

Dhaka Day by Day

Promoting the Welfare of Children

by Aasha Mehreen Amin



Mother with children at out-patient department of children's nutrition unit of SCF (UK) at Maghbazar, Dhaka.

Started as a relief organisation for children suffering from the aftermath of the First World War, Save the Children Fund (SCF) has expanded not only in terms of the number of countries it covers but in its range of activities aimed at improving the lives of children. Working in over fifty countries around the globe including Bangladesh where SCF emphasizes on health, particularly mother and child health. In recent years the organisation has also focused on education and rural and community development. On its 75th anniversary today, SCF, founded by Eglarthyne Jebb, can boast several ongoing projects all over Bangladesh helping children, either directly or indirectly.

SCF (UK) began working in this country after the cyclone of 1970 followed by several other relief programmes in subsequent years. As a rule, SCF in Bangladesh works in slum areas and sand banks where the poorest of families live. With an integrated approach it stresses on self-help, self reliance and finding solutions that endure.

The Children's Nutrition Unit (CNU) in Dhaka has become internationally known for its success in caring for slum children suffering from acute malnutrition. The CNU hospital in Maghbazar has 60 in patient beds, 40 beds for day patients and an out patient unit which serves from 200 to 250 children a day. The patients are children from slums in all parts of Dhaka whose parents can barely afford their food, let alone expensive fees for health care. Severely malnourished children are kept in the in patient and day-care departments and given treatment until they are well enough to go home. In addition, the hospital runs a general paediatric and Mother-Child-Health (MCH) out-patient service providing basic health facilities to poor children and giving important advice to their parents on basic child care, nutrition, ante-natal and family planning — counselling that will ultimately benefit their children.

Training government and non-government health personnel at various levels is also an important facet of CNU. Structured courses are offered to doctors, nutrition trainers, nurses, MCM workers etc. who also get practical experience by going to the villages where various Save the Children Fund projects are operating. The basic idea, says Dr Mohammed Shahjahan, CNU's programme coordinator is not just providing training but creating trainers who will disseminate their knowledge to others.

Research is also a main area of work for CNU. The research unit is mainly concerned with improving child health care services and nutrition methods. One of the new techniques developed is home-based rehabilitation which involves treating malnourished children at home with regular visits by the health workers for check-ups and advice to mothers.

SCF also funds a project called Phulke, a childcare and development centre with branches in Kalachanpur and Shajadpur. The centres, catering to poor children from 2 months to 5 years providing pre-school educational aids, creating links between formal and non-formal education, educating children and their mothers in primary health care and nutrition. Phulke has started a child-to-child project where 5-10 slum children of 8-12 years are selected and trained on primary and preventive health care, immunisation, hygiene, environment etc. Each of these children will then teach what they have learnt to 10 other children, thus disseminating the information more quickly and effectively among their peers.

Outside Dhaka SCF has several other projects aimed mainly at community development. Another urban project in Khulna city aimed at slum children and their families include a credit and savings scheme, providing mother and child health care, counselling on MCM, water and sanitation.

The Shariatpur Project covers three unions and 4800 people raising the indigenous skills and knowledge of Community Health Practitioners (CHP) and Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs). Similar programmes are conducted under the River Project on the east bank of the Jamuna in the district of Jamalpur and Gaibandha, home to about 68,000 people, most of whom are poor and landless.

The Rohingya Refugees Relief project includes MCM clinics, antenatal, EPI, TBA training anti-scares campaign, feeding programmes for mothers for Rohingyas.

After the cyclone of 1991, SCF's Cyclone Rehabilitation Project has provided emergency relief and other services such as reconstructing cyclone-damaged primary schools which also act as shelters.

With its integrated, practical approach, Save the Children Fund has achieved positive results in terms of improving the lives of disadvantaged children and their families.

'Natural tissue grafting possible at low cost'

Replacement of damaged tissues in human body could be made here at a very low cost through natural tissue grafting by developing tissue bank, speakers at a seminar said here Tuesday, reports BSS.

Successful use of tissue banking has been established for corneal grafts and blood transfusion from one person to another. Similarly, banks for other body tissues like bone, dura mater, peripheral nerve, tendon, and heart valve could also be set up, they said.

The speakers also said that the scientists at the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) with the technical assistance of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had perfected the technology for preparation of body tissues for re-using them in replacement of damaged ones.

The seminar on "Prospects of tissue banking in Bangladesh" organised by Bangladesh Tissue Banking Association (BTBA) was held at Sir Salimullah Medical College in the city.

Prof Haque said during the last few years, there was tremendous development in preparation and preserving the tissues from cadavers for use of patients.

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What's on today . . .

Painting Exhibition: Organised by Shilpangan on its 3rd founding anniversary. Forty-four artists will participate. Artist Aminul Islam will open the show. Venue: Shilpangan, House: 15, Road: 4, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm. The show will remain open till June 2 from 10 am to 8 pm everyday except May 22 and 23.

Zahir Raihan Film Society: Will screen a film titled Suryasani (The Sunbath) directed by Salauddin as part of its on-going special film session. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, House: 510, Road: 7, Dhanmondi. Time: 6 pm.



B R Chaudhury (C), Director General of the NIPORT addressing a workshop on Interpersonal Communication in the city Tuesday. Edson E Whitey (R) of the Johns Hopkins University and Dr A J Faisel (L) are also seen.

