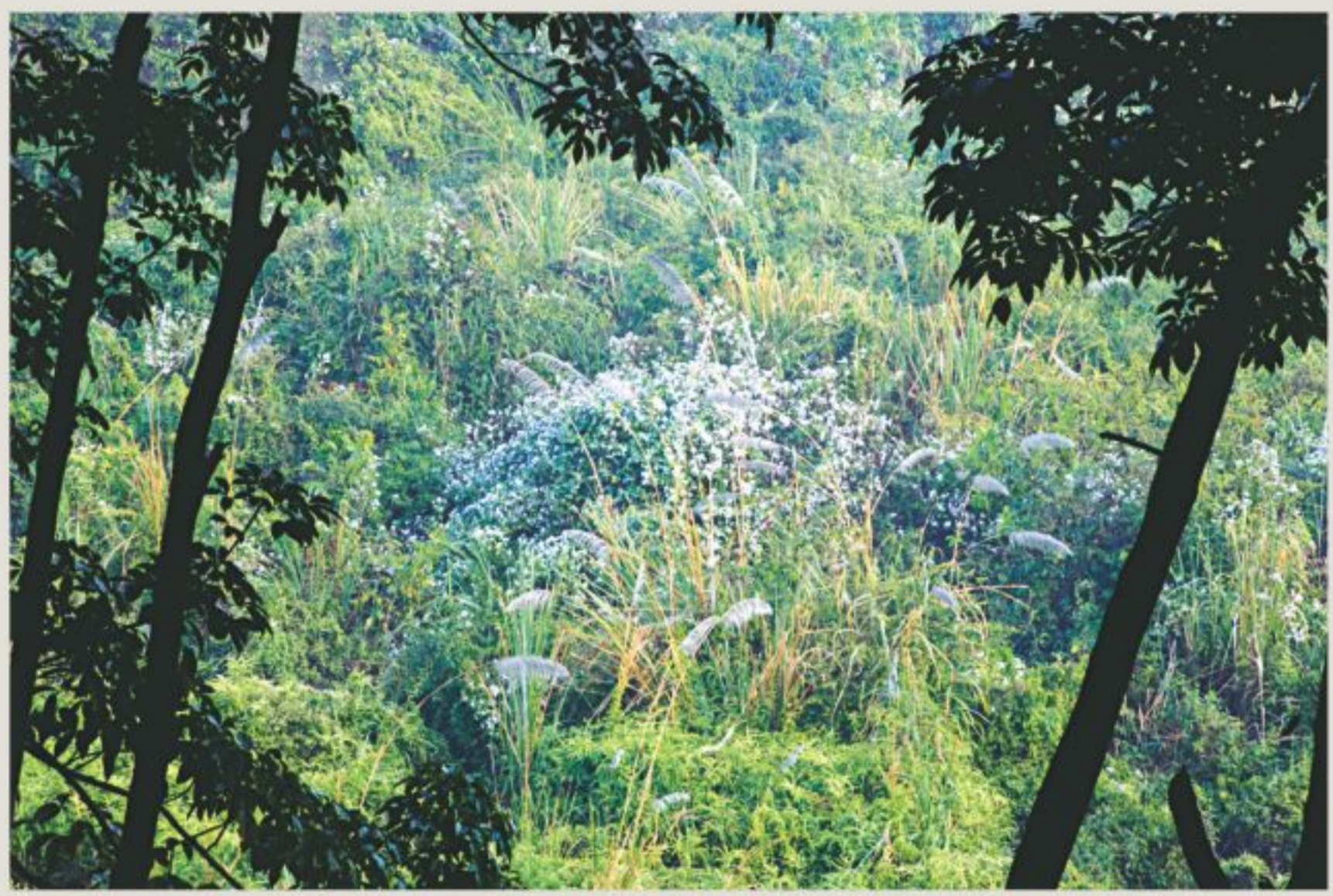


TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Taking this photo at 0.4s, f/40 required a tripod.

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

Buying Photo Equipment

WHENEVER friends ask about recommendations for photo equipment, I suggest getting the absolute minimum.

The first time I became interested in photography (circa 1979), I faced a problem familiar to many: tight funds. After several months browsing photography magazines and imagining myself shooting with an elegant Contax or a sultry Olympus, I settled for a pedestrian Canon AE1. With a 35mm lens, the camera cost \$135.

For the next decade, I shot 95% of my photographs with this camera and lens. Spare funds went into buying film so I could shoot more.

