

Dhaka Day by Day

Single Service-holders' Life in City

by Nipu Tarik

What about our young unmarried professionals living in Dhaka? How do the dashing and vigorous youths pass their leisure times?

Admittedly, those youngmen constitute a significant section of the massive population of Dhaka. Since they are, in most cases without a firm family tie, they live alone or with colleagues and friends. The professionals prefer to live in a rented house.

In case of failure to get one, they manage for themselves a place in a mess leased out for the bachelor-only. They employ a *bua* or a *pichit* to look after the household tasks.

The unmarried professionals have almost completely to depend on them for all the domestic supports they need. Naturally, a professional's life is dominated by work and duty. He usually sets out for office or workplace in the morning and gets back in the evening. Henceforth, the duty-ridden people become scot-free. Evening is the time for these working bachelors to spare and indulge them a treat or two. Getting out together for a leisurely walk is as nourishing as sipping a cup of tea, coffee, a cold drink, a glass of lassi or fruit juice, while engaged in an animated discussion or a meaningless chat. Whether a gibberish *adda* or a soul-to-soul talk or a serious conversation, exchange of works, ideas and information works like an elixir for them.

A young professional possesses a natural propensity for looking for suitable nooks and

cranny where he can give vent to his burdening fatigues and worries.

There are in the city many vantage spots known for their attractions for the youths.

The New Market area, the Shahbagh junction, the TSC and its neighbourhood and some spots on Green Road are notable.

Many young professionals are preferably the chronic visitors of different functions and shows taking place in Dhaka.

Fortunately Dhaka is a proud host of a few entertainment and cultural shows together with seminars. These functions help them to

overcome bores and ennui. There are also seasonal and official *melas*. The young men pencil through the calendar to see when and where to make a hunt.

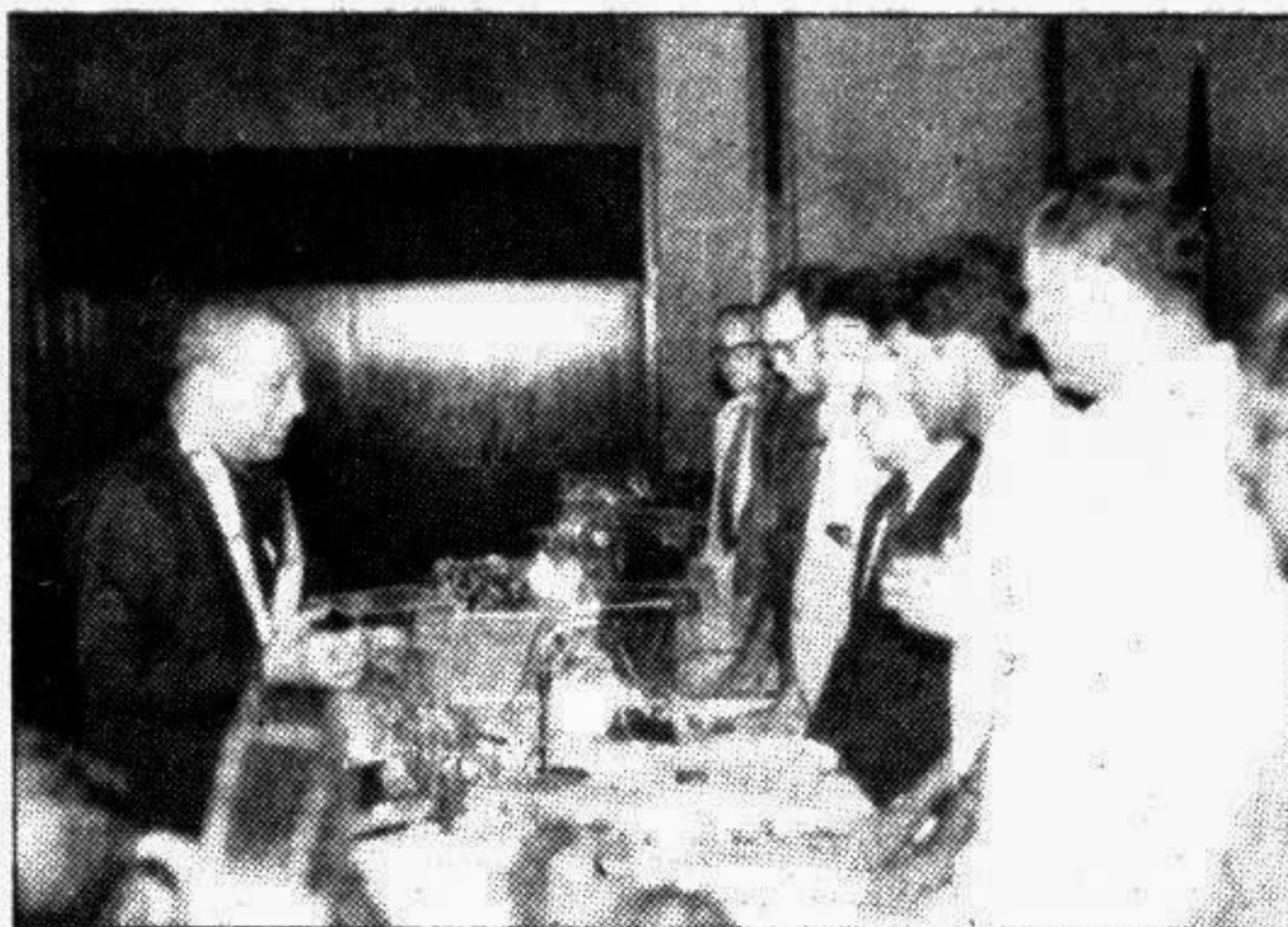
A look into the single man's leisure time at his dwelling place is no less rewarding. Most of their homes are the most cosy and convenient places where they can make full use of the spare moments. The relaxing guy may play on some chart-toppers or the so-called rowdy or

raucous songs. Sometimes he may pick one or two from the classic gold or the old ones. Making a congregation of card players and spending a whole day on cards are not unusual for some. Others may get occupied with a handy novel. But over and above, the friendly informal get-together or *adda* unquestionably ranks at the top of the pursuit of pleasure.

