

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

Exploring Through Time

by Fayza Haq



Time and People

"Despite the distortions, semi-abstracts and symbolisms, people will understand modern paintings if they have a fascination for more than the obvious. The subjects of my art are the many dimensions of time and people. People see what they wish to see and judge by the basis of their environment and knowledge. My objective is to search the truth and ultimately achieve Nirvana," says Nazir Ahmed who had his 4th solo art exhibition at the Alliance Francaise recently.

Nazir, who has been travelling, studying and working for eleven years abroad adds, "Bangladeshi artists take part in exhibitions in far-flung places and they do well. The language of the artist is international. Our artists have gone beyond the traditional boat and the village wife, which they must. They are experimenting with time and space. The artists' minds are not ignorant of the progress of science. They are doing pieces that are modern and match the space age. While we adhere to our culture, we should also keep an eye on the progress of time. In the present days you cannot always be realistic and yet keep pace with the latest scientific knowledge that surrounds you. In their works the artists try to express the truth."

"Hunting" which is divided into four panels, depicts a man hunting down an animal which looks like a monstrous rodent, and which in turn is chasing another beast. In this symbolic piece the artist wishes to convey his belief that there is not a good balance between man and nature.

"Adam and Eve" has a woman on the left hand side with her male counterpart sketched on the right. The tree of knowledge is visible, along with birds and flowers. Here the artist has delineated the religious concept of the beginning of man.

"Time and People"-6 shows people huddled in thought and discussion. Behind is an armless clock. In this the artist wishes to portray how man has been trying to adjust himself with the passing of time. He is shown as merely existing, neither laughing nor crying, taking things as they come in their stride.

The three sons of Noah along with the ark can be seen in "Time and People"-7. In this the artist again dwells on the origin of man and has used orange, pink and black to delineate his thoughts. Swirls and intermingling sketches too have been brought in.

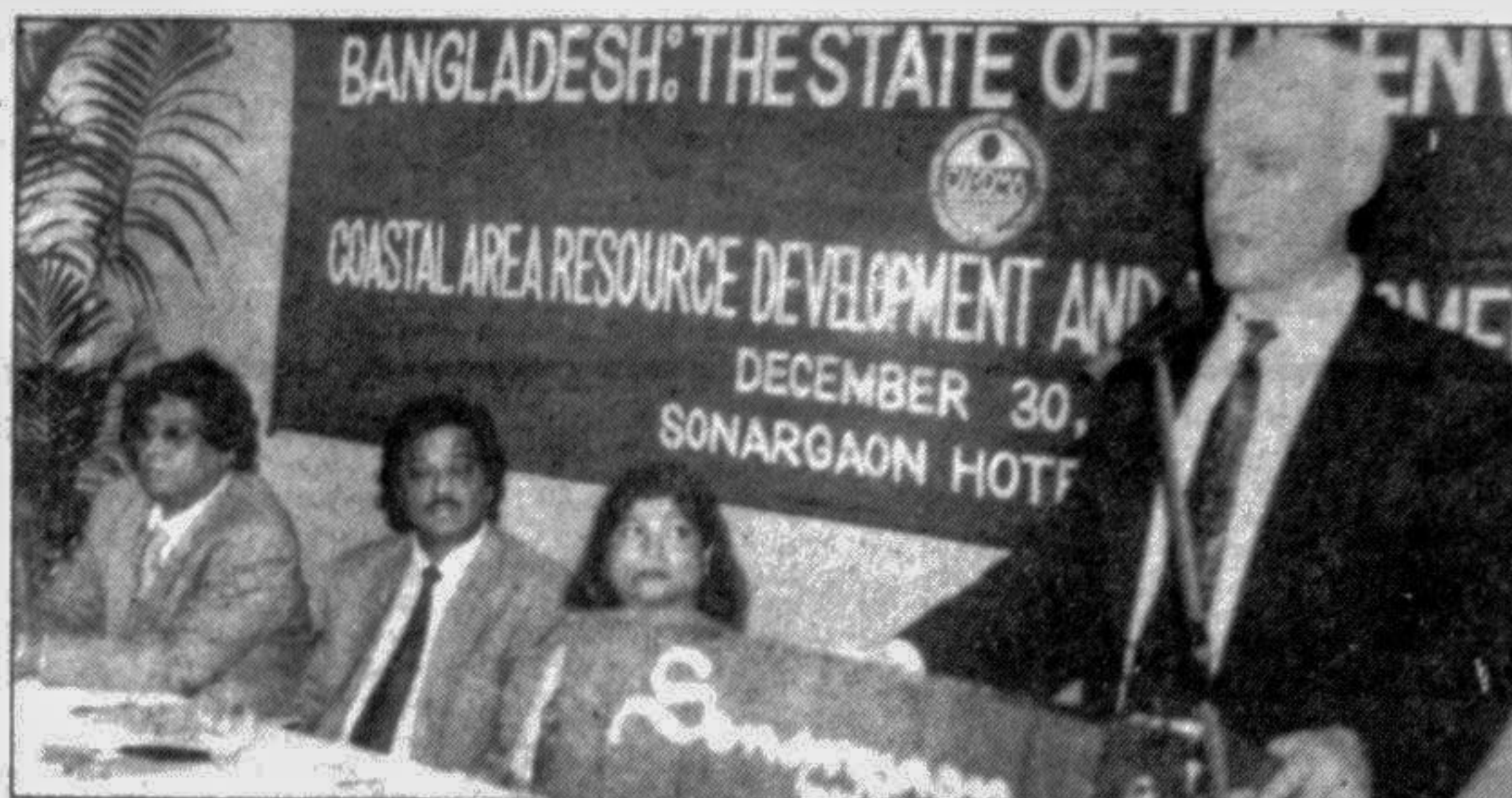
In "Time and People"-8, the artist is again contemplating on the subject of the listless existence of people. What they are achieving and how they are passing their time. There is a bird with a human figure much smaller than the bird in the background. At the bottom and top are green leaves.

