

Dhaka Day by Day

Boons and Banes of Hartal

by Lavina Ambreen Ahmed

While the government and the day labourers shower criticism on the hartal callers for disrupting the country's economy, the average, overworked Dhakaite breathes a sigh of relief. Because hartal along with its political purpose provides a much welcome break in the monotonous lives of the citizens. Agreed, as a topic it's definitely not an original one, but as long as hartals are intertwined with our everyday life, one can't resist writing on it once again.

To the masses, hartal signifies certain things. No work, no going out in the scorching heat, no having to confront the horrendous traffic jam twice a day and much more. These 'positive' aspects make one secretly pleased at the prospect of a coming hartal.

One might naively assume that the Dhaka dwellers can enjoy a leisurely, carefree day, doing whatever they like doing. But is everyone so lucky? Talking to several office goers it became quite apparent that rather than making them happy, the mere thought of hartal get on some peoples' nerves.

Abeeda Hosain who works for the American International School relates how hartal affects her life. On those exasperating days, she leaves her Dhanmondi home at 5 am, that is if she wants to take the car. Otherwise, what she does most often is, commutes half way by rickshaw and the other half by scooter and since vehicles are quite scarce on those 'occasions', the energetic lady also does a lot of walking. Has she faced any obstruction on her determined journey to work?

"I have confronted, unruly 'processions and hostile pickets several times, more than once I have had to give explanation of

my intentions" she reveals. So far, somehow she has gotten away with the 'sick-relative-at-the-hospital' plea. When hartal days go on for 2 to 3 days, she stays at her sister's place in Gulshan, as it's near her work place, while her businessman husband works on Fridays to make up for the time loss. During the most recent hartal, Abeeda was compelled to take her two school going kids along with her to her sister's, as her spouse was abroad on a business trip. "Naturally, I can't dream about leaving the kids with the domestic help!"

Weekends away from home, tedious, no-rest' days are some of the problems that many career women, like Abeeda have to deal with.

That doesn't mean however, that men don't go through similar difficulties. As a banker lady pointed out, the male attendance is invariably always higher than the female one, during hartals. It is believed that the hartal day attendance sheet is sent to the big boss of any government organisation, who in turn, passes it to the concerned ministry. So, it's often a matter of being in the employer's 'good books' and protecting one's job. Therefore, men even from faraway places try not to be absent at their offices on those unofficial holidays. Before it was the fear of picketers that made people nervous, now the latest deplorable 'stripping incident' has added another worry.

Every time during hartal there will always be a certain crowd (mainly students) which is ecstatic at the idea of it, while for another group it's merely another day of drudgery, under unfriendly, anti-social circumstances.



Labour and Manpower Minister Mir Shaukat Ali presiding over an inter-ministerial meeting on bringing back the Bangladeshis detained in different detention camps in Malaysia at his office in the city yesterday. — PID photo

'Streamline training system'

By Staff Correspondent

With the Chairman of CDRB Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley in the chair, the seminar was addressed by Prof LaMarr Kopp, Deputy Vice President, University Office of International Programmes, Pennsylvania State University, USA and a member of AIBS.

The seminar, organised by the Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB) in cooperation with the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS), was held at the WVA auditorium in the city yesterday.

The speakers suggested for a liaison between training and job environment and said that, the question of institutional autonomy must be addressed.

Institutional objectives and functions should be clearly explained, they said.

presented by Dr M Waheeduzzaman, Associate Professor, Department of Public Management, Austin Peay University, Tennessee, USA and a Senior Fellow of AIBS.

The keynote paper was presented by Dr M Waheeduzzaman, Associate Professor, Department of Public Management, Austin Peay University, Tennessee, USA and a Senior Fellow of AIBS.

Thana Election Officers' training course begins

By Staff Correspondent

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Justice AKM Sadek said the officers involved in electoral duties should perform with utmost impartiality.

Justice Sadek was speaking at the inaugural session of the sixth training course for the thana election officers organised by the Election Training Institute yesterday, says a press release.

The CEC said that the image of the Election Commission largely depends on the role played by the thana election officers, who are involved in field level election works.

9th NSC lottery Prizes handed over

Sports Reporter

The prize awarding ceremony of the 9th round of the National Sports Council's (NSC) Sports Development Fund lottery was held at the NSC auditorium yesterday. Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Abdus Salam Talukdar gave away the prizes to the three top awardees. Khalekuzzaman, an Air Force employee from Khulna, was the lucky winner of the five million taka's worth first prize while MA Akkas Patwari of Dhaka ran away with the second prize of five lakh taka.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeque Hossain was also present on the occasion.

