

Dhaka Day by Day

Another Flop Show

by Asha Mehreen Amin

After indulging the stomach to dangerous proportions the Eid feaster may feel it is time to relax and watch the special Eid programmes. BTV has so generously arranged. If there was any doubt in anyone's mind about the superiority of cable TV over our local station, Eid day's *anando mela* would have dissolved it completely.

No other programme could have given so little 'anando' (joy). Apart from the lacklustre sets what really stood out were the jarringly unfunny jokes cracked by hackneyed comedians.

Even with all the film stars and TV personalities the show just didn't take off. The contests for one thing were a total flop. The pitiful attempt at creating fun for the audience included a singing competition between well known dancers. The whole thing was pre-recorded, present, and predictable with the contestants lip-singing their fits and actually pretending to be surprised at their rivals' choice of song. But what topped it all was the bizarre eating competition where a number of

well-known Bangladeshi cricketers had to go through the humiliation of gulping down enormous amount of unappealing sweet-meats which had scores attached to them depending on their size. In the background was the irritating drone of a cricket commentator who failed to bring even a grimace with his running commentary. The more or less tolerable number by a local band became quite insufferable because of the video that went with it. All that prancing and jumping was quite unnecessary.

In between these major killjoys were the little skits that have become typical of BTV's stereotyped humour. A man dressed as a beggar with a mole on his nose, the couple going out or the stand-up comedian who baffles some inanities non-stop thinking he has the audience rolling. Uninspiring magic, tricks and songs were also part of this bore of a show that didn't even have a hint of spontaneity or innovation. The only redeeming factor was perhaps the realization that we have a few months before we are subjected to the agony of going through yet another 'anandohin' (joyless) *anando mela*.



Film show

Zahir Raihan Film Society has organised a three-day film session in collaboration with the Cultural Section of the High Commission of India here from tomorrow, says a press release.

One Indian film will be screened at 6 pm everyday at the Indian High Commission auditorium.

The films to be screened are *Aaghat* by Govind Nihalani (Monday), *Arth satya* by Govind Nihalani (Tuesday) and *Vidheyan* by Adoor Gopal Kishan (Wednesday).

Censor certificate suspended

Censor certificate of a English feature film has been suspended due to illegal screening of the film at a cinema hall at Kanchpur in Narayanganj district recently, reports UNB.

Exhibition of the English feature film 'Spiritual Super Cop' will remain suspended until further order, says a press release of Bangladesh Film Censor Board yesterday.

Shaheed Dibash observed abroad

The historic 'Shaheed Dibash' was observed by the Bangladesh missions abroad with due respect and solemnity, reports BSS.

The day's programme included hoisting of national flag at half mast, observance of one minute silence as a mark of respect to the language martyrs, special prayers for the peace of the martyrs of the language movement and also for peace, progress and prosperity of Bangladesh. Seminar and cultural function also organised.

Police action on newsmen condemned

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) in a joint statement strongly condemned police action on journalists while performing their professional duty on the first day of the three-day non-cooperation programme yesterday called by the opposition parties, reports BSS.

BRAC to set up 350 community libraries

Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) has commenced the setting up of 350 community libraries in the rural areas by the end of next year, says a press release.

FH Abed, executive director of BRAC, during his meeting with the press corps accompanying the German Minister for Economic Cooperation & Development, disclosed this. He said that the purpose of this programme was to create a reading environment for the literate rural population who have no access to reading materials like books, periodicals, and newspapers. This will also be a positive step towards sustaining the literacy of the rural people, he said.

Abed said that each library will be equipped with 1,000 books, two daily Bengali newspapers, one magazine and BRAC periodicals. He said these centres will also have various training facilities including computer.

The library activities also include such programmes as sports, cultural events and discussion sessions. All members of the community including students will have access to the libraries, he said.

BRAC had set up 50 libraries, known as 'Gonokendra Pathagar', on experimental basis this year in Mymensingh, Narsingdi and Manikganj areas. In view of the unprecedented enthusiasm of and response from the people it has been decided to expand the programme in most of the BRAC covered areas all over the country. Each library, jointly managed by BRAC and local community, will have 300 members, 30 per cent of whom will be female. Average number of readers was already found to be about 100 in each library everyday. The books also include a copy of the Holy Quran, life of the Prophet (SM) and other books on religion. It is very encouraging that the local communities have provided space free of cost and are also bearing 25 per cent of the recurring expenditure. The libraries will also be provided with TV set, the cost of which will jointly be borne by BRAC and the community.

In the statement, BFUJ president Amanullah Kabir, secretary general Zahirul Haq and acting DUJ president Abu Saleh and general secretary Ruhul Amin Gazi also condemned the incident in which an auto rickshaw hired by Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) was set ablaze by pickets near Moghbazar in the city. Shahidul Islam, a photo journalist of the Daily Desh Janata was seriously injured in the police action near Zero Point at Gulistan. He is now being treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Two other journalists were also injured in the action.

