MOSCOW, July 4: The Russian parliament on Wednesday adopted privatisation laws which were more sweeping than similar legislation approved by the Soviet parliament earlier this week, reports Reuter.

"Every Russian will become a proprietor," the republic's information agency said, describing the laws as a step towards introducing a market

"State and municipal enterprises, individual workshops, industries, will be privatised Priority in acquiring shares will be given to those working in the enterprises," it said.

According to extracts of the law reported by the official Soviet news agency Tass, the Russian Federation, the richest and most powerful of the 15 Soviet republics, would issue special bonds worth thousands of Roubles, starting next year.

They would go to residents who could then use them to "buy" state-owned property or start their own business, Tass

But these bonds would not be disturbed immediately as provided for by the original draft of the law, but during the initial three-year process of denationalisation.

The Soviet legislature on Monday defeated a proposed amendment on issuing such

Modest rise in share trading Star Economic Report

The week ended at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Thursday with a modest rise in trading.

In volume terms transactions stood at 3,114 from Wednesday's 3789. Traded issues valued Taka 2,80,710.00 against previous day's Taka 2,01,020.00.

Decliners dominated trading. And DSE All Share Price Index went down to 308,2845 points from Wednesday's 308.4951. Index in the broad indicator of price movements of all the listed stocks.

Transactions involved twentyfive stocks. Of them twelve lost, four gained and nine remained unchanged at their previous quoted prices.

Among the decliners Bengal Food, the lone traded debenture got the major slash. It lost Taka 355.00 to Taka 875.00.

Singer Bangladesh declined Taka 125.00 to Taka 1,000.00. Desh Garments lost Taka 5.00 to Taka 70.00.

G Q Ball Pen and 3rd ICB Mutual Fund declined Taka 2.00 each to Taka 58.00 and Taka 158.00 respectively. Green Delta Insurance lost

Taka 1.33 to Taka 120.38. United Insurance, 4th ICB Mutual Fund, Howlader PVC, Dhaka Vegetable, Tallu Spinning and Monno Ceramic declined within the range between Taka 0.17 and Taka 1.00.

Bengal Food and Chittagong Cement moved up

Taka 2.00 and Taka 1.58 to Taka 155.00 and Taka 158.50. Atlas Bangladesh and National Tubes advanced Taka 1.00 and Taka 0.50 to Taka 40.00 and Taka 107.50 re-

spectively. Quoted Prices of Traded Stocks

J	uly -4	4	
1 44	·PV/ML		" Changes (Taka)
		******	(1
A. B.Bunk	100/5	182.00	unchanged
Islami Bank			unchanged
Investment			10.0
3rd ICB M Fund	100/5	156.00	(-2.00)
4th ICB M Fund	100/10	144.00	(-1.00)
5th ICB M Fund	100/10	128.50	unchanged
Green Delta	100/10	120.38	(-1.33)
United			(-1.00)
Engineering	400, 10		(1.00)
Atlas Bangladesh	10/50	40.00	(+1.00)
Howlader PVC			(-0.17)
Metalex Corp			unchanged
National Tubes			(+0.50)
Renwick Jajneswar			
Singer Bangladesh			(-125.00)
Food & Allied	Number of		
Bengal Food	100/5	155.00	(+2.00)
BTC	10/50	50.00	unchanged
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5		
Tulip Dairy	100/10	90.00	unchanged
Pharma & Chem			
Petro Synthetic	10/50	15.50	unchanged
Textile Desh Garments	100/10		
		70.00	A 10 TO 10 T
Tallu Spinning	100/10	118.00	(-0,50)
Apex Tannery	100/5	147.00	unchanged
Chittagong Cement			(+1.58)
G Q Ball Pen			(-2.00)
Monno Ceramic	100/5	142.00	1.8 1017 MOTO 40 123 m
Debenture			W0000000
Bengal Food	1200/1	875.00	(-355.00)
•FV= Fac	e Valu	e MI	- Mar

•FV= Face Value, ML = Mar ket Lot

** Changes : Plus signs mean gain and (-) signs losses.

Dhaka Stock Exchange

Market Profile July - 4 134 Listed Stocks 4 Gains 12 losers 118 Unchanged 116 Unchanged stocks include nine traded on the day at

its previous quoted prices. DSE All Share Price Index = 308.2845 Issued Capital=Taka 5,439,680,590 Market Capitalisation = 8,809,309.705 Turnover = Taka 2,80,710.00 (Value 3,114 (Volume).

