

Dhaka Day by Day

Reward for Hard Work

by Shamsad Mortuza

Starting as a cub-scout in a remote village in Rajbari in the 50s, Mohammad Abu Hena kept up his attachment as a Scouter or organiser of the scout movement for the last 20 years or so despite his preoccupation as a government official. His long devotion to the noble youth development programme was aptly rewarded

recently when the Geneva-based Organisation of World Scout Movement (OWSM) announced him as a winner of the 'Bronze Wolf'. "I was impressed," the soft-spoken former diplomat gave his reaction, sitting at his seventh-floor office room in the Ministry of Jute. "Rarely does one get such an honour," a ripple of pride crossed the face of the Secretary when he added, "Robert Baden Powell was the first to receive the Bronze Wolf."

The official letter announcing the award highlighted the outstanding service of exceptional character of Abu Hena in promoting the Scout movement. "Interestingly, the announcement reached me late as I was already on my way back to Dhaka from Manila," Hena, the then Ambassador to Philippines, said. Energy Secretary and the immediate-past International Commissioner, Faizur Razzak was the first to inform Ambassador Hena of the prestigious award, which was later confirmed by the re-routed mail.

"On my return I was offered the International Commissioner's post once again which I gladly accepted," said Ambassador Hena, noting that his predecessor Secretary, Faizur Razzak was doing just fine.

Abu Hena left the post in the scout body in 1990 when he left for Japan as a Bangladesh envoy. As an International Commissioner, Abu Hena has represented Bangladesh at various regional and global meetings and conferences. "In 1983 I was made aware by a UNICEF spokesman of the bleak condition of the child mortality and I was trying to think of something capable of involving the scouts to help the suffering humanity," the Ambassador said. "In 1985, at the Scout Jamboree at Wellington, New Zealand, I proposed that the scouts be sent to the service of the suffering community," he recalled.



Mohammad Abu Hena

Australian scouter, Alby Gamble picked up the idea and we launched BACH (Bangladesh Australia Child Health), he went on. Since its inception, in 1986, 239 scouts from Australia have visited Bangladesh and worked in 16 remote areas for the improvement of rural child health. "The Australian boys have helped the local people in sinking tube-wells, improving sanitary system, and carrying out health awareness programme," the Scouter said.

"The BACH programme has earned admiration both at home and abroad and several countries are also contemplating to replicate the BACH programmes," Ambassador Hena informed. Inspired by his father, Principal of Havashpur Kasimbazar High School at Pangsha in Rajbari, Abu Hena joined the scout troupe. With his roots in village, he always wanted to bring about improvement in villages. "The best way to keep the youths within the village is to involve them in jobs and social services," Abu Hena, who is also the President of the Rajbari Zila Samity, said. Holding an important government post, one may wonder, how does Hena get himself involved with all these voluntary services? "Well, if you are organised — which is the main attribute of a scout — you can do everything without hampering your work," the Secretary assured.

Surprisingly, the interest of the literature-major and a former teacher of the Dhaka University, Mohammad Abu Hena's interest lies in astro-physics, comparative religion and history. "But, for light reading I prefer Jeffrey Archer, Sydney Shelton and Fredric Fraucet," the Ambassador said. After resumption of work as the International Commissioner, Abu Hena wanted to work for the qualitative and quantitative improvement of the scouts.

Right now the scout density in Bangladesh is 1:319, which is fourth in this Asia Pacific region. The apex body of scouting OWSM has already adopted a 12-year plan to improve the quality and quantity of the scout members. Accordingly Scouter Abu Hena intends to promote the development of the local scouts.



Industries Secretary A H M Abdul Hye speaking as chief guest at a seminar on 'Expert-oriented Economy and Handicrafts' at the Viswa Sahitya Kendra auditorium yesterday. The Handicrafts Manufacturers and Exporters' Association organised the seminar. —Star photo

Tk 7.37 cr BRDB loan for landless

RAJSHAHI, Feb 24: Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) under 'rural poor cooperative project' has undertaken a programme to disburse loan amounting to Tk 7.37 crore in the current fiscal, reports BSS.

The loan will be disbursed among the poor and landless people under the project area comprising 82 thanas of greater Rajshahi, Pabna, Kushtia and Jessore districts. The five-year long Tk 147-crore project has started functioning in 1993. It aimed at alleviating poverty through providing training and credit facilities to the poor and landless people by organising them under cooperative societies.

