

Business

Prices of essentials decline

Star Economic Report
Prices of essentials in the city markets have substantially come down in the last few days as country is poised to enter a new political phase.



Workmen preparing feed for poultry birds and fish at a city market out of dry sea fish brought from Cox's Bazar.

Hunger can kill more Iraqis than war itself

UNITED NATIONS, Mar 3: Disease and hunger could kill more Iraqis than the Gulf War itself, relief officials said Friday, prompting UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to send a special envoy to the war zone, reports Reuter.

Grant said he hoped the 'vast mountain' of medical supplies built up by the US military in the Gulf could be made available to Iraq in the war is over.

Snippets

US firms to benefit as Kuwait rebuilds

NEW YORK, Mar 3: The next big deployment in the Gulf will come from corporate America, which is signing contracts and rounding up workers to help rebuild shattered Kuwait in a reconstruction effort that could be worth up to 100 billion dollars, reports AP.

Asian currencies fall against US Dollar

HONG KONG, March 3: Asian currencies uniformly fell against the US Dollar because of expectations of high demand for dollars as the US economy was boosted by the end of the Gulf war, reports AP.

Port Rashid expects upturn in operation

DUBAI, Mar 3: Dubai's port Rashid, one of the busiest in the Gulf, expects an upturn in operations after the end of the war, helped by a large cut in insurance rates for vessels, the official Emirates news agency WAM reported Saturday, adds AP.

OAU budget session ends

ADDIS ABABA, Mar 3: The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) concluded a low-key session of the Council of Ministers on Friday night after approving a 28-million-Dollar budget for fiscal 1991-92, reports AP.

Trading picks up at week's beginning

Star Economic Report
The week began on Saturday at Dhaka bourse with a moderate rise in trade volume. Most traded shares showed uptrend in prices.

Trading was closed on Sunday for holy Shab-e-Barat. Sixteen stocks were traded. Of them thirteen gained and three lost.

In all 3937 shares and debentures changed hands compared with Thursday's 1546. Traded issues valued Taka 238.613.00. It was Taka 130.415.00.

Table listing various stocks and their prices, including titles like 'Rupali Bank moved up Taka 3.00 to Taka 90.00', 'Dhaka Vegetable, Pharmaco and Dulamia Cotton gained Taka 2.00 each to Taka 162.00, Taka 47.00 and Taka 75.00', etc.

Quoted Prices of Traded Stocks

Table titled 'Quoted Prices of Traded Stocks' with sub-header 'March - 2'. It lists various stocks and their prices, including titles like 'Rupali Bank', 'Shilpa Mutual Fund', 'Eastern Cable', etc.

Bush seeks \$1,400m food aid for poor countries

Armed with new legislation, the United States expects to target more of its free food aid to the least developed nations of the world, says a USIS press release.

Food aid under PL-480 is administered under three programmes: Title I, Title II and Title III. The new legislation, put into effect by an executive order released by the White House February 25, has abolished the original Title III.

50 per cent of world food assistance, the US contributions amounting to 6 to 8 million metric tons a year of such commodities as wheat, maize, rice and soybean oil.

Biman resumes flight in ME from March 11

Biman Bangladesh Airlines will resume its normal flight operations in the Middle East and the Gulf from March 11 in view of improved situation in the region, reports UNB.

Earlier, Biman had to cancel all its normal operations in the region in the wake of outbreak of war in the Gulf.

ASEAN to face trade blocks

JAKARTA, Mar 3: The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will promote Kuala Lumpur's concept of a regional economic group to face trade blocks elsewhere, Malaysian Premier Mahathir Mohamad said here Saturday, reports AP.

The Malaysian idea initially drew a mixed reaction from the ASEAN, which groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Proper management can reduce loss of grains

By Inam Ahmed

Proper management in different levels of post-harvest operations in rice can substantially reduce the loss of grains which is now about 13 per cent of the total production in each season, a research report says.

Grain cleaning to separate impurities like leaves, empty husks and other foreign matters is done by winnow. But this does not separate heavy materials like stone and metal. This causes damage to milling machines, the report says.

Husking of rice in mills also causes losses. Miller rice is always over polished and have high proportion of breakage. Polishing upto six per cent is good for rice. But in mills, rice is often polished up to 25 per cent. Dhaki milled rice is less polished and have low proportion of breakage. It also retains more nutritional qualities of rice than huller milled rice.



An artisan making low-cost sanitary pans using cement and clay as raw materials.

Recovery move may hit Indonesian economy

JAKARTA, Mar 3: Leading Indonesian banks jacked up interest rates on time deposits Thursday after the government announced its intention to tighten the money supply to curb inflation and clamp down on foreign currency speculation, reports AP.

The report says steam and pressure parboiling system instead of the traditional system with oven and claypot can save time and energy. This will also cause uniform parboiling which in return will reduce breakage during milling and improve nutritional and eating quality of rice.

No quick snap back to tour the world

NEW YORK, Mar 3: Although the ceasefire in the Middle East is good news for the air travel industry, it may take time for the business to dig itself out of the Gulf War slump, reports AP.

War's end to boost business

WASHINGTON, Mar 3: Many economists expect the end of the Gulf War to boost consumer confidence and lead to a spurt in spending, but not to have a great impact on the recession, reports AP.

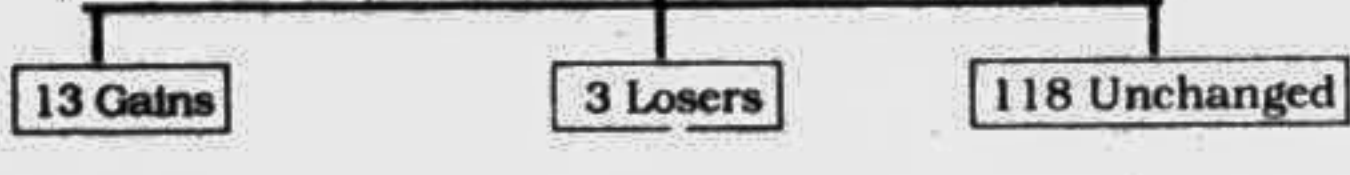
Business Economists agreed that the end of the war is a plus for the outlook, but added, "the recovery won't be robust."

Rippe, who also is the chief economist for Dean Witter Reynolds, told reporters that falling oil prices and rising confidence would be offset in part by unemployment, a lack of demand for many goods and services and weak corporate performance.

Dhaka Stock Exchange Market Profile

March - 2

134 Listed stocks



DSE All Share Price Index = 344.5764
Issued Capital=Taka 44,620,377,190.00
Market Capitalisation=Taka 9,846,360,515.00
Turnover = Taka 2,38,613.00(Value) 3,937(Value)

New one taka note will be issued today

A new one taka note will be issued from today (Monday) from the Bangladesh Bank office at Motijheel Commercial Area here, reports UNB.

The new currency note, signed by Finance Secretary Khorshed Alam, will also be issued later from other branches of the Bank, an official handout Saturday said.

Electricity restored in Iraq

BAGHDAD, March 3: Iraq said on Saturday it had restored electricity to some provinces and would reopen schools in a week, after the end of the Gulf war which it claims as a moral victory, reports Reuter.