Turkish envoy meets Jahan Ara

Turkish ambassador to Bangladesh Kutlu Ozguven called on State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan Ara Begum at her office yesterday reports BSS.

They discussed matters relating to the signing of a cultural exchange programme.

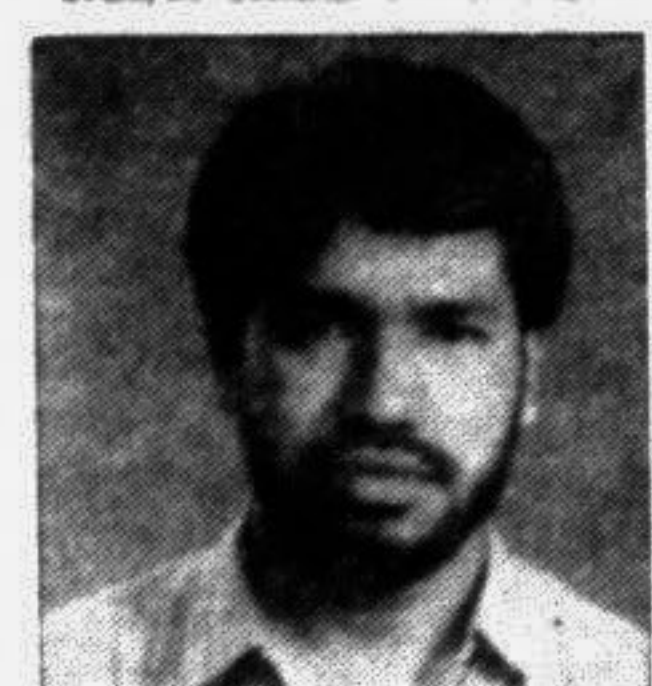
The envoy informed the State Minister that his country would provide a precious painting of Dogancay a noted painter of Turkey to Bangladesh National Museum for display.

New president, Secy-Gen of SNEDS

By DU Correspondent



Ruhul Amin Mazumdar



Dr Manirul Islam Khan

The Sandhani National Eye Donation Society (SNEDS) has elected a 14-member central executive committee for 1995-97 with Ruhul Amin Mazumdar, Dr Manirul Islam Khan as its president and secretary general respectively.

The election was held at the fourth annual general meeting of the organisation held at BIRDEM here Friday.

The other office bearers are: vice presidents — Prof Chowdhury Humayun Kabir, Dr A H Syedur Rahman and Dr Kamrul Hasan Khan, organising secretary Dr Ashoke Kumar Roy, finance secretary — Dr Nadiuzzaman Khan and Communication Secretary — Shafiqat Mamun.



New committee of CCHR takes over

The newly elected executive committee of Bangladesh Manobadhikar Samannoy Parishad (BMSPP) officially known as (CCHR), formally took over their responsibilities yesterday, says a press release.

Members of the both former and current committee were present on the occasion.

The opening session was presided over by Brother Jarlath Souza, former Chairman of CCHR while the concluding session was presided over by the newly elected chairman, Father RW Timm.

IUATLD confce in city Oct 28

The biennial conference of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases (IUATLD) of the Asia and Pacific region will be held in the city from October 28 to 30, reports BSS.

About 40 international experts of the Asia and Pacific region of the UNATLD will attend the conference in the city.

Deputy Leader of the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury has been nominated by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for three years (1995-1997) on global

TB programme.

The global TB programme conference mooted on Directory Observer Treatment through Short course (DOTS) which meant that patient will be administered four medicine daily by patient himself under supervision of a medical and paramedic volunteer. Another six months the patients will be administered with two medicines for three days every week.

The Oslo meeting also pointed out that AIDS patients are vulnerable to TB for which a large number of them die of TB.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Perojpur.

Notice of RHD Inviting Tender

- Tender Notice No. : 8 PRD 1995-96.
- Name of work : Construction of Foundation of Bailey Bridge including launching and assembling China bolt type steel bridge at different k.m. on Charkhali-Tushkhali-Mathbaria-Pathorghata road under Perojpur Road Division during 1995-96.
- Estimated cost : As per group list.
- Earnest money : - do - do -
- Name of offices where tender documents will be available : Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Perojpur/Barisal/Patuakhali/Bhola/Planning and Design Division, Barisal/Planning Division (P&D) Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD) Road Sub-Division, Perojpur/Kawkhali during office hours on all working days. No tender form will be sold on the opening date of tender.
- Name of offices where tender bids will be received : Additional Chief Engineer (RHD), Barisal Zone, Barisal/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Monitoring & Evaluation Circle (P&D) Dhaka/Superintending Engineer (RHD) Road Circle, Barisal/Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division Barisal/Perojpur/Patuakhali/Bhola.
- Last date and time of receipt of tender : Up to 12:30 PM on 5-10-95 E/20-6-1402B.
- Date and time of opening tender : At 12:45 PM on 11-10-95 E/26-6-1402 B.

