Ctg tea auction

Restricted buying, withdrawals large

Star Economic Report

Low demand pressed the prices further down at the weekly tea auction at Chittagong on Tuesday.

Prices declined by Taka three to Taka five a kilogram for different varieties. Iran, Pakistan, the

Continent and the local traders were the only operators. Restricted buying due to shipping problems arising out of the Gulf crisis led to declining prices with a large quantity remaining unsold.

In all, 25,786 packages were offered for sale but there were large withdrawals.

The entire quantity of Orthodox tea was withdrawn without registering any bids. CTC brokens also met with lower demand and prices

Share prices continue to

Star Economic Report

decline

Trading at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Wednesday was firm and steady in volume. But, prices continued to decline. Sellers were active but there was no solid buyers' support. Depressed mood of the market persisted with investors on a watt - and - see

Transactions were mostly in listed stocks with higher face value. That accounted for a rise in the value of traded stocks to Taka 8,38,930.00 from Tuesday's Taka 5,39.823.00.

In all, 9481 shares and debentures changed hands compared with 9425 on the previous day.

Decliners dominated trading. DSE All Share Price Index which is a broad indicator of market prices of all listed stocks declined to 338.0002 points against Tuesday's 338.5037.

Twenty six listed stocks were traded. Thirteen of them fell in prices, three gained and ten remained unchanged.

On the losers side. Bangladesh Lamps and Beximco Pharma got the major slash. Their prices declined by Taka 12.94 and Taka 6.34 to Taka 237.06 and Taka 155.66 respectively at closing.

G.Q. Ball Pen and Bengal Food lost Taka 3.52 and Taka 3.21 to Taka 52.98 and Taka 171.79 respectively.

Aftab Automobiles, Monno Ceramic and Usmania Glass declined by Taka 2.00 each to Taka 203.00, Taka 128.00 and Taka 145.00.

United Insurance, Eagle Star. Quasem Textile, Apex Tannery, Bata Shoe and Rupam Oil lost between the range of Taka 0.01 and Taka 1.40.

Among the advancers. Apex Tannery, the lone traded debenture gained Taka 5.00 to Taka 980.00.

Eastern Cables and Dhaka Vegetable advanced by Taka 1.00 and Taka .064 to Taka 80.00 and Taka 155.00 respectively.

Quoted Prices of Traded Stocks

1100	au n		- L	removed,	115.00-125.00
January 30				Katla(big)	70.00-90.00
				Hilsha	60.00-65.00
	577450	2.0	221 200	Shrimp(big)	80,00-90,00
	·FV/ML	Closing	Changes**	Singi	60.00-65.00
Banks		5-7-7-10 V	15,777.73	Koi	65.00-75.00
UCBL	100/5	138.00	unchanged	PULSES	1020 II TO 100 100 100 100 100
Investment	170.575	3070 TUDAN	SERVICE CONTRACT		(Taka per Kg)
6th ICBM. Fund	100/10	89.00	unchanged	Mashur	35.00-38.00
Insurance			100	Moogh	34.00-36.00
BGIC United	100/10	106.00	(-0.76)	Chhola	26.00-28.00
		100:24	(-0.76)	Mator	27.00-28.00
Engineerin Aftab Automobiles	2500 AUGUS	203.00	(-2.00)	Khesari	18.00-19.00
Bangladesh Laups		237.06	(-12.94)		THE PARTY OF THE P
Eastern Cables	100/5	80.00	(+1.00)	MEAT	(Taka per Kg)
Quasem Drycells	10/50	7.50	unghanged :	Beef	50.00-55.00
Food & Alli	ed		E CAS UN	Mutton	75.00-80.00
Bengal Food	100/5	171.79	(-3.21) *	1 200 mm	Taka per Litre)
Dhaka Vegetable Gemini Sea	100/5	155.00	(+0.64)	35	
	100/5	100.00	unchanged	Mustard	48.00-56.00
Food	10/100	7.00		Soyabean	33.00-33.50
Rupan Oil	10/100	7.00	(-0.01)	Coconut(Colombo)	60.00-64.00
Pharma & (100/5	155.66	(-6.34)	Vegetable Ghee	44,00-52.00
		100.00	1-0.341	SPICES	(Taka Per kg)
Paper & Pri	10/50	12.50	unchanged	Onion((new)	20.00-21.00
Textile	-0/00		manne & m	22-7-2-X	7,11 (9,47,57,17,6);
Dularitie Cotton	100/10	70.00	unchanged	Garlic	45.00-48.00
Eagle Star	10/50	31.50	(-0.50)	Chillies	60.00-65.00
Quasem Textile	10/50	7.50	(-0.50)	Turmeric(Round)	42.00-46.00
Satham Textile	100/10	82.00	unchanged	" (Long)	48.00-52.00
Tallu Spirming	100/10	103.00	unchanged	3310,473,43	18.00-20.00
Miscellaneo	3 4 5 4 5 1 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	10700214021	20202020	Green chillies	
Apex Tannery Bata Shor	100/5	140.00 38.34	(-1.40) (-0.66)	Ginger	16.00-20.00
G. Q. Ball Pen	10/50	52.98	(-3.52)	Cinnamon* (10gms)	3.00-3.50
Beximco	10/100	*******	unchanged	Cardamom* (large)	9.00-10.00
Monno Ceramic	100/5	128.00	(-2.00)	Jhira (50gms)	7.00-7.50
Uernanta Glass	100/5	145.00	(-2.00)		
Debenture	7.4	(6)	2	MISCELLANEOUS	
Apex Tannery	1000/1	980.00	(+5.00)	Ghee	220.00-230.00
No among the Contract of the C		®		Sugar	31.00
• FV - F	11	CENTRAL CONTRACTOR	NAT	10 08325 A Gale 2 Page 1	

