

Dhaka Day by Day

Air-speeded Couriers

by Rahat Fahmida

Do you plan to send urgent documents or even parcel to a distant place? The air express services are now even here to take care of that. Air express companies originally used on board couriers to ensure that documents were quickly cleared through customs. Now packages are rapidly replacing documents as a mainstay in the air express business and distribution has become the byword.

DHL Worldwide Express, the pioneers and innovators of the air express industry, is harnessing the latest technology to meet the customers' needs and offer an even better and wider range of services. Starting its business in Bangladesh few years back, it believes that by adding the most modern computerised technology to its staff of dedicated professionals, it has the skills and resources to meet any demands. This computerisation will automatically speed up the business and add value to customer service.

As the world moves towards what has been dubbed the 'Pacific Century' much of the industry's future growth is likely to be driven by the booming economies of countries in Asia/Pacific region. This is the area where economic growth is forecast to be strongest, and which is currently showing the greatest in air transport.



Changing role of the air express services promises bright prospects in the 1990s for the dynamic air express industry, which has grown explosively as it responded rapidly to the demands of international businesses and developing business patterns and trends. Some of the other local companies in this business are—Bangladesh Air Express International Ltd., Blue Dart Express and a few others.

The country's increasing economic strength and expanded air links will increase the air express industry's role in servicing worldwide businesses. In fact, many global organisations would already find it difficult to function effectively today if they could not rely on air express. But, equally, the air express operators would not be advancing rapidly if the needs of international businesses had not changed.

A key factor in the air express industry's rapid growth has been its response to the changing demands of its customers. This service has recognised the potential needs of the market, and has attracted many customers who had never before used air express. With the document delivery services established, the air express companies spotted a need for the speedy delivery of small packages—a field then monopolised by air freight forwarders. As the country sales and marketing manager of DHL Bangladesh, Showket Hossain said, 'Air express is going beyond meeting the urgent and emergency needs of businesses to helping companies with the logistics of total distribution patterns.' He continued, 'Where time is money, air express services have seen the world as one market, and have enabled businesses to develop global sourcing for materials and manufacturing, global patterns of distribution, faster turnaround times in production to meet changing tastes and shorter production runs.'

These air express services work hand-in-hand with manufacturers in scores of countries, collecting, sorting and delivering packages and heavier-weight items to ensure their factories operate smoothly. Shipments could range from high-technology electronics to fashion goods and even normal consumer items such as rolls of film.

For faster sorting of goods computerisation has been introduced. But then success is not without its challenges. Some airlines, looking at the potential of the express package market, are weighing up whether to cut themselves a slice of the business. The cost of running an air express service on the ground and related value added elements have been, so far, the main deterrents to their added competition.

While the airlines have invested heavily in aircraft and some ground facilities, they have neither the worldwide network nor ground infrastructure needed to provide a successful delivery service.

The growing popularity of facsimile machines is another challenge, with faxes cutting into the international documents transmission market. The air express firms view facsimile as complementing their own services because of the relatively high cost of international transmission charges. Facsimile, they believe, will be used mainly for brief messages or summaries of longer documents. And confidential documents will still have to be sent by air shipments.



Garments workers brought out a procession in the city Thursday demanding their arrear salaries. —Star photo

Biswas calls for more assistance Fundamental rights to be ensured as per UN Charter: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Thursday sought cooperation of all quarters in ensuring the people's fundamental rights as per the United Nations Charter, reports UNB.

Bangladesh is committed to the principles of the UN Charter and the government will make all-out efforts in protecting people's fundamental rights, she told a delegation of United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) here this morning.

The delegation comprising UNAB President Prof M Innas Ali, Chairman Prof Salahuddin Ahmed and Secretary General Syed Ahmed Hossain called on the Prime Minister at her office.

Begum Zia emphasised on amendment or replacement of the age-old laws to make them suitable for the current need.

BSS adds: President Abdur Rahman Biswas Thursday called upon the rich nations to help alleviate the poverty of 100 crore under-privileged people of the world by extend-

ing substantial assistance and cooperation to them.

He said the boiling lava of frustration among the underprivileged across the world must be cooled down by removing poverty, illiteracy and under-development.

The President was addressing a seminar on the 'United Nations Day' organised by Lions Club International in Dhaka.

The key-note paper was read out by Dr Abdullah-Al-Muti Sharifuddin. The seminar was also addressed among others, by Canadian High Commissioner Emile Gauvreau, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Bangladesh W Fisher and Lions District Governor Jalal Ahmed.

