

Dhaka Day by Day

The Umbrella Man

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

If you see a man with five or six old umbrellas on his back, do not mistake him for some eccentric who got a little too earnest about avoiding the rain. The person in question is neither mad nor a hawk of umbrellas. He is the umbrella repair man. In a country where rain is both inevitable and unpredictable, the umbrella repairman finds enough work to keep him busy.

Take Moinuddin, for example, who has spent over eight years repairing this vital rain-resistant device. Every day, he sets out from Chawk Bazar in Old Dhaka, to roam around the city looking for work. Sometimes he comes as far as Dhanmondi, wandering around the streets yelling 'chhati sheelaayee' (umbrella repair), hoping for someone to call him.

There is no certainty in this trade, says Moinuddin stroking his white beard: 'Sometimes I earn 50 taka, sometimes 100 and sometimes nothing at all!' His costs include buying the tools for his work — pliers, hammers, spokes, scissors etc and transport which comes to about 40 taka per day. Moinuddin, who claims to be 55 years but looks about 70, says that it is a tiring job and involves walking on foot for miles looking for customers and then returning home exhausted in the late evening.

Then why not do something else? Umbrella-repair business, Moinuddin explains, has been his family occupation for generations. His father, elder brothers have all been umbrella repairmen. 'That's why I am one too,' he says simply.

Moinuddin learnt how to repair umbrellas from his brother who used to live in Calcutta and work there. Taking a bus from Benapol, Moinuddin went all the way to Calcutta without either passport or visa, he admits conspiratorially. Spending a month learning the trade, Moinuddin was anxious to get home 'because you can't get good fish in Calcutta'. With his skill, Moinuddin now turns old broken umbrellas into almost brand new ones saving his customers from spending 125 taka to 140 taka on a new umbrella.

The umbrella-repair 'business' is of a seasonal nature, says Moinuddin. With more jobs in the rainy seasons, Moinuddin, like many others who provide this unusual service, has to find other works during the dry seasons when repair work is hard to find.

When he is not an umbrella man, Moinuddin is a farmer. In the winter he goes home to Nijra Gram, Faridpur where he tills his piece of land and spends time with his wife and eight children.

Living in the city is not the most desirable thing for Moinuddin who stays in a mess with eight, other men who include a rickshawwalla, a mistri (carpenter) and a 'chaabiwala' (key maker). Staying in the city means staying in 'bidesh' or abroad according to Moinuddin who constantly longs for home. 'There is nothing like being at home with your children,' he adds as he hurries off with his tools and umbrellas. The sky is encouragingly grey for Moinuddin, promising torrents of rain and at least a few customers wanting to get their umbrellas repaired.



End of killing of women in name of trial demanded

By Staff Correspondent

Women and Human Rights activists yesterday demanded an end to repression and killing of women in the name of trial by village elders.

The activists in a declaration called upon all to unite against the recent tortures on poor and helpless women of the remote areas of the country. In their five-point demands, the members questioned the existence of law and order in the country referring to the murder of Nurjahan at Chhatakhara under Maulvibazar district, another Nurjahan at Madhukhali in Faridpur, Firoza of Satkhira and Kadbanu of Rangpur.

They blamed the local influential and head of the religious institutions for such heinous acts.

'If one offends the existing laws, one should be tried under that very law, not by the whims and desires of individuals,' they said, terming such trial an anti-state activity.

Weather

Temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

The sky will remain cloudy over Chittagong, Barisal divisions and partly cloudy elsewhere over the country.

Light to moderate rain or showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at few places over Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions with moderately heavy falls at places over Chittagong division.

Met Office forecasts day temperature is likely to fall by one to two degrees Celsius over Chittagong, Barisal divisions and is likely to remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country.

The country's highest temperature of 32.6 degrees Celsius was recorded in Rajshahi while lowest of 20.3 degrees Celsius was recorded in Rangamati yesterday.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 5.43 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 5.51 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	32.1	25.5	82	87
Chittagong	29.7	24.8	90	89
Rajshahi	32.6	25.2	85	89
Khulna	28.8	23.8	92	97
Barisal	29.6	24.0	89	84
Dinajpur	31.2	24.5	92	85
Sylhet	27.8	23.0	97	88
Cox's Bazar	27.0	25.2	97	92

World Habitat Day tomorrow

The World Habitat Day will be observed in the country as elsewhere round the globe tomorrow with a renewed pledge for ensuring sound habitation for all, reports UNB.