• FV = Face Value, ML = **Market** Lot

Market (

two and Taka four. There were substantial withdrawals. Selective lines realised between Taka 48 and Taka 49. Fannings fared better but

eased further between Taka

prices often eased in the range of Taka one to Taka two. Few lines sold between Taka 51 and Taka 55. For Dust. 3,895 packages

were offered. Cleaners description were firm to dearer up to Taka two. Others often eased between Taka two and Taka three.

For Green tea, there were 270 packages on offer. Hysons sold at Taka 70.00. Others were withdrawn.

Unity Brokers Limited reported that total offerings for the next weekly tea auction (sale no 39), due on February 5, would comprise of 23:000 packages Leaf and 5,000 packages Dust.

The Catalogues for Sale No. 40, to be held on February 12, closed with the arrivals of January 22, the brokers said.

Unity Brokers in its report estimated tea crop up to end of December at 45.1 million kg. compared with 39.1 million kg. during the same period last year.

joint ventures in USSR

NAKHODKA. Jan 30: The first Soviet free enterprise zone was set up in the Nakhodka seaport last year. Now it has seven joint ventures with American, Chinese and Vietnamese participation, reports IAN.

The Arksim Soviet-Chinese firm, set up a mere three months ago, has produced its first batch of two-cassette tape recorders.

\$97b WB loans for Third World

WASHINGTON, Jan 30: The World Bank (WB) biggest source of aid to the Third World, announced on Tuesday that its loans totalled 96.8 billion Dollars at the end of 1990. reports AP.

The World Bank's lending

limit is 150.3 billion Dollars. The bank said it was also making more money. 797 million Dollars in the last half of the year, after it put aside 201 million Dollars as a reserve against possible losses. The comparable figure in 1989 was 556 million Dollars.

The Bank makes most of its money by investing, at advantageous rates the proceeds of the bonds it sells. It pays comparatively low rates of interest on its own bonds, since its capital is guaranteed by the 154 government that own it.

The World Bank borrowed the equivalent of 6.3 billion Dollars over the last six months of 1990, 38 per tent of it in US Dollars. 35 per cent in German Marks, 18 per cent in Swiss Francs and 9 per cent in Japanese Yen. The average borrowing cost was 8.32 per cent. Its total borrowings amounted to 94.9 billion

The Bank lent out the equivalent of 5.6 billion Dollars to governments in need at a variable interest rate close to market rates, through the window called the International bank for Reconstruction and Develo-pment (IBRD).

