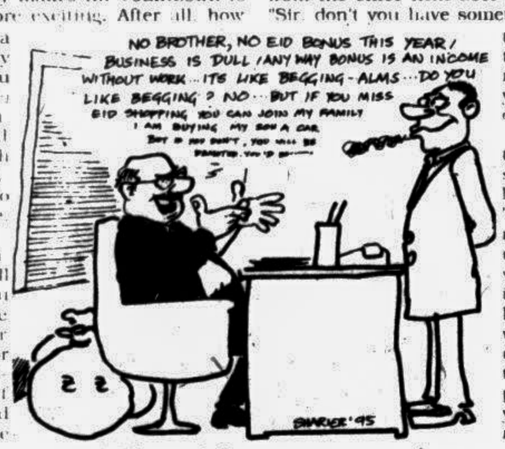
Dhaka Day by Day

An Eid Bonus is a Bonus

by Lamis Hossain

Most of us are elated as Eid approaches, but for employers the period is a bit trying. For no apparent reason at all, employees will start hanging around after working hours, and past employees will turn up to wish their ex-paymasters well after a year-long absence. Have you, "the Boss," suddenly become popular or do you detect an "Eid bonus" look on their expectant faces?

Whether it is politically correct or not, the sweet smell of money makes the countdown to Eid just a little more exciting. After all, how often can you get a whole month's salary (or 25 per cent if you are less fortunate) without working? Imagine if you earned Tk 23,000 a month and were given an extra month's pay to spend as you like. Heaven.



The Eid bonus enables you to buy all the little things you are expected to give others: Punjabi for your dad, saree for your mom, and limitless amounts of makeup for your maid servant. If you are young and vain, you may quite understandably end up spending the entire dosh on yourself. Unless you are unimaginably stingy or very practical, there is little chance of keeping the bonus safe in the bank.

But time is of the essence when it comes to Eid bonuses. What is the point of getting the pay packet one day before Eid? The whole purpose of the extra cash is to enable you to spend it on shopping, in case your normal month's salary has already been depleted on mundane things like food and telephone bills.

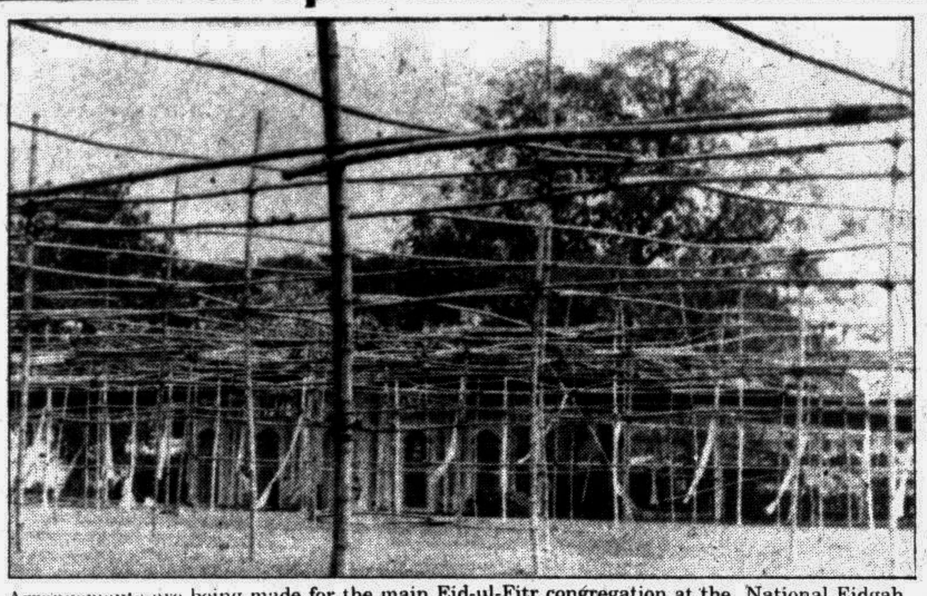
When an employer fails to hand out the salary packet on time, the docile employees hanging around after work start looking more like vultures zooming in on the pickings. The bonus is not seen as a discretionary benefit but a right engraved on stone. For those who receive a paltry salary, the bonus assumes an all-important role. It is obviously not a matter to be taken lightly, judging by the brief news items headlined, "Workers Demand Bonus" appearing in the week's newspapers.

