Dhaka Day by Day

Water Vendors in Parks

by AS M Nurunnabi

City life presents many scenes. These scenes, on account of their continuous existence, are taken for granted by the city dwellers who express no surprise or curiosity about them.

One of such scenes is the vending of drinking water by some girls of tender age in the city parks. They can be seen, for example, in Ramna Park and Suhrawardy Uddyan. Seeing them one may feel intrigued about the various

ways the quest for a living goes on in the city. These vending youngsters are mainly in the 9-10 age group. According to existing law, they are supposed to be in the free primary schools. but the hard necessity of earning some additional amount to supplement the income of their parents or guardians has compelled them to take to this unusual earning practice.

The sultry days in summer drive some people to seek the cool shade of trees in the park for sometime for relaxation. While thus resting, they may feel the urge for a drink of water. There are, of course, other venders selling soft drinks in the park. But their price may be beyond the means of some people taking rest in the park. For such people, a drink of water for a small sum may seem affordable. Thus there is a constant demand for drinking water among certain sections of visitors.

In this trade, young girls, rather than boys. appear to be more predominant. Their tools of the trade are an aluminium jug and a glass. One of the girls, engaged in such a trade is named Rahima, aged 10. Her father is a day labourer and mother a maid servant. They live in a slum area of the city.

the morning when she comes to the Ramna neighbourhoods of the city or working as mini-Park with her pitcher and tumbler. Filling the butchers for dressing chickens in city markets.

pitcher with water from a nearby tap in the park, she begins her rounds from one end of the park to the other. Some people not so fastidious about the quality of water or its source respond to her offer of water. She is not insistent on any specific amount as price of her water. She accepts whatever amount is paid to her. Some people offer her a taka or two for the water. She remembers one occasion when a gentleman gave her Tk 10 for her water during a hot spell when his two children became thirsty in course of their outing in the park. Her daily average income from selling water is about Tk 20-30. During holidays or festivals, the earning may go up to Tk 50 per day. At the end of the day, she hands over her earning to her parents after spending a small amount of it for her mid-day meal.

Though her life is full of hardship, she gets consolation when she compares her life with the fate of other girls and older women who seek to earn their living by collecting dry leaves from the trees in the park by sackfuls and selling them as fuel in the slum areas of the city. Of course, she has to face competition from other girls similarly engaged in water

selling in the park but they are not many. With the increase in the number of visitors to the park consequent on the rise in city population, these girl vendors find a steady demand for their water. It is, of course, a form of child labour but, since it affords a measure of freedom, its galling aspect is less in evidence. It, however, bears testimony to many unusual means of subsistence adopted by a less fortunate section of city populace, like selling ashes Rahima's working day begins early at 9 in for purposes of cleaning utensils in some



Vending water for a pittance

Employment Opportunity

Appointment of Managing Director

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), established in May 1990 is an apex financing organisation for distribution of micro-credit through its carefully selected Partner Organisations (i.e. NGOs) in the rural areas of Bangladesh for self-employment, income generation and poverty alleviation of the landless and assetless people. PKSF is grounded on a strong footing and has created its own identity and image as a viable and unique organisation in the field of poverty alleviation in Bangladesh. The Foundation channels micro-credit through NGOs to the targeted rural poor, undertakes intensive supervision and also renders consultancy services for building specially designed financial institutions for the rural poor. It also undertakes intensive supervision, monitoring at grass-root level and sponsors exploratory research work to find out the impact of its credit programme on the poor beneficiaries.

The Managing Director is the chief Executive Officer of PKSF who works under the policy direction of its Governing Body. He isresponsible for the management of the affairs of PKSF and has to play a leading and innovative role for managing and expansion of the activities of PKSF.

Qualifications: The intending candidates are expected to have high academic achievements with at least 20 years experience in the field of finance/planning, rural development (preferably microcredit management), and poverty alleviation at top management. levels. He or she should have demonstrated leadership qualities excellent organising, analytical, negotiating and problem solving skills, The candidates are also expected to have experience of leading organizations in any of the above mentioned fields.

Emoluments: The emoluments will include a monthly salary not exceeding Tk. 30,000/-, monthly house rent allowance of Tk. 15,000/- and other allowances. The Foundation will also provide the Managing Director with a full time transport with driver. These conditions may be revised by the Governing Body of the Foundation from time to time.

The appointment will be made on contract basis for an initial period of not exceeding 5 years, subject to annual evaluation of performance by the Governing Body of the Foundation.