There are strange birds and animals in yet another "Time and Space" creation, which has used the primary colours, red yellow and blue, and not cared for the perspective. There is the depiction of battles of both ancient and modern times to show the constant conflict between the present and older concepts. There are angles to represent the good elements, while the animals stand for the misguided. Clouds at the back and leaves in front are there to create rhythm in this yet another surrealistic piece.

There is a man riding a bird, a figure holding a book and a square of yellow in the background in "Time, Space and People"-13. In this the artist is probing to find out how man learnt to fly. The cage in front is the cage of knowledge in whose pursuit man is constantly struggling.

One finds a chair which symbolises power, with many people depicted as striving to achieve it in "Fighting for Power". The common man is shown lying down helplessly in the forefront of the composition. Using water colours the artist has shown trees with branches, mature pink and white blossoms in "Angel Moment." This is an idyllic, impressionistic creation, with delicate washes of blue, grey and pink. This monotype depicts the happy occasions in the life of man. This is a departure from Nazir's usual pessimistic vision.

Nazir, who has held two solo paintings in Oslo, Norway, and in Washington, USA, has been an assistant teacher in printmaking at the National College of Art and Design in Oslo.



James Nach, Charge d'Affaires of US Embassy in Dhaka, speaking as chief guest yesterday at a discussion on "Bangladesh: The State of Environment" — a recent publication of Dr Jamal Anwar published by the Coastal Area Resources Development and Management Association (CARDMA). Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley (2nd L seated), Chairman, Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB) presided. The photograph shows Mrs Hasna Moudud, President CARDMA and Dr Jamal Anwar (1st L).

DUJ confce begins Speakers for greater unity among newsmen

The two-day annual conference of the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) began in the capital yesterday with a call for forging greater unity among the members of the Press to consolidate the democratic rights and freedom of expression of the people, reports BSS.

Held at the auditorium of the Jatiya Press Club, the conference was attended by the chief Editor of Financial Express and former President of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) Reazuddin Ahmed as the chief guest.

Presided over by the DUJ President Zahurul Huq, the inaugural session was addressed by BFUJ President Gias Kamal Chowdhury, senior Vice-President Manzoor Ahmed, Secretary General Amanullah Kabir and DUJ General Secretary Ruhul Amin Gazi.



Jabbar Khan's qul today

The qulhwani of late Alhaj Abdul Jabbar Khan will be held today at his Mayakanan residence.

Jabbar Khan, a pioneer in the film industry of Bangladesh and a former district governor of Lions Club, breathed his last Tuesday night. He was buried at the family graveyard at Mayakanan the next day. The family of late Khan has requested all relatives, friends and well-wishers to attend a milad mahfil after Maghreb prayers on the day at their residence and to pray for the departed soul, says a press release.

Jahangirnagar Theatre enters its 13th year

By JU Correspondent Jahangirnagar Theatre entered its 13th year amid festivity.

