

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Pseudo Pen-pals

by Goutam Prosad Das

Like many other popular hobbies, pen-friendship is also an equally popular hobby with many people. This hobby, however, is a bit more time consuming compared to others. Of course, this also demands a facile pen. For often you have to write to someone in a remote corner of the globe in order to set up a new relationship with one who is equally crazy like you on this account. Some newspapers, magazines and other media furnish the readers with names and addresses of new boys and girls who want to become pen-pals.

Young people reading in schools and colleges are more attracted to the idea of pen-friendship. They get a lot of motivation by seeing others who are already having dozens of such friends. The troubles at the initial stage of starting a pen-friendship are indeed tiring. However, in most cases the efforts pay off and some sort of relationship gets started in the end. Behind every pen-friendship there is an investment of money, time, energy and above all — curtailment of daily study hours. The things normally sent at the initial stage between two pen-pals are letters and photographs. Those having a good hand writing have an edge over others. While those who are not so gifted, sometimes take the help of others.

Nowadays pen-friendship does not always mean that by making it you are going to find an emotional anchor in someone to whom you can talk, share your feelings and exchange good wishes and find mental solace. In many instances there is a lot of play-up in the relationship. In this case photographs play a very useful role. In fact, the growing relationship depends a lot on the finer points of the photograph you are enclosing with the envelope. Your photographer should have enough skills and craftsmanship to capture your plus points and skip the darker ones to make you look like a 'hero'. In case the photographer fails to

bring a fair and presentable person out of you, the disappointment, frustration, and anxiety knows no bounds. A good portrait is so important, that failure in this regard forces fellows to resort to fraud and impersonation. He ends up sending a photo of someone handsome, smart and elegant. The person at the other end may also indulge in the same trickery, and the relationship that grows over the years is simply fraught with falsehood. Definitely this is not desirable. The most commendable aspect of pen-friendship is when a boy poses himself as a girl and vice versa in their correspondence and exchanges photographs of the opposite sex, claiming it to be their own. If your pen-pal is a foreigner and does not have much knowledge about the people of your country, you can simply send a nice photograph of some of our upcoming film stars and smoothly carry on the masquerade.

The ulterior motive behind such an act is certainly 'mischievous' which may sometimes cause serious mental trauma in the person at the other end. Because some people take the on-going affairs seriously. In case of people from abroad — one in Bangladesh and the other across the Pacific or Atlantic, are smitten with love and end up falling in love with each other. But neither of them know the other well, or that they have actually been misrepresenting each other.

A few years back a Bangladeshi young man, settled in the USA, fell victim to such a vicious trap. His counterpart living in a district town of Bangladesh was an equally able man like him but the native-turned-alien was deceived into believing that his 'girlfriend' was a matchless traditional beauty. He could not resist his fascination for her and in due course he came to Bangladesh hoping to settle something 'permanent' if the circumstances proved propitious. One can imagine the situation when facts eventually surfaced.



## Saraswati Puja observed

By Staff Correspondent

The country's Hindu community yesterday celebrated Saraswati Puja, the worship of the goddess of eloquence and learning, amidst religious fervour and solemnity.

The puja was observed in most of the educational institutions in the city where puja mandaps (dais) were nicely decorated. Many also observed the puja at home.

The programme included offering of *anjali*, distribution of *prasad* and *arati*. Cultural functions were also arranged at different puja venues in the evening.

Devotees visited the Jagannath Hall premises of the Dhaka University where students of different departments celebrated the puja separately. Puja was also celebrated at the Rokeya and Shamsunnahar halls of the DU, the Ahsan Hall of the Engineering University, Dhaka College, Sebika Chhatri Nibas, Ramkrishna Mission, Shankhari Bazar, Tantibazar, Narinda, Luxmi-Bazar, Lalbagh, Rayerbazar, Tejgaon, Banagaram, Syedabad, Nazirabazar, Armanitola, Bangla Bazar, Farashganj and other areas.

