

Dhaka Day by Day

Of Cows and their Homes

by Parveen Anam

YOUR COMPLAINTS MADE ME BUY SUITS & COMMODES FOR MY 'DHANMONDI RESIDENT' COWS! IF YOU HAVE COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE STENCH, WHY DON'T YOU BUY ME A PERFUME!



Dhaka is a marvellous city. We shall not argue about that, even if we are at times a bit put off by the road accidents and the traffic snarls. Like it or lump it, the authorities will shrug and for once, we shall not go up in arms. After all there is a limit to how much we can argue. Argue about the water, argue about whether the organism they are so generously providing us with it is the diarrhoea or cholera bacteria, argue about the number of deaths from the horrific disease, etc. Even the Dhakaitic has a limit to his patience.

But what we shall argue about, whether the authorities approve or not, is the random, reckless mushrooming of abodes for the cows. The people in power of course do not see them. But then, they see very little beyond their noses of what does not directly concern either them, their families or their pockets. They seem to have a marvellous view of the world. And what wonderful time the cows in Dhaka seem to be having, as a direct result of their leniency. The leniency of the authorities, that is.

Go for a walk in the mornings, in keeping with the "keep fit" tradition and you will be in for the shock of your life. The city of Dhaka seems to be in danger of being overrun by COWS. Believe it or not. And the most horrific part of it all is that they seem to be doing it in style. They have homes made for them at every corner of the city. Their existence is without doubt comfortable. They are not complaining, certainly. It's only the harassed citizen, who is being vocal about his objections. Although this is an exercise in futility. This is because the other citizens, who have made the cow-sheds in every nook and corner of this city of ours, are the determined type. Support by the people in power of course adds to their determination.

The cow-sheds merrily dot the pavements, the corners of the roads, and the little traffic islands opposite your house. The accompanying hassle, of course, is too mind-boggling to go into details. The stench permeates the entire area, in keen competition with your "rajanigandha" or whatever local flower you or your "mali" might have romantically tried to grow in your garden. The cow-shed is on the other side. The poor pedestrian, always the worst sufferer, tries valiantly to outdo the cows and their abundant pollution of the pavement, etc by gingerly holding his handkerchief to his nose, and nimbly jumping up and down the pavement, as he tries to avoid both the cows and their masters. The driver of the car is lucky if he can avert serious accidents, as the cows either rush out into the path of the on-coming car, or lie placidly in its way, oblivious to both the car and its honking.

The masters are another story. If it is not the cows making your life insufferable, it is their masters. They sit on the pavement endlessly milking their cows, making little "cakes" out of the cow-dung to be used as fuel by the not so affluent. These little "dung-cakes", again, liberally dot whatever area of the pavement or the little park, not already overtaken by the cows. All the while, under the patronising gaze of the patrol police and the local authorities of course. In fact, the grapevine also tells us that some of these cows actually belong to the "higher ups" who, instead of keeping them within their own premises to litter their own elegant gardens or backyards, hire men who keep them on the pavement for them. How's that for genius? But in the meantime, of course, we in Dhaka at the moment are in very serious danger of being invaded by cows unless we do something about it. And do it quickly too.

Modern concept of dentistry demonstrated

The visiting two Australian dentists demonstrated the modern concept of general dentistry, implantation and crown bridge through projection of cinema slides at hotel Purbani here yesterday, reports BSS.

Dr Bruce J. Munroe, a general dentist, and Dr. Michael D. Bowler, an oral and maxilla facial surgeon of New Castle of Australia, explained the modern method of treatment in the field of dentistry.

Bangladesh Private Dental Surgeons Association organised the programme which was attended by local dental surgeons. The Association President Dr. Md. Amirul Islam presided over the function.

Hotel Sonargaon employees host iftar

The workers and employees union of Hotel Sonargaon hosted an iftar party yesterday, reports UNB.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder attended the function as chief guest. It was also attended by Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, State Minister for Textile Major (Retd) M A Mannan, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan, Civil Aviation Secretary Habibur Rahman and Sraniik Dal General Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan.