It is not only your immediate employees who will expect an extra something. The peons from the office next door may have plans too. "Sir, don't you have something for us too?" After all, they do give their *salaams* every morning as they see you stride past their office.

But you don't have to be an employer, strictly speaking, to be subject to the "Give me a bonus" routine. The street urchins loitering on various traffic islands in Dhaka are an old hand at this. They will come running up to your car even if they know you never pay a paisa. The kids you see daily and ignore every time, will spring a new story on you, "Apa, please give me some taka. I want to buy a new shirt for Eid." You may eye them rather dubiously, but it is hard to spurn the cheeky brats.

If you think all this bonus business is too materialistic, you should go to Malaysia. Kids there get crispy new notes in colourful envelopes on Eid (Hariraya) day. It may not be very spiritual, but the ecstatic look on the young faces is an experience in itself.

Employers on second thought, are not so unfortunate: They get to award themselves as much bonus as they like and keep grinning all year. Happy Eid.



Arrangements are being made for the main Eid-ul-Fitr congregation at the National Eidgah Maidan in the city yesterday. — Star photo

King of Morocco greeted

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday felicitated King Hassan II of Morocco on the occasion of the national day of his country, reports BSS.

In a message, President Biswas expressed his confidence that the friendly ties binding the two brotherly countries will be further strengthened in the years to come.

In another message Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia noted with admiration the king's contribution.

She wished personal well-being and longlife of King Hassan and peace, progress and prosperity of the brotherly people of Morocco.

Female Language Teacher Trainee for English Required

Do you have a good background of the English Language?

Do you have the following profile?

- Proven communications skill in English
- Creative and imaginative
- A lively sense of humour

And do you satisty the following requirements?

- A graduate degree
- A good command of spoken and written English
- Willing to undertake a long term job opportunity

BRAC is willing to consider employing you to join a team of English Language Teachers.

You will be responsible for designing and conducting English Language Courses for BRAC staff and other development professionals in Bangladesh.

If employed, you may be sent overseas to attend a short teachers' training course.

Please apply with detailed CV by March 25, 1995.

Personnel Department, BRAC, 66 Mohakhali C/A
Dhaka 1212

BRAC

Epidemic death of bees endangers apiculture

The apiculturists of Dhaka, Manikganj, Gazipur and Tangail districts are facing serious problems due to the death of bees at an alarming rate, reports UNB.

Some apiculturists said during the last week at least one crore bees died in the 200 camps of the villagers of these districts due to indiscriminate use of adulterated and cheap pesticides in the blossoming mango trees and vegetable cropfields.

Some specialists said the bees are dying epidemically due to food poisoning while collecting honey.

After experiment over the dead and infected bees the Entomology department of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute could not find out the reason of massive death of bees but suspected that it might be the reaction of insecticides and not any particular disease.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) and several non-government voluntary organisations have trained up 2000 young men over apiculture in the seven districts.

Different NGOs have disbursed Tk 30 lakh among the trained apiculturists and they informed the trained youths have collected 7000 kg honey worth Tk 15 lakh from 200 honeycombs of four districts.

One NGO representative expressed fear that the apiculture would be ruined if the queen-bees die massively, and added many useful insects are dying every year due to indiscriminate use of low quality insecticides.

The apiculturists said, it is possible to collect honey worth Tk one crore in the country during the mustard cultivation season alone.

The apiculturists urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to save the apiculture from destruction.

