

Dhaka Day by Day

Magazine Sellers on City Pavements

by A S M Nurunnabi

On pavements of city roads, various kinds of trade are carried on. In some areas, such pavement vendors pose a problem as they obstruct the flow of pedestrians, forcing them on the roads thereby enhancing the risk of road accidents. Vendors in some areas are, however, more passive in their selling tactics, attracting as they do few customers than those for some popular consumer items. The sellers of old magazines and books fall in this category. They display their wares at the junction of Nilkhet, Babupura and Mirpur Road near Dhaka New Market.

This area gives one an idea of the unobtrusive yet brisk trade of second hand magazines both in English and Bangla. English — both foreign and local — and Bangla magazines and journals, however, dominate the scene, with a sprinkling of popular English and Bangla detective books.

Among the more popular second hand magazines and journals may be cited Time, Newsweek, Economist, Reader's Digest, Asia Week, the National Geographic Magazine etc, and also some popular Indian weeklies and journals. All the popular local Bangla weeklies are also available at second hand.

The main attraction of this place is that old popular magazines are available at cheap rates. Lately the current issues of English magazines like Time, Newsweek, the Reader's Digest have become very costly. Those who have the knack for reading those but cannot afford — because of the prohibitive prices — get an opportunity of buying them at second hand at much reduced costs. However, to enjoy this benefit, a waiting period is involved. The more back dated the issues of such magazines are the lower the prices. However, ultimately a deal is struck on the basis of bargaining power

of each party.

It is not uncommon that the price of an issue of the popular magazines varies from one vendor to another. So the best course in such circumstances is to compare prices with a number of them before making a purchase. This inevitably takes time.

These magazine-wallas, like those in other areas, are periodically subjected to police drive for eviction. In this respect, they, however, enjoy an advantage not available in other areas. Across the pavements in this area, there is a

good number of shops dealing in new text books for colleges and universities. When they find that a police drive is imminent, they just pack up their loads and disappear in the narrow lanes between these shops. When the police action is over, they just resume their trade. They resort to this cat-and-mouse game frequently.

Some vendors offer a facility while selling their books and magazines. They are willing to repurchase the sold magazines and books at roughly half the price if they are returned within a definite time limit. This offers a real boon to those readers who are not avid collectors of such magazines, but dispose of them otherwise through buyers of old newspapers. Thus, when you buy old copies of popular foreign magazines, your expenditure does not amount to much after the re-sales.

Of course, this method deprives one of the thrill and anticipation of reading new magazines. But when money becomes the constraint, particularly for less solvent students, in buying new magazines at high prices, the alternative in many cases is to go in for second hand magazines, some of which are of a high standard with informative, educative and entertaining values.



SHARIF

BSP condemns

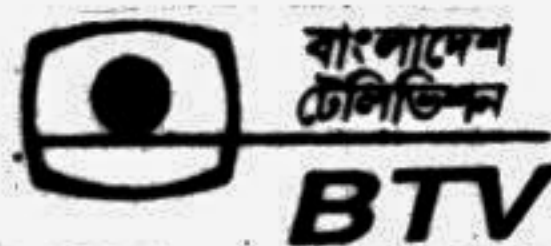
DFF discrimination

The Bangladesh Sangbad-patra Parishad (BSP), at a meeting yesterday condemned the DFF for suspending advertisements to the newspapers, reports UNB.

The meeting accused the DFF of discrimination in distributing advertisements, said a BSP press release.

It also expressed condemnation at the 'inhuman behaviour' with the Bangla Bazar Editor Matur Rahman Chowdhury by abusing the Penal Code.

Presided over by BSP president Kazi Shahed Ahmed, the meeting was attended, among others, by Mizanur Rahman Mizan of Dainik Khabar and Enayetullah Khan of the Dhaka Courier, Ahmedul Kabir of the Sangbad and Mahfuz Anam of The Daily Star.



Wednesday

4:30	Opening announcement Al-Quran
4:45	Programme summary Sports programme: Gillet World Sports Special
5:10	News in Bangla
5:25	Amra Natun
6:00	Hijal Tamal
7:00	Open University Tagore songs
8:00	News in Bangla
8:30	Dance programme
9:05	Film show: The A-Team
10:00	News in English
10:30	Ujjiban
11:30	Khabar/The News
11:40	Tomorrow's programme summary
11:45	Closing

What's on today . . .

Surer Dhara

The Surer Dhara, a musical organisation, will observe its second founding anniversary at the main auditorium of the National Museum at 7 pm today (Wednesday).

Seminar on Cancer

A seminar on Cancer will be held today (Wednesday) at 12 noon at the Notre Dame College Auditorium. The Rotaract Club of Notre Dame College and Bangladesh Cancer Society have jointly organised the seminar.