True, the advertisements and fancy gear sometimes tempted me. But I could see no end to them.

For example, I tried a flash, but was told to buy another dozen accessories, such as umbrellas, filters, slaves, cords, stands, etc.

If I fuss so much about the gear, what time would I have to develop my own vision and its expression, I wondered. That was the end of the flash.

The nice thing about my camera-lens combination was this: it became an extension of my eye. Looking at a scene, I could tell precisely where the frame-lines would be without touching the camera. And because I used the same film and developed it myself every time, I could predictably visualise the end result when I took the picture.

My equipment became the tool to realise my vision.

Things are different today. Digital cameras are much more advanced, there is no cost for film, and lenses have improved dramatically.

I have more equipment nowadays, but remain conservative about acquiring new

ones, doing so when I am convinced that it is the only way to get photographs that I am consistently missing.

For example, when I started photographing landscapes, I quickly realised that a tripod would enable me to get those pictures I envisioned. So I got one.

Sometimes, going into a situation, we know that we must return with a decent photograph. It may be a professional assignment, or it may be a rare or unique event. That's when we worry if the equipment we carry is good enough. For such a situation, planning is required.

Thus, prior to a trip to the Sundarbans, I rented a super telephoto lens, and thanks to that lens I got some wildlife pictures I had missed during earlier trips.

A more subtle issue is that of quality, another of my hard-earned lessons. If you have decided to get new equipment, try to get the best possible model you can afford.

There is nothing more frustrating than finding a once-in-your-life scene, shooting it and then finding the low-grade lens flared because you were facing the sun, or the lightweight tripod shook and gave you a blurry picture.

Changing the camera is my least frequent upgrade. New cameras are expensive and take time to learn thoroughly.

Exciting camera models appear every day. I saw one recently with built-in GPS, wi-fi, face recognition, video and many other features. I am tempted, but not enough.

But if they make one with a built-in fan to get me through load shedding, I will buy it in a heartbeat!

facebook.com/tangents.ikabir.

Illegal arms traders held in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives arrested three alleged illegal arms traders and two criminals in two separate drives in the capital's Purana Palatan and Mirpur areas on Thursday.

They also recovered two firearms and 35 rounds of bullet from their possession.

Among the arrestees, BM Shahabuddin alias Khokan, 54, and Syed Asadul Haque alias Abbas, 42, were involved in illegal arms trading.

They were arrested around 5:00pm on Thursday with a revolver, 25 rounds of bullet and Tk 14,000 when a team of the Detective Branch of police raided Purana Palatan area. Senior Assistant Commissioner Mohammad Sanwar Hossain led the drive.

In primary interrogation, Abbas said he had been involved in the illegal business for 15 years. The other arrestee, Khokan, has a legal arms shop in Khulna city.

Later, the team conducted another drive in Mirpur-1 area around 10:00pm on the same day and arrested Md Rafiqul Islam alias Sabuz, 43, Md Abdus Sattar alias Kana Sattar, 40, and Mantu Mridha, 38. Police recovered a pistol and 10 rounds of bullet from their possession.

All of the five arrestees were produced at a press briefing at Dhaka Metropolitan Police Media Centre yesterday noon.

In primary interrogation, Sabuz said he had been supplying firearms to criminals in different areas, including Dhaka and Narayanganj, for 15-20 years. Kana Sattar is a mugger and a case was filed against him last month in a snatching incident. A man was shot dead in the incident in Kadamtali area. Mantu is a relative of Sattar and he had kept Sattar's arms.

Four more alleged criminals arrested earlier were also produced at the briefing.

Police arrested Md Bashir Ahmed alias Rana alias Selim and Tanvir Islam alias Zunayed from Basabo area on September 27 and Sagar Ahmed alias Shahin and Anwar Hossain from Dhaka Medical College area on September 29.

The law enforcers had recovered four pistols, one shotgun, 265 rounds of shotgun shell, 34 rounds of bullet, 10 fake licences of firearms, 94 fake stamps, one drill machine and a jeep from their possession.

DU admission seeker caught cheating

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An admission seeker to Dhaka University (DU) yesterday was caught red-handed with answers in the inbox of his mobile phone.

The accused, Shamimul Haque, appeared at the admission test for Ka (science) unit for 2012-13 academic sessions at capital's Lalmatia Girls' College centre.

DU Proctor Prof MA Ali told reporters that invigilators caught the applicant with a message with answers to a set of questions during the test.

On information, the university pre-trial team reached the spot and nabbed the culprit. Later he was handed over to the police.