Both government and non-government organisations have chalked out programmes to mark the day.

The inaugural ceremony of the day will be held at 10 am at the Osmani Memorial Hall. President Abdur Rahman Biswas will attend the ceremony as chief guest.

Rehabilitation and Development Organisation for Landless (RADOL) will open the day with a colourful walkathon from Shishu Park to Osmani Memorial Auditorium at 7 am.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder will inaugurate the walkathon while Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia and State Minister for Women's Affairs Sarwar Rahman address the inaugural function as special guest.

Works Secretary Dr Abdur Rashid and LGRD and Cooperatives Secretary Mahe Alam will also speak on the occasion.

Bangladesh Post Office will issue a special cancellor for use at Dhaka GPO Philatelic Bureau and Khulna, Chittagong and Rajshahi GPOs philatelic counters, tomorrow on the occasion of World Habitat Day.

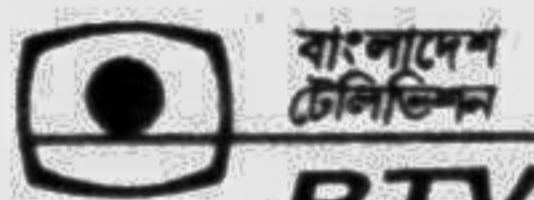
Workshop on Int'l Humanitarian Law concludes

By Staff Correspondent

A five-day workshop organised by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and International Committee of Red Cross on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and expansion and publicity of Red Cross and Red Crescent concluded in the city recently.

A certificate awarding ceremony was held in this connection. Syed Shahidul Haq Jamal, MP, Chairman of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society distributed certificates among the participants. Twenty-three persons participated in the workshop.

Regional delegate of ICRC David Delapraz and Afzal H Khan, News Editor of The Daily Star attended the workshop as instructors, among others.



Sunday

- 5.00 Opening announcement, Al-Quran Programme summary
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.25 Address of ROK ambassador and documentary film on the occasion of its National Day.
- 6.00 Address of German ambassador and documentary film show on the occasion of its National Day.
- 6.25 Jiboner Janiya
- 6.50 Open University
- 7.20 Tagore songs
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Band show
- 9.05 Film show: Raven
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Sur-Lahari
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing.

PATC orientation course begins

A 7-day orientation course for officials of different foreign embassies working in Bangladesh began at the Public Administration Training Centre (PATC) at Savar yesterday, reports UNB.

The aims of the course are to give the foreign officials a clear idea on norms, values, culture and development management of Bangladesh so that they could discharge their effective role as development agents.

Presided over by Rector of PATC Kazi Munzoor-e-Mowla,

2,500 copies of English-Bengali Dictionary sold

By Staff Correspondent

Some 2,500 copies of Bangla Academy English-Bengali Dictionary have already been sold in Dhaka since its publication on September 26 last.

The price of the 1136-page dictionary published from the Bangla Academy has been fixed at Tk 120.

The dictionary is available in all the sales centres of Academy at a 15 per cent discount.



Barrister A K H Morshed (C), Chairman, Board of Governor, BISS, delivering winding up speech on 'Parliamentary democracy in contemporary Nepal'. Speaker of the Nepalese Parliament Damar Nath Dhungana (L) and Nepalese Ambassador to Bangladesh Lok Bahadur Shrestha (R) seen seated. — Star photo

