

# Dhaka Day by Day

## All about Private Tuition

by Goutam Prosad Das

Coaching centres, an enlarged and replicated form of private tuition with more teachers and students, have already made inroads into big cities of the country, especially in Dhaka. A casual look on two sides of city roads and alleys will delightfully lead you to think that before 2000 A.D., our urban literacy rate will jump up to around cent per cent and the capital city will become the centre of learning like great Plato's school at Lyceum in olden Greece!

At least some titles like 'Merit building Centre', '100% common questions in competitive examinations' guaranteed success coaching, 'Ucheha Sikkher Siri' (staircase of higher education), notes making on all subjects at Tk 500 and so on vouch for such musings. They have blatantly started door-to-door hunting for students in order to mould them into worthy citizens for 2000 A.D. and onwards, it is reported.

Causes behind this mushrooming business are many and the role played by our prudent guardians/parents regarding their wards' education being sometimes perfunctory, is helping bolster this business.

At the same time this is causing irretrievable damages in disguise to the young boys and girls. So, when on a fine day our guardians/parents are shocked to learn that their immaculate sons/daughters have smashed the desire they have been cherishing since long to groom their offsprings into BCS bureaucrats or business graduates, they heave a big sigh of disappointment. All because of the watery end of a sizeable monetary involvement.

Some of our guardians do not feel encouraged to enquire how their wards are being taught by tutors who have been appointed as household 'masters' on a monthly basis. They do not even find it necessary to make a query if the tutor is simply coming, sipping tea, indulging in chit-chat on some cheap topics as a means to kill time. Sometimes our guardians become cranky about the education of their sons and daughters, and motivate them to pick up any type of coaching, thinking this might exorcise any unholy and uncanny influence associated with the performance in the examination out of them. Some guardians even do not mind to part with thousands for better performance by their kids because that would cata-

pult them to the social pinnacle. In the process, the parents have their positions elevated as 'proud parents of prime products.'

Things have become so ordered that if the tutor comes to teach as per his daily routine, you will find his small disciples are well set to study, even though you do not know what is going on in the closed door room, which is being used discretely for study only. On some days of the week the tutor is not scheduled to come and if due to some unavoidable circumstances he fails to come on a particular day, you will see that your kids hardly enter the reading room during study hours, rather they tend to loiter around the drawing room where the TV is on or a western/Hindi presto is being played on your stereo. That means, the sizeable spending on the private tuition of your sons and daughters has started limping to create an ardent, spontaneous and inherent affinity in them for study, and, if the tutor is there, study is not there.

Interestingly, you will get an out and out different picture when they have plenty of juvenile classics and science fictions on hand to read. They spend hours together on reading those, oblivious of anything terrestrial. As for those private coaching/tuition centres, the programmes are almost mechanically orchestrated. We see the young ones going out of house in the morning and returning after hours of hectic learning practice with baggages like the astronauts' on shoulders. By the time they return they are quite exhausted. Maybe, the trainees are finding it too tough to keep pace with the dynamic of teaching!

After all the efforts to make him a 'man' had ended in-fiasco, a man asked his friend, 'How much have you spent on private tutoring and coaching that you can write and speak English?'

"Tk. 150 a month", replied his friend. "What Tk. 150 a month for learning English in a place like Dhaka!" He screamed in disbelief. "Yes, it is, and it is nothing but a local English daily billing Tk 150 only a month," was the reply.

He went haywire to hear that and left the spot gibbering. "If it were a Time or The Economist or anything of that prestigious sort, you could have learnt 'better English.'"

Perhaps, the price is his option, not learning.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia addressing the central council and conference of the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Textile Spinning Mills Sramik Dal at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium in the city yesterday.

**Noman returns**  
Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah al-Noman returned home Friday night after an eight-day official visit to Thailand and Singapore, reports BSS.

The fisheries minister visited different government and non-government fisheries farms in Thailand.

