

## Dhaka Day by Day

### Tadbir Culture

By A S M Nurnnabi

Tadbir is a versatile word in Bangla. In its innocuous form, it means effort for achieving success. But in the context of our socio-economic ramifications, it has acquired connotations such as lobbying with built in quid pro quo, palm-greasing or euphemisms for bribe or graft. It is open to question whether the phenomenon has become part of our national culture. In fact, there is hardly any sphere in life where the phenomenon does not operate in lofty strides.

According to psychologists, it has roots in economic factors arising from insufficiency of where-withal of its operators to get necessities of life or pure and simple cupidity. The fundamental principle on which the phenomenon operates, is, as already indicated, quid pro quo in cash or kind. In the Dhaka city, the government secretariat offers a convenient field for witnessing its operations for a variety of objectives.

Since antipathy towards normal duties has also developed into a sort of culture with the office functionaries, tadbir-mongering gets added impetus. The movement of a file, however important of urgent it may be, suffers from inertia from the stages through which it has to pass. The concerned functionary holds up the file in the hope that a tadbir player will soon appear to pursue the file. When an understanding is reached with the player, the file resumes its movement to the next higher stage where the same deal may be repeated. The play may continue till the file is finally disposed of and the tadbir party gains its objective.

The tadbir-mongers form a distinct class by themselves. Since the secretariat, which is a protected area, is the heart of the administration, no ordinary person can get easy access to the offices. He then needs the help of a person capable of doing him the favour, at a price, of enquiring about the progress of the file concerning his case. Here a professional tadbir monger comes forward to help. There are also amateur tadbir mongers in most offices by and large.

always on the look-out for new clients so that they can exercise their skill in this respect.

It is said that most of the visitors that through the visitors' room in the secretariat are professional tadbir mongers or persons seeking to make tadbirs on their own in some office or another within the secretariat. There is a steady demand for the services of professional tadbir-mongers on account of the fact that most ordinary people are not acquainted with the mechanism of work in the offices in the secretariat. For such people, the help of a professional is necessary and the latter often takes resort to trickery and deceit to establish credibility with his victims.

With the passage of time, the dress and modus operandi of this professional class have changed. It is said that this class previously used to wear pumama and kurta, carrying a small leather bag and chewing betel leaves. The tadbir monger at present wears safari or lounge suits with expensive cigarette case or cellular phone in hand. They, as a class, are more more dashing and enterprising with claims of political influence behind them. They manage to get easy access to the high ups in the administration's hierarchy and conduct their business in a flamboyant style.

An interesting aspect of the life of this class is that they form the bulk of the customers of the hotels and restaurants situated across the secretariat premises. A couple of years ago, there was only a handful of such establishments in that area. Now their number has largely increased.

It is estimated that in the large crowd of visitors in the secretariat, ninety per cent of them are on their missions of tadbir. Their objectives cover a wide spectrum ranging from managing suitable transfer, posting, promotion of their clients to more profound subjects like international tender, project approval, etc.

The tadbir culture has come to stay in our life with its tentacles spreading to all spheres of activities.



Students of Jagannath Hall yesterday staged a sit-in at the office of the Vice-Chancellor demanding the release of 54 fellow students. — Star photo

### Violence not the way to register protest: CEC

By Staff Correspondent

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Justice A K M Sadeque yesterday said that the political parties had no right to choose the path of violence as a means of protest.

"You may boycott something that you don't like, you may call hartal but in a democratic society it is a criminal offence to take to violence to realise your demand," Justice Sadeque said talking to some newsmen at his office.

The CEC was referring to the agitation programmes taken up by the major opposition parties to resist the "one-party" elections scheduled for February 15. There were reports of anti-election violence in different parts of the country.

"I am not at all afraid of the opposition programmes during the coming polls," the CEC said, adding that if rickshaws and pedestrians are allowed to move it would facilitate the polling. "We ourselves are going to face a lot of problems as regards movement of vehicles on the road during the elections," he said in reply to a question.