The journalists' leaders urged the government and the opposition as well to ensure safety of the working journalists and help perform their professional duty freely and objectively.

Meanwhile, Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU), a forum of city reporters, expressed concern at the police action on newsmen and photographers on duty in front of Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

DRU president Saiful Kabir and general secretary Mostafa Feroz, in a statement, said some photo journalists and a staff reporter of Daily Rupali, Jasim Ahmed, while gathering news in front of Gate one of Bangladesh Secretariat were assaulted by police.

The DRU leaders urged the government for proper investigation into the incident and measures to stop recurrence of such incidents.



Awami League activists staged a sit-in in front of the Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. — Star photo

Exam shifted

Bangladesh Open University (BOU) has changed the schedule of CELP course examination, says a press release.

The examinations will now be held on March 15 and 22 instead of March 1 and 8, added the release.

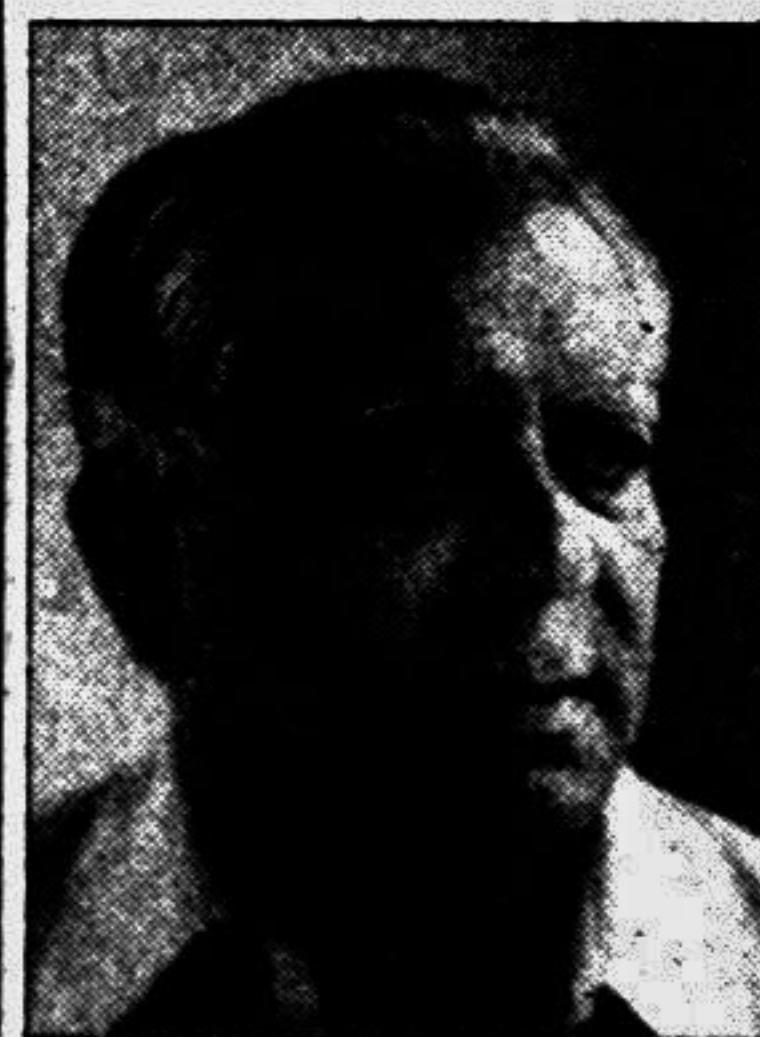
Khaleda greets Kuwaiti PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has felicitated her Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah on the happy occasion of the National Day of his country, reports BSS.

In a message to the Crown

Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, begum expressed her conviction that the fraternal ties and mutually beneficial co-operation between the two brotherly countries will grow and expand in the years to come.

Heartfelt Thanks



Professor Kazi Abul Monsur expired on 20th February, 1996 at 8-00 PM at Suhrawardy Hospital. We express our gratitude to those who visited Professor Monsur at his bedside and attended the kul khwani (23-2-96).

Family members of Professor Monsur

In the Supreme Court of Bangladesh High Court Division (Original Civil Jurisdiction)

Matter No. 03 of 1996

In the matter of :-

An application U/S. 151 of the Companies Act 1994.

AND

In the matter of :-

Khandaker Zillur Rahman, Managing Director, Fairlon Agency Ltd. 8, D.I.T. Avenue Extension (East) Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

..... Petitioner.

Versus

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Bangladesh..... Respondent.

Notice is hereby given that the above named petitioner has filed an application U/S. 151 of the Companies Act, 1994 before the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 22-1-96 and upon hearing his Lordship Mr. Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury has been pleased to admit the said application vide order dated 24-1-96 and fixed for hearing on 12-3-96. Any person interested in the matter may appear before the Court either in person or through an Advocate on or before the date of hearing.

Copy of the petition may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of prescribed fees.

