

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Shopping Mall with Tempting Offers

by Rashed Mahmud Titumir

Economically as well as politically, the world has undergone transformation more rapidly during the past few years than at any time since 1945. The emerging international economy is both competitive and inter-dependent and reflects changes occurring in the very nature of the private enterprise. And now, even the most domestic-oriented firm is extending its geographic reach as its suppliers and customers are being increasingly located in diverse places across the continents.

On the same token, if harmony is the heart of globalisation, Bangabazar Hawkers' Market's philosophy is unity in diversity. People of different culture and climes, religion and race, caste and language flock together to make their purchase. Inside the market the atmosphere is enlivened by natives and foreigners bargaining over shirt prices, excited teenagers swarming at the jeans corner, young parents with trailing children on the way to the toy-shops. People feasting their eyes on the sumptuous collection of clothing, rubbing shoulders with each other in the narrow spaces between rows of shops on each side.

After a decade of its coming into existence, Hawkers' markets, like Bangabazar, have become major commercial attractions. But Bangabazar's speciality is all too obvious. Its transformation over the years too has been an economic necessity. Interestingly enough, it has maintained relationship with the name of the incumbent American presidents all through. Thus the inception of this market can be traced back to the presidency of Nixon. During his tenure old or second-hand garments from abroad poured into Bangladesh, mainly to meet the demand of the poorer sections of our society. Today the market contin-



The motto is to please a foreign customer.

— Star photo.

The rapid expansion of just been a consequence of urban growth. It also signifies a change in the shopping habits of the consumers. This Hawkers' Market is competing directly with the traditional shopping centres, and in most cases it is winning. The rich may not be particularly interested in this Hawkers' market, but foreigners don't mind frequenting the shopping mall. The salesmen are always ready to please these customers of foreign climes and hardly have equal endearing greetings to treat the local customers with. Bangabazar is a bit discriminatory but that is how things are. After all money does not only buy, it also speaks.

## Hectic lobbying for JU Senate polls

By Shamsad Mortuza

Shaking off the initial reluctance, the would-be senators of the Jahangirnagar University and their supporters have engaged themselves in hectic lobbying for the March 28 polls.

The decision of Prof Abul Hossain, the acting Vice Chancellor of the university, to regularise the Senate before holding the VC panel deciding session entailed the initial dilemma.

The JU Teachers' Association (JUTA) insisted that the Senate session should be summoned first as the varsity's electoral rules demand declaration of Senate date within 45 days of removal or death of a Vice-Chancellor.

Prof Hossain, who succeeded former VC Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed on October 2, however, felt it 'necessary' to regularise the Senate before convening the session.

The registered graduate members to the JU senate, who occupied the 25 of the total 91 posts, were last elected in November, 1988. But an unprecedented violence on the polling day made the authorities file a writ with the High Court. The HC later cancelled the polling and accordingly the then VC was supposed to hold fresh Senate election.

As per university rules, the senators can continue to perform their responsibility before re-election.

### JS body on Foreign Ministry meet held

A meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at the Sangsads Bhaban here yesterday. Foreign Minister A S Mostafizur Rahman presided, reports BSS.

The meeting expressed satisfaction at the peaceful and successful return of the first batch of Chakma refugees. The prevailing situation on this perspective at Chittagong Hill Tracts also came up for discussion in the meeting.

Besides, the Uruguay Round Pact signed in Geneva last year was discussed in the meeting. Bangladesh is one of the 118 countries in principal joined the pact after a long seven years' discussion on it.

DUTA condemns Hebron Mosque killing

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) in a statement Monday strongly condemned the Hebron Mosque killing and demanded immediate impartial investigation into the matter under the supervision of the United Nations, reports BSS.

DUTA in the statement signed by its president Prof Md Shahadat Ali and general secretary Dr AAMS Arefin Siddiqui, also expressed total solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinians for their freedom.

