

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Your Salary or Mine?

by Tulip Chowdhury

Leaving behind their old roles revolving around the home, these days many women work side by side their male counterparts. But their involvement outside creates some problems at home.

"Some working women identify these problems to be theirs only. But we, the men also face many problems at home when women step out" argues one man.

"When a wife starts earning she becomes more dominating," says another.

Mr Habib a government servant says of his working wife, "My wife keeps every paisa of her salary in the bank. She jumps like a tigress when it comes to spending her money for the household. At those times she reminds me that I'm the husband and father and its my duty."

But working wives also have their says. "After office I have to cook, clean prepare bed etc. etc. and the money I spend from my salary goes unrecognised," says Mrs Habib.

Can you imagine a Bangalee woman sleeping away her weekend while the husband cooks delicious dishes at home and entertains all the guests who start pouring in? For a husband it's simply humiliating to be found in the kitchen. And for the wife it's too exhausting to cook and clean when she is back from the office. Finding a proper cook or maid servant is no easy task these days.

Some men complain that with the problems of doing household chores and attending children, they feel neglected by the wife when she starts working.

"Before she started working, my wife lovingly attended me when I had my breakfast and lunch. But now the tea is served cold, and I have to have a lonely lunch because she returns home at 5 pm. I feel sort of neglected because almost all day her

presence is not there," says the husband of one working wife.

Some husbands are very considerate and stop expecting the loving care of working wives. How can she be at two places at the same time? However at the end of the month the working couples find their patience severely tested. Most of these couples find their purses empty at this time. Many husbands at these times seem to think that their wives have secret account.

"Come on, lend me some money. I'll pay you back of course" one of them says.

The wife, as if thunder-struck on the assumption of her holding back some secret money bursts out, "Why the last of my paisa went out yesterday. And they both wonder how it was, when only the husband had been working, how had they managed then?"

When there is a baby at home, the working couple face the crucial problem starting with changing the baby's diapers to walking and baby-talking when the baby refuses to sleep at night.

"I'll learn to take care of the bodies when the second one arrives" says the sleepy papa. And indeed with the second one he speaks of the coming third one. Mother, the fountain of kindness often is found to be doing off on her office desk because her baby likes to play at night.

Let the baby grow up and start going to school. Now working couples start arguing over who is to take him to school, who is to help out with the home work and so on.

Working couples may have their problems but there are blessings too. Mostly the husband is sympathetic when he tries his hands at home making. And the wife understands how difficult it is to be too generous with the hard earned money. They are likely to realise that life calls for mutual sharing.



A colourful rally was brought out in the city yesterday in observance of the International Literacy Day.

### Int'l Literacy Day observed

International Literacy Day was observed in Bangladesh as elsewhere in the world yesterday underlining the importance of creating education awareness among the people, reports UNB.

The literacy day is very significant in countries, like Bangladesh, where the rate of literacy is very poor.

To mark the day, the Primary and Mass Education Division chalked out various programmes at district, thana and union levels. The programmes included discussion, mass education fair, rally and kabaddi game.

It organised a discussion meeting on the "Role of non-formal education in eradicating illiteracy within next 10 years" at Osmani memorial auditorium in the morning.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressed the function as chief guest and distributed prizes among some individuals and organisations for their contribution to illiteracy eradication programme.

Some 32 government and non-government organisations related to literacy interventions jointly organised various programmes to mark the occasion.

Besides, different socio-cultural, UN and voluntary organisations put up programmes with the objective to create awareness among the people.

Combined literacy campaign brought out a colourful procession from the National Museum in the morning. The procession ended at Central Shaheed Minar after parading through Jatiya Press Club.

Representatives of government and non-government organisations, teachers, women, lawyers and volunteers took part in the procession.

Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), an NGO, chalked out a three day programme, including staging of Tagore's drama titled 'Tota Kahini' at the Shaheed Minar premises in the morning.

CAMPE also brought out a colourful procession in the city which was participated by thousands school children, former child workers at garment factories, teachers and NGO activists.

United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) held a symposium at its office at 55 Dilkusha commercial area in the afternoon. Shamanta Bhadra Barua was the main speaker while elderly scientist Prof Mohammad Abu Bakar presided it.

