

Dhaka Day by Day

Pathetic Pathological Centres

by Mehnaz Ali



If going to a doctor is depressing a visit to a pathological centre can be quite a traumatic experience. Not only does one have to let go of one's finer sensibilities and inhibitions, one may also have to be prepared for all kinds of humiliation. Although there has been a mushroom growth in this city, of diagnostic centres and 'pathological units' over the last few years, very few of them provide the patient with that precious phenomenon called 'privacy'.

Going to a place full of strangers staring into one's face, with a sample of one's less desirable of by-products is bad enough. But being exposed to all kinds of comments and questions is much worse.

Many lady patients, for example, complain about the utter boorishness of the staff at some of these private pathological laboratories. One of them describes the time when she went to get her urine tested for a kidney infection. "There were about four men sprawled on chairs chatting away; when I gave one of them my prescription, he just handed me a narrow test tube and growled rudely: 'go behind the curtains and fill it up to this point.'" Extremely embarrassed, especially since this was said within everyone's hearing. The woman went behind the curtains to see that there was a tiny bathroom where one could barely stand, let alone 'fill the bottle'. When finally she came back and handed the test-tube to the staff member, he looked at skeptically and had the audacity to comment "Oh so little". Humiliated and angry, the woman had no choice but to grit her teeth and walk out of the centre.

Another infringement on one's right to privacy is when one of the pathologists is even remotely acquainted with the patients. He will ask the most personal of questions and make the ordeal of the tests even worse by making his own comments. Another patient, a doctor herself, who went for a pregnancy test says that the pathologists had the nerve to say, "If it's good news, I will phone your mother and tell her without even asking if that was what

she wanted. Visitors too, often display this lack of tact by saying things like "why are you here?"

Congratulations in case it's positive, jumping into the conclusion that just because it is a young woman patient she has come for a pregnancy test, not even thinking that she may be testing for hepatitis B in which case a positive indication will be a far cry from something to celebrate.

Male patients are also not spared and they are as susceptible to embarrassing situations as women are. After all who would not find it degrading, male or female, to sit in a room full of people with a jar that is filled with something other than strawberry preserve?

There are of course some pathological centres where tests are done quickly and with impersonal efficiency. The patient will enter his name in a register and will be called according to his serial number. After the sample has been taken and labelled, he will be asked to pay and called to report the next day. The only drawback is that these centres are always so crowded that it may take hours before you get your turn.

Last but not the least is the accuracy of these tests — something that one can never be 100 per cent sure of. After all when you think of the thousands of people giving samples to a single person who does these tests without any computerised system, it is quite possible to get the results mixed up. So was the case of a gentleman who had given his blood to be tested and was humiliated beyond reason when the report showed "positive for pregnancy".

One must not, of course, be too harsh on these centres, for although there is more than ample room for improvement, they are in fact providing people with an essential service. Perhaps by following the golden rule of quality not quantity, these testing laboratories will emphasise a little on better, cleaner and more professional service.

Otherwise, the customers of these units may develop a pathological hatred for them.



Wife of a Sub Inspector of Kotwali thana Hasanul Farhad who was killed during a gunbattle between two factions of the JCD at Jagannath University College yesterday, lost her consciousness hearing the news of her husband's death. — Star photo

Biswas, Khaleda greet President of Ghana

President Abdur Rahman Biswas, has felicitated his Ghanaian counterpart Jerry John Rawlings to mark the Independence Day of Ghana today, reports BSS.

In a message of felicitation he wished prosperity of the friendly people of Ghana.

In another message the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has felicitated Jerry John Rawlings, President of the Republic of Ghana to mark the Independence Day of Ghana today.

In the message of felicitation the Prime Minister wished continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Republic of Ghana.

3 personalities accorded reception

CHITTAGONG, Mar. 5 The Chittagong Press Club accorded a reception to three noted personalities for their contributions in different fields at a simple ceremony in its auditorium here Friday, reports BSS.

With press club president Obaidul Haq in the chair the reception was attended by newly-elected mayor of Chittagong Alhaj A B M Mahiuddin Chowdhury as the chief guest. It was addressed, among others, by secretary of the press club Abu Sufian and president of Chittagong Union of Journalists (CUJ) Akhterun-Nabi.

Khalil Ahmed and Mukul Sharma, two local journalists and Belal Mohammad, one of the main organisers of the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, who were accorded reception today also spoke on the occasion.

Chittagong Press Club had introduced reception to three personalities including two journalists every year since 1990.

Speaking on the occasion the newly-elected mayor urged the journalists to play a vital role in implementing his pre-election pledges for the corporation.

He said the journalists should make constructive criticism of both the ruling and the opposition parties for the welfare of the society.

Later, the newly-elected mayor presented the press club crests to the recipients.

Special trains for Eid-ul Fitr

RAJSHAHI, Mar. 5: Bangladesh Railway (west zone) has made special arrangements for the coming Eid-ul Fitr to clear Eid rush, reports BSS.

