

## Metropolitan

## Dhaka Day by Day

## Good Neighbours are Hard to Find

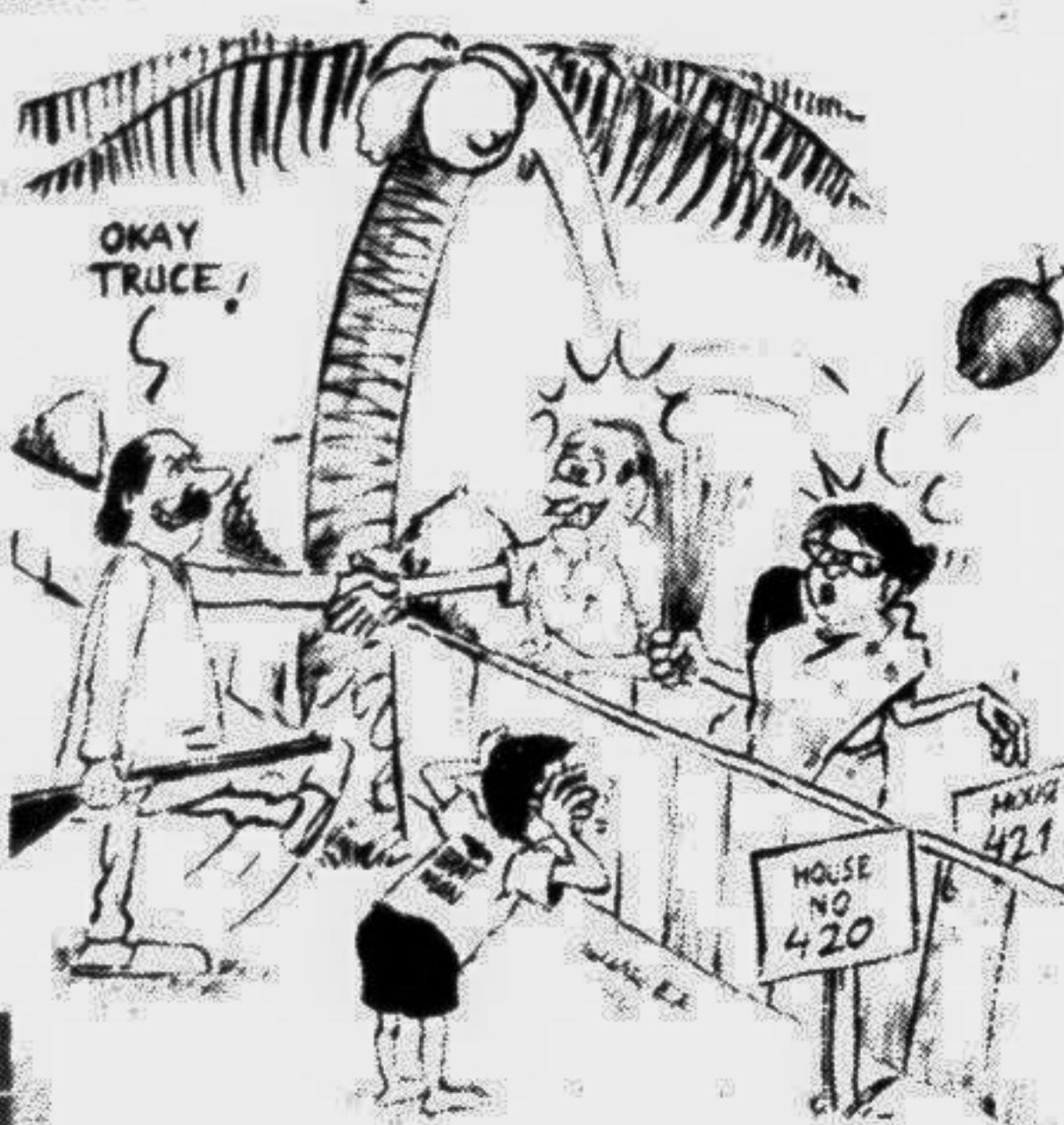
by Aasha Mehreen Amin

In the 'good old days' that we so fondly reminisce about, one of the greatest joys of life was the warm relationship shared by neighbours. It was a time when the dining table was always full with *halwas*, *pithas* and other delicacies sent by the next door neighbour for *Shab-e-barat* or *Eid*. The constant interactions of members of the neighbourhood created that 'para' feeling where all the children of adjacent houses got together to play their regular games of *chiburi*, *hadoo doo* or *tillo express*.

As the years have gone by and we have fallen deeper into the rat race of urban life, the cozy houses have been replaced by high rise buildings where the only thing neighbours share is perhaps the dish antenna. That special sense of 'neighbourliness' is almost gone and relationships between people living so close to each other are as they impersonal as would be between strangers. This is true even of the few independent houses which have retained their individuality but lost a lot of their warmth.