Under the project, 558 male and 732 female landless cooperative societies consisting 13,379 male and 16,570 female members respectively have so far been formed. About 5,300 members of different cooperative societies were also imparted training during the first one year of the project on self-employment activities like cattle and poultry farming, handicrafts, small business etc.

Director General of BRDB Aiyub Kabri recently visited the project office.

Moyeen tells JS 54 pc of population above poverty line

Poverty alleviation efforts have made some headway in recent years as nearly 54 per cent of the country's population are now above the poverty line, reports UNB.

This encouraging sign was revealed in Parliament yesterday by State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan while replying to a supplementary during the question hour. He claimed that since the present government assumed power in 1991, about 30 per cent of those who had been living below poverty line for 20 years were elevated to a better living.

The government has given top priority to the poverty alleviation and allocated Tk 1801 crore for the purpose in the current Annual Development Programme (ADP), Dr Khan said. Replying to a question from Khan Tipu Sultan (AL), the state minister said there were 11,98,156 destitute or landless families in the country according to a 1983-84 agricultural census.

Besides, according to a 1986 sium census, there were 1,37,965 landless families in Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna metropolitan areas, he added. Meanwhile, BSS adds: State Minister for Planning said the government would make a survey of the displaced population and slum dwellers this year. Dr. Khan said the Social Welfare Ministry had been implementing a Tk 4.77 crore project to organise displaced children and mothers for making them productive and self-reliant through social and practical education and vocational training. Some 22,500 displaced families and women would be directly or indirectly benefited by this project, he observed.

Tk 33.13 crore had been spent during the last five years for the rehabilitation of landless families under 'self-reliant ideal village' project of the Land ministry. Over 800 ideal villages have been established during the time when 1,00,000 persons of 32,000 landless families have been rehabilitated. He said a total of 58 non-government organisations had been involved for socio-economic uplift of the rehabilitated families throughout the country.

Plan to raise number traffic police Government has a plan to raise the strength of traffic police of Dhaka Metropolitan city to tackle with the growing traffic problems. Stating this in Parliament Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury told Shah Md Rafiqul Bari Chowdhury (JP) that the present strength of traffic police and sergeants in the capital city is 1,119. Total monthly salary for officers and employees of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) is Tk 2,92,90,648, the minister said in reply to a question from Kazi Abdur Rashid of Awami League.

The Home Minister told parliament that 32 people were killed by dacoits and hijackers in six months till December 31, 1993. Replying to Sharfuddin Khasru (JP), the minister said there were 385 cases of dacoity and 541 of hijack during the period which claimed 32 lives. He said that 525 dacoities were committed and 2,294 people arrested on charges of dacoity in seven months from June 1 to December 31, 1993. The Home Minister told Mohiuddin Ahmed (AL) that 563 people were killed and 816 others injured in some 878 road accidents during the seven-month period (June-Dec '93).

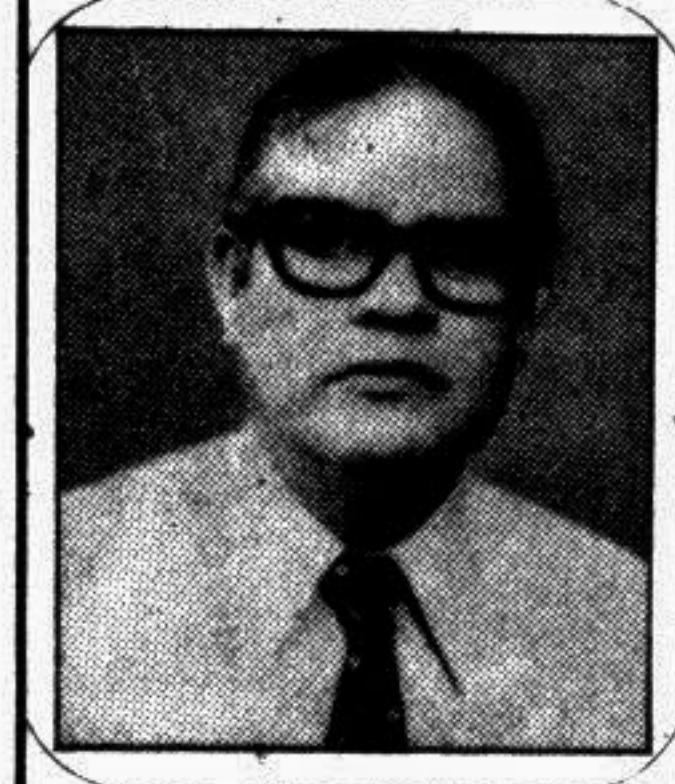
Some 1,281 cases of murder were filed in the first six months of the current fiscal year, he informed Parliament. Of them, charge sheets were submitted in 393 cases, he said replying to a question from Tabibur Rahman Sardar of Awami League. Responding to a question from Haji Rashed Mosharraf (AL), the minister said 498 people were convicted under the Arms Act during 1991-92 and in the first six months of 1992-93 fiscal year. BSS adds: Replying to a question of Awami League member Zaimul Abedin Hazari, Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury said that more stern laws should be enacted to stop smuggling with an iron hand.

