# All-purpose Pavement Market

by Goutam Prosad Das

Motijheel and Dilkusha, the commercial hub of the city that hum with activities on all the working days of the week, have witnessed the growth of a kind of erratic but all-purpose pavement market. The market is not a replica of those kancha bazars confined within an specified area, nor one of those enlisted with the City Corporation. It is a market where the customers are mainly the officers and employes of various

establishments, who find it almost physically impossible to go to distant markets for some useful shopping at the end of the days' strenuous works.

The market is sprawled on two sides of the two-way roads and densely crowded at some places. It is a scat tered market, and items ranging from tamarind pickle to readymade garments are abundantly valable. Almost all the culinary items are avilable at reasonable price. Fresh vegetables, fruits, spices, beef, mutton. chickens etc are the most common items. Fish? Yes, in the vicinity of Bangladesh Bank you will have it too. What you would see is a few 'mach-wallas' (sellers

of fish) have kept some frozen (sometimes putrefied and decomposed) fishes strewn on flat aluminium plates, and are haggling with the buyers over the price. Obviously, this is not an ideal place for the piscivorous!

However small traders and even farmers of Savar. Gazipur, Joydebpur and other nearby areas come with their commodities by the incoming city buses and trucks to directly off-load their wares at the stoppage near 'Shapla Chattar' (Shapla Square). Thus the 'office-para market' is flooded with fresh items we are habituated to purchase from 'kancha market'

This makeshift market has been very handy to help ease our pressure for time and make a good purchase at reasonable price even in the midst of tight schedule.

The market seems to burst at the seams with customers at the end of office hours. There is every possibility to be shoved and elbowed while you scramble through the crowd from one spot

to another in search of your much-needed commodities. It is a bit similar to weekly held 'hat' in rural areas. In both the places massive gathering occurs in the afternoon, and as the sun dips in the crimson glow of western horizon, the crowd starts thinning. But they are also dissimilar in one aspect. Unlike 'hat' which sits once or twice a week, this market sits everyday except on

> The virtue of the market is that it offers women working in different offices a hassel-free shopping. They do not have to go to another market for the things like broom-sticks and cutleries. Of course, the quality of different edible commodities that are sold in bulk everyday cannot but be questioned. One of such commodities is honey.

Whether it has been extracted from an apiary or the Sundarbans, or is simply a solution with higher proportion of sugar in water, requires you to be a veteran chemist to debunk the seller's strong claim about its purity.

At the same shop they sell other items, like mustard oil. ghee, coconut oil etc

with unabated emphasis on and assurance of the quality.

The unbridled proliferation of such unconventional shopping malls sometimes causes great difficulties in movement of pedestrians along the 'foot-path'. At times the crowds spill over to the streets, obstructing smooth movement of vehicles. Besides, it makes the entire area it occupies squalid and stinking.

How long our law enforcing agency will allow such pavement vendors to do their business is

Last year the government started evicting them from the main public through fares. But soon afterwards they returned to carry on their trades with the same zest as before. It seems a love-hate relationship exists between the police and the vendors.

Considering the shopping needs of working people in these areas as well as the quick saleability of consumer products, it seems that this sort of market has come to stay.



The non-gazetted employees held a rally in Secretariat premises yesterday during their fivehour work abstention programme to press home their charter of demands. Star photo

# वाश्लाम्ब ब्लिमिश् कार्मााव्यत Bangladesh Shipping Corporation MV BANGLAR KAKOLI (VOY. 62-OW)

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Awami League leader Abdur Razzaque addressing a rally at city's Bangabandhu Avenue during yesterday's countrywide dawn-to-dusk hartal hours. - Star photo

# Britain keen to invest in energy, textiles sectors

The visiting British trade delegation showed keen interest to invest in the exploration and development of energy and mineral resources sector in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The interest was shown during the talks with officials of the Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry yesterday. a government handout said. Tony Baldry, MP and British

Parliamentary under-Secretary, and M Faizur Razzak, the Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary, led their respective delegations in the talks.

Razzak apprised the delegation of the government's proposed petroleum policy and reforms programmes in the power sector, highlighting their key-features.

He also outlined the prospects and possibilities of the country's energy and mineral resources and detailed a break-up of investment requirements in the sector in next 15 years.

Tony Baldry appreciated the government's initiatives in developing the energy and mineral resources and said there was a tremendous opportunity for private investment in the sector, specially in the exploration of oil and gas, electricity generation and exploitation of mineral resources.

He said British participation in the sector will hopefully increase in the near future.

BSS adds: The visiting delegation yesterday lauded the programme Bangladesh attained by exporting its textiles products and expressed their keen interest to participate in the investment in textiles and other allied industry in Bangladesh.

