

Dhaka Day by Day

Bagging at the Bongo

by Syeda Salma Joya

If one is worried about high summer fashion with Western looks - he or she can just relax and make a visit to the Bongo Market. It definitely can be the solution to one's worries. If one knows what he or she wants and a taste for recent trends - Bongo market is the place to shop at where picking is an art.

The clothes there are both loved and loathed. One can find the most chic items as well as clothes that are unflattering and old fashioned. The good part is one can be amazed at the variety available there. From slip dresses to creased clothes, viscose skirts to velvet trousers everything can be found. If you are interested in labels, you can even find culotte made for French connection! The price too is likely to be low compared to what it would cost at the right locale. For men, there are jeans for a couple of hundred taka. Unless, one is interested in Levis jeans for Taka 10,000 from Japan. One can also find band-collared 100% cotton shirts to regular formal shirts to gauzy shirts made of imported jute materials. It is the price rather than the availability which actually attracts the customers.

If the shopkeeper asks for a hundred for a pair of pyjamas you can actually bargain it for fifty to sixty taka only. It is the technique that matters. But you have to watch out what language you communicate with. If you are a non-Bengali, they will know how to win you over and a couple of dollars may sound good to you for a cotton shirt if compared to how much you would have paid back home. But with the price of one cotton shirt abroad you could end up with loads here.

Recently, a cousin of mine was here on vacation and she just could not wait until I took her to Bongo, because she apparently

had already heard so much about it back home.

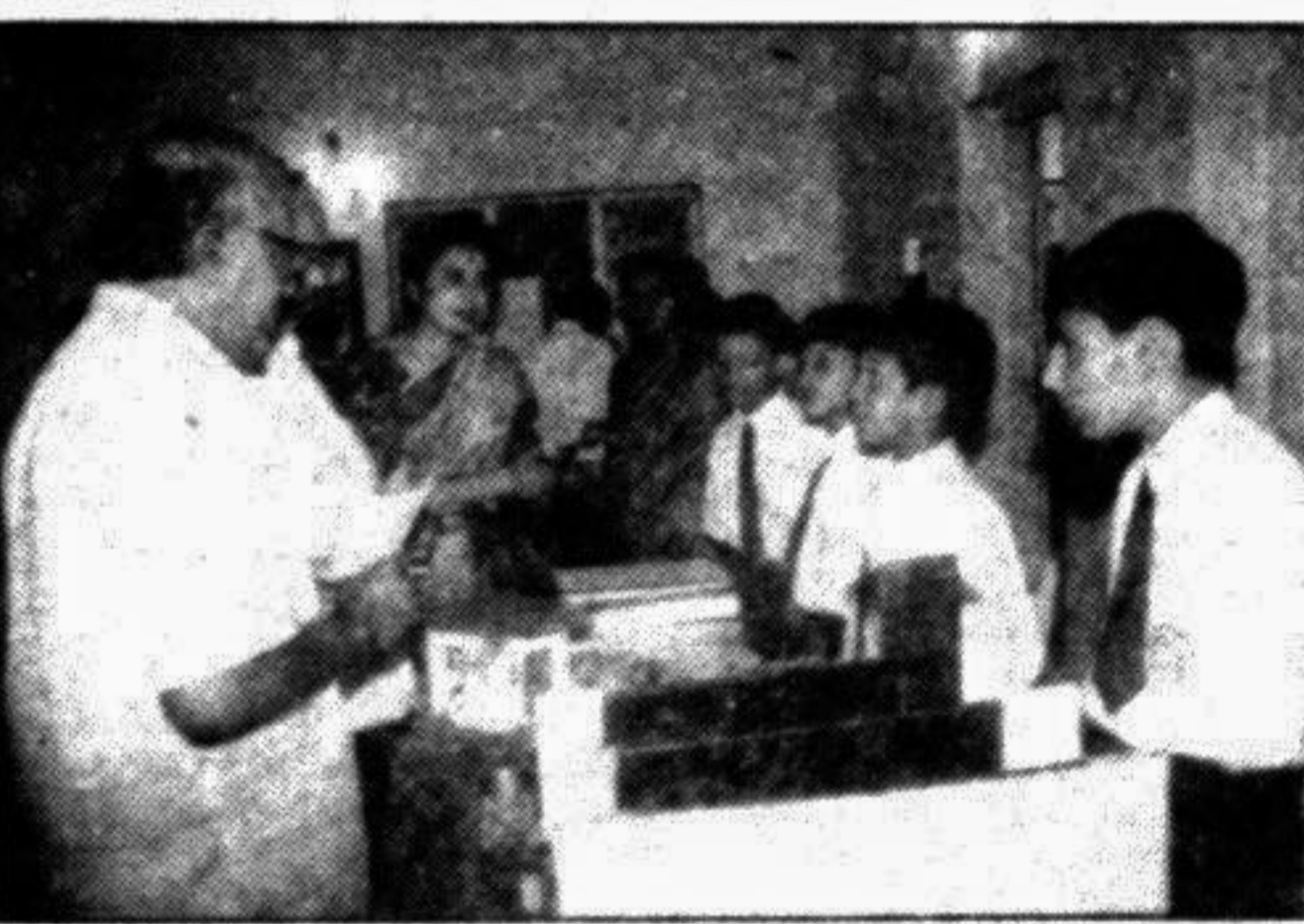
Well, it was not hard to find her type of clothes and do the bargaining since I go there often. She was immensely pleased at first to get two velvet trousers for Taka 150 each only. It was beyond her imagination that it would actually be so cheap. We also bought long viscose dresses for Taka 150 to 180 which could actually cost you £ 24.99 in the UK. We were also thrilled to get jute shirts for Taka 160 each, although, I realized later that I could actually get them for hundred each. And a 100% cotton bustier for Tk. 50 only was too much of a giveaway, literally.