The three-day long festival that ended Wednesday on the Jahangirnagar University campus was marked by theatrical performances and discussions. Poet Shamsur Rahman inaugurated the festival on Monday hoisting national flag at the Cafeteria premises. Former Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui attended the programme as the chief guest with Ahmed Reza as the moderator.

Editors, senior journalists and a large number of members of the DUJ attended the inaugural session.

The speakers recalled the contribution of the journalists in all the progressive movements of the people, particularly in the last anti-autocratic struggle and took a fresh vow to uphold the dignity of the profession.

They demanded of the government to repeal the provision of arresting journalists for published a news arguing that there was no such provision of arrest in any civilised society. They however, suggested the strengthening of the Press Council adding that if any arrest was to be made, there should be prior permission of the Press Council.

They strongly demanded for necessary amendment to the Printing and Publication Ordinance providing appointment of professional journalists having minimum experience of 15 years as an editor before giving declaration to any newspaper. Such a provision has become urgent and important to maintain the dignity and responsibility of the editorial institution and promoting fair journalism, they argued.

In his address as the chief guest, Reazuddin Ahmed pleaded for a comprehensive policy for the smooth growth of newspapers as an industry in the country.

In this connection he sought cooperation of the government, political parties and the people at large for institutionalising the newspaper industry suiting to the imperative need of a democratic society.

Regarding the disunity among the journalists, Gias Kamal Chowdhury said the BFUJ was committed to remove such disunity and bring back organisational discipline.

The BFUJ president said the door of the union was always open for all.

Biswas attends BDRCS' AGM

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday called upon the members of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society including the young volunteers to be inspired by the ideals and principles of serving the distressed and the needy selflessly, reports BSS.

He said despite resource constraints, the society contributed immensely towards alleviation of sufferings of the people through its humanitarian and voluntary activities at the time of natural calamities and implementing welfare oriented programmes in the affected areas.

President Biswas who is also the president of the society was speaking at the inaugural session of the 21st annual general meeting of the BDRCS at the auditorium of the B A Siddiky Red Crescent Nursing School in the capital.

The function was addressed, among others, by Minister for Health and Family Welfare Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society Syed Shahidul Haque Jamal, MP, Principal Abul Kalam Majeed, MP, M A Jinnah MP, Abu Yusuf Mohammad Khalilur Rahman, MP and Mohammad Moshirur Rahman, MP.

President Biswas said the relief activities undertaken by the BDRCS for the Rohingya refugees to mitigate their sufferings were highly acclaimed by the world community. He said the society also played a vital role in post-flood rehabilitation, relief and medicare initiatives in 1991 with the active cooperation of the IFRC and German KFW and setting up of cyclone shelters in the coastal belts of the country.

Filipino envoy makes farewell call on Khaleda

The outgoing Ambassador of the Philippines to Bangladesh Cesar C. Pastores yesterday appreciated the government efforts for economic development, reports BSS.

Pastores, who will leave soon at the end of his four-year tenure here, made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and added it had achieved economic progress.

The ambassador also lauded the government's programmes on rural development and spread of education.

Khaleda greets Hungarian PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has felicitated Dr Peter Boross on his assumption of office as the Prime Minister of Hungary, reports UNB.

In a message yesterday, Begum Zia hoped that the existing friendly relations between two

countries will be further strengthened under the able leadership of Dr Peter.

She wished the new Hungarian Prime Minister good health and all success, and progress and prosperity for the friendly people of Hungary.

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ALUMNI SOCIETY
ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER '93
3:30 p.m. Friday 31 December 1993.
Venue : English Department, DU
All alumni are cordially invited to attend. They are also invited to join the RIVER CRUISE on Friday 21 January 1994.
The alumni are requested to bring passport-size photographs and brief career-sketches to be included in A History of the Department of English.

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Infantry battalion leaves for Kuwait

The first batch of the main body of the Bangladesh mechanised infantry battalion led by Major Md Abdul Hoque left Dhaka for Kuwait yesterday, reports BSS.

They will join the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM).

They were seen off at the Zia International Airport by senior army officers including representatives from the armed forces division.

Five other batches of the battalion are expected to leave Dhaka by January 13 next.

