

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

The Enquiry Culture

by Parveen Anam

The Dhakaite is an interesting species; and if this reads more like a promise than a statement, you do not necessarily have to agree on this point. But again, we are so used to being told exactly what to do and how to think, that we will all probably agree with whatever is meted out to us, courtesy the media. And the newspaper to be exact.

Here we are, trying to enlighten ourselves by perusing the early morning papers eagerly each day. We are told, day after day, how what is being done is for our good and good only.

how the traffic situation is what it is so we can practice patience, how the law and order situation is so marvellous that the police do not even have to register any more cases and so on and so forth.

And of course, the questions to which the mighty authorities do not have any answers, are summarily referred to the "Enquiry Committee". Where oh, where would we be, we wonder, without the trouble-shooters of all, the immortal Enquiry Committee?

Now, for those of us who are puzzled, let us try and explain. Say, for example, you want a problem like your telephone overbilling solved.

The T&T will promptly refer you to an Enquiry Committee. That is the last you will ever hear of our problem from the T&T but your bills will continue to arrive.

Again, if you are curious about the security situation at the country's premier international airport, refer to the findings of the Enquiry Committee. Marvellous invention, these Enquiry Committees. The Dhakaite would be at a total loss, if he had to sit there and start solv-

ing all his problems. Now of course! all he has to do is refer his problem to the eternal Enquiry Committee and all his problems are solved. If men in uniform go on rampaging in port cities, mowing down civilians, the Enquiry Committees are supposedly taking care of everything. It is an entire culture of its own, this enquiry culture and something to be noted by the reputed anthropologists in days to come.

The other wonderful fact to be noted about these wonderful creations is their total anonymity. Oh to be sure, names of distinguished personalities are mentioned, as heading these 'committees', names which merge with the committees never to be heard of again. Either the name, the committee or its supposed findings. Actually, we should try and be more magnanimous perhaps and give credit where it's due. It's a most creative, efficient way of doing things certainly. Gives the 'authorities' so much more free time to indulge in their other more important activities the likes of which I shall leave to the imagination of the imaginative Dhakaite.

The imagination of course can also come under the scrutiny of the Enquiry Committee.

And if in the meantime, the beleaguered taxpayer has any questions, remember to refer it to the Enquiry Committee. After all, at the end of the day, the Enquiry Committee is being paid for by none other than the tax payer. Believe it or not. And of course, it might not be such a bad idea to constitute an Enquiry Committee, to look into the matters of the Enquiry Committees.

