

Dhaka Day by Day

Quest for Information and Perfection

by Fayza Haq

Ms. Gabriele Fischer, a Socio-Anthropologist, based at Dhaka, said, "I have dealt with problems of Middle and South Asia, which includes Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Bombay, and I have had to travel extensively. I had to locate new partners who had the drive to change the existing situations, while working in co-operation with EZE in Germany, a large funding agency. The staff at EZE feel that their budgets were limited during the last three years."

Ms. Fischer added that her organization realised that the liaison with the partner organisations was limited and incomplete — the NGOs were working to change the conditions of the people but it remained a long time process. They cannot change the entire condition within a short span of time. There is greater need to have more contacts with the partner organisations. The NGOs, and we in Germany, have to comprehend what the masses in the Middle and South Asia are striving for. Projects have limited targets and tight budgets. We, as Germans, can travel only once a year, and could only discuss the most urgent problems, and how they could be financed," Ms. Fischer said.

The Socio-Anthropologist continued to explain that there was very little time to comprehend the problems of the NGOs. They needed various types of support, including political ones. Ms. Fischer said that by the late '80s they realised that there should be better liaison between the partners in Germany and Asia. She said that she had her ears and eyes opened to listen to the Asian NGOs. Coming to Dhaka 18 months ago, before the "big political change took place in Bangladesh", she attempted to relate to issues in Bangladesh, India and other Asian countries.

When asked as to what exactly Ms. Fischer was doing in Bangladesh, she elaborated that she was a consultant in South Asia, while she worked with a number of NGOs in Bangladesh with the Christian Community, as well as Assam, Madras (India) — which has a national core in Bangladesh, which is called "Gono Shashtho Bikash Kendro Andolon". This group, (SBA), has 15 partner organisations, which are involved in participatory actions and reflective works. Similarly she also worked with an NGO, "People's Participatory Process (PPP)", which began in '90, and which deals with community based action for health, participatory training and women ecology. "What solutions once worked may not work forever. The context and needs change. We all have to be open to information to acquire perfection. No one is perfect and none can, say 'I know more than you,'" she added.

"People have survived without NGOs in Ban-

ladesh and maybe able to survive without their support in future. In the process of reflection and action, a lot of new ideas come up. Twenty years of existence of NGOs in Bangladesh is due to foreign donors. In the 70's some projects functioned well. For income generating process for women, there are literacy and other projects which click. There are also the credit and saving schemes. The foreign donors are organised in different ways, and are equipped in various ways to help. Seventy % of the NGO who work in Bangladesh are related to women. It is done for women but not necessarily with women. One must be clear about the needs and the achievements of the Bangladesh villagers. One should have a census of what they think, feel

and need. The economic upgradings in the country should fulfil the dreams of the rural people," she continued.

Ms. Fischer worked on the interaction between the foreign donors in Germany and the recipients in India and Bangladesh. "I analysed the problems that occurred at various junctures", she added.

The Socio-Anthropologist visited northern Bangladesh, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Tangail, and places like Bogra, Comilla, Rangpur etc. She was also at West Bengal, Orissa and Tamil Nadu. She had to, at the same time, visit Bonn and Stuttgart to complete her project.

Giving her impressions of Bangladesh, Ms. Fischer commented, "Bangladeshis are both creative and spontaneous in their expressions. They find excellent solutions themselves for numerous problems that they face, and which cannot be envisaged in Europe. The people have learnt how to cope with their problems and must have the gumption to proceed further in all spheres of life. I wish Europeans could be similarly subtle and ingenious."

Ms. Fischer, born at Branczew, which is close to the then East German border, with a Master's degree in Social Anthropology from Bonn; has been interested in the eastern culture and technology since '67. Earlier, she studied with a scholarship at a technical school in Germany, and had her first contact with India in '71. She continued working in her country, and at the same time, learnt as much as she could about the problems in the east. In '72 she began her University studies, concentrating on the Asian region, as well as the problems that the western tourists face in Asia. By '78, she joined EZE, which helps with co-operation and development, the world over. This organisation gets 90 % of its funds from the Ministry of Economic Co-operation, while some of the funds also come from a Protestant Church.



Gabriele Fischer.



