

Metropolitan

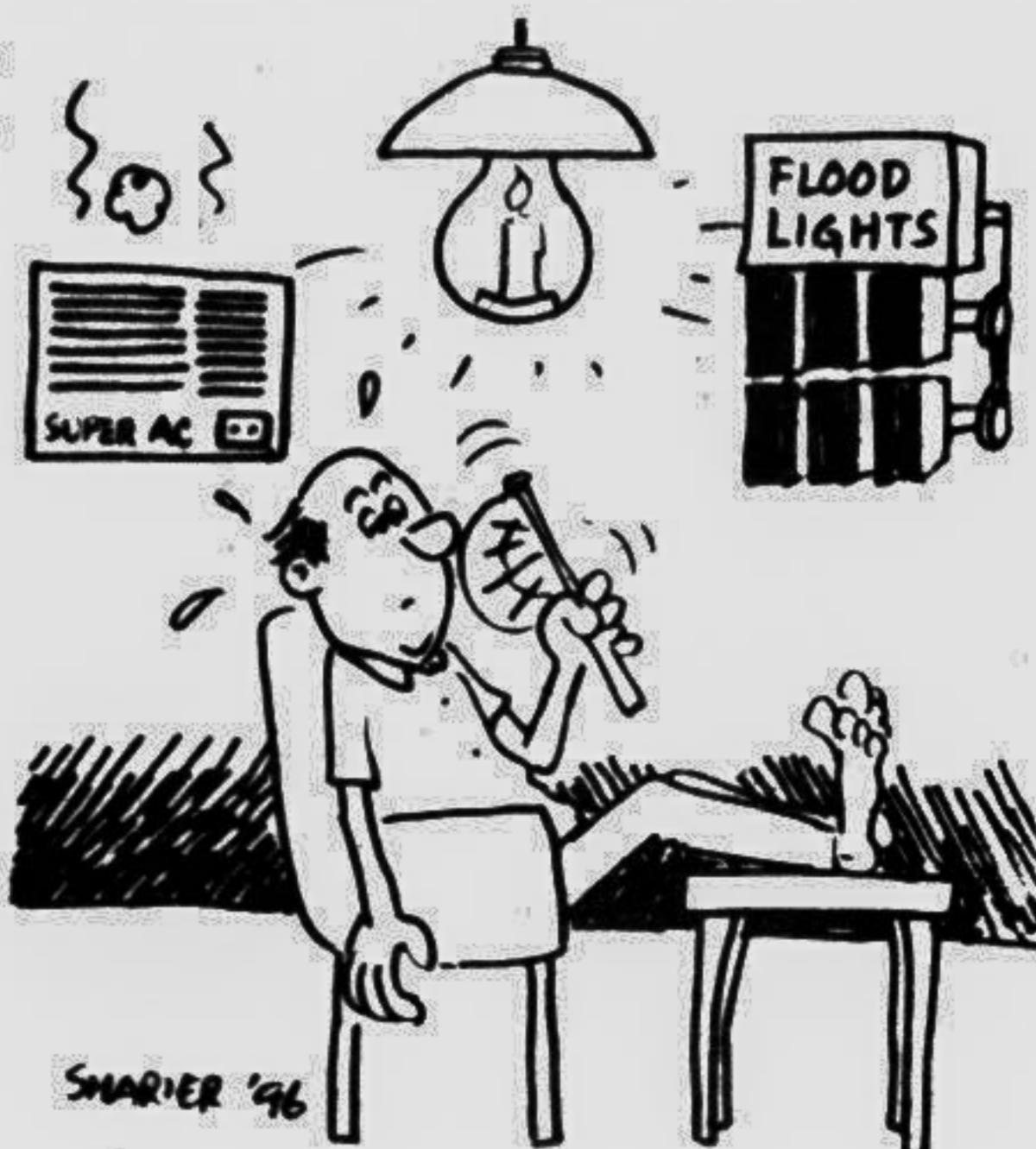
Dhaka Day by Day

Life Without Power and Water

by Samia Islam

As we step on to the information super highway, the last thing on our minds is that a telephone is still a luxury in this country, so is a quality music system or a colour TV not cable though, because televisions come with a package deal these days — if you buy one, the other is a must. Up until now these were the things still considered out of the reach of

about 80 per cent of the country's population. But now there are two more things on the list that are elusive to almost 50 per cent of the people, at least in Dhaka — water and electricity. Much of it is due to the pressure of growing population in the city. Urban migration is taxing the power and water providing capacities of the plants to their extremes and still there are shortages. The water level is supposed to be receding every year, which is not good news for us. Because it gives the ominous signal that things are going to be worse in future. All this is enough to depress the most in-



curable of optimists. But what is worse is that the much talked about but never taken seriously green house effect is working with these calamities to raise the day's atmospheric temperatures beyond levels experienced ever before. So we are left with load shedding which exposes us to excruciating heat that in turn leaves us feeling sweaty and uncomfortable. So the only remedy is to relieve ourselves with a cool, refreshing shower but that's out of the question since the water tanks are all empty and the truck from WASA only comes too early in the morning or too late at night to make a difference.

