

Dhaka Day by Day

Unrecognised Entrepreneurs

by Neil Ray

First a deep bass voice, then almost immediately a lifting tenor, taking the cue, announce their presence with the most necessary daily culinary items. Indeed, the rhythmic — almost musical — announcement of *tarkari* (sounds like a-r-ka-ri-), meaning vegetables, now adds fills the morning air of Dhaka city with increasing frequency. Hardly a residential area in this city can now keep these *tarkari* off its limit.

Nor there is any point restricting the movement of this new class of enterprising men. Yes, all of them, without exception, are as yet men. Although women have ventured to the until recently male-dominated and labour intensive earth cutting and filling job, they are yet to hawk about vegetables like their male counterparts. The vegetable vendors were a rarity only four of five years ago. Over the past couple of years their number in the city has increased in leaps and bounds.

Mostly illiterate, these people either fresh from villages or just in their second generation in this metropolis have their regional accents and voices of their own to draw attention of the potential customers readying their breakfast in the kitchen. For in most cases, unlike the vendors, the clients are mostly women. Some of these customers, on certain days, literally keep their ears raised like a rabbit, to catch the most desired of the *"rakhben, tarkari"* calls.

For some of these hawkers really have a heart of gold. They are so religiously meek, pious and gentle — this is in spite of their extreme poverty — that one almost feels instantly drawn towards them. Certainly there are exceptions to this but their lack of manner and urbanity can be excused, considering the treatment they receive from the refined of our society. But imagine what a help they can be at times. The kitchen runs short of green chillies and or you badly need a few coriander leaves or

a papaya or two for a special dish you think most appropriate for the rainy day. But there is none who can go to the vegetables market to bring you those small but most essential items of the time.



Just them in the driving rains, 10 and behold comes the *tarkari* with an angelic grin spread from ear to ear. He has something of almost everything. The quality of his wares may not be as good as the ones available in the New Market's vegetable portion but nonetheless you could not expect a more god-send gift. Is not it mean on your part to haggle over the small price? But unabashed as you are, you probably don't mind giving the poor man a ride for his insignificant profit. Have you ever thought of the poor soul who is drenched to the bones and still has miles to go before he has sold the entire lot of his wares?

Compared with the vegetables in the market their ones are surely cheaper. And yet they have to give a service which alone would be quite precious in any of the Western society. But here that service is hardly taken into account. They sell vegetables calling from door to door. But how much of this item do they and their families have to eat? Well, says Razzak still in his teens, "If I can sell all my wares — which is what I want to do — we feel delighted and there is no question of sacrificing my profit for an added curry."

Razzak should not be alone holding this view. However on the bad days for their business, they have to carefully sort out the items about to rot and use them for an extra treat. Life in their world is really harsh and yet they try to eke out a living from as honest a trade as possible. Credit goes to these people who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow. Honest and modest, they are not going to be heroes but surely they deserve to be treated respectfully.

Moroccan envoy presents credentials

New ambassador of Morocco to Bangladesh Hassan M Daud presented his credentials to President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Accepting the credentials, President Biswas said there had been a steady development of friendly bilateral relations between the two countries and hoped that the areas of cooperation would further widen in the coming years.

He said the Bangladesh and Morocco had a convergence of interest on issues concerning Islamic Ummah and shared commonality of views in promoting the cause of regional and international peace, security and development.

President hoped that during the tenure of new ambassador the two brotherly countries would be brought closer and bilateral, and trade relations would acquire new dimensions. He assured the new envoy of all help and cooperation in discharging his responsibility.

While presenting the credential, Hassan Daud said that the brotherly relations binding together the people of both the countries have witnessed a considerable progress in all fields of mutual cooperation.

To meet the great challenge, faced by the Muslim Ummah, the friendly and brotherly ties have to be strengthened particularly in political, economic, multilateral and social arena, he observed.

Lawyers team meets Biswas

A delegation of lawyers styled as the Anti-drug and Smoking Association called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

While talking to them, President Biswas said that drugs were spoiling the young generation and we must gear up anti-drug and anti-smoking movement to save them from the menace.

