

Metropolitan

# Dhaka Day by Day

## 'Hello', said the Cockatoo, 'Come here,' said the Mynah

by Raffat Binte Rashid

Welcome to the world of birds. These are no ordinary birds which do more than just chirp. They can actually answer back to questions being asked. These are not one of Spielberg's electronic devices but real walking, talking birds. They are the participants at the Parjatan's Talking Bird and Aquarium competition held at Parjatan's rent-a-car premises at Airport Road to celebrate the current Tourism Month '93.

There are quite a number of people who are avid bird lovers but not all their birds talk. An unusual competition, this show has definitely been the best entertainment Parjatan has so far come up with.

Tahmina's Cockatoo is eight years old and has a personality of her own. Maybe, a bit too snooty than any of her other friends, she is about 17 inches long, snow white in colour and

with a bright yellow turban (actually a tuft of yellow feathers), on her head, she looks proud and regal. "Seeing so many unexpected visitors she became a bit nervous, she is not in her best mood now," says Tahmina patting the bird's head and coaxing her to greet the visitors. A Mynah nearby helps out by making a beeping sound like a horn that makes the spectators move out and lighten the crowd. The Mynah doing her traffic clearing act to perfection, whistles away on her own. Mynahs are a mischievous type and can copy anything with their thick nasal voices. Fahim Sinha's Mynah keeps on repeating his master's name. "It takes about 20 minutes to teach Mynah a word and within 2 to 3 days they can master the lesson thoroughly," says Fahim.



These colourful world of birds include Love birds, Pigeons, Java Sparrow, Finch, Glory Violet and Glory Red, Parrots and many others. A pair of Glory Violet, with their spectacular colouring of crimson and violet — these birds are of the parrot family — cost about Tk 12,000 to 10,000," informs Fahim. This particular species feeds on fruits and cereals.

Usually birds eat wheat grains, beans, chilies, fruits, even sunflower seeds, it all depends on the particular species and their food habits. Dr M A Ali a veterinary practitioner informed that birds too get sick sometimes. The usual delicate looking birds have many fascinating habits and diseases too. Pigeon pox, infection, diarrhoea, vitamin deficiencies are among the common types of disease. For all these there are antibiotic capsules, vitamins and other tablets. Dr

M A Ali has about 1,000 birds and a bird shop but this is entirely a hobby he clarifies.

A pair of giribaz pigeon (tumbler) costs about Tk 2,500 and lakha (another beige pigeon) costs Tk 500 a pair. To have birds as pets can be as expensive and exciting as bird watching. All the people who have taken part in the show are very keen, they either have shops or are professionals who provide the birds for the shop owners.

The aquarium exhibition, however, has proved to be much more glamorous and elegant than the bird world. There were big aquariums interestingly decorated, with fish of different shapes, sizes and colours. Silver Aeron, a South African aquarium fish is perhaps the most expensive and intriguing one around. Fifteen inches long and totally white, this fish costs one lakh twenty thousand taka and is not for sale. "It feeds on worms and small fish; every day it eats shrimp and other small fish costing Tk 5," says Babu the owner. This fish, four inches tall, is 1 year and 2 months old.

Then there are the obscure, the flesh eating fish. A pair of them costs about Tk 5000 but the price depends on size. This price tag is only for 2 1/2 to 3 inches long oscur. This carnivorous fish is very colourful and has an interesting tail, and is collected from Indonesia. Discuss, another type of fish is originally from China, but is collected from Singapore and Bangkok. It feeds on insects, dried or raw. A pair costs Tk 4000. Nowadays our local fish likes tangra, puti, magur, pholl, or kot are also adjusted to aquarium life styles and have been on display in this show.

These unique displays deserve the prizes the Parjatan authority are offering. Dhaka-Jeddah-Dhaka, Dhaka-Cox's Bazar-Dhaka, and prize bonds, worth Tk 3,000, for both talking birds and aquarium. These are the first, second, and third prize respectively. For the aquariums, the first prize went to Hobby and Pet, second to Diganto and Auroro took the third. Auroro, Tahmina Khatun and Bird Palace took the prizes consecutively for the talking birds display.

