

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Research Provides Key to Development

by Fayza Haq

This schoolboyish looking senior programme officer for communication from IDRC, in a safari suit, Chin Saik Yoon, saw good in everything. He explained that IDRC which stands for International Development Research Centre was set up in Canada in the early 70's. It is there to fund research issues in various countries to solve the problems by the people themselves.

There is so much going on here as well as in the rest of the world. How can IDRC bring it together? To this Mr. Chin remarked. "There are commonalities but one cannot suggest that the solution that works in Singapore would apply in Bangladesh. However, having access to outside literature is very important. If someone has done the same experiment you don't have to repeat it. Having access to knowledge and experiences from outside is vital. It is useful to share these experiences.

"The researchers must make sure that the solutions they find are suitable for their country. For instance, in planting high yielding rice, one has to consider the climatic and soil condition. There must be adaptive research if such a rice is brought to Bangladesh. While we are keen to bring together developing countries' researchers, separate work has to be done in each country. The cases are different and the subtleties must be considered," the communication authority said.

The IDRC has helped develop various useful gadgets in different places. Mr. Chin informed me, "In Malaysia, a professor called Goh, from the University of Malaya, has developed a hand pump that is made of plastic and is easy to operate. It is designed so that women can operate it," he recounted.

"In the Philippines, in Capiz, a group of women engineers have perfected a rainwater catchment tank that allows them to get rain from the roof tops. This water is clean as it comes from the direct rainfall. Once again, women don't have to walk for miles to collect water," he said.

"In China, Professor Zhu Hua has done a research on trees called paulownia. These quick growing trees improve the ecological system and now there are thousands of acres of such trees in China.

"In Bangladesh, we have been supporting the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases Research (ICDDR) which now has a tremendous amount of experience. From Dhaka the information on diarrhoeal diseases passes throughout the world," he reminded.

Can the IDRC organise the exchange of journalists? "The IDRC has been working with the Press Foundation of Asia. This Press Foundation collaborates with the national press institutes. We get together to discuss general problems. This is devel-

opment journalism. The newspapers, in turn, have an important role in making known the indigenous research," Mr. Chin said.

Elaborating on the IDRC, the communication expert said: "The IDRC has spread over a vast region in South Asia which includes Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, and Pakistan. The organisation is also very active in South East Asia, especially in the Philippines and Thailand. The problems and researches remain common in matters such as food supply.

Based in Ottawa, the IDRC has offices in Singapore, Uruguay, Montevideo, Dakar, Senegal and Nairobi. There is an office in Cairo too for the Near East."

As a Chinese how does he feel about the Bangladesh lifestyle? Mr. Chin replied that he had friends of Indian and Bengali descent. Someone who likes Bangladeshi fish curries and vegetables as well as the "nakshikathas" and "Jamdani", he said that what struck him was that there was considerable development in the city in the last few years.

"I find the people very vibrant and friendly. The fact that there is a new newspaper like 'The Daily Star' is itself auspicious as it is a national meeting of mind on a daily basis. This is a good sign. What struck me as unusual about the city was the endless rickshaws. I wish, for the sake of the commuters, that this could be motorised, but I realise this would raise the fares," he commented.

Why is it that Bangladesh is behind so many of the countries in the Subcontinent and South East Asia — are the people not hard working enough? To this Mr. Chin replied, "Catching up with the rest of the world is not enough. There are no instant answers. Each country must decide what it wants. In development, people must have food not only for the body but for the mind too. It takes time. I believe, research is important in development. A good communication system could help mobilise the people. The radio and TV is important for those who cannot read. There are the traditional channels too, such as that of the theatre. Traditional media should not be ignored."

Mr. Chin was, in fact, paying his farewell visit to countries in S. Asia as the IDRC communication expert. In about a month's time he will be returning to Penang, his hometown, to set up his own venture in publishing books.