Sometimes, the inmates of each house have become so alienated from each other that the slightest cause may trigger unbridled hostility. When the best mangoes of one's prized mango tree go missing, the pointed finger sometimes justified, sometimes not, is always directed towards the neighbouring house. Evidence of open disrespect include finding the debris of jack fruit from your tree left by your considerate neighbour's *darwan* on your side of the wall. Servants from either side will be constantly at each others throats, their squabbles intensifying to the point where the mistresses of the neighbouring houses will open their windows and hurl insults at each other.

Often, a kind of cold hatred develops against one's neighbour when he decides to block your exclusive view of the lake (a source of great pleasure to you until now), by constructing the ugliest multi-storied apartment building almost neck to neck with your wall. The sun no longer reaches your garden, the gentle breeze no longer filters through your windows and the view you are left with is the backside of grey, uninspiring concrete.



to introduce themselves, curiosity about each other knows no bounds. If you are on the terrace, for example, to do your hundred laps of walking, be sure to have five pairs of eyes belonging to your neighbour's army of servants, staring unblinkingly as if at an exotic beast in the zoo. A household squabble between a couple of one house will prompt numerous heads to come out from neighbouring walls to watch the fun. Yet if the same house is robbed and the inmates murdered, not a soul from these houses will be seen or heard.

Apathy, seems, therefore, to be the predominant sentiment shared among neighbours. When the next door coconut tree became a life threatening weapons with 'daabs' falling helter skelter inside the house missing by only an inch someone's head, the members of a certain house sent repeated messages to the neighbour requesting him to cut down the lethal coconuts. Yet all the pleadings fell on deaf ears and the poor victims still live in fear that some day one of them will have a big dent on the head by a falling 'daab'. So much for good old neighbourliness!

## CORRIGENDUM

In the first para of Mr. Md Rezaul Karim's (Vice Chairman, Bangladesh Jute Association) deliberation, published in the roundtable 'The Future of Jute: Problems and Prospects' yesterday it was inadvertently printed that 'the export of jute was closed down by the government in 1974-75.' The year should be read as 1984-85.

— Editor

## Ruling, opposition parties' hectic programmes in Khulna

**KHULNA.** Sept 19: Leaders of the different opposition parties demanding national elections under a caretaker government will address series of meetings in the city beginning tomorrow, reports UNB.

The ruling BNP has also taken up hectic programmes apparently to counter the Opposition move.

Leader of the Opposition and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina will address a meeting here September 22 before embarking on a 'train march' on September 23 across North Bengal.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will address a meeting on September 25.

The JP leaders Moudud Ahmed and Khaledur Rahman Tito are expected to speak at a meeting tomorrow.

The Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal will organise a meeting on September 21. Forest Minister Akbar Hossain and Amanullah Aman MP will attend it.

DUJA founding anniversary

Dhaka University Journalist Association (DUJA) yesterday observed its 9th founding anniversary at TSC lounge, reports UNB.

A discussion was held on the occasion which was addressed, among others, by DUJA founding members Khairul Anam Mukul, Aini Ilia, Rezoanul Haq Raza and Sayed Istaque Reza.

DUJA President M Tareq Al Naser and General Secretary Saleh Shibly also spoke.



The non-gazetted govt employees staging a rally to press home their charter of demands in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday

— Star photo

## Weather

## Thundershowers likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers may occur at several places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions, at a few places over Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions in the next 24 hours till 6:00 pm today, reports UNB.

The Met office says during the period day temperature may remain unchanged over the country.

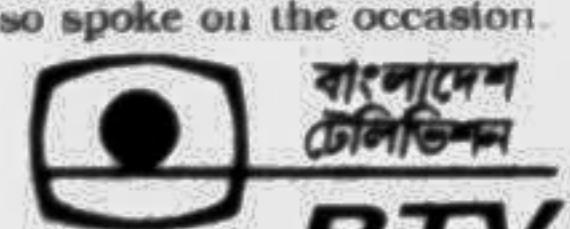
The highest rainfall, 56 mm, was recorded at Cox's Bazar in the last 24 hours while Dinajpur had 31 mm and Rajshahi 19 mm.

The country's highest temperature 33.5 degrees Celsius was registered at Jessor and the lowest 23.5 degrees at Feni.

The sun sets today at 5:57 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:47 am.

Temperature readings in different parts of the country and humidity percentage are given below:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.0	26.9	89	84
Chittagong	27.9	25.0	100	95
Cox's Bazar	29.0	24.0	98	88
Sylhet	29.7	26.2	84	98
Rangpur	31.0	26.0	90	87
Dinajpur	30.1	24.6	92	88
Paridpur	30.7	26.0	82	92
Comilla	29.5	24.5	95	92



Tuesday

4:30	Opening session
4:40	Geeta recitations
4:45	Mass education:
	Esho Para Shikhi
5:10	News in Bangla
5:25	Comedy series: Coach
6:00	National TV Debate Competition: For college and university students
7:00	Open University
7:25	Modern Songs: Sangeeta
8:00	News in Bangla
8:30	Drama serial
10:00	News in English
10:30	Film show: Northern Exposure
11:30	Khabar/The News
11:40	Summary of tomorrow's programme



Bangladesh will receive from Japan a grant assistance of Taka 34 crore approximately. To effect an Exchange Note was signed here yesterday. Additional Secretary of Economic Relations Division Dr Saadat Husain and the Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Shigeo Takenaka signed the Exchange Note on behalf of their respective governments. (Story on page 6).