Bangladesh Awami Juba League Dhaka city unit held a protest rally yesterday demanding unconditional release of Hemayetullah Auranga. — Star photo

BCIC earns Tk 250 lakh profit

The Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) earned Taka 250 lakh as profit upto February 28 this year, according to a PID press release yesterday, reports BSS.

This was informed at an emergency meeting on production, sale and distribution of chemical fertilizer at the conference room of the Ministry of Industries with Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan in the chair. Major General M Majid-ul-Haq (Retd), Minister for Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development and Flood Control was also present on special invitation.

The meeting had detailed discussion on BCIC activities specially on production, sale, distribution and stock position of Urea fertilizer. It was informed in the meeting that sufficient quantity of Urea fertilizer has been stocked in different ware-houses of the fer-

tilizer factories of the country to face any urgent demand.

Smooth production and distribution of fertilizer is going on and the buyers are taking delivery on first come first served basis according to serial of their deposited money. The meeting observed that the present distribution, delivery and sale system of fertilizer is better than that of previous distribution and delivery system of BADC, the press release said.

Agriculture Minister suggested some specific proposal for further improvement of the present fertilizer delivery and sale system.

It was decided in the meeting that necessary steps will be taken to keep the price of fertilizer at the expected rate throughout the country.

Industries Secretary Dr Ekram Hossain, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industries Ataul Karim, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agri-

culture Anwarul Islam, Chairman BCIC Waziq-al-Azad, representatives from USAID and International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC) and other concerned high officials were present in the meeting.

Farhan removed from Leo Club of Dhaka Agrani

The primary membership of Farhan Noor, ex-Leo President of Leo District Council 315, Bangladesh has been ceased and he has been removed from the Leo Club of Dhaka Agrani for his fault in payment of club dues, disassociation with the club and its activities, according to a press release of the club, reports BSS.

65 arrested on various charges

Police rounded up 65 people from different parts of the city in last 24 hours on various charges, a DMP press release said yesterday, reports UNB. Of the arrested, two were wanted, one held on charge of murder, two for dacoity, five accused in abduction, 11 for theft, two for burglary, 29 under the DMP Act and 10 on various other charges.

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The containerised cargo ex. M.V. CHOYANG VICTORY V-EE311 from Antwerp, Rotterdam, Bremen & Hamburg, ex. M. V. GERMAN SENATOR V-EM309 from Khorakkan, ex. M. V. CARLMEZ V-03/93 from Istanbul have been relayed to M. V. OPTIMA V-834 Imp. Rot. No. 206/93 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 20-3-93 from Singapore. Consignees are requested to take delivery of their cargo from FCL containers within 5 days free time from the date of landing and if cargo not cleared within 45 days will be guided by Customs Act.

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'Price of foodgrains within reach'

Food Minister M Shamsul Islam yesterday said foodgrains price at present is completely within the purchasing power of commonman. One of the aims of production oriented activities initiated by the present government is to make the country self-sufficient in food, he said, reports BSS.

The Minister was addressing an evaluation meeting on development project with district-level officers and UP Chairman of Munshiganj district.

Islam said the present government will not spare any quarter involved in hampering production as a sustainable growth is the target of the government.

He urged the officials and public representatives to remove any bottleneck in implementing development projects through mutual discussion.

Islam asked all concerned to complete the on-going projects within the scheduled time.

Later, the Minister visited some projects in different parts of Tongbari thana under Munshiganj district.

Syeduzzaman leaves for Norway today

Former Finance Minister M Syeduzzaman leaves for Norway today (Friday) to work at the Christian Michelsen Institute, says a press release.

He will be working there on a team of international consultants assembled jointly by the governments of Canada, Norway and the Netherlands for evaluation of World Food Programme's global operations.

DU Arabic prof off to Rabat

M Mustafizur Rahman, Professor of Arabic, University of Dhaka, left for Rabat Wednesday to attend a meeting with Moroccan King Hassan II, members of the Royal Family, King's advisors and members of the cabinet, a university press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

The meeting is an annual affair during the month of Ramadan. Eminent Islamic thinkers from all over the world will take part in the meeting and will present papers on various aspects of Islam.

