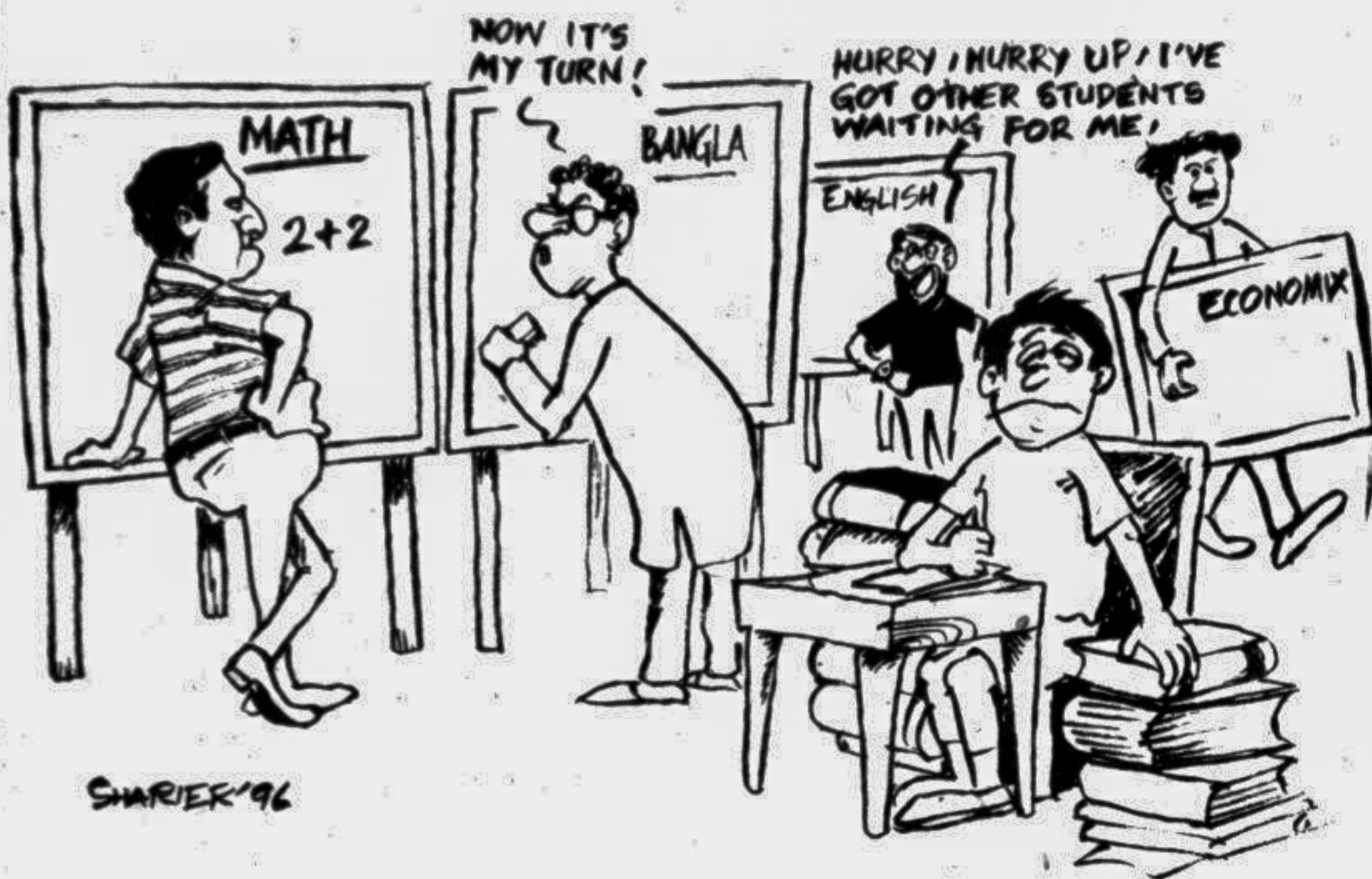


Dhaka Day by Day

Tutors to Carry You through

by Fayza Haq



SHARIK '96

Student life in Dhaka cannot be imagined in the 90's without tutors and coaching centres. The syllabi appear to be more complex than it was say thirty years ago and parents have little time to supervise their children's education.

