

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Craze for Yo-Yo Continues

by A S M Nurunnabi

The craze for Yo-Yo has lately gripped this city as well as other urban centres. This is the name of a game, popularity of which has steadily increased. The words "Yo-Yo" are said to have come from the Philippines meaning "come, come".

The charm of the game seems to have affected all age groups ranging from little children to adults, even the old. One observes frequent scenes of people young and old — practising this game while riding rickshaws or walking gaily along the thoroughfares. The tricks of the game have now become almost a part of urban culture here, thanks to the publicity stunts of certain soft drink traders.

But historically it is not a new game. It is said to have roots in the past. Even in ancient Greece, the game was reportedly in vogue. It was then called disc, made with burnt moulds of earth. It is also said that this game was played among English royal families about two hundred years ago. The game afterwards became popular in France. Later in the United States, a company dealing in soft drinks used this game as a sales promotion gimmick.

In this part of the world, the game first made its appearance, as some old timers say, in the fifties of this century. Such old timers still entertain fond memories of the game which carried the same name before. In those days, it was locally made of wood with multi coloured designs.

After the fifties, the game gradually declined. Among the factors considered responsible for the decline are the introduction of more attractive and competitive sports and lately introduction of video games and VCR. The game was mainly popular among children of middle class families. It met the same fate as tops and marbles which were once played by children of various strata of society with zest and innocent fun.

Not that these games have totally lost their existence. They gradually receded from urban areas and still maintain their existence less conspicuously in the villages and mofassil areas.

Now after a gap of two or three decades, the game of Yo-Yo has staged a dramatic comeback mainly for commercial reasons. The merits of the game, as touted, are that it does not need any extra space, nor does it require any specific time for playing it. Its publicity campaigners also claim that playing the game releases tension, thus working as a therapy.

Admittedly, the advantages of the game are manifold. It is neither an outdoor nor an indoor game. It can be played in a group or alone. It can secure freedom from boredom. While doing various activities, such as having a solitary walk, gossiping with friends or singing a tune it can be helpful in raising your spirits.

The soft drink companies which first introduced this craze with their sales promotion gimmick are no longer effective with their offers, but the craze continues to pick up. In almost all neighbourhood shops, this handy implement is stored in plenty. Some of its brands are pretty expensive ranging from Tk 40 to Tk 50 per piece. Some cheaper models are also available. But they are brittle and do not possess the appropriate weight.

In many neighbourhoods, arrangements are made for holding competitions. Even expert instructors are assigned the job to teach the tricks of the game to enthusiastic players. Since this game is played in 80 other countries, there is even talk of organising a competition on international level. Experts claim that there are eight playing techniques; so a broad-based competition on those lines can prove to be very interesting.

Through the wonders of publicity by electronic media, a lost popular game has achieved a revival, thus linking the new generation with an aspect of lost sports culture.



Minister for Labour and Manpower Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan speaking at the Tripartite Consultative Committee meeting at the conference room of the Manpower Employment and Training Bureau in the city yesterday. — PID photo

### Sports fund lottery prizes distributed

Prizes for the 3rd and 4th draws of the Sports Development Fund Lottery were distributed yesterday at a simple function held in the conference room of the National Sports Council, reports UNB.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman was the chief guest at the function and handed over the top six prizes of both the draws.

State Minister for Youth and Sports and the NSC Chairman Sadeque Hossain was present. Sirajul Islam of Habiganj district, the lucky winner of the first prizes of the 4th draw, received a cheque of Tk 20 lakh from the chief guest.

Later, he told newsmen that he will invest most of the prize money in pisciculture and some of it in helping the poor.

Each of the three second prize winners of the 4th draw — M. Golam Kabir of Satkhira, Abdur Razzak of Khulna and M. Mukul Hosain of Chapainawabganj — was richer by Taka three lakhs, equivalent to the cost of a Maruti car.

In the 3rd draw, there was still no claim for the first prize. The two second prize winners — Faridul Haq of Dhaka and Mohiuddin Ahmed of Comilla — received cheques of Taka three lakh each.

### 'Create mass awareness about pisciculture'

Food Minister Mir Shawkat Ali yesterday emphasised on creating mass awareness to develop the country's fish resources, reports UNB.

"It is not enough to enact laws for stopping catching of fish fry," he said while speaking at a function organised by the Fisheries Directorate in connection with the release of fish fry in the Dhanmondi Lake.

The minister said that for meeting the essential protein requirement of the people, it has become imperative to ensure fish and rice side by side with the "dal-bhat" programme of the present government.