"We have to impress upon the youths and the people in general about the harmful effects of drugs and smoking," he said.

President Biswas also added that public awareness should be created against the harmful effects of these high-risk habit.

Earlier, in a memorandum the delegation led by Advocate Alhaj ANM Yusuf, president of the association, appealed to the President to stop publication of all advertisement encouraging use of drugs and tobacco, and to stop smoking in all government and semi-government organisations.

President Biswas appreciated the endeavour of the association and assured his support to their efforts.

Monzil Morshed, Majedul Haq, Mayenuddin Ahmed, Rafique Uddin Ahmed, Jamshed Khan, Asaduzzaman Siddiqui and Mizanur Rahman were present in the occasion.

Kuwaiti envoy meets Mostafiz

The visiting special envoy of acting prime minister of Kuwait, Minister for Communication, Electricity and Water Jasssem Mohammad Al-Oun called on Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman at his office yesterday, reports BSS.

Programme postponed

The first installation ceremony of the Rotaract Club of Shabbagh schedule for today has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. The new date will be announced later, says a press release.



The new ambassador of Morocco to Bangladesh Hassan M Daud presenting his credentials to President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday. — PID photo

BCS (edn) token strike Sept 21-22

Members of the BCS general education cadre will observe a two-day token strike from September 21 protesting the attack on their colleagues and to press home their 16-point demand, reports UNB.

The strike has been called to protest the terrorists' attacks on some principals and teachers while carrying out their professional duties during the last HSC examinations, against aggression of a particular cadre on education and for realising their demands.

They will observe the strike on 22, in support of the Prokrihi-BCS Central Action committee's call to fulfil their 17-point demand nearly half of which are similar to those of education cadre.

This was disclosed in an extended meeting of the BCS General Education Association held on Friday at the Teacher's Training College with Principal Mahtabuddin Sarker in the chair.

The meeting condemned the terrorists' attack on the principals of the Magura Shaheed Suhrawardy College, Nilfamar College, Meherpur College, and on the family members of the principal of Rajshahi New Degree College and others.

It also resented the appointment of the members of administrative cadre in education department and the intervention of DC, ADC and magistrates while conducting the last SSC and HSC examinations.

The meeting also extended its support and cooperation to the Prokrihi's programme of continuous strike from October 10.

2 inter-city trains to run today

Bangladesh Railway yesterday announced its decision to run two inter-city trains today, an offday for the trains due to road transport strike, reports BSS.

The trains are Chittagong bound "Turna Nishita" and Sylhet bound "Upaban" from Dhaka.

The trains will run as per their present time schedule.

Govt appoints envoy to Holy See

The government yesterday announced its decision to concurrently accredit Ambassador Anwar Hashim as the Bangladesh envoy to the Holy See, reports BSS.

Hashim, who is permanent representative of Bangladesh to the UN Organisation in Geneva, will continue to have his residence in Geneva.

Khaleda visits injured photo journalist

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia last night went to the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital to see the bullet-injured photo journalist of the Dainik Meilatt Shahadat Hossain, reports UNB.

She stayed there for some time and enquired from the attending doctors about the condition of Shahadat, who received bullet injury during the Opposition's 'Dhaka Siege' programme in the city on Saturday last.

The Prime Minister asked the hospital authorities to provide adequate treatment to the injured journalist and wished him early recovery.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury and chairman of the Red Crescent Society Syed Shahidul Haq Jamal, MP, were present.

Hasina visits injured cop

Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina yesterday visited the Combined Military Hospital to see constable Shahidul Islam, wounded during the Opposition's Dhaka siege programme Saturday, reports UNB.

Hasina enquired from the attending doctors about the condition and treatment of Shahidul Islam who received bullet wounds in his stomach.

The Awami League chief spent some time with the injured constable and while talking to him expressed her deep sympathy.

The party's assistant publicity secretary Abdul Mannan and assistant information secretary Nurul Fazal Bulbul were present.

Mannan condoles US plane crash deaths

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan expressed profound shock and grief at the tragic crash of US airliner Boeing 737-300 near Pittsburgh on Thursday killing 131 passengers on board, reports BSS.

