

Dhaka Day by Day

Where Ekushey Spirit and Women's Cause Meet

by Schrezad Joya Monami Latif

February is the month when we all remember our heroes of the language movement, of our fight for independence and the blood of hundreds of thousands split for the love of a language of a country. At the Ekushey Boi Mela, 600 book stalls keep our Bengali heritage vibrant. The mela is our greatest testimony to our reality as a people who have suffered and survived.

In an open stall at a corner of the Ekushey Boi Mela decorated in colorful yet subtle "Prabartana-check" material and bamboo lies the Nari-grantha Prabartana bookstall. Set apart from its neighbouring bookstalls — because of its creative decoration and of course, the books it has on sale — it's a "must" on the visiting list of any boi mela goer.

The Prabartana leaflet claims it as the only publishing house that upholds the feminist cause. That may be a slight exaggeration, but Prabartana is no doubt one of the foremost proponents of feminist literature in Bangladesh today. It is actually the first feminist bookstore in this country. It started on the 9th of December, 1989. This date was chosen to launch the bookstore in commemoration of Begum Rokeya Sakawat Hossain. Her life's work and ambition of

sits at the stall at the Boi Mela and says that many a male comes to the stall when they see him at the counter. They wonder what a man is doing at a feminist bookstall but people need to realise that women's cause is not woman's alone. The Prabartana bookstall has a very high turnover of books especially because the books range in cheaper prices, most are within Tk 12 to Tk 20.

Book topics range from "Indigenous Abortion Practitioners in Rural Bangladesh" to "Women Mukti-joddha" to a book by Farida Akhter called "Adda". Adda is actually what Prabartana calls their weekly meetings, where women from all walks of life get together and discuss their problems, their hopes, their dreams.

The stall too, is a veritable bedlam of "adda", of discussion. Many female and male students stand in front of the stall and discuss issues with Prabartana members. The most popular ones are usually women's empowerment and a man's role in it and of course, the memory of Ekushey February.

They say that great literature comes from those who have suffered. Perhaps that is why women are such great writers. We after all, have suffered ever since we bit that apple in the Garden of Eden. At the Prabartana bookstall, one will find over 40 titles of great literature. Also available are 15 of Prabartana's posters, protesting patriarchy, violence against women and environmental degradation.

When you visit the Ekushey Boi Mela, be sure to stop at the feminist book stall. Here the spirit of Ekushey, and the spirit of the women's movement in Bangladesh are kept alive and kicking.



এ পাথর আমরা রাখবোই

Top priority to edn attached

Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman yesterday said that education was the key to all development efforts and no nation could prosper if lagged behind in this crucial sector, reports BSS.

Addressing as chief guest at an education rally at Bagmarpara in Gazipur yesterday he said the present government has identified education as a vital area, and as such, attached importance to spread and development of education in the country.

State Minister for Science and Technology Prof M A Mannan and president of the Jatnyatabadi Chhatradal Fazlul Huq Milon spoke on the occasion.

'Development process to continue'

Commerce and Information Minister M Shamsul Islam yesterday said the development process initiated by present government aiming at improving socio-economic condition of the people would continue inspite of all inconveniences, reports BSS.

He said the main objective of the present government was to ensure welfare of the common people, not personal or group interest.

