

Metropolitan

**Dhaka Day by Day**

**Law Enforcers or Breakers!**

by Farah Ghuznavi



Corruption, violence, bribery, human rights violations — people might be forgiven for thinking that we were talking about criminals rather than the police when we use these terms in our conversations. However, they would be wrong in that assumption with reference to many of the "law-enforcing" agencies in Bangladesh today. While recent events have shown us how far things can go wrong, and what we can expect when we expect the worst from the police, the best they can do for us right now isn't too hot either. Whether because of pervasive corruption or general ineptitude, the outlook is not looking bright.

Recently, a relative of mine had her car requisitioned by the police. They did not even bother to send her an official notification regarding the matter, and when she enquired about the reason behind the requisition, she was informed that it was being used for a top-secret crackdown on criminals (because civilian cars made better vehicles for undercover operations; using police cars would give the game away). By the time my intrepid relative finally managed to track down her car three days later, it was to find out that it had been requisitioned for an official who was using it to visit a relative of his in the hospital. As she put it, the worst thing is, if requisitioning cars in this fashion actu-

ally led to criminals being apprehended, it would be acceptable; but this kind of misuse is unpardonable!

My colleague's friend was recently flagged down by a policeman on a motorbike. He knew he had not done anything wrong, so he kept on driving. The policeman followed him in disbelief as he drove from Dhanmondi to his house, which was in Mirpur — a twenty-minute ride! When he got out of the car, the enraged policeman asked him why he had not stopped at Dhanmondi despite being given the signal to do so. The man smiled amiably and said, "Well, I knew I hadn't done anything, and I thought that if I stopped, you were going to ask me for a 'present'. I didn't have any money with me, so I thought I would just bring you home with me in order to give you your present!"

If that is the general perception about the police, the ultimate indictment about the bureaucracy and paralysis of the police comes from the young son of a policeman. This policeman is the husband of an acquaintance. His son likes to imitate his father when he is on the telephone, and holds on to an imaginary phone saying, "Sir, Yes, Sir, Yes, Sir, Ji, Sir." As he told his mother proudly, "Ammu, I can do Abbu's job. This is all you have to say..."

**What's on today...**

**Film show:** The Sergei Bandurichuk Film Club and the Dhaka Film Club will jointly organise screening of the film 'Behula'. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre auditorium. Time: 5:30 pm.

**Sampradayik Sampriti Parishad:** The installation ceremony of executive committee of Dhaka Bar unit of the Parishad will be held. Venue: Bar Association auditorium. Time: 3 pm.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka New City:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

**Freedom fighters meet Biswas**

A 55-member delegation of Dhaka Kotwali thana freedom fighters called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday. It was led by thana commander Al-haj Motaibar Uddin Jiban, reports BSS.

Talking to them, President Biswas said freedom fighters are the worthy sons of the soil and their contributions in the War of Liberation will be remembered by the nation with gratitude. Not only the freedom fighters but also the members of their family had to sacrifice a lot for achieving freedom of the country, he added.

He mentioned that committees are already working for the welfare of the freedom fighters.

**Award ceremony**

The certificate distribution ceremony of a workshop on Bangladesh Integrated Nutrition Project (BINP) will be held today.

In the 12-day workshop organised under the auspices of the Institute of Public Health and Nutrition (IPHN), 19 senior health officials from government and Non-Government Organisations participated, said the IPHN official.

The certificates will be awarded by the secretary in charge of Health Ministry while country representatives of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNICEF, and high ranking local health officials will be also participating in the function, the official added.

**Seminar on corruption**

A day-long seminar on "Corruption in Administration" was held at Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) in Savar yesterday, reports UNB.

Former editor of the Bangladesh Observer Obaidul Haque opened it while executive secretary M Mujibur Haque presided.

BPATC Director Dr M Matlur Rahman read out a key-note paper written by additional secretary of the Education Ministry Mohammad Shahidul Alam.

Meanwhile, the 14th administrative management training course concluded.

National University (NU) Pro VC Prof Dr Mahabub Ullah was the chief guest at the concluding session and distributed certificates among the participants.

**Dhaka College '65 batch picnic**

A meeting of the alumni of the 1965 batch HSC of Dhaka College was held in the city on Saturday, says a press release.

The meeting, held at the residence of marine engineer Majed, was attended by at least a dozen alumni and their spouses. It was decided that a get-together-cum picnic will be held on (Friday) between 10 am and 4 pm at a suitable place in the city.