An eight-member British trade delegation led by Lain L Dale Obe called on State Minister for Textiles Abdul Mannan here yesterday.

#### Call to solve political problems thru' discussion

Leaders of the Zia parishad yesterday called upon the politicians of both the camps to resolve the current political problems through discussions. reports BSS.

"Time has not yet run out," the leaders said and asked all to unitedly solve the problem. There is no final word in politics, the Zia parishad leaders said in a statement released to the press.

The parishad leaders said there is an imperative need to resolve the problem immediately. They said since hartal has negative impact on the economy it should be the 4:30 Opening announcement task of all politicians, teachers and service holders and people at large to come forward to. solve the problem.

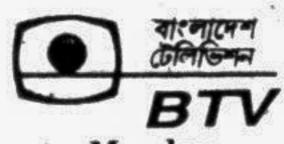
They maintained that the opportunities, opened up for economic development, should not be missed.

Kabir Murad, chairman and Syed Meshbahuddin, Prof. Ershadul Bari, Prof Enamul Haq. Prof Abul Kashem Chowdhury, Prof Mahfuzur Rahman, Prof Sohrabuddin, all vice presidents and Taranga Anwar, secretary general of the Zia parishad among others issued the statement.

## Honoured

Major General Mohammad Abdur Rab, PSC, Master General of the Ordnance. Bangladesh Army has been appointed 2nd Colonel Commandant of the Army Service Corps, says a press release.

The conferring ceremony. held at the Army Service Corps Centre and School, Jahanabad Cantonment in Khulna on Friday, was attended by all senior officials of the Bangladesh Army and Jessore area.



### Monday

Cartoon film : Captain Planet and Planeteers News in Bangla

Sports programme

Moder Garab Moder Open University Nazrul song

New in Bangla Janmabhumi Population programme: Shukher Thikana

**Ghare Baire** 10:00 News in English 10:30 Comedy series: Murphy

Women's programme:

11:00 Comedy series: Coach

## Weather

# Dry weather likely

Dry weather is likely to prevail throughout the country with partly cloudy sky over Rajshahi and Chittagong divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB. The Met Office forecasts night temperature may remain

nearly unchanged across the country during the period. The maximum temperature in Dhaka was 31.8 degrees Celsius and the minimum was 19.6 degrees while the country's highest temperature was recorded 32.8 in Khulna and the lowest 16 degrees in Dinajpur.

The percentage of humidity was 71 in the morning and 83

in the evening. The sun sets today at 5:13 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:13



Matiur Rahman Nizami, secretary general of the Jamaate-Islami, addressing a rally in front of the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque yesterday Star photo

Minister tells JS

# Garments export fetches \$200 cr annually

Bangladesh earns about 200 crore US dollars annually by exporting 128.49 crore pieces of garments produced in 1757 garment factories in the country. Textile Minister Abdul Mannan informed the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, reports

He was replying to a question from M Niamat Ullah (BNP-Dhaka) A T M Alamgir (BNP-Comilla) moved the question in absence of Niamat

 In reply to a supplementary, Mannan said 10 lakh workers were employed in the garments industry and there was no children working there now. He said, most of the industries had health care facilities for the women workers. In reply to another supple-

mentary, he said that more garment industries in different cities of the country would be set up in near future as the export market was expanding everyday.

He said, 40 per cent of

#### Discussion on drug abuse Housing and Public Works

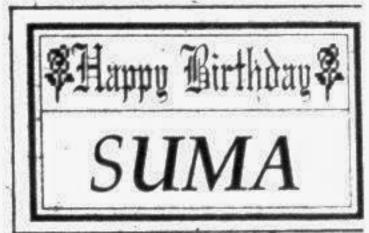
Minister Rafigul Islam Mia vesterday stressed the need for upholding Islamic culture and values to free the society from drug abuse, reports BSS.

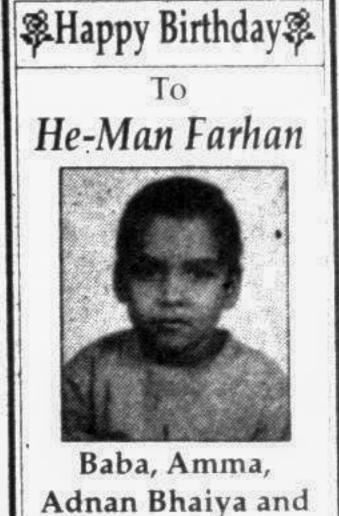
The minister was speaking as the chief guest at a discussion on "The role of people in controlling drug abuse in society" organised by City Cultural Centre at the auditorium of Jatiya Krira Parishad in the

garments is exported to the United States and the rest to Europe, Australia, Middle East Russia and other European

He said that fabrics and dif ferent accessories of garment industries worth US dollar 120 crore were being imported annually through back to back

Efforts had been taken to produce the fabrics locally and it is expected that most of the need will be met locally within next three years, he added.





