

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Merry Season of Picnics

by A S M Nurunnabi

With the advent of winter, the merry season of picnics has begun. The season brings about a wholesome change in our life marked hardly with enjoyment of our leisure outdoor as a form of entertainment. Climatic factors, of course, have a lot to do with our relative passivity with regard to enjoyable outings in other seasons.

In this context, winter assumes a particular significance in our ways of life. Just as migratory birds, in response to a natural urge, fly out from cold regions to warmer climes, a similar instinct, though somewhat inverse in nature, seems to operate in our people normally subject to high temperatures in other seasons. In our mild winter, more people in the city, as elsewhere in our country, prefer to remain outdoors to enjoy the soothing sunshine. This is quite a motivation for our moving out for picnics.

There are about forty seven picnic spots all around the Bhawal National Park about 40 km from the city, under the management of the Forest Department. Besides, under the same department, there are eleven cottages and four VIP rest houses which carry higher rates of fee for the same purpose. Prior booking of these places is required from the Forest Department at Mohakhali.

There are also some picnic spots near Gazipur under the management of the Parjatan Corporation. Some people prefer river cruise on the Buriganga, Sitalakya or other river routes. Even around Dhaka city, there is no dearth of suitable sites for picnic. The whole countryside around it with its verdant and scenic beauty offers unlimited possibilities. In fact, if the mood seizes you to be away from the hectic pattern of urban life, you need not have to go far for a suitable place.



The arrival of the blithesome season of picnics seems to affect all, young and old. From early December to late February, we find a flurry of activities all around in this connection. Educational institutions, government and private organisations and even some whole localities become alive in preparation for the festive time.

The festive spirit generally assumes two aspects: private and corporate. The private aspect has a limited scope, but the corporate one creates intense interest, hilarity and boisterousness. The sponsors of a corporate picnic need to possess qualities of efficient organisation and management.

Nowadays there is a large number of picnic spots not far from Dhaka city. In most cases, the proclivity of the city people is to get away from the hustle and bustle of city life. From this angle, there is a wide scope of choice for a large number of popular picnic

An interesting aspect of preparations for a picnic party is how you decide to proceed to your selected place. Most parties are seen to move on hired buses with big red banners inscribed with their identity and carrying their paraphernalia of required utensils and cullineries. When the interiors of such buses are packed to capacity, some of the enthusiastic members of the parties climb to bus tops and all the participants both inside and outside on bus tops, sing with full-throated voice the popular tunes with a variety of musical instruments. Some use microphones and lay high-pitched taped music to make their festive mood felt all around.

Such seasonal bursts of seasonal care-free merriment and abandon help to create much-needed breaks from the humdrum patten of normal life, infusing it with new zest and energy springing from contacts with nature in glorious verdant settings.



CONNOISSEURS' DELIGHT: *Bhapa pithas* (winter cakes) considered some sort of delicacy by all and sundry at this time of the year, certainly goes down well with these customers during yesterday's hartal. — Star photo

### Power failure likely

Temporary power shortfall is likely to occur in some areas of the country during evening peak hours (5 pm to 10 pm) for three days starting from today, reports BSS.

Two power generators at Ashuganj Power Station will be shut down on these days to carry out emergency maintenance work. Power Development Board (PDB) sources said last night.

### BCS (Information) apex body

Director General of Mass Communication Department Syed Sujauddin Ahmed and senior information officer of the same department Mohammad Abu Abdullah were recently elected unopposed the president and the secretary general of BCS (Information) Association, reports BSS.

The other office-bearers elected are: Sarfat Kumar Biswas and ABM Nuruzzaman (vice presidents), Tachhir Ahmed and Shachindra Nath Haldar (joint secretaries general), M A Halim (treasurer), Akhtar Hossain (organising and inter service secretary), ATM Momenul Haq (publicity publication and training secretary) and Motaahar Hossain (office secretary).

The newly elected members of the executive committee are: Harun-ur-Rashid, AHM Abdullah, Zikurul Reza Khanom, Mohammad Mostafa, Mohammad Zahir Ahmed, Nripendra Chandra Debnath, and Mohammad Nizamul Kabir.

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

**Inaugural ceremony:** The Credit Rating Information and Services Ltd. will be launched. Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 10:30 am. Chief guest: Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman.

**Lions Club of Dhaka Pallabi:** The regular meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Kayinshi Chinese Restaurant, Darus-Salam Road, Mirpur. Time: 7 pm.

### ..... and tomorrow

**UNAB seminar:** The seminar will mark the UN declared International Year for the Eradication of Poverty. Venue: National Museum auditorium. Time: 5:30 pm.

**Launching ceremony:** The programme will launch Bausch & Lomb products in Bangladesh. Venue: BIRDEM auditorium. Time: 10 am.