Hobbies such as these are unique and expensive. They require patience and a lot of knowledge too. It is almost like taking care of your children. May be much more, because no matter how much they learn to talk or how much they have adapted to your ways, you still haven't learnt their mysterious language!

## 'Independence of Palestine must for durable peace'

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda said yesterday that the Israel-PLO accord was a decisive step towards the independence of Palestine, reports BSS.

Addressing a function marking the fifth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of Palestine Barrister Huda said, the independence of Palestine is a prerequisite for durable peace in the Middle East.

Sponsored by the Bangladesh Khademul Muslemin Society at a hotel in the city yesterday evening, the function was presided over by the president of the organisation, Maulana Yakub Sharafat.

Ambassador of Palestine Mohammad Sahta Zarab, Al-Haj A K M Moazzem Hossain and Mohammad Hafizur Rahman spoke on the occasion.

Referring to the prevailing relative calm in the Middle East, the Clinton Administration has earned its place in history by playing the catalytic role for the accord.

Dwelling at length on the long struggle of the Palestinians people, who became alien in their ancestral homes, Barrister Huda stressed the need for collective efforts for progress in the changed global scenario. "Let us join hands to replace tension with peace, instability with stability and hatred with love and fellow-feeling," he said.

Describing those who are the architects of the independence as 'visionaries' he said, "We salute them, and renew our regard for the struggle of independence of each and every nation."

He said that the Palestinians represent the indomitable urge for freedom since they have fought for over five decades.

Bangladesh is happy to have stood by the Palestinians throughout their long struggle, the minister added.

The Ambassador of Palestine had words of thanks for the people of Bangladesh for their support to the Palestinian cause.



The Bangladesh Khademul Muslemin Society organised a discussion meeting and a reception to M Sahia Zarab, Ambassador of Palestine in Bangladesh, on the occasion of the declaration of independence of the state of Palestine at Hotel Sundarban in the capital yesterday. Seen among those seated are Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda (C), M Sahia Zarab (extreme R). — Star photo

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

A USAID funded project requires the services of (1) a management and financial consultant, (2) an office manager/senior secretary, (3) a messenger/technician and (4) a driver. The successful applicants must have the following qualifications.

1. The management and financial consultant must have ten years of managerial experience with international development assistance projects. In addition to performing a small but high-level managing-consulting-office's accounting, logistics and administration tasks, the person must be able to consult with senior officials in Bangladesh Government ministries and agencies who may need the assistance of the project to simplify and streamline their administrative and accounting systems as they relate to project objectives.
  2. The office manager/senior secretary must have had experience at a similar senior level in a foreign contractor's office. The person must have an excellent command of English including the ability to edit. The person will also be expected to be competent in the use of, at least, word processing and spread sheet software and to be proficient in the use of all normal modern office equipment. The person must be able to organize and manage the office, carry out the office communications, be capable in protocol arrangements and have a pleasant personality.
  3. The messenger/technician must have had experience in working with foreigners. A good knowledge of English is required. The successful applicant must also have basic skills in operating office equipment and a willingness to help in any capacity in which requested.
  4. The driver must have worked a number of years with foreigners and have a good working knowledge of English. Being a safe and proficient driver is a must. Having capabilities as a mechanic is desirable.
- Please apply with a detailed resume, references, and a recent photograph by 23 November 1993 to: Advertiser, GPO Box 3645, Dhaka-1000. S-417

## Tk 16 cr road dev plan for Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Nov 15: Local Government Engineering Bureau (LGEB) has undertaken a massive programme at a cost of about Tk 16 crore to build rural communication infrastructure in nine thanas of Rajshahi District, reports BSS.

The programme will be implemented under 'Rural Development Project-7 with the financial assistance of World Bank during the current fiscal year.

Under the programme, three metalled roads with a total length of 32 kilometres will be constructed at a cost of Tk 11 crore.

The roads to be constructed are: Godagari-Kakonhat road at

Godagari Thana, Darusahat, Chowbaria road at Tanore Thana and Kharol-Dhopaghata road at Mohanpur Thana.

