Jamal

by Aasha Mchreen Amin



With thousands of people migrating everyday to Dhaka the city of dreams', it is no wonder that the biggest problem this mega city faces is housing. When we see the myriads of heads bobbing up and down in Moujheel. Farmgate or Gulistan, the first question that comes to mind is. Where do these people live? A large portion of the evergrowing population consists of young men who have come to the city, leaving their families in the village, in pursuit of work and a dream to make it big. Being unable to afford a flat, most of these young men rent rooms in dormitories called the mess. Separated from families, living with strangers and struggling just to keep alive in a harsh, selfish city, these men find themselves in a world very different from their simple, peaceful village life

Most of these messes located in the crowded areas of Dhaka such as Moham-madpur. Shahjahanpur or Fakirapool, accom-modate men of lower income groups. These include peons, drivers, security guards in one category with rickshaw-wallas, day labourers and vendors in another. Typically, a mess is a one storied building with a tin roof and 5 to 6 rooms accommodating 3 to 4 persons each Poorly ventilated, congested and often not very clean, life in a mess can be quite dismay.

Majid, an office boy, shares a tiny room in a Mohammadpur mess, with three other roommates. The dormitory has six rooms accommodating 22 people who all share only one bathroom and a kitchen. The room is always dark and so the lights have to be on even during the day. The windows are small with grills that resemble jail cells and the low ceiling covered with unruly cobwebs makes it hot and stuffy. There are four 'chowkis' (beds) around the grimy floor and each with its own faded, patched 'moshari' that hides parts of the cracked, peeling walls. The rest of them are covered by a calendar and a few torn posters of Sri Devi and Rekha. In a corner has a rusty old heater that Majid and his roomanates use for making tea or boiling eggs, when there is electricity, of course. In the daytime the only residents of this small, damp, overstowded room are the cockroaches and rats that sample the morning's left over rice or just explore the debris of shoes, clothes and trunks shoved an der the beds.

CITIBAN(O

OFFICE SPACE REQUIRED

Citibank, a U.S. bank, needs 5000 to 7000

square feet of office space in a good building

Interested owners are requested to

communicate in writing only with the Vice

President, Citibank N.A., Floor 5, B.S.B.

Building, 8, D.I.T. Avenue, Dhaka with details

of the space (area, floor, car parking space,

etc.) and lease rent expected, within 10 days

HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES AND

FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

Airconditioners refrigerator, p. - 1 ve freezer

washing machine, dining table and chairs, beds,

expatriate. Items can be inspected at House 43,

chests of drawers, living room cabinet, side

board, cane set with cushions, book cases,

good condition from home of departing

desks, carpets, fans, gas water heater - all in-

Road 23, Banani B between 10 00 a m. and

6:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, July

10:00 a.m., Thursday July 14. Forms available

during viewing and at IIMI, 56A, Rd. 16 (new),

Dhanmondi R.A. during business hours (Mon.

গ্রামাঞ্চলে সেবামূলক কান্ধ করার জন্য ব্র্যাক মহিলা ও পুরুষদের কাছ থেকে

(ক) কর্মসূচী সংগঠক (সেরিকালচার): শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা সেরিকালচার-এ

পেটি গ্রান্ধ্যটে ডিপ্রোমাসহ স্থাতকোত্তর। বয়স সর্বোচ্চ ৩৩ বছর। বেতন

(খ) কর্মসূচী সংগঠক (কৃষি)। শিক্ষাগত যোগাতা কৃষি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে কৃষি

বিজ্ঞানে স্রাতক। বয়স সবের্বাজ ৩৩ বছর বেতন ৩৬৫৩ টাকা

11-13. Sealed bids will be accepted through

in Motijheel/Dilkusha on long lease.

of this advertisement.

through Thurs.)

নিম্নলিখিত পদে দরখান্ত আহবান করছে

(324128)

৩৬৫০ টাকা।

Majid admits he spends as little time as possible in the room, treating it just as a place to crash out at night. "After work," says Majid, "I don't go back there, I just spend the time going to the stadium to watch a game or the cinema or just hang around the shops until 10 pm." Recently, however, Majid has spent a lot of time in the next room watching World Cup tootball where one of the messmates has a television which he generously shares with the other inmates. Apart from the inconvenience of living in a congested room with three other people, and will no privacy, there are other problems. The water supply is erratic and the close proximity of the rooms makes it very difficult to sleep when someone decides to blast on his radio in the middle of the night.

Security too, in some of these messes, is not ensured. Located in the poorer, crowded areas of the city, alcoholism and drug addiction is common. "Sometimes," says Helal, a darwan of a biscuit factory, "the neighbourhood mastaans, high on heroin or Bangla Mod (local spirit) barge into the rooms at night to play cards and drink or dope. There is nothing we can do; if we protest, we may be beaten up or even killed.