Projects of 3 ministries reviewed

A high-level meeting yesterday reviewed the progress of different projects of the Ministries of Women's Affairs, Social Welfare, and Youth and Sports under the Annual Development Programme (ADP), reports UNB.

The meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the International Conference Centre (ICC), also discussed steps to accelerate the pace of implementation of the projects in order to complete cent percent work under the revised ADP within the current fiscal year.

16 projects of the Women's Affairs Ministry, 16 of the Social Welfare Ministry and 25 of the Youth and Sports Ministry are under implementation during fiscal 1994-95, meeting sources said.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, State Minister for Planning M Moyeen Khan, State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain and State Minister for Women's Affairs Sarwari Rahman, State Minister for Social Welfare Fazlur Rahman and senior officials of the ministries concerned attended the meeting.

Military contingent returns Mar 3

Members of the Bangladesh military contingent in the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM-II) will return home on March 3, in accordance with UN decisions, an ISPR press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

They will arrive at the Zia International Airport by three special UN chartered flights.

Conference

The 13th annual conference of the Bangladesh Society of Microbiology will be held on March 31, instead of March 10, due to unavoidable reasons, reports BSS.

The conference will start at 9.00 am at the BARC auditorium at Farm Gate.

Princess Anne to visit British funded projects

Princess Anne will visit some British funded projects during her forthcoming trip to Bangladesh, British High Commission sources here said yesterday, reports UNB.

The President of Save the Children Fund is due to arrive here on March 6 on a four-day visit. She will inspect the Fund's projects in Dinajpur, Jessore and Khulna districts.

Save the Children Fund is the largest global humanitarian organisation operating in more than 50 countries.

Queen Elizabeth II is the patron of the orgnisation founded after the second world war to look after war victim children.

The Princess is expected to call on President Abdur Rahman Biswas and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia during her visit.

She will leave here for Colombo on March 9.

Int'l Women's Day Mar 8

By Staff Correspondent

The International Women's Day Observance Committee has planned elaborate programmes to observe the International Women's Day on March 8.

The programme includes bring out of torch procession from Dhanmondi playing ground at 6 pm on March 7 and colourful rally from Bangla Motor area at 9 am on March 10.

Besides, the committee will also arrange different programmes in Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Jessore, Magura, Meherpur, Cox's Bazar, Ghatail (Tangail), Shariakandi (Bogra), Syedpur and Bhashala (Sherpur).

Boirala Bridge opens to traffics

The 305 feet Boirala Bridge over the River Boirala on Netrakona-Madan road linked with Antpara is now open to traffic, reports BSS.

The three span steel bridge on permanent concrete structure, having 400 feet approach road at Netrokona end and 300-feet approach road at Madan end was constructed at a cost of Taka 1.13 crore in less than two years.

The bridge has linked Antpara and Madan thanas with the district headquarters of Netrakona and established an uninterrupted road-link with Dhaka to directly benefit about two lakh people for marketing of their agri, dairy and poultry products.

Research centre floated

By Staff Correspondent

A 17-member executive committee of the newly formed Issues and Policies Research Centre (IPRC) has been recently announced with Amanullah Khan and Saleh Shibli as Chairman and Secretary General respectively.

The other office bearers of the research based social organisation include Kamrul Islam, Selim Hossain, Ilias Khan, Mahful Rahman, Anwar Al Din, Giasuddin Rimon and others.

Weather

Rain, gusty wind likely

Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Barisal, Chittagong divisions and the regions of Dhaka, Khulna and Faridpur during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

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

The day temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged.

In its outlook for subsequent two days the Met Office predicted a little change. Giving extended outlook for another five days weathermen forecast thunder weather.

Meantime, Sylhet experienced 10 mm rain and Barisal 6 mm shower yesterday.

Yesterday's highest temperature 32.2 degrees Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest 14.5 degrees at Dinajpur.

The sun sets today at 6:01 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:19 am.