The poorest countries got another 2 billion Dollars in loans for as long as 40 years at less than 1 per cent interest. through the World bank's International Development Association (IDA).

IDA gets its money from a fund provided by the more affluent member countries, with the largest sum coming from the United States.

The Bank's fiscal year ends on June 30.

Imports slow down

Star Economic Report

Imports of commercial items and industrial raw materials slowed down in five months up to November, 1990.

Bangladesh Bank's latest import figures under new reporting system with an enlarged coverage of items showed the total value of outstanding Letters of Credits (LCs) at Taka 5,153.93 crore on November 30, the amount was Taka 504.48 crore lower than the comparative figure at Taka 5,658.43 erore in the previous year.

The previous year's comparative figure did not however include about 30 items which were shown under the new reporting or monitoring system of the central bank in the category of 'others'. The system was introduced in May last following overimports of many

items that caused a faster depletion of foreign exchange reserves in the second and third quarters of fiscal 1989-90. Taking the new monitoring

arrangement into consideration, the value of outstanding LCs would be further lower than that was indicated by the available comparative statistics. The outstanding LCs reflect the pipe line position of im-

portable items in commercial and industrial categories. It does not include imports of foodgrains by the government under food aid and also some other imports under project assistance. The updated import figures

compiled by the central bank showed that LC openings between July and November were valued at Taka 4,968.89 egore. The amount for the

same months last fiscal year was Taka 4.771.07 erore and that was under old reporting system which excluded about 30 stems in "others" category.

The higher value of imports in terms of LC openings in first months of current fiscal year is also partly due to depreciation of the currency. Taka depreciated by about 10 per cent in relation to US Dollar between March and November. In US Dollar terms, the import figure for July-November will thus be lower than its comparative in 1989-90.

LC opening in November in current fiscal year under foreign loans, credits, grants,

barter, Special Trading Arrangement (STA), cash, Wage Earners (WES) and Secondary Exchange Market (SEM) opcrations valued at Taka 648.32 crore. The amount was Taka 914.91 erore under the old reporting system in November last year.

Import LC openings for major items up to November were: Taka 922.48 crore for textile fabrics (under back-toback arrangements and commercial and industrial imports). Taka 113.95 crore for edible oil crude. Taka 664.62 crore for petroleum, oil and lubricants. Taka 246.41 crore for capital machinery (in textile , leather or tannery, jute, garments, packing and pharmaceuticals, plastic, printing, electronics, toy, packing and other sectors) and Taka 267.19 crore for other ma chinery.

Imports of chemicals in terms of LC openings in July-November were valued at Taka 292.06 crore.

The LC openings for other items were: Taka 25.92 crore for onton. Taka 50 crore for oil and rape seed, Taka 49.14 crore for synthetic or mixed yarn, Taka 27.79 crore for raw cotton. Taka 20.01 crore for spices. Taka 96,95 crore for motor vehicles and spare parts. Taka 100.46 crore for cement, Taka 73.73 crore for BP sheet, Taka 52.38 crore for scrap vessel. Taka 20.87 crore for steel-and iron scrap, Taka 22.93 crore, for power tiller and Taka 33.16 erore for other tron and steel products.

For powdered milk; import LC openings were valued at Taka 14.76 crore, and for condensed milk, Taka 44.03 crores. LCs stood at Taka 93.12 for salt, Taka 0.42 crore for Sugar, Taka 18.97 crore for edible oil (refined), Taka 9.85 crore for drugs and medicine (finished), Taka 4.96 crore for all sorts of pulses. Taka 9.52 crore for coconut oil and Taka 9.13 crore for fresh and dry

Plea to reduce

oil price The Convener of BNP Peasants Front, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, appealed to the government to take immediate measures to reduce the fuel oil price and distribution of oil through cards to genuine farmers for raising the farm produce in view of present critical situation, reports BSS.

Mr. Bhuiyan, who is also the Joint Secretary-General of BNP, in a statement, called for stopping steps to snap electric lines in the name of arrear bills, allowing payment of the bills by instalments and exemption of interest for all such bills including deep and shal-

low power pumps. Expressing the concern. the peasant leader said farm and other production would be affected if such steps were not taken immediately.