**Inaugural ceremony:** The shooting of a new serial 'Na' will begin. Venue: Ramna Restaurant. Time: 7 pm.

### 250 rolls of stolen fabric recovered : 4 held

By Staff Correspondent  
Police recovered 250 rolls of stolen fabric worth Tk 3.2 lakh and arrested four persons in this connection from the old part of the city late Monday.

Besides, the truck in which the fabric was loaded has been seized by police from Lalbagh thana.

The arrested were identified as Rubel, Obhi, Din Islam and Md Yasin, police said. A gang intercepted the truck loaded with the fabric near Sutrapur Bazar at around 10 am Monday. Later, they held the truck under their control and demanded a toll of Tk 20,000, said police adding that the arrested persons are the members of that gang.

The owner of the vehicle gave Tk 1000 but they demanded the full amount.

### Bangladesh Scouts to observe APR founding day

A meeting was held at the National Scouts Bhawan Thursday to mark the 40th foundation anniversary of the Asia-Pacific Region. (APR), says a press release.

The meeting presided over by Mohammad Abu Hena, international commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts, decided to observe the 40th foundation anniversary of the A-P Region on July 26.

An eight-member committee headed by Md Abdul Quayum Thakur, national commissioner (administration), Bangladesh Scouts was formed to observe detailed programmes. The committee will submit its report by January 25. The 40th A-P anniversary badges will be awarded to scouts and scouter at the National and Regional level.

The Asia-Pacific Region was established on July, 26 1956 in Manila with ten members. At present there are over 8.8 million scouts in 23 member-countries.

### WP reiterates demand for credible polls

The Workers Party (WP) politbureau yesterday reiterated its demand for holding a credible general election through amicable settlement of the persisting crisis and with participation of all political parties, reports BSS.

The party politbureau observed in a statement that election without participation of all political parties would be "a farce". It said that the non-participatory election would be rejected by the people.

The statement also said that the whole country was waiting to see a negotiated settlement of the political issue, but they were frustrated with the expiry of the last date for filing nomination papers yesterday.

The Workers Party said that there was no obstacle in deferring the election date and holding it under a neutral caretaker government. But the uncompromising attitude of the two sides has pushed the country towards uncertainty, it said and added that the consequence of holding a unilateral election would be bore by the ruling BNP.

### Bakul Academy programme

The Bakul Academy of Fine Arts (BAFA) will accord a reception to noted personalities at a ceremony in the city tomorrow, says a press release.

S M Mohsin, Director of the Shilpakala Academy drama department will be present as the chief guest, while Shahidul Islam, Nihfar Yesmin, Zinat Barkatullah and Tapan Mahmud will be the special guests.

A discussion meeting and a cultural programme will be held on the occasion at the Mugdopara community centre at 4:30 pm. The annual prize-giving ceremony of the academy will follow.

### DOA MEHFIL

A Doa Mehfil for late Alamgir M. A. Kabir will be held on Friday, the 19th of January 1996 at the Shahi Idgah Maidan (Road 6/A-7/A) Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi R/A, after Asr prayers.

All relatives, friends, co-workers and well-wishers are requested to participate in the Doa and pray for his departed soul.

Nasreen Kabir Akber Kabir Salma Husain S-24

### WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION (W.V.A)

উইমেন্স ভলান্টারী এসোসিয়েশন, (ডব্লিউ.ভি.এ) Fund Raising Committee

### W. V. A. Meena Bazar-1996

(For the benefit of underprivileged and disabled children) 19 January-Friday From 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

The Meenabazar will have international and other stalls. Entry Cards are available at the following:

Video Connection, Gulshan, Aarong-Banani, Aarong-Mirpur Road, W.V.A. Office at 405/A, Rd-27 (old), Dhanmondi and at the venue on 19 January. S-21

### DESA Notice

The esteemed consumers of Paribag area of Commercial Operation Division, Satmasjid, DESA are notified that electric bills (from November '95) of Paribag area are being sent by post. If the consumers have not received the bills by now, they are requested to contact the Commercial Operation Division concerned immediately. The esteemed consumers are further informed that, if the computer bill has included any arrear which the consumer has already paid, then the consumer may pay the current electricity bill by producing the paid copy at the bank concerned.

Please pay your electricity bill in time and cooperate with DESA.

DFP-957-14/1 Dhaka Electricity Supply Authority G-113



FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS: These people crowd at a road-side fortune telling session to know about their fate during hartal hours yesterday. — Star photo

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh National Health Library & Document Preservation Centre Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

### Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited for purchase of biomedical books for National Health Library & Document Preservation Centre, Mohakhali, Dhaka. Schedule can be collected by depositing Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (non-refundable) as price of schedule through Treasury Challan in favour of the undersigned and submitting its original copy to this office from 3-2-96 to 8-2-96 during office hours.