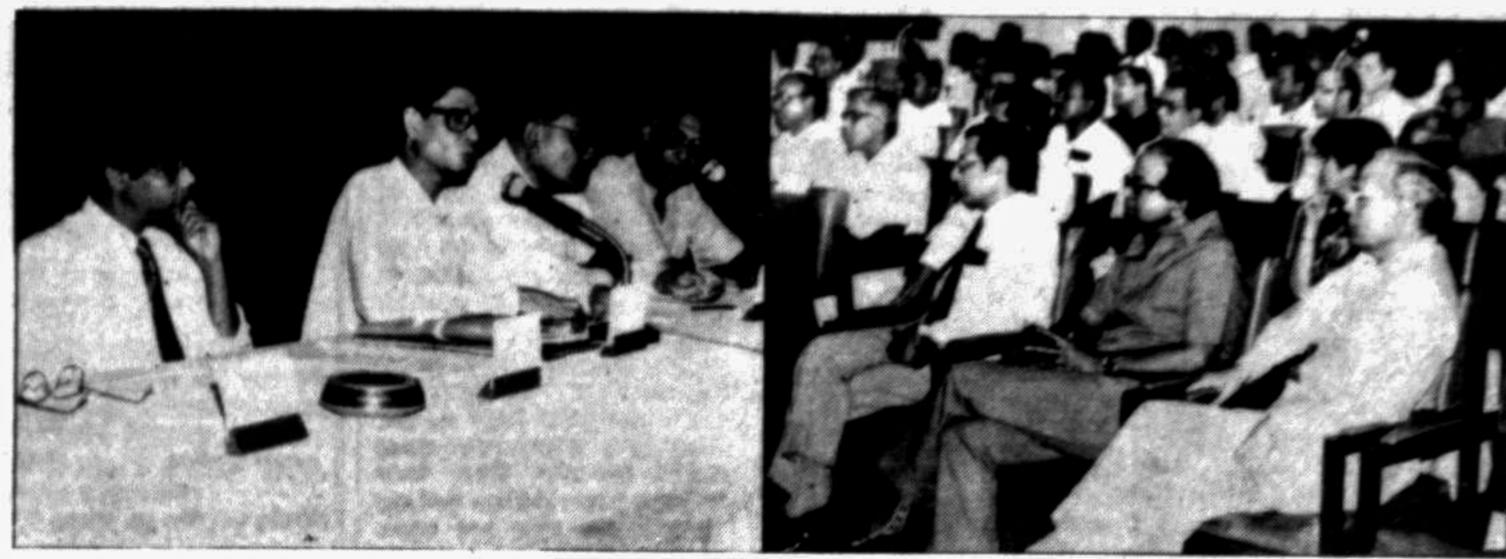
VAT accepted world wide as progressive tax: MCCI Snippets

Star Economic Report

The members of Metro- largely attended, says a MCCI politan Chamber of Commerce press release. and Industry (MCCI) have The NBR officials and the expressed the view that the IMF expert working with the Value Added Tax (VAT) would NBR clarified various points prove itself beneficial. It has which were raised by over 200 the least cascading (tax on members present at the meettaxes) effect compared to ing. other indirect taxes like sales tax and excise duty, they have said while noting that VAT is "being accepted all over the world as a progressive tax."

conference room of the chamber with S A Hannan, VAT cell. officials. The meeting was promptly.

The chamber members. however, stressed that reappraisal of VAT on certain items should be made immediately in the larger interest of the coun-These views of the MCCI try's industries and the conmembers were expressed at a sumers. Prompt remedial meameeting on Thursday at the sures should be taken to remove hardships, they stated while suggesting that clarifica-National Board of Revenue tions and exemptions should (NBR), and other senior NBR be notified to the public



S A Hannan, Chairman, VAT Cell and Member, National Board of Revenue discussing various aspects of VAT at a meeting with members of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka on Thursday.

Biman earns profit of Tk 51.36 crore

Star Economic Report

Biman Bangladesh earned a profit of Taka 51.36 erore dur-

Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan informed the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament) Thursday this month replying to a question.

