

POWER PROBLEM

Why Not Utilise Day-light and Reduce Peak-hour Load?

by Dr. AF Rafiqul Islam

DURING the Egyptian civilization (2000-4500BC), the lighted hours of the day was considered to be the real productive working hours. This expression was true for all forms of mortal lives, except kings who were considered immortal. In case of plant life, this concept holds good externally due to photosynthesis caused by day-light.

The Japanese are known as workaholic because of their extreme diligence. Even today, I find some Japanese who work from sunrise to sunset. I asked one president of a medium-scale company of Nishio-city, Japan, "Mr. Ishikawa, what is the office hour of your company?" He replied, "My office hour is from sunrise to sunset. I work as long as the sun shines irrespective of Sundays or holidays."

Utility of Day-light Hours

As our country is experiencing an acute power shortage, we should utilize nature's power, sunlight, which is the biggest source of power, to our benefit. The village people are utilizing it more by going to bed early and getting up early in the morning and, in the process, also keeping themselves healthier.

Utilization of day-light hours simply means that we should work more in day-time and less in night-time. For this purpose, we should get up early in the morning and go to bed early at night. For health as well as for work-efficiency, this practice is acclaimed by most of the people all over the world.

The Power-shortage Problem

If we study the average electric power consumption pattern of Dhaka city, we can get an idea of power crisis in the country. DESA's annual average load during different hours of day/night is as shown below:

(a) 195 MW: from midnight to sunrise.

(b) 300 MW: from sunrise to 9 am

(c) 385 MW: from 9 am to 5 pm (office hours)

(d) 665 MW: from sunset to 11 pm (peak load hour)

(e) 220 MW: from 11 pm to

midnight.

Studying the above figures of load requirement, we can understand that DESA has to strive hard to overcome peak hour shortage and failing to overcome this crucial problem, it is compelled to resort to load-shedding against its will. If DESA could find a better solution to reducing the peak hour load, it would definitely follow that reducing/withdrawing load-shedding. However, the people, DESA may follow load scheduling instead of load-shedding.

Major Consumers During Peak-Load Hours:

The average consumers during peak-load hours at present are as below:

(A) Domestic/Street-light 390 MW

(B) Industrial 110 MW

(C) Commercial (Shops etc.) 165 MW

Total: 665 MW

Proposals

To reduce the peak-hour load to 515 MW i.e. reducing the consumption by 150 MW (which will be a great success if can be achieved), we have two proposals:

Day-light Saving Time:

We can turn the clock one hour early, i.e. to make the time difference of Bangladesh Standard Time (BST) with Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) 7 hours instead of present 6 hours. By this change of time, the sunrise and sunset will be changed to 6 am and 8 pm instead of present 5 am and 7 pm in summer, while in winter sunrise and sunset will be changed to 8 am and 6 pm instead of 7 am and 5 pm. As the office hours/school hours will remain the same, people will get up one hour earlier and go to bed one hour earlier.

The proposals, if followed, the peak-load hours will be reduced as below:

(A) Domestic/Street-light load 390 MW (peak load hour will be reduced by one hour and 90 MW will be saved for one hour).

(B) Industrial 110MW (industries will be undisturbed)

(C) Commercial (shop etc.) 15 MW (150 MW to be reduced by closing shops early)

Total 515 MW

Benefits

The new system and the reduction of the peak-hour load from 665 MW by about 150 MW will bring immense benefit in the following ways:

(a) Bangladesh will be able to save about 450 MW installed capacity of electric generation plant. Because, by reducing 135 MW load consumption out of 665 MW in DESA, Bangladesh

can reduce about 450 MW peak-load consumption in the whole country out of about 2000 MW requirement. Thus the installed capacity can be reduced to 1550 MW instead of 2000 MW at the moment and the country will save about US\$ 360 million in foreign exchange because less electricity generating plant will serve the same purpose.

(b) The general public will face only greatly reduced load-shedding and will enjoy peaceful life without facing disturbances caused due to power-failure and load-shedding.

(c) The shop-owners will save on electricity costs and shop workers will have better social and family life due to reduced working hours but with better efficiency and have increased profit-sharing due to saving in electricity cost.

(d) The shop-owners will save about Tk 95 crore annually due to their saving of 150 MW daily for average 5 hours during peak-load hours. The domestic users similarly will save about Tk 50 crore annually due to their saving of 390 MW daily for average one hour during peak-load hours. Thus about Tk 145 crore would be saved annually by reducing the unnecessary electric consumption.

(e) The system-loss during peak-load hour is more than that during normal hours. Due to the reducing of peak-load hours by about 150 MW the system-loss would be minimized by about 8.5 per cent during the peak-load hours of 5 hours (found by approx. calculation). This is also a great saving for the nation considering the fact that reducing 8.5 per cent system-loss during peak-load hours everyday, the nation will save about Tk 28 crore annually.

Conclusion

In fine, we want to emphasize that Bangladesh should follow the developed countries and capitalize enormous benefit besides solving the electric power problem by introducing the easy and beneficial method as proposed above. By introducing these methods, the country will gain much without any additional capital investment and this will contribute towards improvement of people's social, cultural and family life.