Natasha, a mother of two living at Gopibagh, returns home at 7 pm and is then asked to supervise Priyanka and Pritam's studies. "Moreover," she explains, "I have to supervise the cooking and cleaning and their father returns from his business firm at 9 pm. I find it convenient to spend only Tk 1,000 and see to it that my children's homework is done. They are only eight and thirteen now. I know I'll have to spend more on their tuition fees later.

Tutors are seen as almost a member of the household as soon as the child leaves the play group stage. In Tina's house in Crescent Road the *haleem* and French toast portions are always a regular feature for the "master". Her mother returns from office at 5:30 and sees to the two-year old younger child. Yes, Tina does ask a few Maths and Bangla grammar questions to her father, aunt and grandmother but the tutor who is paid Tk 1,000 for all the ten-year-old student's subjects has been a part and parcel of the home for the last four years.

Tasmeem is now studying in the UK. She has turned out to be the most intellectual one among her siblings even though the others are engineers and architects. Her mother who lives in Mohammadpur, says, "With her father dead when she was a baby and my own education being limited to the Intermediate state, I wish I had enough money to have had tutors for her at the SSC and HSC stage. I had a young university student who coached her for three months just before her major exams and that helped considerably.

When Jahangir who lives at DOHS, got seven letters for his recent school leaving results, one of his sharp-tongued aunts said, "If we had five tutors each during our days, we too would have had remarkable school leaving

results. We were so many brothers and sisters that we could never dream of asking our parents for private tutors. Today people seldom have more than two children in a family and affording private teachers is a different prospect. Moreover, quite often, both parents earn a tidy sum and for them to spare Tk 1,000 for each subject for the child is not something unheard of.

Sabina who lives in Dhanmendi, was not a child who would study on her own. She has a step-father, and even though she is basically intelligent, she could never have had the results to allow her to study medicine without the help of her numerous tutors. She is just another example of success where there is money in the coffers to spare.

Amir, an old colleague of mine, who now works at Motijheel, was giving me a breakdown of how his salary is spent. "Tk 3,000 is spent every month on my kids' tutor who teaches three subjects. Dad is retired and supporting the family is now partly my responsibility. In my days I had letter marks in subjects like Engineering Drawing and Workshop Practice but failed to get good marks in Maths. And so could not go in for architecture. Had I a tutor or tutors like some of my fortunate colleagues, my fate would have been different," he says.

As for the tutors in Dhaka, they are having a fairly smooth life. Samira, who lives in Eskaton, tutors from 9 am to 12 pm 6 days a week and earns Tk 20,000 every month. Zillur, a part-time teacher of English in three English medium schools — Green herald, Scholastica and Blooming Buds earns Tk 40,000 by teaching Chemistry and Physics. It is reported that one teacher of Science at Banani earns one lakh takas per month. Some even teach with computers and tape recorders.

While the road to success is being eased out by tutors, with, of course, an exchange of money, individuals with an intellectual bent are being insured of a fairly lucrative income.

DCC planning to convert seized rickshaws into garbage pick-ups

Star Report

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) is considering converting the 5,000 seized rickshaws into garbage pick-ups instead of scrapping them, according to concerned sources.

The pick-ups would be used in the city to collect rubbish from door-to-door and unload it at the nearest garbage compartments, placed mostly on main roads, they said.

The rickshaws were seized over the last one year when the DCC, in collaboration with the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), clamped down on them for playing the city streets without valid papers.

Earlier, it was decided that the seized rickshaws would be scrapped, but now the DCC engineers are giving final touches to the conversion design, a DCC official disclosed.

