

Dhaka Day by Day

Ball and Point Rolled into Pen

by Chuckles

A local ball-point-pen company has declared a dividend of 40 per cent, according to a press report. The pens must be having a rolling sale. But the ink is not rolling at all my end.

As an avid window-shopper for life, I value consumer-friendliness of new products in the market. The cheaper the product the more I am tempted to buy and try. Try means test and record comments for future non-use of the unacceptable products.

Ball pens (local term) are cheap and have flooded the monsoon market. 'Flooded' here does not mean the seasonal rain, but to emphasize that the cheap consumer market is always flooded in the developing countries, with swadeshi products from the back-lane mini factories. There is no doubt that local ingenuity is helping to stabilize the micro-economics of the country, now that the air-conditioned macros are in place and humming merrily.

These popularly-priced pens (around taka three each) are presumably used for signing lakh taka (100,000) cheques;

but the lady at my bank counter points to the disintegration of my name, and I have to re-sign the cheque to remove the Farakka dry islands in my signature (I sign in one continuous movement without lifting the pen from the paper). When the unity of one's own name is threatened, it is time to take notice.

I find that I have been buying more local ball pens than I need, but strangely enough, only one is found in stock at any time. What happened to the others? Maybe, I am helping the tokai boys with their primary education project, learning the alphabets of QC — quality-control.

Did I say QC for the tokais? No, the QC is for

the ball-bearing factories, where this component is placed at the tip of the pen, for light, more light education, that is. As a student of science, I wonder how the LDCs can produce good quality, reliable ball-point pen. I would not go into this venture, without a foreign tie-up, as the QC requirements are staggering.

Take two examples. The tolerance of the ball bearing and its casing must be within plus-minus one thousandth of a millimetre. The fitting and checking are costly. Ball pens are precision products — try a ballpen with a lifetime guarantee, and enjoy the silky glide of the words, before thoughts can overtake. The writer's Doppler Effect.

Then the ink must be temperature and weather/humidity proof in the tropics. The size of the ink molecules have to be strictly controlled for smooth flow and passage around the ball bearing. This calls for expensive ink (R&D cost is high). And all this for a mere three taka (seven US cents), including the body, tax, commissions, and distribution charges! Who says our industrialists indulge in black-marketing?

Imitation might be the mother of invention, so I dip my recalcitrant ballpen into my cup of hot tea (when hot water is not readily available), to enable the mightier-than-the-sword personality to get familiar with a poor man's signature. Outdoors, add two taka for maintenance, for that cup of tea. First I drink half of the mini cup, before inviting my dry friend, sitting so close to my heart. Just got an idea: cholesterol in the pen!

Well, in these days of bakhshish, can't blame the inanimate pen for sohbat-e-asar — keeping in tune with the environment.



SHARPER '94

500 gm heroin seized in Khulna

KHULNA, Aug 23: Customs Intelligence Department seize 500 grams of heroin worth about Tk 50 lakh from a field at Muslimpara in the town on Monday night, reports UNB. Acting on a tip off a contingent of the department seized the heroin from a leather bag with written instruction of quality, doses and caution, the source added.

Buddhist youths hail Chandrika

The Bangladesh National Buddhist Youth Federation yesterday felicitated Chandrika Bandarnaike Kumaratunga on her election to the office of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, reports UNB. The federation hoped that under her dynamic leadership the people of Sri Lanka would be able to resolve the political crisis, said a press release.

Muktijoddha Sangsad polls Sept 5

Returning officer for elections to Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad elections, 1994 and Deputy Commissioner, Dhaka, Mohammad Abu Solaiman Chowdhury yesterday announced election schedule for Dhaka city unit Command polls of the Sangsad, reports BSS.

Polling will be held uninterrupted from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on September 5.

Under the schedule, nomination papers are to be submitted in the conference room of DC's office by 2:00 pm on August 25. The nomination papers will be scrutinised the same day at 4:00 pm. The last date for withdrawal of nomination is August 27 by 2:00 pm.

Election symbol will be distributed among the candidates at 4:00 pm the same day. Voter-list will be kept at room Number 7 of DC's office. Nomination papers can be collected from the same room at the DC's office from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm today.

Removal of Baitul Mukarram Khatib demanded

The Sampradajika Birodhi Chhatra Samaj (SBSC), an anti-communal students' alliance, yesterday demanded removal of the Khatib of the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque for his alleged anti-liberation remarks, reports UNB.

The demand came at a rally at the south gate of the Baitul Mukarram mosque where they also called for the arrest and punishment of Khatib Maulana Obaidul Haq for his 'audacious remarks' against the spirit of the Liberation War.

