

Dhaka Day by Day

The neglected and forgotten

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

The scene on November 29th of a young woman lying on the footpath with blood pouring out of her mouth while a child lay sleeping on her worn out chest, was horrifying enough to attract a sizeable crowd that did little else except watch with morbid fascination. Pedestrians walked by after their initial shock was over, cars whizzed past after a cursory look. Nobody had time to help Kulsom Bibi who was struggling to stay alive for her two small children.

When the ambulance came, Kulsom Bibi, 30, refused to go. "I will never go back to the Medical (Dhaka Medical College), they will do nothing for me," she spluttered with blood dripping from her mouth. Between gasps and shivering, Kulsom related her story.

According to Kulsom, it was eight months ago, while travelling on a Mirpur bus, Kulsom and her two and a half-year-old daughter were pushed out of the vehicle just outside the Press Club by the conductor 'for creating a nuisance'. Kulsom believes it was that fateful fall that injured her insides and the cause for her frequent bleeding.

Kulsom has several blood stained prescriptions with DMC 'outdoor clinic' seals. According to her, she has been turned away several times from the clinic with a brusque 'your treatment is too expensive, go and raise the money first'. For Kulsom who survives by beg-

ging, this has been next to impossible. Her emaciated body and yellow eyes indicate years of having too little to eat and too much to bear.

Kulsom's is the usual story of the poor woman abandoned by a husband and left with small infants to take care of. She lives in a crowded basti near Kamapur Railway Station, the 'home'

from where she sets out everyday to beg on the streets of Dhaka. Now with a complicated and debilitating illness that racks her skeleton-like body and causes her to bleed profusely, Kulsom cannot beg to feed herself or her family. Neither can she pay for her treatment, without which she will surely die.

Kulsom's case is one among millions of other cases. She represents what economists call 'the bottom 20 per cent' — a section of the population that is deprived of basic needs and human rights. Treated with apathy and utter neglect these people resort to begging at the cost of their dignity and health. It is alleged that often they use their disability whether it is an infected leg or a huge tumour in the

neck, to beg. This however, does not excuse the government-run medicare centres funded by the taxpayer's money to provide free treatment to the poor, which turn away poor patients and treat them with indifference. For people like Kulsom, it is no better than being left to die on the streets.



A scene of the drama *Ghatak* on the second day of the ongoing "Street Drama Festival to mark the Liberation War" staged at the Jatiya Shaheed Minar yesterday. The Samoy, a cultural group, organised the festival. — Star photo

Steps taken to check environmental hazards: Mostafiz

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafiz Rahman yesterday said that the government had undertaken various programmes to develop the disaster management in the country, reports BSS.

He said the government had also taken necessary steps to check the environmental hazards.

The minister was inaugurating a day-long seminar on 'Disaster Management' organised by Defence Services Command and Staff College in the capital.

Relief Secretary M A Hakim presided while Commandant of the Staff College Major General Mustafa Kamaluddin spoke on the occasion.

The Foreign Minister said combination of economic growth and sound environment was essential for sustaining development of the country.

Delegation from 14 countries like China, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Malaysia, United States, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Kenya, Zambia, Turkey and Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre and Corn Field Disaster Preparedness Centre are participating in the seminar.

Romanian envoy makes farewell call on Biswas

Romanian Ambassador in Bangladesh Dumitru Mociolou made a farewell call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Exchanging views with the ambassador, President Biswas appreciated his contribution to strengthen cooperation and understanding between the two countries. He expressed satisfaction on the existing relationship between the two countries.

Biswas mentioned about various measures taken by the present government to give democracy an institutional framework on permanent footing.

He also referred to introduction of free market economy, privatisation and liberalisation of industrial policy to attract foreign investment.

The President also informed the ambassador about poverty alleviation efforts of the government, spread of mass education and population control for overall improvement of socio-economic condition of the people.

The outgoing Romanian Ambassador Dumitru Mociolou expressed his gratitude for co-operation of the government during his tenure.

Teachers' Federation team meets Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday sought teachers' cooperation in making the government's Mass Literacy Programme a success, reports UNB.