Garfield



IAN FLEMING'S

James Bond



Metropolitan

MCH-FP Extension Project study

Health conditions in city's slums worse than in rural areas

The Mother and Child Health-Family Planning (MCH-FP) Extension Project (urban) of the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases and Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) has so far completed a total of 45 studies in its area of work in Dhaka and other parts of the country, reports BSS.

The studies mainly focused on baseline survey of slum and non-slum households, demand for health services, inventory of health services, assessment of MCH-FP and field workers services, survey of pharmacists in urban areas, male involvement in family planning and coverage of immunisation services.

The project, a partnership to improve urban health and family planning in Bangladesh, was launched in August, 1994, with financial and technical assistance of the USAID and Johns Hopkins University aimed at reducing fertility and mortality in the country's urban areas.

"Over one-third of the population in Dhaka live in slums where health conditions are worse than in rural areas of Bangladesh," an ICDDR,B official told BSS recently.

However, the objectives of the project are to develop coordinated and cost-effective systems of delivering MCH-FP services, to disseminate project findings and provide technical assistance and to enhance capabilities for planning, evaluation and implementation at the local level.

Various government agencies including the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives, Directorate of Health Services, Directorate of Family Planning, Dhaka City Corporation and an NGO named 'Concerned Women for Family Planning' are actively involved in the project.

According to the selected research findings on conditions of slums, one-third of pregnancies were reported to be unplanned, fewer than one-third of women sought antenatal care and over 90 per cent of them delivered their children at home. "Infant mortality in slum areas is 99 per 1000 live births," the official said.

The research findings also showed, almost one-third of the breast-fed infants do not receive adequate food supplement

after 6 months of age. Less than half of the children aged 12 to 13 months are vaccinated against measles but there is high prevalence of diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections among slum dwellers, the findings also said.

The research findings also referred to factors limiting use of services which included lack of awareness, inadequate male involvement, high costs and the perception that private care was of better quality.

The environmental problems mentioned in the research findings were poor housing, sanitation, lack of latrines and garbage disposal. Almost half of the slum households need more than 30 minutes per trip to collect water everyday, the findings said.

The project director, Abdul-lah Bagui told the inaugural session of a seminar on dissemination of research findings on this project in the city recently that the initiative started three years ago in zone 3 of Dhaka City. Overtime, he said, the activities expanded to all 10 zones of Dhaka City, three other city corporations and a number of municipalities.

Tuesday 22nd July
All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programme

BBC

6:00 am BBC World News
6:30 World Living Tomorrow's World 7:00 BBC World News inc. World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 World Focus: Window on Europe 11:00 BBC World News 10:30 World Focus: Window on Europe 12:00 BBC Newsdesk 12:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 World Focus: Window on Europe 2:00 BBC World News 2:25 50 Years Of Independence 2:30 World Living 2:30 Top Gear 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Hard Talk 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living Tomorrow's World 5:00 BBC Newsdesk 6:00pm BBC Newsdesk 6:30 World Focus: Window on Europe 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC Newsdesk 8:25 50 Years Of Independence 8:30 World Living 8:30 BBC World News 9:30 Hard Talk 9:55 Weekend World: Horizon 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 World Living 11:00 The World Today 12:00am The World Today 12:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 World Focus: Reporters 2:00 BBC World News 2:25 50 Years Of Independence 2:30 World Living 2:30 Signs 3:00 BBC Newsdesk Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours 4:00 BBC Newsdesk Inc. Asia Today & World Business Report 5:00 BBC World News

6:00 am Rewind VJ Sophia 7:00 Tune in T [V] 8:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 9:30 Tune in T [V] 2:30 Liberty First Day First Show 3:00 The Indian Top 10 4:00 Tune in T [V] 5:00 Tune in T [V] 7:00 Tune in T [V] 9:00 Tune in T [V] Simply South 9:30 Rexona Deo Out 10:00 Rexona Liberty First Day First Show 10:30 Tune in T [V] 11:00 70's Rewind 11:30 Tune in T [V] 1:00 Hayash VJ Dania 2:00 By Demand VJ Trey 3:00 HS V Hour Special 4:00 Speak Easy Jon Bon Jovi 4:30 First Day First Show 5:30 Freestyle

CHANNEL V

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STAR PLUS

6:30am Nisha 7:30 Good Morning India 9:00 Business Agenda 9:30 Nine to Five 10:00 Yan Can Cook 10:30 For Your Entertainment 11:00 The Wonder Years 11:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:30 The X Files 1:30 Santa Barbara 2:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 3:00 Imagination 3:30 Sunghur 4:00 Tu Tu Main 4:30 WWW: Superstars 5:30 Doogie Howser MD 6:00 The Wonder Years 6:30pm Yan Can Cook 7:00 Janata Ki Adalat 7:30 Star News (Hindi) 8:00 Small Wonder 8:30 Kya Baat Hai 9:00 Meri Awaz Suno 9:30 Star News 10:00 Some Mothers Do Eat Em 10:30 Space Above And Beyond 11:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 12:00mm Santa Barbara 1:00 Star News 1:30 Baywatch 2:30 Dynasty 3:30 Vega 4:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show

