

Bangladesh – training and support

We take care of it – not only for major players

Admittedly, Bangladesh is one of the first few countries in an alphabetical list of countries producing and using natural gas but it is nevertheless a little-known country. Bangladesh is located on the eastern margin of South Asia and is virtually surrounded by India. With its land area of 144,000 sq. km, it is a very small nation but it does have the highest population density worldwide with the exception of the city states. Frequently, mention of it is made in supra-regional news only when large parts of the country are flooded during the monsoon season (from May to September) owing to the country's leading position in rainfall figures on the Indian subcontinent.



The virtually stoneless country features huge brickworks that require a huge amount of energy accordingly. Since use of timber is accompanied by rapid deforestation and increased air pollution, the obvious answer is to use natural gas as a clean fuel. The country has an estimated 300 billion cubic metres of natural gas resources in its north east that would last at least for decades were it to be extracted on a constant basis and that would make natural gas the most important commercial fuel.

volume corrector used in a wide variety of applications, installation thereof, commissioning, parameter setting and both readout and evaluation of the recorded consumption data. The attendance of around 40 participants indicated that there was tremendous interest in the training course, and the course achieved in-depth exchange of experience through lively discussion. At the end of the long day of training, those who attended were familiar with the important features and options of the EK230 and will now also be

able to expertly inform their colleagues who were not present.

Moreover, it was particularly interesting to inspect existing stations. Figure 1 shows the regulation and measuring station of a sugar refinery in Dhaka that features exemplary protection against rain. Not only the gas station itself but also the refinery and its measurement and test laboratories for the sugar obtained from sugarcane were impressive.



Fig. 1: Natural gas station of a sugar refinery



Fig. 2: Natural gas station outside Dhaka

Impressions were entirely different when we visited a large gas transfer station outside Dhaka (Figure 2). Data was read out from the EK230 units and evaluated in a shelter (Figure 3) during a monsoon deluge and with the ground thoroughly waterlogged. This was an everyday call-out for the two Bangladeshi engineers but a somewhat unusually wet experience for the Europeans among us.

Besides the demand for new gas pressure regulation and measuring stations, this also means permanent maintenance and monitoring of existing stations. In addition, technical boundary conditions may change, necessitating adaptation of the equipment used. An intensive training course for Bangladeshi engineers and technicians was held in Dhaka in July at the initiative of the Five Feathers Elster-Instromet agent. The main topic was the EK230 electronic



Fig. 3: Evaluation of gas data on site

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