Interested alumni have been requested to contact the following persons for further information by January 17 over telephones Quazi Abdul Mannan (814747), Mesbahuddin (861318), Nazimul Hoq (866830) and Md Yunus (812114), added the release.

**Post-Beijing workshop Jan 19**

The post-Beijing workshop organised by the Bangladesh National Preparatory Committee Towards Beijing, NGO Forum '95 will be held at the BMDC auditorium only on Friday instead of Thursday and Friday due to unavoidable circumstances, says a press release.

**Radio Officers' Assoc apex body**

A 13-member executive committee of the Radio News Officers' Welfare Association was elected unopposed yesterday reports UNB.

Shafiqul Amin Ferdousi has been elected president, Wahid-uz-Zaman general secretary and Md Nazrul Islam joint secretary of the association for a two-year term.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

Agrobased Industries and Technology Development Project (ATDP), a USAID funded project of the Ministry of Agriculture, seeks applications from potential candidates for a position of Specialist. The incumbent has to work in a multi-disciplinary team of specialists.

**General requirements:**

- ◆ good knowledge of agribusiness development and promotion;
- ◆ expertise in financial analysis of investment projects using computer packages such as Lotus and dBase;
- ◆ experience in organizing and leading management skill development training courses, seminars and workshops; and
- ◆ experience in working with banks or lending agencies.

**Major responsibilities include:**

- ◆ assess investment opportunities in agribusinesses;
- ◆ prepare indicative investment profiles related to agribusinesses;
- ◆ review and comment on the economic and financial viability of project proposals;
- ◆ provide technical assistance to clients on relevant management aspects of production, financial and marketing operations of enterprises to promote efficient and profitable performance;
- ◆ undertake field visits and prepare monitoring reports;
- ◆ maintain liaison with clients, participating banks and NGOs;
- ◆ prepare monthly monitoring and progress reports.

**Educational background:**

- ◆ Advanced degree in Business Administration with a major in financial management preferred.
- ◆ Work experience of at least 10 years with five years in the related field.
- ◆ Good command of English.
- ◆ Exposure as a trainer.
- ◆ Practical use of relevant computer packages.

The position is on a performance contract basis with the possibility of renewal. Highly deserving candidates shall be offered an attractive remuneration package.

Interested persons meeting the requirements are requested to apply with a comprehensive CV along with passport size photograph by 31 January 1996 to Chief of Party, ATDP, GPO Box 3044, Dhaka 1000. Individuals already in service should apply through proper channels with an advance copy of a CV sent to ATDP. The selected candidate shall have to join the team immediately. D-71

**Weather**

**Light rain likely**

Light rain or thundershower may occur at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia and Comilla in next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country during the period.

Met Office said night temperature may rise by 1 to 2 degrees Celsius over the country.

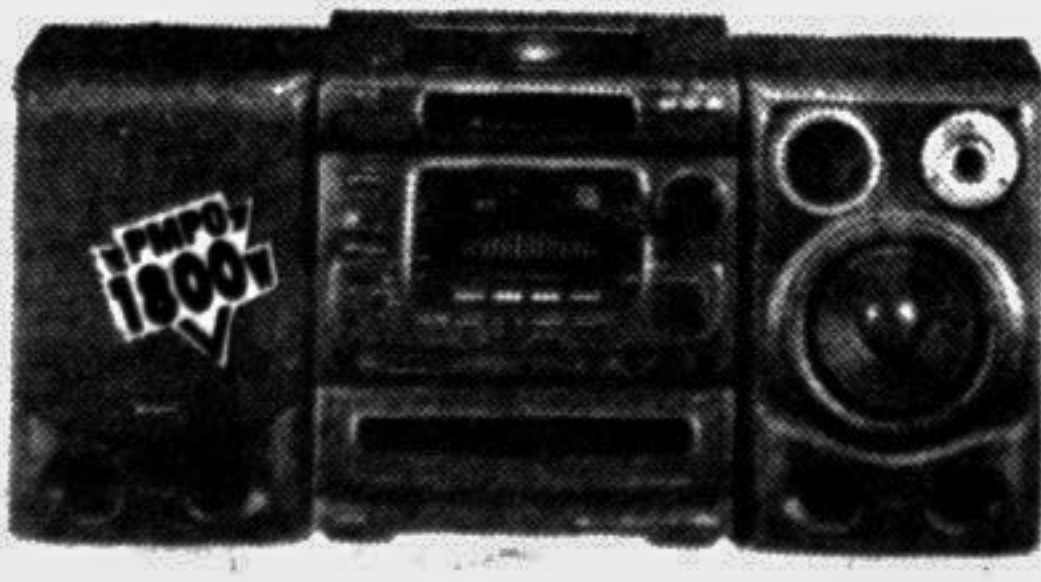
The sun sets today at 5:33 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:44 am.

