

Dhaka Day by Day

Developing Children's Intellect

by Aasha Mehreen Amin



Children are seen participating in the short drama 'Sadeq Ali' in the function arranged for reception of 12 Shaheed Freedom Fighter's families in December, 92.

In a country where there is far too much emphasis on text-book education, a centre for children's intellectual and cultural development is indeed welcome. Shiri Shishu Shahitya Kendra is such a centre where the emphasis is on bringing out a child's creativity in making him aware of his surrounding, his past and his future. The best part is that this process of learning, so vital for any child's development, is done in a playful way so that there is no danger of any resemblance to a dreary old classroom. Founded in February 1992 by Hasanur Rahman a known writer of children's books, Shiri tries to give children something beyond just cultural exposure. It also tries to make them aware of their history and their environment. In this regard one of Shiri projects has been to introduce its child members to Mukti Joddhas and their families. On December 12, 1992, Shiri organised a reception for the Shaheed Mukti Joddha families. A similar reception was given in December last year to accord recognition to twelve living Mukti Joddhas. This was the first time, says Hasanur Rahman, Shiri's director, that Mukti Joddhas were being recognized by a children's organisation.

The event was a special one, for, it gave the children a unique opportunity to hear first-hand stories of war experiences related by the Mukti Joddhas themselves. For the children, the experience was as thrilling as it was moving. In this way, says Rahman, the children not only got to know the Mukti Joddhas but it also gave them an idea of what the war had been

like instead of having an abstract knowledge of it. Shiri's committee consists of many well-known writers of children's literature, Hasanur Rahman being one of them. The number of children involved include 50 general members and are aged up to 10 years old.

Every three months Shiri arranges cultural programmes which are presided over by writers and other well-known personalities. The children perform — sing, dance, play act, recite poetry and show off their talents. Venues of these shows are usually the premises of a school and when that is not available they take place in the living room of a member. Shiri also arranges special programmes to give children lessons in singing and art.

In addition to this Shiri also brings out a magazine every year. This includes short stories, poetry and drawings of the children as well as writings of authors of children's fiction.

Although Shiri has started out in a modest way it plans in the future on extending its programmes outside of Dhaka. For now it is concentrating in the city encouraging children to keep in touch with their cultural and intellectual environment. This kind of awareness can be seen in 10 year old Majrufa Alam's article on Sita Kunda hill range.

She describes her excursion to Chittagong which starts off as a fun trip but ends up in her shocked realization that the hills have been stripped of their green forests by indiscriminate felling. She criticizes the people responsible and appeals to the government to take action against them.

The Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Mukti Joddha Dal accorded a reception to the Tribal Repatriation Committee of Chittagong Hill Tracts at the auditorium of National Sports Council yesterday. Seen seated (from L to R) in the picture are Rashed Khan Menon MP, Communications Minister Oli Ahmed, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder and Minister of State for Sports and Youth Sadeq Hossain.

— Star photo

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— Star photo

Directorate General Defence Purchase Ministry of Defence

New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Re-Tender Notice

- Sealed re-tenders in local currency are invited from bona-fide Producers/Dealers/Suppliers/Indentors (Not necessarily be enlisted with this Directorate General) for supply of 50,000 Boxes Matches Safety for Defence Services.
- Tender schedule with detailed specification will be available on payment of Tk. 10/- (Not refundable) from 23-2-94 to 20-3-94 on any working day between 0800 hours to 1200 hours. The tender will be opened on 21-3-94 at 1000 hours in presence of tenderers (if any).

ISPR (Misc) 94/363

DPP (G) 3359-19/2

G-324

Asstt Director Purchase (Army) for Director General

Rly's advance tickets from Mar 4

The Bangladesh Railway will sell advance tickets of all inter-city trains from Dhaka and Chittagong stations for home-bound Eid passengers with effect from March 4, reports BSS.

Railway has made special arrangements at the two stations for selling advance tickets. Advance tickets for journey on March 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 will be sold on March 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 respectively.

Refund of tickets for the above period will not be allowed.

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather is likely to prevail over Bangladesh with partly cloudy sky over Rajshahi and the regions of Kushtia, Tangail and Mymensingh.