Justice Sadeque also said that local and foreign observers would come and see for themselves what kind of elections were being conducted.

"The Election Commission's overall duty is to conduct the polls and we will do it," the CEC said.

### Calendar on War of Liberation

By Staff Correspondent

The Mukti Joddher Smriti Sangrakshak Kendra (centre for preservation of the memory of the War of Liberation) has published a bilingual calendar

portraying vivid descriptions of the country's struggle for freedom. The calendar's descriptions have been written by researcher Dr Mohammed Hannan, and contains illustrations by artist Hashem Khan. Sharier Kabir oversaw its planning.



### Obituary

By Staff Correspondent

Zakaria Habib, a film producer and director, died of cancer in Dhaka on Sunday. He was 56.

Habib a younger brother of Shahidullah Kaiser and Zahir Raihan, left behind his mother, wife, one son and two daughters.

Habib was buried at his village home at Mozapur in Feni yesterday. His kulkhwani will be held on February 8 at 29, Kayettuli.

He was a organiser of the Ekattur Ghatalk Dalal Nir-mul Committee.

Prof. Kabir Chowdhury, Sayed Hasan Imam, Prof. Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, Prof. Panna Kaiser, Dr SA Malek, Sayed Shamsul Haq, Shahrier Kabir and Kazi Mukul con-doled the death of Habib.

Former controller of examinations of Jessore Education Board Syed Mujibul Haq died of old age ailments Saturday at a clinic. He was 72, reports BSS.

He was buried at his village home at Dampara of Tangbari thana under Munshigonj Sunday. His namaz-e-janaza was held at his Shanti-nagar residence Sunday.

Syed Mujibul Haq left behind his wife, two sons and one daughter.

### Ex-APSU leaders' call to cancel Feb 15 polls

Some student leaders belonging to the components of All Party Student Unity (APSU) at a meeting here yesterday demanded immediate cancellation of the February 15 general election, reports UNB.

The meeting warned of a serious confrontation on the voting day if the 'mock, one-party election' is not cancelled.

None from the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), which was a component of APSU, was invited to the meeting which also condemned 'foreign interference in the country's politics.'

The meeting was addressed by Habibur Rahman Habib, Shahe Alam, Nur Ahmed Bakul, Shafi Ahmed, Asim Kumar Ukil, SM Kamal Hossain, SM Zahangir, Sa-

fuddin Ahmed Moni, Kamal Pasha Chowdhury, Afzal Hossain, Bina Sikdar, Ahad Ahmed, Shafiqul Islam Kaji, Sadique Rahman Parag, Zakaria Dwiip, Ishaq Ali Khan Panna, Monjurul Haq Lavlu and Obaidur Rahman Chinnu.

It was also attended by Radio Television Artists' Council general secretary Khaled Khan, Recitation Coordination Council general secretary Hasan Arif and Group Theatre Federation leader Aminul Haq Montu.

The former student leaders urged all socio-cultural, professional and student organisations, which had played a vital role during the anti-Ershad movement, to attend a meeting at the Taher Auditorium in the city tomorrow at 4 pm.

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

**Film show:** The film *Behula* by Zahir Raihan will be screened. Venue: Russian Culture Centre. Time: 3 pm.

**Rotary Club of Ramna:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Officers' Club. Time: 4:30 pm.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka New City:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Singer Sewing School, Kakrail. Time: 4 pm.

**PPRC press conference:** The finding of the fourth Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) will be presented. Venue: VIP lounge, Jatiya Press Club. Time: 11 am.

**Rotary Club of Motijheel:** The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: 347, Elephant Road. Time: 4:30 pm.

### ..... and tomorrow

**Discussion on Islam in the US:** The United States Information Service will hold the discussion. Venue: Jiban Bima Bhavan. Time: 2:30 pm.