Well, she is not the only person I have known to be blissfully happy to shop there. In fact every visitor have known in the last couple of years has had his or her bags of style filled at the Bongo and went back grinning.

The bargaining can be so interesting here. From the locals, the shopkeepers do not have much to ask for since the customers are aware of the market situation. Clothes are so available and cheap at this place that it is actually becoming a trend in Dhaka amongst the teens to don themselves in clothes from the Bongo. But this does not mean that you become a regular and uninteresting in the Bongo attire. Quality and design, however, does vary and you certainly can discriminate yourself if you have a different taste.

You may, however, be shocked to find one urban sister of yours residing at the University hostel wearing the same kind of skirt you wore to your friend's birthday party last night.

CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY! IT WAS MADE FOR ARNOLD SWARTZNIGGER! LUCKILY IT CAME TO THIS BONGO MARKET!



Students of the Eton International School displaying their creations at the annual science fair held at the school premises yesterday. — Eton photo

Science fair at Eton Int'l School

By Staff Correspondent
The annual science fair '95 of the Eton International School was held at the school premises in the city recently. Some 200 students of the school participated in the fair displaying a total of 45 scientific projects. Two officials of the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission acted as judges during the occasion. Some best projects were awarded.

Inner Wheel donates crutches

Inner Wheel Club of Dilkusha has recently undertaken a programme to donate crutches among poor disabled patients, says a press release.