— PID photo

## ICB okays Taka 13.20 cr assistance for 6 projects

The Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) has approved Taka 13.20 crore assistance for six projects, reports UNB.

ICB approved the financial assistance in the form of underwriting, bridge finance and purchase of debentures for one existing and five new projects out of the proposed public issue of shares and debentures of Tk 51.39 crore.

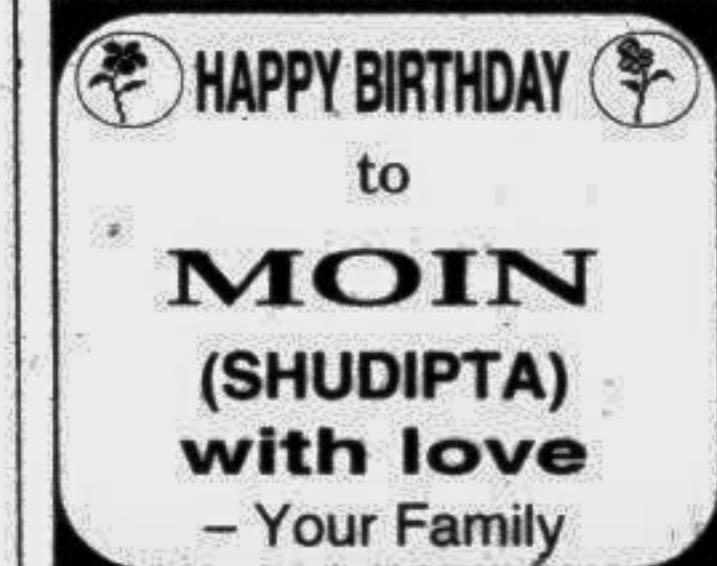
The balance amount of Tk 38.19 crore will be provided by other banks, financial institutes and foreign investors.

The approval was given at the 175th meeting of the Board of Directors of ICB held Sunday with its Chairman Sardar Sakhawat Husain Bakul MP in the chair.

## Airport emergency exercise Oct 1

The Airport Emergency Exercise, scheduled for Sept 17, will now be held on October 1, says a press release.

The time and sequence of the exercise remains unchanged.



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## নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ক্রমিক নং	বাসক্রেতের নাম ও ঠিকানা	হিসাবের প্রকৃতি	মালামালের বিবরণ ও পরিমাণ	যে দেশ থেকে আয়দানী করা হয়েছে
১	মেসার্স আহসান-স-মিল মালিক-মজুমদার আহসান টোৱ সিল-মুকুল ইস্লাম টোৱ ৬০ অভয়মিহারাট, চট্টগ্রাম	লিম	সেকেন্ডী কোর্টিজ টায়ার কর্ত, মেট্রিক: আনুমানিক ১৫০০০ কেজি	আমেরিকা যুক্তরাষ্ট্র

## শর্তাবলী

- দরপত্রের সাথে "রূপালী বাংক লিঃ" জাহান বিভিন্ন শাখা, চট্টগ্রাম-এর অনুসন্ধানে উল্লেখিত মূলের ১০% আনেক্টিমানি (অক্ষতকার্যতা ক্ষেত্রে যোগাযোগ করে পরিবর্তন করা যাবে)।
- উল্লেখিত মালামাল সংশ্লিষ্ট শাখা বাসক্রেতের সাথে যোগাযোগ করে পরিবর্তন করা যাবে।
- দরপত্র ১.৩০,৯৪ টারি বাসিখে বেলা ৩:০০ টা পর্যন্ত রূপালী বাংক লিঃ, জাহান বিভিন্ন শাখা, চট্টগ্রাম রেক্টিক টেক্টোর বাসে অবস্থিত বাসেন্স, মোগা হবে।
- অক্ষতকার্যতা ক্ষেত্রে বাসক্রেতের সাথে যোগাযোগ করে উল্লেখিত বাসেন্স, মোগা হবে।
- অক্ষতকার্যতা ক্ষেত্রে বাসক্রেতের সাথে যোগাযোগ করে উল্লেখিত বাসেন্স, মোগা হবে।
- দরপত্র অনুমোদনের তারিখ হতে ৭ (সপ্তাহ) মিসেস মধ্যে ক্রত্কার্য সর্বান্বদাতাকে অনুমতি ৯০% টাকা একান্নীন জমা করে মালামাল তেলিভার্যা নির্দেশ হবে। অন্যান্য আয়দানীর টাকা বাসের্যাপ বলে গণ্য হবে।

আবদুল কাইয়েস সিন্ধিকে

বাসের্যাপ

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