

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Of Women's Conferences and Women

by Samia Islam

These days women always seem to be in the news. Conference resolutions are ensuring that she get to eat first and go to school and learn to say no commendable no doubt. Rights to the ... of life have to be mulled over and approved at world conferences to give women a chance at living a decent life. How uplifting! At last with the help of a few accomplished individuals, the women have arrived. Thank God, they will now eat with the humans and learn the three R's. What more could she expect?

Now let's consider for a while what happens with, say, education. By the time she is sixteen, a girl gets to know about the world around her. she knows (hopefully) a little of science, economics, math and literature. Even if that's the average extent of a girl's academic sojourn, she gets a glimpse of the good life. How can she ever be happy again in the little niche that society has carved out for her where the household and the daily menu replace the myriad of mysteries that's out there and she is aware of? Where her knowledge, opinion and intellect are considered about as worthy as sawdust inside her housed and outside?

Believe me, this is not an attempt at vilifying the virtue of education, it's just saying that a little learning, on the society's part, is a dangerous thing. Put yourself in the girl's shoes. Wouldn't you find yourself a misfit in life? After all, in a society where men are not expected to help out with chores or the children, the household is her ultimate destination, so let's not be hypocritical. Even university teachers make casual remarks about young women irresponsibly ruining good opportunities for young men by occupying the precious seats in reputed departments, knowing full well that they are only there to kill time prior to marriage!

Suppose for a jiffy, that a few girls in the big cities go beyond all expectation and get a master's degree, with first class distinctions at both levels, no less. Nothing could be better at spelling her doom because soon her parents find out much to their woe that their daughter is too qualified for her suitors who, under their inferiority or superiority complexes, are instead looking for a docile, young thing with a tolerably good education, say the HSC degree.

Even with the right of eating first, and getting highly educated, and the freedom to make her own choices, there are the other rude awakenings for the theoretically equal female. No conference has vowed to gauge the eyes out of lecherous ogres with a sharp stick who harass females in public places and transports, the workplace and wherever she may aspire to go. She voluntarily gave up her right to public transports, movie theatres and other places that attract large numbers of men. A new addition to this already long list is her right to walk the streets, yes, even in the daytime. One girl recounts her humiliating experience while out walking with her aunt at five in the evening in the Chandrima Uddyan area. She no-

ted with no end of embarrassment that every autorickshaw and rickshaw carrying the superior (!) sex slowed down while passing by, some even dared to come to a halt, they smiled nastily and made gestures and uttered obscene innuendoes. This is the result of the new, booming trade in town, yes, I mean the oldest profession. We turn a blind eye to this growing malady of the city due to indifference and the thought that it's not touching us, the good people. Well, now it is.

That girl wasn't the only one with a story to tell. Another added that her office is situated on a VIP road which the premier happens to use frequently. The road has always had a sinister reputation but this used to go on in the darkness of the night. Now-a-days, when the girl and her colleagues wait on the pavement to hail a rickshaw after work (in broad daylight), they experience the same incident almost everyday. Autorickshaws and motor bikes slow down and circle around them hoping to attract attention. Some come back as many as three times to make sure that the girls understood their intentions. It's a sad time for the country.

So ultimately it boils down to this. Conferences are all too well for the intellectuals out to change the world but what really needs to be changed is the sick attitudes and the warped thinking of the society as a whole? At the end of the day without a radical change in each of us, no amount of food or education can provide us with the space to survive.



Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) held a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday on the conclusion of Children's Rights Week celebration. — Star photo

### What's on today . . . .

**DUJA founding anniversary:** The tenth founding anniversary of Dhaka University Journalist Association (DUJA) will be observed. Venue: Teachers Students Centre, DU. Time: 10:00 am. DU VC Prof Emajuddin Ahmad will inaugurate the programme.

**College inauguration:** The inauguration ceremony of the Dhaka Imperial College will be held. Venue: College premises, 28, Mirpur Road. Time: 4:00 pm. Chief guest: Prof Emajuddin Ahmad, VC, DU.

**Company Jerome Thomas:** Hic, Hoc; a presentation by the French troupe will held. Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium. Time: 6:30 pm.