A proposal has already been forwarded to the upper echelon of the city corporation, the official said. The cost of each

conversion, which the official describes as high, was initially estimated at Tk 4,000.

The whole plan is still at an early stage and a lot of decision is yet to be made," the official said.

Meanwhile, the DCC has shifted all the seized rickshaws from the Nagar Bhaban area to premises at Luxmibazar in the old town. The DCC backyard had, till recently, been cramped with hundreds of seized rickshaws.

To make a new rickshaw in a city workshop the cost comes to around Tk 7,000 with modest decoration, a rickshaw workshop owner said.

When asked how much it might cost to convert a rickshaw into garbage pick-ups, he said, "If you want to convert it into a pick-up, I assume, the cost won't be more than Tk 2,000," pointing out that a lot of parts could be saved for resale.

বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন
Bangladesh Shipping Corporation

Freight Re-tender Notice for transportation of Murban Crude Oil account Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation from Jebeldhana under lifting laycan 30-31 July, 1996

Freight re-tender is invited from vessel owners/agents/brokers for transportation of 100,000 Metric Tons (5% more or less supplier's option) Murban Crude Oil from Jebeldhana to Chittagong under lifting laycan 30-31st July, 1996 on account of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC). Tender schedule (detailed terms and conditions) may be obtained from undermentioned address during office hours on or before 20th July, 1996 on payment of Tk 200/- (Taka two hundred) only in cash to Accounts Department of the office mentioned below. Tender closing 1000 hours (BST) on 21st July, 1996.

Serajul Huda
General Manager
Chartering and Tramping Department
Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road
Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Transfers

By Staff Correspondent

The government has made few transfers and appointments at high level, official sources said.

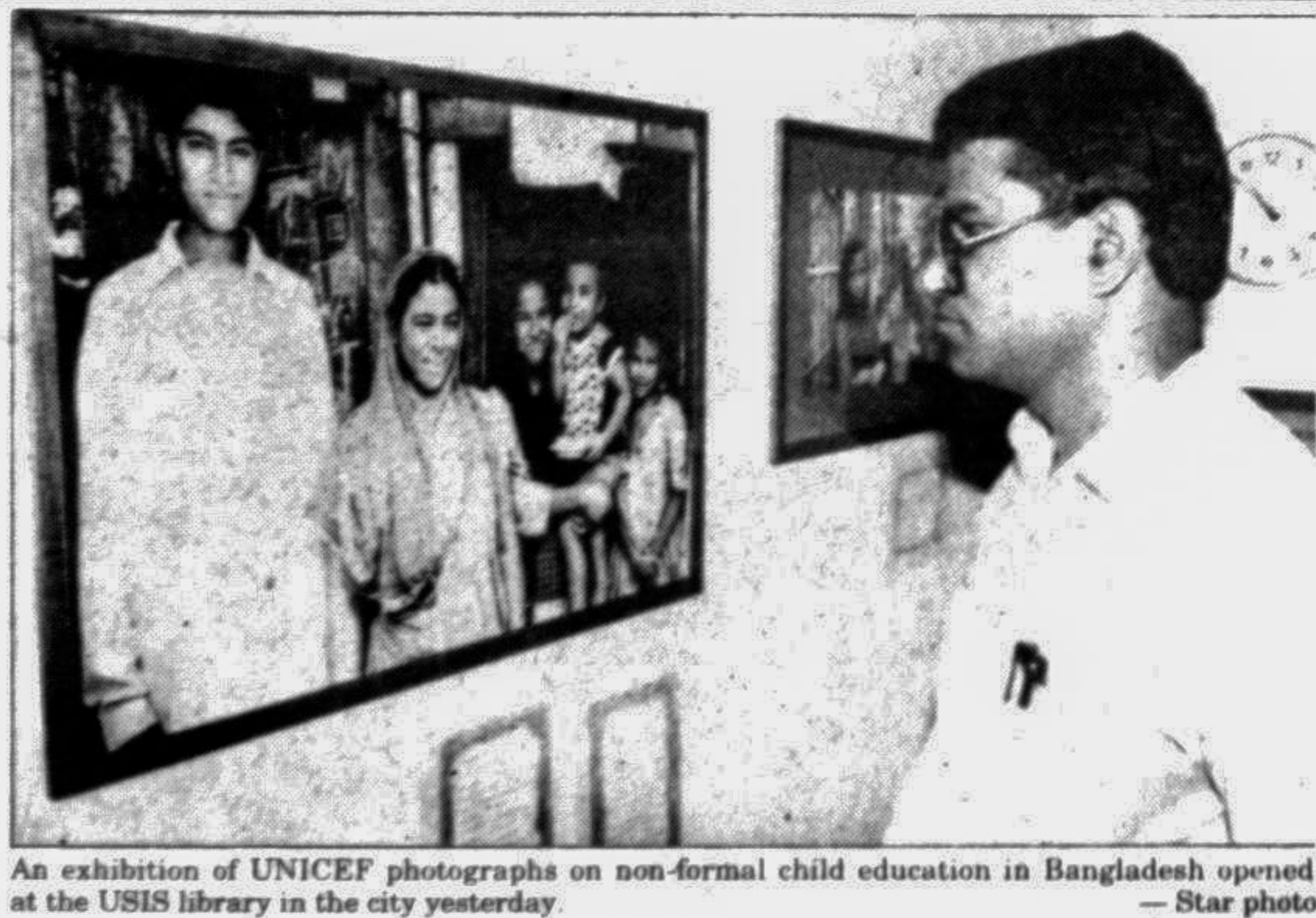
Powers Development Board (PDB) chairman, Golam Rahman has been transferred to Jiban Bima Corporation as its managing director and project coordinator of the General Education Project Nuruddin. Mahmud Kamal has been transferred to the PDB as its chairman.