In the break-up of profit and loss of the Biman during the period, the Minister said Biman earned a total profit of tions. Taka 67.36 crore in fiscal years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 while it incured a total loss of Taka 16 crore in fiscal years 1988-89 and 1989-

35.16 crore in 1986-87, he

In reply to another question, the Minister said 1,21,081 tourists visited

Bangladesh in 1989-90 and Bangladesh Parjatan ing five fiscal year period end- Corporation earned a profit of Taka 364.9 lakh in the year.

> He also informed the House that Biman has an annual capacity of carrying 9,05,000 passengers an its international routes and it earned a profit of Taka 395.27 crore in 1989-90 from its international opera-

He said that Biman took loans, at rates of interest varying from one per cent to 10.48 per cent from 14 international banks for an aggregate amount of 155.51 US Dollar for pur-The highest profit was Taka chasing ATP and DC-10 aero-

> The loans include 34.21 Dollars for ATP, and 121.3 Dollars for DC-10.

> lakh, giving the aggregate fig-

ure for total note issued at

securities by the Issue

Department of the Bank valued

Taka 527.43 crore while those

of internal bills of exchange

and other commercial papers

Government Treasury Bills,

shown on the assets side,

EC needs to

reach accord

on farm'

European Community needs to

reach board agreement on re-

forming its farm sector by the

end of the year to save GATT

world trade talks, Dutch Farm

Minister Piet Bukman said on

line agreement would be an

uphill struggle, told Reuter in

nevertheless we must try be-

cause everybody agrees that

fundamental change is neces-

sary," he said two days after

his country took over the

rotating presidency of the EC.

Bukman said it was unreal-

But something less could

still salvage the Uruguay Round

of talks under the General

Agreement on Tariffs and

Trade (GATT) to liberalise

world commerce. The talks

stalled last December over a

Exchange Rates

July - 4

SELLING AND BUYING RATES, offered by

Commercials Banks, for Bank Cheques, (BCs) and

row about farm subsidies.

istic to expect the EC Farm

Ministers to reach a detained

accord by the end of 1991.

an interview.

But achieving even an out-

"It will be a hell of a job

Wednesday, reports Reuter.

THE HAGUE, July 4: The

In its banking department,

totalled Taka 2953.08 crore.

The holdings of government

Taka 3766.44 crore.

Bangladesh Bank affairs

Star Economic Report

The deposits (balances) of the central bank held outside Bangladesh amounted to Taka 2731.46 crore including cash and short term securities on June 12, according to the statement of affairs of the Bangladesh Bank issued on Thursday.

Approved foreign exchange holdings by the Bank in its Issue Department stood at Taka 200 crore and that of gold bullion valued Taka 75.88

Investments of the banking department, shown on its assets side, stood at Taka 554.33 crore while loan and advances to the government totalled Taka 1.23 crore. Other loans and advances aggregated at Taka 1697.80 crore. "Other assets " of the bank were shown at Taka 1433.79 crore.

Deposits of the scheduled banks with the central bank, as shown as liabilities of the banking department stood at Taka 1856.14 crore and those of the government amounted to Taka 50.77 crore. Other deposits were shown at Taka 3262.98 crore.

Total notes in circulation stood at Taka 3765.97 crore and notes held in its banking department totalled Taka 4.6

Call money market

Star Economic Report

Money rates in the Call money market during the week ending on July 3 ranged from 10.25 per cent to 11.50 per cent. During the same week interest rates offered by the Bank on Certificate of Deposits varied from 10.00 per cent to 14.50 per cent. The bank rate, however, remained unchanged at 9.75 per cent, a press release of Bangladesh Bank said on Thursday.

Chehlum By Staff Correspondent

The chehlum of Engineer A S' Shafiqul Alam, former Vice-Chairman of Dhaka Stock Exchange will be held today (Friday) after Asr prayer at his residence No (b)-34, road No 64, Gulshan. A S Shafiqul Alam was also the founder chairman of National Textile Mills Ltd and Adarsha Samabay Bank Ltd. He was also associated with many other organisations.