Seminar on Economics

A seminar titled "South Asian Economies In The 21st Century" to be held today (Wednesday) at 10 am in the NEC Auditorium, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.

The seminar is jointly organised by Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and World Bank Resident Mission, Dhaka. Foreign Minister Mustafizur Rahman will inaugurate the seminar.

Dhaka Painters

The painting exhibition of the Dhaka Painters group has now been extended upto May 11.

The exhibition — held at the Atrial Gallery, Road-7, House-15, Dhanmondi — was inaugurated on April 25 and scheduled to end on May 3.

CESTI

The Trade Commission and the Cultural, Scientific and Technical Co-operation Service of the French Embassy in Dhaka will hold a meeting of ex-trainees and scholarship holders of the French Government today (Wednesday) at 6 pm at the office of CESTI at Alliance Francaise, 26 Mirpur Road.

Art exhibition

Solo Exposition of Art work 'Rhyme and Rhythm' by Mujibul Haque on display at Buds Pre-Cadet and High School, 5/11-E, Lalmitia is open to all from 11 am to 8 pm till May 6.

FPAB prize giving ceremony

The prize giving ceremony of Dhaka Metropolitan Family Planning Publicity and Service Delivery Week '93 organised by the Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) will be held today (Wednesday) at 5 pm at Shaheed Maizuddin Auditorium, 2 Naya Paltan, Dhaka. Mohammad Hanif, Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation will present as chief guest.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North-West

The regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka North-West will be held today (Wednesday) at 5:30 pm at Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka.

... and tomorrow

BATEXPO '94

The inaugural ceremony of the Bangladesh Apparel & Textile Expo '94 organised by the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association will be held tomorrow (Thursday) at 10:30 am at Sonargaon Hotel.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the fair.

Runa Laila musical evening

Runa Laila musical evening will be held at Hotel Sheraton at 5 pm tomorrow (Thursday) under the aegis of the Medical Reporters' Association of Sir Salimullah Medical College.

Weather

Temperature likely to rise

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Chittagong division and weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Wednesday).

The Met office forecast day temperature is likely to rise by two to three degrees Celsius over the country.

The maximum temperature of the country was 40.2 degree Celsius recorded in Jessore and the minimum was 21 degrees in both Kutubdia and Cox's Bazar yesterday.

The sun sets today at 6:26 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:22 am.

জাতীয় সংসদে বিল উপস্থাপন

একাত্তরের ঘাতক দালাল



Lt Col (Retd) Kazi Nuruzzaman, coordinator of the Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee, addressing a rally near the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday demanding a ban on the politics of anti-liberation forces including the Jamaat-Shibir. — Star photo

SAARC seminar on book marketing

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan Ara Begum yesterday called upon the SAARC secretariat to open up avenues for regional cooperation on cultural affairs and book promotion, reports UNB.

She was speaking as chief guest at the inauguration ceremony of a three-day SAARC seminar on 'Book Production and Marketing' at a city hotel yesterday morning. Secretary, Ministry of Cultural Affairs M. Mokhesur Rahman presided. Joint Secretary M. Moslem Ali gave the address of welcome while Director of the National Book Centre K M Habibullah gave vote of thanks.

Prof Jahan Ara Begum said the SAARC is an ideal framework for regional cooperation, adding it has underlined the promotion of inter-regional cooperation.

She said the people of the SAARC region share many common culture and heritage. "It is our sacred responsibility to provide the guidelines for book promotion," she added.

She also said Bangladesh is the first country in South Asia to adopt a comprehensive national book policy which is now being implemented by the government.

Delegates from SAARC

countries including eminent personalities of book publication industry, heads of the diplomatic missions of SAARC states and scores of writers, authors and academics attended the inaugural session.

In Memoriam

On the occasion of the Sixth death anniversary of Syed Tanweer Murshed, son of the Late Syed Manzoor Murshed and the Late Begum Hasina Murshed, relatives and friends are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