Living in a mess is also quite expensive. Majid pays 300 taka per month just for the room plus 600 taka for food. "Every month I have to borrow money," he says, "since I have also to send some to my parents in Faridpur. Majid, who is a bachelor, says that it will be long time before he can afford a wife and family. Many of his friends, however, have wives and children in the villages since the city is too expensive to keep them.

For these people living in a city, in a mess where no one really cares if you live or die, the separation from their loved ones is very painful. "I try to go at least twice a year," says Abu Mia, a thirty-five year old darwan, "but when I am not there I constantly worry about my children my wife, and wish I could be with them.

For many young men like Majid, life in a mess may not be the most comfortable. Yet the excitement of living in the city, the thrill of adventure and the dream for a better life that stays alive only when you are young, make it almost bearable. If nothing else, at least it means having a roof over their heads, something that many city dwellers do not have.

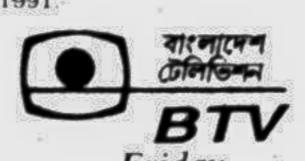
Bangla-Pak JEC meet July 12

A three-day meeting of Bangladesh-Pakistan Joint Economic Commission (JEC) will begin in Dhaka July 12, diplomatic sources said yesterday, reports UNB.

Adviser to the Prime Mi nister of Pakistan on Finance and Economic Affairs V A Jaferey, who is to lead Pak delegation at the SAARC Finance Ministers' meeting beginning in Dhaka on Sunday, will also head his country's team at the JEC meeting Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam will

range of issues on economic and trade cooperation between the two countries and also ex piere the possibility of enhancing private sector trade in non-traditional items.

The discussions will also cover cooperations in education, culture, agriculture, shipping, sports, science, techhology, private investments and joint ventures.



নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি-

News in Bangla Programme Environment Film show Batman

10.00 News in English Moner Mukurey: Fine Dao Aranya (Ist part) Film show: Tarzan 11.40 Programme of Health:

Prescription Musical programme: Morami.

(গ) কর্মসূচী সংগঠক (মহিলা)। শিক্ষাগত যাগাতে সাত্র বহুদ সর্বোচ ৩০ বছর। বেতন ০০২৫ টাকা ব্যাকের সব প্রকল্পে কর্মীদের জন্য নিখরচায় থাকার ব্যবস্থা রয়েছে নির্বাচিত Bengali Feature Film:

প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই সাইকেল, মটর সাইকেল ব্যবহার করতে হবে। চাক্রীতে স্থায়ী হলে গ্র্যাচুইটি, প্রতিভেট ফাল্ড ও ইঞ্চিওরেলের সুবিধা পাবেন

উল্লেখ্য যে পূর্বে যারা ব্র্যাকে চাকুরী করেছেন তারা আবেদন করতে পারবেন

আগামী ২০শে জুলাই বুধবার ১৯৯৪-এর মধ্যে পূর্ণাক্য জীবনবৃদ্ধান্ত ও এক কপি ছবিসহ কর্মী ব্যবস্থাপনা বিভাগ, ব্রাক ৬৬ মহাখালী, ঢাকা ১২১২ এই ঠিকানায় আবেদন করুন আবেদনপত্র ও বামের উপর অবশ্যই আবেদনকত পদের নাম উল্লেখ করতে হবে

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman speaking at a seminar on "The Problems and Prospects of Primary and Mass Education in Bangladesh" at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. - Star photo Education admn weakest: Saifur Finance Minister Saifur ture on education, the minisladesh" at Jatiya Press Club. Rahman yesterday criticised

administrative lapses in education sector, saying the nation is not getting the return of investments made in this sector presented the key-note paper due to its weak administration. containing 29 recommendareports UNB. tions for removing existing "Education administration

Water demand can be met

by cutting system loss'

is the weakest, for which we are not getting proper return ' taken in the area of primary of our money we invested in the sector," he said while addressing a seminar here yesterday afternoon. Citing his home district

Sylhet as an example, the minister said he found most teachers not taking classes properly. He also hardly found the education officers in their places during the last three

"If the situation is not improved, we will not get the return of the huge investment we're making in the sector." Rahman told the seminar on "The Problems and Prospects of Primary Education in Bang-

Local Government, Rural

Development and Cooperatives

Minister Abdus Salam Taluk-

der yesterday stressed on re-

ducing system loss of water to

meet the total demand by city

loss in Dhaka Wasa was brought

down "significantly," all efforts

to supply water in the

metropolis would be futile. The

present system loss is about 51

achieve the standard of the de-

veloped nations, but at least we

should score Bangladeshi stan-

ing a day-long seminar on

water supply for Dhaka and

The function was addressed

Talukder said compared to

present requirement of 1287

million litres of water per day

in the capital, Dhaka WASA has

Saidabad water treatment pla-

nt," at the Academy for Plan

the ministry

The minister was inaugurat-

He said we might not

per cent, he mentioned.