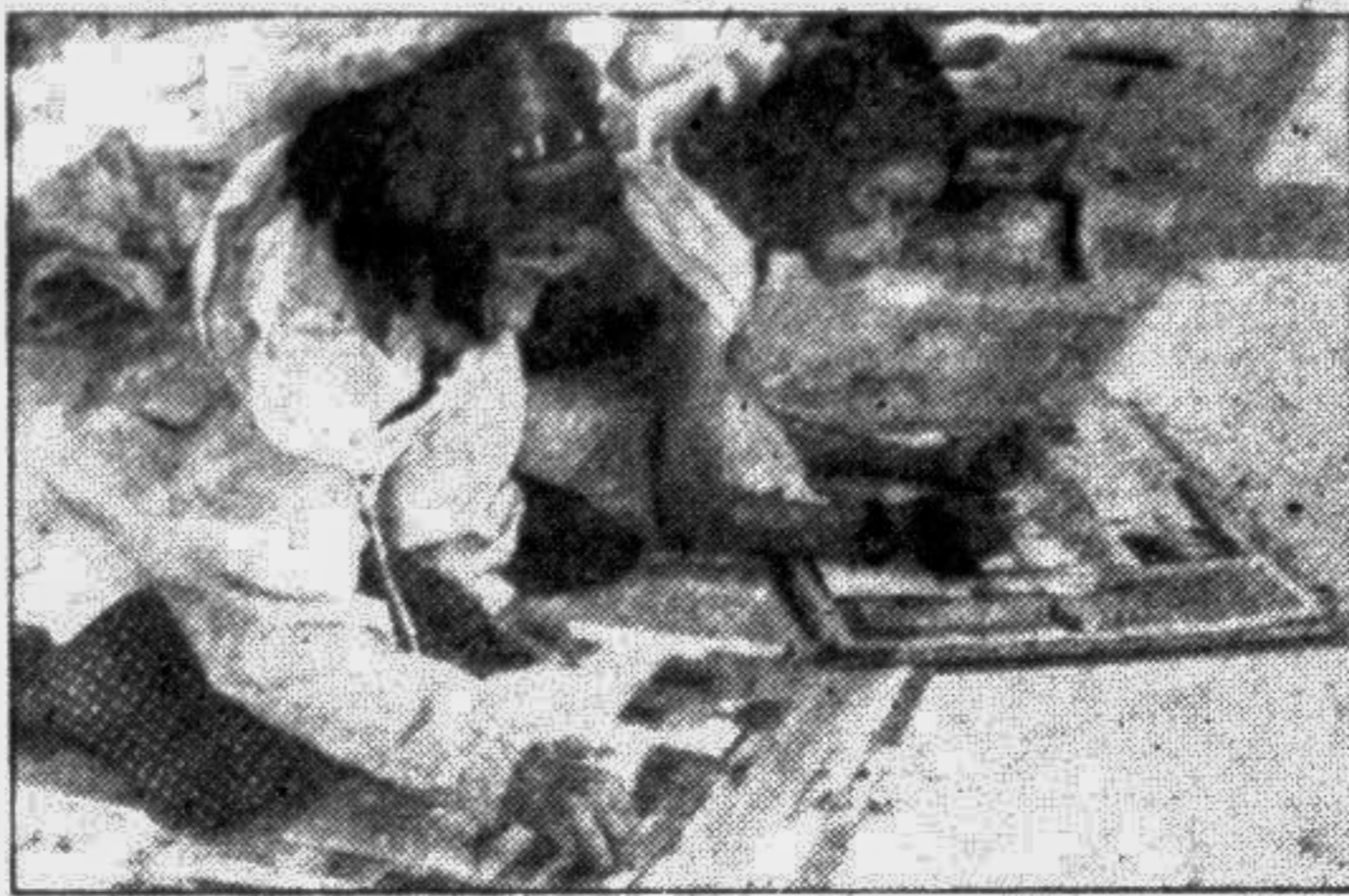
The minister was addressing a public meeting at the chief guest at the premises of Char Chhatratia Primary School in Tougibari of Munshiganj district.

Kalpna Datta dead

CHITTAGONG, Feb 10: Kalpna Datta, one of the trusted associates of Masterda Surya Sen and leader of the anti-British liberation movement, died of prolonged illness at the age of 83 at Sukial Hospital in Calcutta on Wednesday last, according to a message received by her family here, reports BSS.

Hailed from Kharandip under Boalkhali thana of Chittagong, she was the first matriculate woman in Chittagong.

Later, she went to Calcutta for higher studies. After the Chittagong Jubo Revolution, she associated herself directly with the activities of the Biplobi Dal led by Surya Sen.



Children trying their hands at an art competition organised by the Sangskritik Sangsad at the Institute of the Fine Arts in the city yesterday in observance of the upcoming Amar Ekushey. — Star photo

Girl molested, 3 injured in city incidents

By DMCH Correspondent

A 12-year old girl was raped and three persons were stabbed in the city in separate incidents yesterday.

One Yasmin of city's Siddiqbazar area was molested by a bus-stand worker near Fulbaria, crossing at around 11 am.

Yasmin used to sell lunch boxes in the Fulbaria area. According to her family sources, when she went to Fulbaria yesterday morning Lincoln, an old acquaintance of Yasmin, took her to an one-storey building nearby and allegedly molested her.

Lincoln later sent her to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) along with a boy by an autorickshaw. In another incident, a light-infan of the BDR cinema was

injured when a group of unruly youngman stabbed him in the hall yesterday afternoon.

The victim Mohammad Moshir Rahman, 25, received injuries in his chest and abdomen, and was admitted to the DMCH.

Moshir alleged that when he requested one youngman not to smoke inside the hall, the miscreants stabbed him.

Two persons were stabbed by a group of four to five toll collectors at a shoe factory at Islambagh under Lalbagh police station at about 3 am yesterday.