STAR SPORTS

6:30am Rewind VJ Sophia 7:30 Trans World Sport 8:30 WPF Deppak Desse Swiss Open 9:30 Pepsi Asia Cup 1997 10:30 LIVE Pepsi Asia Cup 1997 11:00 KHAIBRAIN 11:10 Anita (Serial) 12:00 SPORTS HOUR 12:55 QURAN-E-HAKEEM 1:02 BIS-MILLAH 1:15 THE SCIENCE SHOW 2:00 Yeah Jahan (Music video) 2:30 Animated Classics 3:15 Geography & Sammar school 4:20 Mitti Sona 5:00 Al-lam Huma Lubabik 5:25 Gabbi Mein Soochha Hoon (Drama Serial) 6:25 AIU COURSES 7:00 Dhakan 7:45 ENGLISH NEWS 8:15 UN Quiz 8:45 Jab (Drama Serial) 9:00 Break for Headline News 10:00 Khabarana & Commercial News & Khushal Pakistan 11:20 VCD Top Ten (Pakistani Video Countdown)

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Classic: Sea of Sand? 9:30 Action: Crazy Mama 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Family: Best Shot PG (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Romance: Message From Nam (Part 1) (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Romance: Message From Nam (Part 2) 4:00 Documentary: The Director: Herbert Ross 5:30 Thriller: The Abominable Dr Phibes 15 7:30 Classic: Bachelor Of Hearts 12:30 E:01 Features 10:00 Action: One Man Army 15 12:00 After Dark: Blindfold — Act Of Obsession 18 2:00 Horror: Countess Dracula 18 4:00 World Cinema: The Servile (English Subtitles) 5:30 Family: Bye Bye Red Riding Hood PG

EL TV

7:00 Yedon Ki Barat 7:30 Stand By (Trailer Show) 7:40 Amitabh Specials 8:20 Haseen Pai 8:30 Positive Health Show 9:00 Chehra 9:30 Teen Do Panga (Serial) 10:00 Hindi Feature Film 1:00 Jaguar: It's My Choices 1:30 Siyaram Kamal Kombination 2:00 Gujarati: Sapna Na Vaavter 3:00 No problem 3:30 Anurag 4:00 Tanav 4:30 HFF 7:50 Haseen Pal (Trailer Show) 8:00 Hindi Feature Film 10:30 Stand By (Trailer Show) 10:45 Hindi Feature Film 1:30 Teri V Chup 2:00 The Real Countdown 3:00 Purushkhetra 4:00 Hindi Feature Film (B/W)

PTV

8:00 MIDNIGHT AUR TAR-STAR 8:00 KARCOON 8:30 KHAIBRAIN 8:45

FISH DISEASE

Recent Development in EUS

by Md Ghulam Kibria

PIZOTIC ulcerative syndrome (EUS), a devastating fish disease, has been in existence in Asia since 1980s. EUS is the term generally used to describe a serious epizootic condition of wild and cultured freshwater and brackish water fishes. Its spread has extended deep into the Indian sub-continent over the past decade. The origin of the disease remains a matter for speculation.

The potential social and economic impacts of the EUS, a highly infectious disease affecting rice-field fish in Asia, are immense. It is estimated that 250 million families in the region depend on rice as a main crop and much of the incidental fish harvest from these paddy fields is an important part of their family diet. Farmers involved in improved fish culture in rice field and pond systems stand to lose significant financial investments as well as interest. It should be noted that major months for harvesting paddy-field fish are from September to February — the period when most ulcerative disease episodes occur.

Fish disease on a large-scale occurs at the time when there is little or no rainfall and gradual fall in temperature. Indiscriminate pesticides application to paddy fields has aggravated water pollution problem which played a significant role in the outbreak of EUS. Brackish water fishes were affected only when they migrated to fresh water or when salinity dropped below 15 ppt. The fishes become lethargic, float on the surface of water sometimes with heads projected out of water. Initially the disease appears as red coloured lesions hemorrhagic in nature, sometimes elevated blisters as seen in Wallago attu.

Clinically and histologically the lesions of EUS, especially in Puntius and Indian major carps closely resemble those of a fungal condition of pond culture ayu. Pleoglossus altivelis in Japan.

Fungal involvement is now a consistent finding in the disease. With the finding of Aphanomyces fungus, the following three/four other disease prevailing in the world seem to be pretty same: 1) Red spot in Australia, 2) Mycotic granuloma in Japan, and 3) Menhaden in USA.

The farmer should observe very closely the fish in the waters near the ponds, especially in the potential disease period.

The farmer should close the water inlet immediately and completely if is found that the fishes in the neighboring waters show signs of disease.

The farmer should prevent

in the USA is also thought to be a similar disease. Remedial prophylactic and therapeutic measures for disease have been tried only in manageable water areas. The lime treatment has given good result around the world.

The intensity and fear of the disease now has