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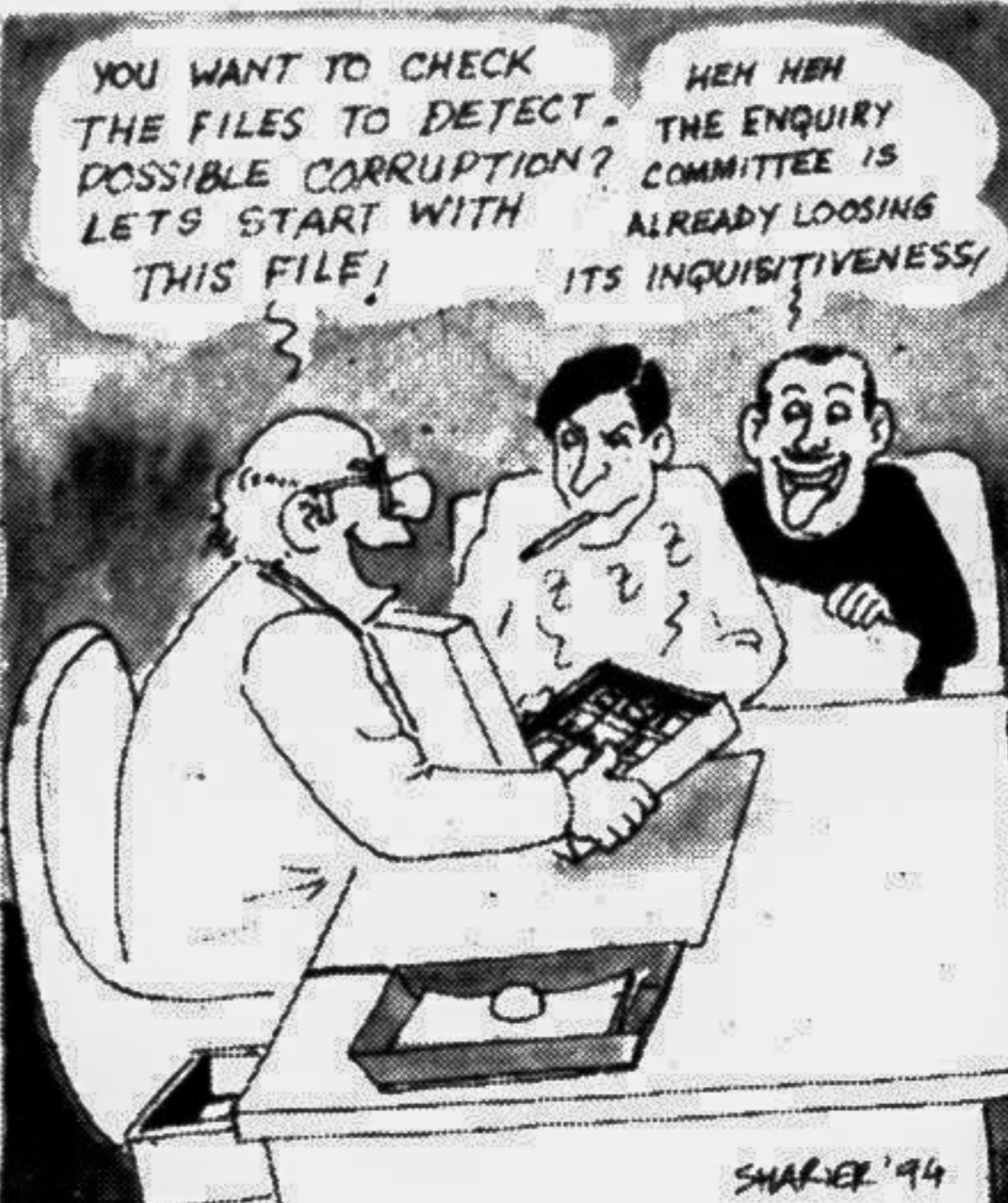
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Reconsideration of banning poly bags likely

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda yesterday urged the journalists to create public opinion against pollution through dumping of waste in the Bay of Bengal, reports UNB.

Some developed countries conduct military experiments and dump industrial waste in the Bay of Bengal polluting the

sea and environment but "We cannot lodge strong protest as our people are not united".

He said the government is planning to reconsider the ban on the production of polythene bag as it was told by a group that recycling of the polybags will reduce the environmental hazards.

The minister was address-

ing the inaugural function of the biennial conference of the Forum of Environmental Journalists (FEJB) at the Jatiya Press Club in the morning.

Referring to the Farakka issue, Barrister Huda said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had raised the issue in the United Nations and world opinion responded positively.

No alternative to edn for economic growth: Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday called for non-government initiatives to ensure education for all, for the country's economic prosperity, reports BSS.

Addressing the annual award distribution and guardians day programme of Dhaka Residential Model College at the college premises here, the President said there is no alternative to education for the economic growth of a country.

The more a country is advanced in education, the more it is economically prosperous, he said citing the ex-

ample of some South Asian countries including Thailand, Malaysia, South Korea and Japan.

Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar attended the function as the special guest while, it was addressed by Education Secretary and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the college Mohammad Irshadul Haque.

Principal of the college Prof Mohammad Abdul Haq presented the annual report of the college.