The victims Mohammad Abdullah, 25, and Mobarak, 18, received injuries in chest and were admitted to the DMCH.

Abdullah alleged that the extortionists earlier demanded money from them, but they were refused.

4 held, arms recovered

CHITTAGONG, Feb 10: Doble-mooring police arrested four miscreants and recovered one light gun, one pipe gun, one dagger and two rounds of cartridges from their possessions at Agrabad CDA residential area here today, reports BSS.

When two persons were passing through a road they were challenged by the patrol police. Of them one Abdul Kader was caught red handed by the police but the other managed to flee away. After the search police recovered one light gun and one pipe gun from his body.

On the basis of his statement, three more persons were rounded up by the police from two separate areas.

The miscreants were taken to police custody.

Premiere show of D Empire

The premiere show of "D Empire", a video documentary film, was held at the Indian High Commission auditorium yesterday morning, reports UNB.

House of Debaters, a Dhaka University-based platform of debaters, has produced the film based on debating, its evaluation, heritage and activities of debaters in the country.



A sequence of the play Raktakta Fulgona staged at the altar of the Central Shaheed Minar on the third day, yesterday, of the 12-day programme organised by the Sammilito Sangskritik Jote. — Star photo

Weather

Light rain likely

Light rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Khulna and Dhaka divisions and the regions of Pabna, Bogra, Noakhali, Comilla and Sylhet during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

The Met Office says weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country.

Night temperature is likely to rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

In its outlook for tomorrow the Met office forecast that thunder activity may continue. Giving extended outlook for another four days weathermen predicted little change.

Country's lowest temperature 10.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Rajshahi and the highest 30.2 degrees at Khulna. The sun sets today at 5:51 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:34 pm.

The minimum and maximum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	min	max	morning	evening
Dhaka	16.2	28.2	83	69
Chittagong	16.2	26.7	61	86
Rajshahi	10.8	26.8	79	66
Khulna	13.5	30.2	80	60
Barsal	12.5	29.0	97	58
Sylhet	14.8	27.2	70	53

Shahabuddin's drawing exhibition begins Feb 15

A week-long solo drawing exhibition by internationally reputed artist Shahabuddin begins in the city at Gallery Tone on February 15, reports UNB.

Ambassador of France Jean-Michel Lacombe will inaugurate the exhibition while eminent artist Aminul Islam will be the special guest.

The exhibition will remain open everyday from 10 am to 8 pm till February 21.

LAND WANTED

Wanted plots in Residential Areas in Gulshan, Banani, Baridhara, Dhanmondi & Lalmatia to purchase in instalments or joint venture basis for developing housing. Owners are requested to send details at this address.

CONFIDENCE BUILDERS LTD,
5-Kha, Satmasjid Road, Mohammadpur
Dhaka-1207, Phone : 815478

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর, পঞ্চগড়।
তারিখ: ১৯-১০-১৯০১ বাং
০১-০২-১৯৯৫ইং

ক্রমিক নং	বিষয়	কাজের নাম	বায়নার টাকা	দরপত্রের মূল্য	সময়সীমা	টিকাদারের যোগ্যতা/শ্রেণী
১।	দরপত্র দাখিল করার স্থান	ক। তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ), এলজিইডি, ৪/৫ লালমাটিয়া, রক-বি, ঢাকা-১২০৭। খ। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, এলজিইডি, পঞ্চগড়/ঠাকুরগাঁও, দিনাজপুর।				
২।	দরপত্র পাবিলের স্থান	ক। তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ), এলজিইডি, ৪/৫ লালমাটিয়া, রক-বি, ঢাকা-১২০৭। খ। ডেপুটি কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, পঞ্চগড়। গ। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, এলজিইডি, পঞ্চগড়/ঠাকুরগাঁও/দিনাজপুর। ঘ। পানা প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর, এলজিইডি, আটোয়ারী, পঞ্চগড়।				
৩।	দরপত্র দাখিল করার শেষ তারিখ	১৯-০২-১৯৯৫ইং/০৭-১১-১৯০১ বাং তারিখ, অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।				
৪।	দরপত্র দাখিলাদি দাখিলের তারিখ	২০-০২-১৯৯৫ইং/০৮-১১-১৯০১ বাং তারিখ কোটা ২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।				
৫।	দরপত্র বাস্তবায়নের সময়	—এ— দিন বেলা ২-৩০ ঘটিকায়।				
৬।	বিশেষ শর্তাবলী	ক। দরপত্র প্রস্তুত করার সময় শর্তাবলী ১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং খর্ব বৎসরের টিকাদারী তালিকাভুক্তির কাগজপত্রাদি এবং ভাট্টা রেজিঃ সার্টিফিকেট দেখাইতে এবং দরপত্রের সহিত সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে। খ। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, এলজিইডি, পঞ্চগড়-এর অনুকূলে উক্ত মোট মূল্যের ২.৫০% (শতকরা দুই দশমিক পাঁচ শতাংশ) ভাগ বায়নার টাকা বিধি/সিডি/সে-অর্ডার আকারে দাখিল করিতে হইবে।				