Joint secretary of the Energy Ministry, Badruzaman has been appointed as the director general of the Prime Minister's Secretariat, while joint secretary of the Textile Ministry, Tanvir Hossain has been transferred to the Energy Ministry as a joint secretary.

Director general of the Prime Minister's Secretariat, Golam Murtaza has been transferred to the General Education Project as its coordinator while joint secretary (OSD) of the Establishment Ministry, Sahrabuddin Ahmed has been transferred to the Textiles Ministry as joint secretary.

Cultural complex to be built in Ctg: Mayor

CHITTAGONG, July 17: Chittagong City Mayor A B M Mahiuddin Chowdhury said here today that a cultural complex around the local Muslim Hall and Shaheed Minar would be built for the flourishing of art and culture in Chittagong, reports BSS.



An exhibition of UNICEF photographs on non-formal child education in Bangladesh opened at the USIS library in the city yesterday. — Star photo



Post and Telecommunication Minister Modammad Nasim (R) inaugurated a new digital telephone exchange in the city yesterday. — Star photo

AL orientation courses for JS standing body members soon

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed her firm determination to make a successful reflection of the people's hopes and aspiration through the newly-elected parliament.

"We like to turn this House into a centre of all activities and for that purpose your active role as peoples' representatives is a must," Sheikh Hasina told her party MPs in her concluding speech at the two-day orientation course organised for the ruling party lawmakers at Sangsad Bhaban last night.

"We will organise similar courses for chairmen and members of the standing committees once these committees are constituted. Functioning of these committees would largely depend on your activities as you will be the chairmen or the members of these committees," said Sheikh Hasina.

Yesterday's programme, split into three sessions, was addressed by a number of ministers, veteran parliamentarians, lawyers and professors.

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury inaugurated the programme at 10:30 am. Suranjit Sen Gupta, Parliamentary Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister presided over the sessions.

Minister for Industries and Commerce Tofael Ahmed, Col. (ret'd) Shawkat Ali, MP, Shudangshu Shekhar Halder, an ex-MP and Khondaker Abdul Haq Mia, Additional Secretary in the Jatiya Sangsad Secretariat took part in the deliberations in the first session.