National book fair begins tomorrow

The 15-day fifth national book fair begins from January one at the Osmany Auditorium in the capital under the sponsorship of the National Book Centre, reports BSS.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof. Jahanara Begum told a press conference yesterday that the book fair would be inaugurated by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

In connection with the book fair, a big rally will be held today from Public Library to the

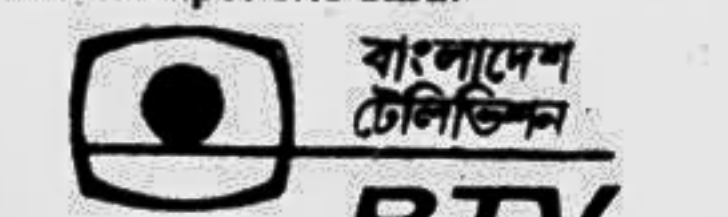
Osmany Auditorium. The rally will be participated, among others, by scouts, girls guide, Shapla-Doel, Grantha Suridh Samity, writers ad publishers, the state minister said.

The fortnight-long fair will remain open from 3 pm to 8 pm and there will be an entry fee of Taka two. The entry coupon will be later used for a lottery to give three prizes.

Prof Jahanara, who dwelt on the activities of the National Book Centre, disclosed that the

centre was going to organise book fairs in many international capitals.

She also said that the national book policy, which Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia committed last year to frame would be announced soon. She also explained reasons of delay in drafting the policy as it needed to be checked by many sectors. The policy is now in a final shape, she said.



Friday Morning Session

8.00	Opening announcement
	Al Quran
	Programme summary
8.10	News in Bangla
8.20	Alor Dishari
8.40	Natun Kur
10.05	Moner Mukurey: Ayomoy (8th episode)
11.15	Film show: Tarzan
11.40	Sikkha Dikkha
11.55	Documentary: Images
3.00	Afternoon Session
	Opening announcement
	Al Quran
	Programme summary
3.15	Cartoon show: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
3.40	Movic of the Week: Send Me No Flowers
5.10	News in Bangla
5.25	Jatra
7.00	Open University
7.25	Malancha
8.00	News in Bangla
8.30	Comedy series: Perfect Strangers
9.00	Magazine: Ityadi
10.00	News in English
10.30	Drama series: L A Law

Weather

Dry weather likely

Dry weather with partly cloudy sky is likely to prevail over the country.

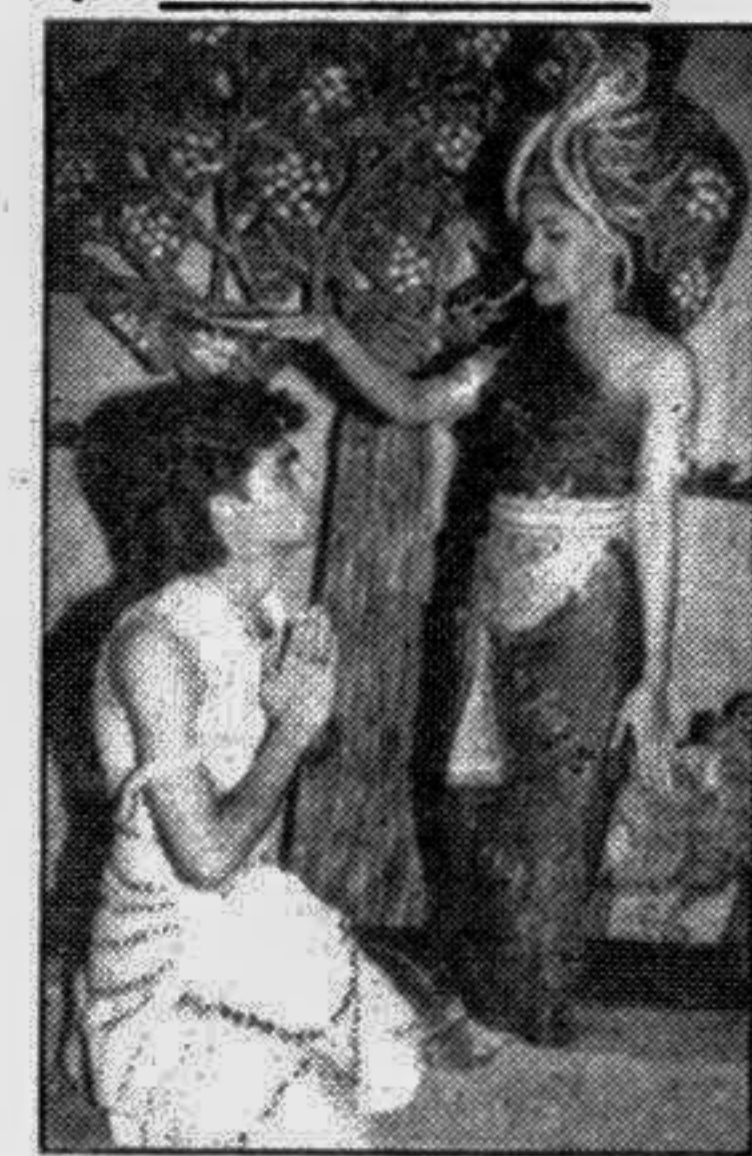
Met. Office forecasts slight fall in night temperature is expected over the country.