Association for Realisation of Basic Needs (ARBAN) arranged a seminar on education at Jatiya Press Club auditorium in the afternoon.

Former Chief Justice Kamaluddin Hossain presided over the seminar, participated, among others, by Chairman of Bangla Academy poet Shamsur Rahman and Prof Shahjahan Tapan of Institute of Education and Research of Dhaka University.

Bangladesh Girls' Guide Association organised a workshop and a day-long poster exhibition at its office.

National Association of UNESCO Club in Bangladesh organised a discussion in the capital. It was addressed by Mahboobuddin Chowdhury, Prof Masud M Rashid Chowdhury, Enayetur Rahman, Sajedul Awal, Mohammad Sharif and KG Kibria Mukul.

Life, an anti-narcotic organisation, in observance of the International Literacy Day held a discussion at its central office in the city yesterday.

Presided over by Md Kamrul Islam Sony, the meeting was also addressed by Sheikh Farukh Ahmad, Monir Hossain Tutul, Saleh Shibli, Syed Lutfar Rahman and Md Amirul Islam.

### Fire guts city plastic shop

Goods worth Taka several thousand were gutted at a plastic materials shop at Mitford Road in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Fire Brigade sources said the fire originated from an electric shorts circuit at the shop at about 9:30 in the morning.

Fire-fighters from Sadar Ghat station rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control within an hour.

### CCHRB report says Sept 5 by-polls held neutrally, peacefully

By Staff Correspondent

The September 5 by-elections in 15 constituencies were held peacefully, barring some untoward incidents in Laxmipur, Mirersarai and Chandanish, according to the by-poll monitoring report of Coordination Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB).

CCHRB released its primary report on the by-elections yesterday at a press conference in the city. The complete report will be published soon in book form, they said.

Addressing the press conference, held at the Jatiya Press Club, the CCHRB poll observers said that it was a unique example of election held neutrally and peacefully under a party government.

In Chittagong-1 constituency, some irregularities were observed both by the AL and BNP activists. About 60 per cent of the voters were brought to the centres by rickshaws or baby taxis. The drivers were paid Tk 150 to 200 for the day, the report said.

Some false voters were identified and arrested and a few cases were detected in each centre where the votes of the bona fide voters were cast before they had arrived at the centres.

Turn-out of voters was small and some women voters were threatened, the report said.

In Chittagong 13, the BNP activists were seen stopping the minorities on their way to vote. Hired rickshaws were used by all parties. In Shariatpur-1, some voters were transported by rickshaws and boats, the CCHRB observers said.

In Laxmipur-2, crackers, cocktails and bombs were exploded outside several centres.

In Bogra-6, election was held peacefully, but in some centres, a few people cast their votes without having their names on the voters list. In nine centres, voters were carried to the polling centres by hired rickshaws and vans by all parties.

Some 2512 observers of the CCHRB monitored the by-polls in all 15 constituencies. The press conference was attended, among others, by CCHRB president Father R W Tim, general secretary Akram Hossain Chowdhury, joint secretary AHM Noman and treasurer M A Naim.

### 172 arrested

Police rounded up 172 people on various charges from different areas of the city in 24 hours till 8 am yesterday, reports UNB.

Of them, 35 were wanted criminals and 41 were arrested for their involvement in murder, robbery, hijack, extortion and terrorism.

### Ganatantri Party team meets Hasina PM reiterates commitment to curb terrorism

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday reiterated her government's strong commitment to curb terrorism and pursue a continuous development effort to reach the fruits of independence to the doorsteps of the people, reports BSS.

"We are very much sincere and committed in our approach towards bringing an end to terrorism for establishing peace and establishing peace and stability in the country for ensuring speedy development," she said.

The Prime Minister was exchanging views on various national issues with a nine-member delegation of Ganatantri Party led by its chairman Ahmedul Kabir at Ganga Bhaban.

She patiently heard various suggestions from the delegation members and said that an all-out cooperation would help her government to achieve the desired targets of the already taken steps.

The delegation included party's central leaders Azizul Islam Khan, Mohammad Alzal, Kazi Azizul Idris and Saiful Islam.

Sheikh Hasina referred to the last 21 years' accumulated problems left by the governments of that period and said an overnight change could not be brought about but the present government was trying to effect improvement in all spheres, step by step.

