

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Rendezvous à la Bibliotheque

by Lavina Ambreen Ahmed

It was 3 pm on a sunny weekday. A teenaged couple was engaged in an earnest conversation. "Did you have a problem coming here today?" asked the young man. His girlfriend replied, "No, mom was suspicious but I convinced her that I was going to do some serious studying".

Well, this typical conversation didn't take place at "Gelato" or any other food joint for that matter — rather in a city library.

If you are a regular library-goer or happen to pop into one every once in a while, you are bound to be aware of how some people use the reading places merely as meeting places.

Maybe, the following examples will help

sitting next to you talking in a confidential tone: "Nobody knows we are here, so we can stay here for an hour or so."

You can also get free counselling. Confusion? Well, dig this incident. Someone rushed to the library to prepare for her exams. With hands full of required texts, she had no choice but to share a big table with a disputing duo, who were debating whether or not to tie the knot. The couple couldn't seem to agree on anything. They did not have to worry as out of the blue came the mediator, offering his unsolicited but valuable advice. The interesting thing was they actually listened to him. So, if you want unbiased, neutral opinion from a total stranger —



you get a clear picture of what goes on (besides studying of course) at the libraries.

Some school kids were having an animated discussion at their school gate. Just as the downpour started, one of them yelled, "Let's go to BC" (the British Council). Others echoed their approval. Together the rowdy bunch stormed into the library, oblivious of other peoples' presence and huddled into an empty corner.

On one of those tiresome days, when you are on your toes frantically rummaging through the books at every section of the library — you will get to hear many bits and pieces of amusing conversations, come within your earshot.

"Hugh Grant looked so gorgeous in 'Four Weddings and a Funeral'!"

"Yeah, but do you think Pierce Brosnan is macho enough to play James Bond?"

"Isn't it awesome that Agassi won the US Open title?"

"Nice to see you Omer, can I borrow your 'Reality Bites' CD?"

Chatter, Chatter, Chatter.

Sometimes gossiping is at its peak. "So you say Farah and Adnan broke up? About time too. What? Now, he is seeing Naomi? What a jerk!" And so on.

Snatches of dialogues, filled with innuendoes and insinuations that are only coherent to them alone.

At times, the Dhakaites even use these places for clandestine meetings. Not that they are very discreet about it. Like the two weirdos

try the 'knowledge homes'. If you are lucky you might meet the good Samaritan, who will help you snap out of your doldrums.

The dictionary defines the word library as a place where there is a collection of books. It's about time it was added 'and also a chat spot'. For it's no secret that they have been used for that purpose for a long, long time.

Even sherbet writers and playwrights couldn't resist writing a sequence, where the main characters are seen peering through the stacks of books at where else?

Our public library too has the 'honour' to appear on the TV screen many times in those boring weekly dramas — where the lead actor-actress invariably bump into each other at the library premises.

There must be hundreds of fastfood shops and restaurants for the young people to hang out. So, why the libraries? What's the charm? In answer a couple using a particular library as a regular rendezvous says, "All those places are jam-packed, you can't even hear your own voice. In comparison, at the library everyone talks sotto voce, as a general rule." While the girl adds with a mischievous grin, "It's easy to get out of the house when you say you are going to the library to study." In any case it's a very cheap date!

No prying eyes, no lewd comments, no sniggering or guffaws from the nosy masses to distract you at the libraries. So they say. On the contrary, they are the ones who disturb quite a few serious readers out there.



A rally of the Sylhet Bibagh Andolan proceeding towards Prime Minister's Secretariat in the city to handover a memorandum demanding Sylhet division yesterday. — Star photo

## Dhaka seeks IAEA support in N-power research

Bangladesh has urged the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to give urgent attention to evaluating the economic viability, adaptability, safety and environmental dimensions of nuclear power programmes in the developing countries, according to a message received from Geneva in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Addressing the general conference of IAEA at Vienna on Tuesday, State Minister for Science and Technology Prof. M A Mannan said that the financiers, including many international institutions, did not have sufficient information on various aspects of nuclear power programmes in the developing countries.