The rally was addressed by Chhatra Union president Kazi Sajjad Zahir Chandra. Chhatra League (M-I) general secretary Iqbalur Rahim and Chhatra Front general secretary Nurul Islam.

They threatened the government with a greater agitation if Maulana Obaidul Haq was not removed within 15 days.



Table with 2 columns: Time and Program. Programs include Opening announcement, Sports programme, News in Bangla, Agani, Cultural programme, Open University, Tagore songs, News in Bangla, Biswa Parikrama, International affairs, Film show: Equalizer, News in English, Geeti Bichitra: Song based magazine, Khabar / The News, Closing.



Japanese Ambassador Shigeo Takenaka looking at a graphic print at the solo exhibition by Japanese Prof Shiroki Toshiyuki which began at the Shilpakala Academy in the city yesterday. — Star photo

2000 villages to get electricity

Two thousand villages will be brought under rural electrification programme during the current financial year with the laying of 7,300 kms of power lines. Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondkar Mosharrar said here yesterday, reports BSS.

He said this target was the highest in the history of rural electrification programme in the country.

The minister was inaugurating the annual Performances Target Agreement (PTA) meeting for 1994-95 at the Engineers' Institution.

The function was also addressed by Secretary, Energy and Mineral Resources, M

Fazur Razzaque, Chairman, Rural Electrification Board (REB) Brig Mohammad Enamul Hoq, Robert E Schiller, team leader of NRECA and General Manager of Sathkira Palli Biddiyut Samity (PBS) Nazrul Islam.

The PTA is an accord signed between the REB and the Palli Biddiyut Samities to raise income of the samities and minimise loss and expenses.

Dr Mosharrar Hossain said that the rural electrification programme was the most successful one. He said compared to a combined target of 3,480 villages and 13,050 kms of power lines, the actual achievement during the last three

years were 3,619 villages and 15,991 kms of lines.

Lauding the overall performances of the Rural Electrification Board, the minister said the rural electrification programme is one of the few programmes mentioned by the donors as a success story. He said as a result of better performances the government had enhanced allocation to this sector.

The minister said that during the last three years the government had taken up nine projects under the rural electrification programme involving a total of Tk 2,248 crore including Tk 1,360 in foreign exchange.

What's on today . . .

Musical Evening: A guitar recital of old Bengali melodies by noted guitarist Shah Didarul Alam will be held. Chief guest: High Commissioner of India, K Raghunath. Venue: High Commission of India auditorium, 754, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 6:30 pm.

Unmesh Film Society: The film 'Tahader Katha' by Buddhadev Dasgupta will be screened. Venue: German Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 6:00 pm.

Business Advisory Service Center: Closing ceremony of the workshop on 'Financial Management of Small Loans and Business' will be held. Chief guest: Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman. Special guest: US Ambassador David N Merrill. Venue: Hotel Purbani. Time: 4:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka South: The 2nd club assembly and regular weekly meeting of the club will be held at 4:00 pm at Hotel Purbani International. District Governor Rtn M Mosharrar Hossain will conduct the club assembly. A Fellowship Dinner will be hosted today in honour of District Governor & District first lady R-Ann Moutaz Hossain at 8:00 pm at 'Lan Hua Chinese Restaurant,' 40/1, Inner Circular Road, Naya Paltan.

Rotary Club of Dhaka North West: The regular weekly meeting of the club and the 9th Installation Meeting of Inner Wheel Club of Dhaka North West will be held jointly. Chief guest: Major General K M Siraj Jinnat (retd). Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga: The regular weekly meeting will be held. Mrs Nancy Fronzyk and Mrs. Sendra Laston of ICDDRIB will speak on 'Rwanda Refugee Experience.' Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Dhaka Mid-Town: The regular weekly meeting will be held. Guest speaker will speak on Muslim Family Law. Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.



The Sampradajika Birodhi Chhatra Samaj brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding removal of the Khatib of the Baitul Mukarram mosque. — Star photo

Weather

Moderate rain likely

Moderately heavy falls are likely to occur at places over Chittagong division during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office says light to moderate rain or thundershower is likely at many places over Barisal, Dhaka, Chittagong and Rajshahi divisions and at a few places over Khulna division.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period across the country.

Meantime, Feni experienced the highest 28 mm rain yesterday.

Country's highest temperature 32 degree Celsius was recorded at Chittagong and the lowest 24.4 degrees at Rangamat.

Sun sets today (Wednesday) at 6:24 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5:37 am.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity of some major cities/towns recorded yesterday were:

Table with 3 columns: City town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in Percentage (9 am, 6 pm). Cities include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

Microbiologists and Pharmacists Required

Post	Qualifications	Salary
Microbiologist	M.Sc (Microbiologist)/MBBS with training in microrbiology/ DVM with training in Microbiology	Negotiable
Pharmacist	M. Pharm/ B Pharm with 2 years experience in big company will also be considered	Negotiable

Smokers and betel-leaf chewers need not apply. Female candidates will be given preference. Female Pharmacist candidates will be given opportunity for training abroad on completion for 3 years contract satisfactorily. Interested candidates are requested to send their CV along with copies of academic certificates and 2 copies of recent photographs by 4th September, 1994.