Electricity seems to have developed a mind of its own in this country. When you expect regular load shedding to occur, there's a pleasant surprise awaiting you and on days when you are entertaining your friends, the power supply lets you down with a thud. Everything is made

UCEP award ceremony held

Certificate and prize giving ceremony of the vocational training graduates of Under Privileged Children's Educational Programmes (UCEP) Dhaka Technical School was held at the school premises at Mirpur yesterday. — reports UNE

Speaking on the occasion as chief guest Canadian High Commissioner in Dhaka Jon J Scot appreciated UCEP's activities in Bangladesh and assured that his country will continue its help for Bangladesh's socio-economic improvement.

Bangladesh, the largest beneficiary, received more than 2 billion dollars from Canada, he added.

Second Secretary of the Turkish Embassy to Bangladesh was the special guest at the function presided over by UCEP Director Prof Ahmedullah Mia.

It was also attended by UCEP Technical Education Adviser U W Ebert.



Jon J Scot, Canadian High Commissioner in Bangladesh presenting certificates to the graduates of UCEP Dhaka Technical School Wednesday. — UCEP photo

Invitation for Bid

Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

Court Road
Brahmanbaria-3400

Asian Development Bank Loan No. 1293-Ban (SF):
Third Natural Gas Development Project, Part-A

Invitation of Bids for Procurement of Wireline Investigation Services Against International Tender No. BGFCL/TNG (SV)/011, Dated 11.6.1996

1. Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd. (BGFCL), a company of Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) invites sealed offers in the form of bid under International Shopping (IS) procedures for procurement of wireline investigation services for 5 wells (max.) at Titas gas field under the Third Natural Gas Development (TNG) Project, undertaken by the Government of Bangladesh (GOB).
2. The foreign currency cost will be met out of Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan no. 1293-BAN (SF), received by GOB towards financing of the TNG project. The local currency cost will be financed by GOB through its Annual Development Programme (ADP).
3. Scope of services & supply, the terms & conditions of services & supply, the information required to be furnished by the bidders, mode & submission procedures of bids etc. are detailed in the tender document.
4. Only reputed & experienced oil field/wireline services companies/firms from ADB member countries are eligible to participate in the bidding. Proposed personnel for the services must also be from eligible source countries of ADB.
5. a) The offers submitted must remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of the bids.
- b) The offer must accompany a bid bond in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order or Bank Guarantee issued by registered scheduled bank in Bangladesh or a schedule foreign bank operating in Bangladesh & acceptable to BGFCL amounting to 2% (two per cent) of the bid price and shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
6. The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his bid and BGFCL will, in no case, be responsible or liable for these costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
7. Tender document will be available from 16.6.96 between 0900 hrs & 1400 hrs BST on all working days on payment of Bangladeshi Taka 1000.00 (non-refundable) at the following address:

Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd.
Liaison office, 97, Purana Paltan (Bijoynagar)
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Telephone 02-404209
Telex 642903 BGFCL BJ
Fax 88-02-836267

Tender documents will be sold upto 15.7.96. No extension in closing date for selling of the tender documents will be allowed.

8. Bids will be received at the Liaison Office of BGFCL at 97, Purana Paltan (Bijoynagar), Dhaka-1000 upto 1100 hrs BST on 16.7.96 and will be opened on the same day at 1130 hrs BST in presence of the bidders or their representatives, if any.
9. 3 (three) copies of the bid (one 'original' and two 'copy') are to be submitted under single stage single envelope system.
10. Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at any stages without assigning any reason whatsoever.

PRS-9/022 (TNG)/96

D-620



Members of the hawkers union brought out a procession in the city yesterday carrying the coffin of Monirul Alam, supervisor of the Dhaka Hawkers Association who was killed in a road mishap Tuesday. — Star photo

Yasmin murder

Women's groups in Canada demand fair trial

Several women's groups, trade unions, peace and social justice organisations, and the students' movement in Canada have signed a petition calling for a just resolution by the new government of Bangladesh to the case of Yasmin, the young girl who was raped and killed by policemen in Dinajpur last year, says a press release.

The petition, circulated by Farida Akhter of UBINIG and Shommito Nari Shamaj during a women's rally on June 15 in Ottawa, Canada, was also presented to the offices of the Canadian minister of foreign affairs and international trade as well as to the minister responsible for the status of women.

The rally, termed the largest in the history of the Canadian women's movement, was the culmination of a five-week women's anti-poverty march across Canada co-sponsored by the National Action Committee on the Status of Women and the Canadian Labour Congress.

Addressing the rally, Akhter spoke about the situation of women in Bangladesh, highlighting the case of Yasmin.

STD-AIDS Network

AGM held

The annual general meeting of National STD-AIDS Network (Bangladesh) was held at the SHARROSO auditorium, in the city yesterday with a call to create mass awareness in fighting the deadly disease AIDS, reports UNE.

Organised by the Network the AGM reviewed last year's activities and future plan to strengthen the inter-sectoral collaboration.

Speakers at the meeting also emphasised on strengthening ties with the National AIDS Committee particularly the ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and the newly formed UNAIDS.

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RSF insisted a judicial inquiry be opened to take measures to guarantee that journalists can do their work safely.

RSF concerned

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