

Dhaka Day by Day

The Plight of Lakes

by Parveen Anam

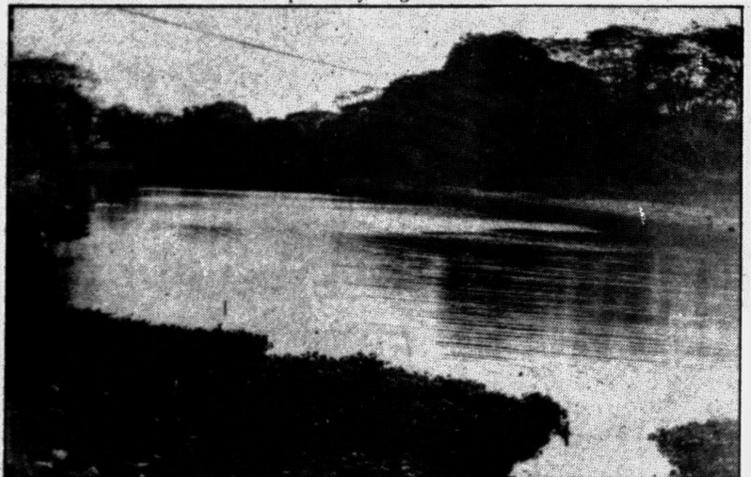
Every once in a while, we like to take a drive around the city. Or we like to think that we can do it. Without being run down by the trucks, sides scraped by the rickshaws or molested by the beggars. One of the joys of driving is supposed to be able to get into a car and go for a long drive in the late evening or whenever the fancy takes us. But of course the city fathers have made sure we are deprived of the simplest pleasures of life.

What of course they have absolutely made sure, or are determined to make sure is that a certain section of the elite is not deprived of their 'rights'. This right includes their massive Pajeros being driven by their twelve-year olds while the policeman looks the other way. And their right to build houses. Houses which are so ostentatious that it would put Mary

roads into swimming pools which in turn serve as a veritable death trap for the innocent passer-by. Remember how they merrily dug up the roads and forget to fill them in again?

The lakes dotting the city limits were of course the perfect natural drainage for the rain water. But that was before the wise men of the city realised they could make money out of them. They woke up one fine morning and realised to their utter horror that they were being deprived of their right. To make money.

Hence, the lakes must be filled up and sold as land to the greedy land owner. Trucks come and trucks go. All filled with earth which is dumped onto the waters and slowly but gradually, the once beautiful lake is converted into land which is grabbed by the unscrupulous authorities to be auctioned to the highest bidder.



Lake threatened with housing.

Antoinette to shame.

However, what puts the back up of the Dhakaite is that these houses are being built where no houses are ever or were ever meant to be made. These stand in all their grotesque majesty, in their timeless contribution to bad taste, on areas where there were only meant to be lakes and ponds. Believe it or not.

Property was sold to genuine buyers in posh residential areas in Gulshan and Dhanmondi, on the understanding that the lakes would always be there. They would serve the dual purpose of beauty and drainage. Drainage for the rain water during the monsoon when the incessant rains play havoc with the drainage system of a beleaguered city. A half-hour shower of course turns the city

One pauses to think as on walks past these earth-filled lake, as to who gives permission for all this? Do the authorities in all their vain glory and ego rides, ever pause to ask themselves if this is what the citizens want? Are they ever consulted on matters which definitely affect them and their future generations? How dare the city fathers take arbitrary decisions and fill these lakes which in turn create such havoc with the city? Houses will be built on these lakes which will not only create further problems for the Dhakaite but will again put strain on an overburdened essential services system. So it's a merry-go-round with one stupid decision leading to another and somebody making money in the whole deal. At the Dhakaite's expense. As usual.



The Ambassador designate of the United States of America to Bangladesh David Nathan Merrill presenting his credentials to President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday.

World Health Day tomorrow Mass media should campaign more on oral hygiene

By Staff Correspondent

For a better dental care, do not take sweets between meals, avoid chewing tobacco and smoking. Eating sweets between meals nurtures bacteria which cause caries in teeth and tobacco and smoking cause oral cancer.

At a press conference on the eve of World Health Day, World Health Organisation (WHO) officials yesterday said that the oral health in Bangladesh is much better than that of the western countries. But mass media should campaign more on oral hygiene and adopting preventive measures for better oral health for all by 2000.

The World Health Day will be observed tomorrow (Thursday). The theme of this year's day is "oral health for a healthy life."

The press conference addressed by WHO representative Dr A N A Abeyesundere, Director General of Health Services Prof Mohammad Nurun Nabi, WHO medical officer for primary health care Dr Rushdie Aliuddin and Dr Mohammad El Nagger.

The Health Ministry planned elaborate programmes to mark the World Health Day. The programmes include a rally from the Manik Mia Avenue up to Bijoy Sarani at 7:30 am, a function at the International Conference Centre to be inaugurated by President Abdur Rahman Biswas at 10:00 am and a health education exhibition at the Osmany Auditorium Friday.