He said that local fuel could meet only a part of the projected demands for power in Bangladesh and nuclear power had been identified as a viable alternative. But financing constituted the main obstacle to implementing nuclear power projects in developing countries like Bangladesh, he noted.

## Govt tries hard for economic uplift: Delwar

Chief Whip Khondker Delwar Hossain yesterday said, the government was seriously engaged in the task of economic development to uplift the socio-economic condition of the mass rural people, reports BSS.

He was addressing as the chief guest a public meeting at Gheor Thana Manikgonj district in connection with opening of two bridges, one culvert, two rural electrification distribution centres and a newly constructed government primary school building there.

Prof. Mannan led a two-member delegation to the conference. Chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission M A Mannan was the other delegate.

Prof Mannan informed the conference of different short, medium and long-term perspectives of peaceful nuclear research and development programmes in Bangladesh aimed at establishing linkages between micro-level research and macro objectives ensuring proper utilisation of financial, infrastructural and human resources.

Acknowledging the IAEA's technical assistance provided to the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Agency, Prof. Mannan urged the agency to continue its support and assistance for promoting research and development programmes, and improving the utilisation of existing facilities.

## People losing confidence in doctors

By Staff Correspondent

People have been losing their confidence in the profession of physicians due to frequent hartals called by them.

This was told at a discussion on the country's medicare.

The speakers said that the recent agreement with the government on their demands has left people in a horn of dilemma.

That's why people are leaving for treatment in the neighbouring country, they added.

The meeting organised by the Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) Thursday was presided over by Borhan Ahmed of the CAB.

## BRAC to help remove poverty in Vietnam

The Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC), a non-government organisation (NGO), is expected to collaborate with Vietnam on poverty alleviation programme in that country, reports UNB.

A spokesman of the BRAC yesterday said they have given HEPA (Hunger Eradication and Poverty Alleviation Commission) of Vietnam a three-year scheme to alleviate poverty of one lakh households in 18 districts of Ho Chi Minh city and its adjoining areas.

The 6.8 million dollars scheme (1995-97) covering both urban and rural poor includes income generating projects with credit, savings, training facilities, technical support to the target people and preventive health services.

The scheme was prepared by a two-member expert team from BRAC which had carried an in-depth study of the socio-economic factors and other related structures of Vietnamese society. The HEPA had invited BRAC to undertake the study.

On formalising the collaboration with Vietnam, BRAC will enter a new chapter by rendering expertise and consultancy services on poverty alleviation to another country, said the BRAC spokesman.

## Qulkhwani

The qulkhwani of Syeda Anjuman Ara Begum, mother of Mahbubur Rahman — President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) will be held on Sunday at 5 pm at her son's residence at House No. 80 NE (1), Road No. 8, Gulshan, reports UNB.

Syeda Anjuman Ara Begum, 82, breathed her last on Tuesday and was buried at her family graveyard at Jagannat Dighi, Choudagram, Comilla on Sept 21.



Police blocking a Prokrichi march towards Prime Minister's Secretariat at the Farm Gate in the city yesterday. — Star photo

## Weather

### Dry weather likely

Chances of temporary light to moderate rain accompanied by thundershowers is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi division and the regions of Mymensingh, Tangail and Sylhet during the next 12 hours commencing from 6:00 am today, the Met Office forecasts, reports UNB.

The weather may remain mainly dry with a partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country. No appreciable change in the day's temperature is expected during the period over the country.

The forecast also said weather may deteriorate in the following week.

The highest rainfall 22 mm was recorded at Dinajpur while 19 mm in Rangpur and 4 mm in Rajshahi.

The country's highest temperature 34.4 degrees Celsius was registered at Satkhira while the lowest at 23.6 degrees at Jessore.