The country's highest temperature of 27.3 degrees Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and lowest of 10.8 degrees Celsius was recorded in Srimongol yesterday.

The sun sets today (Friday) at 5:22 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 6:42 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperatures in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	26.5	14.0	80	72
Chittagong	26.2	15.5	77	74
Rajshahi	25.8	13.2	92	77
Khulna	25.4	14.5	89	73
Barisal	24.7	13.8	85	85
Sylhet	26.5	13.4	79	78
Cox's Bazar	27.0	16.5	73	74
Dinajpur	25.6	12.3	93	73



A scene of a play Foolmat staged yesterday at the auditorium of Engineers' Institution. The Kazi Riazuddin Road Social Welfare Samity organised the performance.

TENDER NOTICE
ALIGARH OLD BOY'S ASSOCIATION
146, MOTIHEEL COMERCIAL AREA, DHAKA-1000
Aligarh Old Boy's Association invites offers from reputed construction firms with experience of constructing multi-storied building costing not less than Tk. 80 lakhs for construction of 3-stories of a 7-storey building in its office premises 146, Motiheel Commercial Area, Dhaka.
The design and drawings and other particulars will be made available on payment of Tk. 2,000.00 (Taka Two thousand only, non-refundable) from office Secretary of the Association at 2nd floor, 146, Motiheel C/A., Dhaka from January 4 to January 16, 1994 daily from 11.00 A.M. to 1.00 P.M.
The last date of submission of offer is 17th January, 1994 upto 12.00 A.M. at the same office.
The tenders will be opened at 12.30 P.M. on the same day in presence of the bidders if any. The Association reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.
General Secretary.

Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)
Noakhali Road Division, Noakhali
Tender Notice
No. E/N/87 & 88 of 1993-94
Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from bonafide enlisted contractors of RHD, general category according to their financial limit of power.
The tender will be received by the Superintending Engineer (RHD), Comilla Road Circle, Comilla & by the undersigned up to 12-30 PM on 03-1-94 & will be opened at 12-45 PM on the same day in their respective chamber in front of the interested tenderers who like to remain present.
Tender form/schedule of items of work & the set of addl. terms & conditions etc. can be seen in the office of the Addl. Chief Engineer (RHD), Comilla Zone, Comilla/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Comilla Road Circle, Comilla/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Noakhali/Comilla/Planning & Design Division, Comilla & S.D.E. (RHD), Road Sub-Division, Noakhali/Ramgonj/Lakshimpur/1st line Workshop under this Division during office hours. Tender form, schedule of item of work & addl. terms & conditions etc. will be available for purchase from the office of the EE (RHD), Road Division, Noakhali/Comilla/Planning & Design Division, Comilla & S.D.E. (RHD), Noakhali/Ramgonj/Lakshimpur/1st line workshop during office hours.
No tender form will be sold on the date fixed for receiving of tender.

Sl. No.	Name of work with location	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Date of receipt of Tender	Time allowed for completion of work	Eligibility of Contractor
1.	Tender Notice No. E/N/87 of 1993-94 Repairing the existing damaged Brick pavement (H.B.B.) at 1st (P), 2nd (P), 3rd (P), 4th (P) K.M. & 5th (P) Kilometer of Sonaimur-Senbag-Chandrerhat Road under Noakhali Road Division for the year 1993-94. Ch. to: "NICAR"	Tk 4,47,885/-	Tk 8,958/-	03.1.94	35 (Thirty five) days only	'A' to 'E' Class General category enlisted contractor of RHD, only.
2.	Tender Notice No. E/N/88 of 1993-94 Construction of Brick pavement (H.B.B.) over Brick flat sloping in/c necessary Earthwork at Bridge approaches of Odamander Bailey Bridge under Noakhali Road Division for the year 1993-94. Ch. to: "NICAR"	Tk 3,17,213/-	Tk 6,345/-	03.1.94	30 (Thirty) days only	-do-

Md Rafiqul Islam
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Noakhali
DFP (G) 21536/23/2
G-1798