Born in Penang, he studied communication at Reading, UK, and Illinois, USA. He will now be working for a publishing firm called "Southband" where he hopes to do research. His hobbies include photography and cross-country running. So far he has had no time for "such a luxury as marriage", he said with a boyish grin.



Chin Saik Yoon, Senior Programme Officer for Communication, IDRC

## DU hall provosts seek help of parties for campus peace

## Jamaat concern over spread of diarrhoea

By Staff Correspondent

A meeting of the Provosts, House Tutors and Assistant House Tutors of all the residential halls of Dhaka University on Sunday decided to seek cooperation of the political parties and student organizations to root out terrorism from the university campus, a university Press release said, reports BSS.

The meeting, presided over by Vice-Chancellor Prof M Maniruzzaman Mia, opined that terrorism on the campus was imposed from the outside and it could not be stamped out only by the university authorities.

A consensus was reached in the meeting regarding application of rules and regulations in the internal administration of the university especially at the hall level, the Press release said.

## Medical College teachers' national confce Apr 24

By Staff Correspondent

The third national conference of the Bangladesh Medical College Teachers' Samity Federation will be held at the Engineers' Institute in city on Wednesday.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will attend the conference as the chief guest while Education Minister Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury, Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf, BMA President Dr MA Majed and mother of Shaheed Dr Shamsul Alam Milon will attend it as special guests.

Among the speakers will be Professor Golam Rasul, Dr Gazi Abdul Huq, Mrs Selma Akhtar, Professor Abdul Bayes Bhuiyan and Prof Shahjahan Nurus Samad Chowdhury.

Acting Ameer of Jamaat-Islami Bangladesh Abbas Ali Khan has expressed concern at the outbreak of diarrhoea in the southern and northern areas of the country.

In a statement on Sunday the Jamaat leader demanded of the government to immediately send physicians and medicines to the diarrhoea-affected areas.

## New office for licence of motor vehicles

The office for issuing and renewing the licence of motor vehicles has been shifted from 6 tin shed of Segunbagicha to Sha Ali bus depot of BRTC at 13, Mirpur in Dhaka, reports BSS.

All concerned have been requested to contact for official activities as its new office from April 24.

## Mannan to attend Islamic meet in Cairo April 25

State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof. M A Mannan will attend the "Fourth Conference of Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs" beginning in Cairo from April 25, reports UNB.

He will be accompanied by Director General of the Islamic Foundation Mansurul Haq.

Delegations from all the 44 Muslim countries are scheduled to participate in the three-day conference.

It is expected to discuss political, socio-economic and cultural problems now confronting the Islamic Ummah.

## 3 tribal insurgents captured in CHT

CHITTAGONG, Apr 21: Bangladesh security forces captured three tribal insurgents after an exchange of fire with them at Techaripara of Jurachari upazila of Chittagong Hill Tracts this morning, an official said tonight, reports BSS.

One of the captured insurgents was injured in firing. Bangladesh security forces on a secret hint raided a temporary camp of the insurgents at Techaripara and there was

## JSP condemns Mizan's arrest

Jatiya Samrak Party President Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar and General Secretary MA Gafur Sunday condemned the arrest of Jatiya Party acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Choudhury and demanded his immediate release, reports UNB.

In a joint statement they slated the arrest of Mizan Choudhury, "the veteran politician and one of the organisers of independence struggle of the country."

The government has resorted to harassing the Jatiya Party leaders and workers instead of paying attention to the deteriorating law and order situation in the country, the statement added.

exchange of fire between the two sides. The insurgents retreated but three of them were captured.

One SMG, two pipeguns, ammunition and some Indian currencies were recovered from their possession.

Another report says: Customs personnel seized contrabands worth Taka 14 lakh from an abandoned house at South Patenga here today, an official source said.

Acting on secret information a squad of customs raided the house and found 1750 cartons of foreign cigarettes.

## CIRDAP training programme begins

A five week training programme for a group of Vietnamese officials began in Dhaka on Sunday under the auspices of the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for the Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), reports UNB.