The maximum and the minimum temperatures recorded at different districts and humidity measured in percentage are as follows:

City	Temperatures in Degrees Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	33.0	25.0	77	—
Chittagong	33.2	26.2	84	73
Cox's Bazar	33.0	26.2	68	73
Sylhet	34.0	24.9	80	73
Rajshahi	29.8	24.3	70	87
Rangpur	31.0	25.0	85	83
Dinajpur	30.4	24.0	85	89
Barisal	33.6	25.0	95	72

## AMADEUS COLLEGE

একাদশ (বালা/ইংরেজী মাধ্যম) শ্রেণিতে ভর্তি ইচ্ছুক ছাত্র/ছাত্রীরা ২০.৯.৯৪ইং তারিখ থেকে ভর্তি ফরম সংগ্রহ করতে পারবে।

ADMISSION GOING ON

ভর্তি চলছে

সকল সেকশনে পুঁপ গ্রুপ থেকে 'ও' লেভেল-এও ভর্তি ফরম দেয়া হচ্ছে।  
AMADEUS INT. SCHOOL & COLLEGE  
HOUSE NO. 509, ROAD NO. 7, DHANMANDI R/A, DHAKA

## HOUSE WANTED

FOREIGN COMPANY URGENTLY SEEKS HOUSE FOR RENT. 3 TO 4 BEDROOMS AND LARGE GARDEN ALL OF HIGH STANDARD. GOOD RENT PAID FOR CONTRACT OF ABOUT 3 YEARS. FOR SERIOUS PROPOSITIONS PLEASE REPLY IMMEDIATELY TO

G.P.O. BOX NO. 3184

## 1ST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

The first death anniversary of late Begum Shakera Banu, wife of late Khan Bahadur Mujibur Rahman, will be observed on Saturday, the 24th September 1994.

On this occasion, a Milad Mehfil will be held after Asr Prayer (5:00 PM), at NE(J)-4, Road No.83, Gulshan, Dhaka.

All her relatives, friends and acquaintances are requested to attend the Milad and pray for her eternal peace.

## Bangladesh Lamps Limited

### NOTICE OF THE 33RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 33rd Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Wednesday, 26th October 1994, at 3 p.m. at Hotel Sonargaon, Dhaka to transact the following business:

#### AGENDA:

- To confirm the minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting held on 23rd December 1993.
- To receive and adopt the Directors and the Auditors reports and the audited accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 1993.
- To declare Dividend for the year 1993.
- To elect Directors.
- To appoint Auditors for the year 1994 and fix their remuneration.

By order of the Board

September 23, 1994  
100, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue  
Karwan Bazar  
Dhaka-1215

A.K.A. Muqtadir  
Acting Company Secretary

#### NOTES:

- A shareholder entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his place. The proxy form, as specified in Article 106 of the Articles of Association of the Company must be stamped with a revenue stamp of Tk. 5 and submitted at the Registered Office of the Company not later than 72 hours before the meeting.
- The Register of Shareholders and Share Transfer Book of the Company will remain closed from 2nd to 26th October 1994, both days inclusive, during which period no share transfer will be effected.
- For the sake of convenience shareholders are requested to submit their queries to the Directors Report/Audited Accounts for the year 1993, if any, at the Registered Office of the Company preferably 7 days before the day of the General Meeting.

Licensed Manufacturer of Philips Lighting Products **PHILIPS**

## APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR PARTICIPATION IN GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE (GSE).

THE GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE (GSE) IS AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOR PROMOTION OF GOOD-WILL AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING THROUGH ORGANIZED TRAVEL AND PERSON TO PERSON CONTACT.

### ROTARY CLUB OF DHAKA NORTH WEST

INVITES APPLICATION FROM OUTSTANDING BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL PERSONS, WHO ARE ENGAGED IN RECOGNIZED PROFESSION OR BUSINESS FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION IN THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM. THE DURATION OF THIS PROGRAM IS FOUR TO SIX WEEKS. APPLICATION WITH CURRICULAM VITAE AND A RECENT PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPH FROM MALE CANDIDATES FOR VISITING MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA AND FOR FEMALE CANDIDATES TO VISIT NORTH CAROLINA, U.S.A. SHOULD BE SENT TO GPO BOX NO. 3257 CARE RTN. T. A. KHAN BY 30TH SEPT. 1994

## MIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA?

Ismail Hasan, Bdes born Aust citizen & Govt licenced Migration Agent (Reg 73801) offers professional & reliable service, reasonable fees, women welcome. Persons proficient in English & falling under one of the following may respond. Master degree & employed in senior management; or masters in chemistry, geology, economics, bachelor in Agri & employed in relevant fields; or B.Ed/M.Ed from D.U. teaching upto intermediate; or chef/waiter with 8/5 yrs intl hotel experience; or marine qualification/STCW endorsement; or professional setar player/dance teacher.