Personnel Department
Gonoshasthaya Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
Nayrhat, Dhaka-1350

Pristine PALACE

Located centrally in Gulshan

Pristine Palace offers :

- A classic in architectural aesthetics.
- All modern amenities of a luxury apartment complex.
- Limited no. of simplexes and duplexes between 2300sqft to 3200 sqft containing 4-5 bedrooms.
- Spacious and well ventilated rooms with high quality fittings and fixtures.
- A lawn designed with a walking path and a fountain.
- A spacious party hall and games' area.

building technology & ideas ltd.
TMC BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 52 NEW ESKATON ROAD, DHAKA.
TEL: 839160 (Customer only) 40243, 40487, 41310.

Dhaka City Corporation Invitation for Bid (2nd Call)

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন
আপনার শিককে টিকা দিন।

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan No. 1124 BAN (SF) from Asian Development Bank towards the cost of Dhaka Integrated Flood Protection Project (DIFPP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan shall be applied to eligible payment for procurement under these contracts. Mode of purchase shall be International Shopping (IS).

The Dhaka City Corporation being an implementing Agency of the Dhaka Integrated Flood Protection Project (DIFPP) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders from member countries of the Bank for the following:

Sl.No.	Name of work/supply	Quantity
1.	Drain Gully Sweeper	1 No.
2.	Septic Tank Desludging Truck.	2 Nos.

Bidding document for the above mentioned equipments may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder from the undersigned and from all Zonal Offices as well as Accounts Section of Dhaka City Corporation on all working days during office hours on payment of Tk. 2000/- (Two thousand) up to 06-9-94. No bidding document will be sold on the date fixed for the submission of the bid.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid money in the form of Pay Order or Bank Draft in favour of Mayor, Dhaka City Corporation for a sum of Taka not less than 2 (two) per cent of total bid price be delivered on or before 12:00 hours (Local time) on 07-9-94. The bids shall be received by the undersigned and in all Zonal Offices of Dhaka City Corporation and the same shall be publicly opened at 14:00 hours on the same day in presence of the bidders or their representative who choose to be present.

Dhaka City Corporation shall in no way be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information on the bid for and inspect the bidding document from the office of the Project Director, Dhaka Integrated Flood Protection Project (DIFPP), Dhaka City Corporation, Dhaka.

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Executive Engineer
Mechanical Division-I
Dhaka City Corporation.

DCC/PRD/7194-95
D-860

中国远洋运输公司 CHINA OCEAN SHIPPING COMPANY

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES/SHIPPERS

M. V. QING HE CHENG IMP. ROT NO. 67694 TOOK BERTH CHITTAGONG PORT ON 22ND AUGUST, 1994 TO DISCHARGE HER IMPORT CARGO FROM PRC PORT SHANGHAI.

CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE DELIVERY OF GOODS IMMEDIATELY AFTER DISCHARGE. SURVEY APPLICATION MUST BE PRESENTED TO US WITHIN 3 DAYS OF DISCHARGE. NO CLAIM WILL BE ENTERTAINED NOR ANY LIABILITIES ACCEPTED IN RESPECT OF DAMAGE TO AND/OR SHORT LANDINGS OF CONSIGNMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM STORAGE SHED, IN EVENT OF CONSIGNEES TAKING DIRECT DELIVERY SURVEY TO BE HELD AT SHIP'S SIDE ONLY.

CONSIGNMENTS NOT CLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF UNLOADING EX THE SHIP ARE LIABLE TO BE CONFISCATED AND AUCTIONED AS PER SEC. 167(8) AND SEC. 82 RESPECTIVELY OF THE CUSTOMS ACT 1969 WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE/REFERENCE.

AGENTS: **BDSHIP Bangladesh Shipping Lines Ltd.** (A HRC COMPANY)

DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	KHULNA
19/F Sena Kalyan Bhaban 195 Motijheel Com. Area Tel: 864546, 864547 Tlx: 632105 BDSHIP BJ, 632656 HRC BJ	G/F Jiban Bima Bhaban 1053 St. Mujib Rd., Agrabad Tel: 304313, 502123, 500793 Tlx: 633027 BDSHIP BJ, 633126 HRC BJ	1 Milapara Road (PTI Meor) Tel: 25255 Tlx: 633302 HRC BJ Telefax: 88-0-41-21175