Prof Nurun Nabi told the press conference that the day

would be observed up to the thana level health officials who would campaign for awareness of keeping mouth and teeth clean and discourage having sweets between meals which cause caries in teeth.

In many developing countries oral diseases were on the rise due to lack of consciousness and eating habits, he said. In Bangladesh, tobacco chewing and smoking cause a large number of oral cancer, the Director General of Health pointed out adding that percentage of oral cancer was one of the highest in Bangladesh comparing to that of other countries.

He informed the press that the country had only some 700 graduate dentists and many of the government dentists' posts at the thana level was vacant. "We need at least 3000 dentists at thana level," he said adding that the dental college, the Chittagong and Rajshahi Medical College annually graduates 90 dentists.

As a new and bigger premises of the dental college will be inaugurated today (Wednesday) by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at Mirpur. From the next year the country would be able to have even larger number of dentists.

Other programmes of the World Health Day include essay competition and art competition for the school-going children, poster exhibitions at different parts of the city, special radio and television programme and publication of special supplements by the newspapers.

New US envoy Merrill presents credentials

US Ambassador designate David Nathan Merrill presented his credentials to President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Accepting the credentials, President Biswas said that the relations between Bangladesh and US steadily developed over the years and the friendship and cooperation are based on a similar perception of many international issues and shared ideals of peace and progress.

"Common efforts of Bangladesh and the USA towards ideals of global peace and security have manifested in our cooperation during the Gulf war and UN peace-keeping activities," he said.

The USA is a very important development and trading partner of Bangladesh, he pointed out. He also appreciated the US support and cooperation for economic development of Bangladesh through increased trade between the two countries.

Presenting the credentials, Merrill in a brief speech observed that Bangladesh's development is progressing and American policies and programmes might be helpful to the country's further advancement.

He said that both US and Bangladesh hold the same hopes such as strengthening the democratic system, supporting progress towards a more open market economy.

Discussion on economic programmes held in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Apr 5: Participants at a discussion held here yesterday underlined the importance of national consensus for marching the country towards economic prosperity, reports BSS.

"Even after the 23 years of independence, the nation is yet to receive economic emancipation which was the basic objective of the War of Independence," they told the discussion on "what will be the economic programmes of Bangladesh in perspective of the spirit of Liberation War and present reality."

Cultural team arrives in Moscow

A high powered Bangladesh cultural delegation headed by the State Minister for Cultural Affairs, Prof Jahan-ara Begum, arrived in Moscow yesterday morning for a week long visit in Russia, reports BSS.

According to a message received from the Russian capital, the delegation, on arrival at the Moscow Airport, was received by Deputy Minister for Culture, Shrydkoy, senior cultural affairs ministry officials and Bangladesh Ambassador to Russia Major General (Retd) A Amin.

The Bangladesh state minister is expected to meet Russian cultural minister Sidrov.

BCS Information officials' programme

The BCS Information cadre officials begin today their programme of non-cooperation with the Principal Information Officer (PIO), who is not a member of the cadre to press for his removal, reports UNB.

The officials have been agitating for about one month demanding replacement of the incumbent non-cadre PIO by a senior member of the BCS Information cadre.

The BCS Information Association, at an emergency general meeting in the city on Monday, decided to implement the non-cooperation programme as announced earlier.

During the programme, members of the cadre will perform their official duties properly but ignore supervision of the non-cadre PIO.

The meeting noted with concern that the PIO, by abusing his power, was trying to vitiate the working atmosphere in Press Information Department (PID). "He will be solely responsible for any deterioration of the situation," it observed.

The Association will announce its next course of action on April 10.

Government of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Bandarban Road Division Notice of RHD Inviting Tenders

"পাছ সাপান পাছের পরিচরী করুন
এবং পরিবেশ বাচান" - প্রধানমন্ত্রী

Sealed tenders are hereby invited in BD Form No. 2911.

- Tender Notice No. : 145/EE/BRD/1993-94.
- Name of work : Earth work on 4th (Part) KM of Alikadam-Thanchi Road under Bandarban Road Division during the year 1993-94.
- Estimated Cost : Tk. 5,90,923/00
- Earnest money : Tk. 11,819/00
- Time allowed : 20 (Twenty) days from the date of issue of work order.
- Eligibility of contractors : Enlisted 'A' to 'D' General category of contractor of RHD, only.
- Name of offices of availability of tender documents : In the office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Bandarban/Rangamati/Planning Division (Roads, Bridges), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka. The Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division I/II/Asstt. Engineer, RHD 1st Line Workshop Sub-Division, Bandarban.
- Name of offices to receive the tender documents : i) The Addl. Chief Engineer, RHD, Chittagong Zone, Chittagong. ii) The Superintending Engineer, RHD, Monitoring & Evaluation Road Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka. iii) The Superintending Engineer, RHD, CHTS, Road Circle, Rangamati. iv) The Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Bandarban. On 12/4/94 up to 5-00 PM.
- Last date of selling of tender : On 13/4/94 up to 12-30 PM.
- Last date of receipt of tender : On 13/4/94 at 12-45 PM.
- Date and time of opening of bids : On 13/4/94 at 12-45 PM.
- Chargeable to : 'NICAR' Impi. to Alikadam-Thanchi Road.