Work on carpeting on three other roads will be done at a cost of Tk 1.70 crore and the works are expected to be completed by June next.

Besides, three bridges at a cost of Tk 2.10 crore will be constructed under the project by June '95.

The LGEB will also construct seven rural markets and 30 small culverts at a cost of Tk 1.40 crore by June next in the district under the programme.

## Businessman robbed, stabbed

By DMCH Correspondent

One businessman was seriously stabbed by a group of dacoits while he was coming to Dhaka from Chittagong by a bus.

Azizul Haq, 25, was stabbed and robbed of Tk 45,000 and goods worth over Taka one lakh by the gang of dacoits.

## HC suspends cases against Ajker Kagoj

By Staff Correspondent

On an appeal by the Editor, cartoonist and other officials of the Daily Ajker Kagoj, to quash 14 criminal cases filed against the newspaper, the High Court was pleased to declare the proceedings of all the cases suspended.

The cases were filed by the leaders and activists of the Jamaat-e Islami, Bangladesh and its student wing, the Islami Chhatra Shibir in different districts of the country. The Editor of the daily Kazi Shahed Ahmed, cartoonist Dulal Chandra Gayen and some other staff were named as accused.

A High Court bench comprising Justice ARM Amrul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Mohammad Golam Rabbani, following a hearing of the appeal yesterday, was pleased to order the suspension.

Advocate Amrul Islam pleaded for Ajker Kagoj. He was assisted by advocates Shafiq Ahmed, Mahboob Alam and KM Saifuddin.



**Tuesday**

5.00	Opening announcement
5.10	Al-Quran Programme summary
5.30	News in Bangla
6.05	Mass education programme: Echo Para Shikhi Sports programme: World Cup Cricket '92 England vs West Indies
6.50	Open University Programme on modern songs: Sangecta
7.25	News in Bangla
8.00	Drama serial: Deyal (4th episode)
8.40	News in English
10.00	Film: ENG
11.30	Khabar/ The News
11.40	Tomorrow's programme summary
11.45	Closing

## JMS imparts training to 425 women

The Jatiya Mohila Sangstha (JMS) at its head office in the capital so far imparted computer training to 425 literate women to help them in self-employment generation, reports UNB.

This was disclosed yesterday at the 22nd meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Women's Affairs Ministry at Sangsad Bhaban chaired by the State Minister of the ministry Sarwari Rahman.

The meeting reviewed the updated activities of Jatiya Mohila Sangstha (JMS) and its 64 district branch offices.

It was also informed that JMS trained 1,800 women throughout the country last year in sewing, embroidery, leather works, weaving, wool knitting, cooking, confectionery, Batik printing, bamboo and cane works, typing, jute works and flower making.

The members of the committee Osman Gani Khan, Shaheda Sarker, Begum Noorjahan Yasmin, Begum Halima Khatun of BNP, Md Lutfur Rahman Chowdhury of Jatiya Party, Hafiza Asma of Jammal-e-Islami and Rowshan Ara Begum of Awami League attended the meeting.

## Chol visits Lalbagh Fort

Visiting Vice-Premier of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Chang Chol visited the historic Lalbagh Fort in the capital yesterday, reports BSS.

The vice-premier went round the fort-turned-museum and different sections of the fort complex. He witnessed a slide show on "Paharpur Vihara" and "Bagerhat Shat-Gambuj Masjid," an enlisted site of the world heritage list as archaeological relics. He also signed the visitors' book.

Later, Chang visited the design centre of the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) at Moti-hecl. He showed keen interest in the Bangladeshi handicrafts.

Deputy Minister for Education of DPRK U Gon Su and other members of the delegation accompanied the vice-premier during the visits.



## Philips awards announced

The Philips awards for Literature and Journalism '92 were announced yesterday.

Nasreen Jahan won the literature prize for her novel 'Urukku' while Ashraf Kaiser of Weekly Bichitra won the journalism prize for his investigative report on trade unions, says a press release.

The award is worth Tk 50,000 each and includes a trophy and citation.

This year (Bangla year 1399) there were 25 entries in the literature category and 36 for journalism. Of these, six entries in literature and eight in journalism were short-listed for the prize by the jury.