In a message of condolence, the state minister conveyed his sympathy to members of the bereaved families and prayed for the peace of the departed souls.

Extension of Time for Submission of International Tender

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিলায়নে জাতীয় অর্থতির প্রতীক

The time for submission of International Tender for supply of 1000 M Tons of Paraformaldehyde (Solid) against Tender Enquiry No. JFCL/FP/UREA/1.12/55 dt. 27.7.94 is hereby extended from 10.9.94 to 24.9.94. The Tender will be received up to 11.00 AM on 24.9.94 and be opened immediately thereafter. All other terms of the tender will remain unchanged.

BC IC-951-8/9
DIT-4095-8/9

G-1407

WANTED

Rangs Workshop Limited, 113-116, Old Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka, immediately require a Service Manager and 2 Service Engineers.

Service Manager-Graduate in Mechanical or Automobile Engineering- Minimum experience of 3 years in major repair of cars and light commercial vehicles

Service Engineers-Graduate as above-some experience preferred-Age between 28-33 years.

Terms attractive-future prospects bright. Applications alongwith C.V., one copy passport size photo and photocopies of all certificates must reach the Country Manager by 27th September, 1994 at the latest.

For One Of Our Clients

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An attractive package of handsome salary and liberal fringe benefits will be offered to a right candidate selected for the position.

If you find yourself in the above profile and interested in the position, please send your two pages CV by September 20, 1994 to :

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Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Matuor Rahman Nizami addressing a meeting at north gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Section 10/Misc 14-19/94/824-Edn.

Dated: 08-09-94

Urgent Tender Notice

Tenders are invited for the supply of following items:

- Group-1**
A. Micro Computer
- a) Processor: 2-3 unit
 - b) Cache Memory: INTEL 80486 DX-33 MHz (MINIMUM) 256 KB
 - c) Memory: 4MB RAM
 - d) Drive: 3.5" (MINIMUM 1.4MB) FDD
 - e) Video Card: VGA CARD WITH 1MB RAM
 - f) Monitor: 14" SVGA COLOR MONITOR (1024X768 RESOLUTION) NON INTERLACE
 - g) Hdd: 200 MB ENHANCED KEYBOARD
 - h) Mouse: MICROSOFT COMPATIBLE MOUSE
 - i) Preloaded Software: DOS 6.2, WINDOWS 3.11, WORD PERFECT 6, MS WORD FOR WINDOWS, DBASE IV, FOXPRO FOR WINDOWS, LOTUS 1-2-3, EXCEL FOR WINDOWS, BANGLA BUJOY FONT.
- B. Printer**
- a) Model: 1-2 Unit
 - b) Print Method: Epson LQ 1170
 - c) Print Head: Dot Matrix
 - d) Print Speed: 24 PIN
 - e) Print Column: 330 Cps (10 CPI) 136 Column
- Group-2**
Voltage Stabilizer 500VA 1-2 unit
- Group-3**
a) 3.5" High Density Diskette: 2-4Boxes
- Group-4**
a) Ribbon for Printer: 5-10 Boxes

Interested tenderers are requested to submit their tenders for any or all groups separately along with 2% earnest money in Pay Order/Bank Draft within 22-09-94 at 12.00 hrs. Tenders will be opened on 22-09-94 at 12.30 in presence of the tenderers (if any). Tenderers may contact with the undersigned for any queries. The authority reserves the right to accept or to reject any or all tenders fully or partly without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Amiya Kanti Mutsuddy
Deputy Secretary
Ministry of Education

DFP-4225-10/9
G-1406

IA flight rescheduled

The arrival and departure of the Calcutta-Dhaka-Calcutta Indian Airlines (IA) flight for today has been rescheduled, reports BSS.

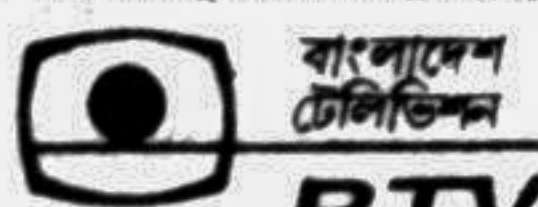
The IA-723 flight from Calcutta will arrive in Dhaka at 1700 hours today and will return to Calcutta at 1800 hours.