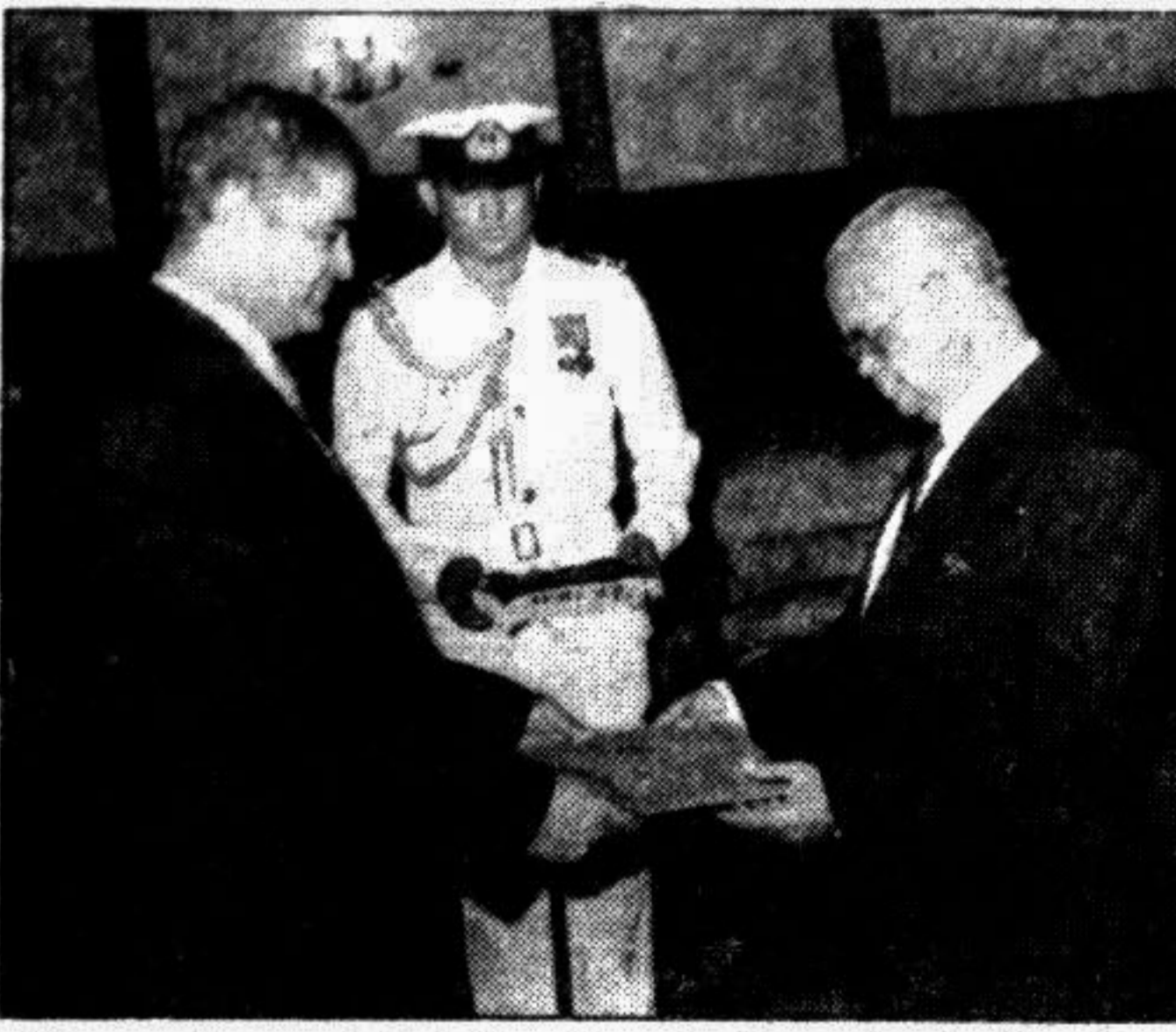
The Club in co-operation with Ornesha Welfare Trust distributed crutches at Orthopaedics Hospital in the city recently.

Shahar Banu made AFMR president

Shahar Banu Salam, member, Society for the Care and Education of the Mentally Retarded, Bangladesh (SCEMRB) was elected president of the Asian Federation of the Mentally Retarded (AFMR) for '95-'97, says a press release.

The election was held at the 12th Asian Conference on Mental Retardation (ACMR) held in Sri Lanka recently. Bangladesh will host the 13th Asian Conference on Mental Retardation (ACMR) added the press release.

A 38-member delegation of SCEMRB attended the conference, added the press release.



The newly-appointed Egyptian Ambassador to Bangladesh Osama Mohamed Tawfik presented credentials to President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday. — PID photo

What's on today . . .

Rapport award ceremony: The certificate award ceremony of a number of management courses will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 7:30 pm. Chief guest: Mir Showkat Ali, Minister for Labour and Manpower.

Sandhani convention: The fourth biennial convention of the organisation will be held. Venue: BIRDEM auditorium. Time: 9:30 am. Chief guest: Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Food and Agriculture Minister.