The country's lowest temperature 7.5 degrees Celsius was recorded at Srimangal and the highest 28 degrees at Teknaf.

The maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	morning	evening
Dhaka	26.4	11.8	68	57
Chittagong	26.5	13.0	80	61
Rajshahi	23.2	12.3	87	70

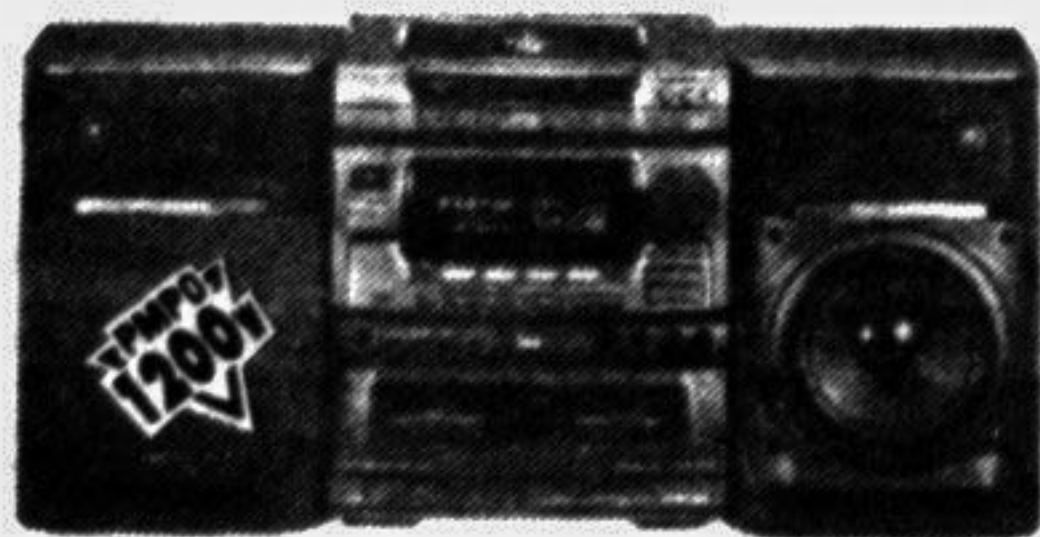
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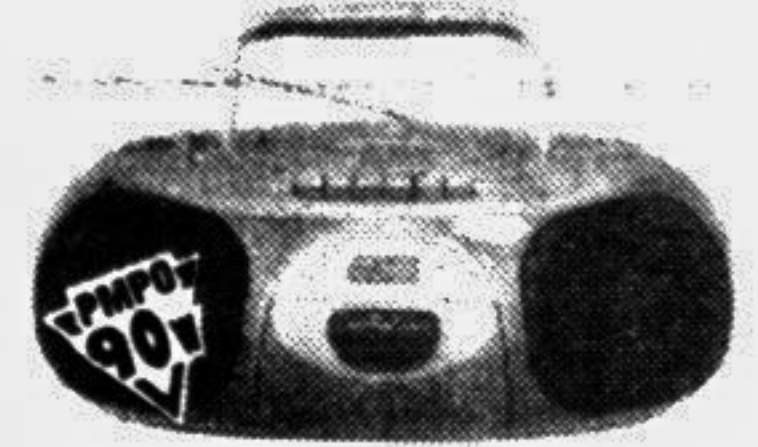
NSX - V30