Oil prices up

NEW YORK, Jan 30: Oil prices jumped nearly one Dollar per barrel Tuesday, as a new wave of war jitters injected a bit of life into what has been a sluggish futures market, reports AP.,

Light sweet crude for delfyery in March settled at 21.85 Dollars per 42-gallon barrel, up 89 cents, on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, North Sea Brent. Blend closed at 20.47 Dollars per barrel, up 60 cents, on the International Petroleum Exchange.

"Two things people were mentioning, as reasons for oil going up were the oil spill causing problems of a ground war beginning," said Ed Kevelson, an oil trader with Dean Witter Reynolds in New

Exchange Rate

January 30.

SELLING AND BUYING RATES, offered by Commercials Banks, for Bank Cheques, (BCs) and Overseas Drafts (ODs) One Unit of Foreign Currencies (FCs) for Taka

FCs	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	35.4432	35.9226
*UK Pound Sterle	ing69.7076	70.5261
German Deutsche		24.1496
Mark		
French Franc	7.0101	7.1092
Saudi Riyal	9.4819	9.6101
Dutch Guilders	21.1223	24.4271
Pakistan Rupee	1.6008	1.6160
(AMU*)		
Singapore Dollar	20.5396	20.8174
UAE Dirham	9,6831	9.8141
Kuwait Dinar	Not available	G.
Indian Rupee	1.9305	1.9493
(AMI)		
*AMU-Asian Mo	netary Union	

SECONDARY EXCHANGE MARKET Wage Earners Fund/ Export

Performance Benefit (XPB) Fund Selling Buying 36.53 36.48 US Dollar 71.71 UK Pound Sterling

* The rates of Pound Sterling are decided every day, based on the cross-rates of New York market

Source: Sonali Bank

Snippets Australian economy

may not recover

SYDNEY. Jan 30: A former government Economic Advisor said Tuesday he doubted the Australian economy would recover from its recession in 1991. Economics Professor Barry Hughes, writing in the Committee for Economic Development of Australia's 1991 Economic Overview, said the recesion could worsen in coming months, reports AFP.

Mr. Hughes, an advisor to Treasurer Paul Keating in the mid-1980s, said the recession could be worse than the 1982-83 downturn.

Mauritania appeals for food

NOUAKCHOTT, Jan 30: Mauritania will suffer from a grave food shortage this year and has called for international aid, reoprts Xinhua. Mauritanian Food Security

Commissioner Mohmed Stdya Ould Bah made this announcement at the signing of a technical assistance accord between. Mauritania and Germany.

Share prices fall in Tokyo

TOKYO, Jan 30: Share prices closed marginally lower on the Tokyo Stock Exchange Wednesday with the Nikkei Stock average ending the day at 23,409. 61 Yen; down 50.51 Yen or 0.2 per cent, from Tuesday's finish, reports AFP. The Tokyo Stock Price

Index (Topix) also 6.73 points to 1,710.71. Trading continued to be

light and dull with an estimated 280 million shares changing hands compared with 262.9 million shares traded the previous day.

ADB to boost borrowings

TOKYO, Jan 30: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) expects to boost its borrowings by 76.5 per cent to a record 1.5 billion Dollars this year and to two billion Dollars in 1992. reports AFP.

The Nihon Ketzai Shimbun. a Japanese newspaper quoted Japanese officials at the Mantia-based Bank as saying that the regional lending agency expected to raise between 75 billion Yen (570 million Dollars) and 80 billion Yen (600 million Dollars) in

Raw Jute

January 30

Kutcha bales FOB • Narayanganj/Daulatpur Varieties (Tk. per 100 Kg)

1		White	Tossa I	deshta
		1393	1500	1125
lot.	(B)	1340	1447	1098
lot.	(C)	1206	1286	1045
lot.	(X)	1072	1125	857
FOE	3 =	Freight	on boar	d
	25		•	

(Ready)

FOB

(Sight)**

Bot. = Bottom

Pucca bales

Varieties

Bangla Tk. per \$ per MT* bale* White 585 3450 570 3350 **BWA** 550 3300 480 BWC 2900 410 365 2000 Bangla BT SPL 595 3500 580 3450 560 3400 BIB 490 2950 420 2650 2100 White Rejection (WRS) Tossa Rejection (TRS) Habijabi, Cut Ropes

