

Dhaka Day by Day

The Poor Man's Mobile Toy Shop

by Samia Islam

Abdus Sobhan is a welcome sight in the Baily road area. He is sort of a pied piper for the street kids but his popularity is certainly not limited among them. He is as big a favourite among the children from the middle class. The joy that overcomes these kids when they spot him approaching can not be described or compared. What does this man do, then? He is engaged in a profession that probably is non-existent in any other part of the world. He peddles locally made cheap and innovative toys that he carries on a frame on his shoulders. He is a compact toy shop that goes to you and not the other way round. He appeals to children of varying age groups so he has a broad client base. There are rambo guns, waterguns, tops, boomerang look-alikes that don't necessarily work, masks, little replica kitchen utensils, balls, toy telephones, plastic bow and arrows, baby rattles and what-not. In short, he is a toy connoisseur's delight.



Trading delight for a pittance. — Star photo

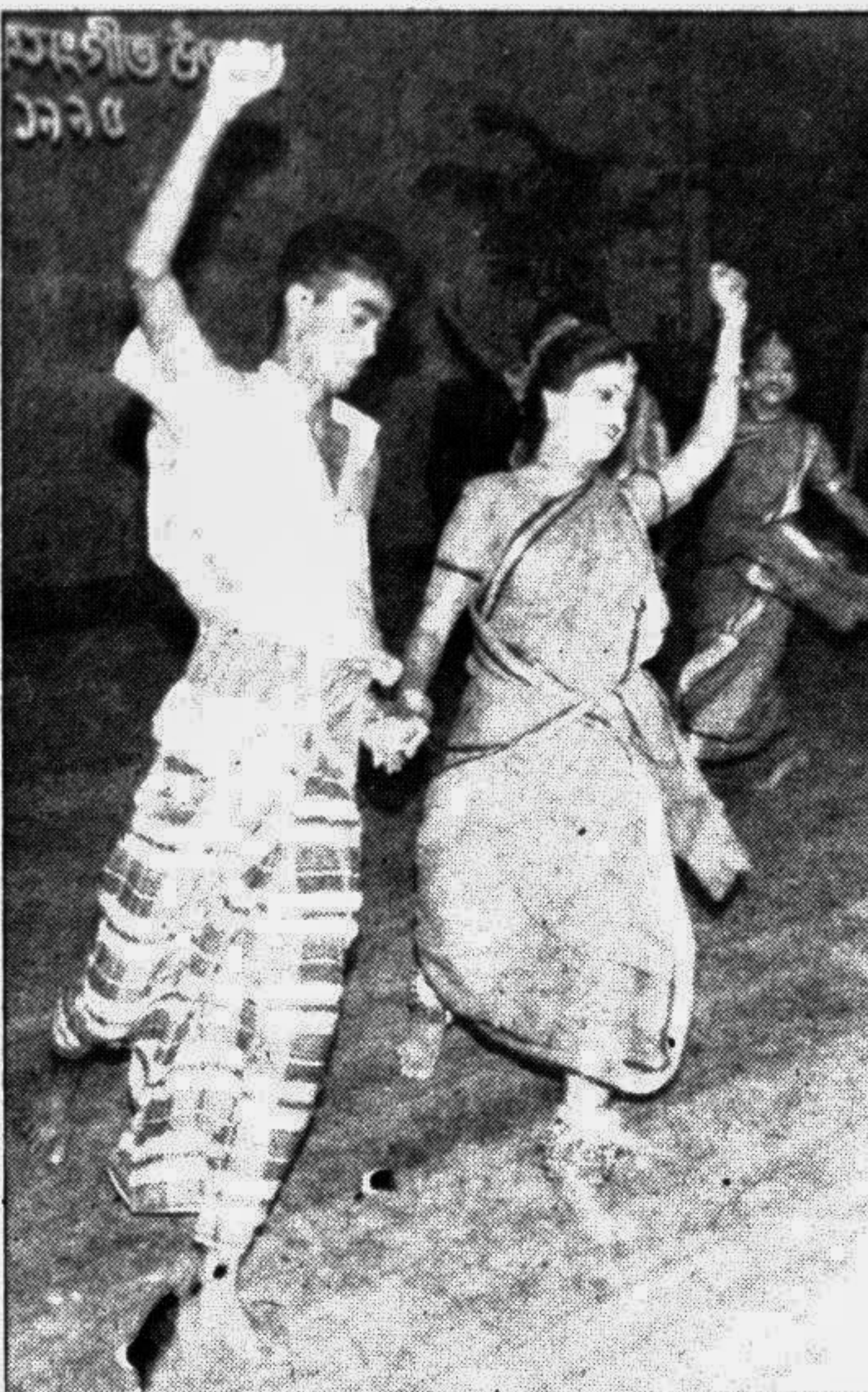
Originally from Faridpur, Sobhan came to Dhaka when he was about the age of his clients. What little landed property he has in Faridpur was never quite enough to sustain a family, so he ventured out on his own to seek his fortune in this city of perennial hope. Since his arrival to Dhaka he has been associated with this trade in one way or the other. He chose this as it required little capital and seemed to provide enough for his growing family's needs. He invested about Tk. 1,000 initially and earns an average of Tk 80 a day. Is that enough? He smiles in modesty and