Overseas Drafts (ODs) One Unit of Foreign Currencies (FCs) for Taka Buying US Dollar 36.1226 35.6420 UK Pound Sterling 57.8727 German Deutsche 19.6961 French Franc 5.8159

57.1659 19.4266 5.7357 Saudi Riyal 9.5350 **Dutch Guilders** 17.4928 17.2475 Pakistan Rupee 1.4813 1.4672 (AMU*) Singapore Dollar 20.4198 20.1481 **UAE** Dirham 9.7374 **Kuwait Dinar** Not available Indian Rupee AMU 1.5604 1.5453 S. Kroner 5.3718 5.4483 *AMU-Asian Monetary Union SECONDARY EXCHANGE MARKET Wage Earners Fund/ Export Performance Benefit (XPB) Fund Buying 36.68 Selling US Dollar 36.73 **UK Pound** 58.78 58.83

. The rates of Pound Sterling are

decided every day, based on the cross-

rates of New York market

Source: Sonali Bank

10.02

10.07

Sterling

Saudi Riyal

UAE Dirham

VAT on printing I industry to raise prices of books, magazines

Star Economic Report

Bangladesh Printing Industry Association in a pre conference on Thursday said that the newly imposed Value Added Tax (VAT) on the services of printing industry would raise the prices of books and magazines giving a blow to the education sector.

Akmal Ahmed, the General Secretary of the Association addressing the press conference at Jativa Press Club said VAT has been imposed on 11 kind of papers except newspaper which will also hit the ed ucation programme of the country.

He said VAT will also affect the printing industry which is itself a sick industry. The new system will encourage corruption in collecting tax, he

Akmal Ahmed said ban on import of foreign ink will af fect the printing quality of the units. He stated that country produced ink is not either good in quality or sufficient in quantity.

4.20 lakh bales raw cotton needed

Star Economic Report The country's total annual

demand of raw cotton is 4.20 lakh bales of which about 91 per cent is met through im-Agricultural Minister Maj

Gen (Retd) Md Majid-ul-Huq told this in the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament) Thursday during the question hour in the amounted to Taka 328.24

12 BSCIC estates

Star Economic Report

Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) will set up twelve new industrial estates in different zilas (districts) and upazilas (sub-districts) during the current fiscal year.

While addressing a meeting on implementation of BCSIR (Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research) processes and technologies held at the conference room of BCSIR, on Thursday BSCIC Chairman M Moniruzzaman Chowdhury urged the scientists to develop commercially and industrially viable process and technologies. He said that BSCIC would take its every possible efforts to help promote the commercially viable industrial pro cesses, developed by BCSIR in the BSCIC industrial estates.

Jointly organised by BSCIC and BCSIR, the meeting discussed matters relating to promotion of various small scale chemical industries in the country. Addressing the participants, BCSIR Chairman Dr M Waliuzzaman sought cooperation of BSCIC, Chemical Industries Association and entrepreneurs for industrialisation of the processes developed by the council.

Entry of USSR, Iran boost Ctg tea auction market Star Economic Report

The entry of Russia and strong Iranian buying at weekly 9 were combined together due Dust; Sale 8 consisted tea auction sale on Tuesday at Chittagong had a favourable impact on prices. Best brokens were up by about one Taka and selective best types realised between Taka 54.50 to Taka 56.90 a kilogram, a market report by Unity Brokers

But internal traders were less active and this resulted in large withdrawals of dust tea.

Limited said.

The value added tax system (VAT) came into effect during the sale with an additional levy of 15 per cent in lieu of the previous Excise Duty and Development Surcharge of Taka 8.25. However, teas up to Taka 55 per kilogram will accrue lower taxes as compared to the last financial year.

Auction sale number 8 and between Taka 53 and Taka 58.

to Eid holidays and was held on July 2 last. Leaf offerings were 16,136 in sale number 8 and 10, 356

in sale number 9.

Orthodox: 20 chest of TOFOP sold at Taka 79 while 40 chests of Brokens realised Taka 49.

CTC: Best Brokens were fully firm to dearer by up to a Taka. Well-made Brokens were well absorbed at dearer rates, others were firm on last. Plainer Brokens met with some withdrawals. Selective types realised between Taka 54.50 to Taka 56.90. Fannings were in good demand but prices were generally easier by around a Taka below last. Small quantity of popular lines sold

2,643 packages, while sale had 2,140 packages along with 33 packages of old season teas Except for powdery sorts all others eased by up to Taka 3. There were large withdrawals.