There will be no "off day" of inter-city trains from March 8 to March 13 and from March 16 to March 20. Extra coaches will be attached with inter-city, mail and express trains.

No inter-city, mail and express trains will run on Eid day except Rajshahi Express, Uttar-Banga Mail and Bogra Express. Some inter-city and express trains will not run over west zone following Eid-day.

16 Down Mohananda will run upto Ishurdi on Eid day. The day following Eid day 15 Up Mohananda will run from Ishurdi to Chapainawabganj.

JCD activities protested

By DU Correspondent

The JSD (Inu) backed Chhatra League (B-K) yesterday demanded removal of the Home Minister and protested the 'terrorist' activities of the Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at the Rangpur Medical College (RMC) campus.

The BCL (B-K) brought out a procession at the Dhaka University campus and also held a rally in front of the Home Ministry in the morning.

The rally was addressed among others by Ruhul Quddus Babu, Naimul Ahsan Jewel, Rokonzaman Rokon.

Special launch service from Mar 9

The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) will introduce special launch service for the coming Eid-ul-Fitr festival from March 9, reports BSS.

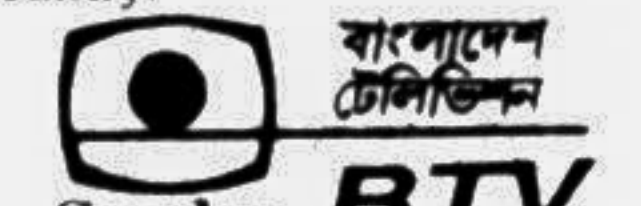
Additional services will be placed in Dhaka-Bhola, Dhaka-Barisal, Dhaka-Bandura, Dhaka-Barguna, Dhaka-Chandpur, Dhaka-Ichli, Dhaka-Madaripur, Dhaka-Sureswar, Dhaka-Torki, Dhaka-Borhanuddin, Dhaka-Kalaya, Narayanganj-Chandpur, Narayanganj-Munshiganj, Narayanganj-Taltala, Narayanganj-Ramchandrapur, Narayanganj-Machukhal, Narayanganj-Sureswar, Narayanganj-Torki, Narayanganj-Matlab-Bhanga and Narayanganj-Nabinagar routes till March-18.

AECD director joins DU

Dr Amir Hussain Khan, Director, Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka (AECD) and Chief Scientific Officer, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, joins Dhaka University as Professor of Chemistry. Dr Khan is a reputed scientist at home and abroad, says a press release.

Dr Khan is a Fellow of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, and received the Academy Gold Medal in 1994, for his contributions in Physical Sciences.

Dr Khan joined the Atomic Energy Centre in 1968 and since then he had been serving BAEC in various capacities. He was the head of the Chemistry Division of the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka where he established the leading Analytical Chemistry laboratory in the country.



4:30	Opening announcement
	Al Quran
	Programme summary
4:45	Cartoon show: Tom and Jerry Kids Show
5:10	News in Bangla
5:25	Anu Paramanu
5:45	Programme on Ramadan: Mahe Ramadan
6:20	Jiboner Alo
6:55	Open University
7:15	Nazrul songs
8:00	News in Bangla
8:30	Sports Programme: Cricket
9:05	Drama series: The Sword of Tipu Sultan (22nd episode)
10:00	News in English
10:30	Sur Lahari
11:15	Khabar/The News
11:25	Tomorrow's programme

Weather

Temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur over the regions of Sylhet, Mymensingh while dry weather with partly cloudy sky is likely to prevail elsewhere over the country.

The Met Office forecasts, slight rise in day temperature is likely during the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Sunday).

The country's highest temperature of 34.4 degrees Celsius was recorded in Khulna and the lowest of 14.4 degrees Celsius was recorded in Rajshahi and Rangpur yesterday.

The sun sets today at 6:04 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 6:16 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Max	Min	Humidity in percentage
Dhaka	32.5	20.0	91
Chittagong	30.5	18.0	65
Rajshahi	32.5	14.4	73
Khulna	34.4	19.7	50
Barisal	33.5	20.2	89
Sylhet	27.6	16.3	73

Khulna varsity team meets Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday said the students, in these days of scientific and technological advancement, ought to study science and technology more to be able to cope with time and make due contribution to the society, reports BSS.

Talking to a delegation of the students of the Khulna

University, which called on him, the President said the students ought to study the subjects that can enable them to contribute to the progress and development of the country and welfare of the people.

President Biswas advised them to maintain the campus free from unacademic activities and pursue their studies

with devotion so that they can achieve success in life.

Led by Syeda Nargis Ali, MP, the delegation among others included Ahsanul Kabir, Mohammad, Saidul Islam, Syeda Laila Nargis, S M Tarikuzzaman, Mohammad Shahidul Islam, Samaun, Al-Noor, A N M Kaisar Zilani, Masuma Akhtar.

