

## Dhaka Day by Day

## Tastes of Heaven

by Aasha Mehreen Amin

If there is any month that we Bangladeshis look forward to, it is Jaistha — the month of fruits. This is the time when nature is at its most bounteous, bestowing us with mouth-watering delicacies that seem to be a hint of what heaven will be like.

The fruit markets have suddenly taken on a new look. No longer do they seem mean and lean as they did just a few weeks ago. No longer do they have their pathetic collection of mediocre mangoes from India, sandy apples from 'America' (or so they claim) and oranges so dried up that they must have come from some far off desert to look so depleted and haggard. This is the time when the fruit stands are bursting with exotic tropical creations of nature. Mangoes, for starters, are in plenty with the beginning of 'Langras' 'Gopalbhogs', 'Chosa', 'Mohanbhogs' and so on. Just add a little cream and you have the most delicious of

yellow segments, its relatively low price and its ability to fill the stomach. This last trait should be regarded with caution since the sweetness of the fruit may induce one to eat far too much. The after-effect is sometimes like going around with a ton of bricks in you and so, not very comfortable. The best thing about 'kanthal', however, is that apart from the outer skin, every part of it is edible. Even when not ripe, the fruit is used to make a wonderful vegetarian curry that is delectable with hot rice. The seeds too, can be curried, roasted or mashed into a 'bhartha'. Just remember to oil your hands well before you dig in — unless you want to engage in a formidable fight with nature's 'super glue' — the 'kanthal' sap.

But these represent only the tip of the iceberg of the type of fruits that can be found in this month. There are some fruits that would top the list in the taste and health department



desserts to indulge in.

The purple berry known as 'jaam' is also a hot item although its abundance has waned over the years. Still one can find luscious clusters of 'jaam' hanging from your neighbour's tree just waiting to be attacked. Don't despair if his lack of neighbourly feeling deprives you of a share of his spoils, the market has enough of those addictive berries to keep you purple-lipped throughout the month.

Just remember to wash them carefully since they are extremely attractive to the swarms of flies that are also another bounty of this great season. Only then are you ready to prepare the 'jaam' in the traditional way — with salt, mustard oil, a pinch of sugar and lots of fresh green chillies.

Lichis too are a great heartthrob — and stomach throb with lichi fanatics guzzling down the juicy, fleshy white of the fruit in their hundreds to the point of no-return — from the bathroom that is!

Then there is the great 'poor man's fruit' — 'kanthal' (what it has to do with a man called Jack is a mystery to most of us). Some people refrain from it because of its strong, pungent smell that invades the entire house once the fruit is broken. Most people, however, love the 'kanthal' for the sugary sweetness of its fleshy

if only we had the good sense to cultivate them more. These include the 'jamrul' — a pale white-green delicate fruit that is sweet and full of juice, 'betul' or 'bet phal' a tangy berry from cane, the mouth watering sweet and sour 'lotkon' and another equally titillating (because there is more seed than fruit) 'deua', an orange coloured fruit with small sweet and sour segments that stain everything purple. All these fruits and many others are, claim the scientists, full of important nutrients. Yet being grouped as 'unconventional', they are soon becoming endangered species. This is evident in the scarcity of these fruits in the markets where they appear and disappear with equal promptness.

Being confined in the city, however, we are all deprived of the real glory of this month which is a time of great joy for the village folk.

Sitting in a mango grove or under a 'jaam' tree eating the sun-kissed fruit, is a luxury that only they can enjoy. Thus the popular folk song goes: 'Josthi mashe mishti kotha, gache paka aam, tumi jodi thakia bondhu, tomareo ditam' — translated as 'Jaistha month is a month of sweet talk and ripe mangoes on the trees, if you my friend (or beloved) were here I would share this with you.'



Nurses and employees of the Islamia Eye Hospital brought out a procession in the city yesterday protesting the alleged irregularities at the hospital. — Star photo

## Asian launch of Human Development Report today

The Asian launch of UNDP's Human Development Report 1994 will take place here today, reports UNB.

This is for the first time that Bangladesh is playing host to the regional release of the UNDP report.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman will formally launch the Report at ICDDR, B auditorium after a presentation by Dr. Mahubul Haq, the main author of the report and Special Advisor to the UNDP Administrator.

In this connection, UNDP, Dhaka, held a one-day international workshop here yesterday with Dr. Mahubul Haq in the chair, said a UNIC press release.

More than 50 participants and a good number of observers from 12 Asian countries including Bangladesh attended the workshop.

## Govt refutes news item

The government yesterday described as 'absolutely fabricated, baseless and malicious' the allegations brought against a senior official working in the Prime Minister's secretariat in a statement by a certain organisation which was published in a section of the press Monday and Sunday, reports BSS.