Application in sealed envelopes under registered post should be sent to the following address not later than 15.6.96

> Chairman, Search Committee for Appointment of Managing Director Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation House No. 5, Road No. 2 Dhanmondi Residential Area Dhaka - 1205



Visitors at a photographic exhibition on King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, organised by the Thai Embassy in Dhaka to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the king's accession to the throne, yesterday at the Hotel Sonargaon. - Star photo

King' Bhumibol in frame

By Staff Correspondent A one-day photographic exhibition celebrating the life and work of King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand was held yesterday at a city hotel.

The Embassy of Thailand in Dhaka organised the show on the occasion of the golden jubilee of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's accession to the throne.

Sixty rare photographs depicting the life and activities of Thailand's longest reigning monarch were put on display at the ballroom of the Hotel Sonargaon from 9 am to 2 pm.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr Nazma Chowdhury. adviser in charge of the ministries of social welfare, labour, manpower, and women and children's affairs.

Referring to the fifty eventful years of the Thai King. Dr Nazma said it was wellknown that the services rendered by King Bhumibol to development and welfare work had benefitted millions in his country in addition to making the nation an important member of the ASEAN group.

Dr Nazma observed that Bangladesh-Thailand cooperation in different fields were on the increase, reflecting the growing ties between the two

The opening ceremony was addressed by the Ambassador of Thailand to Bangladesh. Sunthorn Vidhyameth.

One mugged of Tk 75000

By Staff Correspondent

Muggers stabbed a businessman and snatched away Tk 75,000 from him at Nawabpur road in the older part of the city Wednesday evening.

Noni Gopal Chowdhury, an iron-rod trader, came under attack by a gang of four muggers when he was returning home along with three of his employees, family sources said. The miscreants stabbed him in the hand and took away

the cash Earlier, Chowdhury was robbed of Tk two lakh in the same area in Ramadhan this year, sources added. Sutrapur police has been

BOU to open course on nursing

informed of the incident.

Dr Gail Crawford of Athapasca. University of Canada, an expert on distance education. is now in Dhaka to help Bangladesh Open University develop course and curriculum on nursing for BSc classes. says a press release.

During her month-long stay in Bangladesh Dr Crawford will also provide assistance to BOU in text-book writing and planning tutorial and practical sessions for the nursing degree. BOU is likely to open BSc in nursing later this year.

Preparatory meet for PASLOS ends

Project Development Committee meeting for the preparation of the 25th Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar (PASOLS-XXV) concluded in the city yesterday. reports UNB.

PASOLS-XXV will be the second such seminar in Dhaka. Earlier in 1989 Bangladesh Armed Forces co-hosted PASOLS-XXV

The Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistic Seminars are aimed at improving logistic management capabilities and foster the spirit of regional logistic cooperation which is accomplished through exchange of logistics information amongst senior defence officers from Pacific Asian and Indian Ocean nations as well as through the pursuit of bilateral and multilateral initiatives.

Zonta Club polls May 19

The annual general meeting South International Club II for the year 1995-96 will be held on May 19 at 3.30 pm in Surma, Hotel Songargaon, says a press release.

The AGM will be followed by the elections for the committee for the year 1996 98 at the same venue.

What's on today

Seminar on architecture: The Institutes of Architects. Bangladesh (IAB) has organised a day-long seminar on "25 years of architecture in Bangladesh". Energy and Mineral Resources Adviser Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury will attend the seminar as chief guest. Venue: Sheraton hotel. Time: 9:30 am.

BPSA meet: A meeting of the Bangladesh Professional Secretaries Association (BPSA) will be held. Ayesha Chopra will speak on "Attitudes and approaches which influence success." Venue: ICDDR,B seminar room. Time: 10 am.

Rotary Club of Dhanmondi: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. German Ambassador Bruno Weber will speak on 'Bangladesh-German Economic Cooperation'. Venue: Sonargaon hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

Film show: French cinema Le'on (The professional) by Luc Besson will be screened. Zahir Raihan Film Society has organised the show in collaboration with the Alliance Francaise, Dhaka. Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium. Time:

IFCAB seminar: The International Film Critics Association (IFCAB) has organised the seminar on the autonomy of electronic media and Bangladesh context. Prof Kabir Chowdhury will preside. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time:

Zahir Raihan Film Society: The film society will show the film 'Leon' (The Professional) as part of the ongoing Luc Besson retrospective. Venue: The Alliance Française. Time: 10 am.