JASHIM UDDIN AHMED
ADVOCATE
GA-184, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.

Biman BANGLADESH AIRLINES

Ref: DACPL/26/95-96/535

Dated: 10.02.96.

Tender Notice No:43/95-96

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by Biman Bangladesh Airlines on two envelope system (Technical & Price Offer) from interested Manufacturers/Distributors/Suppliers for the supply of any or all the items mentioned below (05 items) as per details/specifications mentioned in the schedule:

01. Best Quality Umbrella (1700 Pcs).
02. Arm Belt (17000 Pcs).
03. Eshram Belt (17000 Pcs).
04. Sewing Machine Oil (100 LTR).
05. a) Radial Tubeless Tyre (10 Set).
Size: 24R20.5XSPR 16.
b) Tyre & Tube with Flap (12 Set).
Size: 700-16(8 PLY).

Tender schedule mentioning full details/specifications of items, terms and conditions will be available from the Accounts Officer, Cash Payment Unit of Finance Directorate, Admin Building, Biman, ZIA, Dhaka and Asstt. Manager (Cash & Banking), Biman, Motijheel, Dhaka on payment of Tk 100/- (Taka one hundred only) per set (for each group) (non-refundable) by applying self letter head pad during any working day up to 29.02.96.

Sealed tenders should be dropped in the tender box kept in Local Purchase Section, Stores & Purchases Directorate, Biman, ZIA, Dhaka and Biman Head Office Reception Counter, Biman Bhaban, Motijheel, Dhaka latest by 1100 hours on 02.03.96 and will be opened on the same day at 1400 hours (BST) at the premises of Stores and Purchases Directorate, Admin Building, Biman, ZIA, Dhaka in presence of the tenderers (if any).

Biman management reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity in the items and can accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFP-3903-14/2 Dy General Manager (S&P) Commercial Stores & Purchases Directorate

Weather

Temporary rain likely

Temporary rain or thundershower accompanied by gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Chittagong, Dhaka, Sylhet and Barisal divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions.

Night temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged across the country.

Meantime, Cox's Bazar experienced the highest 48 mm rain Friday. Chittagong had 20 mm shower and Barisal 4 mm during the period.

Country's highest temperature 31.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Satkhira and the lowest 14.2 degrees at Dinajpur.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	morning	evening
Dhaka	31.2	21.5	80	58
Chittagong	27.2	19.5	82	86
Rajshahi	29.0	14.5	94	70
Khulna	31.5	16.2	93	69
Barisal	30.8	21.6	35	73
Sylhet	28.5	16.4	98	68
Cox's Bazar	27.6	18.5	76	88

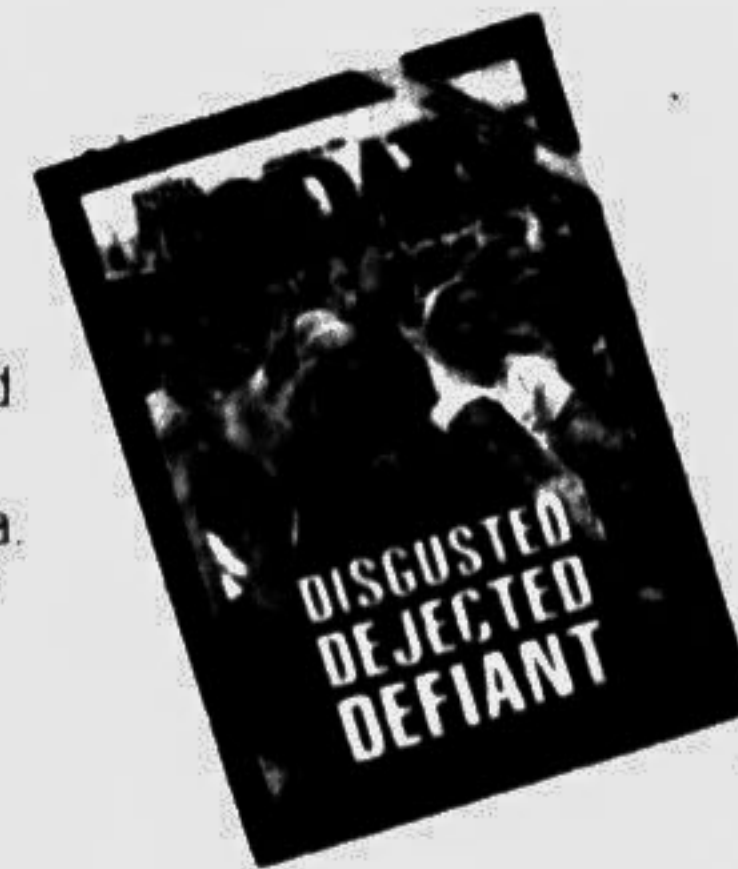


A pedestrian was injured in a bomb blast in front of the Jatiya Press Club during Opposition's non-cooperation programme yesterday. — Star photo

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