Weather

Temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

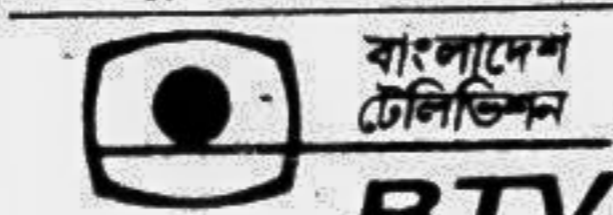
Dry weather with fair sky is likely to prevail over the country during the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Saturday).

The Met Office forecasts, slight rise in night temperature is likely over the country.

The country's highest temperature yesterday of 29.2 degrees Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and the lowest 7.8 degrees in Srimangal.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperatures in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max.	min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	26.1	13.5	67	58
Chittagong	26.6	13.8	75	53
Rajshahi	25.2	11.5	77	63
Khulna	26.0	12.2	75	63
Barisal	26.5	11.8	82	56
Cox's Bazar	27.6	15.5	73	55
Sylhet	27.0	11.9	75	61
Dinajpur	24.5	10.3	87	56



Saturday BTV

4:30 Opening announcement

4:45 Programme summary

Cartoon: Stories to Remember

5:10 News in Bangla

5:25 Moner Katha

6:00 Shuksangan

6:25 Samachar

7:05 Bansharee

8:00 News in Bangla

8:30 Mat-O-Manush

9:00 Anirban

10:00 News in English

10:30 Drama serial: Dallas

11:30 Khabar/The News

11:40 Tomorrow's programme summary

11:45 Closing

Islamic literature seminar

CHITTAGONG, Jan 21: Fisheries and Livestocks Minister Abdullah Al-Noman inaugurated a three-day international seminar on Islamic literature at Darul Marif of the Islamia Complex, Chandgoan here this morning, reports BSS.

The seminar, first of its kind in Bangladesh, is being held under the auspices of Chittagong branch of International League of Islamic Literature (ILIL), an organisation founded in 1981.

Rose Festival Feb 11

The Annual Rose Festival '94 will be held on February 11 at the Dhanmondi Women Sports Complex at 9 am, reports UNB.

The Chief Election Commissioner Justice Abdur Rouf, will formally inaugurate the festival which will be sponsored by the Bangladesh National Rose Society.

Certificate awarding ceremony held

A certificate giving ceremony was held at the auditorium of Institute of Modern Language of Dhaka University yesterday, reports UNB.

State Minister for Planning Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan, distributed certificates among the participants of short courses in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Japanese languages.