Met Office forecasts, night temperature may rise by one to two degrees Celsius over the country.

Country's highest temperature of 31 degrees Celsius was recorded in Satkhira and lowest of 11.6 degrees Celsius was recorded in Rangpur yesterday.

The sun sets today (Monday) at 6.01 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 6.21 am.

The maximum and 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	29.2 14.0	62 50
Chittagong	28.7 14.0	61 42
Rajshahi	29.0 12.8	71 52
Khulna	30.7 12.8	66 47
Barisal	30.0 13.2	77 56
Cox's Bazar	29.5 16.4	56 52
Dinajpur	28.0 12.6	70 45
Sylhet	27.0 14.0	75 52

Metropolitan



Leaders of the Pathak Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad (Jute Mills Workers' Employees Action Council) at a press conference yesterday at its office. — Star photo

JS body meet told

About 8 lakh tonnes food in stock

The country has a food stock of about 8 lakh metric tons and the rice stock is adequate enough to meet the distribution under Public Food Distribution System (PFDS) for nearly a year, reports UNB.

This was informed at the 22nd meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Food Ministry, held at Sangsad Bhaban yesterday with Food Minister Mir Shawkat Ali in the chair.

The committee reviewed the price level of rice, its present stock and production in the country and expressed satisfaction over the overall food situation.

It opined the price of rice has become stabilised due to open market sale at 12 places in the Dhaka city. The government will take

adequate steps to monitor the price of rice and, if needed, open market sale will be started at any place where the price rises.

The meeting was also informed that production of IRRI-Boro paddy would be upto expectation in the coming season.

It expressed deep shock at the death of Abdul Baten, former State Minister for Education and BNP standing committee member.

The members of the committee — MA Matin and Salauddin Quamran of BNP, Mosharraf Hossain and Mirza Azam of Awami League and Azizur Rahman Chowdhury of Jamat-e-Islami — and Food Secretary Dr Taufique-e-Elahi Chowdhury were present.

Preservation of Bir Sreshthas' graves under consideration

The issue of preserving the graves of Bir Sreshthas of the Liberation War is now under active consideration of the government, reports BSS.

Agriculture, Irrigation and Flood Control Minister Major General (retd) Majid-Ul-Huq told this Jatiya Sangsad yesterday. He said that out of the seven Bir Sreshthas, graves of four were located in different parts of the country.

The grave of Shaheed Fit Lt Motiur Rahman is located in Pakistan, while the grave of Shaheed Lance Naik Munshi Abdur Rauf who died in Rangamati hill district could not be identified yet, he said and added the body of Shaheed Sailor Ruhul Amin of Bangladesh Navy could not be recovered after the ship, on which he was serving, was destroyed on December 10, 1971.

He said the government might consider setting up a memorial in honour of the Bir Sreshthas if there was a proposal.

In reply to a question, the



Monday

4:30 Opening announcement
Al-Quran
Programme summary
Educational programme: Can You Do It?
5:10 News in Bangla
5:20 Special programme on diabetes
5:42 Programme on Ramadan: Mahe Ramadan
6:15 Sports programme: Football
6:50 Open University
7:15 Nazrul Songs
8:00 News in Bangla
8:30 Janamat
9:05 Vara Nadir Bankeye
10:00 News in English
10:30 Comedy series: Murphy Brown
11:00 Documentary: The Great Moghals
11:15 Khabar/The News
11:25 Tomorrow's programme summary
11:30 Closing of session



Dr Wajih dead

Dr A A M Wajih, MBE, first Indian Surgeon General of undivided Bengal and the erstwhile East Pakistan, died Friday in Dhaka. He was 94, says a press release.

Dr Wajih comes of an illustrious family of Bengal. He was the son of late Moulavi Mohammed Mahmud, a renowned educationist and A D P I of Bengal. He was the grand son of Moulana Mohammed Wajih, the founder of Calcutta Alia Madrasa and Fort William College and also a signatory to the Calcutta University Charter as an Indian.