### Hasan Australia Migration Service

C/O 245 West Dhanmondi, ph 315260

NOTE: Doctors, engineers, dentists, veterinary surgeons, agri engineers, accountants and lawyers need not respond

## Holy Child International School

(an English medium branch of Holy Child Public School & College)  
RABINDRA SHARANI, SECTOR-3, UTTARA, DHAKA.

### TEACHERS WANTED

This institution invites application from female candidates for the post of the following teachers to deal with the students of Play Group to Std-V for immediate appointment.

(i) Resident teacher (Fulltime) - 2

(ii) Non-Resident teacher (Only for the concerning period)

(a) School teacher - 5

(b) Coaching teacher - 1

Candidates must have good command of both written & spoken English & they also have to fulfill any one of the following criteria: (i) having an academic qualification of honours/masters Degree; (ii) simply graduated with 'O' / 'A' level background; (iii) studied or taught abroad; (iv) having at least 3 years teaching experience in a reputed English medium school.

Muslim candidates should have adequate knowledge of Islam & they must be practicing Muslims.

Attractive salary will be offered for the deserving candidates. Energetic, dedicated & hardworking candidates are requested to apply on or before 6/10/94 alongwith attested copies of certificates, three copies of recent passport size photograph & Curriculum vitae.

Applicants should have to attend a written test & then also have to face an interview. Finally they should have to conduct demonstration classes (written test on 7/10/94) — Principal

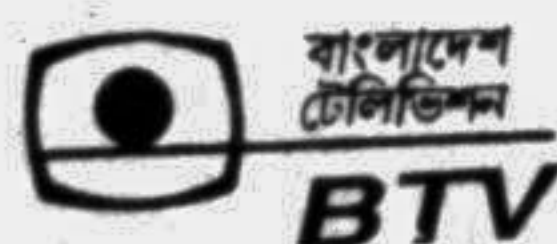
## Committee formed

A 30-member convening committee of Rajshahi Divisional Freedom Fighter Officers and Employees Welfare Association was formed with Abdul Malek as convenor, reports UNB.

The committee was formed at a conference at Rajshahi DC's conference hall on Tuesday. More than 300 officers and employees including DCs, DIGs and SPs from all the districts of the division attended the conference.

President of the association, former Secretary Khandaker Asaduzzaman, Joint Secretary General Mohammad Musa, Principal of Rajshahi Medical College Prof Mizanur Rahman and Additional DIG Fazlul Haq spoke at the function.

Addressing the conference, Khandaker Asaduzzaman urged the government to fill up the 44 vacant posts of joint secretary by the freedom fighter officers of 1971 and 1973 batches, so that their grievances can be minimised.



Friday

### Morning session

- 8:00 Opening
- 8:10 News in Bangla
- 8:15 Programme on Islam for children: Alor Disha
- 8:40 Documentary film for children
- 9:00 Sports programme: Khelar Jagat
- 9:30 Film show: Batman
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:05 Mooner Mukure
- 11:15 Film show: Tarzan
- 11:40 Programme on medicine: Prescription
- 11:55 Folk songs: Marami
- 12:30 Close down

### Evening session

- 3:00 Opening
- 3:10 Tripitak recitation
- 3:15 Cartoon film: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 3:40 Movie of the week: Torn Curtain. Director: Alfred Hitchcock. Cast: Paul Newman, Julie Andrews
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:25 Sports programme
- 7:00 Open University
- 7:25 Modern songs: Malancha
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Comedy show: Perfect Strangers
- 9:00 Magazine programme: Charupath
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Drama series: Law and Order
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:40 Close down