**French film show:** The film 'La Rupture' will be screened. Venue: Alliance Francaise. Time: 6:00 pm.

**International Children's Day:** Kendrio Kachi Kanchar Mela will hold a literary conference to mark the day. Venue: 37/A, Segun Bagicha. Time: 4:30 pm. Dr Abdullah al Muti will preside the function.

**Tarakalok award ceremony:** The Tarokalok award '95 will be distributed. Venue: Shilpakala Academy auditorium. Time: 4:00 pm. Chief guest: M Shamsul Islam, Minister for Commerce and Information.

**Metropolitan VOA Fan Club:** The club will distribute oral saline. Venue: Nasirabad village. Time: 10:00 am.

**Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka:** The club will hold its regular weekly meeting. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5:00 pm.

### BCS for introduction of Internet

Bangladesh Computer Society (BCS) yesterday stressed the need for introduction of Internet to link Bangladesh with global information super-highway, reports UNB.

It was stated at a seminar on Computer Communications and Computer Networks, organised by the BCS in the BUET seminar hall.

"Internet is a large collection of networks that can accommodate about 50 million users or stations," Director of Dhaka University Computer Centre, Prof M Lutfar Rahman said in his keynote paper presented at the seminar.

### Implement policy on children

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) yesterday called for the implementation of the National Policy on Children and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the ratification of the ILO Convention restricting child labour.

Addressing a press conference in the city on the concluding day of the UN sponsored Child Rights Week '95, BSAF representatives hailed the government for the formulation of a national policy on children, adopted December 5, 1994 and stressed the need for immediate implementation of the policy.

They also urged the government to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, signed by Bangladesh in 1990 and demanded ratification of Section 138 of the ILO Convention dealing with child labour.

"A more up-to-date survey, undertaken by the Bureau of Statistics, show similar figures," Rokhsana Khondokar, member, executive committee, BSAF, told the journalists.

A press release says, a week-long art exhibition for disadvantaged children organised by the Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) ended in the city yesterday.

### CLARIFICATION

The Deputy Director of the Islamia Eye Hospital in a rejoinder sent to The Daily Star denied the news item headlined "Tk 50,000 charged for donated cornea."

The story published in the newspaper on September 26, 1995 was based on a press conference held at the Jatiya Press Club, in the city on Sept 25, where the documents were presented by the patient Syed Reazul Karim.

### Qulkhawani

Qulkhawani of Tashfeen Ahmed Tusi, son of B Ahmed, vice president of Progott Insurance, will be held today after Asar prayers at 19/12, Tajmahal Road, Mohammadpur, says a press release.

He died on October 3 of heart failure at a local clinic.

### Chehlum

Chehlum of Ambassador Abdul Quayyum will be held today after Asar prayers at House 27, Road 6, Dhanmondi, reports BSS.

**Sunbeams**  
House 51A, Road 16  
Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka-1209

### Staff Recruitment

Qualified full-time teachers required for this well reputed, expanding school to teach up to GCE 'O' level in the following subjects: Accounting, Bengali, Biology, Chemistry, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Physics and Physical Education. Preference will be given to candidates with Master's or equivalent degree in the relevant subject and GCE 'O' level teaching experience. Applications along with a copy of CV, mentioning two referees, must reach the Principal at the address above by 21 October 1995. Short-listed candidates will be called for an interview.

S-486

**Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited**  
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গাছ লাগান; গাছের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ বাচান - প্রধানমন্ত্রী

### Corrigendum

Ref: CD/HO/3(47) Date: 01/10/95

Referring Tender Notice No. CD/HO/3(44) dated 18/9/95 for Earth filling works at Head Office Complex, Brahmanbaria (Group A&B), it is for information of all concerned that due to unavoidable circumstances the date of receiving tenders has been shifted from 16/10/95 to 22/10/95.

All other terms and conditions of the Tender Notice will remain unchanged.

D-991 Senior Manager (Planning & Development)

### NOTICE

It is for general information that we have stopped Manpower export business and accordingly Recruiting Agency Licence No RL-442 has been surrendered to the Bureau of Manpower Employment & Training and a request has been made to refund our security deposit. Any financial claim/complaint against our agency will have to be submitted for settlement to the under mentioned address with in 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice. Copies of such claim/complaint may also be submitted to the Director-General, Bureau of Manpower, Employment & Training 89/2, Kakrial, Dhaka-1000 and Deputy Secretary (Manpower), Ministry of Labour & Manpower, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.