S-235

Yasmeen, Maher and Madiha Murshed

ITALIAN INTERPRETER WANTED

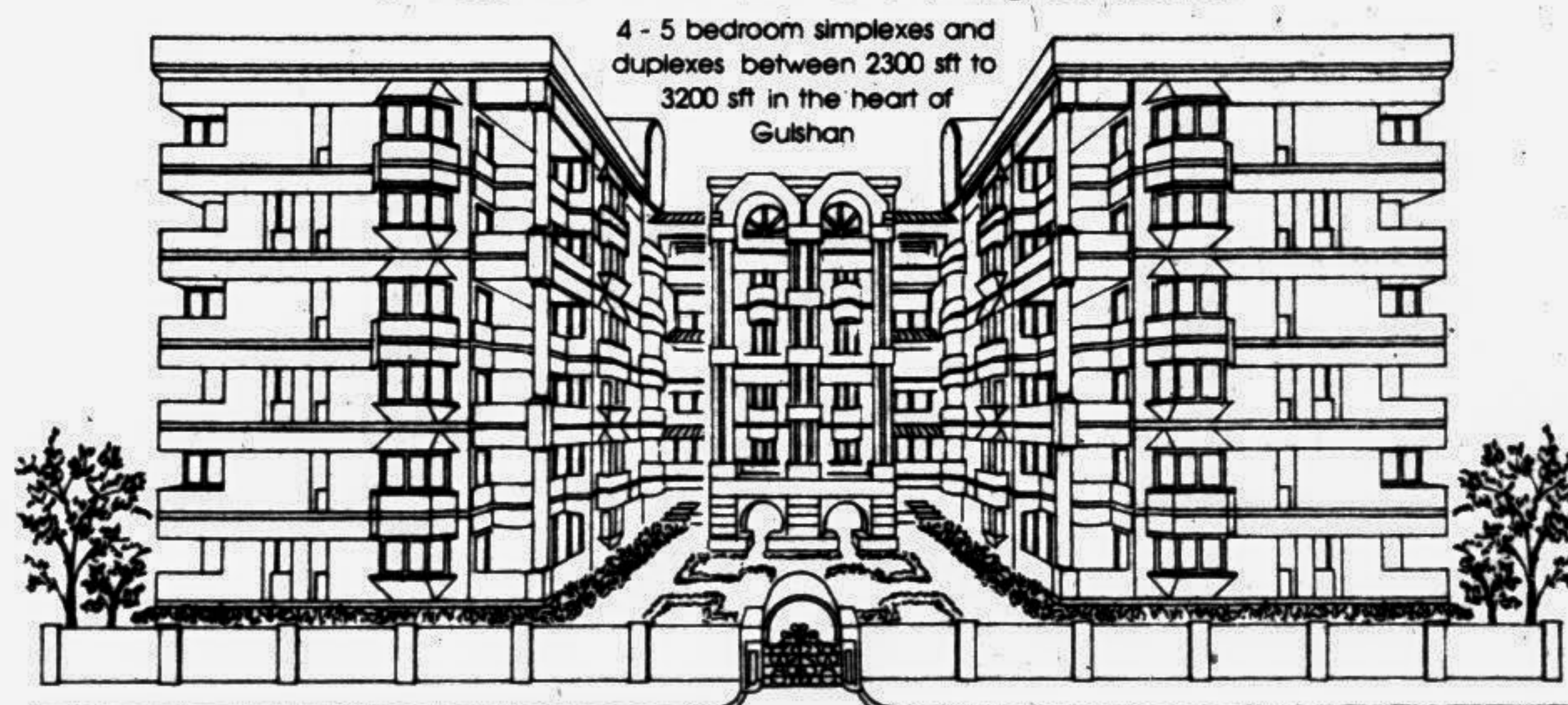
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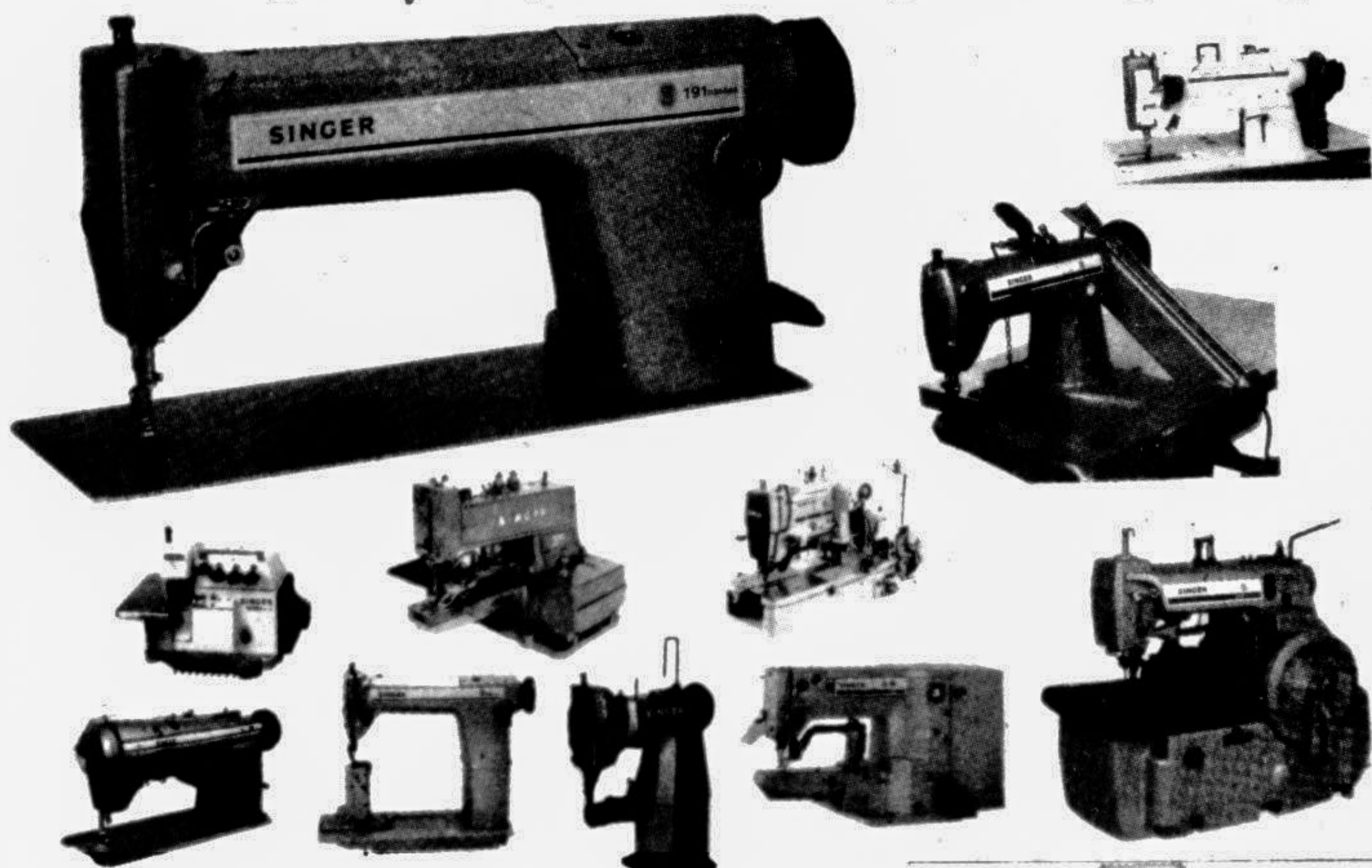
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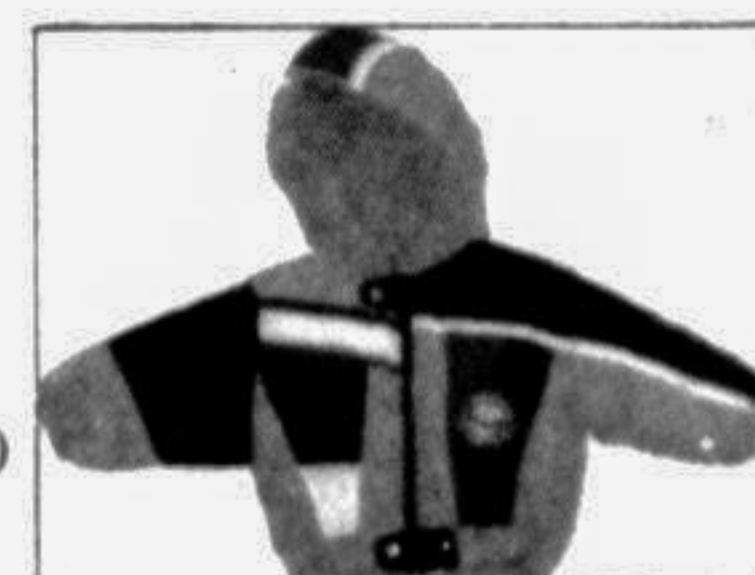
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CATWALKS

Highlighting

BATEXPO '94

SUNDAY 8 MAY 6:30 PM
GRAND BALL ROOM
SONARGAON HOTEL

Show With
DINNER & DANCE

TICKETS AT-

AMANDA CONFECTIONERY (Near Sahin school)
Airport Road Tel 861015
PATRICKS 48 Shyampur Road Tel 509054
FILM FAIR VIDEO (Dharmad) Branch Tel 509011
LA BAMBIA 119, 100 Dharmad Tel 801321
LA BAMBIA Rajshahi Complex Uttara Tel 814301

VIDEO CONNECTION (USA) Dharmad Branch
Gulshan 2 Tel 802205, 809161
CANDY FLORES Gulshan 1
MR. BURGER New Daily Road Tel 803042
MR. BURGER Sonargaon Road Tel 507183