Tenders will be received up to 11:00 am of 10-2-96 and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 11:30 hours in presence (if any) of the tenderers.

The Tender Committee reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.

Dr. Khondaker Abul Kashem Chief Librarian (Acting) National Health Library & Document Preservation Centre, Mohakhali, Dhaka DFP-635-10/1 G-111

### Weather

### Light rain forecast

Light rain or drizzle may occur at one or two places over Sylhet division and the regions of Comilla, Mymensingh and Tangail during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office said, weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country.

Night temperature may fall by 1 to 2 degrees Celsius over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions and may remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country. In the next two days, night temperature may also fall. While giving an extended outlook for another five days weathermen predicted a little change.

The country's lowest temperature was 9.8 degrees Celsius recorded at Dinajpur and the highest 28.5 degrees at Teknaf.

The sun sets today at 5:34 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:43 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Min	Max	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	16.0	24.0	82	78
Chittagong	16.0	26.2	78	82
Rajshahi	13.8	22.5	96	84
Khulna	16.8	24.4	92	85
Barisal	17.0	24.4	96	82
Sylhet	15.8	24.8	89	80
Cox's Bazar	16.0	27.8	78	87

### Notice Inviting Tender of RHD

- Tender Notice No. : 02/SE/RRC of 1995-96.
- Name of work : Construction of 148.68 Meter long prestressed concrete girder bridge at 21st KM of Gaibandha-Nakaihata-Gobindaganj Road over Kaortawa River of Road Division, Gaibandha under Road Circle, Rangpur during 1995-96.
- Estimated cost : Tk 3,85,35,600/-
- Earnest money : Tk 7,70,712/-
- Time allowed for completion of work : 30 (Thirty) months.
- Eligibility of contractor : "A" special category contractor of RHD.
  - "A" special category of RHD contractors who have past experience of construction at least one 300'-0" minimum length RCC bridge or prestressed concrete bridge.
  - Joint venture (not more than two) will be allowed to participate in the tender. In such cases "A" special category of RHD contractor not having experience as in (i) may form joint venture with other "A" special category of RHD contractor having the requisite experience as stated above in (i) Memorandum of association of joint venture shall be registered by the Notary Public in which the extent of share and responsibility of each partner shall be mentioned and one of them to be specified as Lead Firm in such cases FD of individual partner will not be acceptable. They shall have to submit earnest money as per rule in the name of joint venture.
  - Contractor's experience certificate issued after 30-3-95 shall be in prescribed form duly signed by the concerned Executive Engineer of RHD as per sample attached with the tender documents.
  - Contractor possessing experience certificate issued before 30-3-95 shall fill up and sign the prescribed experience certificate form in accordance with the experience certificate in possession. The contractors shall also attach the copy of original experience certificate duly attested by any class 1 officer of RHD. In filling the experience certificate form if contractor conceals any fact and (a) if it is proved during evaluation of tender then the tender will be cancelled and the contractor's enlistment will also be cancelled or suspended.
  - Experience certificate issued by other department will not be acceptable unless it is examined and countersigned by the Executive Engineer, RHD, of the area where the work is situated.
- Name of offices where tender document can be purchased : Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Divn., Gaibandha/Kurigram/Rangpur/ Bogra/Planning Divn, Dhaka/Planning & Design Divn, Dhaka/ Rangpur/Rajshahi/Barisal/ Khulna/Comilla/Chittagong/Hq Laxmipur Zone.
- Name of offices where tender will be received :
  - Addl. Chief Engineer (RHD), Dhaka/Rangpur/Rajshahi/ Khulna/Barisal/Comilla/ Chittagong.
  - Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Rangpur/ Dinajpur/ Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka.
  - Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Kurigram/ Gaibandha/ Rangpur/Bogra.
- Last date of selling tender document (within office hours) : Up to 3-02-96.
- Last date & time of receiving tenders : Up to 12-30 PM on 04-02-96.
- Date & time of opening of all the tender by the undersigned : At 11-00 AM on 12-02-96.
- Date & time of lottery (if necessary) : At 11-00 AM on 14-02-96.
- In case of declaration of Govt. holiday by the Govt. on 03-02-96 tender documents can be purchased on 04-02-96 and in case of sudden declaration of Govt. holiday by the Govt. on 04-2-96, tender will be received on 5-2-96 and date of opening and date of lottery will be remain unchanged. No separate notice will be issued for this.

DFP-1051-15/1 Superintending Engineer (RHD) G-114 Rangpur Road Circle, Rangpur