An official handout said that its attention had been drawn to a statement made by a certain organisation for removal and trial of the high official which was published by a section of the press on June 5 and 6.

The handout described the language of the statement as 'derogatory, and against the established norms, discipline and conduct of the government servants.'

It said that the government was 'unequivocally informing all that the allegations brought against the official concerned is absolutely fabricated, baseless and malicious.'

The government, it said, 'expects that the persons who issued the statement should refrain themselves from misleading the people by making such mischievous statements in future.'

## Father gets life-term for killing daughter

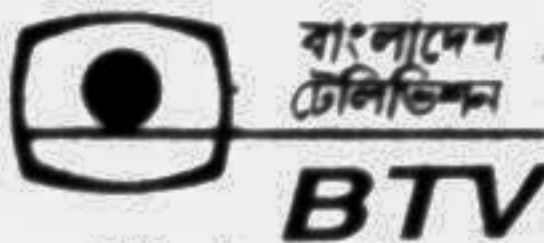
A labourer who killed his daughter out of anger on his wife was sentenced Monday to life term in jail, reports UNB.

The court also fined Mojnu Mia, 40, to pay Tk 500 or in default to suffer another two months jail.

Prosecution in brief is that Mojnu, a labourer of the Cantonment Railway Station, while returning from his duty on June 9 in 1993, found his wife Zarina engaged in a quarrel with the station master.

It made him furious and he snatched his one-year-old daughter Mariam from her mother's lap and dropped her to the ground twice. The baby died instantly.

Mojnu Mia confessed his guilt. A murder case was registered with the cantonment police.



Wednesday

- 4:30 Opening announcement
- Al-Quran Programme summary
- 4:45 Documentary on World Cup '94 Football
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:25 Programme on population, Agami
- 6:00 Musical programme, Unmish
- 6:55 Open University
- 7:25 Tagore song
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 9:05 Film show: The A-Team
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Magazine: Kathamala
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:40 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11:45 Closing

## Enterprise (Amend) Bill placed in JS

A bill seeking to turn the heavily losing public sector industries into public limited companies was introduced in Parliament Monday, UNB.

Piloting the Bangladesh Industrial Enterprises (Nationalisation) (Amendment) Bill 1994, Industries Minister AM Zahiruddin Khan said it was aimed at efficient operation of the units under the sector corporations and make them economically viable.

## 5 lakh water bodies in country

The country has five lakh water bodies and eight thousand beels where pisciculture could be taken up. Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al-Noman told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports BSS.

Answering another question from Shahadatuzzaman (Bogra 2), the minister said 15.5 lakh fingerlings were released in five hundred ponds, jheels and open water bodies during the observance of the fish fortnight last year.

## Weather

## No change in temperature

Light to moderate rain or shower is likely at one or two places over Chittagong and Rajshahi divisions during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office says weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere across the country.

Day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Country's highest temperature 37 degree Celsius was recorded at Khulna and the lowest 22.4 degrees at Rajshahi, yesterday.

The sun sets today (Wednesday) at 6:45 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5:10 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures of some major cities/towns recorded yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	38.4	27.3	78	67
Chittagong	34.0	26.8	84	72
Rajshahi	35.0	22.4	86	95
Khulna	37.0	27.4	80	-
Barisal	35.5	26.6	86	91
Cox's Bazar	34.8	28.0	74	75
Sylhet	32.4	26.0	86	70
Dinajpur	34.0	26.5	90	64

## Fertiliser policy soon

A policy would be formulated soon to ensure sufficient availability of fertiliser on competitive price, reports BSS.

This was disclosed at an inter-ministerial meeting held in the conference room of the Agriculture Ministry on the availability, price situation, distribution, carrying and export situation of fertiliser.

Presided over by the Agriculture Minister M Majid-Ul Haq, the meeting was attended by Industries Minister M Zahiruddin Khan.

The meeting expressed satisfaction as the production of Urea, TSP and SSP had reached all time high which would benefit the farmers through increased supply.

The meeting took some decisions to meet the area-wise needs of fertiliser, and its supply and proper distribution. The meeting also directed the agricultural information service to broadcast everyday the price situation of fertiliser in the agricultural programmes of radio.

## Priority to dist quota system

State Minister for Establishment Mohammad Aminul Hoq yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government at present had no plans to give priority to merit quota over district quota in the recruitment process to government service, reports BSS.

## Police still looking for Taslima

By Staff Correspondent

Police could not trace the hideouts of the controversial writer, Taslima Nasreen, until yesterday.