Meanwhile BSS adds: Members of the Hindu community in Chittagong and elsewhere in the district celebrated Saraswati puja.

The puja was celebrated mainly in the educational institutions by the students community.

Different institutions in the city observed the day through offering of *anjali*, distribution of *prasad* and holding *arati*, discussions and rendering of devotional songs.

Students of the University of Chittagong, University of Science and Technology Chittagong, Chittagong Government College, Government City College and Commerce College observed the Saraswati puja. Educational institutions here remained closed today while Radio Bangladesh Chittagong broadcast a programme on the significance of the puja.

## Biswas, Khaleda greet Kumaratunga

President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia have felicitated President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga on the occasion of National Day of Sri Lanka, reports UNB.

In a message to his Sri Lankan counterpart, Biswas hoped that the bonds of friendship that so happily exist between the two countries would further strengthen in the years to come.

In a separate message, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, extended heartfelt greetings and felicitation to the Lankan President, the government and its people.

"I take this opportunity to express my conviction that close friendly relationship and cooperation existing between our two SAARC countries will be further developed and strengthened in the years ahead," said the Prime Minister.

## Student-teacher forum of NSU

The first NSU student-teacher forum for the interchange of information and ideas relating to academic, administrative and disciplinary issues was held in the campus yesterday, says a press release. Muslehuddin Ahmad, president of the North South University, academic dean and registrar were also present to answer questions submitted by the students.

Laura Jean Bhadra, the Economics Faculty representative and one of the organisers of the event remarked, "The forum underlines the fact that NSU is able and willing to take criticism from its students and to incorporate their ideas and suggestions into university policy."

NSU has decided to hold the forum, which is the first of its kind in higher education in Bangladesh, on a semester basis.

## Bangla Academy discussion

By Staff Correspondent

On the fourth day of Ekushey Bô Mela (book fair), the Bangla Academy yesterday held a discussion on the book 'Darshanik Juktibidya' by Abdul Matin and published by the academy.

Prof Anisuzzaman and Prof Sharif Harun of the Philosophy Department of the Dhaka University took part in the discussion, while Prof Sarder Fazlul Karim was in the chair. The speakers highly appreciated the author for presenting such rich book on philosophy.

The academy will hold discussion on 'Bangla Academy Bengali-English Dictionary' today.



Devotees offering *anjali* to goddess Saraswati at a puja mandap at the Rokeya Hall of the Dhaka University yesterday. — Star photo

## OBITUARY



**Mr Abdul Aziz Khan** alias Azizur Rahman (44), son of late Jinali Ali Khan, Birpasha Village, Patuakhali, died in a road accident at 6 am on January 29 in Minnesota, USA, (Inna... Razun). Body of late Aziz, Ex-hospital Service Executive of Hoechst, will arrive in Dhaka on February 6 at 8 am by KLM Airlines and later it will be kept for some time at deceased's residence (147/B, East Rajabazar, Indira Road). He will be buried at Ahpur Graveyard, Faridpur on the same day at 3pm. He was the son-in-law of late DSP Kazi Mesbah Uddin, a nephew of Dr Quazi Towhidul Islam and Mrs Aysha Hossain — who are now living in USA.

We are deeply grateful to you all who have been helping us overcome this distressful situation.

Sorrowfully  
Mrs Mahmuda Aziz Rita (wife)  
Shahnewaz Khan (son)  
Istiaque Ahmed Khan (son) &  
A K M Shahjahan Khan (brother)

## 4 killed, 40 hurt in road accidents

At least four people died and 40 others were injured in three accidents yesterday on the Dhaka-Aricha highway, reports UNB.

A Dhaka-bound night coach overturned on roadside near Savar Cantonment at about 6 am, killing an unidentified young man and a 10-year-old boy, Sujah.

The unidentified man died on the spot and the boy succumbed to his injuries on the way to Dhaka for treatment, witnesses said.

Some 36 people were also injured in the accident. In another accident, a helper of a speeding truck died instantly and five others were injured seriously when the truck collided with a microbus coming from Dhaka and both skidded into a 400-foot-

deep ditch at Jorpool in Savar thana at about 8 am.