BPATC activities report presented

The 17th meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Establishment was held yesterday at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with State Minister for Establishment Barrister Aminul Haque in the chair, reports BSS.

A report on the activities of Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) was presented in the meeting. Since its inception in 1984 at Savar, BPATC has trained over 10 thousand officials at different levels in 224 courses. The meeting was informed that the centre was governed by a board of governors comprising 13 members and State Minister for Establishment Barrister Aminul Haque as its president. The main aim of BPATC is to train the officials and develop their knowledge, attitude and efficiency in order to smooth implementation of the nation-wide development activities and maintain proper public administration. A project at a cost of over Tk 43 crore is now under process. Establishment Secretary Habibur Rahman, rector of BPATC Kazi Mohammad Manzoor-e-Mowla were present in the meeting.

We Remember You



Mrs Zobaida Huda Zeenat, Yusuf, Shabine, Yasmin, Shabnam, Shahnaz, Sons-in-Law, Daughter-in-Law and Grand Children

Faruq Aziz Khan's remarkable book on Liberation War **SPRING 1971** Available at Alokepat at the Bangla Academy Boi Mela

বিক্রিৎ এজেন্সীর দণ্ডর স্থানান্তর সম্পর্কে বিজ্ঞপ্তি
একতারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, জনশক্তি কর্মসংস্থান ও প্রশিক্ষণ ব্যুরোর পক্ষ দ্বারা—ইউএস-আরএল-৮৪২/৯১/৪১৮(২) তারিখ ১০-০২-৯৪ ইং দ্বারা অনুমতি ক্রমে সেন্টার এন, এম, বি ইউআরএলএল এজেন্সীর দণ্ডর নতুন টিকনার স্থানান্তর করা হইয়াছে।
পুরাতন টিকনা: বাকী নং-১৯, রোড নং-১৩, ব্রক-ডি, কানালী, ঢাকা।
নতুন টিকনা: বাকী নং-১৯, রোড নং-১৩, ব্রক-ডি, কানালী, ঢাকা।
সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ সকলকে এই মর্মে অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে যে, এজেন্সীর তথ্যাদি সংগ্রহের জন্য এবং এজেন্সীর বিরুদ্ধে কোন অভিযোগ বা শাস্তি লাভের আশঙ্কায় তাহারা যেন উপরোক্ত নতুন টিকনার এজেন্সীর দায়িত্বশীল কর্মকর্তাদের সহিত যোগাযোগ করেন ও অভিযোগের বিবরণকে জনশক্তি ব্যুরোকে অবহিত করেন।
এজেন্সীর নাম: সেন্টার এন, এম, বি ইউআরএলএল
লাইসেন্স নম্বর: আরএল-২৭৬
টিকনা: বাকী নং-১৯, রোড নং-১৩, ব্রক-ডি, কানালী, ঢাকা।

President, PM greet Kuwaiti Amir

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday felicitated Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait on the occasion of its National Day, reports UNB.

In a message the President expressed his confidence that the friendly ties binding the two brotherly countries will be further strengthened in the coming years. He wished Amir Al-Sabah personal well being, happiness and long life and continued peace, progress and prosperity for his people.

In a separate message Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia also greeted Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait on the occasion of National Day of his country. In the message Begum Zia conveyed her heartiest greetings and warmest felicitations on the auspicious day.

She said "I take this opportunity to reaffirm my conviction that the close fraternal ties and excellent cooperation existing between our two countries will be further developed and consolidated to the mutual benefit in the years to come."

The Prime Minister wished the Amir good health, happiness and long life and continued peace, progress and prosperity of the his countrymen.



