

Dhaka Day by Day Glassware Galore

by Lavina Ambreen Ahmed

When we have a fetish for using everything foreign, it's hardly surprising that the crockeries we use, are most often not, locally made. At least, that's the impression. New Market as well as other well known shopping centres in town gives such an impression. New Market's Singapore/Dubai — or whatever you may call it — market section positively floods with imported items. But perhaps a particular type of glassware is more available than the rest. The regular market goer can't fail to notice the frosted and somewhat translucent burgundy and coffee coloured Indonesian and Malaysian household products, that are not merely confined to normal shops, but are sprawled on the market's walkways and on the overbridge joining the two busy malls, Gawsia and New Market.

Within the last year or so, they have certainly become quite popular with the local consumers. In fact, demand is so high here that one can almost believe that the manufacturing countries are producing them simply for us! About a few weeks back, I went to Singapore Market with my mom. While she was looking for a Teflon frying pan, I was glancing at some cute show pieces. I overheard one salesman trying to convince an exacting customer that the plates she was eyeing up are the 'latest in foreign crockeries: everyone was buying them and she would be making a mistake if she didn't.' Thus one shopper relates her experience.

Turning around one can discover those made-in-Indonesia dishware. To be frank, with all the sparkling crystal and ceramic stuff from overseas lying around nearby, they didn't seem all that special. So, what's their charm? Well, firstly, they are relatively inexpensive, unlike other non-Bangladeshi merchandise. A set of six plates or glasses cost about Tk 150-200. One can also get mugs and bowls

at equally reasonable prices. The denizens might wonder about their easy availability. Several sales people say that the trade barriers have been lifted. Usually heavy tax is imposed on all foreign goods, but the governments have signed a pact making the Indonesian/Malaysian glassware tax-free.

What about the quality? I couldn't help noticing some French dishes right next to them, much lighter but very similar in design. In comparison, the Indonesian ones certainly looked like poor imitations. But the shop-keepers argue that the only reason they seem better are because they are more expensive, the reason of which is attributed to Vat. However, people having used the common crockeries remark that they are not all that impressive or durable, but the price is right for daily use. What's more, they are definitely cheaper than our very own chic and quality Monno and Bengal ceramics. They probably sell so well as they are affordable foreign things and one need not be extra cautious about handling them.

Besides glassware, the *deshti* markets have also generously made room for the Malaysian and Indonesian food products like noodles, ketchup and chocolates, along with other *deshti* stuff. Almost everything from everywhere can be found in our good old cosmopolitan Dhaka city. While, healthy competition can prompt the local entrepreneurs to compete with international standards, the unchecked flow of products from abroad will also thwart any attempt of gaining the local consumers' popularity. After all, we seldom get carried away by patriotism and feel compelled to purchase *deshti* stuff, when their foreign version are available right here and well within our budget.



Awami League leader Abdur Razzak speaking at a discussion on 'Women's Right and Role of Political Parties' in the city yesterday. Representatives from major political parties and NGOs attended the function organised by the Bangladesh Mahila Parishad. — Star photo

Call to screen blood transfusion

By SSMCH Correspondent

A seminar on "Modernisation of Blood Bank in Bangladesh: The role of Sandhani" was held yesterday in the city. Sandhani central committee organised the seminar on the inaugural day of its new office at PG Hospital.

Prof. Mobin Khan, Head of the Department of Liver said 29 per cent of the patients are suffering from Hepatitis B virus due to unscrutinised blood transfusions.

Prof. Harun-ur Rashid, Head of the Department of Nephrology, IPGMR said scientists are trying to invent a substitute for human blood. He further said, without screening we should not transfuse blood.

Prof. Nazrul Islam, Head of the Department of Virology said safe blood transfusion is an important factor for healthy life. He said most of our blood banks do not follow aseptic procedures for blood collection and transfusion, which is extremely necessary for the prevention of Hepatitis B and AIDS. He also said that blood screening programmes will be started in seven hospitals blood banks before April 7

next year. Prof. CH Kabir, Head of the Department of Surgery said "It is better not to go for transfusion of blood if it endangered life."

Prof. Mossarraf Hossain, Head of the Department of Central Blood Transfusion, said within six months sufficient blood bags will be available in our country.

Prof. Mohammed Tahir, Director of IPGMR said blood is not a commercial commodity in the world.

Prof. AK Shamsuddin Siddique, Director General of Health said, the role of Sandhani for voluntary blood donation motivation in the country has created a milestone for the new generation.

Dr. Kamrul Hassan Khan, the keynote speaker urged for the eradication of professional blood donation. He also said Sandhani is playing a pivotal role to motivate voluntary blood donation movement in the country.

Merrill calls on CJ

American Ambassador David N Merrill called on Chief Justice Abu Taher Mohammad Afzal at his office yesterday, reports BSS. They discussed matters of mutual interests.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO TITO BHAI



FARI BU & IMRAN

Appointments, transfers

The government has brought about some changes in the upper tier of the administration.