nods his head. He adds that if it was not then he would hardly stick to this business for almost 13 years.

He lives in the capital now with his wife and three daughters. The eldest who is eight goes to school but the middle daughter, as is the situation in most cases, turned out to be the proverbial problem-child. She refuses to go to school because she says she can't remember her lessons, explains the hapless father with an apologetic smile on his lips.

Seeing his reluctance in divulging further secrets of his life, I looked around for something that I could take home for cousins and siblings. The water gun caught my fancy but it could turn out to be a menace in my own house so I opted for Tk 4-rambo gun instead and a what chamacallit thingumajig that flies into the air when you tug at a string with enough force. He demonstrated the gadgets without a care in the world about these getting squashed under the tyres of some passing car or Paiero. Afterwards, I can't imagine why he gave me concessions without being asked to. Dhaka still has miracles hidden in its deepest recesses.

What could he tell us about the hardships in this line of business — not much since he doesn't seem to be a person for hassles. He couldn't think of anything that could possibly go wrong when one is dealing with 6 to 12-year-olds. Even in this city of delinquency and indiscipline people like him find nothing to complain about. Strange, is not!



A sequence of a dance drama by the Jhankar Shilpi Goshthi at the Shilpakala Academy on the second day yesterday of the week-long folksong festival. — Star photo

Subsidiary subjects to go from 13 depts DU move to revise honours system in Arts Faculty

The Dhaka University Arts Faculty will introduce an integrated course system for its 13 departments from 1994-95 session to upgrade the standard of honours degrees, reports UNB.

In the new integrated system honours and its allied subjects will have equal status, abolishing the present system of subsidiary subjects. From now on, a student has to secure 60 per cent and 45 per cent marks in both honours and the allied subjects to obtain getting First Class and Second Class respectively.

A student could till now get a First Class honours degree with a minimum of 33 per cent marks in subsidiary subjects.

The new system will contain a total of 1500 marks in the three years honours course — in the first year 500 marks, and in the third 500. Tutorial and viva-voice will cover the rest of the 100 marks.

Talking to the agency, the Dean of the Arts Faculty Prof Aminul Islam said, "it is an essential requirement in the press time".

"Our courses of study has been designed to enable students of the honours departments to other comprehensive knowledge in a number of subjects, in addition to their respective honours subjects," Prof Aminul Islam added.

New Tk 100 prize bonds from July 2

By Staff Correspondent

Prize bonds of Tk 100 denomination will be released from July 2, instead of the prize bonds of Tk 10 and Tk 50 denominations which are currently in circulation, says a press release of the Bangladesh Bank.

The new bonds would go on sale at all offices of the Bangladesh Bank, all commercial banks, the specialised banks, the National Savings Bureau, and all head and sub-post offices.

The first draw of the new prize bonds would be held on October 31 this year. The draws would then be held after every three months — in January 31, and April 30, July 31 and October 31 of the next year.

The first prize of every series of the new prize bonds will be worth Tk 10 lakh, second prize Tk 5 lakh, two third prizes Tk one lakh each, four fourth prizes Tk 50,000 each, 12 fifth prizes Tk 25,000 each and 30 sixth prizes Tk 10,000 each.