The training-cum-study tour programme on rural infrastructure development was inaugurated by the CIRDAP Director ATM Shamsul Haque, a press release said.

# Earth Day today : heat wave sweeps country

By Staff Correspondent

"Earth Day" will be observed in Bangladesh today (Monday). The day assumes special significance as scorching heat is sweeping the entire country with no sign of immediate relief.

A USIS Press release issued

in Dhaka on Sunday said: The theme of this year's Earth Day "Make every day earth day" is designed to encourage people to change their daily lives to better the environment. Gaylord Nelson, former US senator and "father" of Earth Day,

said. The annual event is to be held today (April 22).

Nelson organized the first Earth Day in 1970 in hopes of putting the environment on the political and public agenda in the United States. Last year's 20th anniversary celebration, with more than 200 million people in 140 countries taking part, indicates that Nelson's idea has caught on — not only in the United States but around the world.

Education is the key to improving the environment, Nelson said in an interview on World Net, the satellite television service of the USA. "We have to create a conservation age," he said. "We must educate our youth that we have to create a sustainable economy in which we all live off the interest and not the capital."

The president of Earth Day, Bruce Anderson, told World Net viewers that "Earth Day is a call to action. The planet is in serious health and in fact many people think it's dying."

"The situation is so serious we may not have a planet if we don't take action," he said. "The planet belongs to you and me and we have to take care of it."

Diane Mac Eachern, author of "Save Our Planet: 750 everyday ways you can help clean up the earth," also appeared on the world net program.

Mac Eachern emphasized the need for everyone to conserve energy and make use of renewable fuels. She also suggested that manufacturers be required to provide an environmental impact statement about the goods they produce.

Nelson suggested putting a tax on goods in accordance with the cost of disposing of the waste associated with the product. He added that he believes the cost of gasoline to Americans should be boosted so as to force consumers to conserve energy and to spur development of alternative fuels and ways of using fuel more efficiently.



Trees in the park near Bangabhaban seen dying possibly due to the current heat wave. Will the Earth Day, being observed today, awaken the Environment Ministry to the need for meeting the crisis situation? — Star photo

## Silent procession in city against terrorism

"Shantibag Anti Terrorism Committee Ward No. 60" on Sunday brought out a procession protesting growing terrorist activities in the area, reports UNB.

The processionists paraded the main thoroughfares of the metropolis and later held a meeting in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

Speakers condemned the activities of a gang of terrorists led by black Faruk who has let loose a reign of terror in the locality under the

influence of a local elite and committing crimes with impunity.

The alleged gang today ransacked the house of a local BNP leader Mosharraf Hossain in his absence. They also stabbed Panir, a local youth on the Eid day. Several cases were also filed against the gang.

**DUTA**  
BSS adds: A silent procession of the teachers of Dhaka University will be brought out here on April 23 to

protest against the attack on the teachers of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Provost of Jahurul Huq Hall and teachers of the Department of History and Social Welfare Research Institute and with a view to flush out terrorism from the university campus.

The procession to be organized by the Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA), will start at 11.30 am

## Engineers assure cooperation to Khaleda Zia

An eighteen member delegation of the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh, headed its President Engr. Anwar Hossain on Sunday called on

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Secretariat office in Dhaka, reports BSS.

They congratulated Begum Zia on her assumption of the

office of the Prime Minister. The delegation apprised the Prime Minister of different aspects of their profession.

## Radio, TV earn Tk 17,09,72,174 from ads

State Minister for Information Mohammad Nurul Huda told the Jatiya Sangsad on Sunday that the yearly expenditure of Radio and Television was Taka 37,45,92,012 as against yearly income of Taka 17, 09,72,174 from advertisement publicity, reports BSS.

Replying to a starred question from Nizamuddin Khan (BNP-Marikganj), Mr Huda informed the House that earning from television licence fee was Taka 9,26,31,075 and Taka 1,71,02,282 during the 1989-90 and 1990-91 (upto February '91) Financial Year respectively while income from Radio were Taka 74,15,238 and Taka 76,63,116 during the 1989 and 1990 (upto February '91) Financial Year respectively.