**MOHAMMED AKBAR HOSSAIN**  
Managing Director  
**The Multimode Overseas Employment and Services Ltd.**  
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**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Facilities Department  
Comilla Zone, Comilla

No. 12/PSS/Dev/FD/95-96 dt. 26.9.95.

### Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 and through Departmental schedule are hereby invited from A-1/A-2 class contractors of Facilities Department for development of the undermentioned educational institutions under the project Private Educational Institutions Renovation & Development during 1995-96 financial year under this Zone.

Gr. No.	Name of Educational Institution	Name of Thana	Name of District	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time limited for completion of work	Category of project	Remarks.
1.	Ghaniarchar High School	Honna	Comilla	8,01,589/41	16040/=	4 (four) months	GOB-II	
2.	Panchgachhilia K K High School	Daudkandi	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Panchkitta High School	Muradnagar	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Mohammadpur High School	Devidwar	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Dhenyadoul Abdur Razzak Khan Chowdhury High School	Brahmanpara	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Purbahura High School	Burichong	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Majhigachha High School	Sadar	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Barkait Udayan High School	Chandina	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Bhateswar High School	Barura	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Hatimara Girls' High School	Laksam	-	-	-	-	-	-
11.	Baksgari Girls' High School	Nangalkot	-	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Bijoykora High School	Chaddagram	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Talerchheo Nechharis Islamic Dakhil Madrasa	Daudkandi	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	Pipakandi Amanul Ulum Islamia Alim Madrasa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Panti Madinatul Ulum Model Dakhil Madrasa	Muradnagar	-	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Anidkot Dakhil Madrasa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17.	Tulagaon Dakhil Madrasa	Devidwar	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Islamabad Alim Madrasa	Brahmanpara	-	-	-	-	-	-
19.	Namabazar Sunnia Islamia Dakhil Madrasa	Burichong	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	Chhadekpur Alim Madrasa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21.	Sreemantpur Islamia Dakhil Madrasa	Sadar	-	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Zoiat Danul Ulum Fazil Madrasa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Khairasr Mahanpur Dakhil Madrasa	Chandina	-	-	-	-	-	-
24.	Ekbaria Alim Madrasa	Barura	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	Dadghar Keyari Dakhil Madrasa	Laksam	-	-	-	-	-	-
26.	Bhuiuapara Islamia Dakhil Madrasa	Nangalkot	-	-	-	-	-	-
27.	Kashinagar Islamia Alim Madrasa	Chowddagram	-	-	-	-	-	-

(B) Last date of purchasing tender document: 16-10-95 (during office hours)  
(C) Last date of receiving tender document: 17-10-95 upto 12-00 Noon.  
(D) Date & time of opening tender document: 17-10-95 at 12-30 minutes.

Intending contractors can purchase the tender schedule from all Executive Engineer's Offices under Chittagong Circle on cash payment of Tk 400/= (four hundred) only (non-refundable) and submit the tender to the same offices.

The 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 and conditions**

- Tender document can be purchased by obtaining permission from the authority concerned on production of original enlistment register & renewal document for 95-96 financial year as well as VAT registration and attested copies of the documents must be submitted with the tender. Otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled.
- If the tendered amount is found to be more than 5% (five per cent) less than the estimated cost, then the tender will be rejected outright.
- Such contractors as were allotted work from this office but could not finish that as yet without any satisfactory reason, cannot participate in the above works.
- Besides officers of this office, the Project Development Committee formed by the government will perform the responsibility of over all supervision of the work and certify information on the development work.

**Md. Abdul Mazid**  
Executive Engineer  
Facilities Department  
Comilla Zone, Comilla.

DFP-23773-30/9  
G-1445

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Higher Secondary Education Project  
Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education  
House # 13, Road # 4  
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205.

Tender No. HSEP/Pro.D/Sc. Equip. (ADB)/31/95/1053  
Dated: 25/09/95.