Mustafiz attends janaza of Bari

Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman yesterday attended the namaz-e-janaza of Abdul Bari, a former ambassador and long-term carrier diplomat who died on Thursday, reports UNB.

The namaz-e-janaza was also attended by a large number of people, including relatives and friends.

Late Abdul Bari was later buried at the Banani graveyard. Conveying his heart-felt condolence to the bereaved family, the Foreign Minister recalled the distinguished career of the deceased and his contribution for the country in over 30 years of service.

A condolence meeting will be held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs tomorrow (Saturday) at 1 pm to pay tribute to Ambassador Abdul Bari and Ambassador Brig (Retd) ANM Nuruzzaman, both of whom passed away recently.

Diarrhoea claims 18 more

Diarrhoea claimed 18 more lives and attacked some 2,187 people on Wednesday in 14 affected districts of the country, reports UNB.

According to the Diarrhoea Control Room sources in Dhaka Thursday, the latest deaths brought the

toll from the epidemic to 1,249 since early January.

More than 83,670 people have been attacked by the water-borne bacteria across the country, particularly in eight southern districts and Laxmipur, control room sources further said.

Flow of Padma reaches lowest ebb: woman MP

A woman Member of Parliament yesterday expressed her grave concern at the closure of country's biggest irrigation project— The Ganga Kapotakhyia Project— due to low flow of water in the river Padma, reports UNB.

In a statement Selina Shahid MP from Kushtia said the flow of Padma was reached at its lowest ebb due to unilateral withdrawal of Ganges water by Indian authorities through Farakka barrage.

The adverse effect of the barrage will force at least 1.20 lakh acres of land to remain fallow during the current season, she said.

Scarcity of drinking and irrigation waters have become acute in most of the north and south-western districts, as the under-ground water level has fallen sharply in recent days.

Selina urged the government to take necessary steps to halt desertification in Rajshahi, Kushtia and Pabna, the worst affected districts of the region.

The MP hoped the Indian authorities will also make

necessary arrangements so that Bangladesh can get sufficient water during the dry season.

She requested the Prime Minister to start the work of Ganges embankment project taken by late president Ziaur Rahman in 1979 to save the people from the adverse effect of Farakka.



Saturday

- 5-00 Opening announcement, Al-Quran/Programme summary
- 5-10 News in Bangla
- 5-25 Cartoons: Care Bears Family
- 5-50 Mahe Ramzan Haam'd and Naa't
- 6-30 Open University
- 7-05 Banashari (Folk songs)
- 8-00 News in Bangla
- 8-30 Mail O Marash
- 9-00 Shatabdir Pranar Daria
- 10-00 News in English
- 10-30 Drama series: Dallas
- 11-30 Khubar/The News
- 11-40 Saturday's programme summary
- 11-45 Closing

Weather

No change in temperature

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast for the next 24 hours commencing 6 am today (Saturday) says weather is likely to remain dry over the country while the day temperature may remain nearly unchanged.

Day temperature may rise within the next two days, the Met office adds.