Friday

- Morning session**
- 8.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran
 - 8.10 Programme summary
 - 8.15 News in Bangla
 - 8.15 Alor Dishari
 - 8.40 Educational programme: Shikha Dikha
 - 9.00 Cartoon show: The Amazing Spiderman
 - 10.05 Moner Mukurey: Ayomoy (15th Episode)
 - 11.15 Film show: Tarzan
 - 11.40 Prescription
 - 11:55 Documentary programme: Images
 - 12.30 Closing

Afternoon session

- 3.00 Opening announcement Al-Quran
- 3.15 Programme summary
- 3.15 Cartoon show: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 3.50 Movie of the Week: The Man Who Knew Too Much
- 5.15 News in Bangla
- 5.25 Sports programme
- 5.45 Mahe Ramadan
- 7.00 Open University
- 7.25 Modern songs programme: Malancha
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Comedy series: Perfect Strangers
- 9.00 Programme on Fakir Lalan Shah
- Ekatarate Shur
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Drama series: L.A Law
- 11.15 Khabar/The News
- 11.25 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11.30 Closing

AMADEUS INT. SCHOOL
H # 645/A (Old), 83/A (New), R # 21 (Old), 11/A (New)
Dhanmandi R/A. Phone # 324651
ADMISSION GOING ON, LAST DATE 20.03.94, CLASS III 'O' LEVELS
IT DOES NOT COST TO KNOW ABOUT OUR SYSTEM. TALK TO US ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S EDUCARE.
WE OFFER:
• Quality Education • Highly Experienced & qualified Teachers
• Full-time schooling 5.5 days/week in the morning & 6 days/week in the evening.
• Weekly Movie based on English Literature 'O' LEVEL SYLLABUS DISCUSSION AFTER THE MOVIE BY EXPERTS.
• Free coaching for the students from class III-VI in the afternoon.
• SAT IN CLASS IX.

India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Ceylon Conferences
NOTICE TO TRADE
BUNKER ADJUSTMENT FACTOR
ADVICE IS GIVEN THAT A BUNKER ADJUSTMENT FACTOR OF 2 PCT WILL APPLY FROM MONDAY 7TH MARCH 1994.
DATED 23RD FEBRUARY, 1994

Consultant Wanted for Agroforestry Research & Demonstration Project

Applications are invited from Bangladesh nationals for the appointment of local consultant to conduct Research on Agroforestry Research & Demonstration Project.

Name of Consultant	Duration	Qualification & Experience	Salary
1. Policy Analyst	6 (Six) months	Candidate/Candidates should have basic degree in Social Science/Forestry/Law with 5 (five) years of experience in research and policy analysis on issues relating to forestry and/or land management	Tk 30,000 (Thirty thousand) fixed

The detailed TOR can be collected from the office of the Project Director on office day between 8.00 AM to 2.30 PM.

Applications duly marked on the outside cover of the envelope "Policy Analyst" should be received by 8th March 1994. Interested candidate are requested to apply with C.V. 4 (Four) copies and passport size photograph for each CVs to the undersigned.

A. Z. M. Shamsul Huda
Project Director
Agroforestry Research & Demonstration Project
Ban Bhaban, Mohakhali
Dhaka-1212

DFP (G) 2878-12/2
G-306

Weather

Temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with fair sky is likely to prevail over the country. Met Office forecasts night temperature may fall by one to two degrees Celsius over the country. Country's highest temperature of 29.2 degrees Celsius was recorded in Taknaf and lowest of 10.2 degrees Celsius was recorded in Dinajpur and Srimongol yesterday. The sun sets today (Friday) at 5:59pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 6:24am. 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	25.2	12.5	48	40
Chittagong	27.0	16.4	57	44
Rajshahi	25.0	10.5	71	58
Khulna	26.8	12.0	66	-
Barisal	27.0	12.4	65	43
Cox's Bazar	28.0	18.5	52	44
Dinajpur	25.3	10.2	70	48
Sylhet	25.6	11.8	71	48

Heartiest Felicitations to the Government and the Friendly People of **THE STATE OF KUWAIT** on the Occasion of **THEIR NATIONAL DAY**

Kallol Industries Ltd.
199, Tejaon Industrial Area, Dhaka, Phone: 603255, 606160
Manufacturer of 'Fay' brand Facial Tissue, Paper Napkin, Toilet Paper & Cotton Buds.