

Dhaka Day by Day

The Unrecognized Luxury

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

If there is anyone women of this city like to see as much as their husbands or paramours it is their tailors. Any female, young or old, who has the slightest interest in her wardrobe has her own favourite tailor. This person has in his hands, and invariably it is a 'he', the power to

create the most wonderful, exotic and fashionable of dresses from a mere sheet of cloth. It is this incredible talent that makes the tailor an indispensable person in whom ladies from all walks of life have such great trust. For isn't it all a matter of faith where the customer risks the very shirt (or in this case blouse) on her back in the hands of a total stranger?

From the customer's side, going to the tailor is a game of chance. Chances are that the expert hands of the master tailor known as 'Master Shahe' will create the dress of her dreams. Chances are that the same dress, in the hands of an amateur, who has forgotten that he is one, will turn it into a tortuous straight jacket. Luck, therefore, is very much a deciding factor in this business.

The best part of this essential service is that it allows one to discover one's own creativity. Many fashion designers and exclusive boutiques have been born out of an individual's experiment with designs and ideas for her own clothes. Women who have a fondness for clothes, and there are plenty of them, often prefer to make their own clothes by a tailor, rather than buying ready made ones. "Ready made clothes are so limiting and most of them are either too gaudy or too boring," comments a fastidious lady who has all her clothes tailor-made.

But boredom is not the only reason why tailored clothes are preferred to ready made ones. Often it is pure economy that works in the minds of these women. Even an average priced shalwar-kameez, for example, will cost no less than 1,000 taka, an amount that many people just cannot afford. Yet the same garment tailor made will cost about 500 taka or less, including the price of the cloth and tailoring charge. Tailoring, therefore, is much more reasonable and has the added charm of producing something that the customer specifically wants. If she is lucky that is.

Tailoring charges vary according to the location of the tailor shop and its popularity. Tailors in Gulshan or Banani invariably have higher rates than other less snooty areas. Shalwar-kameez, for instance, may be charged from Taka 120 going upwards, "according to the design" — a very vague phrase tai-

lors like to use when they wish to rip off their customers. These tailors have the added feather in their caps of catering to foreigners for whom tailor-made clothes is a luxury that only people with celebrity status can afford in their own countries.

In places like Dhanmondi, New Market and Eskaton, the rates are slightly lower and more negotiable, catering to middle class clientele. In addition to this there are the tiny makeshift 'shops' right on the footpath near bazars or other busy areas where a man may sit with a sewing machine and offer his services to the walking pedestrians. These tailors cater to people of limited means and perform odds and ends such as sewing on a button, or a zip, making a blouse from a discarded frock or sewing on the 'fall' of a sari. Rates charged by these shops are of course very low allowing relatively poor people to use this service.

An interesting feature of the tailoring business in this country is that it is male-dominated. One wonders why in a tradition where women are the ones who are supposed to cook and sew, when it comes to professional cooks and tailors, they are almost always men. Perhaps it is lack of opportunities and financial or social constraints that have prevented a woman from using her domestic skills to make money.

Like any artist that is overburdened by orders, the tailor too has his eccentricities. For one thing, he will never have your clothes made at the date written on the pink or yellow slip with the little bits of cloth. You may travel a hundred miles to get to your tailor's, only to find out that he has not even cut the cloth. Patience and self control, in this case, are the only virtues that can save you from committing a criminal offence. Last, but not the least is the tailors' incurable tendency to make your clothes either too tight or too loose so that at least a few more trips across town are necessary.

In spite of the little irritations, however, tailoring is a luxury that many of us take for granted. The convenience of having your clothes made according to your own design and choice and at a fairly reasonable rate, is something that should be appreciated. Some tailors can transform an old torn sari into a dramatic evening dress or a gorgeous party outfit from bits of cloth and embroidery from a discarded piece clothing, our hats off to them. They are no less than magicians.



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Eid reunion at
Dhaka Medical
College

By DMCH Correspondent

The number of anaesthetists has remained static at 11 at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for the past 23 years although the actual need of anaesthetists in the country can only be met in the next 150 years.