১। কাজের বিবরণঃ

ক্রমিক নং ১। ৩ পঞ্চগড়-আটোয়ারী আরওএইচ সড়ক উন্নয়ন দপ্তরে ১৯০০/- ৬০ (ষাট) দিন এলজিইডি'র ক, খ ও গ বিশেষ এবং এলজিইডি'র সকল প্রকল্পের সকল শ্রেণী

২। কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন এবং প্রয়োজনবোধে কাজের পরিমাণ বাড়াইতে বা কমাইতে পারেন।

৩। দরপত্রের সহিত দরদাতাপক্ষে প্রতিটি আইটেমের নির্ভুল দর বিবরণ দাখিল করিতে হইবে অন্যথা দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।

৪। কার্য সম্পাদনের সময়সীমার উপর একটি বাস্তবমুখী কর্মপঞ্জিকা দাখিল করিতে হইবে। কর্মপঞ্জিকা ছাড়া দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।

৫। সরকারী বিধি মোতাবেক কার্যাদেশ প্রাপ্ত টিকাদারগণের নিকট হইতে নির্ধারিত হারে ভাট্টা-এর টাকা কর্তন করা হইবে।

৬। কাজের অংশভরম পত্রিকা-নিষ্কাশন জন্য এলজিইডি'র দ্বারপ্রবেশী কর্তৃক ট্রেট করা হইতে হইবে এবং এলজিইডি অনুমোদিত দর অনুযায়ী ট্রেট কি জমা দিতে হইবে।

৭। অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নিম্নাঙ্কনকারীর দপ্তর হইতে জানা যাইবে।

৮। নিম্নে বর্ণিত দাখিলাদির সমন্বয়ে পূর্ণাঙ্গ দরপত্র বলিয়া গণ্য হইবেঃ

ক। দরপত্র আহ্বানের বিজ্ঞপ্তি।
খ। বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১।
গ। কাজের সিডিউল।
ঘ। অতিরিক্ত শর্তাবলী।

এ বি এম ইসরাইল
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর
পঞ্চগড়।

ডিএফপি-২৯৫৭-৫/২
বি-২১৯

Senior Vacancy

One of the leading group of companies involved, inter alia, in the marketing of motor vehicles and electronic/electric products are looking for a General Manager (Marketing) with the undernoted qualifications:

- The ideal candidate would have an excellent academic record with post graduate qualification preferably, but not necessarily, in marketing.
- He must have a proven track record of consistent achievement and personal growth.
- He must have the ability to spearhead the marketing activities of the company and will be responsible for scanning of the market, identification of potential customers and their expectations, and generating business. He will also be responsible for sales budgeting and administration, development of marketing strategies, and inventory management.
- He should possess leadership qualities and excellent communication skills. What we are looking for is an innovative and high horsepower professional who will develop and inspire a live-wire sales and marketing team to achieve the company's growth targets.
- He must be able to maintain an excellent relationship with the environment particularly at the top level in both the Public and Private Sectors.
- The desired age is around 45 years with a minimum of 5 years in marketing of consumer products, preferably motor vehicles, in a senior management position.
- The position reports to the Managing Director.
- The compensation package for this key position is liberal and will be no constraint for the right candidate.
- Complete confidentiality will be maintained and no reference will be made without agreement.
- If you think you are the right candidate, you should send your application, C. V. together with 2 passport size photos to Box No D-147 C/o Daily Star By 25-2-95.

World renowned ESAB technology now in Bangladesh

BOL ESAB

Bangladesh Oxygen Limited (BOL) has recently signed a technical assistance agreement with ESAB AB of Sweden, who is the largest welding product manufacturer in the world.

Under the agreement, ESAB will provide technical assistance to BOL for operation of its manufacturing plant. ESAB will also provide technical know-how and manufacturing support for all types of electrodes.

The agreement gives BOL access to the world's best source of technological expertise in welding business.

ADCOM/BOL'95