1650 BTR BTH

SPL Cuttings 1000

Ord. Cuttings 900

• FOB ready = Narayanganj ** FOB sight = Chittagong/ Mongia Ports. Indicative Price at winch sales may be considered for EPC registration. The \$ prices are exclusive of any selling commission. O. D. (Sight nontraditional/applicable to export bills). One \$ =

1125

175

170

200

Tk. 35.4956) • MT = Metric Ton Imports/arrivals of Kutcha bales at Narayanganj were seven to eight thousand mounds while at Daulatpur at six to seven thousands mounds. (One manund is equal

to 37:32417 KGs.)

was held on Wednesday. The overall position of the bank was reviewed in the conference. Mr. E. A. Chaudhury, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the bank attended the conference as the chief guest. Mr. Chaudhury in his speech advised all the bank officers and Managers of head office of the bank spoke on the occasion.

India, Lanka seek economic ties

COLOMBO, Jan 30: India and Sri Lanka were seeking closer economic cooperation that would help strengthen political relations between Indian Foreign

Price Barometer : Essentials

January 30

Aman Very fine) 17.00-18.00 14.00-15.00 Aman(fine) 3.00-14.00 Paijam Ufshi 11.50-12.00 VEGETABLES (Taka per kg) Potato(White) 5.00-5.50 Brinjal 7.00-10.00 Lady's finger 18.00-20.00 6.00-10.00 Carliflower / piece 18.00-20.00 Laishak 6.00-8.00 Green Banana (Four Pieces) 5.00-8 00 OHER POOKGRAIN (laka per kg)

12.00-1400 11.00-12.00 Wheat 9.50-10.00 FISH (Taka per kg) 115.00-125.00 70.00-90.00 60.00-65.00 80.00-90.00 60.00-65.00 ka per Kg) 35.00-38.00 34.00-36.00 ka per Kg) 50.00-55.00 75.00-80.00 per Litre) 48.00-56.00 33.00-33.50 45.00-48.00

* Changes: Plus signs mean Source: Department of Agricultural nin and (-) signs losses. Marketing

Dhaka Stock Exchange **Market Profile** January 30

133 Listed stocks 117 Unchanged 13 Losers 3 G

inchanged stocks include ten traded on the day at the day's quoted prices. Share Price Index = 338.0002 DSE All Capital- Taka 4,602,377,190.00 Issued (

= Tal ta 838,930.00(Value) 9481(Volume).

Capital isation=Taka 9,658,442,472.00

Secretary Muchkund Dubey

said after official talks here Tuesday, reports AFP. Both sides discussed the sale of Sri Lankan tea, the country's main export earner and the exploration of oil off the island's northwest coast as a foint venture during high level talks Tuesday, Mr. Dubey

He told reporters that

agreements on both oil exploration and tea marketing would be announced at the end of the current visit in Colombo by Indian Foreign Minister Vidya Charan Shukla.,

"Upgrading our economic and commercial relations itself will have beneficial results for political relations. Discussions are going in that direction," Mr. Dubey said.

He declined to give details of the agreements saying it had still not been decided. "Some more talking has to be done before we can decide on that,

National Bank branch opens

Star Economic Report The 52nd branch of National Bank Ltd was inaugurated at Koreshi Supermarket

in Savar on Wednesday. Chairman of the Bank Dr. A. R. Mallik inaugurated it. He said that the bank already achieved the confidence and

goodwill of the people. Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Prof. Kazi Saleh Ahmed, Managing Director of the Bank A. R. Hawlader, Deputy General Manager M. A. Wahab, one of the directors Ali Akbar Khan Manager of the new branch Mostafa Kamal were present in the inaugural func-

Gold & Silver

January 30 (Taka for 11.66 grams) 7200.00 7000.00

16.00-18.00-

200,00 Source: Department of Agricultural Marketing

HIDES & SKIN

(Wet/Salted) January 30 Taka per 100 pieces)