Additional Secretary of the Health and Family Welfare Ministry, Md Fazur Rahman has been transferred to the Economic Relations Division (ERD).

Member of RAJUK, Morshed Hossain has been appointed joint secretary of the Internal Resources Division (IRD).

Executive director of Crop Diversification Project, Abdul Kader Munshi has been made joint secretary of the Establishment Ministry.

Joint Secretary of the Establishment Ministry, Muhammad Abdul Majid has been posted in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Services of Mir Shabuddin Ahmed, private secretary to the Home Minister has been made commercial counsellor in the Bangladesh High Commission at Pretoria.

'Scrap voting rights of war criminals'

Ganotantrik Jubo Andolon, a youth organisation, brought out a torch procession in the city yesterday evening demanding scrapping of the voting rights of the alleged war criminals, including Jamaat chief Golam Azam, reports UNB.

The organisation also demanded imposition of a ban on participation of the bank loan defaulters in Parliamentary elections.

"Those who gobbled up huge amount of money from banks have no right to be people's representatives," said the Jubo Andolon leaders at a pre-procession rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

Citing examples from different countries, they also said that a war criminal could not be a voter.

The rally was addressed by Jubo Andolon convener Mukhlesur Rahman Mukul and former student leader Staff Ahmed.

Justice Ansar's qulkhwani

The Namaz-e-Janaza of Justice Mohammad Ansar Ali, a judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court who died on Wednesday was held in the Supreme Court premises yesterday, reports BSS.

Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz, Chief Justice ATM Afzal, judges of the Supreme Court, Attorney General Anisul Huq, members of the Supreme Court Bar Association, officers and staffs of the Supreme Court attended the Janaza.

The qulkhwani of Justice Ansar Ali will be held tomorrow after Asr prayers at 10, Kakrail in the city.



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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The Containerised cargo ex. M. V. OCEAN SINCERITY V-76B from Karachi, ex. M.V. VIRA BHUM V-135N from Jakarta, ex. M.V. LIBRA AUSTRALIA V-0166N from Melbourne ex. M.V. NEDLOYD VAN NASSAU V-SWA 5301B from Paranaigua & Sao Francisco have been relayed to M. V. KOTA BINTANG V-BNT049 Import Rotation No. 601/95 Which is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 08-07-1995 from Singapore.

Consignees are requested to take delivery of their cargo from FCL containers within 5 days free time from the date of landing. If the cargo is not cleared within 45 days from landing then the disposal of the cargo will be governed by the relevant Customs Act.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

An USAID intermediary working in Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care (FP-RH) field seeks to recruit following positions on a yearly contractual basis.

- PROGRAM OFFICER:** Based outside Dhaka, will be responsible to develop FP-RH project proposals, refunding proposals, monitoring and providing technical assistance to local level project around the country.
Qualification and Experience: Masters degree (with emphasis on economics/public health/management/demography or statistics) with minimum 5 years experience in similar position with a donor agency or a large NGO. Excellent English writing skill is essential. Must be a skilled computer user. Must be able to undertake extensive travel by public transport. Salary: Negotiable. (Individuals drawing salary below Tk.12,000 need not apply).
- PROGRAM OFFICER (Publication):** Based in Dhaka, will be responsible to creative development of FP-RH related publications, training manuals/curriculum/tools, newsletters, reports including cover design and layout. Responsibility also includes editing documents, translation and oversee distribution.
Qualification and Experience: Minimum Masters degree (Social Sciences/English literature — preference will be given to candidates having schooling in English medium) with minimum 5 years proven experience in similar position. Excellent word processing skill is essential. Must be able to undertake extensive travel by public transport. Salary: Negotiable. (Individuals drawing salary below Tk. 12,000 need not apply).
- PROGRAM OFFICER (Clinical):** Based in Dhaka, will be responsible to develop FP-RH project proposals, refunding proposals, monitoring and providing technical assistance to local level project around the country. Conducting training on clinical contraception and reproductive health care with emphasis on quality of care.
Qualification and Experience: MBBS with minimum 5 years experience in similar position with a donor agency or a large NGO. Excellent English writing skill is essential. Must be a skilled computer user. Must be able to undertake extensive travel by public transport. Salary: Negotiable. (Individuals drawing salary below Tk. 12,000 need not apply).
- SECRETARY:** Will be responsible for typing project proposals, reports, documents, routine correspondence and other regular secretarial duties.
Qualification and Experience: Graduate and Secretarial Course completed. Should have minimum of 3 years experience. Must be skilled and proven user of WP 5.1-6, QPRO 4, HG 3.1 and Dbase. Salary negotiable.
Applicants may send their bio-data with a recent passport size photograph, names of two referees and expected salary by July 15, 1995 to:
The Advertiser, Box No. D-684 C/O. The Daily Star, House No-11, Road No-3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205.