The IA Calcutta-Dhaka-Calcutta flight on Tuesday has been cancelled.

15 gamblers held in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Sept 11: Chittagong port police rounded up 15 gamblers from different areas on Saturday, reports BSS.

Police on secret information raided gamblers' dens at Sathgola and Agrapara and found the gamblers in action.



Monday

- 4:30 Opening session
- 4:40 Bible recitation
- 4:45 Cartoon Film: Captain Planet and the Planetoids
- 5:10 New in Bangla
- 5:25 Sports programme: Football
- 6:30 Programme on Bangla Language: Moder Garob
- 7:00 Open University
- 7:25 Nazrul songs
- 8:00 New in Bangla
- 8:30 Family planning programme: Janomat
- 9:00 Women's magazine programme: Ghore Bairey
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Comedy series: Murphy Brown
- 11:00 Musical programme: Disco Rally
- 11:30 Khobar/The New
- 11:40 Closing

Weather

Heavy rain likely

Moderate to heavy rainfall is likely at places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal divisions during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

According to the Met office, light to moderate rain or thundershower may occur at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal divisions, at a few places over Khulna division and at one or two places over Rajshahi division.

Day temperature is likely to remain unchanged during the period across the country. Meanwhile, Tangail experienced the highest 57 mm rains during the last 12 hours till 6 pm yesterday. Madaripur had 32 mm, Sitakund 27 mm, Bhola 21 mm, Cox's Bazar 20mm, Bogra 17 mm, Teknaf and Barisal 16 mm each, Mymensingh 13 mm, Comilla 7 mm and Sandwip 6 mm shower during the period.

The country's highest temperature 33.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Sathkira while the lowest 24.4 degrees at Rangamati and Barisal.

The sun sets today at 6:06 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:44 am.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday are given below:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.8	25.3	88	86
Chittagong	31.8	25.8	93	90
Rajshahi	32.5	25.3	82	85
Khulna	33.1	25.5	92	84
Barisal	30.4	24.4	100	95
Sylhet	33.1	25.8	85	69
Cox's Bazar	30	25	95	92

Biman BANGLADESH AIRLINES

ZIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KURMITOLA, DHAKA. PHONES: 881 7116, 884730-4. CABLE: AIRBANGLA. TLX: 642649 DABG BJ

Ref: DACPL/26/94-95/95

Dated: 07-09-94

Tender Notice No: 06/94-95

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by Biman Bangladesh Airlines on two envelope system (Technical & Price Offer) from interested Manufacturers/Suppliers for the supply of any or all the items mentioned below (11 items) as per details/specifications mentioned in the schedule:

01. Ball Point Pen, Blue/Black (60000 Pcs).
02. Envelope Medium White, KPM Offset Paper (100000 Pcs).
03. Local/KPP White (300 Ream).
04. Offset/Base Paper, 80/85 Grams (100 Ream).
05. 65/35% Tetron-Cotton White Shirting Cloth (1500 MTR).
06. Lather Vanity Bag, Brown Colour (250 Pcs).
07. Soft Hand Bag (410 Pcs).
08. Linen Head Rest Cover White (3600 Pcs).
09. Linen Rollup Napkin White (18000 Pcs).
10. Stir Sticks Plastic Green (20000 Pcs).
11. Transparent Plastic Glass 4 OZ/113 Grams (240000 Pcs).

Tender schedule mentioning full details/specifications of items, terms and conditions will be available from the Accounts Officer, Cash Payment Unit of Finance Directorate, Admin Building, Biman, ZIA, Dhaka on payment of Tk 300/= (Taka three hundred only) per set (Non-refundable) during any working day up to 25-09-94. Some items are to be supplied in two years contract which have been mentioned in the schedule.

Sealed tenders should be dropped in the tender box kept in Local Purchase Section latest by 11-00 hours on 26-09-94 and will be opened on the same day at 11-15 hours (BST) in presence of the tenderers (if any).

Biman Management reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity in the items and can accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Dy. General Manager (S&P) Commercial
Stores & Purchases Directorate

D-926