Raushan Ershad, the former First Lady and member of the Jatiya Party presidium taking iftar with inmates of the Salimullah Muslim Orphanage in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Military Engineer Services

Notice of Tender

1. Applications are invited by DW & CE (Air) Kurmitola, Dhaka Cantt. to issue of tender documents for the following works. Application for the respective work must be submitted within seven days from the publishing date:
   a) Construction of Road including provn of water and electric supply at Zahurul Haque, Ctg.
   b) Construction of Taxi-way including extension of ORP at Zahurul Haque, Ctg.
2. Contractors enlisted in MES 'A', 'B' & 'C' may apply for tender documents. They should spellout their class of enlistment index number & formation in the application.
3. VAT registration certificate (true copy) must be enclosed with their application.

ISPR/Biman/95/328
DFP-5077-1/3
G-326

WORLD BANK VACANCY

Position: Office Technology Assistant

The job: Under the direct supervision of the Computer Systems Manager, the OT Assistant is responsible to provide the first level technical support to the users of office technology in the Resident Mission. Responsibilities will include solving the full range of IT/OT problems. The problems span hardware, software, local and wide area data communications.

Qualification: The successful candidate will be a Bangladeshi national holding a Diploma/Degree in computer sciences or a related discipline and having a strong command of spoken and written English. He/she will have at least 5 years of relevant experience - preferably in an international organization.

Position level: The position is that of a senior support level grade of the UN System.

Availability: The successful candidate should be available on April 1, 1995.

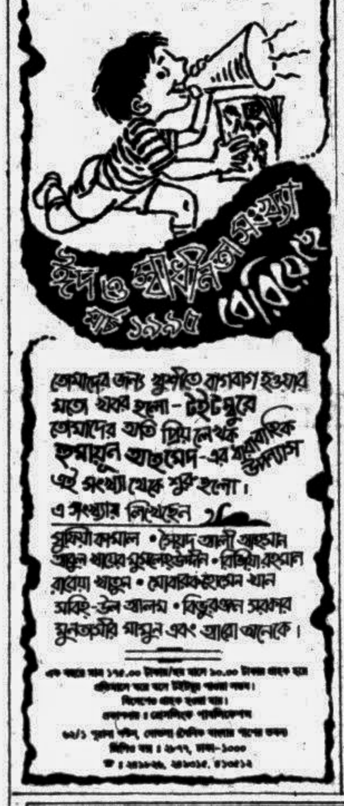
Applications should include names of work related references.

Deadline: Applications will be received no later than March 15, 1995.

Application should be addressed to:

The World Bank
Resident Mission Bangladesh
(Ref. OT Assistant)
3A Paribagh, Dhaka 1000

শিশু কিশোর পত্রিকা
মাসিক
টইটম্বুর



তোমাদের জন্য কুসুমিত বাগবাগ হওয়ার মতো খবর হলো - টইটম্বুরে তোমাদের অতি প্রিয় লেখক হুমায়ূন আহমেদ-এর ধারাবাহিক উপন্যাস এই সংখ্যা থেকে শুরু হলো।
এ সংখ্যায় লিখছেন
মুনিয়া কামাল • সৈয়দ আলী আহসান • আবুল খায়ের মুসলেহউদ্দীন • রাশিদা বেগম • রাবেয়া খাতুন • মোবারক হোসেন খান • আবিদ-উল-আলম • বিভুরঞ্জন সরকার মুনতাসীর মামুন এবং আরো অনেকে।

Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited

Training Programme on Company Secretarial Practice

Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited (DSE) has decided to introduce a specialized training programme on Company Secretarial Practice designed to provide training on different aspects of Company Secretarial Practice e.g. Company Law, Company Secretarial Matters, Shares and Share Transfers, Meetings, Law of Contracts, functions related to Stock Exchange, Banking and Insurance, Accounts and Reports, Industrial Relations, Office Organization and Personnel Management and similar other functions that company secretaries or equivalent ranking executives are assigned to perform. The programme will also be open to interested senior executives of other organizations/associations as also to fresh university post graduates in Commerce, Law, Business Administration, Economics, Management, Finance or Accounts with excellent academic distinctions and are interested to pursue career as company secretaries.