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NSU curriculum was designed by experts from University of Illinois(Urbana-Champaign), USA and approved by Bangladesh University Grants Commission.

Collaboration:

NSU has signed formal Academic Collaboration Agreements with George Washington University & Colorado State University. Credits earned at NSU are transferable to these and to other North American Universities subject to the requirements of the degree awarding university.

Duration of the Undergraduate programs : Four years, with two regular semesters each year: (1) Spring Semester (January-April); and (2) Summer Semester (May-August). Fall Semester (September-December) is optional.

Eligibility for application: At least high second division in SSC and HSC or (2) GCE 'O' levels in 5 and 'A'-levels in 2 subjects or (3) U.S. high school diploma or equivalent.

All applicants are required to take NSU's English Placement Test to determine the candidates proficiency in English. Applicants with score of 500 or above in the TOEFL will not require remedial courses in English.

Pass Course (BA, BSc, BCom) students with a two-year bachelors degree from recognized universities in Bangladesh can apply for admission into the four year Undergraduate programs at NSU. Admission test is not required for such students. Remedial English courses will be suggested according to the English Placement Test scores, unless the applicant has a score of 500 or above in the TOEFL. They can apply for credits in courses where they have scored 45% marks. NSU will consider applications for credits only in cases where previous academic work meets NSU degree requirement.

Tuition and fees: One Time Admission Fee (for four years) : Tk.60,000/- ; Tuition Per Semester : Tk.30,000 ; Annual Development Fee : Tk.30,000 ; Student Activity Fee: Tk. 3,000 .

Financial aid: About 10% of the students are awarded full or partial waivers and scholarships based on merit and need. Application forms for Financial Aid are available at NSU Registrar's Office.

Application procedure: Application forms are available for Tk 350 at NSU Accounts, 12 Banani C A, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Dhaka 1213. To receive application form by mail, write to the Office of the Registrar along with a bank draft or money order for Tk 350 in favour of North South University. Please print the name and address of the recipient.

Completed application forms must be received at the Office of the Registrar by 6 April 1994. A complete application includes: 1) application form, 2) two passport size photos, 3) certified copies of certificates and mark sheets, and 4) two letters of recommendation from the students' previous teachers.

A forty minute English Placement Test and a Two hour Admission Test will be held on April 8 at 9:30 a.m. at NSU Main Campus. The test consists of multiple choice and essay questions in English and Mathematics. Those who are interested to pursue studies at NSU, but do not have the required proficiency in Mathematics and English language may enroll for courses in English and Mathematics as non-degree students during Summer '94.

Admission test results will be posted at NSU campus on 11 April 1994 and can also be seen in local newspapers on 12 April 1994. Successful candidates must complete admission procedures by 28 April 1994.

Orientation for students and parents is on 11 May 1994 at 9-00 a.m. Classes will commence on 15 May 1994.

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Notice to Consignees

It is notified for information of the Consignees that the arrival Schedule of the Cargo covered by Bills of Lading issued by P & O Containers Limited, London are as under:

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Rotterdam	Munkabo-Maersk	0428	Inke Wehr	017	170/94	4-3-94
Busan	Singapore Bay	0542				
Jebel Ali	London Maersk	0543				
	Maersk Rotterdam	0427				

Southampton Kowloonbay 428 Eponyma 22n 145/94 01-3-94
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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division No. I, Chittagong

Memo No. 5/A-353/1324

Dated: 22-2-94

10-11-1400

Notice Inviting Tender

Tender Notice No. 39 (1993-94)

Tender in sealed cover in Bangladesh Form No 2911 for the under mentioned works are hereby invited from enlisted PWD E/M 1st Class PWD E/M Chittagong Zone, 2nd class contractors having valid ABC/BC Electrical contractors and Supervisory Licence respectively from Bangladesh Electrical Licensing Board.

Sl. No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money	Time allowed for completion of work
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1. Providing, E. I. in the office Bldg. Hospital Bldg. Cow shade, Paddock shade, Calves Shade, Dormitory Bldg, 1000 St. Qrts. A. D's Qrts. of the Chittagong Dairy Farm, Hathazari, Chittagong. (Sub-head wise)

The interested contractors can purchase tender schedule from the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD, E/M Divn. No. I/II, Ctg. during office hours by showing valid contractors registration book, Electrical Licence etc. at usual charge (Non-refundable) upto 20-3-1994. The tender will be received on 21-3-1994 upto 12-00 Noon in the tender box of the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division No. I/II, Ctg. & the tenders will be opened the same date at 12-15 PM in presence of the intending contractor or their representatives.

Each tender shall have to be furnished with requisite Earnest Money in the shape of P.O/B. D/C. D. from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Divn. No. I, Chittagong.

Notice inviting tenders, additional terms & conditions, Bangladesh Form No. 2911 etc. shall be treated as active part and parcel of the tender. PWD authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

DIPP (G) 3885-26/2
G-378

Md. Fazlul Hoque
Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Divn. I, Ctg.