The candidature of the student was cancelled instantly as DU authorities prohibited entering exam centres with mobile phones and electronic receivers, said Prof Ali adding that the candidates were cautioned earlier about it.

At the admission tests that were held in 77 centres, 65,568 aspirants appeared for them.

Out of them 1,593 candidates will get admission in 27 departments and three institutes of five faculties.

NEWS IN brief

Amu, Tofail, Jalil restored to AL nat'l committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina last night nominated stalwarts Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed and Abdul Jalil as members of Awami League National Committee (ALNC) ahead of the committee's meeting today.

The three were dropped from the party central committee in the 2009 national council.

Hasina, also the prime minister, handed over the nomination letters to Amu and Tofail when they went to her official residence Gono Bhaban last night to attend the AL Parliamentary Board meeting. Jalil's letter has been sent to his Gulshan residence, said AL insiders.

The ALNC will meet at 11:00am at Gono Bhaban to discuss the country's latest socio-political and

Non-citizen status of Rohingyas in Myanmar criticised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday criticised the Myanmar Citizenship Law, 1982 in which Rohingyas are not recognised as the citizens of Myanmar.

Such discrimination in the law has been causing problems for Bangladesh through influx of Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar, they said.

Ahmed Sofa Rastroshobha organised the seminar styled "Nationality Problem of Myanmar and Bangladesh-Myanmar Relation" at RC Majumdar Auditorium of Dhaka University.

Speakers stressed the need for developing bilateral relation between Bangladesh and Myanmar to resolve the matter.

Prof Salimullah Khan, among others, spoke at the

RMG workers demand bonus, arrears before Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ready made garments (RMG) workers yesterday urged the industry owners to pay their salary arrears, overtime, bonus and salary of the current month ahead of Eid-ul Azha.

They made the demand at a human chain organised by Bangladesh Garments Sramik Oikya Parishad in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Speakers said owners of many garment industries usually pay their workers partially depriving the workers of enjoying the Eid occasion.

Mohammad Delwar Hossain Khan, coordinator of the parishad, presided over the programme while Towhidur Rahman, president of Bangladesh Apparel Workers Federation, and Rokeya Sultana, president of

DU int'l relations dept reunion today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Celebrating its 65th founding anniversary, the Department of International Relations of the University of Dhaka (DU) has organised a grand reunion on the campus today, said an official press release.

The inaugural session of the reunion programme will start at 9:30am at the Teacher-Student Centre.

Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique, vice-chancellor of DU, will be present as chief guest while Prof Nurul Momen, an educationist and an alumnus of the department, will inaugurate the programme.

India to probe two detained Bangladeshis' innocence

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India has started investigating Bangladesh's allegation about the detention of two of its citizens for committing crimes in New Delhi when they were not even in India.

"We have received the Bangladesh High Commission letter in September and the Indian High Commission in Dhaka also provided us information in this regard. We have sent the matter for investigation to the authorities concerned," Indian Ministry of External Affairs spokesman Syed Akbaruddin told a press briefing in Delhi on Thursday.

The two Bangladeshis -- Badol Farazi, 22, and Abu Ishaque Howaldar, 60 -- are currently languishing in Tihar jail awaiting trial for nearly four and three years respectively.

According to documents resented in two Delhi courts, both men arrived in India several months after their alleged crimes -- murder in Farazi's case and robbery in Abu's -- were committed.

In two letters written to the external affairs and home ministries on August 3 and

September 27 this year, the Bangladesh High Commission has sought help to ensure "early release and repatriation of the ill-fated individuals".

According to the letter of September 27, "Indeed both of them came to India later to the commission of offences but they are miserably suffering from criminal charges being imposed illegitimately. It is to note that the High Commission of India, Dhaka, has recently confirmed the issuance of visas for them, which substantiates their innocence without an iota of doubt. Surely, they are the scapegoat of others' offence, being victimised by the evil quarters."

Badol is accused of murdering an elderly woman at her home in Amar Colony in Delhi on May 6, 2008, but he had received a month's visa to visit India in July of 2008.

Abu, on the other hand, came to India twice on medical visas issued on January 19 and May 10 of 2010. He was arrested on August 9, 2010 in connection with a robbery committed in East of Kailash on the night of December 16-17, 2009.

Advance train ticket sale begins in Ctg today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Advance sale of train tickets at Chittagong Railway Station will start today for the homebound people ahead of Eid-ul Azha.