### Tender Notice for Local Competitive Bid for Procurement of Scientific Materials (Models, Charts & Slides)

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from Asian Development Bank (Loan # 1123-BAN) for Higher Secondary Education Project under Ministry of Education. A portion of the loan proceeds has been earmarked for procurement of Scientific Materials (Models, Charts & Slides).
- The Programs Director, Higher Secondary Education Project, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, House # 13, Road # 4, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205 now invites sealed tenders in prescribed form from the Manufacturer/Agents/bonafide dealers of Scientific Equipments of ADB member Countries for the project Institutions.
- A complete set of documents with terms & conditions can be obtained on submission of a written application (alongwith a set of documents mentioned in clause No. 4 attested by class-1 Gazetted Officer) and on cash payment of Taka 400.00 (four hundred) only (non-refundable) in favour of Programs Director, Higher Secondary Education Project, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, Road # 4, House # 13, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka directly or through their agent, on all working days from 4th Oct. to 10th Oct 1995 during office hours from the Office of the undersigned or from the Ministry of Education (Sr. Asstt. Secretary, Section-12, Room-1825, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka).
- The bid must be accompanied by the following documents:**  
(a) Valid up-to-date Trade Licence, (b) Manufacturer/Agency/Dealership certificate, (c) Income Tax payment certificate/TIN, (d) Bank solvency certificate, (e) VAT Registration certificate, (f) Certificate from Chamber of Commerce/Specialized Association, (g) Experience certificate/Performance certificate (Tk.02 lac in a single work order of similar nature), (h) Previous Bill of Lading & bill of entry indicating the port of shipment (where applicable).
- Each bid must be accompanied by a bid bond of 2% (two per cent) of the quoted amount or a minimum of Tk. 1.5 lacs in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Programs Director, Higher Secondary Education Project, House # 13, Road # 4, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh.
- All the bids should be delivered either via Air Mail/Courier/or in person to the undersigned or the Senior Asstt. Secretary, Section # 12, Room # 1825, Bangladesh Secretariat (Building No. 6), Dhaka on 30th October, 1995 up to 12 hours local time & will be opened on the same date at 12:30 hours in presence of the bidders or their representative (s), if any.

The authority is not bound to accept the lowest priced bid and reserves the right to (a) accept or reject any or all bid wholly or partially without assigning any reason whatsoever, (b) drop out any/all items, and (c) increase or decrease quantity of any/all items.

**Abdur Rashid**  
Programs Director  
Higher Secondary Education Project

DFP-23643-28/9  
G-1446

**Bangladesh Open University Project**  
Board Bazar, Gazipur

### Tender Notice for Staff Bus

Memo No. : BOU/Admn-37(50)/4/95/7207 Dated: 02-10-95.

Tender No. :3(Procurement)/95-96, Loan No. : 1173 (BAN) (SF)

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank in various currencies towards the cost of the Bangladesh Open University Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the procurement of **Heavy Duty Vehicle (Staff Bus)**.
- Bangladesh Open University Project now invites sealed bids from eligible manufacturers, agents, dealers for the supply of **Heavy Duty Vehicle (Staff Bus)**.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information on the bid and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Deputy Director (Procurement), Bangladesh Open University, BOU Campus, Board Bazar, Gazipur.
- A complete set of the bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder on submission of written application and upon payment of fee of Tk. 750.00 (Seven hundred fifty) per set (non-refundable) from the office of the Director (Finance & Accounts), Bangladesh Open University, BOU Campus, Board Bazar, Gazipur up to 22-10-95 during office hours.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security money @ 2.0% (two per cent) of the quoted amount and must be delivered in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders on or before 12-00 Noon on 23-10-95 in any of the tender boxes kept in the office of the (I) Director (Administration), Bangladesh Open University, BOU Campus (South block), 1st floor, Board Bazar, Gazipur and (ii) Bangladesh Open University, House # 16, Road #2, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka.
- BOU authority will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.
- Validity of tender : 91 (ninety one) days from the date of bid closing.
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever.
- Manufacturers, suppliers or their agents having proven experience and after sales service facilities of similar works are eligible to bid.

**Vice-Chancellor/Project Director**  
Bangladesh Open University

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