

Dhaka Day by Day

Those Guardians of Law and Order

by A S M Nurunnabi



Law enforcers ideally should mean the almost ubiquitous hard-working policemen in city life. They are among the aspects of familiar city life, which even a child can readily identify, let alone being chary of them. One of the pretexts the mother of a naughty child would employ to keep its naughtiness under check is to present before it the possibility of presence of a policeman nearby.

Even the wrong-doings of certain sections of adult city denizens are intended to be kept under check and vigilance by the presence of these law enforcers. When on a dark night you pass along a lonely road with trepidation in your heart about the sudden appearance of ghosts or muggers, then the mere sight of a policeman on patrol can provide you with a sense of profound relief. Thus on occasions, a policeman proves his worth as a pillar of strength and security. Of course, there have been reported cases in which they have proved to be the opposite.

With such a backdrop of feelings, we view the posting of truckloads of policemen on static duty at several city points. You find them at several conspicuous places, such as the entrance to vegetable market under the overbridge opposite Gausia Market, on the road side near the Surya Sen Hall, in front of the Salmullah Muslim Hall, a shady spot in front of the Dhaka University Administration Building, a point near the Teachers-Students' Centre, etc.

The appearance of their activities inside or outside their vehicles may be misleading. Some of them may be just dozing in their seats, some may be reading racy detective books, while others outside the vehicle may be lounging on a bench sipping tea or deeply engrossed in chess or ludo games. While such activities go on, they do not entertain any illusion about the real purpose of their presence there. An alert mind always tells them that they are on active duty which they may be called upon to perform at a moment's notice. Whether they will be or are intended to do it properly is a difficult matter. Suppose gun shots are heard from nearby in a battle between rival student groups

of the university or some muggers are on the run after snatching a brief-case or gold chains from a helpless passers-by, then the playthings, books or whatever these policemen may be engaged in get dropped in the twinkling of an eye.

In the opinion of some critical observers, they do not always do so. It is alleged that sometimes they prefer to play safe while the gun battle rages or they grow philosophic and look the other way while the muggers get a safe passage out of harm's way. Only on rare occasions, they are found to be alert and prompt in checking such violence or they run post haste to nab the fleeing muggers.

Such incidents do not take place every day. Nevertheless, these guardians of law and order keep their vigil at important city points on static duty, at the same time appearing to be having an easy time playing cards or gossiping among themselves.

It may perhaps so happen that no untoward incidents occur the whole day. In such circumstances, the enforced idleness may seem irksome to them. But all this seems part of the game: idle at one moment, active the next.

The nature of duties is different for another batch of law enforcers! Those who bring up rears of processions. If there are no incidents during the progress of the processions, the rear-guard policemen will have nothing to grumble about except the slowness of the vehicles carrying them. Unless, of course, they are asked to run over a procession by an autocratic regime like Ershad's. But in case the processionists turn unruly, such policemen get on their hands a hellish lot of work to do. Bringing the procession back into order or dispersing it with baton charges, rubber bullets or tear gas shells or in emergencies with live bullets — all this becomes part of the game.

So next time you pass by a truckload of policemen on static duties, or moving at snail's pace behind the endless and all-too-frequent processions, you are supposed to understand their proper role, even though at times the playing of such a role turns into excesses.



Shigeo Takenaka (L), Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh, met Awami League chief and Leader of Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban office yesterday. —Star photo

Integrated master plan for Chittagong port

The 29th meeting of the Standing Committee on the Ministry of Shipping yesterday informed that primary steps had been taken to make an integrated master plan for the development of Chittagong port, reports UNB.

Presided over by Shipping Minister MK Anwar, the meeting held at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, discussed at length different issues related to Chittagong Port Authority.

The committee reviewed the progress of the implementation of the earlier recommendations of the standing committee.

The meeting was also informed that preparation are being taken to repair the tornado-damaged jetties of the port. The committee advised the Chittagong Port Authority to repair one jetty of the port from its own fund immediately.

Members of the committee Deputy Minister for Shipping ABM Zahirul Haque, Syed Wahidul Alam, Alamgir Haider Khan, Begum Selina Rahman, Nazir Hossain of BNP and Khallur Rahman Chowdhury of Jatiya Party attended the meeting.

Recollections of Sohel Samad

By Staff Correspondent

The recently-formed Sohel Samad Smriti Sangsad will publish a set of memories and recollections of late Samad.

Samad, who was a new-caster of the Voice of America (VOA) and the Voice of Germany, died on August 10, 1993 last.

The recollections are expected to be published next August.

All the relatives and associates of Samad have been requested to send their writings within May 30 to the office of Sangsad at Road-2, House-1, Shaheed Zahangir Road, Dhaka Cantonment.

Tributes paid to Sher-e-Bangla

A discussion meeting on Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul Haq was held yesterday morning at his Mazar premises, reports UNB.

Organised by Sher-e-Bangla Jatiya Smriti Sangsad, National Professor Shamsul Haq attended the function as chief guest while UNB chairman Amanullah Khan and Dr Ashraf Siddiqi were present as special guests. Justice Ruhul Islam presided.