The sale will be under way from 7:00am to 4:00pm every day till October 17, said the station sources.

Manager of Chittagong Railway Station Shamsul Alam said the advance tickets would be available today (Saturday) for travel on October 22.

In the same way advance tickets for October 23, 24, 25 and 26 will be available on October 14, 15, 16 and 17 respectively, he said.

The standing tickets, however, for all trains but Subarna Express will be sold on the day of travel, said Shamsul Alam. Law enforcers will remain alert alongside a vigilance team comprising railway officials to check ticket scalping, he added.

According to railway sources, around 12,000 passengers usually travel by train from Chittagong Railway Station every day. On Eid occasions, the number of travellers rises to about 15,000, they said.

The station manger said at least two additional coaches would be added to all regular trains from October 22.

ATTACK ON BUDDHISTS AL, BNP accuse each other of provocation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League and opposition BNP yesterday accused each other of instigating the Ramu violence.

The opposition resorted to the communal violence in Ramu to stall the trial of war criminals, said Post and Telecommunications Minister Shahara Khatun.

"The Facebook photo, which caused all these incidents, was blocked following my instruction on the BTRC chairman. But a vested quarter took advantage of the photo and created the anarchy. This barbaric act was pre-planned," she said.

Previously the home minister, Shahara, made the allegations at a memorial meeting on freedom fighter Sudhangshu Shekhar Howladar. Bangabandhu Academy and Jatiya Char Neta Smriti Rakkha Parishad jointly hosted it at the capital's Liberation War Museum.

On the other hand, an eight-member team of opposition BNP which investigated the attack on Buddhists in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong has found government's indirect provocation in the mayhem, said BNP standing committee member and probe body chief Moudud Ahmed.

"Despite being repeatedly informed, the superintendent of police (SP) didn't take any action for 2-3 hours, allowing the violence to escalate. The administration's inaction shows the government's silence and its indirect instigation in the attacks," he said, reports UNB.

Presenting the 67-page investigation report at a press conference at the party's Nayapalatan central office, he demanded a judicial commission led by a retired chief justice to uncover the mystery of the attacks.

A mob destroyed 12 pagodas and more than 50 houses in Ramu on September 29. The violence was apparently triggered by a Facebook posting of a photo derogatory to the holy Quran.

Meanwhile, BNP standing committee member MK Anwar said at a discussion that the ruling Awami League was "destroying" all people whose views differed from it.

"The rise of terrorists was marked in Awami League's 1996-2001 tenure. A good number of bomb attacks, including those on Udichi programme in Jessore and on a cultural programme at Ramna Batamul, were carried out during that period. But no incident was investigated."

The discussion was organised by Bangladesh Nationalist Cultural Foundation at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

Another BNP leader, Rafiqul Islam Miah, yesterday said it was not possible to hide the mystery of the attack by shifting blame on the opposition, reports UNB.



PHOTO: STAR

Jatiya Garments Sramik Federation forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday, demanding assistance for those garment workers who used to reside in the capital's Begunbari and Shattala slums which recently caught fire.

DHAKA TODAY

Seminar 11:00am.
The Department of Geography & Environment and the Department of Disaster Science & Management, Dhaka University (DU) will organise a seminar to mark International Day for Disaster Reduction; Venue: Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, DU; Time: 9:00am.

Discussion
Progotishil Khrishid Kendra will hold a discussion on "Safe Food"; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time:

Citizens' condolence meeting
Zia Parishad will arrange a citizens' condolence meeting commemorating late journalist Ataus Samad; Venue: Institutions of Diploma Engineers Bangladesh; Time: 10:30am.

Seminar
University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh will organise a seminar to present the results of a research; Venue: Poet Sufia

WEATHER TODAY

Little change in temperature likely
UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Rashahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:34pm and rises tomorrow at 5:56am.

Country's highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Bogra and lowest 23.1 degrees at Srimangal.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

| City/Town | Temperature in Celsius | | Humidity in percentage | |
|------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|---------|
| | Max: | Min: | Morning | Evening |
| Dhaka | 31.8 | 25.5 | 86 | 72 |
| Chittagong | 30.4 | 24.0 | 96 | 87 |
| Rajshahi | 33.4 | 24.3 | 85 | 76 |
| Rangpur | 32.8 | 24.4 | 74 | 80 |
| Khulna | 31.8 | 24.8 | 87 | 90 |
| Barisal | 30.7 | 24.5 | 80 | 88 |
| Sylhet | 29.5 | 24.3 | 93 | 89 |