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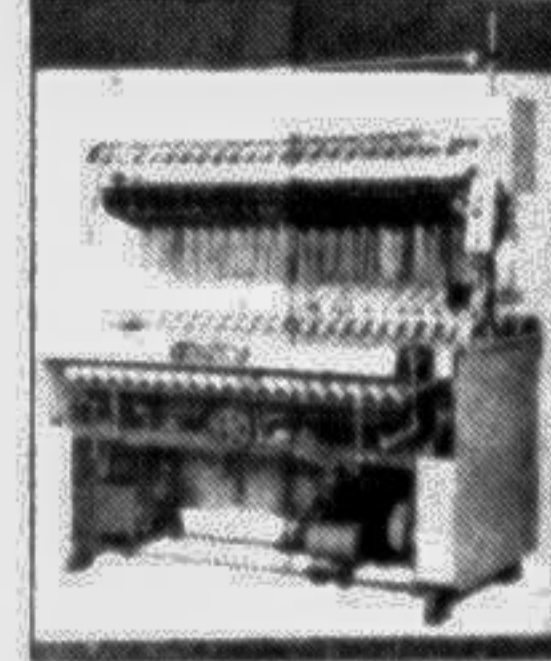
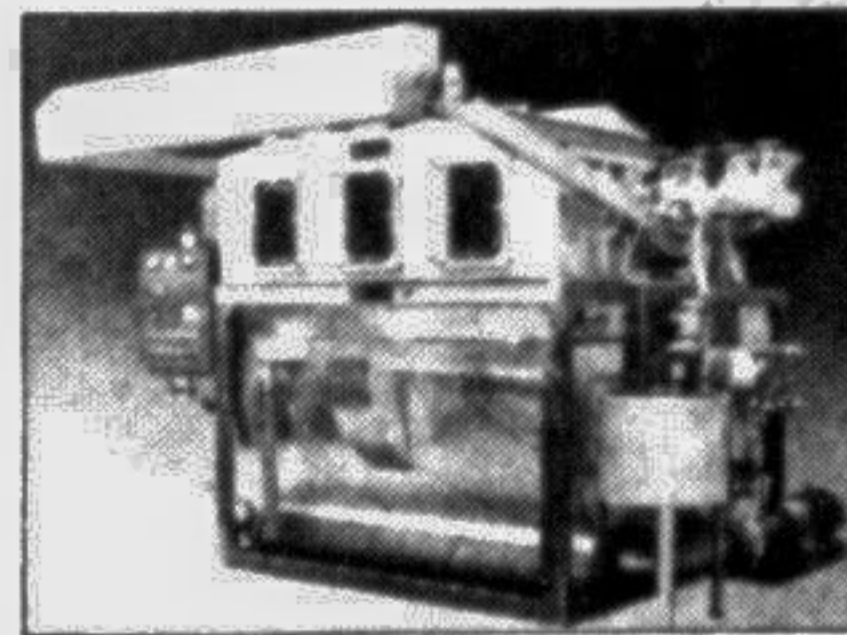
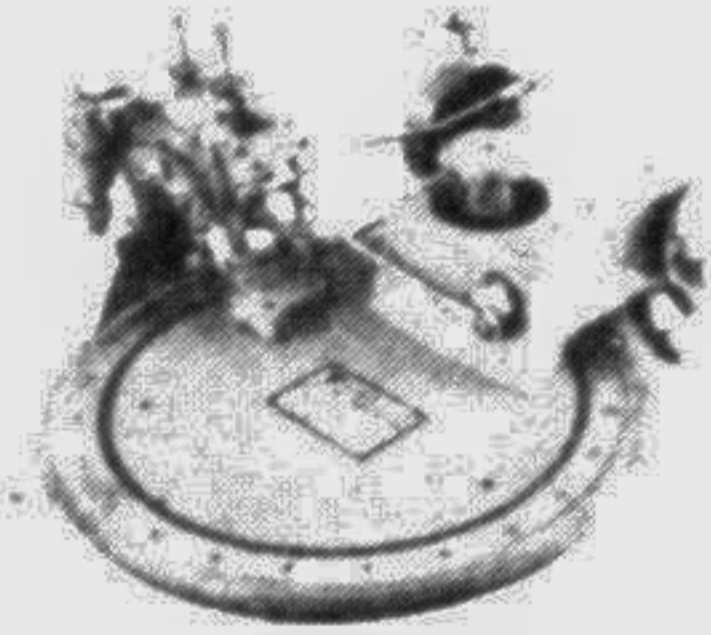