This observation was made by Prof Shahjahan Nurus Samad at the Eid reunion and celebration of the Independence Day organised by the DMC Teachers' Association at the college gallery. It was attended by Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Hossain Yousuf as a special guest with Prof M Alauddin in the chair.

Prof Shahjahan, who is on the edge of retirement, urged the Health Minister to streamline the medical system, which he said had become stagnant in the post-Liberation period.

"Forty doctors were given diploma degrees to carry on the anaesthesia programmes," he informed.

The other attending doctors paid glorious tributes to the physicians for their contribution to the Liberation War.

"At least 161 doctors were killed during the war," the Health Minister informed. He ensured the doctors that his government would take necessary steps to preserve the memories of the martyred doctors.



Sunday

- 4.30 Opening announcement: Al-Quran, Program: summary
- 4.45 Onu-Paromani
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.20 Cartoon: Tom and Jerry Kids Show
- 5.35 Sports programme: Cricket New Zealand vs Pakistan
- 6.05 Jiboner Jannay
- 6.55 Open University
- 7.05 Tagore songs
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Probaho
- 9.05 Drama serial: The Sword of Tipu Sultan
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Sur Lahori
- 11.30 Khabar/The news
- 11.40 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing



Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda offering munajat at a milad mahfil arranged yesterday in memory of the martyrs killed brutally by the occupation forces in 1971 at Keraniganj thana in Dhaka. — PID photo

Left parties urged to
narrow differences

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of different left wing political parties Thursday observed that a revolutionary transformation of the present socio-economic system was a must to establish the fundamental rights of the common men.

To achieve the objective, the left parties must narrow their differences and float a common platform to address the political and economic issues, the leaders said.

They were addressing a seminar on "the problems and prospects of the communist movement in Bangladesh," at the auditorium of Teachers' and Students' Centre (TSC), Dhaka University.

Hasnat Kayum of the Gonomukti Andolon presented the keynote paper while Khalequzzaman of the Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Mujahidul Islam Selim of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Saiful Huq of the Workers Party and others spoke at the seminar.

Hasnat, while analysing the people's attitude towards the existing socio-economic order said the common people were disillusioned with the present system. "But the communist leaders, despite their sacrifices, have failed to present before the people an outline of the progressive socio-economic order," Hasnat observed.

Explaining the reasons behind the failure of the leftist movement in the country, Hasnat said, they had actually failed to understand the social and political essence of the Marxist philosophy.

He also alleged that the left parties and groups, instead of exposing the reactionary forces through their political and economic programmes, had been engaged in attacking each other.

"This mud-slinging against each other eventually stood on

the way of flourishing left-wing politics in the society," Hasnat observed.

He, however, called upon the leftist forces to initiate a sound and healthy ideological struggle among themselves with a view to removing differences of opinions on certain vital issues and thus paving the way for getting the leftists united on a single platform.

CPB leader Mujahidul Islam Selim said the ideological struggle among "the progressive forces was important. "But it must go on simultaneously with practical political activities among the poor," Selim felt.

Saiful Huq of the Workers Party (WP) expressed his agreement with the observations of the key-note paper in general but disagreed with Hasnat's claim that no left-wing political party had a political and economic programme alternative to those of the parties like BNP and Awami League.

BSD leader Khalequzzaman found the key-note paper to be a result of 'superficial analysis' of the real situation in many ways. He, however, appreciated the concerned organisers for holding the seminar on an 'important issue'.

Harun Rashid, a teacher of Dhaka University's philosophy department, presided over the seminar while Sarder Faruque of the Gonomukti Andolon conducted the seminar.

WP campaigns
for Apr 6 meet

By Staff Correspondent

The Workers Party (WP) continued campaigning for the second consecutive day yesterday for its April 6 planned public meeting in the capital. The party is scheduled to announce fresh action programmes at the meeting.



A N H Aktar Hossain (extreme L), central leader of Prokrichi (BCS cadre), addressing a press conference at the BMA Bhawan in the city yesterday. Other leaders of Prokrichi seen in the picture (from L to R) are M A Hena, Krishibid Javed Iqbal and Ruhul Matin. — Star photo

Weather

Rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Sunday) says, rain or showers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at many places over Chittagong, Barisal divisions and at a few places Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions with heavy fall over Chittagong division and moderately heavy fall at places elsewhere over the country.