### Chinese scientist visits BARC

President of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) Professor Wang Lianzheng now in Dhaka for a three day visit Monday visited Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC). He met Dr M Sujayet Ullah Chowdhury, Executive Vice-Chairman and other senior scientists of BARC, says a press release.

**বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম এক্সপ্লোরেশন কোম্পানী লিঃ**  
**BAPEX Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company Ltd.**  
 (A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)  
 Material Control Division  
 HBFC Building (9th Floor), 22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000

### Notice For International Tender

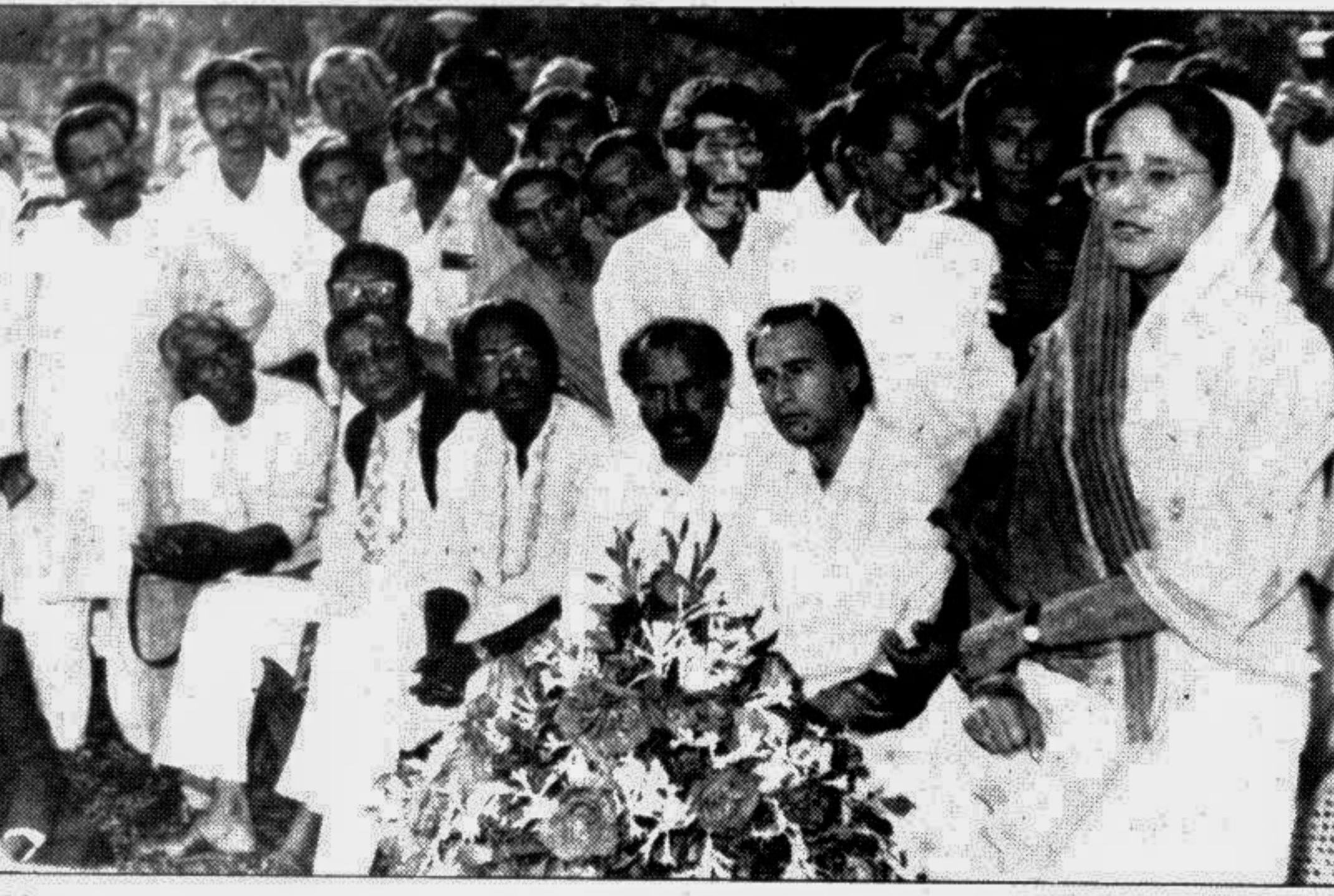
BAPEX invite quotation from the reputed Manufacturers/Suppliers for procurement of consumables & spare parts of Magnetic Tape cleaner instruments against the following International Tender for Data-centre Division of the company under cash foreign exchange.