Green Tea: Offerings comprised of 300 packages, including 70 packages of old season teas in sale 8 and 140 packages in sales 9. Primaries, where sold, realised between Taka 59.50 and Taka 62. One line of secondary fetched Taka

Auction sale number 10 is scheduled to hold on July 9 next, which will comprise of approximately 17,000 pack ages of leaf and 3,000 pack

Among the leading non-

OECD countries, it said, China

was still pursuing a policy of

stabilization after cutting infla-

tion to 2 per cent last year

from 16.5 per cent in 1989

OECD sees 'some relief' for Third World economies

PARIS, July 4: Low -and middle-income developing countries, whose economies were hit over the past year by higher oil prices and the slowdown in the industrial world, should see 'some relief from mid-1991 as a result of recovery in the West and domestic reforms, the OECD said Wednesday, reports AFP.

Apart from the dynamic Asian economics and some OPEC oil producers, most countries outside the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) were

still facing financing problems. Many were affected by the impact of lower commodity prices and high inflation, besides the direct and indirect repercussions of the Gulf cri-

WASHINGTON, July 4: The

central banks of Japan and

Britain are putting together a

bridge loan to help India avoid

defaulting on its 70 billion

Dollars in foreign debt, inter-

national monetary sources and

development experts said, re-

sources suggested could total

nearly 450 million Dollars

would be designed to tide

India over until it can win ap-

proval of a multibillion Dollar

credit from the International

Monetary Fund, probably

because a collapse in its trade

with the Soviet Union and the

financial fallout from the Gulf

crisis has brought its long-

term economic problems of a

burgeoning budget deficit and

mounting foreign debt to a

That crunch is expected to

India faces a credit crunch

sometime later this year.

The loan, which some

ports Reuter.

\$450m Japanese, UK

bridge loan to India

sis, the OECD said in its halfyearly economic outlook re-But increased official trans-

fers and net long-term resource flows should allow the non-oil developing countries as a group to support higher current account deficits to the tune of 60 to 70 billion Dollars in 1991 and 1992. While there

important differences across non-OECD regions and countries," a general feature was that reforms including less expansionary economic policies, structural changes to attract more external finance and trade liberalization, as in several Latin American countries, now "begin to bear fruit," the

be particularly severe this

month, with big debt payments

due to the IMF, World Bank

and other foreign creditors,

Several sources suggested

The compensatory credit

would be designed to help

India cope with the economic

impact of the Gulf crisis, par-

ticularly last year's sharp rise

An IMF team of economic

experts is currently in India,

discussing an economic reform

package with the country's

new government, which took

office last month after elec-

tions delayed by the assassina-

tion of Rajiv Gandhi.

that the IMF might also help

out India this month, with an

emergency loan of some 220

the sources said.

million Dollars.

in oil prices.

and achieving a turn-round from a deficit to a sizeable surplus on current account. China's aim was to allow only a gradual expansion of demand and imports this year, and it was "likely to run a trade

> In India, economic policy had been paralyzed by political instability, and the country was faced with a soaring budget deficit, rising foreign debt and shrinking foreign exchange re-

> While reconstruction in the Gulf could provide some relief for the Indian sub-continent, "a period of somewhat slower' growth seems likely, given financial strains and political uncertainty, the report said.

In Africa, where output fell last year in many countries including South Africa, "the out looks is somewhat better than in the last couple of years," although "most African countries continue to face enormous chronic economic difficulties.

The report stressed the diversity of performance of the major Latin American debtors nothing that Mexico last year achieved its highest growth rate since the debt crisis began in 1982, while Brazil's AFP, output fell by an estimated 4.6 per cent as the country struggled to control runaway infla-

The report specifically cited stepped-up efforts by Latin American countries to remove obstacles to trade, including tariff cuts and multiple steps towards regional trade liberalization.

TOKYO, July 4: Seven

Wednesday to prolong their hunger strike outside the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry, in another attempt to block the liberalisation of rice imports, reports

planned to end their hunger strike Wednesday, their third day without food, but changed their minds following reports that the government planned a further cut in domestic rice prices to narrow the price gap with foreign rice.

collapse if foreign rice were allowed, said Hideo Habassaki, 62, who is growing rice on his five-hectare (12.5 acre) property on Japan's northernmost island of Hokkado.