**Over 100 join Sramik Dal**  
CHITTAGONG, Oct 22: More than one hundred leaders and workers of the Chittagong City Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Union on Friday joined the Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, being imbued with its ideals and objectives, a Sramik Dal press release said today, reports BSS.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়  
সুনামগঞ্জ

**পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

সুনামগঞ্জ জেলা পুলিশ বাহিনীর ১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং অর্থিক সনের ২য় কোয়ার্টারে অর্থাৎ অক্টোবর/৯৪, নভেম্বর/৯৪ ও ডিসেম্বর/৯৪ ইং মাসের জন্য (১) মস্তুর ডাল সরবরাহ এবং (২) সুনামগঞ্জ জেলার বিভিন্ন পুলিশ স্টেশনায় ব্যবহারের জন্য আসবাবপত্র ক্রয়ের নিমিত্তে প্রকৃত ঠিকাদার/সরবরাহকারী/প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ীদের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে। বিস্তারিত তথ্যাবলী ও তফসীল অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দরপত্র দাখিলের পূর্বদিন পর্যন্ত নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হইতে সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে। দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ দিন ৩০/১০/৯৪ ইং বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।

আলাহাজ্জ মোঃ লুৎফর রহমান মিয়া  
পুলিশ সুপার

DFP-7462-16/10  
G-1633

## Gas reserve in country stands at 10.22 TCF

Bangladesh has a net recoverable reserve of 10.22 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of natural gas, in the 17 gas fields of the country, reports BSS.

This was informed at the 27th meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources held at the Sangsad Bhaban with Energy Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain in the chair yesterday.

The meeting, which had a detailed discussion on the supply and current reserve of natural gas, was also told that a total of 741 million cubic feet (MCF) of gas is now being procured daily from the 17 gas fields in full capacity.

The meeting was further informed that the maximum demand of gas in the Dhaka city is now 157 MCP per day. The Dhaka city often faces low pressure of gas because of the city gate station from where gas supply is maintained, which was built in the sixties. The meeting felt urgent need to renovate the city gate station to cater for the growing demand of gas of the Dhaka

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**Committee formed**  
By DU Correspondent

A Latif Khan and S M Jahangir Alam have been elected chairman and secretary general respectively of the Bangladesh Mujibnagar Karniachari Kalyan Sangsad.

The sangsad in a meeting Thursday announced its 22-member central executive committee and 15-member advisory council for next two years.

Former justice A Hasib Barakat-Law has been nominated the chief adviser.

**Weather**

**Temperature may fall**

The day temperature is likely to fall by 1-2 degree Celsius at places over the country during the next 12 hours commencing from 6 am today, reports UNB.

Light to moderate rain or thundershower is likely at a few places over Chittagong, Barisal, Khulna divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka division, the Met office forecasts.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over Rajshahi division, it added.

Country's highest temperature 33.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at Bogra and the lowest 19.8 degrees at Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 5:26 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:00 pm.

**IPSA faculties opening protested**  
By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of the Krishibid Institution, Bangladesh yesterday protested opening of Social Science and Natural Science faculties at the Institute of Post Graduate Studies in Agriculture (IPSA).

In a statement, Krishibid Javed Iqbal, secretary general of the Krishibid Institution, said, the opening of the two faculties without prior approval of the government or consultation of the University Grants Commission of the Board of Regents was a clear violation of the IPSA laws.

The decision has angered the students, teachers and agriculturists as a whole, the statement said.

**Obituary**  
By Staff Correspondent

A renowned freedom fighter and Awami League leader Dr Wali Ahmed died yesterday at 1 pm at his Sukrabad residence in Dhaka. He was 75.

His body will be taken to his Muradnagar village home today and be brought back to Dhaka for burial.

The namaz-e-janaza in Dhaka will take place at Sobhanbagh mosque after Asr prayers.

He will be buried at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals graveyard.

The qulshwani of Dr Wali Ahmed will be held on Tuesday after Asr prayers at his 92, Sukrabad residence.

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**BTV Sunday**

4:30 Opening announcement  
4:40 Bible recitation  
5:10 News in Bangla  
5:25 Cartoon film: Tom and Jerry Kids Show  
5:40 Sports programme  
6:30 Health programme: Mayeder Janya  
7:00 Open University  
7:25 Tagore songs  
8:00 News in Bangla  
8:30 Abashar  
9:00 Drama serial: The Sword of Tipu Sultan  
10:00 News in English  
10:30 Musical programme Shurer Bhubane  
11:30 Khabar/The News  
11:40 Closing

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