Dr Malha Khatun, Nur-e-Alam Siddiqi, Advocate Nurul Haq Mujumdar, Nahid Roksana and poet Abdul Khaleq dwelt at length on life and activities of the late leader.



Obituary
Farhadi Hossain, wife of Abid Hossain Khan of Rajshahi House Complex, died in Calcutta on Tuesday. She was 51, says a press release.



The Sher-e-Bangla Gabeshona Kendra placing wreaths at the Mazar of Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haq yesterday to mark the 32nd death anniversary of the late leader. —Star photo

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The Rotary Club of Dhaka North distributed scholarship of Tk 8,000 each to 20 students of Dhaka Medical College at a ceremony at the WVA Auditorium. National Prof. Shamsul Haq as chief guest and Rotary District Governor Magfur Uddin Ahmed were present on the occasion.

Orientation course

Information Minister Barister Nazmul Huda yesterday called upon information officers to play a vital role in establishing a bridge between the government and the people with an objective to further strengthen the democratic administration, already introduced in the country, reports BSS.

He was speaking as chief guest at the 10-day orientation course of the newly-recruited officers of the BCS (Information cadre service) at PIB auditorium.

Dr T H Khan dies

Dr T H Khan, a noted eye-specialist, died of a cardiac arrest Tuesday at the Suhrawardy Hospital. He was 70, reports BSS.

Dr Khan left behind his wife, two sons and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

Prior to his retirement, Dr Khan was the Professor of the Eye Department of the Dhaka Medical College.

He was buried at the Banani Graveyard.

The quikhwani of Dr Khan will be held tomorrow after Asr prayers at his Dhanmondi residence (Road No 7, House No 10).



ASM Shahjahan, Inspector General of Police, Bangladesh (R) seen exchanging views with LACROIX, Director General of France National Police Force (L), during his recent visit to France.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

Facilities Department, Ministry of Education

Khulna Zone, Daulatpur, Khulna

Tender Notice

No. 21/GEP/FD/KZ/93/94 Dated: 7/4/94 Eng

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from the enlisted A1 & A2 (Two) Category Contractors/Firms of Facilities Department & eligible contractors of Foreign Countries (World Bank Member Countries only) for following works under General Education Project:

Sl No	Description of works	Estimated amount (Taka)	Earnest money (Taka)	Time for completion
1.	Repair works of overhead electrical line at Sathkira PTI	70,532/00	1,450/00	2 (Two) months.
2.	Repair of electrical works at Sathkira PTI	62,456/00	1,250/00	2 (Two) months

Tender documents may be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Khulna, Jessore & Barisal Zone & also from the office of the Assistant Engineer, Facilities Department, Khulna, Bagerhat & Sathkira district on all working days during office hours on cash payment of Tk. 400/00 (four hundred) only (Non-refundable) for each set of tender document up to 5.5.94.

Tenders will be received by the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Khulna, Jessore & Barisal Zone and also by the Assistant Engineer, Facilities Department of respective district at their offices on 7/5/94 up to 12.00 Noon and will be opened on the same day at 12.30 pm in presence of the tenderers if there be any. No tender will be entertained after the expiry of the receiving time and date as mentioned in the tender notice.

Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft/Pay Order from any schedule bank of Bangladesh for an amount as mentioned above as earnest money in favour of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Khulna Zone, Khulna.

Tender schedule shall not be sold to the following contractors.

- The contractors whose enlistment have not been renewed and who have not deposited their renewal fees up to date.
- The contractors who have failed to complete construction works awarded to them under this Department.

The tender committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or any tender/tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Md. Ali Azam Quadery
Executive Engineer
Facilities Department
Khulna Zone, Khulna

DPP (G) 7651-19/4
G-734

Weather

Temperature may rise

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Thursday) says, rain or showers accompanied by temporary kalbaishakhi gusty or squally wind may occur at one or two places over Dhaka, Chittagong divisions and weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country.

The Met Office says, day temperature may rise by one to two degrees Celsius over the country.

The country's highest temperature yesterday of 36.5 degrees Celsius was recorded in Cox's Bazar and the lowest 20.4 degrees in Srimangal.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 6.26 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5.26 am. The maximum and the minimum temperatures and relative humidity recorded in some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday are:

Cities/Towns	Temperatures in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	32.4	23.5	66	53
Chittagong	34.5	27.4	80	72
Rajshahi	36.0	24.8	65	51
Khulna	33.6	23.2	56	64
Barisal	33.2	25.6	90	53

জেলা প্রশাসক ও মোতাওয়ালীর কার্যালয়

খান বাহাদুর ওয়াকফ এন্স্টেট, সিলেট।

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

- এতদ্বারা সরকারী, আধা-সরকারী ও স্বায়ত্তশাসিত সংস্থার প্রথম শ্রেণীর তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদারগণের নিকট হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজের জন্যে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাবে।
- (ক) দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময়ঃ ১১-৫-৯৪ইং বেলা ২-০০ ঘটিকা।
(খ) দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়ঃ ১১-৫-৯৪ইং বেলা ২-৩০ ঘটিকা।
- দরপত্র দালালদি নির্ধারিত মূল্যে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ১০-৫-৯৪ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর জরায়ফিস হতে কম করা যাবে।
- কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

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