Garments Workers' Fed: National Garments Workers' Federation will hold a rally and a torch procession. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 6 pm.

Lions Club of Dhaka Lalbagh: The monthly board of director's meeting and the regular meeting will be held. Venue: Kastari Hotel. Time: 7 pm.

Asiatic Society: The National professor Atwar Hussain Trust Fund Lecture '95 will be held. Venue: Seminar room of the society. Time: 4:30 pm. Speaker: Dr Nasreen Khundker, associate professor, Economics Dept, DU.

Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka: The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5 pm.

Theatre workshop: Centre for Asian Theatre will organise the workshop. Venue: Goethe Institut, Juni Dhar will conduct the workshop. On invitation.

French film show: The film 'Les Biches' will be screened. Venue: Alliance Francaise. Time: 6 pm.

Naval Commando Assoc: The first national conference of Bangladesh Naval Commando Association will be held. Venue: National Press Club auditorium. Time: 9 am. Chief guest: Air Vice Marshal (rtd) A K Khandakar, Bir Uttam.

Pioneer VOA Fan Club: The regular monthly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: 16/1, Nayapaltn. Time: 7 pm.

Faridabad VOA Fan Club: The club will organise a tree plantation programme. Venue: Monija Rahman Girls' High School premises. Time: 9 am. Chief guest: Scientist Abdul Khaleq.

Rotary Club of Dilkusha: The Rotary foundation seminar will be held. Venue: Bangladesh Jute Association Auditorium, DB Road, Narayanganj. Time: 9:30 am.

NARI meet: National Association for Resource Improvement (NARI) will hold a meeting. Venue: Gulshan Club. Time: 10:30 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Seminar on social development: Bangladesh Social Science Research Council of Ministry of Planning will organise a seminar on 'Local Impact of Global Transformation with Special Reference to Social Development Issues: Bangladesh Perspective'. Venue: NEC auditorium, DB Road, Narayanganj. Time: 9:50 am. Chief guest: Abdul Moyeen Khan, Minister of State for Planning.

Raju to attend Japan festival

Beyond the Borders', a documentary film directed by Zakir Hossain Raju will be screened in the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival in Japan beginning October 2, says a press release.

On his way to the festival, Raju will attend the World Cinema Celebration in Manila tomorrow.

Raju has so far made 11 documentaries on various socio-political issues.

Ex US congressman due tomorrow

John Dellenback, a former US Congressman and chairman of the Board of World Vision of US arrives here tomorrow on a four-day visit, says a press release.

During his stay in Bangladesh Dellenback will visit World Vision projects in Dhaka and Mymensingh and will meet US Ambassador David Merrill, US Aid Director Richard Brown, the member of Planning Commission and Secretary Dr. Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir and the Director General of NGO Affairs Bureau M A Mannan.

Weather

Light rain forecast

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm Friday, reports UNB.

Met Office says weather may remain mainly dry over Khulna and Barisal divisions.

No appreciable change in day temperature is expected over the country.

In its outlook for subsequent two days Met Office predicted no marked change. Giving extended outlook for another five days weathermen forecast little change.

Meantime, Dhaka experienced the highest 35 mm rain yesterday. Sylhet had 16 mm rain, Mymensingh 8, Jessore 6 and Dinajpur 4 mm shower.

Country's highest temperature 34 degrees Celsius was recorded at Teknaf and the lowest 23.4 degrees at Dinajpur.

Sun sets today at 5:56 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:47 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity	
	In Celsius	Percentage	Morning	evening
Dhaka	33.4	25.3	82	78
Chittagong	32.5	26.4	76	76
Rajshahi	32.5	27.2	88	—
Khulna	33.9	26.6	84	—
Barisal	32.5	26.0	81	82
Sylhet	30.0	26.0	98	100
Cox's Bazar	32.5	25.0	73	74

Shop owners assure cooperation to check price hike

Bangladesh Shop Owners' Association yesterday assured the government that it would extend all-out cooperation to keep the prices of essentials within the reach of the commonman, reports BSS.