Weather

Thundershower likely

Met office forecast rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged across the country, the forecast added.

Country's highest temperature 34.4 degrees Celsius was recorded at Rajshahi and the lowest 19.2 degrees at Srimangal yesterday.

The sun sets today (Thursday) at 6:36 pm and rises tomorrow (Friday) at 5:14 am.

Pak Navy Chief meets Biswas

A three-member delegation, led by Pakistan Navy Chief Admiral Saeed M Khan, called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Navy Chief Rear Admiral Mohammad Mohaimul Islam was present on the occasion.

Exchanging views with the Pakistan Navy Chief President Biswas appreciated the cooperation among the navies of the two countries.

He said such visits by the chiefs of the defence services would offer opportunities for better understanding and expansion of mutual cooperation in all possible field of the two countries.

Biswas hoped that exchange of training programmes between the navies of the two countries would increase in the years ahead.

Among others, Secretary to President Ataul Haq, Military Secretary to President Major General Ghulam Mowla were present.

Md Nasiruddin hospitalised

Elderly litterateur Mohammad Nasiruddin has been admitted to Suhrawardi Hospital Tuesday following sudden cardiac complications, family sources said, reports BSS.

Mohammad Nasiruddin, now 107, was first admitted to the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital, but later shifted to the Suhrawardi under Prof. Jalal, a cardiac expert.

He is now at the coronary care unit.



BTV Thursday

4:30 Opening announcement
Al-Quran
Programme summary
Children's programme:
Rum Jhum
5:10 News in Bangla
5:20 National Television School
Debate Competition
Mass Education
Programme:
Esho Para Shikhi
Jiboner Alo
7:15 Nazrul songs
8:00 News in Bangla
8:30 Drama of the week: Dui Dignanta
10:00 News in English
10:30 Mini series: Rat Hag Hero
11:30 Khabar/The News
11:40 Tomorrow's programme
11:45 Closing



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To be considered for this senior post, an applicant must have Graduate/Post Graduate qualifications in Engineering, or other discipline preferably with an MBA, and a minimum of 15/20 years work experience in a large industry, preferably in the Fertilizer industry. A minimum of 8 years experience in a Senior Management position is essential.

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AUCTION NOTICE

Sealed quotations are invited for auction sale of the followings goods on "as it is where it is". Goods can be inspected/verified on any working day from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. Tenders should be submitted supported by an earnest money equal to 5% of the quoted value in the form of DD/PO issued by any scheduled bank. Tenders must be submitted on or before 28.05.94 by 12.00 pm which will be opened on the same day at 3.00 pm in presence of tenderers, if any. Successful tenderers shall have to lift the entire goods within 15 days of its acceptance on payment of the full value failing which the earnest money will be forfeited. Unsuccessful tenderers' earnest money will be refunded due course. The bank reserves the right to accept/reject any or all of the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Name and address of the clients	Particulars of goods and quantity	Country of origin	Address of the godown
M/s. Mirrah Trading Agency Anwara Bhaban 13, Nababpur Road, Dhaka Prop: Mr. Md. Matin	1. Diamond Brand Door lock-7 cartoon (Total 420 pcs)	China	Central Godown The City Bank limited Imamgonj Branch.
	2. Door Holder 379 pcs. (open)	China	

MIRZA FARID AHMED
Asstt. Vice President

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন

বার্ষিক বিভাগ-১

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এতদ্বারা ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের বার্ষিক সার্কেলের তালিকাভুক্ত টিকাদারসহ প্রকৃত ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কশপ মালিকদের নিকট হইতে নিম্নে বর্ণিত কাজের জন্য বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১-তে সীলমোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্র আগামী ৩০-০৫-৯৪ইং (১৬-০২-১৪০১বাব) তারিখ বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকা নাগাদ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (বার্ষিক-১), সকল আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তার অফিস এবং মহাব্যবস্থাপক (পরিষ্কার-এর দপ্তর) সমুখে বর্ণিত টেন্ডার বাজে গৃহণ করা হইবে এবং একই দিন বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকা সময় উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতা অথবা তাদের প্রতিনিধিদের সমুখে (যদি কেই উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হইবে। প্রাক্কলিত দরপত্রের ৫% (পাঁচ) ভাগ বায়নার টাকা (ফেরতযোগ্য) হিসাবে মেয়র, ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের অনুকূলে যে কোন সিভিলিয়ন ব্যাংকের ব্যাংক ডাকট/পে-অর্ডার আকারে দরপত্রের সাথে প্রদত্ত করিতে হইবে। শতকরা হিসাবে দরপত্রের ৫% (পাঁচ) ভাগ অধিক অথবা দরপত্র দায়ের অন্য দর বিজ্ঞপ্তি (এনালাইসিস) দাবি করিতে হইবে। প্রকৌশল বিভাগ (বার্ষিক-১), সকল আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তার অফিস এবং হিসাব বিভাগ হইতে কাজের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিত মূল্য-এর বিনিময়ে (অফেরতযোগ্য) দরপত্র সিভিলিয়ন কর করা যাইবে। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ কোন সিভিলিয়ন ব্যাংক করা হইবে না।

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