বাংলাদেশ ডায়াবেটিক সমিতি  
DIABETIC ASSOCIATION OF BANGLADESH

Ibrahim Memorial Diabetes Centre, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

### বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ আগামী ০৯-০২-১৯৯৬ তারিখে ঢাকা সিটি কলেজ, রোড নং ২, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকায় অনুষ্ঠিতব্য বার্ষিক হাসপাতালে সিনিয়র স্টাফ নার্স পদে নিয়োগের দ্বিতীয় নির্বাচনী পরীক্ষা আপাততঃ স্থগিত করা হলো। পরবর্তীতে পরীক্ষার স্থান ও সময়সীমা পরীক্ষার্থীদের জানিয়ে দেয়া হবে।

ডি-১৫৯

মহাসচিব

### Professionals Needed

#### THE PRIP TRUST

House # 56, Road # 16 (New)  
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka - 1209

We are an NGO with mission to "strengthen strategically important initiatives and activities of NGO support organizations and networks with the aim of sustaining of dynamic NGO sector." We attempt this through Institutional Development of support NGOs, Research, Documentation and Training.

### DIRECTOR, PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND TRAINING

Development Professional having experience and proficiency in implementing programs such as the ones undertaken by PRIP, and also high managerial competency. Incumbent will be responsible for effective implementation of the projects and training programs as a senior management staff.

This position require professional qualifications in Social Sciences/ Management etc. and relevant experience at management level.

Gross salary will be in the range of Tk. 30,000.00 - 35,000.00 depending on qualifications and experience. Salary can be negotiated in exceptional cases. We provide excellent working environment and learning opportunities.

If you feel confident, have the requisite competencies, fluency in the English language, and you subscribe to PRIP's mission, please apply with your detailed CV and a passport size photograph, marking the position on the envelope, to the Executive Director by February 20, 1996. Only short listed candidates will be contacted for further selection process.

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Food  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

No. MOF/Sec-12/Import-1/96

Dated: 4-02-96

### Amendment of International Tender Notice for Import of Parboiled Rice

Due to unavoidable circumstances Ministry of Food's Tender Notice No. MOF/Sec-12/Import-1/96/77 Dated: 16-1-96 for import of 50,000 MTs of parboiled rice is hereby rescheduled as follows:

- k) Last date of selling : 25th February, 1996 up to 2-30 PM.  
tender schedule & other terms & conditions etc.  
n) Time and date of closing : 1330 hrs. BST on 26th February, 1996.  
o) Time & date of opening : 1400 hrs BST on 26th February, 1996. Tenderers or their representatives may attend the same.  
p) Validity of offer to be kept : Up to 1700 hrs. BST on 2-3-96.  
Other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.

Dr Yeameen Akbory

Sr. Asstt. Secretary

Ministry of Food

Phone: 867938 (Off)

DFP-2903-5/2  
G-217

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Department of Agril. Extension  
Khamarbari, Farm Gate, Dhaka-1215.

### Notice for Appointment

Applications are invited from bonafide Bangladeshi nationals for filling up of the following posts under UNDP/FAO/DAE project on "Thana Cereal Technology Transfer and Identification".

Applications completed in all respects and with bio-data should reach the Director General, Department of Agriculture Extension, Khamar Bari, Farm Gate, Dhaka-1215 on or before 15-2-96. Applications should be addressed to Director General, Department of Agriculture Extension. Salary, age and service conditions will be guided as per provisions in the PRODOC.

#### Name of Posts:

##### 1. Project Co-ordinator (National Expert)

No. of Post-1

Duration: Five years

Qualifications:

- university degree in Agriculture Science (preferably post graduate) in technical field of agriculture;
- experience in irrigated agriculture preferably with rice, and also on wheat, maize and pulses;
- good oral communications skills and ability to write technical matters concisely;
- in-depth knowledge of food production in Bangladesh and internal organization associate with the MOA;
- experience in project organization, management and implementation preferred; and
- ability to travel, work as a team member and inspire less-experienced extension staff is essential.
- preference will be given to candidates having 20 years experience in Field Extension activities of DAE. Experience on extension research linkage will be considered as additional qualification.