Gr. No.	Name of work and location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractor
1.	Construction of foundation of Bailey Bridge including launching and assembling China steel bridge at 25th K.M. on Charkhali-Tushkhali-Mathbaria-Pathorghata Road under Perojpur road Division during 1995-96.	Tk. 6,36,503/-	Tk. 12,731/-	60 (Sixty) days.	"A" to "C" class enlisted contractors under special category of RHD and "D" class enlisted contractor under special category of Barisal Road Circle.
2.	-do -do -do -do- at 38th K.M. -do -do -do -do-	Tk. 5,49,455/-	Tk. 10,989/-	-do-	-do-

Md. Jalur Rahman Pramanik
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Perojpur.

168 arrested

Police rounded up 168 people including 18 wanted criminals from different parts of the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Wanted

For Commercial purpose 3000/4000 sq ft on Rd-27 DRA, Salmashid Road / Mirpur Rd. Pls. Contact Mr. Nazir -811849

Dearest Maheen Many Happy returns of the day

Abbu Ammu and Maiaz

2ND DEATH ANNIVERSARY

The Second death anniversary of late Begum Shakera Banu, wife of late Khan Bahadur Mujibur Rahman, will be observed today (Sunday), the 24th September 1995.

On this occasion, a Milad Mehfil 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-921



EVERGREEN

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES / SHIPPERS

FEEDER VESSEL M. V. FONG YUN VOY 9527 IMP. ROT NO. 851/95 IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE CHITTAGONG OUTER ANCHORAGE ON OR ABOUT 24.09.1995 WITH EVERGREEN CONTAINERS RELAYED AT SINGAPORE EX FOLLOWING VESSELS:-

VESSEL	PORT	VESSEL	PORT
BNSK 0669-010	LEECA CHABANG	E. GROUP 0069-046W	KAOHSIUNG
E. GUARD 0068-073W	KEELUNG	UNI PERMAI 0260-260	JAKARTA
E. ROYAL 0638RW-022	KAOHSIUNG	E. RACER 0636RW-006	HONG KONG
	TOKYO	E. RESULT 0637RW-004	KAOHSIUNG
	HONG KONG	SHIN 0458BS-093	PUSAN
	KAOHSIUNG		PASIR GUDANG
	LOS ANGELES		
	MOJI		
	OSAKA		
	PUSAN		

CONSIGNEES ARE REQUESTED TO CLEAR THEIR CARGOES IMMEDIATELY ON DISCHARGE. CARGOES UNCLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS FROM THE ARRIVAL DATE OF THE VESSEL WILL BE DISPOSED WITHOUT ANY REFERENCE TO THE CONSIGNEES, AS PER CUSTOM RULES.

M. V. FONG YUN VOY 9528 WILL ALSO LOAD CONTAINERS UNDER EXP. ROT NO.819/95 FOR SINGAPORE FOR ONWARD TRANSHIPMENT TO U.S.A. EAST & WEST COASTS, EUROPEAN, U.K. & MEDITERRANEAN PORTS.

PLEASE CONTACT OUR BANGLADESH AGENTS:



Baridhi Shipping Lines Limited

(A BRC COMPANY)

DHAKA
19/F Sana Kalyan Bhaban
195 Motijheel Com. Area
Tel: 864546-9
Tel: 832886 BSL BJ, 632656 HRC BJ
Telefax: 880-2-863734, 886446

CHITTAGONG
Mez/F, Jiban Birna Bhaban
1053 Sk. Mujib Rd. Agrabad
Tel: 506142, 500594
Tel: 633147 BSL BJ, 633126 HRC BJ
Telefax: 880-31-710625

KHULNA
1, Miapara Road
(PTI Moor)
Tel: 25255, 25123
Tel: 633302 HRC BJ
Telefax: 880-41-21175

Say Thanks To BISON

The All Purpose Primer

Wherever you apply BISON

Be it on Walls / wooden surfaces- from inside it builds up a moisture barrier.