The programme, containing a number of successive 6-week courses, will be conducted under DSE management. Lectures will begin at 17:30 hours and will end at 20:30 hours with three classes every day working 4 days a week Monday through Thursday. The faculty will consist of distinguished speakers on respective subjects. The actual time frame of individual courses will be communicated as soon as the course-wise batches of participants are finalized. The course fee per participant is Tk 4,000/-.

Companies/organizations interested in this important training for their company secretaries and similar professionals are requested to send their nominations, and individuals to apply in plain paper, on or before the 25th March 1995 addressed to the Course Secretary, Training Programme on Company Secretarial Practices, Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited, DSE Building (Ground Floor), 9F, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000 giving full particulars of the proposed participants. For further details, please contact the Course Secretary (Phone 868156-62) between 2 pm to 5 pm on any working day.

D-235

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Local Government Engineering Department, District-Sylhet

Tender Notice

No. 22/Civil/94-95

Memo No:- LGED/EE/Sylhet/Civil/5-96/94-95 Dated: 09.02.95

a) Sealed tenders are hereby invited for execution of the following scheme of FY: 1994-95 under LGED, District-Sylhet from the valid pre-qualified /Enlisted Contractors/Construction Firms of LGED in accordance to their respective financial limit in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 along with additional terms and conditions attached to this tender notice and with tender schedule for the works. Contrators/Construction Firms should have to produce valid Pre-qualification/Enlistment documents along with the tender. Tender schedule could be purchased from the office of the undersigned; Superintending Engineer, Training, 7/4, Lalmatia, Block-A, Dhaka 1207, Zonal Manager Zonal Training Centre, Department of Youth Development, Shahjalal Upshahar, Sylhet & Deputy Commissioner, Sylhet, up to 11th March, 1995, during office hours. Tender will be received up to 01:30 pm of 12th March, 1995 in the specified Tender boxes of the above mentioned offices and will be opened within 02:00 pm on the same day in presence of contractors or their authorized representatives.

b) In the tender schedule itemwise realistic unit rate supported by details analysis should be mentioned both in words and in figures. Tender will not be acceptable if the quoted rates are not considered reasonably workable by the authority.

c) Contractors /Construction firms should have to submit a list of works along with contract value completed by him/firm within last 5 (Five) financial years as a document dictating his/their capabilities/experiences for timely execution of this scheme as per schedule & specification.

d) Earnest Money (Security) @ 2.50% (Two point five per cent) on the basis of total quoted amount must be submitted along with the tender in the form of BD/CD (Bank branch-Sylhets Pourashava area) from any recognised Scheduled Commercial Bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Sylhet. The successful tenderer will have to deposit security @ 10% (Ten per cent) of total quoted amount in the form of Bank Guarantee from any recognised Scheduled Commercial Bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, LGED, Sylhet, within 3 (Three) working days from the day it has been asked for. Security Deposit (SD) will be refunded after 12 (twelve) months from the completion date of the scheme provided all other terms and conditions allows full/partial refund of the SD money.

e) Govt. decisions related to VAT, Income Tax, etc. will be effective for the tenderers.

f) This notice is precised. Other information regarding the tender bid in question could be collected from the office of the undersigned during office hour.

Authority reserves the right to accept any of the tender or reject all the tenders without showing any reason thereof.

Scheme No	Name of the Scheme	Cost of tender document (Tk)	Time for completion (days)
CD-1/94-95	Construction of the Administrative-Cum-Hostel Building of the Zonal Training Centre, under the Thana Resource Development & Employment Project (TRDEP) of the Department of Youth Development, District-Sylhet. For the FY 1994-95.	7,000/-	360

DFP-4682-25/2
G-325

Md Lokman Hakim
Executive Engineer LGED, Sylhet.