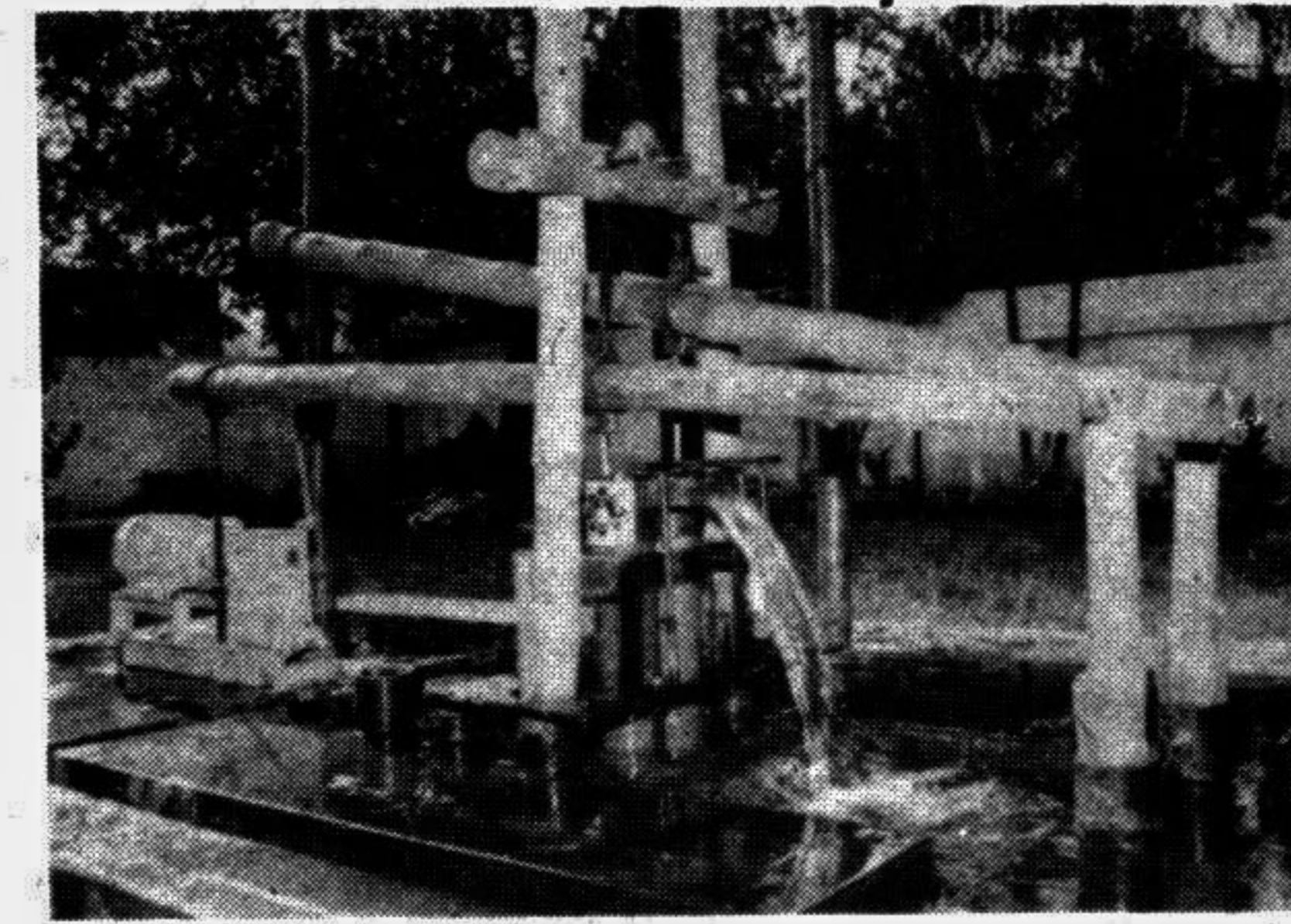
Jahanara opens fair

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof. Jahanara Begum yesterday said that the rich and the affluent in the society could do a lot for the welfare of the destitute women and underprivileged children, reports BSS.

"Unfortunately many among the rich do not come forward to discharge their social obligation," the minister lamented while inaugurating a fair here.

একটি ডিপটিউব ওয়েল থেকে ১৫ হাজার টাকায় কি করে সম্ভব?

দেখার জন্য ২২ থেকে ২৪ জানুয়ারী হোটেল শেরাটনে ইউ, এস, ট্রেড শোর কৃষকবন্ধু স্টলে আসুন



সেচ সমস্যার সহজ সমাধান

যোগাযোগ করুন:



কৃষকবন্ধু শোরুম

বাড়ি নং ১৫, সড়ক নং ৭, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা ফোন: ৮৬৬৯০৩, ৫০৯৭৮১