The Met Office forecasts, day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The country's maximum temperature yesterday of 33.6 degrees Celsius was recorded in Rajshahi and the lowest 17.3 degrees in Sylhet.

The amounts of rainfall recorded during daytime yesterday are Chittagong 40 mm, Rangamati 27, Cox's Bazar 22, Sitakund 7, Kutubdia 5 and Majdicourt 2 mm. The sun sets today (Sunday) at 6.15 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 5.48 am.

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

Cities/Towns	Temperatures in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage
	max	min	
Dhaka	28.0	20.0	80
Chittagong	26.5	20.0	84
Rajshahi	33.6	21.4	63
Khulna	30.5	21.2	77
Barisal	28.2	20.0	82
Cox's Bazar	25.5	20.0	90
Sylhet	24.2	17.3	90
Dinajpur	30.5	20.0	71

8 left parties
condemn clash
in Satkhira

By Staff Correspondent

A joint meeting of eight left parties Friday strongly condemned the terrorist activities allegedly by Jamaat-e-Islami activists in Satkhira on March 30.

The meeting, held at the Workers' Party office in the city, observed that the Jamaat chief Golam Azam's political tour in different parts of the country and the untoward incidents occurring due to his presence was a part of Jamaat-sponsored conspiracy to fan communalism.

It also observed that the Jamaat was preparing its ground for the planned communal instability by leading agitations against the Kadianis and the social activities of the NGOs. Chaired by Nirmal Sen, the meeting was also addressed by Rashed Khan Menon, MP, Bimal Biswas, Hasanul Haq Inu, Mujahidul Islam Selim, Manzurul Ahsan Khan, Khalequzzaman, A F M Mahbulul Haq and Abdullah Sarkar.

Boy crushed
under sewerage
pipe in city

By DMCH Correspondent

A small boy was crushed to death when a heavy sewerage pipe fell on him at Kawan Bazar in the city Friday evening.

Eight-year-old Azhar met the fatal accident while watching a crane lifting a heavy sewerage pipe which fell on him, witnesses said.

Azhar was immediately rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where the doctors on emergency duty declared him dead.

Projects of
Cultural Ministry
reviewed

A meeting on Development and Coordination of Cultural Ministry and its subordinate organisations was held yesterday with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan Ara Begum in the chair, reports UNB.

The meeting reviewed in details the ongoing projects of the ministry and subordinate organisations.

Prof Jahan Ara gave directives to the concerned officials to intensify the work for timely completion of the projects.

Cultural Secretary Islam Uddin Malik and heads of the organisations were present at the meeting.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
and
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CUM SECRETARY

A foreign mission in Dhaka invites applications from qualified and experienced candidates (Bangladeshi Nationals)—preferably female—to fill the following posts:

A) SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Qualifications:

- Degree in Business Administration
- At least 5 years experience in similar position
- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Excellent command of computer skills
- Good organizational skills and initiative

B) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CUM SECRETARY

Qualifications:

- Degree in Business Administration
- At least 2 years experience in similar position
- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Excellent command of computer skills and typing
- Knowledge of switchboard operation

The positions carry attractive salaries, benefits packages, and pleasant working environment.

Applications with CV, references, and a recent photograph should be sent to P.O. Box No. D-199, C/o-The Daily Star, House No-II, Road No-3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. Kindly mark the envelope "A" or "B".

Applications received before 17 April 1994 will be considered and treated in strict confidence.

Ref. No 23.02/26

April 03, 1994

TENDER NOTICE

"গাছ লাগান, পাহের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ রক্ষা করুন"—প্রধানমন্ত্রী

INTERNATIONAL TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF
LUBRICATING BASE OIL IN MAY 28-31, '94

I. a. Quotations are invited by Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (the Buyer) from reputed suppliers for supply of the following grades and quantities of Lubricating Base Oil on C&F Chittagong basis in accordance with the terms and conditions set out hereinafter:

Grade	Volume (in Barrel)
Solvent Neutral (SN) - 150	11,000
Solvent Neutral (SN) - 500	35,000
Solvent Bright Stock (SBS) - 150	24,000
	70,000

b. Quantities mentioned against each grade will be subject to an operational tolerance of 5 (five) per cent.

c. Barrel means 42 US Gallons each of two hundred thirty one (231) cubic inches at sixty degree (60°) Fahrenheit or 3785 cubic centimetre at fifteen degree (15°) Celsius.