By Staff Correspondent

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, State Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khasru, Barrister Amirul Islam and Prof Borhan Uddin Khan Jahangir of Dhaka University delivered lectures on "Government's Accountability in the Parliament" in the second session that continued for over four from 2:30 pm to 6:45 pm.

The third and concluding session was on "Roles and Activities of Speaker, Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and Whips in the Parliament." Former Speaker Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, acting chairman of Jatiya Party Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Sheikh Selim, MP, and Prof Dr Harun-ur-Rashid of Dhaka University were among the speakers.

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury in his inaugural address suggested the ruling party deputies to follow the Rules of Procedures meticulously and behave properly in the House.

He emphasised on live telecast of the proceedings of the House so that the electorates can see the performance of their representatives.

Tofael Ahmed informed the lawmakers that an ombudsman would be appointed and the Rules of Procedure would be amended to make the parliamentary standing committee more effective. The ruling party deputies will have to play a vital role if we want to estab-

lish accountability and transparency," he said.

Suranjit Sen Gupta said "Parliamentary democracy is nothing static. We will have through practising parliamentary democracy."

Suranjit Sen Gupta disclosed that the Prime Minister would face "question-hour" once a week in Parliament after necessary amendments and modification of the present Rules of procedure.

The other discussants in their lectures clarified various aspects of parliamentary form of government to the lawmakers. They also answered questions raised by MPs.

Replying to a questioner, Shudangshu Shekhar Halder said, "The Indemnity Ordinance was a piece of legislation but it was made part of the Constitution by incorporating all the ordinances and pieces of legislation" proclaimed during the period from August 15, 1975 to April 7, 1979, in the Fifth amendment of the Constitution.

Another designated speaker of the day, acting chairman of Jatiya Party and veteran parliamentarian Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, however, did not attend the session.

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Applications must be received by Friday 2nd August 1996.

What's on today....

Society of Microbiologist: The 14th annual conference of Bangladesh Society of Microbiologists will be held. Education Minister ASHK Sadek will inaugurate the conference as chief guest. Venue: IFST auditorium, BC SIR. Time: 10:30 am.

BCS seminar: Bangladesh Computer Society has organised a seminar on (i) Users of Computer in Daily Life, (ii) Software Engineering a Science? Dr Phalguni Gupta, Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India will speak. Venue: IFST seminar hall, BC SIR campus, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm.

Rotary Club of Jahangirnagar Dhaka: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Officers Club. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotaract Club of Dhaka Premier: The regular meeting of the club will be held. Venue: TSC Teachers' Lounge, Dhaka University. Time: 5 pm.

Weather

Moderate rainfall likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period across the country.

In its outlook for subsequent two days weathermen predicted little change. Giving extended outlook for another five days. Met Office forecast increase in rainfall activity.

Country's highest temperature 34.5 degrees Celsius was recorded at Madaripur and the lowest 23.0 degrees at Rangpur.

The sun sets today at 6:48 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:22 am.

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GREEN ISLAND V-19 IMPORT ROT NO: 61696 IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE CHITTAGONG ON: 19/07/96 TO DISCHARGE HER IMPORT CARGO LOADED FROM USA PORT SUDAN, BOMBAY, MADRAS AND CALCUTTA AND WILL LOAD EXPORT FOR EASTCOAST OF U.S.A.

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IN THE EVENT OF DIRECT DELIVERY SURVEY TO BE HELD AT SHIP SIDE ONLY CONSIGNMENTS NOT CLEARED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF ARRIVAL OF THE VESSEL ARE LIABLE TO BE CONFISCATED AND AUCTIONED UNDER THE CUSTOMS ACT 1969 WITHOUT FURTHER REFERENCE TO YOU. OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS WOULD BE DEALT AS PER EXISTING SHIPPING/CUSTOMS LAW OF THE COUNTRY.

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