Fahd

#### গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার নিৰ্বাহী প্ৰকৌশলীর কার্যালয়

গণপূর্ত ই/এম বিভাগ-৩, ঢাক

2-77-88 ইং/ 7P-4-7807 ব্যক্ত

## দরপত্র আহ্বান বিজ্ঞপ্তি नः-७৫/১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং

নিম্নোক্ত কাজের জন্য গণপুর্ত অধিদন্তরের বৈঃ/যাঃ কাজের তালিকাজ্জ ১ম/২য় শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদারণণ যাহাদের বাংলাদেশ বৈদ্যুতিক লাইসেনিং বোর্ড কর্তৃক প্রদন্ত কৈধ এ, বি, সি/বি, সি, শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদারী ও সুপারতাইজারী লাইসেন্স বহিয়াছে তাহাদের নিকট হইতে বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং-২৯১১ এর মাধ্যমে সীলমোহরকত থামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্রসমূহ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, গণপূর্ত বৈঃ/য়াঃ বিভাগ ১/২/৩/৪/৫/৬/৭/৮ ই/এম কারখানা বিভাগ/কাঠের কারখানা বিভাগ, চাক: লণপ্র ইডেন বিন্ডিং বিভাগ, ঢাকা এর অফিসে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাল্পে ২৩/১১/৯৪ইং তারিখ দুপুর ১২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যান্ত গৃহীত হইবে এবং একই দিনে দুপুর ১২-৩০ মিনিটে দরপত্রদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে ।যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন। খোলা হইবে।

দরপত্র ফরম, আইটেম তফসিল, শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলী ইত্যাদি নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, পণপুর্ত বৈঃ/যাঃ বিভাগ ১/২/৩/৪/৫/৬/৭/৮ পণপুর্ত বৈঃ/যাঃ কারখানা ও কাঠের কারখানা বিভাগ, ঢাকা, পণপুর্ত ইডেন বিভিৎ বিভাগ, চকা এব অফিস হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ৪২৫/= টাকা নগদ মূল্য প্ৰদান সাপেক ।অফেরৎযোগ্যা ২২/১১/৯৪ইং ভাষাৰ পত্তি ত করা যাইবে। দরপত্র <del>ফরম ঠিকানার নিজে অথ</del>বা তাহার দারা ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত রেজিট্রেশন বই সহ প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজেপত্র দেখাইয়া চব করিতে পারিবেন। প্রতিটি দরপত্রের সহিত জামানতের টাকা সংযুক্ত তফসিলের প্রাকৃলনকৃত মূল্যের শতকরা ২% তাগ হারে য কেন তফ্সিল ব্যাংক হইতে ভাফ্ট/টেজারী চালান/পি, ও/এস, ভি, আর, আকারে নিয়স্তাক্রকারীর অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হইবে

প্রতিটি নির্মাণ সংস্থাকে মূল্য সংযোজন কর বিভাগের নিবন্ধন সার্টিফিকেট এর একটি অনুলিপি দরপত্রের সহিত সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে। মূল্য সংযোজন কর নিবন্ধন সার্টিফিকেট ছাড়া কোন নির্মাণ সংস্থা কোন দরপত্তে (টণ্ডারে। অংশ গহনের জন। আয়াণা বিবেচিত হইবে

ক্রমক ঢাকা শহরে সরকারী কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদের জন্য ১০০০ ফুলট নির্মাণ প্রকল্পাধীন আজিমপুরস্থ সরকারী কলোনীতে নব-নির্মিত ১০০০ বর্গফুট বিশিষ্ট আবাসিক ভবনের আভান্তরীণ বৈদ্যুতিকরণ কাজ (ভবন নং-৭)

The state minister briefed

the delegation of the structure

of textile industry, fast growth

of export-oriented textiles sub-

sector, demand-gap for fabrics

and other various issues re-

lated to textiles of Bangladesh.

the delegation, the state min-

ister said there is huge poten-

tiality of foreign investment in

dyeing, finishing, weaving and

other textile industry. The

government is ready to provide

all-out support for such foreign

investment, the state minister

শারক নং-২৫৭২

DFP-9596-8/11

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In response to a query of

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গণপুঠ ই/এম বিভাগ-৩. সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা, ফোনঃ ২৫৯৪,৭৬

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