II. Entire quantity as mentioned above must be delivered at Chittagong between May 28-31, 1994 in one or two shipments.

III. Offers will be received up to 1200 hours (BST) on May 03, 1994 and opened at 1205 hours BST on the same day at the Corporation Head Office in presence of the bidders or their authorised agents who would wish to be present.

IV. Offers must be valid up to 1800 hrs BST on May 12, 1994.

V. Local agents of reputed sellers interested in the tender may collect tender documents on payment of Taka 500 or US\$ 15 (non-refundable) on all working days during office hours from (a) the Commercial & Operations Division of the Corporation at its Head Office at HBFC Building, 4th Floor, 1/D Agrabad C/A, Chittagong, (b) Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, Dhaka Liaison Office at 40, Segun Bagicha, Dhaka and (c) Bangladesh Mission in Singapore.

VI. Other terms and conditions will be as per General Terms and Conditions of Supply of Lubricating Base Oil of the Corporation (Ref No. 23.02 dated April 03, 1994).

No rights of any kind shall be created in favour of any person by virtue of having obtained the tender document nor shall any right be created in favour of any person by virtue of submitting an offer. The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers in part or in full without assigning any reason.



Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation

1/D Agrabad Commercial Area,
GPO Box No 2052, Chittagong-4100.

D-204

বাংলাদেশ টারিফ কমিশন

১ম ১২ তলা সরকারী অফিস ভবন

সেকেনবাগিচা, ঢাকা

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বাংলাদেশ টারিফ কমিশনে বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের জন্য সহকারী প্রধান ও পূর্ণকালীন কর্মকর্তাদের নিয়োগের সুযোগ রয়েছে। উক্ত পদসমূহের কাজ শিল্প ও কৃষিখাতে উৎপাদিত পণ্য সামগ্রীর উপর বিস্তৃত মূল্য পরবেশা সমীচা পরিচালনার সাথে সম্পৃক্ত এবং সর্বস্তর ক্ষেত্রে আর্থনৈতিক প্রতিযোগিতামূলক প্রেক্ষাপটে দেশীয় শিল্পের সংরক্ষণ এবং শিল্প সহায়তা নিধির উপায় উদ্ভাবন। কর্মকর্তাদের কাজ পরিচালনার জন্য প্রার্থীগণকে বাংলা ও ইংরেজী উভয় ভাষাতেই পারদর্শী হতে হবে। প্রার্থীদের বিদেশে উচ্চ শিক্ষা ও ট্রেসিং এর সুযোগের পক্ষেপড়িত স্বাক্ষর রয়েছে। পূর্ণকালীন কর্মকর্তাদের মূল কাজ পূর্ণকালীন ও বিস্তৃত মূল্য। এদের কাজে দক্ষতা ও অভিজ্ঞতাসহ সহকারী প্রধানকে একাধিক বার্ষিক সর্বাঙ্গিক যৌথ কার্য সম্মেলনে সক্ষম হতে হবে। কমিশনে সুজনসীল কাজে সমদীন মূল্য সুন্দর কর্ম পরিবেশ বিদ্যমান। সহকারী প্রধান পদের জন্য শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা সমাজ বিজ্ঞানের যেকোন শাখা বা প্রাকৃতিক বিজ্ঞান/বাণিজ্য/ব্যবসায় প্রশাসন/ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিষয়ে স্নাতক ২য় শ্রেণীর হাতকোত্র ডিগ্রী এবং এস, এস, এস, সি এবং এইচ, এস, সি অথবা সমমানের পরীক্ষার প্রথম বিভাগসহ পূর্ণকালীন পদের জন্য তত্ত্বাবধিক বয়সের অভিজ্ঞতা। এছাড়াও কম্পিউটার ব্যবহারে দক্ষ প্রার্থীকে অধিকতর যোগ্যতার দাবীদার হিসাবে বিবেচনা করা হবে। পূর্ণকালীন কর্মকর্তাদের জন্য এস, এস, সি অথবা এইচ, এস, সি বা সমমানের পরীক্ষার ১ম বিভাগসহ বিজ্ঞান/বাণিজ্য/ব্যবসায় প্রশাসন/ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এ স্নাতক ২য় শ্রেণীর হাতকোত্র ডিগ্রী প্রয়োজন হবে। এছাড়াও পূর্ণকালীন ও বিস্তৃতমূল্য কাজে ১০% পর্যন্ত অধিক অভিজ্ঞতা বাঞ্ছনীয় হবে।

