

## Metropolitan

## Dhaka Day by Day

## In Love with Orchid

By Raffat Binte Rashid

A luxuriant green forest, multicoloured parrots and cockatoos, wild flowers and exotic orchids, animals roaming freely as if telling us 'move out, this is our domain'. This place can be heaven for anyone with a little love for nature, specially for the green and the flowers like orchids.

Orcid, the very word has a wild exotic air about it. Whenever we try to think of orchids or include orchids in our garden, an unknown fear, a few pre-set ideas work in our minds. It has an expensive or rather an elegant look about it, which keeps, rather unnecessarily, people away.

But something beautiful and wild and striking like orchids could never stay framed up in the wilderness. Man has brought it close to him. Hawaii and Thailand are home to a wide variety of them. In Bangladesh too these gorgeous floral beauties are being accorded a welcome reception.

The Orchid Society of Bangladesh is actually a group of avid orchid lovers and enthusiasts, who brought together their common hobby and are eager to share their appreciation of beauty with the general public.

Recently they arranged a show in Gulshan. The show is exactly similar to the one I have attended in Colombo, except for the garden. It is smaller garden but the flowers are plenty here. The blossom is very enchanting," said



Splawie Christopher of the Embassy of Poland. In fact the flowers on display were really wonderful. "This show was arranged in a hurry, only four of our members could bring in their flowers, Nasreen Iqbal, Taslima Kabir, Zillur Rahman and myself," said Suraya Huq, Director of Phulki an NGO and also a member of the society. There is a common fear that the orchid culture as a hobby is something out of reach of ordinary people and also a time-consuming pastime. Actually it is not.

It always takes time, a bit of patience and maybe, a bit of luck too to grow orchids or any flowers for that matter, Suraya explained. "Orchids are gradually coming up, it is now more popular than it was last year and we can see the differences in these shows which we arrange twice a year." Suraya informed that they

BCS (Edn) team calls on Edn Secy

Farewell accorded to Milam in Khulna

A delegation of the BCS General Education Association met Education Secretary Ishaqul Huq yesterday at his secretariat office, says a press release.

They discussed the ways and means to implement the decisions taken on the basis of 16-point demands.

The Ambassador was addressing a farewell reception

5 extortionists held in city

Police yesterday arrested five extortionists who tried to collect tolls in front of the ICD godown at Kamalapur railway station, reports UNB.

The arrested are: Shakil, Ismail, Ariful Islam, Ramfuddin and Nazrul Islam Bacchu. A case has been lodged under the Anti-Terrorism Law.

## Sircar visits

## RU halls

RAJSHAHI, Sept 25: Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar today said the government was determined to root out terrorism from the campus at any cost, reports BSS.

He said this while talking with Vice-Chancellor, pro-Vice-Chancellor, provosts of residential halls and proctors at the Rajshahi University.

Later, the Education Minister visited some halls of Rajshahi University to see for himself the damage caused by the recent incident and the whole situation.

Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu was present on the occasion.

The Education Minister sought cooperation and recommendations from the teachers and employees of the university for maintaining congenial academic atmosphere on the campus.

He hoped that such type of incident which occurred recently on Rajshahi University campus would not occur in future and asked all concerned including the university administration to extend their full cooperation to the government for greater national interest.

He said the government would bear the expenses to repair the damage.

Meanwhile, the government has formed a one-member committee with Justice Abdul Matin Chowdhury to probe the Rajshahi University incident. The enquiry committee will submit its report to the government as early as possible.

Ziauddin Ahmed, a local businessman said "I have a few collection of orchid plants and this society has given me tips on how to nurture them. My plants are growing fine, in fact their growth or bloom just thrills me beyond imagination."

He has alone bought four pots from this show. Anna and Paul from Denmark — they are working in a project — looked very impressed.

"We would definitely try to grow them here. Naseem Iqbal just told us to talk to our plants. I wonder whether they would understand Danish, then again if they can understand Bangla, they definitely will understand our language," they added laughing.