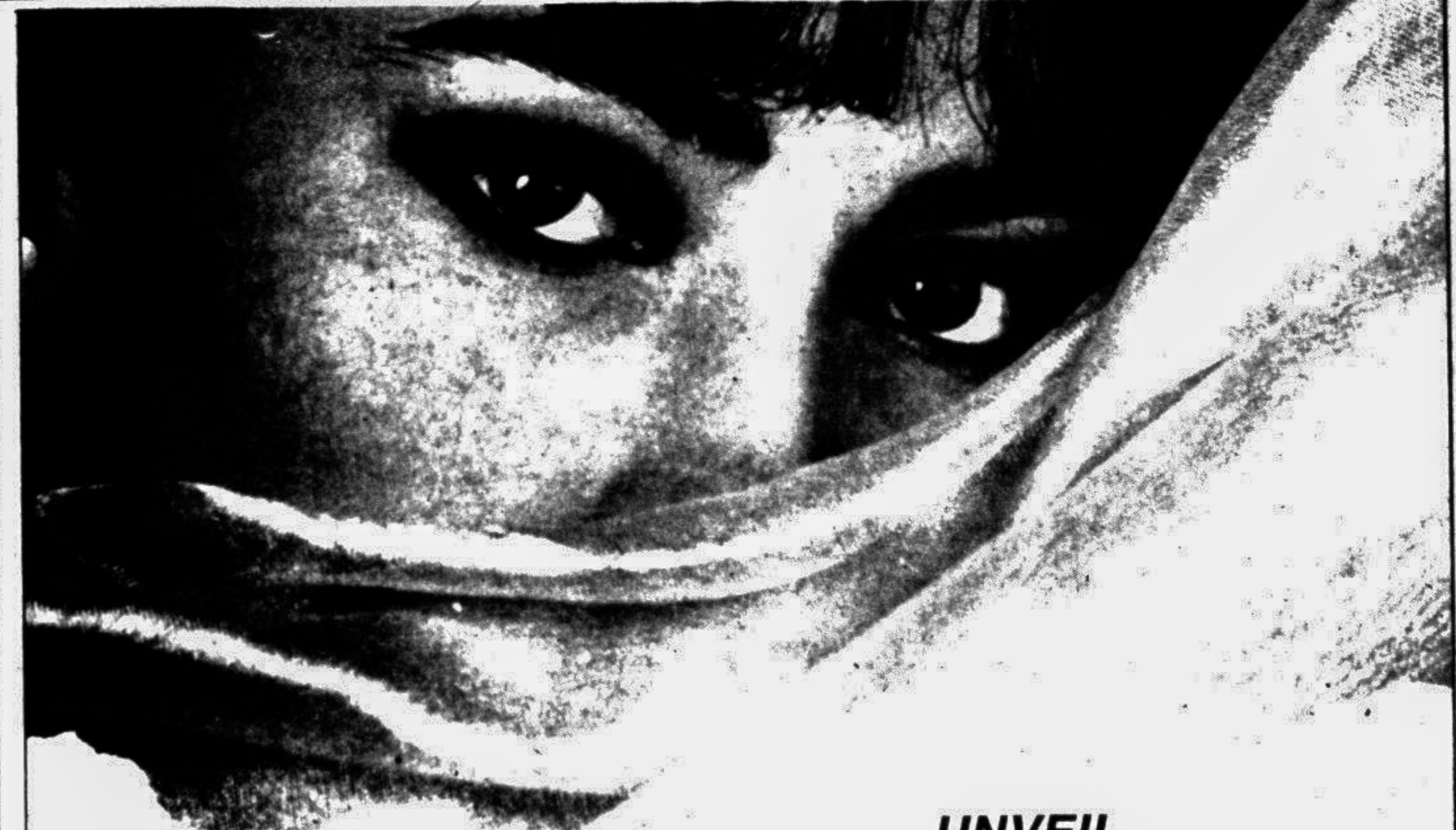
চকোলেটের ব্যাপারে আবার বয়স কি?



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একমাত্র পরিবেশক: কল্লোল ইন্টারন্যাশনাল লিঃ ১৯৯, তেজগাঁও লিঙ্গ এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮ ফোন: ৬০৩২৫৫, ৬০৬৯৬০ ফ্যাক্স: ৮৮৬৯৬৯

এই তো চকোলেট! এই তো স্বাদ!



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