In another mishap on the highway at about 7 pm, one auto rickshaw passenger died on the spot when an Aricha-bound minibus hit it in front of the Savar Bank Town.

Three cases were filed with Savar thana.

## Indian sarees seized

RAJSHAHI, Feb 4: BDR personnel of 20 Rifle battalion seized Indian sarees worth about Taka six lakh at Belgharia under the battalion area of the district yesterday, reports BSS. Later, the seized item was deposited with the Rajshahi Customs office, BDR sources said.

## Weather

### Temperature may rise

Dry weather is likely to prevail with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country, in the next 12 hours ending 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature is likely to rise in the next two days and will continue to rise further in the following week, met office forecasts.

The country's lowest temperature 7.5 degree Celsius was recorded in Dinajpur and the highest 29.2 degrees in Dhaka. The sun sets today at 5:47 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:38 am.

The temperature readings and humidity percentage in major cities of the country recorded yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Min	Max	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	10.6	29.2	43	62
Chittagong	13.0	28.6	82	63
Moulvibazar	11.8	28.9	70	51
Rajshahi	8.3	28.0	63	57
Barisal	10.5	27.7	79	56
Sylhet	13.3	28.0	77	53
Dinajpur	7.5	27.2	76	43
Cox's Bazar	14.5	28.8	72	60



## Princess Anne due in city March 6

By Staff Correspondent

Princess Anne, the only daughter of Queen Elizabeth II and an active social worker, is expected to visit Bangladesh from March 6 to 9.

During her stay in Bangladesh, Princess Anne will also visit a number of British-aided projects and NGO schemes in Khulna and Barisal.

She is also expected to visit some institutions where children are involved in educational and vocational training.

Princess Anne is the President of the Save The Children Fund.

## Govt college teachers call on Sircar

Leaders of the government college lecturers' and professors' associations yesterday met with Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar and apprised him of their 12-point demand, reports UNB.

The Education Minister assured them of considering their demands after discussing those in details at another meeting with them.