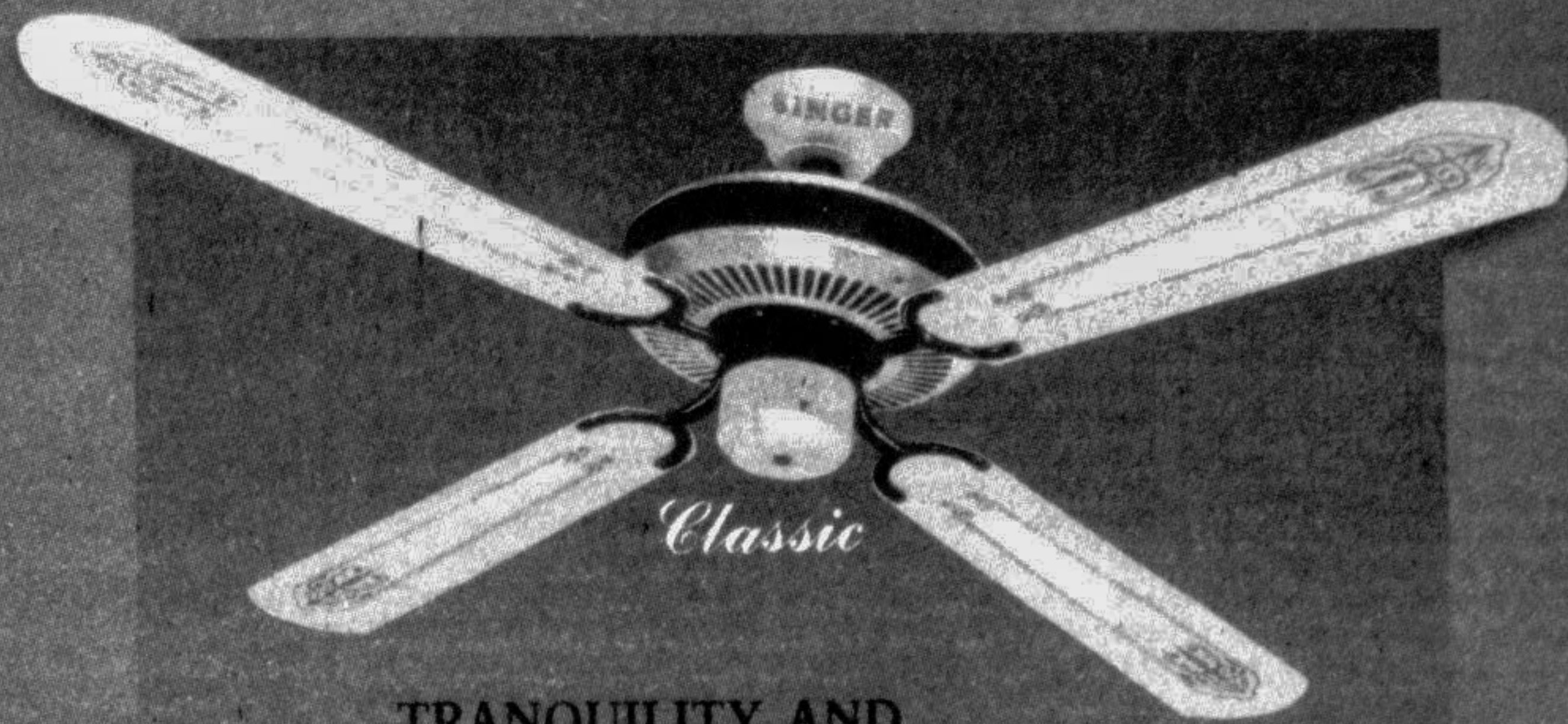
The maximum temperature of the country of 34.5 degree Celsius was reported from Rajshahi, Ishurdi and Jessore while the minimum of 13.0 degree was reported from Rangamati yesterday (Friday).

The sun sets today (Saturday) at 6.10 pm and rises tomorrow (Sunday) at 6.02 am.