The lottery winners can claim their prizes by filling a form and attaching the bond to it within two years of the draw from any scheduled bank.

The prize money will be free from any taxation.

Prize bonds of Tk 10 and Tk 50 can be changed to prize bonds of Tk 100 or encashed from the Bangladesh Bank, the National Savings Bureau, post offices or any scheduled bank.

No prize bonds of Tk 10 and Tk 50 denominations have been released since June 15.

Hindu-Christian body meets EC

A delegation of the Bangladesh Hindu-Christian Oikya Parishad yesterday exchanged views with the Chief Election Commissioner on the preparation on the on-going preparation of voters list, reports BSS.

The delegation urged the Election Commissioner (EC) to make the voters list free from any irregularities and enumerate the Bangladeshis living abroad.

They also urged the EC to promulgate rules to stop the use of communalism in the election campaigns.

The Chief Election Commissioner Justice A KM Shaukat told the delegation that their suggestions would be considered.

Affidavit

I, Mahe Jabeen, daughter of Mr. Abul Mansur Fazli Hussain of Chandanpura, 128, Nawab Sirajuddollah Rd, Chittagong, state that the name of my father had been inadvertently written as "Fazli Allem" in my SSC/HSC/BA examination forms and I have corrected it by an affidavit before a Notary Public. Hence my father's name in the aforesaid forms and whatever documents thereafter may be read as Abul Mansur Fazli Hussain instead of "Fazli Allem."

Mahe Jabeen

ATTENTION GARMENT ENTREPRENEUR

VEIT Saves Times All over the world

vet Pressing for Excellence From Germany

We are pleased to inform you that Mr. GUNTER VEIT President of VEIT GmbH & Co. Germany. He will be in Dhaka from 19th to 21st June '95. You are welcome for open discussion from 9. A.M. To 6 P.M.

SOLE AGENT IN BANGLADESH MINHAZ CONTINENTAL AGENCIES LIMITED (HOUSE OF QUALITY PRODUCTS) A CONCERN OF MINHAZ GROUP JIBAN BIMA TOWER (9TH FLOOR), 10, DILKUSHA C/A, DHAKA-1000, BANGLADESH. TEL: 864819, 865576, 240717, 230984



CAREER IN ADVERTISING

The number one advertising agency of Bangladesh is looking for Executives in the Client Service Department.

The applicants (female/male) should have a minimum higher Second Class Degree in Business Administration, Architecture, English, International Relations, Public Administration or Economics.

Fluency in written and spoken English is essential.

Keen sense of observation, strong aptitude for creative work, drive and initiative would be considered as added qualifications. The right persons may also be trained abroad.

None need apply who is not desirous of making a career in advertising.

Excellent terms await the right candidates.

Please apply in confidence to:

Box No. A-51
C/o: The Daily Star
Not later than June 25, 1995

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Gonoshahajjo Sangstha (GSS)
41, Sir Syed Ahmed Road
Dhaka-1207

GSS is looking for applicants for the position of Coordinator for their Research & Monitoring Unit.

This position involves putting a computerised monitoring system in place for three large field programmes (Education, Social Mobilisation & Development, Advocacy) in terms of both performance and impact. Achievement and impact indicators will have to be reviewed in the light of current research in this field. The Coordinator will be responsible for sample selection, questionnaire development, supervision of data collection and analysis, and the preparation of periodic monitoring and evaluation reports.

Candidates must have proven experience in managing a fast growing research/monitoring unit, a research background including a PhD in a social science subject and substantive publications in national/international journals. The position will be supported by computer programmers.

This position carries an attractive compensation package. Interested persons are invited to send their curriculum vitae, with a detailed description of their experience, to the above address by June 29 1995.

BDRCS team sent to Sylhet

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) yesterday sent a large quantity of relief goods to the flood-affected areas of greater Sylhet, said a press release, reports BSS.

The relief goods include rice, pulse, used garments, edible oil, medicines and oral salines.

The BDRCS has been keeping constant contact with the local units of the society in the greater Sylhet zone.

The society will send more relief goods after the assessment of the damage and destruction by the flash flood.