**ভুলি নাই**

ভুলি কবীরের চতুর্থ মুদ্রা উপলক্ষে আগামী ২৯ শে আগস্ট সোমবার বাদ আছবে ৯৮৫ লেক সার্ভিস, কলাবাগান, ঢাকায় অনুষ্ঠিতব্য মিলাত ও সোহা মাহফিলে সব ঘনিষ্ঠ জনদের অংশ নিতে আমন্ত্রণ জানাচ্ছি।

সেওয়ান আহমদ কবীর চৌধুরী  
এবং  
শমি, হুমকিয়াজ ও দুর্বা

### Janmastami programme in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Aug 27: Janmastami Udjapan Parishad, Chittagong has undertaken a three-day programme to celebrate the Janmastami, birth anniversary of Lord Krishna, reports BSS.

Addressing a press conference at local press club today, Sujit Jumer Biswas and Mreedul Kanti Dey, president and general secretary respectively of the parishad, said the three-day programme will be heralded with a grand religious procession tomorrow morning in which different sporting events of Lord Krishna will be displayed from mobile truck and lorries.

The parishad leaders said, religious congregations, Puja, Namjaga and discussions on life and activities of Lord Krishna will include the programme.

They hailed the government for declaring a public holiday on the occasion of Janmastami. They further said that Taka five lakh which was granted by Prime Minister for reconstruction and repair of the affected temples and math has already been distributed among 40 religious institutions.

The parishad leaders placed 12-point demands which included establishment of Sangskrit University under government patronisation, modernisation of Abhoymitra crematorium, appointment of Hindu religious teachers in educational institutions, and enhancement of the fund for the Hindu welfare trust.

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### DU LLB exams shifted

The first and final year LLB examinations, 1992 or Dhaka University will begin from October 2 and 3 respectively, reports UNB.

Earlier, the examinations were scheduled for September 14 and 15, said a DU press release yesterday.

**BTV**  
Sunday

4:30 Opening announcement  
4:45 Shukra-Dhika: Educational programme  
5:10 News in Bangla  
5:25 Cartoon film: Tom & Jerry Kids Show  
5:40 Sports programme  
6:30 Maader Jannya: Health programme  
7:00 Open University  
7:25 Tagore songs  
8:00 News in Bangla  
8:30 Aboshar: Magazine programme  
9:00 Drama series: The Sword of Tipu Sultan  
10:00 News in English  
10:30 Surer Bhubane: Programme on Tagore & Nazrul songs  
11:30 Khabar/The News  
11:45 Closing

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## Invitation of Tender

Tender No: BOU/E & C/94 (Civil)/15, 16 & 17 Dated: August 27, 1994.

Subject: **Invitation of Tender for Construction of "Package II, III & IV Works" Bangladesh Open University Complex at Board Bazar, Gazipur.**

01. Sealed tenders are hereby invited from amongst the pre-qualified firms for construction of the "Package-II, III & IV Works" of BOU Complex as mentioned below.

Tender No.	Package No.	Name of the Works	No. of Buildings
15.	II (two)	Construction of School of Studies of Bangladesh Open University at Board Bazar, Gazipur. Block - A	1(one)
16.	III (three)	-do- Block - B	1 (one)
17.	IV (four)	-do- Block - C	1 (one)

02. A complete set of bidding documents for the work may be purchased by interested prequalified bidders from the following addresses on submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable cost of Tk 4000.00 only (Taka four thousand only) for each set of bidding document for each package.

(i) Finance & Accounts Division Bangladesh Open University House # 16, Road # 2, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205.  
(ii) Estate & Campus Development Divn. Bangladesh Open University BOU Complex, Board Bazar, Gazipur-1700.

03. Tenders must accompany an Earnest Money/Bid Security amounting to 2.5% of the quoted amount in form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank in favour of "Project Director/Vice-Chancellor, BOU, Dhaka."

04. Tender document will be sold to the intending buyers during the office hours from August 31, 1994 to September 18, 1994.

05. Tenderers must visit the site before submission of tender documents.

06. All the pages of the tender documents must be signed by the bidders.

07. Tenders will be received by the following offices of the Bangladesh Open University at the following addresses until 12-00 Noon, on September 27, 1994. Bids will be opened on the same date at 12-30 PM, thereafter in the presence of bidders/bidders' representatives, if any.

(i) Office of the Project Director/Vice-Chancellor Bangladesh Open University House # 16, Road # 2, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205  
(ii) Office of the Deputy Director (Estate) Bangladesh Open University BOU Complex, Board Bazar, Gazipur-1700.

08. The works are to be completed within 18 months and the maintenance period for the works is 12 months.

09. The BOU will not be liable for any cost or expenses incurred by bidder in connection of preparation of tender bids.

10. Interested contractors may inspect the concerned drawings in the following offices during office hours:

(i) Estate & Campus Development Division Bangladesh Open University BOU Complex, Board Bazar, Gazipur-1700.  
(ii) M/s. Engineers and Consultants Bangladesh Ltd. 17, Bakshi Bazar Road, Dhaka-1211.

11. The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/  
Project Director/Vice-Chancellor

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