The assurance came when a delegation of the association, led by its president Amir Hossain Khan, met the Commerce and Information Minister, Shamsul Islam, at the latter's residence in the city.

The minister told them that the aim of the government was to ameliorate the condition of the masses.

He sought the cooperation of the association to check unreasonable price hike.

The minister referred to various steps taken by the government for the development of trade and commerce in the private sector and said this liberal policy had helped enhance economic growth in the country.

He said the government would take possible steps to resolve the problems of the shopowners.

Various city shop owners, the association's central leaders and leaders from Khulna, Chittagong, Rangpur and other districts were present in the meeting.

Gas goes to Kulaura

MOULVIBAZAR, Sept 21: Kulaura thana of the district has been brought under the gas distribution system, reports UNB.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman today formally inaugurated gas supply to Kulaura thana adjacent to tea gardens and industrial units.

In the first phase, gas will be supplied to 4,000 households, 57 tea gardens, 100 commercial concerns and 10 industrial units of the thana.

Jalalabad Gas Transmission and Distribution System Limited, an enterprise of Petrobangla, implemented the project at a cost of Tk 35.5 crore. The entire expenditure was met from the government's own resources.

Speaking on the occasion, the Finance Minister said gas and other sources of energy are the basic requirements for all economic development activities.

He said gas distribution expansion projects supplying gas to households and industrial concerns are environment friendly also since they would drastically reduce widespread cutting of trees for firewoods.

Moreover, he said, such gas expansion programmes will save a substantial amount of foreign exchange.

He said the government decided to go ahead with the project with its own resources to avoid delay in releasing project aid by the British Overseas Development Agency (ODA).

'Question papers should cover full text'

Education Secretary Muhammad Irshadul Haque urged the teachers concerned to prepare questions for SSC and HSC examinations from the entire syllabus compelling the students to read their texts between the lines, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating a day-long workshop on framing of question papers and reformation of secondary and higher secondary examinations at the auditorium of National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) here.

He said, there is a tendency among the students that questions of the previous years would not be repeated and as such, one-third of the syllabus is left out by the students.

Haque said, the question setters should also read the syllabus and just should not depend on the question papers of the previous years. He said government would increase their remunerations for the extra work.

Supporting the newly-introduced admission system, the education secretary said, nowhere in the world tests are held for admission into colleges or universities.

He said, the authorities there only, judge students intelligence by taking Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). He reiterated that admission to colleges and universities should be on the basis of public examinations results.

Govt decision hailed
Leaders of different teachers organisations of government and private educational institutions yesterday hailed the recent government deci-

sion regarding admissions at higher levels based on results in public examinations

The leaders made the remarks during a meeting chaired by Md Ershadul Haq, Education Secretary, at the conference room of the Education Ministry. The leaders congratulated the government decision and assured full cooperation to implement it.

The leaders recommended that admissions to university, medical college, BIT and parallel institutions also be based on merits of previous public examinations.

Leaders of the Jatiya Shikshak Samity Federation, Bangladesh Shikshak Samity Federation, Bangladesh College Shikshak Samity, BCS (General Education) Samity, Bangladesh Shikshak Samity, Bangladesh Sarkari Shikshak Samity, Bangladesh Pravask Samity and Bangladesh Sarkari Madhyamik Shikshak Samity were present in the meeting.

NADIA
We wish you a very happy birthday Dadi, Ammu, Abbu & Babu

2ND DEATH ANNIVERSARY
The second death anniversary of late Begum Shakera Banu, wife of late Khan Bahadur Mujibur Rahman will be observed on Sunday, the 24th September 1995.
On this occasion, a Milad Mahfil will be held after Asr prayers (5:00 PM), at CEN(H)13, Road No 109, Gulshan, Dhaka.
All her relatives, friends and acquaintances are requested to attend the Milad and pray for her eternal peace. D-909