Plants understand every language and weather, but it is difficult for us to know the meaning of their language. But once understood, the two can grow together and make this world a lively place.

This year the orchid society of Bangladesh has brought out a souvenir too. Many diplomats foreigners and local elites showed keen interest and visited the show.

A message from Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was read out in the seminar.

**BTV Sunday**  
5.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran  
5.10 Programme summary News in Bangla  
5.25 Let's Watch Sports programme: Cricket  
5.40 Shishshuder Adhikar Open University  
7.05 Tagore songs  
7.30 News in Bangla  
8.30 Antarae Ameen  
9.05 Film show: Raven  
10.00 News in English  
10.30 Surbani  
11.30 Khabar/The News  
11.40 Tomorrow's programme summary  
11.45 Closing



Speaker Sheikh Razzaque Ali yesterday distributing certificates among the meritorious students of the Dhaka University Law Department at a fresher's reception. Acting Vice-Chancellor of the Dhaka University Prof Wakil Ahmed is also seen.

— Star photo

## Consensus must to solve problems: Speaker

Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad, Sheikh Razzaque Ali, said in the city yesterday that national consensus and total commitment of all the political parties were necessary to solve them, he added.

Dwelling on rule of law and establishment of a society free from violence, the Speaker said that only existence of laws was not enough. Proper application of laws was more important, he said.

He was addressing a chief guest a function organised by the 'Law Review' to accord reception to the first year students and also to the brilliant students of the Department of Law, University of Dhaka. The acting Vice-Chancellor of the Dhaka University, Prof Wakil Ahmed, Dean of the Faculty of Law Dr Azizur Rahman Chowdhury, Chairman of the Faculty of Law Dr M I Patwari and Prof Hamiduddin Khan also spoke on the occasion.

Shahid Razzaque Ali said the problems facing the country were inter-related and those could not be solved in an isolated manner. United efforts of people from all walks of life and

total commitment of all the political parties were necessary to solve them, he added.

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The Speaker said people's expectation from the present parliament was great and all-out efforts should be made to fulfil that expectation. Referring to the country's efforts for institutionalisation of democracy, he said that to achieve that goal we should learn mutual tolerance and democratic language.

Citations were awarded to 15 brilliant students of the Law Faculty for their performance. Shahid Razzaque Ali's daughter Jona Razzaque who secured first class first position at the LLB examination this year, one of the recipients of the citation.

The government is waiving 100 per cent penal interest and 50 per cent of the regular interest to patronise this sector, and giving the facility to repay the loans in 10 instalments," he told members of cooperative societies at a function.

The minister was addressing as chief guest the National Cooperative Award '91 distribution ceremony of Dhaka Division in the Engineers Institute auditorium.

State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Abdul Hye, President of the National Cooperatives Union Salauddin Ahmed, MP, and Director General of the Bangladesh Rural Development Board Syed Margub Morshed attended the function, presided over by Registrar of Cooperatives Mohan

## 100 pc penal interest on farm loan waived : Salam

mmad Azizul Haq Bhuyan.

Barrister Salam said a top-level committee had been formed to frame a new and more democratic policy for cooperatives to extend its facilities to the people by streamlining the sector.