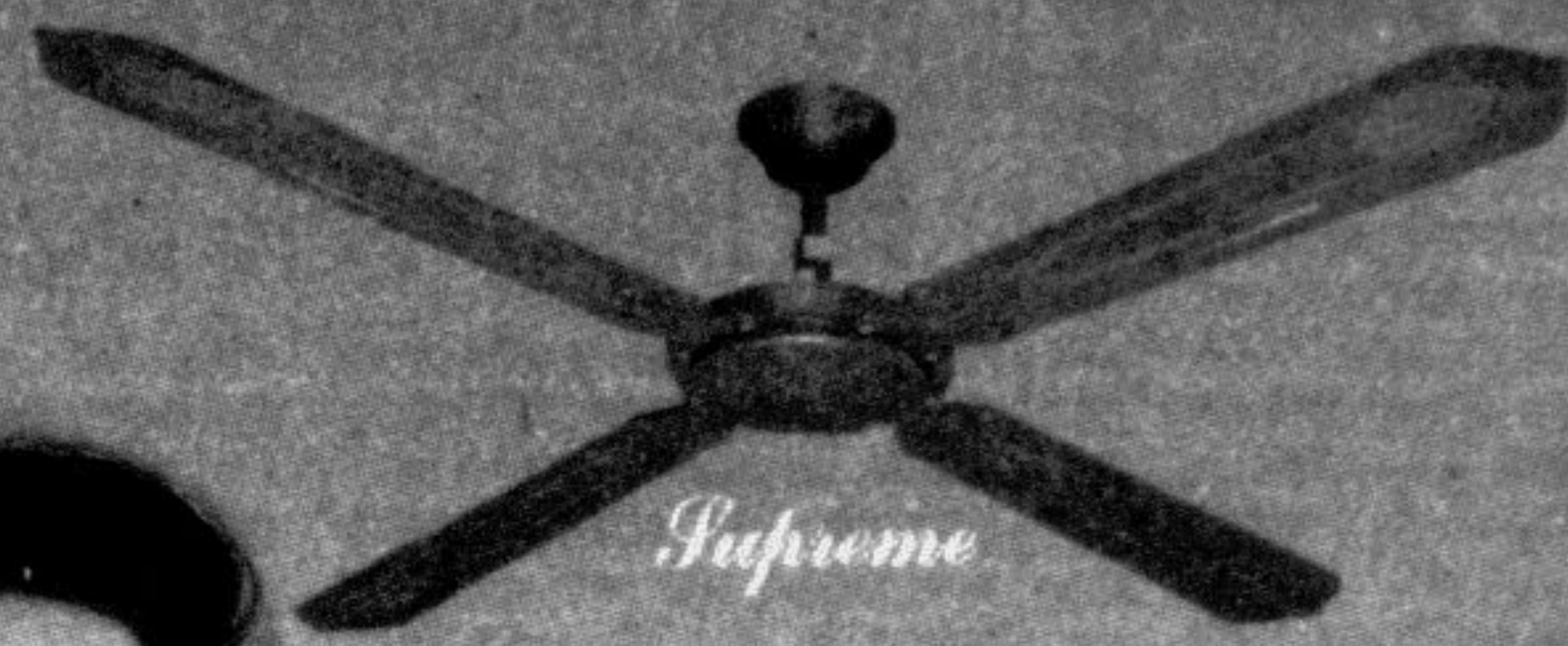
The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	33.2	19.0	42	33
Chittagong	30.0	17.2	47	77
Rajshahi	34.5	15.0	32	28
Khulna	33.5	17.4	69	41
Barisal	32.6	13.4	82	57
Cox's Bazar	30.4	18.0	63	70
Sylhet	29.7	16.0	66	33
Dinajpur	32.4	14.5	44	28

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ADMISSION AT NSU

MAY-AUGUST SEMESTER, 1993

NSU Curriculum is designed by University of Illinois, USA and approved by University Grants Commission.

Applications are invited for admission into B.A. in Economics and Public Policy, B.B.A., B.S. in Computer Science, Programs for the second semester (May 9, 1993 - August 20, 1993). NSU's three undergraduate programs are currently successfully running through the midterms of their first semester. Two midterm exams have already been held and the final semester exam will held on schedule, 24-26 April, 1993. The majority of the teaching staff are from USA Universities e.g. Univ. of Illinois (UR-CH), Univ. of Rhode Island, Southern Indiana, New Orleans, Mankato and Colorado State Universities etc. The International advisory Board headed by Prof. Peter Timmer of Harvard University is monitoring NSU programs.

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMS: Duration of the Undergraduate programs: Four years, with two regular mandatory academic semesters each year - (1) January-April, and (2) May-August.

ELIGIBILITY FOR APPLICATION: At least high second division in S.S.C. and H.S.C., or (2) Passed GCE O-level and A-level with at least two subjects, or (3) U.S. system high school diploma and acceptable SAT scores.