"We want to work taking all with us," she said while seeking cooperation of pro-liberation forces towards her government's bid of free the nation from the clutches of terrorism and other vices.

She said she had no ambitions but the wish to build Bangladesh as Sonar Bangla as dreamt by father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who brought independence for the nation after a long struggle.

Sheikh Hasina said, her government or party does not believe in the politics of occupying the university halls by force or decoy. "I asked my student workers not to even think about such destructive politics but devote themselves to study to become worthy citizens of the country," she said.

The Prime Minister appreciated a suggestion from the delegation that anti-terrorism coordination committee should be organised involving all political parties to restore peace in society.

"It is a good idea and we will see to it," she said adding, "we are working relentlessly to help our people through establishing peace and stability in the country."

Referring to her government's various steps to develop the national economy, she said efforts were on to attract more foreign investment in the country.

She said her government had provided for an adequate amount of money as agriculture subsidy in the greater interest of farmers as well as agriculture.

### FEMA statement on by-polls Pre-polls violence prevented larger voter turnout

By Staff Correspondent

Pre-polls violence and inclement weather 'deterred a larger voter turnout' in some constituencies during the September 5 by-elections, said a FEMA post-election statement.

FEMA, with its 1,200 observers deployed for the by-elections in 15 constituencies in 11 districts, witnessed satisfactory voter turnout in almost all the constituencies, except in Sirajganj-1, Pirojpur-2, Sylhet-4, Laxmipur-2 and in two Chittagong constituencies, the statement said.

In Sylhet-4, voter turnout was much lower due to inclement weather and floods, while in Laxmipur-2, the low turnout of women voters was attributed to intimidation by political party workers during campaigning and exploding of crackers the night before voting. Voter turnout in Sylhet-4 was roughly estimated at 35 per cent while in Sirajganj-1 and Pirojpur-2 at 45 per cent.

Female voters in Laxmipur-2 were also prevented from going to polling stations. In Sonapur UP Community Centre, women in three rickshaws were stopped from going to the centre and at one point, their rickshaws were overturned, FEMA stated.

In Uttar Kanchan Nagar Govt Primary School centre in Chittagong-13, some voters, mainly women, could not vote because of confusion in the voters' list. In Paschim Dharmapur Primary School centre in the same constituency, the authorities supplied inadequate ballot papers and other materials. In Centre-63, adequate arrangements were not made for voting in secret compartment in Laxmipur-2, at Centre-48. FEMA observers witnessed that the polling officials were not applying indelible ink on the fingers of some voters, the FEMA statement alleged.

In Laxmipur, some security personnel prevented FEMA election observers from discharging their responsibilities, it was alleged. A special mobile

### N Korean, Tajik leaders greeted

President Abdur Rahman Biswas yesterday greeted Kim Jong Il, chairman of the National Defence Commission and Supreme Commander of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the occasion of his country's National Day today, reports BSS.

In the message of greeting sent to Kim, President Biswas expressed his confidence that the existing relations, friendship and cooperation between the two countries will be further strengthened in the years to come.

In a separate message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina felicitated Kim Jong Il on the occasion of his country's National Day.

In her message of felicitations Sheikh Hasina expressed her confidence that the bonds of friendship which so happily exist between the two countries will grow from strength to strength for the benefit of the two peoples.

Meanwhile, President Abdur Rahman Biswas felicitated Rakhmanov Emomali, President of Tajikistan, on the occasion of the country's National Day today.

In a separate message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina greeted Mrazimov Yokhya, Prime Minister of Tajikistan, on the occasion of his country's National Day.

In the message to Mrazimov Yokhya, she hoped that the existing friendly relations between the two brotherly countries will develop further in the years to come.

### YMCA AGM held

Annual general meeting of the Dhaka YMCA was held Friday at its New Eskaton premises, reports BSS.

With Prof Gabriel Manik Gomes in the chair the meeting reviewed the progress of its academic and humanitarian activities.

The meeting also elected Babu Marcos Gomes, Prasanta Francis Rozario Augustin Dipak Karmakar and Phillip Adhikari to its board of directors for the year 1996-97.



Meat-sellers brought out a procession in the city yesterday in support of their various demands.