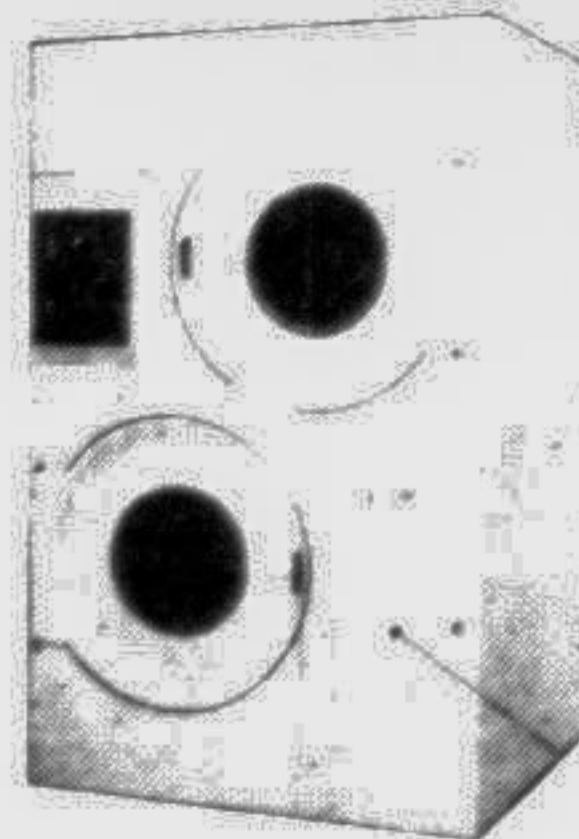
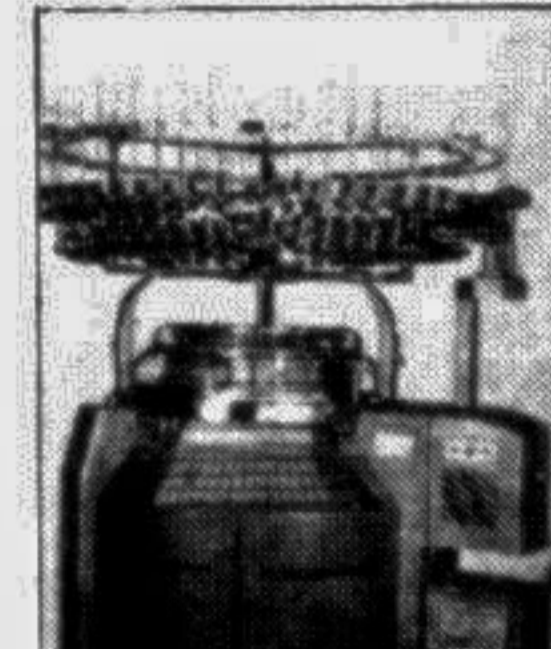
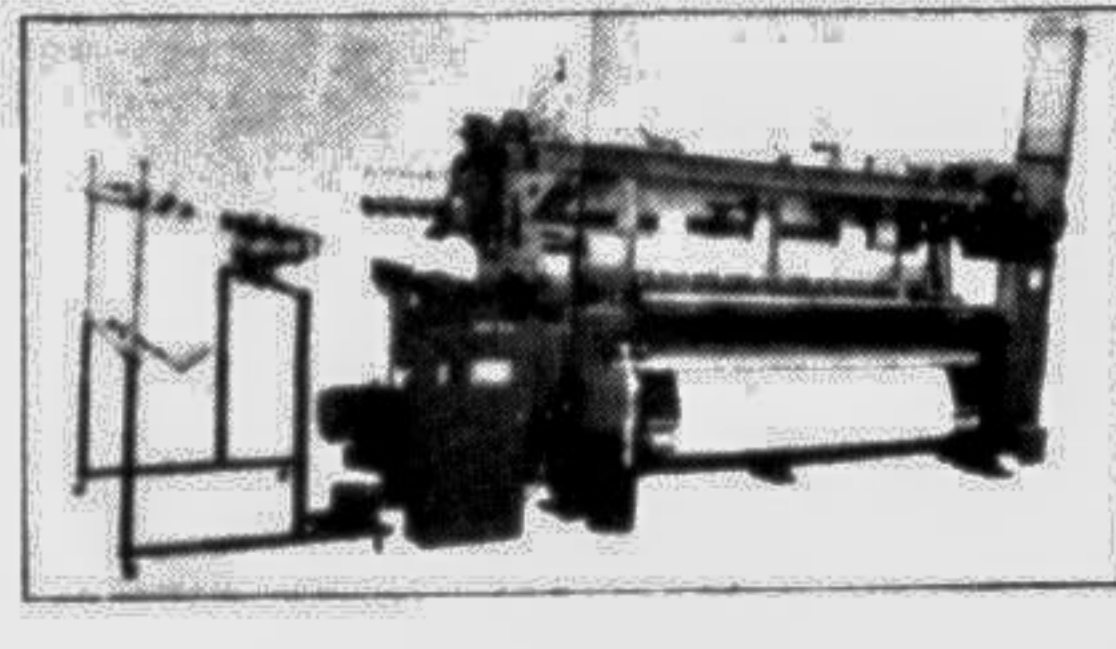
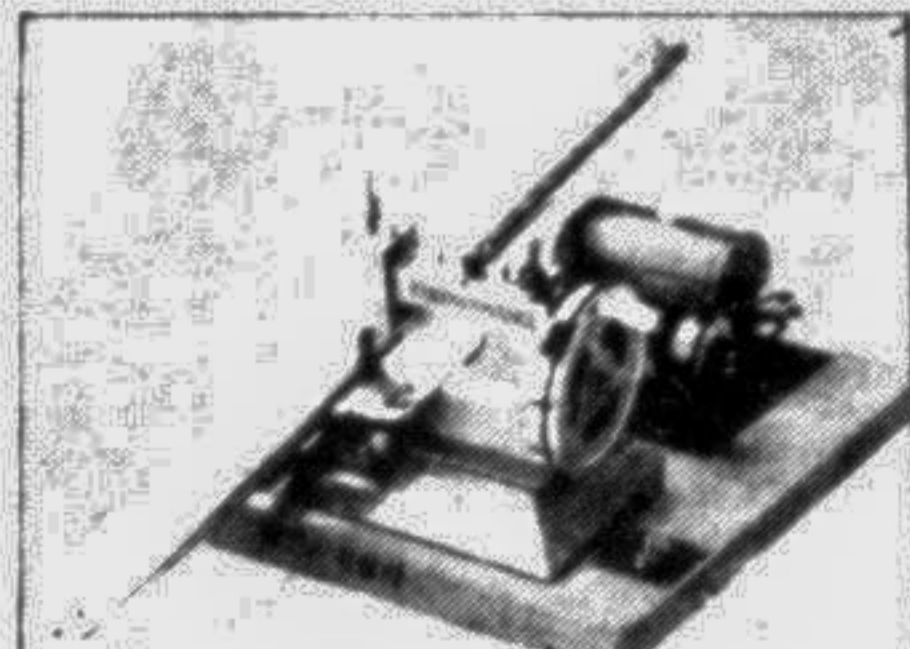
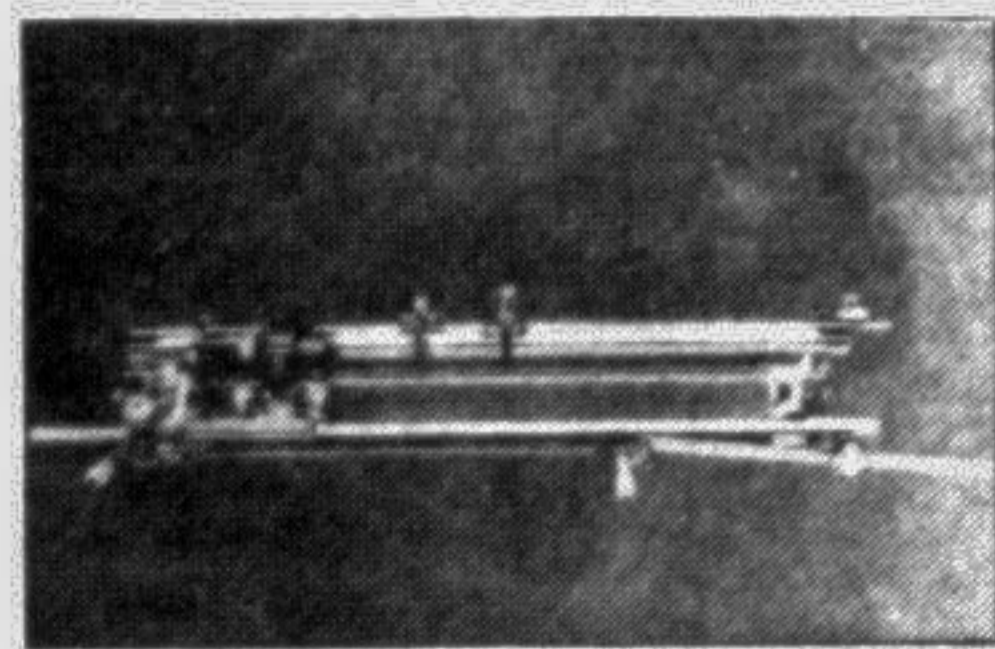
In response to queries from the general public we are pleased to furnish the following informations for the convenience of prospective investors in Shares and Debentures of the Company :