FINANCIAL AID: Subject to availability of funds, five to ten percent of our undergraduate students will be awarded scholarships based on merit and financial needs to fully or partially cover their tuition and other fees. Financial aid forms will be available from NSU administrative office.

TUITION AND FEES: One Time Admission Fee: Tk. 50,000/- Tuition Per Semester: Tk. 30,000/-
[For four years] Annual Development Fees: Tk. 30,000/-

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Forms are available at the following banks and also at NSU administrative office at House 76, Road 21, Block B, Banani, Tel. 606047, at a non-refundable fee of Tk.350/-.

1. Eastern Bank Ltd., Principal Branch, Jiban Bima Bldg 10 Dilkhusha C/A, Dhaka
2. Eastern Bank Ltd., 75 Agrabad Branch, Chittagong
3. Eastern Bank Ltd., 5, Old Jessore Road, Khulna
4. National Bank Ltd., 106-109 Shaheb Bazar, Rajshahi
5. National Bank Ltd. Lal Dighir Par, Sylhet

Applications should return the completed applications at any of the above banks offices or NSU office by April 7, 1993. Application will include: 1) application form, 2) two passport size photographs, 3) certified copies of marksheet and other transcripts, and 4) two letters of recommendations from the student's college teachers.

The Admission Test (two hours) will be held on April 10, at 9:30am at the NSU Campus at 35 Kemal Ataturk Avenue in Banani (6th floor of Abedin Tower). (Applicants who took the test last January and were qualified for admission do not need to take the test again. They can register for the semester by paying the appropriate fees by April 15, 1993). The applicants must bring their Admission Test Pass which will be provided at the time of submitting the application. The test will consist of objective multiple choice and essay questions. The students will be tested on their aptitude and achievement in English, Mathematics, and current affairs.

The names of the successful applicants will be announced in The Bangladesh Observer on or before April 18, 1993 and registration for courses will begin on April 19, 1993. These applicants must register after paying the full tuition and other fees by May 3. After this date applicants from the waiting list will be accepted for admission.

Orientation for new students will begin at 9:00 a.m. on May 8 and classes will start May 9, 1993.

Mohammed Sharif, Ph. D.
Associate Professor
(Previously listed as Assistant Prof. by error)
University of Rhode Island
Academic Coordinator

James Thomas, Ph.D.
Registrar

WANTED

Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS) an International NGO wishes to fill-in the following senior positions:

1. **Assistant Programme Co-ordinator** to be based in Rangpur: The candidate for the position must be a woman with drive and initiative and commitment to rural development. She must be 35 to 45 years of age with a University degree in the social science discipline.

Prospective candidates should possess excellent skills in oral and written English and have at least eight to ten years of work experience in rural development institutes/organizations with emphasis on Women in Development issues. She should be ready to undertake extensive field visits in the RDRS project area and deal with multiple groups of professionals and visitors related to RDRS development activities. Applicants with NGO experience in senior executive positions will be given preference.

The position offers attractive benefit package. Monthly salary will be between Tk. 15,000.00 and Tk. 20,000.00.

2. **Health Co-ordinator** to be based in Rangpur: Either a Male or a female could apply for the position. The candidate should hold an MBBS degree preferably with diploma or a degree in Public Health. Must possess sound health and should be between 35 and 45 years of age.

Candidates with eight to ten years of working experience in rural health development programmes in NGOs will be given preference. Should possess excellent skills in oral and written English.

The post offers attractive benefit package. Monthly salary will be between Tk. 15,000.00 and Tk.20,000.00.

Please apply to GPO Box 618, Dhaka-1000, with detailed CV and a passport size photo. The last date of receipt of applications is 13 April, 1993. Please mark the envelope 'APC' for the position on Sl. # 1 & 'HC' for the position on Sl. # 2.

Any canvassing direct or indirect in order to influence selection will disqualify the candidate.