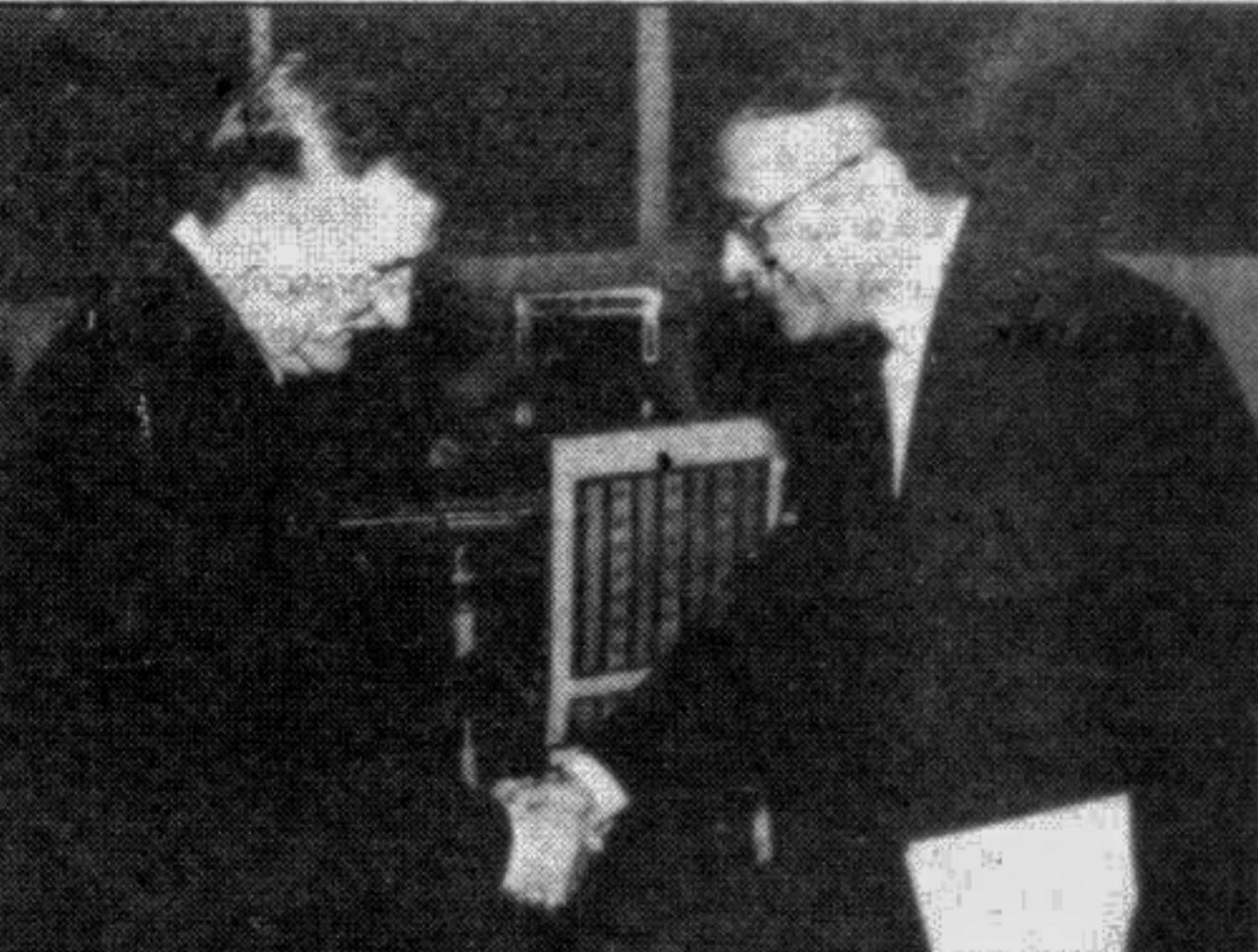
"A large number of people, nearly one crore, is involved in this sector who can make a good progress in economy and society if they are honest, sincere and active," he said.

The minister said cooperatives, second largest economic sector, could make a good contribution to the national economy and development if all its small units did their best in production and innovative employment.

"There are 126,000 cooperatives in this sector, a great force altogether for mobilising human resources for progress of the country," he added.

But, the minister regretted, this potential sector was lagging behind mainly because of corruption.

"He urged the members of cooperative societies to follow the suit of the Grameen Bank and try to make the Cooperative Bank a profitable concern.



Newly appointed Bangladesh envoy to Poland Najem Ahmed Chowdhury presenting his credentials to Polish President Lech Walesa at the presidential palace recently. — PID photo

## MITSUBISHI LANCER

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