**বাংলাদেশ রাইফেলস**  
যোগাযোগ পরিদপ্তর

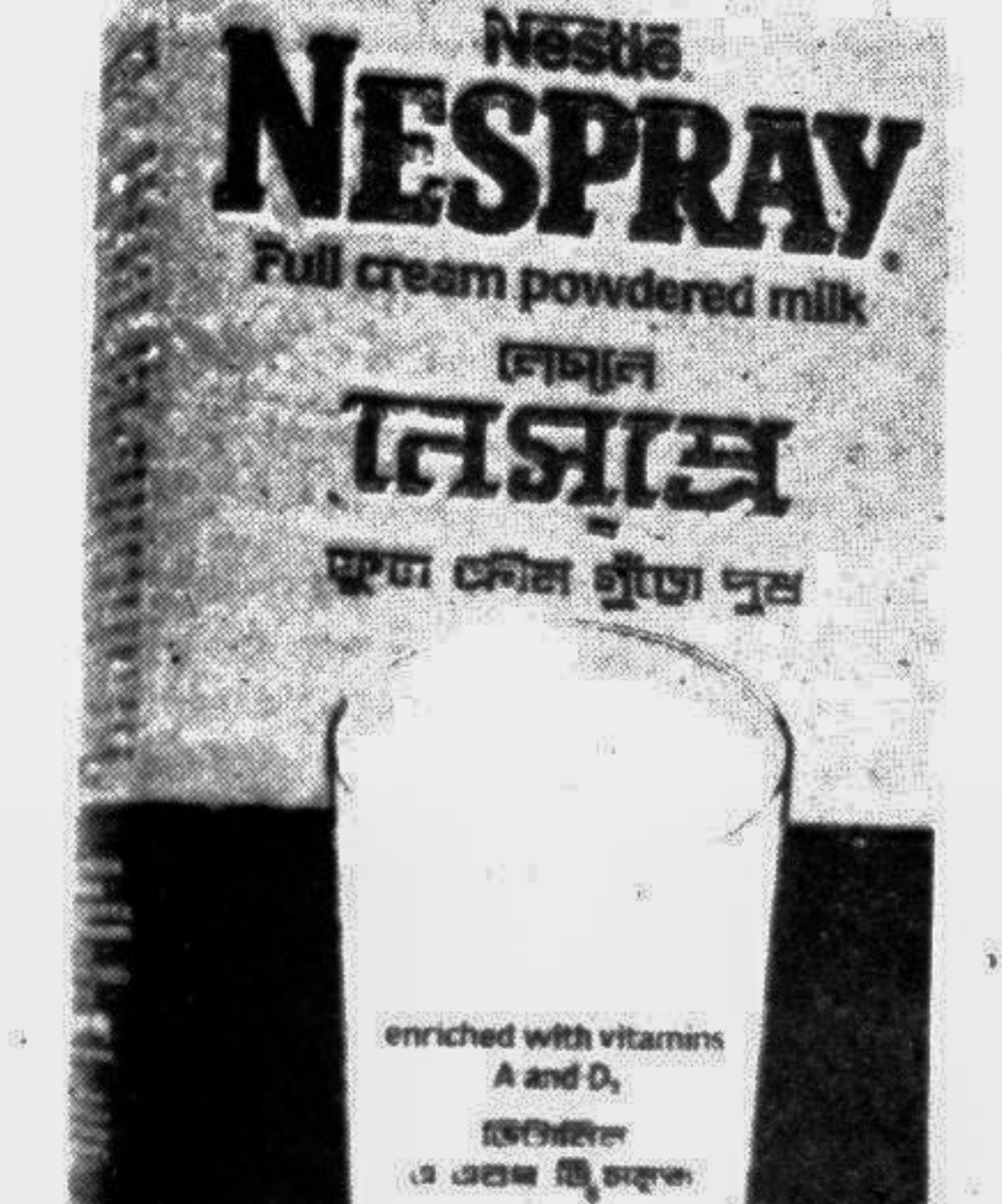
**ক্রয় বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

১। বাংলাদেশ রাইফেলস যোগাযোগ পরিদপ্তরে নিম্নবর্ণিত সিপিএল সস্তামাদির ক্রয় করার বিধিতে অত্র পরিদপ্তরে তালিকাভুক্ত প্রকৃত প্রকৃতকারক/সরবরাহকারীর নিকট হইতে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা হইবে।

ক্রমিক নং	সস্তামাদির নাম	সিপিএল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ	দরপত্র আহ্বানের তারিখ
ক।	ডিজিটাল টেলিফোন সেট	১১-২-৯৫ইং	২৫-২-৯৫ইং
খ।	দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত সিপিএল অনুচ্ছেদ ১-এ উল্লিখিত সস্তামাদির পাঠ্য বইতে ভিত্তিতে অফিস সস্তামাদির ক্রয় পত্র প্রস্তুতকরণ, মূল্যবাহী এবং বৃহৎপত্রের (বৃহৎ দিন ব্যতীত) কোটা ০৬০০ বাটাকা হইতে ১৪০০ বাটাকা পর্যন্ত পর্যন্ত হইবে।		২৪ ইং ১৯৯৫ইং
গ।	সিপিএল সস্তামাদির বিক্রয়িত বিক্রয় উদ্দেশ্যে থাকিবে।		
ঘ।	কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন কারণ ব্যতীত দরপত্র গ্রহণ এবং ব্যক্তি করার ক্ষমতা রাখেন।		

ডিজিটাল-২০৯৫-০০/১  
ক্র-১৮৮

# 1+1+1+1= GREAT SUCCESS



Thank you dear customers for making this promotion a phenomenal success. It is with your support that we are the leading Milk Powder in the market.

Rush now! Offer valid till 19th february '95

More you BUY, more you SAVE!  
A Quality Product from Nestlé.