As the citizens of an independent and sovereign state, the responsibility of improving the living condition of the people lies with all of us and that can be achieved through enhancement of literacy rate," he told a delegation.

The 15-member delegation of Bangladesh Teachers' Federation led by its Chairman Shajada Nurul Alam Army called on the President at Bangabhaban.

President Biswas stressed that no children should be left out of school and advised the teachers to exert their social influence in enhancing the enrolment of students and take special care in imparting education to girl students so that in future the educated mothers could turn every home into a place of learning.

The members of the delegation expressed their willingness to assist the government in spreading education and improving the quality of education. Among others, Shamsul Haq, Abdul Khaleque, Jastimuddin, Mominul Haq, Laisuddin Chowdhury, Alaur Rahman were present on the occasion.

DU Economics Department

A six-member delegation of senior professors and final year students of the Department of Economics of Dhaka University called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Biswas exchanged views with the Professors on different aspects of the economy of the country and the SAARC region. SAPTA also came up in the discussion.

'Biman serves halal food only'

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan yesterday said that only halal food was being served on-board of the flights of Biman Bangladesh Airlines, reports BSS.

Making statement at the Jatiya Sangsad, the minister said since the day of its inception, Biman categorically instructed all flight caterers on its route to ensure that only halal food was supplied for on-board service.

He said that airlines of a few Muslim countries serve non-halal food on board to non-Muslim passengers. But to be on the safe side, Biman never allowed other than halal food for on-board service.

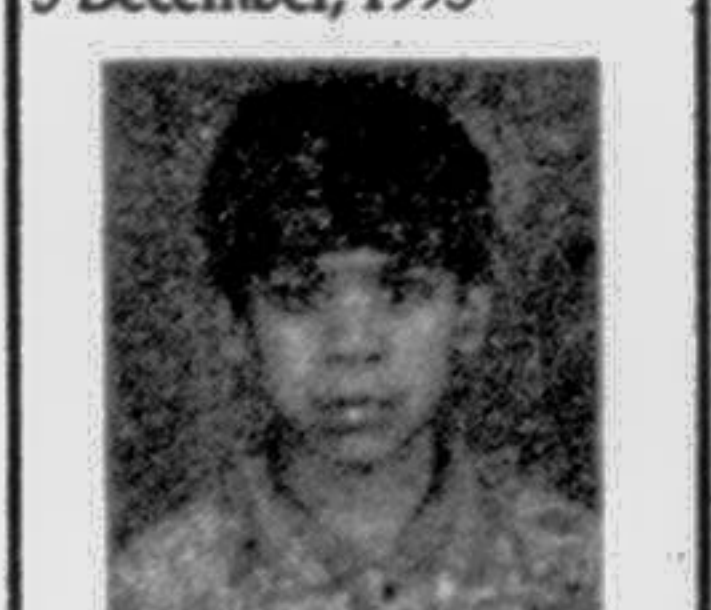
The state minister said food service menu was only being served in the first class and executive class.

38 arrested in city

Police rounded up 38 people, including nine wanted criminals, from different parts of the city yesterday on various charges, reports UNB.

All the arrested persons were produced before court.

Showon Shah Kibria second son of Dr Reza Kibria, turns seven today. 3 December, 1993



Happy Birthday to you, dear Showon
Baba, Subhash, Didu, Dada

Happy Birthday to JOY — Nakia

Anokhi

A Grand sale of dresses & exclusive sarees

on 4th Dec from 10am-8pm at Ho-37, Ro-5, Dhanmondi.

Huda tells Sangsad Autonomy of radio, TV not under consideration

Granting autonomy to the state-owned radio and television is not being considered by the government, said Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda yesterday, reports UNB.

The minister was replying to a question from AKM Jahangir Hossain of Awami League in Parliament.

To another question from Alhaj Syed Abul Hossain (AL), he said Bangladesh Television earned over Tk 11.27 crore against expenditure of more than Tk 6.27 crore in the first four months of the current fiscal year (1993-94).