Vacancy Announcement

Position	Coordinator (Accounts)
Duties	Based in Dhaka office but must visit field offices as and when required. Responsible for writing Project Proposal, Preparation of Budget. Assist the Director in financial matter and fund raising Correspondence with Go and NGOs. Overall administration of the financial sector. Organise training on financial management.
Education	Post Graduation (Accountancy) with 3 to 5 years working experience in a reputed organisation. Educational qualification may be relaxed in case of highly experienced candidate. Salary negotiable.
Application	Application for the above position with detailed curriculum vitae together with name & addresses of two referees, should be sent to The Advertiser, Box No. D-685, C/o The Daily Star, House No-11, Road-3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205.

Job Opportunity

Wanted following qualified experienced persons for a reputed Engineering Construction FIRM. Salary and other emoluments as per qualification & experience.

- Project Manager : Graduate in Civil Engineering 12 to 15 years experience.
- Dy. Project Manager : Graduate Civil Engineer 8 to 10 years of experience.
- Asstt. Project Manager : Diploma in Civil Engineering with 10 years experience.
- Material Engineer : Graduate in Civil Engineering 8-10 years experience.
- Accountant : Graduate in Commerce with 5 years experience.
- Chief Mechanic : 15-20 years experience in Heavy Hydraulic equipment.
- Mechanic : 10 years experience in Heavy Hydraulic equipment.

Candidates may apply to the Chairman CPC Ltd, 5/10, Lalmatia Housing Estate, Block-D, Dhaka by 30th July 1995 with full Bio-Data, attested copy of the certificate & experience by Registered Post.

IMMIGRATION TO CANADA

Mr. Khalid Zafar of Canadian Settlement Specialists, a leading Canadian immigration law firm, will be visiting Dhaka from 4 July to 10 July 1995. For a free consultation contact him at the SONARGOAN Hotel. Tel: 811005,812011 Fax: 813324

Saudi - Bangladesh Industrial and Agricultural Investment Company Ltd.

OFFERS FOR TECHNICAL/MARKETING COLLABORATION IN THE FIELD OF MANUFACTURING FINISHED LEATHER & SHOES

Saudi-Bangladesh Industrial and Agricultural Investment Company Limited (SABINCO) a joint venture of the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the People's Republic of Bangladesh has of late taken over the management of one of its financed units engaged in production of crust leather. The unit has capacity to produce 4 million sft of crust leather per year. SABINCO wishes to add facilities to produce finished leather of approximately 4 million sft per year and add facilities to produce approximately 1000 pairs of leather shoes per day.

SABINCO seeks offers for technical and marketing collaboration in the field of finished leather and shoes from the reputed manufacturers and marketing companies of finished leather and shoes. The interested parties should furnish the following information:

- Details of their involvement in the relevant field.
- The terms for the technical and marketing collaboration.

The offer should be sent by 25 July 1995 to the **Manager (monitoring), SABINCO, BSEC Bhaban (5th floor), 102 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka Tel: 815882-5, Fax : 880-2-813512, Tlx : 632134 SABIN BJ.**

AMERICAN EXPRESS BANK

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

American Express Bank Limited, a leading international bank is looking for smart, energetic and young persons in the mid level management position for its marketing department. These are high profile, challenging and growth oriented positions. The ideal candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- Preferably hold an MBA degree.
- In their late twenties/early thirties.
- Experience between 3-7 years in financial institutions.
- Excellent Communication skill in English and Bangla.
- Pleasing and outgoing personality with strong interpersonal and leadership skills.

A very attractive remuneration package will be offered to the selected candidates.

Interested applicants who fulfil the above qualifications and experience may send their detailed resume alongwith an application and a recent passport size photograph to **The Manager Human Resources, American Express Bank Ltd., 18-20 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka not later than July 20, 1995.**

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

A leading international bank wishes to recruit young Bangladeshis of high caliber and outstanding ability for service with its branch network in Bangladesh in the following position:

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE

The candidate must possess at least a higher second class graduation degree (preferably Masters in Business Administration or equivalent degree in Finance or Management) with at least two first division/classes.

The applicants must have good command over both spoken and written Bangla and English. The maximum age limit for the position is 27 years as at June 30, 1995.

The selected candidates will go through a 9-12 months probation during which they will undergo extensive banking training.

The above position provide excellent prospects for personal development and career advancement. The Organisation offers a remuneration package commensurate to the demanding environment.

Candidates who are interested in a banking career and have the drive to work in a competitive environment should apply with a curriculum vitae, a recent passport size photograph, copies of educational certificates and names and addresses of two referees to **G.P.O. Box No.502, Dhaka 1000 by July 31, 1995 with the envelopes addressed to the Manager Human Resources and marked with the name of the position applied for.**

Candidates selected for a preliminary interview, on the basis of initial screening of the CVs will be notified in writing of the venue, date and time of the same. The Bank will not bear any expenses for attending the interviews/tests.

The Bank will only advise successful candidates, those who do not qualify for subsequent stages of he recruitment process will not receive any notification.

The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any application without advising any reason whatsoever.

All applications made to the Bank will be treated in strictest confidence.