QULKHANI
Mrs Tahmina Khatoun, W/O late Abdul Wahed of 51, Siddheswari Lane died of prolonged illness on the 9th September, 1995. We express our gratitude to those who have expressed their deep sympathy and condolences to us.
Qul Khani of the deceased will be held after Asr prayers on Friday the 22nd September, 1995 at 51, Siddheswari Lane, Dhaka.
Major General Ghulam Quader and other sons and daughters of Mrs Tahmina Khatoun 51, Siddheswari Lane, Dhaka.
D-907

BCIC Notice
বিসিআইসি'র পন্থা শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রপথিত প্রতীক

Notice for Pre-Qualification of HP Boiler Erection Contractors
Proposals in prescribed forms are invited from reputed and experienced Engineering Firms who have satisfactorily completed the Fabrication, Erection and installation of High Pressure Boiler of capacity not less than 120 Ton/Hr within last 5 years for pre-qualification for replacement of 42 nos. Screen tubes of 120 Ton/Hr Boiler in Zia Fertilizer Company Limited, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria.
Prescribed forms will be available on payment of Tk 150/- (Taka one hundred fifty) only (non-refundable) from the Office of the General Manager (Accounts & Finance), ZFCL Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria and the Controller of Accounts, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka on all working days during working hours up to 12.10.95.
Proposals shall have to be dropped upto 11.00 AM on 14.10.95 in the Tender Box kept in the Office of the Sr. General Manager (MTS), MTS Division (19th floor), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and also in the office of the General Manager (MTS), ZFCL, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria and shall be opened on the same day at 11.30 AM in presence of Bidders (if any).
Management reserves the right to accept/reject all or any offer without showing any reason whatsoever.
BCIC 993-13/9/95
DFP-22517-16/9
G-1385
Syed Mukibul Hossain
General Manager (MTS)
for Managing Director

Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Dhaka
No. EU/P&D/FP-153/D- Dt _____

Re-Tender Notice for Appointment of Clearing & Forwarding Agent
Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the reputed firms having valid Customs Licence and at least 7 (seven) years experience in clearing of consignment of Scientific Instruments, Chemicals, Books & Journals from Chittagong port and Dhaka Air freight unit for appointment of Clearing & Forwarding agent for the period of 1st November 1995 to 31st October 1996 for clearance of consignment of this University imported from abroad.
The tenders will be received by the undersigned up to 3.00 PM on 9.10.95 and will be opened on the same day at 3.15 PM in presence of the tenderers.
The intending tenderers are hereby advised to submit the documentary evidence with their tender in respect of their past experience in handling the cargoes as per proforma shown in the tender schedule.
Each tender must be accompanied with an earnest money of Taka 5,000/- (Five thousand) in the shape of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any nationalized/scheduled bank in favour of COMPTROLLER of this University.
Successful tenderer will have to furnish a Bank Guarantee for Tk 25000/- (Twenty five thousand) only from any nationalized/scheduled bank at Dhaka within 7 (seven) days from the date of intimation of acceptance of tenders failing which earnest money will be forfeited. An agreement has also to be signed with the University as per terms and conditions shown in the model agreement.
Tenderers those who have got no experience in respect of clearance of Scientific Instrument, Chemicals, Books & Journals in Govt, Semi-Govt or autonomous organization for at least 7 years will not be eligible to apply.
Tenderers those who are limited company having office at Dhaka and Chittagong and long experience in clearing and forwarding of consignment of Govt, semi-Govt, and autonomous bodies will be given preference.
Intending tenderers shall have to obtain permission for purchasing tender papers etc on application to the undersigned along with the photocopy of Customs licence during office hours. Tender papers will be sold to those firm who will produce certificate for 7 years experience in respect of Clearance of Scientific Instrument, Chemicals, Books & Journals with application not below the rank of Asstt Director or its equivalent officer from Govt, Semi-Govt, or autonomous bodies/ organization. Those who submitted tender earlier will have to apply again along with the above certificate for purchasing the schedule.
Tender schedule along with other terms and conditions may be obtained from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk 300/- (Three hundred) (non-refundable) to the Sonali Bank, BUET branch, Dhaka.
The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons.
No tender schedule will be sold through DD/Pay Order/Money Order and no tender will be issued on the opening date.
Director
Planning & Development
D-911