Professor Rahman will present a paper on The Holy Quran and other revealed books. He is the first participant in this meeting from Bangladesh.

CU holiday

CHITTAGONG, Mar 17: The offices of Chittagong University will remain closed from March 22 to April 1 on account of Shab-E-Kadr, Eid-ul-Fitr and Independence Day, a university press release said today, reports BSS.



A glimpse of DCC's eviction drive with the help of police at Narinda Wednesday —Star photo



Morning session

8:00 Opening announcement
Al Quran Programme summary

8:10 News in Bangla

8:15 Abur Disher

8:45 Cartoon: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

9:30 Comedy show: Candid Camera

10:00 News in English

10:05 Moner Mukure

11:30 Children's drama series: Deny Wilson's Family Collection

Evening session

3:00 Opening announcement

3:15 Cartoon: The Peter Pan And The Pirates

3:45 Movie of the Week: The Diamond Trap

5:15 News in Bangla

5:25 Sports programme: Mibe Ramzan: Haamd and Naad

7:05 Malarcho

8:00 News in Bangla

8:30 Comedy show: Perfect Strangers

9:00 Magazine programme: Bola Na Bola

10:00 News in English

10:30 Drama series: LA Law

11:30 Khabar/The News

11:40 Tomorrow's programme summary

11:45 Closing

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Friday) says dry weather will prevail over the country while day temperature may remain nearly unchanged.

The minimum temperature of 14.4 degree Celsius was reported from Rangpur yesterday (Thursday) and the maximum of 34.7 degree was from Satkhira.

The sun sets today (Friday) at 6.09 pm and rises tomorrow (Saturday) at 6.03 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity of some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	31.7	17.4
Chittagong	31.2	23.3
Rajshahi	33.8	17.0
Khulna	32.8	16.2
Barisal	32.0	20.0
Cox's Bazar	31.8	22.5
Sylhet	29.8	16.0
Dinajpur	29.0	16.4

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1.	Marine Biology Discipline	Professor/Associate Professor	1 (one)
		Assistant Professor/Lecturer	1 (one)
2.	Forestry & Wood Technology Discipline	Lecturer	2 (two)
		Professor/Associate Professor	1 (one)
3.	Business Administration Discipline	Assistant Professor/Lecturer	1 (one)
		Assistant Professor	1 (one)
4.	Architecture Discipline	Lecturer	1 (one)
		Professor/Associate Professor	1 (one)
5.	Urban & Rural Planning Discipline	Assistant Professor/Lecturer	1 (one)
		Assistant Professor	1 (one)
6.	Computer Science & Engineering Discipline	Lecturer	1 (one)
		Assistant Professor	1 (one)
7.	Mathematics	Lecturer	1 (one)
		Assistant Professor	1 (one)
8.	Physics	Assistant Professor/Lecturer	1 (one)
		Lecturer	1 (one)
9.	Computer Science & Engineering Discipline	Junior Instrument Technician	1 (one)
		Lab Assistant	1 (one)
10.	Architecture Discipline	Lab Assistant	1 (one)
		Lab Assistant	1 (one)
11.	Academic Disciplines	Lower Division Assistant-cum-Typist	6 (six)
		Stenographer/PA	1 (one)
12.	Vice Chancellor's Office	Stenographer/PA	1 (one)
		Upper Division Assistant	1 (one)
13.	Registrar's Office	Upper Division Assistant	1 (one)
		Lower Division Assistant-cum-Typist	1 (one)
14.	Librarian's Office	Upper Division Assistant	1 (one)
		Lower Division Assistant-cum-Typist	1 (one)

Information on candidate's educational qualification & experience, application form and other necessary information can be collected directly from the office of the Registrar on cash payment of Taka 60/- (sixty) during office hours on all working days or by post sending non-refundable Pay Order/Bank Draft of Taka 60/- (sixty) drawn on any scheduled bank situated in Khulna city in favour of "Khulna University" with 25 cm x 10 cm self-addressed envelope with Taka 10 (ten) postage stamp.

Candidates in service should apply through appropriate authority channel.

Application should be deposited/should reach the office of the undersigned by 13-4-93.

No TA/DA is admissible for attending interview.

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