He emphasised that unless

dwellers, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Literacy Society (BLS) organised the seminar where its Secretary General Prof Mohammad Osman Ghani

problems and proper implementation of all programmes and mass education. Secretary of Primary and Mass Education Division Kazi Raquibuddin Ahmed, Chairman of the University Grants Commission Prof M Shamsul

Hug, former Director General of Higher Education Directorate Prof Abdur Rashid Chowdhury, former DG of Primary Education Directorate Dr Zahirul Islam Bhuiyan and Dr Mohammad Mohabbat Khan, Prof Abu Hamid Latif and Prof Siddigur Rahman of Dhaka University took part in discu-

Giving an elaborate description of government expendi-

had only 722 million litres -

about 56 per cent of the de-

mand. He cautioned that un-

less alternate source was ex-

plored, it would be difficult to

maintain even the present

level of water supply as ground

level has been gradually falling

down due to huge extracting

over the years. Over 98 per

cent of present water supply

comes from underground

sources, the function was told,

Ratan m

urder case:

Three accused

arrested

Police in a drive yesterday ar-

rested three accused in Ratan

Mia murder case, reports UNB.

the metropolis and different

parts of Tongi and Keranigani

thanas in the last 48 hours to

Dhaka, was gunned down on

his way home from Badamtali

as: Mohammad Alam, 27,

Mohammad Badsha, 24, and

Abul Kashem alias Ruhul Amin

alias Chapa Dangar Kashem,

torickshaw which was used for

nab the killers.

on June 2.

the killing.

The raid was conducted at

Ratan, a businessman of old

The arrested are identified

Police also seized a au-

A special squad of Detective

ter said a total of Tk 4,100 crore, including expenses for sports and cultural activities from the allocations of sports and cultural ministries, would be spent for education during the current fiscal year.

The government has earmarked Tk 3,600 crore in the education budget, of which 51 per cent will be spent only for primary education, he said, adding the expenditure for social sector will stand at 35 per cent of total allocations in the revenue and development bud-

The Finance Minister indicated that the budget for the education sector might be increased. "If I can save a single furthing. I will divert that to the education sector.

Responding to a demand for a allocating eight per cent of GDP for education, Rahman said despite the lowest tax-GDP ratio in the region the country had been spending more than three per cent of its GDP for the education sector.

Terming education core element of human resource development, he said the countries in the sub-continent were lagging behind as they did not invest properly in the education sector.

Keeping the situation in view, the government is investing heavily in the sector, he said and referred to various development works in the education sector, including the food for education programme and recently-introduced stipend programme for girl students.

Each dist will have polytech institute, JS told

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar yesterday said that one polytechnic institute would be established in each of the 64 districts of the country in phases, reports BSS.

Making a statement on a private member resolution by BNP member Khairul Enam (Lakshmipur-3) for setting up a polytechnic institute at Lakshmipur, the education minister said that there were 20 polytechnic institutes including one for women in the greater district headquarters.

Sircar said the BNP government had introduced technical subjects like agriculture, animal husbandry, secretarial science, carpentry, at the SSC and HSC levels with a view to expanding the foundation level educational curriculum in the country's education system.

He said that the expansion in curriculum at the SSC and HSC was effected to enable drop-out students to take up self-employed professions of their own liking.

Later, Enam withdrew his resolution which was approved by the House by voice vote.

ROK envoy meets Speaker

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Jong Kyon Byun called on Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali at his Sangsad office yesterday.

and Korea.

reports BSS. They exchanged views on issues relating to functioning of parliaments in Bangladesh

Happy Birthday

TITO

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION WANTED

A project of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and administered by a UN organization is looking for an independent 2-storied building for office accommodation, preferably in Dhanmondi. Accommodation wanted on a lease basis from 15 August 1994, initially until year-end 1996 with sufficient space for:

12-14 office rooms, ranging from 8-25 m² and 1 conference room, minimum 30 m², as well as kitchen, toilets and 1-2 store rooms. Provision for using electrical appliances such as 10-15 air conditioners, 2 photocopiers, refrigerator etc. and parking facilities for 10 vehicles also required.

Interested owners are requested to write to GPO Box No. 2568, Dhaka-1000 or call 605785, 608106 or 600151 with details of property and expected monthly rent by 14 July

Career Opportunity

To meet our growth objectives, particularly relating to the marketing and distribution of the internationally renowned Nestle range of products, the following opportunities have arisen. We are looking for a select number of young and dynamic individuals to fill up three available positions.