It provided opportunity to the nations for exercising their collective wisdom and foster the concept of internationalism, said the President adding that tension could be diluted or removed through open debates on contentious issues enabling mankind to sidestep wars and 'the success of the UN lies there.'

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman Thursday called upon the United Nations to discharge its functions through clear dispensation of justice and equity among the rich and the poor, reports BSS.

He said proper role of the UN could immensely narrow down the social tension and help to infuse momentum in the economic development of the poor countries.

The Finance Minister was addressing a function organised by the United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) in observance of the 46th UN Day.

Presided over by Prof Innas Ali, the function was also addressed by State Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Begum Sarwar Rahman, Resident Representative of UNDP Charles Larsson, Acting Foreign Secretary Feroz Khan, President of UNAB Prof Salahuddin Ahmed and Secretary General Syed Ahmed Hossain.

'UN can play role in keeping global peace'

Speakers at a seminar Thursday underscored the important role of United Nations in keeping peace in the world and solving various problems facing the mankind, reports UNB.

Rotaract Mustafizur Rahman Saju read out the key note paper on 'Role of United Nations in developing countries' at Community Development Library auditorium on the occasion of United Nations Day.

The function also coincided with the first intercity meeting of Zone-8 of Dhaka North Rotaract Club.

Executive Editor of the Daily Star Mahfuz Anam was the chief guest at the seminar which was also addressed by Rotaract Zahruddin Babar, Chairman of Zone-8.

Mahfuz said UN can play active role in solving various problems emanating from over population, environmental hazards and economic crisis.

He said solution to these problems could not be achieved by any single country alone but it needed concerted international efforts.

In his address Rotaract Zahruddin Babar said the UN system could play a vital role in ensuring proper socio-economic development for the mankind.

Extolling the contribution of the United Nations in creating a safer world, he hoped that the international body would now concentrate in harnessing greater global socio-economic progress.

Tk 36 lakh for Hindus, no money for Christians

A total of 27,040 imams have been imparted training by the Islamic Foundation till June this year, State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M.A.

Social movement against drug abuse urged

A seminar on 'social movement is essential for drug abuse control' was held at a local hotel in Dhaka on Thursday, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Inter-Religious Brotherhood Association (BIRBA) organised the seminar.

Speaking on the occasion Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Minister Tariqul Islam said conscious people of the society should come forward with social commitment to control drug abuse in the form of social movement.

The seminar was addressed, among others, by MA Jabil, Special Assistant to the BNP Chairperson and President of Bangladesh Anti-Drug Federation of NGOs, D K Nath and Shaheedullah Khan, Directors of the Department of Narcotics Control and Ms Joanne M Thompson, Programme Officer of Bureau of Plan International Narcotics Matter, US Department of State.

Bush greets Biswas Allout US assistance assured

President George Bush and the United States government have warmly felicitated President Abdur Rahman Biswas on his assumption of the highest office of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The message was conveyed by U.S. Ambassador in Bangladesh William B. Milam when he called on the President at Bangabhaban Thursday morning.

ESCAP-FEJB award

Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh Thursday announced ESCAP-FEJB award of ten thousand taka each for 1989-90 to three journalists and three photographers of Bangladesh for their contribution on environmental reporting and photography, reports UNB.

The winners for reporting are: Chandan Sarkar (Bichitra), Abdul Ahmed (Dainik Bangla) and Lutful Kabir Saad (Holiday) and those for photography are: Bulbul Ahmed (Janata), Mohammed Kamruzzaman (Dainik Bangla) and Md. Lutful Rahman Binu (Morning Sun), said a press release.

A panel of judges comprising S. M. Ali (Editor, Daily Star), Enamul Haq (Advisory Editor, UNB) and M. Golum Rahman (Chairman, Mass Communication and Journalism Department, Dhaka University) awarded the prizes.

The prizes will be handed over to the recipients at a ceremony in Dhaka on November 21 by the ESCAP Executive Secretary SAMS Kibria.

Mostafiz greets Romanian FM

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman has congratulated Adrian Nastase on his re-appointment as the Foreign Minister of Romania, reports UNB.

Want to buy Piano

Want to buy a Piano in excellent condition. Kindly send offer to G.P.O. Box 810, Dhaka, urgently with details. S-66

Purchase of Stock Lot

Interested to buy TROUSERS/PANTS (not interested in Denim Jeans) for Men's and Boy's for a Buying House in USA. Manufacturers having Stock Lot of minimum 250 (two hundred fifty) dozens & above are requested to contact urgently.