- A. SUBSCRIPTION OPENS : 25 SEPTEMBER 1993 (SATURDAY)
- SUBSCRIPTION CLOSES : 05 OCTOBER 1993 (TUESDAY)

B. Application Form and Prospectus are available in places as follows :

- DHAKA - ICB : Head Office, 8 Rajuk Avenue, Janata Bank : (1) Local Office, 1 Dilkusha C/A (2) Motijheel Corporate Branch, 48 Motijheel C/A (3) Foreign Exchange Corporate Branch, 57 Purana Paltan (4) Imamgonj Corporate Branch, Imamgonj. IFIC Bank Ltd. : (1) Federation Branch, Motijheel C/A (2) Dhanmondi Branch, Road No. 2 (3) Shantinagar Branch, 24 Shantinagar. Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. : (1) Principal Branch, BCIC Bhaban, Dilkusha C/A (2) Kanwan Bazar (3) Motijheel Branch (4) New Elephant Road (5) Mohakhali Branch (6) Imamgonj Branch. Standard Chartered Bank : 18-20 Motijheel C/A. Banque Indosuez : 47 Motijheel C/A. Sonali Bank : (1) Local Office, Motijheel C/A (2) Ramna Branch Agrani Bank : (1) Principal Office Motijheel C/A (2) Amin Court Branch Motijheel C/A (3) Farmgat Branch (4) Dhanmondi Branch (5) Mohakhali Branch. Rupali Bank : (1) Local Office, 35 Dilkusha C/A (2) Motijheel Branch (3) Ramna Branch (4) Foreign Exchange Branch, Motijheel C/A (5) Ibrahim Mension Branch (6) Rupali Sadan, Motijheel C/A (7) Mitford Branch (8) Jhonson Road Branch (9) New Market Branch (10) Hatkhola Branch (11) Airport Road Branch, Firmgate (12) Cantonment Branch.
- NARAYANGONJ - Sonali Bank : Narayangonj Branch. Rupali Bank : S. K. Road Branch. Agrani Bank : Court Road Branch. CHITTAGONG - ICB : 32 Agrabad C/A. IFIC Bank Ltd. : Agrabad Branch. Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. : (1) Agrabad Branch (2) Station Road Branch. Standard Chartered Bank : Chittagong Branch. Banque Indosuez : Chittagong Branch. Sonali Bank : K. C. Dey Road, Chittagong. Agrani Bank : (1) Commercial Area Branch (2) Laldhigi East Branch. Rupali Bank : (1) Rupali Sadan Branch (2) Agrabad Branch.
- KHULNA - ICB : KDA Bhaban, Jessore Road. IFIC Bank Ltd. : Khulna Branch. Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. : Khulna Branch. Sonali Bank : Khulna Branch. Agrani Bank : Sir Iqbal Road Branch. Rupali Bank : Shames Building Branch.
- RAJSHAHI - ICB : Star Bhaban, 74 New Natore Road, Shaheb Bazar. IFIC Bank Ltd. : Rajshahi Branch. Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. : Rajshahi Branch. Sonali Bank : Rajshahi Branch. Agrani Bank : Shaheb Bazar Branch. Rupali Bank : Shaheb Bazar Branch.
- BARISAL - ICB : 87-88 Hemayetuddin Road. Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. : Barisal Branch. Sonali Bank : Barisal Branch. Agrani Bank : Chak Bazar Branch. Rupali Bank : Sadar Road Branch.
- SYLHET - ICB : Chamber Building, Jail Road. Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. : Modhuban Branch. Sonali Bank : Sylhet Branch. Rupali Bank : New Market Branch.
- MOULVIBAZAR - Rupali Bank : Moulvibazar Branch.
- BOGRA - Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd. : Bogra Branch. Sonali Bank : Bogra Branch. Agrani Bank : Thana Road Branch. Rupali Bank : Thana Road Branch.
- JESSORE - Sonali Bank : Jessore Branch. Agrani Bank : M. M. Ali Road Branch. Rupali Bank : M. K. Road Branch.
- TANGAIL - Sonali Bank : Tangail Branch. Rupali Bank : Tangail Branch.
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- FENI - Rupali Bank : Feni Branch.
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- COMILLA - Sonali Bank : Comilla Branch. Agrani Bank : Monohorpur Branch. Rupali Bank : Kapouria Patty Branch.
- PABNA - Sonali Bank : Pabna Branch. Rupali Bank : Pabna Branch.
- RANGPUR - Sonali Bank : Rangpur Branch. Agrani Bank : Principal Branch. Rupali Bank : G. L. Roy Road Branch.
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- GAZIPUR - Sonali Bank : Gazipur Branch.
- DINAJPUR - Agrani Bank : Maldahoh Patty Branch. Rupali Bank : Nimtola Branch.
- PATUAKHALI - Rupali Bank : Patuakhali Branch.

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