The relief goods would be distributed in the affected areas including Sylhet, Sunamganj and Moulvibazar.

The members of the executive committee of the local units, volunteers and members of the Youth Red Crescent will help carry out the relief operation.

Seminar on moral development

CHITTAGONG, June 18: The Chittagong University Management Department today organised a seminar on "A Proposal to the United Nations on Moral Development Approach a New World Order for Peace" at the Department said a press release, reports BSS.

The keynote paper was presented by Dr Abu Obaidul Huque, professor and director of the Bangladesh Institute for Advancement of Science and Technology Teaching (IASTT).

Dr. Huque in his paper said morality is the key to curb problems of AIDS, poverty, population control, violation of human rights, environment pollution, oppression on women, terrorism, drug abuses and smoking.

Teachers from different universities and colleges attended the seminar.

Saifur visits flood-hit areas

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday visited flood affected areas under Sylhet sadar, Goainghat, Companiganj and Jaintapur thana of the district, reports BSS.

State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Harun-Al-Rashid and Khondaker Abdul Malek MP accompanied the Finance Minister.

During his day-long visit the Finance Minister talked to the local people and distributed cash and relief materials among the victims. 26 temporary relief camps have been setup to mitigate the sufferings of the flood victims in these areas.

Saifur Rahman assured the affected people that the government would do whatever possible to mitigate their sufferings.

17,000 perform Hajj this year

A total of 16,717 performed Hajj this year, said an official announcement yesterday, reports UNB.

The meeting discussed the performances of the Hajj Welfare Team and Hajj Medical Team. It decided that more realistic and effective measures would be taken next year to ensure better facilities for the Bangladeshi Hajjis.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Facilities Department
Comilla Zone, Comilla

Tender Notice

Tender Notice No. 57/PSS/Dev/FD/94-95 Date: 6-6-95

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from A1/A2 class contractors of Facilities Department for construction of new class rooms at the undermentioned selected private high schools under Secondary Educational Institutions Development & Rehabilitation (Govt & Private) Project under this zone.

Group No	Name of the Educational Institutions	Name of Thana	Name of District	Estimated cost (in lakh Takas)	Earnest money	Category of project	Time limit for completion of work	Remarks
1.	Joy Nagar High School	Borura	Comilla	7.81	16,000/-	GOB-7	4 months	
2.	Alitola Senior Madrasa			7.81	16,000/-	GOB-M	4 months	
3.	Rajapur Al-Amin Fazil Madrasa	Shahrasti	Chandpur	7.81	16,000/-	GOB-M	4 months	
4.	Chhengarchar High School	Mattlab	Chandpur	7.81	16,000/-		4 months	
5.	Siyatpur High School			7.81	16,000/-	GOB-6	4 months	Retender
6.	Ibinatya High School			7.81	16,000/-	GOB-5	4 months	
7.	ABS Fazil Madrasa	Haimchar		7.81	16,000/-	GOB-M	4 months	
8.	Sachapora BJMA Majid High School	Debidwar		7.81	16,000/-	GOB-7	4 months	
9.	Mayura High School	Nangalkot		5.26	16,525/-	Revenue-2	2.5 months	

B) Last date of purchasing tender document: 26-6-95
C) Date & time of receiving tender document: 27-6-95 up to 12:00 Noon
D) Date & time of opening tender document: 27-6-95 at 12:30 minutes

Intending tenderers can purchase the tender schedule, by applying in their pad, on cash payment of Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (non-refundable) from all the offices of Executive Engineer under Chittagong circle & the office of Assistant Engineer, Chandpur/Baria and submit the tender at the same offices.

Earnest money stated above must be submitted with the tender in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of Executive Engineer, Comilla Zone, Comilla. The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason.

Terms & conditions

- Tender document should be purchased on production of original enlistment register & VAT registration copy.
- Tender quoting rate more than 5% (five per cent) below the estimated cost will be treated as cancelled outright.
- Contractors whose progress of current work is not satisfactory/whose work has been cancelled earlier, cannot participate in this tender.

DFP-14894-12/6
G-94
Executive Engineer

Romeo & Juliet

Somethings just go together!

ANZ Grindlays Bank

WE HAVE PLANZ FOR YOU

ADCOMM/ANZ/18/95