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TENDER FOR SALE

Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd., Khulna branch invites tenders for sale of a refrigerated factory ship - M.V. River-mate now anchored at Rupsha river near Khulna on as is where is basis.

Interested buyers are requested to contact Mr. T.U. Shah, BCCI (Overseas) Ltd., 5 Old Jessore Road, Khulna Tel : 21069, 21740 & 20206 for full particulars of the ship and physical inspection.

Tender offers must reach the Manager, Khulna Branch on or before 26-11-91, accompanied with earnest money @ 1% (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) of the total quoted price in the form of bank's Pay Order/Draft favouring Agrani Bank, Sir Iqbal Road Branch, Khulna A/C "BCCI special Account No. 2".

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

This is consequent upon the Civil Order No. 959 of 1991 made on April 28, 1991 by the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

This notice is published with the consent of the officer nominated by Bangladesh Bank to observe the affairs of BCCI.

Md. Hedayetul Islam
BCCI (Overseas) Ltd.
Head Office, Jiban Bima Bhaban
10, Dilkusha C/A, 2nd Floor,
Dhaka

3 killed in mishaps

By Staff Correspondent

Three persons died in separate incidents in and around the city on Thursday.

A farmworker, Sohrab (24), was electrocuted at the cowshed at a farm at 60/10/a Dholpur under Demra Thana. His body was sent to the Mitford Hospital for autopsy.

An unnatural death (UD) case was registered with Demra police.

Our DMCH Correspondent adds: a pedestrian, Fazlur Rahman (45), was seriously injured after being struck by a speeding minibus near the PG Hospital Wednesday. He later succumbed to injuries at DMCH.

A case was registered with Ramna police.

Idris Ali (45), a driver of the Shah Makhdom Ferry at the Aricha Ferry Ghat, succumbed to injuries at DMCH Thursday after being admitted on Wednesday with severe head injuries sustained at the ferry ghat.

Zonta Club team off to Bombay

By Staff Correspondent

A five-member delegation of Zonta International Club of Bangladesh led by Anwari Kabir, its Governor District XXV of Zonta International left for Bombay Wednesday to attend the first district conference of District XXV, beginning today. The theme of the three-day conference is 'women's role in the 21st century'.

Correction

In the second para of our front-page story titled 'Move to Revive Ground Water Act' published Thursday, the year 1987 was inadvertently printed as 1967. The error is regretted.

— News Editor

ISRA treats 5206 patients

CHITTAGONG, Oct 24: The free clinic at Patenga here of Islamic Relief Agency (ISRA) treated 5206 poor patients and gave them medicines free of costs during the past three months, a press of the clinic said reports BSS.

A meeting of the clinic committee held Saturday with its Chairman M A Taber in the chair reviewed the activities of the clinic.

Plea to foil conspiracy against abortion pill

A group of woman activists Thursday called for resisting alleged conspiracy towards marketing newly invented abortion pill 'RU-486' in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

They told a press conference here this afternoon that test in other countries, including Australia, proved the pill is not totally safe and has severe side effects.

Protirodh (Resistance) Network, a women's organisation campaigning against 'misuse of reproduction technology in woman health' organised the press conference at Jatiya Press Club.

Farida Akhtar of the Network read out a statement at the press conference attended by Rasheda Begum, Tahmina Zaman, Geeta Chakravarty, Latifa Akhond and Natasha Ahmed.

They alleged that a section of businessmen, doctors and family planning volunteers were trying to introduce the pill. Bangladesh Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion (BAPSA) held an international conference here last October, preparatory to marketing this dreadful pill called Mifepristone in Bangladesh, they said.

Researchers, physicians, family planning and birth control experts from home and abroad attended the conference.

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Weather Light rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Met office forecast Thursday that light rain or thunder shower is likely at one or two places over Chittagong division and the regions of Dhaka, Faridpur, Barisal and Patuakhali during the next 24 hours commencing 6 pm Thursday.

Weather will remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country. Day temperature during the period may remain nearly unchanged. Met office also forecast.

Temperature and humidity recorded on Thursday at important cities and towns were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	31.5	24.5	73	73
Chittagong	31.8	23.4	86	68
Rajshahi	31.8	21.0	81	86
Khulna	32.4	22.1	78	85
Barisal	31.7	23.4	78	97
Feni	31.8	23.0	77	71
Sylhet	32.0	21.0	67	77
Dinajpur	31.0	19.8	76	86
Chandernagore	34.5	21.0	84	78
Mymensingh		19.7	77	

The sun sets in Dhaka on Friday at 5:25 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 6:02 am.