POSITION

MEDICAL DELEGATE Age maximum 28 years.

D-669

EDUCATIONAL

QUALIFICATION Masters in any Science subject. Principal job responsibilities will include the promotion

of dietetic products to the medical profession and coordination with the sales team. The candidates will be based in any of our 10 branches in

Bangladesh and be willing to work in a meritocratic environment. Please apply in person on 12th July, 1994 at 10:00 AM with

full Bio-data and a recent passport size photograph to:



19.03 Premium in crore taka

3.57 92

Delta Life Insurance Co. Ltd. Uttara Bank Bhaban, 90-91 Motijheel C.A. Dhaka-1000 PABX 245033-5, 246111-2

Bakhrabad Gas Systems Limited

(A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

भ्यात्मत्र व्यथ्वत्र द्वाथ करून এवः निर्धातिक ममत्य विल शतिर्भाथ करून

International Re-Tender Notice

ICB Tender No. BGSL/FP/CFE-32 (Re-Tender)/94

Description of Materials

Cost of Tender Documents (Non-refundable)

Bond Amount

quoted amount.

US\$ 12.00

2% of the total

Male Elbow, Union Tee, Male Branch Tee, Both End Compression Fittings and Male Connector)

Pipe Fittings (Stainless Steel Pipe, Tube, Bender

Tk. 500.00 Manufacturers/Suppliers having proven experience of similar

The procurement will be financed under Cash Foreign Exchange. Qualification of the

contractor/supplier

Where Tender Document will be available

Selling Time of Tender Document

Place, date & time of

tender receiving Date & Time of tender opening

For further information and clarification please

contact BG 1366

DEP(BA) 5643-5/7

a) Head Office Complex, Chapapur, Comilla, Bangladesh. b) Regional Distribution Office, 100, Momin Road, Chittagong, Bangladesh.

c) BGSL's Liaison Office, House No-3, Road No. 2/A. Banani. Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh.

16-7-94 to 3-8-94

works/supply.

BGSL Offices at:

BGSL's Head Office, Chapapur, Comilla, Bangladesh on 4-8-94 up to 1200 hours.

At 1215 hours on 4-8-94 Dy General Manager (Materials) .BGSL Comilla, Bangladesh.

Telex No 642768 GAS BJ. Fax No 880-2 886317 Phone No. 5791-95, 8681

6-1131

9:00 11.30

8:00 Comedy series Perfect Suro Bant News in English Film Show LA Law Khabar/Thr News

ning and Development Audiby Md Abdul Haye, Deputy Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives. J M Lacombe, ambassador of France to Bangladesh, Saeed Rana, acting chief of mission, World Bank, Bang ladesh and Sayed Alamgir Fa rouk Chowdhury, Secretary, Local Government division of

lead the home side The JEC will discuss a wide

It will be the 5th session of the JEC. The last session was held in Islamabad in November



Morning Session Opening announcement Al-Quran, Programme su-

Our Friends the Dolphins

Evening Session Opening announcement Carton film: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

Pravaschitta News in Bangla Programme in memory of poet Bande Ali Miah Open University Musical programme News in Bangla

be held to mark the World Architecture Day. Chief guest: DCC Mayor Mohammad Hanif. Special guest: BUET VC Prof Dr Mohammad Shahjahan. Venue: BUET auditorium. Time: 4 pm.

Exhibition on Driftwood: A two-week long exhibition

by Ferdousy Priyabhasini. Artist Rafigun Nabi will inaugurate

the show. Chief guest: Prof Zillur Rahman Siddigy. Venue:

Jojon Art Gallery. Time: 6:30 pm. The show will remain open

Institute of Architects: A seminar and a function will

What's on today.

from 3 pm to 8 pm everyday till July 20.

Innerwheel Club: The annual district assembly will be held. Chief guest. Dr Sufia Ishtiaq. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 10 am.

Weather

Thundershower likely

Moderate to moderately heavy rain or thundershower likely to occur at most places over Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna and Dhaka divisions during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today. reports UNB.

Met office said it may occur at many places over Rajshahi division with heavy fall at places over Chittagong and Barisal

Day temperature likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period. Country's highest temperature 34.4 degrees was regis tered in Bogra and the lowest 23.8 degrees in Sylhet yester-

The sun sets today (Friday) at 6.50 pm and rises on to-

morrow (Saturday) at 5.17 am. The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity of some major cities/towns recorded yesterday were: City/Town Temperature Humidity in in Celsius percentage

6pm 9am Dhaka 29.1 25.5 92 Chittagong 24.5 100 Raishahi 30.6 24 5 Khulna Barisal 28 6 24.5 100 Sylhet 32 23 8 98 71 32 5 Dinapur 25 4 Cox's Bazar 28.6 27