NOW THAT WE HAVE SIGNED THE HOUSE-RENT AGREEMENT, LET ME TELL YOU... WE ARE ALL MALES, BACHELORS, NOISY & ALL OTHER DISTURBING ELEMENTS!



SHAPIRO '94



Amanullah Mia, a leading industrialist, receiving the Maulana Akram Khan Gold Medal '94 for social service from President Abdur Rahman Biswas (4th from left) at a local hotel in the city yesterday.

11 get Maulana Akram Khan Gold Medal

By Staff Correspondent

The journalist Maulana Mohammad Akram Khan Jatiya Smriti Sangsad yesterday awarded gold medals for 1993 to eleven eminent personalities for their outstanding contribution to the society in various fields.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas at a city hotel yesterday handed over the medals to Amanullah Mia and M Hasinur Rahman for social welfare, A H Mofazzal Karim for literature, Dr M Shahjahan for education and A N M Yusuf for administration.

The President also handed over the medals for Gias Kamal Chowdhury for journalism, M Mobarak Hossain Khan for music, Abdus Salam Talukder and Engr Mahbubur Rahman for organisation and Nasir Uddin Ahmed for banking.

Among the recipients of the gold medals, Amanullah Mia is a distinguished industrialist and philanthropist, hailing from Narayanganj. Amanullah started his business career in early fifties. Presently he heads the Al Baraka Bank. Amanullah's social welfare activities include setting up a school for the deaf and dumb in Chittagong and a free primary school in Gulshan and help in setting up a new hospital in Uttara.

LDF rally tomorrow

Left Democratic Front (LDF), an alliance of eight left-leaning parties, will hold a solidarity rally at Topkhana Road tomorrow to create mass awareness against communalism, fundamentalism and *fat-wabaz* reports UNB.

The Front's next course of action will be announced at the rally, party sources said.

BAMBA condemns Sept 2 incident

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Musical Bands' Association (BAMBA) strongly condemned the September 2 incident at Banani in the city in which hundreds of music lovers went on a rampage after an open air concert scheduled earlier was not allowed to be held.

The president of BAMBA, Hamid Ahmed, in a statement yesterday said that some so-called organisations in the name of charity and fund raising drive for social welfare were misusing the popularity of the musical bands in Bangladesh, sometimes without valid permission of the authorities concerned.

The BAMBA also regrets the inconvenience caused to the residents of that particular area on September 2. The police reportedly did not permit holding of the concert on the day at the Banani Youth Club ground as the organisers — the Amlan Social Welfare Association (ASWA) — failed to obtain prior permission for the programme.

The BAMBA authorities in its statement yesterday also assured that they would be more cautious so that such undesirable incidents could be averted in future.



Tuesday

4:30 Opening session
4:40 Recitation from the Geeta
4:45 Mass education; Esho Para Shikhi
5:10 News in Bangla
5:25 Comedy series: Coach
6:00 National TV Debate Competition
7:00 Open University
7:25 Modern Songs: Sangeeta
8:00 News in Bangla
8:30 Drama serial: Itikatha
10:00 News in English
10:30 Film show: Northern Exposure
11:30 Khabar/The News
11:45 Close down

Dacoities on 17 night coaches, buses committed in 8 months, JS told

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury yesterday informed the Jatiya Sangsad that dacoities on 17 night coaches and 30 buses were committed on the highways in the country during the last eight months, reports BSS.

He was replying to a question from absentee Jamaat-e-Islami member Shahdazzaman which was placed by a BNP member.

In reply to a supplementary question the minister said, highway patrol had been strengthened and police forces had been increased to stop highway dacoities. He said those bus owners who wanted to engage armed Ansars at their own cost were also allowed to do that.

In reply to a supplementary

from Begum Lutfunnesa Hossain (Rajshahi), Chowdhury said so far 226 persons were arrested in connection with the aforesaid dacoity cases.

In reply to another question from absentee Jamaat-e-Islami member Dr A K M Asjad substituted by a BNP member, the minister said that under the Anti-Terrorist Act, 663 persons had been arrested throughout the country in the last eight months and 279 cases had been filed against them.

In reply to a supplementary he said cases were filed under the Anti-Terrorist Act against those who were involved in damaging a large number of vehicles in the city streets fol-

lowing a public meeting of Jatiya Party recently. He said a number of persons had been arrested in this connection.

In reply to another supplementary from Begum Fatema Chowdhury (Sylhet) Chowdhury said 12 persons were arrested during the period under the Anti-Terrorist Act on charges of harassing women.

In reply to another question from absentee Jamaat-e-Islami member Hafeza Asma Khatun (Shariatpur) which was placed in the House by a BNP member, the minister said that during 1993-94 a total of 73,773 cases had been filed in the police stations throughout the country and 41,815 of these cases had been chargesheeted.

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