

Introduction and Bangladesh Program:

Department of Physics, Jahangirnagar University and TARA-Technological Assistance for Rural Advancement will organise two one-day workshop on Awareness on Lightning Physics with the collaboration of Colombo University. The workshops are supported by South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Cooperation and Development (SARI/Energy). This program is supported by USAID, Winrock International USA, Winrock International India and Institute of International Education. Dr. G. A. C. Gomes, the Program Leader of Phase I of South Asian Lightning Awareness (SALAP) Program is from Department of Physics, Colombo University, Sri Lanka, will take major sessions. It may be mentioned that Dr. Gomes is conducting similar workshops in Bhutan and Sri Lanka under the main program. The proposed workshops in Bangladesh will be conducted in the Jahangirnagar University and another at Gulshan, Dhaka by TARA.

Department of Physics, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka will organise one day workshop on 17 December 2004 for the Scientists, Academicians and others with the cooperation of Colombo University. TARA will cooperate in this workshop. TARA-Technological Assistance for Rural Advancement has planned to organise one-day workshop on Lightning Physics Awareness for the School Teachers mainly with the collaboration of Colombo University on 15 December 2004. Department of Physics, Jahangirnagar University will cooperate in this workshop. In addition to this it has also been proposed to have Radio and TV program on SALAP in Bangladesh.

Background:

Every year, in this part of the world more than 500 people die and several thousand encounter injuries of various degrees due to lightning. The damage caused by lightning in the power, communication and industrial sectors and even at domestic level, is over several hundred million dollars per year. Equipment damage is on the increase for the last few decades due to wide spread use of electronics equipment, extension of the national power grid into rural areas and the mushrooming

communication towers all over the country. Many of the lightning threats can be minimised by giving proper education to engineers, scientists, administrators and general public regarding the lightning safety culture. However as the region is lacking experts in this field such education has not been given so far.

The objective of this project is to hold a series of workshops in the South Asian Region (South Asian Lightning Safety Awareness Program-SALAP). The secondary objective of the SALAP is to form a South Asian Lightning Safety Awareness Institution with the collaboration of the National Lightning Safety Institution, USA. To overcome the language barrier the experts will conduct the lectures to participants with command of English and guide them to disseminate the knowledge to the layman level by native languages.

Program:

Date	Time	Participants	Venue
15 Dec. 2004	8:30 am	School Teachers and other related persons	Training Room, CEGIS House 6, Road 23/C, Gulshan, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
17 Dec. 2004	9 am	Engineers, Scientists, Academicians, Administrators	Department of Physics Jahangirnagar University Savar, Dhaka-1342, Bangladesh

Dr. Gomes and local experts will take the sessions. Participation at workshop is based on the invitation only.

Subjects for Discussion:

Workshop by TARA

- ☛ Fundamentals of Lightning
- ☛ Personal lightning safety
- ☛ Common Lightning accidents in South Asia
- ☛ Protection awareness among the school teachers
- ☛ Lightning safety of household equipment
- ☛ General and Group Discussion

Workshop by JU

- ☛ Lightning protection in communication system
- ☛ Lightning Accidents
- ☛ Building Protection
- ☛ Lightning Protection in Power System
- ☛ Lightning protection standards and codes
- ☛ Lightning safety and of outdoor workers
- ☛ Alternative lightning protection system

Expected Outcome of the Workshops:

The main objective of the workshops is to impart knowledge Lightning protection so that lightning damages in industries service providing institutions, electronic and electrical storage power plants, oil refineries, military, medical and aviation sectors and the replacement cost of equipment and downtime losses kept at a minimum. The knowledge will also assist managers and planners in planning of power and communication system with minimum exposure to lightning threats, so that a reliable and uninterrupted service can be provided to the consumers.

Specific objective of the workshop with school teachers will be aware the school teachers on the topic. It is believed that school teachers will disseminate the knowledge to the student their guardians and local community. Similarly specific immediate objective of the workshop with scientist academicians, administrators will aware them about the lightning preventive measure and minimise the losses due to lightning hazards.



Venue: CEGIS



Venue: Department of Physics, JU

For more information please contact:

Prof. Dr. M. Muniruzzaman, FRAS (UK)
Workshop Convener and
Vice President, Bangladesh Physical Society
Department of Physics
Jahangirnagar University
Savar, Dhaka-1342, Bangladesh
Tel: (880-2)77084478-85/429 (O), (880-2)914-2498 (R)
Email: mmz_bd@yahoo.com

Prof. Dr. Md. Abdul Mannan Chowdhury
Coordinator for JU Workshop
Department of Physics
Jahangirnagar University
Savar, Dhaka-1342
Bangladesh
Tel: (880-2)77084478-85/Ext: 426(O)
Tel: (880-2)7708739(R)
Email: marzia111@yahoo.com

Dr. Munir Ahmed
Executive Director and
Coordinator for Workshop by TARA
TARA-Technological Assistance for Rural Advancement
1 Purbachal Road (South of Allr More)
Northeast Badda, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
Tel: (880-2) 885 1405-6, Mobile: 0172-068860
Email: tara@citechco.net munir_tara@yahoo.com
Website: tarabd.org

Source: (photograph): www.wifundo.org
Image by: David J. Richardson

About SARI

The South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Cooperation and Development (SARI/Energy) program was launched in 2000 to build mutually beneficial energy linkages among the countries of South Asia.

Since then, SARI/Energy has reached out to more than 3,500 participants in the region on clean energy trade, energy efficiency, rural energy supply, energy regulatory issues, energy statistics, and private sector involvement.

The network of energy sector professionals in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Maldives created by SARI/Energy, has led to widespread sharing of best practices, models of institutional reform and restructuring, and documented performance improvement. These professionals are helping to put in place the building blocks for more robust regional trade and sustainable economic development.

SARI/Energy-sponsored training, capacity building, and networking have contributed to the writing of energy sector restructuring laws throughout the region. The program supports institutional and organizational changes that make the sector more market driven and better equipped to address the needs of under-served rural consumers. In addition, the program has identified

significant opportunities for catalyzing private sector investments in regional energy infrastructure.

Over the next several years, the SARI/Energy program will build on its accomplishments, helping to foster regional cooperation around key energy-related issues.

Small Grants Program

Winrock International, Winrock International India and the Institute for International Education are working together to implement the USAID-sponsored South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Cooperation and Development (SARI/Energy) Small Grants Program. The SARI/Energy Small Grants Program consists of two simultaneous focus areas:

- Institutional capacity building grants to SARI/Energy Training Institution Partners (TIPs)
- Cooperative research and outreach grants to local organizations

For further details, please refer www.sari-energy.org/SmallGrants/

"South Asian Lightning Awareness Program (SALAP)"

Workshops at Dhaka on 15th and 17th December 2004
Organised by Department of Physics, Jahangirnagar University and TARA



Supported by:

South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Cooperation and Development (SARI/Energy)
Small Grants Program



Organised by

Department of Physics, Jahangirnagar University
Savar, Dhaka



And



TARA-Technological Assistance for Rural Advancement
Dhaka, Bangladesh