Thirty-two-year-old Nasreen went into hiding, since the Chief Metropolitan magistrate, Dhaka, had issued a non-bailable warrant of arrest against her on Saturday last following a case lodged by the Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Motijheel police on behalf of the State under Section 295A of the Bangladesh Penal Code accusing her of hurting the religious sentiments of the people in an interview with the Calcutta-based daily The Statesman on May 9.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Naripakkha, a leading women's organisation in the country, yesterday demanded that the government immediately withdraw the arrest order against Taslima Nasreen and ensure her safety.

Naripakkha in a statement, said that the government had curbed the fundamental and democratic rights of Taslima by issuing such order.

The warrant was issued even after publishing of her rejoinder in the Calcutta-based daily The Statesman as well as other newspapers, it pointed out.

The government should take immediate measures to ensure all basic rights of the citizens to create a healthy and democratic atmosphere in the country, the statement added.

## UNITED INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED SALE OF CAR

Waxed sealed tenders are invited for the sale of a damaged 1988 Model 73 P.S. 4 Cylinder 5 seater Honda Civic Sedan Car on 'as is where is basis'. The vehicle may be inspected in the compound of old Hwang Ho Chinese Restaurant, 1, Mymensingh Road, Paribag, Dhaka between 10-00 a.m and 4-00 p.m. from 8th June 1994 to 11th June 1994.

Tenders which should accompany 10% of quoted price as Earnest Money in the form of Pay Order drawn in favour of United Insurance Company Limited will be received upto 1-00 p.m. on 11th June 1994.

Tenders should be dropped in the Tender Box kept at Company's Head Office at Camellia House (1st Floor), 22, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000. Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. For details please contact Telephone No. 862169, 506445, 508440.

## NOTICE

Subjudge Arthorin Adalat No. 3, Dhaka.  
Money Suit No. - 18/93

National Bank Ltd., Dilkusha Branch, 48, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and Head office 18, Dilkusha C/A, P.S. Motijheel, Dhaka.

Plaintiff.

V.S.

1. M/S. Nipun Garments Ltd., Zed Shaha House (1st floor), 120, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka, at present 93, South Bashabo (1st floor), Dhaka.
2. Md. Rafiqul Islam Khan, S/O. Abdul Jalil Khan, Director of M/S Nipun Garments Ltd., 34-A, North Bashabo, Dhaka-1214.
3. Mr. Md. Kamrul Islam Khan, Director of Nipun Garments Ltd., 34-A, North Bashabo, Dhaka-1214.
4. Mr. A. Jalil Khan, Director of M/S Nipun Garments Ltd. S/O. Late Haji Alabor Khan, 34/A, North Bashabo, Dhaka-1214.
5. Mr. M. A. Mannan Mollah (son-in-law Korshedur Rahman Mojumder), S/O. Not known, Director of M/S Nipun Garments Ltd., 368/3-A, Ahmed Nagar, Paikpara, Mirpur, Dhaka.
6. Mr. Md. Mojibur Rahman Khan, S/O. Jamir Ahamad Khan, Director of M/S Nipun Garments Ltd., 1480/A, Khilgaon, Dhaka-1219.
7. Mr. A. Salam Mojumder, S/O. Korshedur Rahman Mojumder, Director of M/S Nipun Garments Ltd., 1480/A, Khilgaon, Dhaka-1219.
8. Mrs. Rasheda Akter, W/O. Korshedur Rahman Mojumder, Director of M/S Nipun Garments Ltd., 1480/A, Khilgaon, Dhaka-1219, Permanent Address 97/100, Women College Road, P.S. & Dist-Chandpur.
9. Mr. Korshedur Rahman Mojumder, S/O. Mr. Sayed Ali Mojumder, Director of M/S Nipun Garments Ltd., 1480/A, Khilgaon, Dhaka-1219, at Permanent Address-97/1000, Women College Road, P.S. & Dist-Chandpur.

Defendants.

The above money suit has been filed against you by the plaintiff National Bank Ltd. for realisation of packing credit Tk. 78,15,131/87 (Seventy eight lac, fifteen thousand one hundred thirty one and eighty seven paise) only on 29-10-92 and S.O.D Export Tk. 24,31,374/44 (Twenty four lac, thirty one thousand three hundred seventy four and forty four paise) only total Tk. 1,02,46,506/31 (One crore two lac forty six thousand five hundred six and thirty one paise) only. You are notified to appear in the aforesaid suit in the concerned court at 10 A. M. on 15/06/94 either in person or through an authorised attorney, on failure of which the suit would be disposed of ex parte.

By order of the Court  
Serestadar

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