In replying to Abul Kalam Azad of Awami League the Information Minister stated that transmission of Bangladesh Television programmes were interrupted 289 times spreading over nearly six hours till October this year due to power failure and mechanical troubles.

The minister said transmission of BTV was disturbed 284 times spreading over five hours four minutes because of power failure and five times for 55 minutes 20 seconds due to me-

chanical trouble. During the period transmission of Bangladesh Radio was interrupted 2,234 times for 82 hours 41 minutes due to power failure and 18 times spreading over 2 hours 54 minutes because of mechanical trouble.

25,580 bales of cotton produced

Factories under Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) produced 25,580 bales of cotton and 6,828 bales of clothes in four months till October of the current fiscal year.

Replying to a question of Sardar Shakawat Hossain Bakul of BNP, State Minister for Textile Major (Rtd) Abdur Mannan said 21,332 bales of cotton and 8,968 bales of clothes were sold till October against the stock of 53,733 bales of cotton and 27,240 bales of clothes.

Replying to a supplementary question of Nawab Ali Abbas Khan of Jatiya Party, Mannan said to state-owned textile mills were in the process of denationalisation.

Handicraft show of SPKS inaugurated

The biennial handicraft exhibition of the Sena Paribar Kalyan Samity (SPKS) got underway at the Old Airport Area, Tejgaon, yesterday reports BSS.

The nine-day exhibition was inaugurated by Chief of Army Staff Lt General Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan in the afternoon.

Patron of the SPKS Begum Sophia Khan, wife of the Chief of Naval Staff Begum Shirin Islam, chairpersons of the regional committees of the SPKS and members of officers' and soldiers' families of different cantonments were, among others, present on the occasion. Senior army officers including PSOS, GOCS and other formation commanders were also present.

After inauguration, the chief of army staff and other distinguished guests went around different stalls of handicraft, garments and other attractive items.



Chief of Army Staff Lt General Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan visiting a stall after inaugurating the handicraft exhibition of Sena Paribar Kalyan Samity at Dhaka yesterday. —ISPR photo

Notice

Change of Address Recruiting Agency Office. It is hereby announced that as per permission of Manpower, Employment & Training Bureau's Letter No-ES-RL-1061/93/2109 Dt-25-11-93 Micro Export House Office Address Changed as follows:-

Old Address: M/S. Micro Export House, 70-C P.O. Faldan Lane, Inner Ring Road, Nurul Memon (2nd floor), DHAKA.

New Address: M/S Micro Export House, Holding No-43-F, Road No-7, Banani Housing Estate, Banani, DHAKA.

It is hereby requested all the person's related with the Agency to collect necessary information & if there any complain or demand against the Agency, they may contract with the responsible Authority of New Address of the Agency & accordingly they will inform the subject matter of the complain to the Manpower Bureau.

Agency Name:- M/S. Micro Export House
PropName:- Mostafa Mahmud, License No. RL-448
Address- Holding No-43-F, Road No-7, Banani Housing Estate, Banani, DHAKA.

CONGRATULATION

Genetic Computer School would like to congratulate the following Bangladeshi students on their good result in NCC International Diploma In Computer Studies Examination. (March 1992 to March 1993)

- Rana William Roy
- Motinal Haq
- Kamal Ahmed
- Lutful Kabir Siddique
- Kausar Ali Bhuiyan
- Abdur Rahman
- S. M. Shafig Uddin Ahmed
- Asif Murad Chowdhury
- Sourav Biswas
- Helal Uddin
- Nawed Iqbal
- Farhana Sayeed
- Md. Ariful Alam
- Sheikh Nasim Ahmed
- S. H. M. Zamee
- Maruf Ahmed
- Zamanur Rashid
- Md Zobayer Shahid Islam
- S. Z. MD Rejwanuzzaman
- B. M. Abu Nashir

Admission Office
GENETIC COMPUTER SCHOOL
1 Selegie Road
#03-04 Paradis Centre
Singapore, 0718
Tel : 3397588, Fax : 3381442