সহকারী প্রধান বেতন স্কেল মাসিক টাকা ৪৮০০-১৭৫-১২৫০/- এবং পূর্ণকালীন কর্মকর্তাদের বেতন স্কেল মাসিক টাকা ২৮৫০-১২৫-০৭২৫-১০০-৫১৫০/-। এছাড়া প্রতিষ্ঠানের বিধি অনুযায়ী ৪৫% বাড়ী ভাতা, প্রতিষ্ঠাতা ফান্ড সহ অন্যান্য ভাতা ও সুবিধা রয়েছে।

সহকারী প্রধান ও পূর্ণকালীন কর্মকর্তা উভয়ের জন্য সর্বোচ্চ বয়সসীমা ১২ই এপ্রিল ১৯৯৪ই তারিখ পর্যন্ত ৩০ বছর। সরকারী, আন্তর্জাতিক সংস্থা অথবা মুক্তিযোদ্ধা এবং উপজাতীয় আন্দোলন প্রার্থীদের জন্য বয়সসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য। প্রয়োজনীয় যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পূর্ণ ও কোনো দাবীদার মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও মহিলাদের আবেদন করতে উৎসাহিত করা হচ্ছে।

শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা উল্লেখপূর্বক সন্মপত্র এবং প্রাপ্ত পত্রের কটেকপি বা সত্যায়িত কপি সহ কমিশনের সচিব এর উপস্থাপিত টিকাদার ১২ই এপ্রিল, ১৯৯৪ই এর মধ্যে সরাসরি পঠাতে হবে। কেবলমাত্র যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতার আলোকে বাছাইকৃত প্রার্থীগণকে যৌথিক পরীক্ষার জন্য ডাকা হবে।

নূরুল ইসলাম

সচিব

টারিফ কমিশন

বাংলাদেশ সরকার, ঢাকা।

Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution Co. Ltd, Dhaka
(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)
Phones: 232200, 232172, 258462.
PABX: 812135-42

Addendum No. 01 Dated 2nd April, 1994

To

International Tender Document

No. PD. 2312/363-REG. Dated 03-03-94 for
Procurement of Gas Pressure Regulators
& Relief Valves

This is for general information for all concerned that the above Tender Document has been amended as follows:

1. Descriptions & specifications of goods shown in the 'Price Bid Schedule' of the tender document are amended to read as follows:

ITEM NOS. 1 & 2:

Unchanged.

ITEM NO. 3:

— Maximum Working Pressure: 125 Psig.

— Connection Size: 2"X2" Flanged, Dimension according to ANSI Class-125.

ITEM NO. 4:

— Maximum Working Pressure: 150 Psig.

— Connection Size: 2"X2" Flanged, Dimension according to ANSI Class-125.

ITEM NO. 5:

— Connection Size: 2"X2" Flanged, Dimension according to ANSI Class-125.

All other descriptions & specifications of the items shall remain unchanged.

This closing date of the above tender is now to be read: "11TH APRIL, 1994" instead of "4th April, 1994". Opening time 11:15 AM remains unchanged. Sale of this tender document shall now continue up to 10th April, 1994.

All other terms & conditions of the above Tender Document shall remain unchanged.

"গাছ লাগান পাহের পরিচর্যা করুন
এবং পরিবেশ রক্ষা করুন"—প্রধানমন্ত্রী

Titas/PR-162/93-94

D-206

Manager (Purchase)