Dr A A M Wajih for his outstanding services in the medical profession and in the Eastern front medical mission during World War II, was awarded 'Merit of the British Empire' (MBE). He was buried at Banani Graveyard after Zohr prayers Saturday. His qurbani will be held after Asr prayers today at 88, Santinagar, Dhaka. He left behind a son and host of relatives, admirers and friends to mourn his death.

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Biswas visits Tariqul Islam

President Abdur Rahman Biswas visited the ailing Post and Telecommunication Minister Tariqul Islam at Diabetic Hospital yesterday, reports UNB.

Tariqul Islam is now under treatment at the hospital.

President Biswas stayed with the ailing minister for sometime and enquired of his welfare.

SPACE AVAILABLE

Few floors (each floor 4000 sq ft) at J. K. Bhaban, 30 Kakrail (VIP) Road are to be let-out immediately.

Interested Firms/Corporations and Agencies may contact Mr. Seraj or Mr. Islam at site. Phone : 403925.

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA DHAKA SAARC FELLOWSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Government of India, will offer one SAARC Fellowship and two SAARC Scholarships to Bangladeshi students. These Scholarships/Fellowship are available for regular post-graduate course as well as for M. Phil, Ph. D, post Doctoral Research courses.

- All Bangladeshi students interested in applying for the above Scholarships/Fellowship are requested to route their applications through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh.
- The applicants should have secured over 70% in their HSC examination. Candidates applying for regular post-graduate courses must have a first-class bachelors degree from a recognised university. Candidates applying for M. Phil and Ph. D degrees must in addition have the first-class masters degree from a recognised university. Candidates applying to the post-doctoral Fellowship programme must possess the above requirement including a Ph. D from a recognised university.
- Applicants are also informed that a copy of their application must simultaneously be sent to First Secretary (Information), High Commission of India, Road No. 120, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka.
- Application forms for the Fellowship/Scholarships can be obtained either through the Bangladesh Ministry of Foreign Affairs or from Information Wing, High Commission of India, Dhaka.
- Last date for receipt of completed applications is 15th March, 1994.
- For further information, please contact Information Wing, High Commission of India, Dhaka, either personally or on phone (865096 or 507743). D-151

BANGLADESH OPEN UNIVERSITY PROJECT

House-16, Road-2, Dhanmondi R/A

Dhaka-1205

Memo No-BOU/Admn-37(11)/1994/1631

Dated : 24-2-94

TENDER NOTICE FOR PHOTOCOPIERS

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the Project Director/Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh Open University from the bonafide local Agents/Supplier/Distributor for the supply and installation of Photocopies which shall have the origin in eligible member countries of the Asian Development Bank.

- Tender No : 11 (Procurement)/93-94.
- Item : Photocopier.
- Place of selling tender schedule : Bangladesh Open University Project, House No-16, Road No-2, Dhanmondi, Dhaka.
- Place of dropping tenders : do.
- Last date and time for selling tender schedule : 08-03-94 (Up to 2-00 PM).
- Price of schedule (Non-refundable) : Taka 500/- (Five hundred only).
- Date & time for receipt of tender : 09-03-94 (Up to 12-00 Noon).
- Date & time for opening of tender : 09-03-94 (At 12-30 PM).
- 2% (two per cent) of Total Quoted Price in the form of Account Payee Bank Draft/Pay Order from a scheduled bank in favour of Project Director/Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh Open University Project.
- Validity of tender : 90 (ninety) days from the date of Bid closing.

Project Director/Vice-Chancellor
Bangladesh Open University Authority.

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RENATA LIMITED

(Formerly Pfizer Laboratories (Bangladesh) Limited)

Registered Office : 6/3, Segun Bagicha

G.P.O. Box -303, Ramna, Dhaka-1000

Date: 27th February, 1994

(IN ABBREVIATED FORM)

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the shareholders of Renata Limited will be held at Hotel Purbani International, 1, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000 on Wednesday, the 23rd day of March, 1994 at 10.00 A.M. to transact special business and to consider and pass with or without modifications special resolutions amending Clause VI of the Memorandum of Association of the Company and Articles 3, 96, 105, 180 of the Articles of Association of the Company.

Draft Special Resolutions for consideration by shareholders at the EGM together with Proxy Form have already been sent to the shareholders of the Company by registered post.