BTV

Friday

- 8.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran
- 8.10 News in Bangla
- 8.20 Alor Dishari
- 8.50 Documentary film: Images
- 9.15 Live telecast of the Navana Premier Division Cricket league match — Abahani Kira Chakra VS Mohammedan Sporting Club
- 4:45 Bangla movie: Shukher Sangsher
- 7.40 Documentary film show on SAF Games
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Comedy series: Perfect Strangers
- 9.00 Magazine: Antorango
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Malancha
- 10.55 Drama series: L A Law
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Tomorrow's programme

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

The weather may remain dry with cloudy sky over the coastal regions and partly cloudy elsewhere over the country. Met Office forecasts night temperature may rise by one to two degrees Celsius over coastal regions and may remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country.

The country's highest temperature of 30.5 degrees Celsius was recorded in Bogra and lowest of 13.8 degrees Celsius was recorded in Dinajpur yesterday.

The sun sets today (Friday) at 5:11 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 6:26 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Max	Min	Humidity in percentage 9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	29.0	15.4	74	77
Chittagong	28.5	16.4	78	68
Rajshahi	29.0	14.8	77	82
Khulna	29.0	16.9	78	80
Barisal	29.2	15.8	78	79
Cox's Bazar	29.4	17.5	71	68
Sylhet	28.5	16.5	70	87
Dinajpur	29.5	13.8	80	70

SK+F

Excellence through quality

We are looking for young, energetic and ambitious people to join in our sales team as 'Medical Services Officer'. The deserving candidate must be science graduate or master in allied subjects having aptitude for selling with an ambition to build-up a career in the pharmaceutical field.

Candidate should personally report to Dhanmondi Govt. Boy's High School, Sobhanbag, Mirpur Road, Dhaka, for written test with detailed resumé and a recent passport size photograph on December 10, 1993 at 9:30 A.M.

ESKAYEF BANGLADESH LIMITED

52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

BCIC Sale Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিয়ারনে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Sealed tenders are invited by the Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria from interested buyers for auction sale of the goods stated in the undermentioned groups on "as it is where it is" basis. Interested buyers are requested to submit tender after inspecting the goods on the spot.

Ref No.	Description of goods	Quantity (approximate)	Price of tender document (non-refundable)	Date, time & place of opening tender
1. ZFCL/MPIC/090(1)	A) Old/Condemned aircooler, fridge, ice making machine, duplicating machine & calculator		Price of Tender schedule per set Taka 100/- (one hundred) only	22-12-93 at 11:00 AM at the office of the General Manager (MPIC), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (17th floor), Dhaka, or General Manager (MPIC), Zia Fertilizer Co. Ltd., Ashuganj, B'baria.
2. ZFCL/MPIC/0224/	B) Old/Condemned photocopy machine & its spare parts		Price of tender schedule per set Taka 50/- (fifty) only	29-12-93 at 11:00 AM at the Office of the General Manager (MPIC), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (17th floor), Dhaka, or General Manager (MPIC), Zia Fertilizer Co. Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria.
3. ZFCL/MPIC/090(2)	C) Old/Condemned CGI sheet, furniture, automobile tyre & battery		Price of tender schedule per set Taka 100/- (one hundred) only	05-01-94 at 11:00 AM at the Office of the General Manager (MPIC), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (17th floor), Dhaka, or General Manger (MPIC), Zia Fertilizer Co. Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria.

Tender schedule can be procured on cash payment from the following addresses on working days.

- A) Cash Section, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31 Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka.
- B) Cash Section, BCIC Branch Office, 6 Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong.
- C) Cash Section, Zia Fertilizer Co. Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria.

No tender schedule will be sold on the date of opening tender. Tender with earnest money & the tender reference number superscribed on the envelope, should be submitted in the prescribed box at the said offices within the prescribed time and the tenders will be opened on the same day at the same time before the tenderers (if any) present. The ZFCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

BCIC-1180-27/11
DFP (BA) 10777-28/11
G-1668

Zahirul Islam
General Manager (MPIC)
for Managing Director