##### 2. Crop Improvement Specialist (National Expert)

One Post

Duration: Five years.

Qualifications:

- university degree with emphasis in technical area of agriculture, preferably post graduate in plant breeding;
- ability to travel frequently and reside in rural community;
- field experience in crop improvement or closely associated discipline;
- firsthand knowledge of agricultural production systems involving a cereal-based cropping pattern;
- ability to work with diverse crops and supervise field staff.

##### 3. Extension/Agronomists (National Expert)

Two Posts.

Duration: Five years.

Qualifications:

- university degree with emphasis on technical aspects of crop production, farm management and economics of crop production;
- experience (field) in area of rice production;
- ability to communicate, teach and lead experienced staff;
- experience in working with farm community.

Md. Habibul Haq

Additional Director (A&amp;P)

for Director General.

DFP-2733-3/2  
G-221

### C'wealth teacher meets Sircar

President of Commonwealth of Learning at Vancouver in Canada, Professor Gajaj Dhanarajan called on Education Minister Jamir Uddin Sircar at his office yesterday, reports UNB.

Professor Dhanarajan gave an assurance to exchange expertise, experience and extending financial and technical assistance in different fields of the Distance Education Programme of Bangladesh Open University (BOU).

### Role of country's diploma engineers highlighted

A delegation of the executive committee of the Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh, met President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Jagannath Hall yesterday, reports BSS.

Vice-president of the organisation M Rafiqul Islam Bhuiyan led the delegation.

Talking to them, the President said the diploma engineers of the country have a participatory role in the development activities aimed at improving the quality of life

of the people.

The President referred to the achievements of the developing countries of Asia and said, "We must prove ourselves competent to face the challenges of the 21st century."

A K M A Hamid, Kazi Lutful Kabir, M Mozammel Huq, Shafiqul Islam, Mridha Nazul Islam, Khandkar Moazzem Hossain and Abdur Rab Bhuiyan were present on the occasion.

### High Commission of India

Dhaka

### Government of India Scholarships to Bangladesh Students

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Government of India, will offer scholarships in 1996-97 to meritorious Bangladeshi students to study in Indian colleges and universities. Scholarships are available for under-graduate and post-graduate courses as well as M. Phil, Ph. D, M Tech and Post Doctoral Research.

Scholarships are available for the study of Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit, in the field of Sports, and for studies in the field of Culture as well as for other general courses.

Bangladeshi students interested in the scholarships are requested to apply to the First Secretary (Education), High Commission of India, Dhaka. A copy of their application may be sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Bangladesh.

THE LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS IN THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA (EDUCATION WING) IS FEBRUARY 29, 1996.

For further information, please contact the Education Wing, High Commission of India, House No. 120, Road No 3, DRA, Dhaka either personally or on phone (Tel No 500597)

D-160

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Dist : Pabna

### Tender Notice

No 13/1995-96

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from all Classes of Contractors except "C" (Ga) under LGED and Prequalified Contractors of any other Project of LGED in Bangladesh Form No 2911 for execution of following work during F/Y 1995-96.

- Place of purchasing tender documents & submission
- Last date selling of tender documents
- Date of submission of tender documents
- Date of opening of tender documents
- Description of work

Package No.	Name of Work & Location	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender document (Tk)	Time allowed for work	Class of Contractor
1.	Const of 30M RCC standard bridge over Katgara Khal at Ch. 5620m on Ekdanta Shariatganj Road at Chatmohar Thana, Pabna.	2.50% of quoted amount	1000.00	240 days	"Special", "A", "B" & Prequalified Contractor of any other project of LGED.

Md Saidul Haque

Executive Engineer

LGED, Pabna.

DFP-2599-1/2  
G-216