### What's on today . . .

**Seminar on SOEs, Market Economy:** The Chemical Engineering Divisional Committee of the Institution of Engineers Bangladesh has arranged a seminar on 'Our State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and the Market Economy'. Dr M Waliuzzaman, ex-Chairman of BCSIR will present the keynote. Chief guest: Tofael Ahmed, Minister for Commerce & Industry. Special guest: Anwar Hossain, Minister for Communications. Venue: Seminar Room at IEB headquarters. Time: 5 pm.

**Painting exhibition:** A week long painting exhibition by Bipul Shah titled 'Song of Life and Nature' will begin. Venue: Jaimul Gallery of Institute of Fine Arts, DU. Time: 3 pm. The show is open to all from 2 pm to 8 pm everyday till September 15.

**Rotary Club of Dhanmondi:** The installation ceremony of Board of Directors of the club will be held. Chief guest: Humayun Rashid Chowdhury. Speaker: Jatiya Sangsad. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 4:45 pm.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka North:** The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Rezaul Haque, head of personnel Banking Division, Standard Chartered Bank will speak on 'An Introduction of Moneylink-ATM & Inter City Networking'. Venue: Sonargaon hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka Central:** The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30 pm.

**Rotary Club of Dilkusha:** The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Purbani hotel. Time: 5 pm.

### and tomorrow

**Workshop on Conservation Management:** Forest Department, Government of Bangladesh and IUCN: The World Conservation Union, Bangladesh, will jointly hold a workshop on 'Identification of Joint Initiatives and Development of a joint programme between the Forest Department and IUCN Bangladesh in Conservation Management of Natural Resources'. Venue: BARC auditorium. Time: 9 am.

**Ballet performance:** Soli-Bach Contemporary Ballet will give a performance, sponsored by the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 7 pm, doors open 6:30 pm.

### PWD Corrigendum Notice Inviting Tenders

Due to unavoidable circumstances the undermentioned corrigendum has been made to the notice inviting tender circulated vide this office Memo. No. 197/71-9(20) dated 17-8-96. Except undermentioned corrigendum all other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Corrected Estimated Cost
1.	Special repairs & renewing works of Bldg. No. 1 (5-storied bldg. having 20 flats) of Bangladesh House Bldg. Finance Corporation at Uttara Model Town, Dhaka. (At the extreme East side as the F-Type Bldg.) (Group No. 1).	Tk. 5,47,027/00 instead of Tk. 4,47,027/00

Executive Engineer  
Dhaka PWD Divn. I, Dhaka

### BTMC International Tender Notice

General Manager (Procurement), BTMC, BTMC Bhaban, 7-9, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka invites sealed tenders for Import of Raw Cotton of 1996-97 Crop on C&F Chittagong basis under Cash/Any Other Suitable Source to be closed at 11.00 AM and opened at 11.05 AM in presence of tenderers, if any, as follows:

Sl. No.	Tender No. all dated 31-8-96	Staple Length	Qty. in bale of 496 lbs	Sample submission/USDA Grade Confirmation by 11.00 AM	Closing/Opening date	Shipment month	Cost of tender documents (Non-refundable)
1.	522/2/10(96-97)	1-1/16"	3000	23-10-96	5-11-96	Dec '96	Tk. 500/=
2.	522/2/11(96-97)	1-1/32"	3000	27-10-96	9-11-96	Dec '96	Tk. 500/=
3.	522/2/12(96-97)	1-1/8"	2000	30-11-96	12-11-96	Jan '97	Tk. 250/=
4.	522/2/13(96-97)	1-1/16"	2500	3-11-96	16-11-96	Jan '97	Tk. 250/=
5.	522/2/14(96-97)	1-1/32"	3000	6-11-96	19-11-96	Feb '97	Tk. 500/=
							13,500

Tender documents with detailed specification, information, terms and conditions will be available on all working days from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM from Chief Accountant, BTMC, BTMC Bhaban, 7-9, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka and from General Manager, BTMC Shipping Office, 79, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong on cash payment. No tender documents will be sold on the closing date of the respective tender.

The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any tender partially or fully without showing any reason.

TMC 36  
DFP:19815:39  
G:1048

S. A. Momin  
General Manager (Proct.)