## Monday

5.00 Opening and recitation from Al-Quran  
5.15 Recitation from Geeta  
5.20 News in Bengali  
5.30 Cartoon  
5.55 Sports Programme  
6.30 Shikangan  
7.05 TV Debate  
8.00 News in Bengali  
8.30 Jiboner Janya : Population programme  
8.45 SAARC Debate (Final)  
10.00 News in English  
10.25 Parliamentary Roundup  
10.40 Series film : Troma Centre  
11.30 Khabar/The News  
11.40 Close down.

## Weather

### Moderate shower likely

Light or moderate rain/thunder shower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Dhaka division and the region of Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra, Comilla and Sylhet till Tuesday morning, Meteorological Department says.

On Sunday rain/thunder shower occurred at one or two places over Dhaka and Chittagong divisions. The chief amount rainfall recorded in Chandpur is 17 mm. The day temperature Sunday was two to seven degree Celsius above normal over the country. Till Tuesday the day temperature will remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The highest temperature of 39.5 degree Celsius was reported on Sunday from Iswardhi.  
Out look for subsequent two days: Little change.  
Extended outlook for another five days: No marked change.  
The sun sets today (Monday) at 6.23 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5.31 am.  
The temperature and humidity of Cities/Towns on Sunday:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	maximum	minimum	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	34.7	25.4	76	60
Chittagong	34.4	26.6	75	71
Rajshahi	36.9	20	74	35
Khulna	36.4	25.3	82	57
Cox's Bazar	33.5	26	78	72
Sylhet	33.5	21.6	69	63
Srimongal	35	23.4	77	53
Comilla	34.5	25	77	75
Fardpur	34.6	24.1	76	65
Barisal	35.5	25.5	77	78
Iswardhi	39.5	20.2	68	19
Bhola	34.2	25.2	77	78
Rangpur	36	17.6	57	42
Dinajpur	37	17	54	34

Maximum temperature of two cities of the region on Sunday was:  
Hong Kong: 21.5 degree Celsius  
Singapore: 33 degree Celsius

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

**ACROSS**

- Mournful
- Rugged mountain crest
- "Beverly Hills —"
- Couple
- Flares up
- Be in debt
- Shouting
- Celebrate in song
- Animal coat
- Chris Lemmon series
- Okinawa seaport
- TV's Aaron
- Omit from pronunciation
- "Major Dad" star
- Faroe Islands whirwind
- Emerged victorious
- Desian
- Parisian season
- Printer's measure
- Musical
- Corners
- Kept
- Gaetic
- Egyptian singing girl
- One opposed
- Valetta is its capital
- Gift
- Poem
- Shor
- Ocean
- Foollike part
- Live
- Spread for drying
- Pigpen

**DOWN**

- Solemn wonder
- Dan Marino, e.g.
- Seed coating
- Declains
- Seasoning
- Stealing utensil
- Fruit drink
- Hawalian food
- Born
- "All My Children" character
- Beast of burden
- symbol
- Eatable animal
- Raccoonlike
- Primal
- Fondle
- Conduct
- Contained
- "The —" hunter
- More recent
- By oneself
- Lying face down
- Memozand
- Web-footed birds
- Appraise
- Walking stick
- Most uncanny
- Seasoning
- Soots, as fix
- Stories
- Spurs forth
- Bird's home
- Cleaning
- 47 Fruit drink
- 48 Hawaiian food
- 49 Born
- 50 "All My Children" character
- 51 Beast of burden

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

**ACROSS**

- THE MADE
- COAL LAW ANEW
- EMS STORES ACE
- SM STEM PI ER
- ASHES SALEM
- SNOOP HUN ABE
- IDLE PAN AVER
- PSI SLY OPERA
- DATA EPOS
- FA IR ARD MS
- ANI ONION SEA
- INDEPENDENTLY
- TEAM DUE OATS

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

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