15,000,00 30,000.00 55,000.00 00.000,00 65,000,00 70,000.00 25,000,00 30,000,00 12,500.00 12,000.00 7,500.00 7,000,00 3,500,00 10,000,00

55,000,00

Source: Department of Agricultural Marketing

60,000,00

12 ADP projects reviewed

The progress of 12 projects of the Annual Development Plan (ADP), non under implementation with the assistance of the U.K. EEC and Bangladesh Government, was reviewed at a meeting held under the chairmanship of the commerce Adviser Mr Imam Uddin Ahmed in Dhaka

Wednesday, reports BSS. It was disclosed that a three million US Dollar 'export development fund' (EDF) has been created with financial assistance from the World Bank to increase the country's export of non-traditional items.

The meeting reviewed the progress of five tea board projects, three tarrif commission, ICM and ICAB projects, two general insurance and two TCB

projects. The Commerce Adviser expressed his satisfaction over the progress of the projects. He called for speedy completion of the projects by properly utilising the fund for the pur-

Recession affects **UK** business

LONDON, Jan 30: Recession has shattered business confidence in Britain and companies are at their gloomiest for 10 years, the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) said on Tuesday.

A female worker at work at an export-oriented garments factory in city.

reports Reuter. A CBI survey found 55 per cent of firms were less optimistic about the business outlook than they were four months ago, only four per cent were more optimistic.

The drop in confidence was the sharpest since October The CBI survey, completed on January 16, covered 1,261 firms accounting for about half Britain's manufacturing jobs. It

is regarded by financiers and

ministers as a barometer of the health of British factories. Financial analysts said it would intensify pressure on Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont to cut

relatively high British interest Britain's bank base rate is

down from a peak late last year of almost 11 per cent but remains above nine per cent. On a brighter note the CBI said fewer firms expected to be able to raise prices in the

currently being held at 14 per

cent to try to squeeze inflation

Year-on-year inflations

out of the economy.

-Star Photo

coming four months, implying that inflation would keep falling. David Wigglesworth. Chairman of the CBI Economic

Committees, said price rises were being severely curbed by competition. Costs are also moderating, he said. This should provide the basis for a reduction in interest rates and a recovery in

year. However, it is clear that recovery is still a long way off. The survey found that 54 per cent of firms expected to cut job. Unemployment is already above 1:75 million and is expected by many economists to exceed two

would pull out of recession

behind US, and return to

growth soon," he said. Inflation

is down, and low business in-

ventories mean factories will

not have to make big cuts in

production to cope with slack-

solid and strong." he added.

We must recognise that our

economic strength depends

upon being competitive in

the capital gains proposal will

be similar to one Bush pro-

posed last year and envisages

Administration officials said

"Our exports are running

ening demand, he noted.

world markets.

We will get this recession

business activity later in the

Economy to be pulled out of recession: Bush

WASHINGTON, Jan 30: President George Bush voiced optimism on Tuesday that the U.S. economy would soon pull out of recession and called for renewed efforts to encourage economic growth and long-term investments, reports Reuter.

Union address to Congress, Bush called for lower interest rates and urged banks to increase lending to help lift the economy out of recession. " I do think there has been too much pessimism," Bush

In his annual State of the

said. "Sound banks should be making more sound loans now and interest rates should be lower, now." get package would include in-

centives for savings and a re-

duction in capital gains, a proposal that was rejected by US lawmakers last year.

The package will also include a new national energy strategy to encourage conservation and oil and gas development, more spending on research and development and an overhaul of America's battered banking industry.

Administration officials said the package did not include proposals specifically to attack the current recession, which they expect to be over before Congress would be able to en-

act any legislation. ment, the best way to deal with this is over the long Bush told Congress his bud- term," one senior officials said.

"There is no shock treat-Bush said he saw reasons to

reducing the tax rate to 19.6 per cent on the sale of assets such as stocks and bonds held at least three years. be optimistic that the economy

A conference of the regional heads and the executives of Head Office of Pubali Bank Limited employees to strive hard for the overall development of the bank . Besides, Mr. Abul Matin Khan, Managing Director, Mr. A. A. Bazle Rabbi, Deputy Managing Director and General