Businessmen lose confidence on French PM

PARIS, July 4: Prime Minister Edith Cresson has

per cent of 420 executives questioned had confidence in Beregovoy while only 24 per cent said the same for Cresson.

with fiery criticism of Japanese trade practices, and "almost 50 per cent" in the said she would concentrate on strengthening French industry

Ln Humayun Zahir, District Governor, Lions District 315-

head.

A, Bangladesh and Director, Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industries discussing with David J G Taylor, Executive Director, Sydney State of Chamber of Commerce, Australia at the Bangladesh High Commission Office in Australia on joint venture projects with Australia. Khandoker Tajuddin Ahmed, Commercial Counsellor of the Commission and Ln Obaidul Hug Babul, Cabinet Secretary, District 315-B and a renowned garments exporter are also seen in the picture.

Modest growth in OPEC markets likely PARIS, July 4: The Growth Arab Emirates, would have

of OPEC markets for goods exports from Western industrial nations and Japan may be "modest" in '1991-92 despite the aftermath of the Gulf war, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Wednesday, reports AFP.

With oil prices now roughly back to the pre-crisis level, "import growth will be constrained" in most of the 13 member-countries of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), "particularly those with large external debts," the OECD said in its half-yearly economic outlook.

"which has already been borrowing on international markets", and other Gulf countries with large external assets, such as Kuwait and the United

fairly easy access to finance for additional imports. Post-war reconstruction

might be a "less important" factor than initially expected, the OECD said. The latest estimates of the cost of repairing damage to Kuwait's infrastructure were "much lower" than initial forecasts, "and the pace of repair and reconstruction has been relatively slow," it explained. The current moves in Iran

towards economic liberalization and the country's improved economic ties with certain OECD countries could be a source of increased imports from the OECD area, ac-It said only Saudi Arabia, cording to the Report. OPEC oil revenues rose by

second half of last year because of the Gulf crisis, according to internationally. OECD estimates.

sales drop TOKYO, July 4: Sales of vehicles with engine capacities less than 660 cc fell 9.0 per cent to 1,67,181 units from a

Japanese car

year earlier in June, the second consecutive month o year-on-year decline, an industry report said here, reports The so-called mini passen-

ger cars accounted for 77,582 units, down 8.2 per cent, and mini commercial vehicles like vans and trucks 89,599, down 9.7 per cent, the Japan Mini Vehicles Association said. Suzuki Motor Corp, topped

the list of makers with sales totaling 89,599 units, down 1.5 per cent from a year ago, the Association said.

Bahrain to allow foreign firms

MANAMA (Bahrain), July 4: Bahrain is amending trade laws to encourage foreign companies to finance development projects in the Emirate, offictals said.

An official at the Commerce and Agriculture Ministry said Bahrain's Emir, Sheikh isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa, would issue a decree enabling foreigners to run projects without Bahraini partners.

"The Emir will soon, probably next week, issue the decree," he told Reuter.

Nepal suspends all currency trading KATHMANDU, July 4:

Nepal's central bank ordered

Wednesday a nationwide halt

in all trading of foreign currencies, including the Indian Rupee, reports AFP. Officials with the central bank, the Nepal Rastra Bank, said trading would remain sus-

pended until further notice following the second devaluation this week of the ndian Rupee. Given Nepal's heavy economic interdependence with India, New Delhi's decision to devalue its currency by almost 19 per cent against the Dollar this week makes a further ad-

justment of the Nepalese cur-

rency inevitable, said a Top bank official, who asked to remain anonymous. Walesa asks EC for ECU 500m

BRUSSELS, July 4: Polish President Lech Walesa asked the European Community (EC) for 500 million European Currency Units (ECUs) to help his country switch production from goods geared to the Soviet market, EC officials said, reports Reuter.

He asked for 500 million ECUs to help fund reorientation needed to make products for Western markets, an official said.

Walesa made the request at a meeting yesterday with EC Commission President Jacques

The dire state of the Soviet economy and the switch to trade in hard currency has brought the collapse of Poland's trade with its traditional partner.

Japanese farmers' strike continues

Japanese rice farmers decided

The rice growers originally

Japan's agriculture would

failed to win the hearts and minds of French business leaders who prefer Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy, according to an opinion poll appearing in the business magazine expansion on Thursday, reports AFP. The poll showed that 96

Cresson marked her appointment as Prime Minister