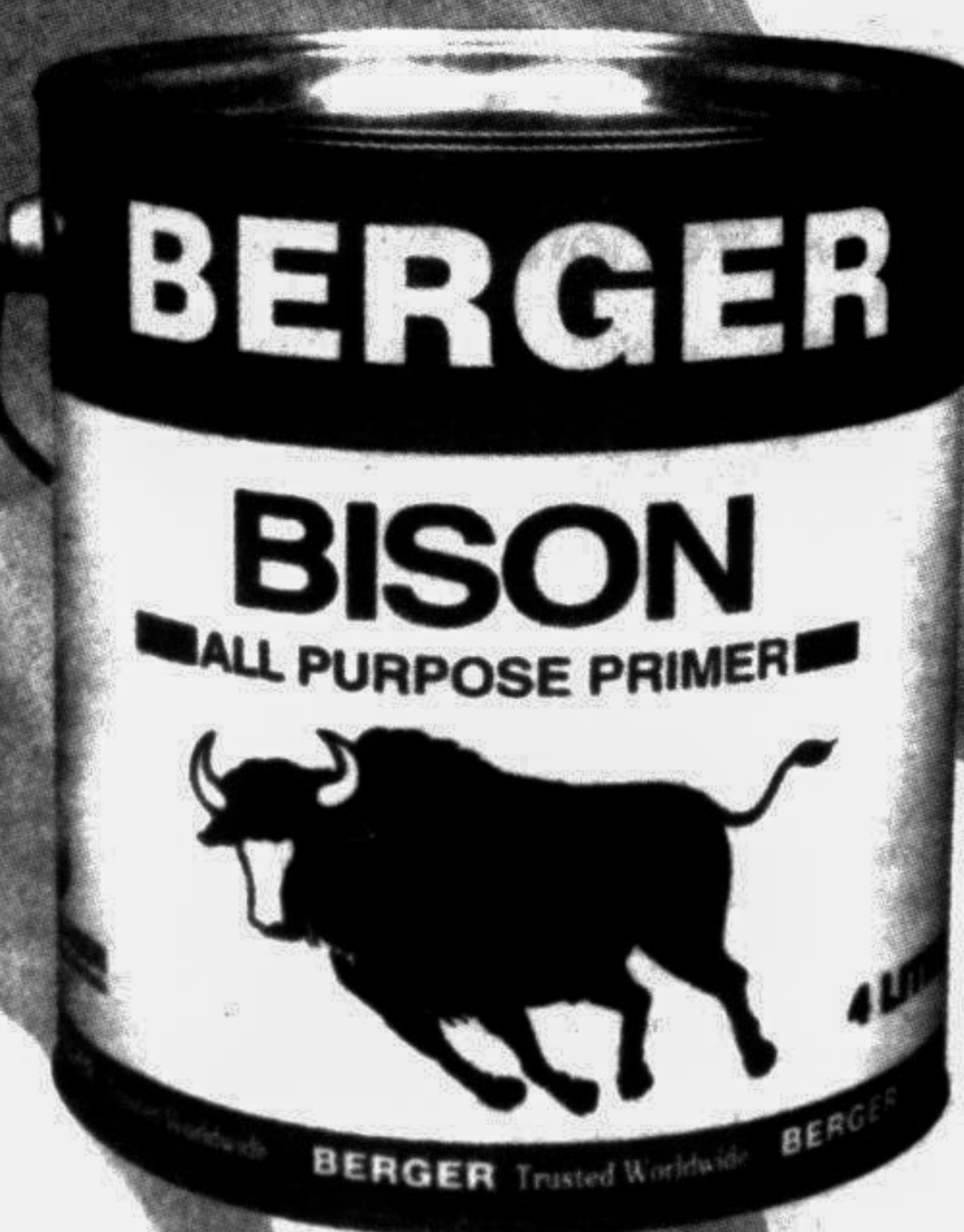
Be it on Metal Surface- Works as a barrier against corrosion.

Be it on any surface- prevents decaying and ensures better adhesion to the top coat.

BISON reduces wastage of costly top coat by filling the pores in the walls and ultimately provides a higher coverage to the expensive top coat.

ECONOMISES PAINT CONSUMPTION

Smooth surface, long durability, shining all through.....



4 LTR. CAN TK.450



BERGER
Trusted Worldwide

BERGER PAINTS BANGLADESH LTD.

(A member of the world wide Berger group)

Head Office : 43/3, Chatteswari Road, Chittagong, Tel: 615893-4, 614932.
Dhaka Office : 3/3-D, Bijoy Nagar, Kakrail, Dhaka, Tel: 405018, 402300, 832780