Md Wazed Ali
Executive Engineer, RHD,
(Current Charge)
Bandarban Road Division.

DFP (G) 6313-2/4
G-567



Wednesday

- 4:30 Opening announcement Al-Quran
- Programme summary
- 4:45 Sports programme: Wrestling
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:25 Amra Natun
- 5:45 Hijal Tamal
- 6:45 Open University
- 7:10 Tagore songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Special programme on National Housing Policy
- 9:00 Film show: The A-Team
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Ujjiban
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:45 Tomorrow's programme
- 11:50 Closing

82 arrested on various charges

Police rounded up 82 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges, reports UNB.

Of the arrested, seven were wanted criminals, four were held under the Anti-Terrorism Law, three under Arms Law, three on charge of kidnapping and rape and seven for stealing.



Dr A N A Abeyesundere (C) addressing a WHO press conference held in connection with the World Health Day — to be observed tomorrow — at city's Dhanmondi residential area yesterday. Also seen are Dr Rushdie Aliuddin (Extreme L) and Prof Nurunabi. — Star photo



Recipients of awards at the national level musical competition organised by Shilpakala Academy. — Star photo

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 12 hours commencing 6:00 am Wednesday says, rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur over the regions of Dhaka, Tangail, Jessore, Kushtia, Pabna, Faridpur and Sylhet.

The Met Office forecasts weather will remain dry throughout the country with partially cloudy sky. Temperature is likely to remain unchanged.

The maximum temperature of the country yesterday of 34.0 degrees Celsius was recorded in Satkhira and the minimum of 18.6 degrees in Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 6:17 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5:45 am.

The maximum temperature recorded in Dhaka was 31.0 degree Celsius and the minimum 21.6 degrees.

Directorate General Defence Purchase



Ministry of Defence
New Airport Road
Tejgaon, Dhaka-15

1. Sealed tenders in local and foreign currency are invited from bonafide Manufacturers/Suppliers/Dealers/Indentors (Not necessarily enlisted with DGDP) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Air Force.

Sl No.	Description of items	Selling date	Opening date	Currency
a)	Spares of Radar, Qty: 18 L/1	23-4-94	24-4-94	Foreign Currency
b)	Spares of Radar, Qty: 27 L/1	---	---	---
c)	Spares of LOS Microwave Qty: 26 L/1	---	---	---

2. Tender schedules with detail specifications will be available on payment in respective value (Non-refundable) on any working day between 0800 hrs to 1200 hrs. The tenders will be opened on the specified date at 1000 hrs in presence of the bidders (if present).

ISPR (Misc) 94/632

DFP(G) 5398-2/3

G-560

Flight Lieutenant
for Director General

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
Facilities Department, Ministry of Education, Noakhali Zone, Noakhali

Re-Tender Notice

Notice No : 25/ADB/FD/NZ/93-94

Date: 29/3/94

Sealed tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 from the Enlisted contractors/Firms of Facilities Department, of Category A1 and members countries of Asian Development Bank for construction of Non-Govt. Intermediate College under Higher Secondary Education project (ADB Loan No-1123-BAN (SF)).

Particulars of works.

Group No.	Name of District	Name of Thana	Name of Institution	Estimated Amount (Tk.)	Earnest money (Tk.)	Time of completion
1.	Feni	Fulgazi Ahmed College	Hajee Monir	40,80,000/-	82,000/-	9 (Nine) months

i. Last date and time of purchase of tender documents. Upto 5 PM of 16.4.94.
ii. Last date and time for submission of tender document. Upto 12:00 Noon of 19.4.94.
iii. Date and time for opening of the tender documents in presence of the tenderer if there be any. Upto 12:30 PM of 19.4.94.

SALES OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Tender documents may be purchased from the office of the Director, Facilities Department, Shikha Bhaban, Dhaka, and from the office of the undersigned and from the office of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Chittagong/Cox's Bazar/Sylhet/Comilla Zone and also from the office of the Asstt. Engineer, Facilities Department, Feni on all working days during office hours on cash payment (Non-refundable) of Taka-750/- (Tk. seven hundred fifty) only for each set of tender document against each group of work, sales of tender document will be closed on 16.4.94 at 5 PM sharp.

DRAWING AND RELEVANT PAPERS

Drawing and other relevant papers may be seen from the office of the undersigned on all working days during office hours.

EARNEST MONEY

Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft/Pay Order of the above mentioned earnest money from any nationalized Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Noakhali Zone, Noakhali.

INSTRUCTION

(a) Insertion of any additional clause in the tender by the tenderer will render his tender to summary rejection.
(b) The tender will quoted on percentage basis for Part-I and will quoted item wise rate both in figure and in words in Part-II supported by rate analysis in separate sheet. The sum total of Part-I and Part-II will be considered as tendered amount.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bid at any time prior to award of contract without assigning any reason what-so-ever.

DFP (G) 6299-2/4

G-562

Executive Engineer
Facilities Department
Noakhali Zone, Noakhali.