely to occur at most places over Barisal and Khulna Divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi. Dhaka divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over coastal regions of Bangladesh.

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

The highest temperature of the country yesterday of 33.4 degrees Celsius was recorded in Sylhet while the lowest 22.2 degrees was recorded in Rangamati.

The Sun sets today at 6.04 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.45 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	32.5	26.5	73	91
Chittagong	31.0	24.0	72	92
Rajshahi	31.0	24.4	95	93
Khulna	30.6	25.6	92	89
Barisal	29.8	24.0	86	83
Cox's Bazar	29.0	24.5	84	97
Sylhet	33.4	24.2	85	69
Dinajpur	31.5	25.4	81	81

8 Crescent Jute Mills officials suspended

KHULNA, Sept 13: The Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) has suspended eight officials and 15 employees of the Khulna Crescent Jute Mills for gunny bag export fraud, reports UNB.

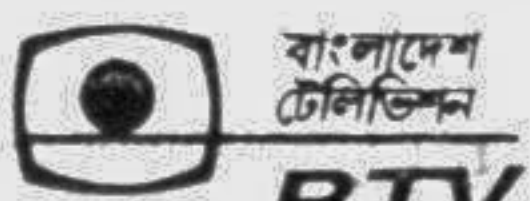
Among the accused are: General Manager Abul Mansur Golam Mustafa, Assistant Managers Abul Khair and Muktar Hossain, Deputy Managers Abdul Mannan and Ataharuddin and Managers Kutubuddin, Mohiuddin Ahmed and Hafizur Rahman.

Permanent Haj camp site selected

The government has selected the site for construction of a permanent Haj camp at Ashkonc, opposite to Zia International Airport, according to Religious Ministry press release here yesterday, reports BSS.

The decision was taken at a meeting held yesterday with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

The government will take up the construction work of the camp very soon.



Tuesday

5:00	Opening announcement
5:10	Al-Quran Programme summary
5:20	News in Bangla
5:25	Recitation from Geeta
5:55	Esho Para Shikkhi: Educational Programme
6:45	TV debate
7:15	Open University
8:00	Sangeeta
8:30	News in Bangla
10:00	Drama serial: Janmabhum
10:30	News in English
11:30	Film: ENG
11:45	Khabar/The News
	Closing

MITSUBISHI LANCER

Style —
another reason people are switching over to Mitsubishi



RANGS LIMITED
113-116, OLD AIRPORT ROAD, TEJGAON, DHAKA-1215
PLOT # 3, CDA AVENUE, SHOLOSHAHA C/A, CHITTAGONG

62 arrested in city

Police rounded up 62 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours, reports UNB. The arrested persons include 12 wanted criminals, one for robbery, one on charge of kidnapping and three for stealing.

Chehlum

The chehlum of noted journalist, politician and poet Lutful Rahman Zulfikar was held at his Khilgaon residence here Sunday, reports BSS. Journalists, litterateurs, politicians and host of friends and relatives of the deceased attended the function.

KAFCO

ASSISTANT MANAGER-LEGAL

Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited (KAFCO) is a multinational joint venture company with a US \$ 500 million (Tk. 2,000 Crore) ammonia/urea fertilizer plant in an advanced stage of implementation at Chittagong.

In preparation for taking over and operation of its modern state-of-the-art fertilizer complex, KAFCO invites applications from suitably qualified professionals for the position of **Assistant Manager in the Legal Department** at its Dhaka office.

Candidates must be qualified lawyers, preferably with an overseas law degree, with a minimum of three years' experience in a commercial law firm or institution as in-house legal counsel. Responsibilities of the incumbent will include coordination with foreign legal counsel, company secretarial work, monitoring of foreign private and joint venture investment agreements, equity investment and underwriting arrangements, in addition to general corporate matters, legal research and conveyancing.

Applications giving details of work experience and enclosing a recent photograph should be submitted by September 23, 1993 for the attention of the Manager - HRD & Personnel at the address given below:

Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited
90-91 Motijheel C/A. (15th Floor), Dhaka-1000



NGSHIP Management Pte Ltd

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES/SHIPPERS

M. V. NGS RANGER V5693 IMP. ROT NO. 712/93 WILL TAKE BERTH CHITTAGONG PORT ON OR ABOUT 15TH SEPTEMBER 1993 WITH IMPORT CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE FROM VARIOUS PORTS AND ALSO CONTAINERS EX-SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE DELIVERY OF GOODS IMMEDIATELY AFTER DISCHARGE. SURVEY APPLICATION MUST BE PRESENTED TO US WITHIN 3 DAYS OF DISCHARGE. NO CLAIM WILL BE ENTERTAINED NOR ANY LIABILITIES ACCEPTED IN RESPECT OF DAMAGE TO AND OR SHORT LANDINGS OF CONSIGNMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM STORAGE SHED. IN EVENT OF CONSIGNEES TAKING DIRECT DELIVERY SURVEY TO BE HELD AT SHIP'S SIDE ONLY.

CONSIGNMENTS NOT CLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF UNLOADING EX THE SHIP ARE LIABLE TO BE CONFISCATED AND AUCTIONED AS PER SEC. 167(8) AND SEC. 2 RESPECTIVELY OF THE CUSTOMS ACT 1969 WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE/REFERENCE.

THE VESSEL WILL LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO. 686/93 FOR SINGAPORE AND ALSO FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO EAST/WEST COAST OF U.S., CANADA, UK/CONTINENT, MEDIT. FAR-EAST/JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND PORTS.

FOR BOOKING AND OTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT
GENERAL AGENTS:



Bangladesh Shipping Lines Ltd.

CHITTAGONG

G/F Jiban Bima Bhaban,
1053 St. Mujib Rd., Agrabad
Tel: 504313, 502123, 500793
Tlx: 633027 BDSHIP BJ.633126 HRC BJ
Telefax: 225625

(A HRC COMPANY)

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