CS - 110



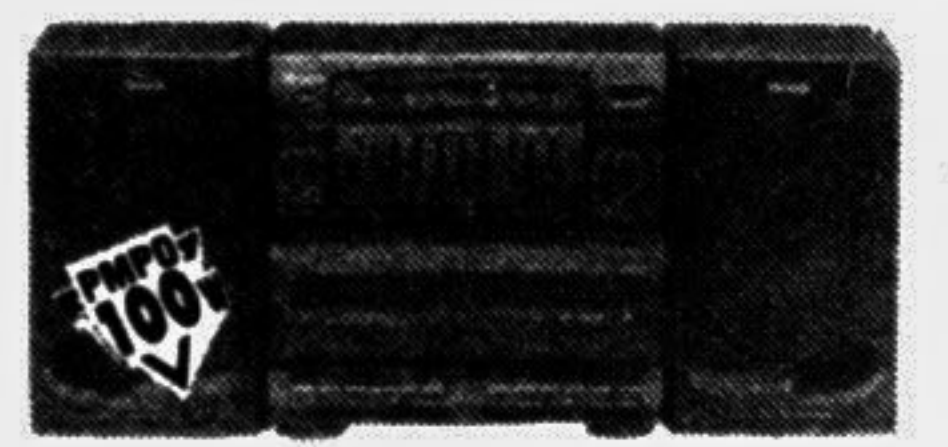
CS - W320



CSD - EX210



CA - WR55



CA - WR65

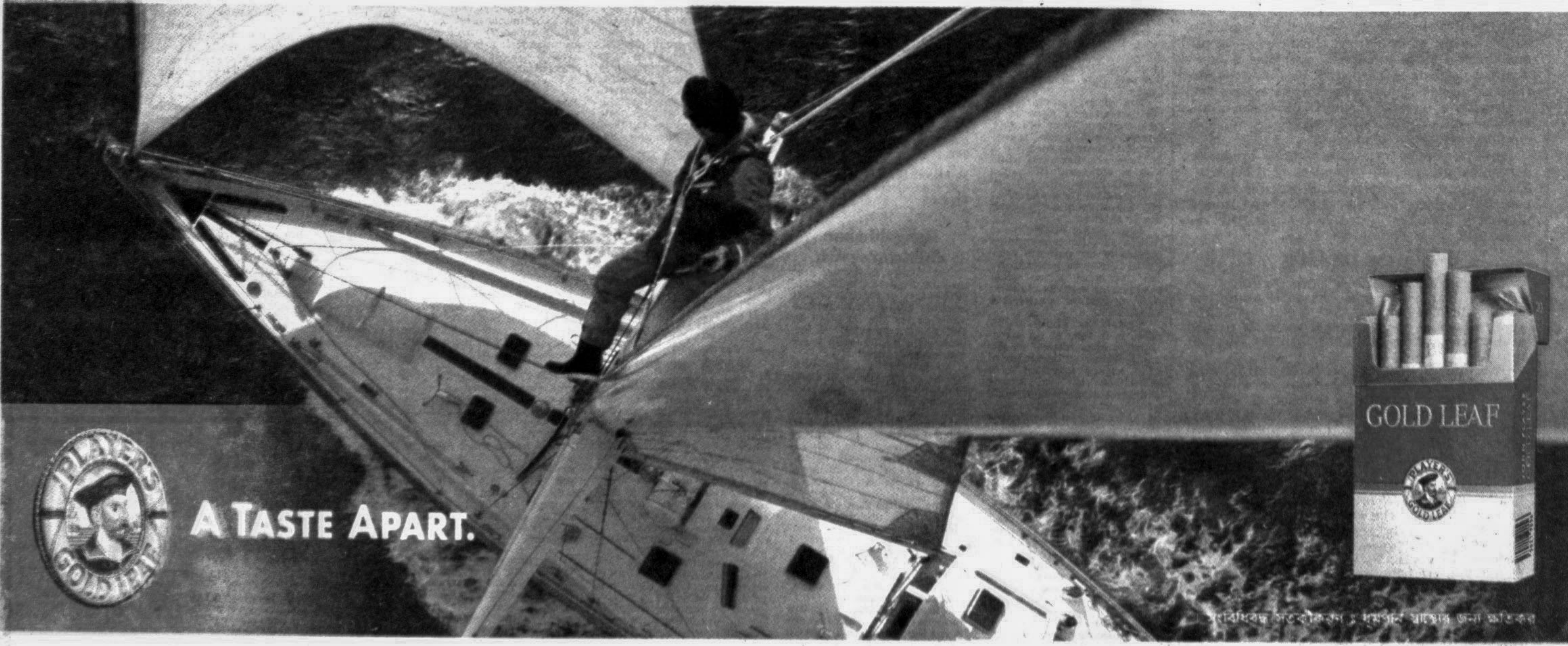
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