Khelaghar reunion: Kendrio Khelaghor Ashar has organised a reunion marking its 44th founding anniversary. Venue: Khelaghar auditorium, 278/3, Elephant Road. Time: 4 pm.

Photo show: The fourth solo exhibition by Md Kamal Uddin will open. Venue: Zainul Gallery. Institute of Fine Arts, DU. Time: 10 am. The show will remain open till June 6. from 12 noon to 8 pm everyday except Fridays.

Orchid show: Orchid Society of Bangladesh has organised an orchid show. Venue: NWK premises. Road 50, Gulshan. Time: 9 am to 6 pm.

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি .

ব্রাকের অভ্যন্তরীণ নিরীক্ষা বিভাগে স্থায়ীপদের জন্য কিছু নিরীক্ষা অফিসার প্রয়োজন ঃ প্রাথীদের বাণিছে স্থাতক ও কোন সিএ ফার্ম থেকে আর্টিকেলশিপ সমাস্তির সনদ প্রাপ্ত হতে হবে। শিক্ষানবিস হিসাবে ভাদের এক বছর কাজ করতে হবে : বেতন ৫০০০/- টাকা।

চাকুরীতে স্থায়ী হওয়ার পর গ্র্যাচুইটি, প্রভিডেন্ট কাও ও ইন্সিওরিন্সের সুবিধা পাবেন। প্রাথীদের অবশ্যই নিরীকা কাজের জন্য প্রতান্ত আঞ্চলে যাওয়ার মানসিকতা পাকতে হবে। উল্লেখ পাকে যে মহিলা প্রাণীদের আগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে:

जागामी २७ एवं ১৯৯७-এর মধ্যে প্রাঞ জীবন বুৱান্ত ও এক কপি ছবিসহ কমী ব্যবস্থাপনা বিভাগ, ব্যাক ৬৬ মহাখালী ঢাকা ১২১২, এই ঠিকানায় আবেদন কক্সন। আবেদনপত্র ও খামের উপর আবেদনক্ত পদের নাম উল্লেখ থাকতে हर्द ।



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Employment Opportunities

The Agrobased Industries and Technology Development Project (ATDP), a project of the Ministry of Agriculture with support from USAID, is seeking a consultant to provide the following services on an "as needed" basis and a training specialist. It is estimated that two to four person-months of services of MIS Consultant will be needed per year. Job description of MIS consultant

1. Take part in periodic discussion sessions with program staff to identify data sets so that: - The data will satisfy the MIS needs of the

programs - It will be possible through a reasonable expenditure of effort and resources to collect and maintain information on project results and outputs.

Take part in efforts to design formats and procedures to efficiently collect field and results oriented data. Design and implement computer based systems to

store and then process collected data. Train program staff and data entry operators to independently and effectively use the data processing

systems that have been designed Advise and assist the project office in the publication of

Advise the project on computer hardware and software in terms of vendors, products, prices, delivery lag time, and after sales service. Ensure the quality of computers and computer-related

products which the project office will procure from time to time. Advise and assist project personnel and contracting

vendors in the actual upgrading of computer hardware and software.

Train staff in computer operations, software design and hardware development and maintenance.

Qualification and experience of MIS consultant

1. A post-graduate degree or diploma in information systems, statistics, economics, marketing, business administration, or equivalent experience

A verifiable track record of having successfully completed MIS software design and training hardware development and maintenance training, and related assignments for international organizations, donor agencies, or development projects:

Experience in designing, assembling and trouble shooting computer systems.

Demonstrable skills in effective verbal communication in group discussions, workshops, seminars, training sessions and one-to-one exchange of ideas - in English and Bengali.

Competence in written communication through professional letters and technical reports - in English and Bengali.

Job description of training specialist

1. Co-ordinate between the four program units of the project to design, revise and implement the training plans of respective units.

Seek nominations for overseas training/visits and liaise with the USAID for language tests and medical examinations of the nominees.

Arrange briefing and debriefing meetings with the participants of overseas training/visits.

Monitor and evaluate implementation of the training Prepare quarterly and annual reports on training.

Qualification and experience of training specialist

Masters degree. Computer literacy.

At least 10 years experience in management/training.

Record of performance in the field of training.

Proven capability of writing and speaking in English and Interested candidates are requested to mail their app-

lications with biodata to reach GPO Box # 3044, Dhaka-1000 by 23 May 1996. WOMEN CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO



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