SI No	Tender No	Description	Closing date & time	Opening date & time	Price of tender documents (Non-refundable)
1.	BAPEX/PD/INT/TEN-44/94	Consumables & spare parts of Magnetic Tape cleaner instruments.	25.4.94 11.00 hrs.	25.4.94 11.00 hrs.	Tk. 50.00 US\$ 1.50

Tender documents containing detailed specification and terms & conditions will be available with BAPEX, Accounts & Finance Division, Ibrahim Mansion (4th floor), 11, Purana Paltan, Dhaka from 10.3.94 on all working days between 09.00 hrs. to 12.30 hrs. on payment. The quotation will be received and opened as per date & time mentioned above in presence of the bidders' representatives, if any. No tender documents will be sold on the tender opening day. BAPEX reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

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More than three hundred activists of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Rab), Sramik Jote and Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) from Sonbagh of Noakhali district yesterday joined the Awami League, Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament addressed the new-comers in her party at her Minto Road official residence.

— Star photo

### Sircar tells JS 67.6 pc over 7 years age group illiterate

Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsads that 67.6 per cent of the population over seven years age group was illiterate, reports BSS.

Replies to a question from Khan Tipu Sultan of Awami League, the Education Minister said according to the Population Census of 1991, 61.1 per cent of the total male population and 74.5 per cent of the total female population were illiterate.

The minister said in order to remove illiteracy from the country, the government had made primary education compulsory and taken a programme for informal education for the people of higher age groups.

Answering a supplementary from Col (retd) Shawkat Ali (AL) Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar said the government expected to completely eradicate illiteracy from the country by the year 2000 with the assistance of UNICEF and other partners in development.

Replies to a question from Awami League member Zainal Abedin Hazari, the minister said that some conditions were required to be fulfilled with respect to number of teachers and infrastructural facilities for introduction of Honours and Masters courses in a college.

Replies to a question from Bir Bahadur of Awami League, the Education Minister assured the House that Honours and Masters courses would be introduced in one college in Chittagong hill districts area at the earliest convenience.

There are 695 degree colleges under the jurisdiction of the National University, the Education Minister informed the Parliament.

Replies to a question from Mohammad Mizanur Rahman Manu (AL), he said these colleges included Marine Academy, Chittagong, Bangladesh Naval Academy, Chittagong, Bangladesh Military Academy, Chittagong and Chittagong Government Arts College.

### Condolence meet on Baten

Speakers at a condolence meeting in the city yesterday paid rich tributes to the late BNP standing committee member and former State Minister Abdul Baten for his outstanding contributions to socio-political arena of the country, reports BSS.

The condolence meeting was organised by Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal (BNP) at its central office. On the occasion a milad mahfil was held and special prayer was offered for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Presided over by party vice-chairman Iskander Ali, the meeting was addressed among others, by party Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder, standing committee member Dr R O Gani. Joint Secretary General and Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Inland Water Transport and Shipping Minister M K Anwar.

As per university rules, the senators can continue to perform their responsibility before re-election.

a UN assisted programme, the government had made education free upto Class-Eight for girl students outside the municipal areas. "We have taken another plan to extend the free education facility for the girl students upto Class-Ten," he said.

Honours and Masters courses will be introduced in one leading college at the greater district headquarters in phases to make higher education available within the reach of the people in the country. Education Minister Barrister Sircar informed the Jatiya Sangsads.

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