## Dhaka WASA Tender Notice

পানি ও পয়ঃ বিল নিয়মিত পরিশোধ করুন

Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class mechanical & electrical and Govt, Semi-govt & Autonomous bodies' ABC/BC licence holder mechanical & electrical contractors for supply of material for repair with re-winding of 1 No. 75 HP Newman, 1 No. 55 KW kirlosker, 1 No. 50 HP Newman, 1 No. 30 HP seimens motors at an allotted cost of Taka 1,04,108/=. Tenders will be received up to 12-00 noon on 22-11-93 and opened on the same day at 2-00 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their representatives.

Schedule of tender will be available at the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka & all MODS zone offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed descriptions will be available at the office of the undersigned.

Address: Mirpur, Dhaka  
WASA-P.I-512/93  
DFP(C) 18589-11/11  
G-1570

Ajit Kumar Ray  
Executive Engineer  
Workshop Division  
Dhaka WASA

## Weather

### Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

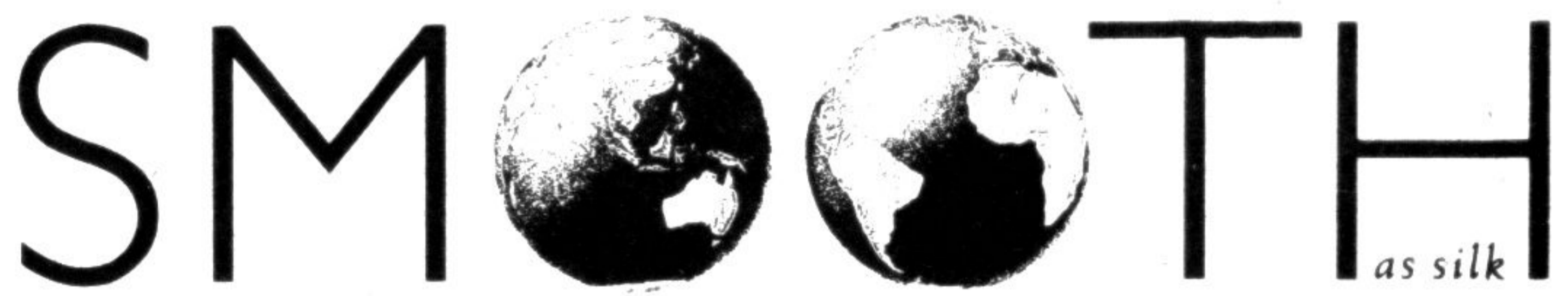
The weather forecast for the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Tuesday) says, dry weather is likely to prevail with temporary cloudy sky over the country while the night temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The Met office forecasts, rainfall likely within a week. Country's highest temperature yesterday of 31.3 degrees Celsius was recorded in Bogra and the lowest 17.2 Degrees in Dinajpur.

The sun sets today at 5:13 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:15 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	30.0	19.7	73	80
Chittagong	29.0	18.8	72	72
Rajshahi	29.8	18.2	76	78
Khulna	31.1	19.2	76	80
Barisal	30.5	19.2	91	87
Cox's Bazar	29.5	19.4	62	68
Dinajpur	30.0	17.2	80	75
Sylhet	28.5	19.6	87	83



## Twice a week to Dubai

DHAKA-DUBAI	TG513	WEDNESDAY/FRIDAY	DEP : 1720	ARR : 2035
DUBAI-DHAKA	TG514	WEDNESDAY/FRIDAY	DEP : 2135	ARR : 0345 next day

## Six times a week to Bangkok

DHAKA-BANGKOK	TG322	MON/TUE/THU/SUN	DEP : 1400	ARR : 1710
	TG514	THURSDAY/SATURDAY	DEP : 0445	ARR : 0755
BANGKOK-DHAKA	TG321	MON/TUE/THU/SUN	DEP : 1130	ARR : 1250
	TG513	WEDNESDAY/FRIDAY	DEP : 1500	ARR : 1620



Passenger Reservations & Ticketing : 834711-19  
Cargo (Zia International Airport) : 894462, 891308  
Zia International Airport Office : 894343, 894351