

**Gorbachev has no new plan to present: Pavlov**

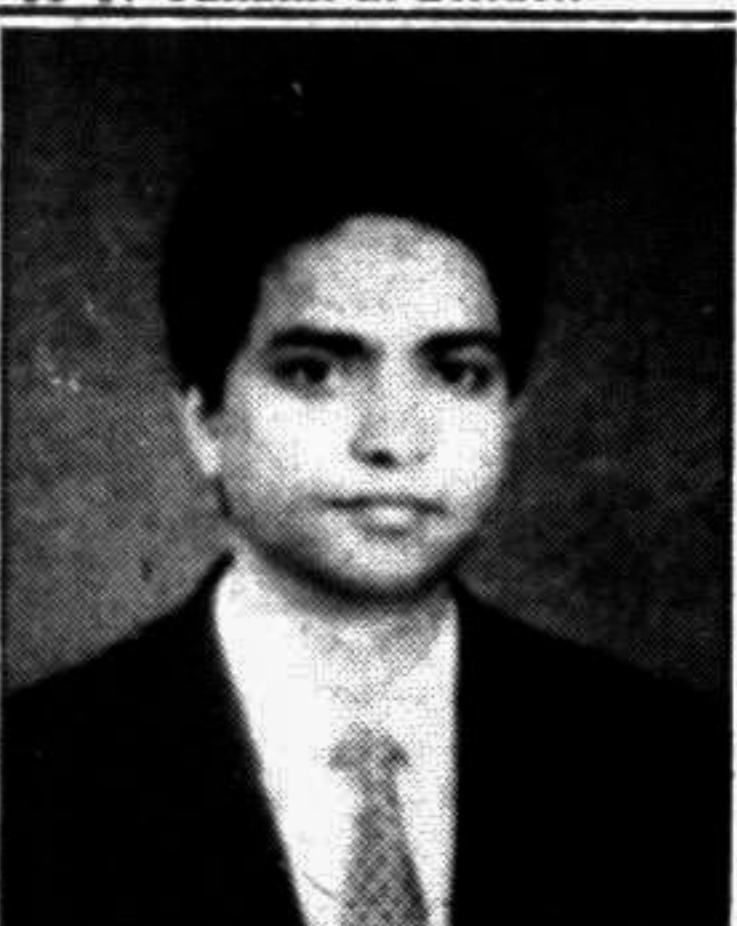
MOSCOW, July 6: Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov contradicted President Mikhail Gorbachev on Wednesday, saying he did not believe the Soviet leader had any new economic reform plan to present to western leader this month, reports Reuter.

"I don't know anything about another programme which Gorbachev will take to London... It is high time we stopped producing programmes," he said, adding that the President and Soviet parliament shared his opinion.

Gorbachev said last month he aimed to combine his government's anti-crisis programme with a more radical plan drawn up by Russian economist Grigory Yavlinsky and would present leaders of Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations with a presidential plan blending the two.

Pavlov's remarks suggested the Yavlinsky plan had been sidelined. "We must fulfil one programme first... Gorbachev is not working on any programme, especially a new programme for his trip to London, at least not that I know of," he said.

Gorbachev has been invited to attend a special meeting on Soviet reforms and aid requirements after the G-7's July 15-17 summit in London.



**New Director of Kohinoor Chemical**

Eminent Chartered and Cost & Management Accountant AKM Asaduzzaman was elected Director by the shareholders recently in the third annual general meeting of Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Limited, say a press release.

**Japan likely to help rebuild CEPZ**

**Star Economic Report**

Japan is likely to fund the reconstruction of the Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) damaged by the devastating cyclone and tidal surge of April 29, 1991.

Japanese embassy sources in Dhaka told The Daily Star that the country had already committed 20 million dollars grant assistance from the policy and human resources development fund of the World Bank. Japan is a regular contributor to the fund.

The pledged grant assistance will be utilised for rebuilding the damaged embankment of CEPZ. Preliminary work of the project has already been started.

The reconstruction of CEPZ is expected to be completed under the joint auspices of governments of Bangladesh, Japan and World Bank.

Besides, CEPZ, Japan has provided grant assistance to a number of sectors badly affected by the cyclone along the southern coast.

In tele-communication sector, temporary rehabilitation work of tele-communication tower in Chittagong was successfully completed by early June assisted by the Japanese consultants. Japan allocated

200,000 US dollars for this work from the emergency grant. The reconstruction work of permanent tele-communication tower in Chittagong will be soon commenced under the emergency commodity loan of Japan.

In transport sector, the highest attention is given to the rehabilitation of Chittagong Port. To facilitate the port rehabilitation, Japan in consultation with the Bangladesh Government is considering to allocate part of the emergency commodity loan for procurement of floating crane and fenders of the Port. In air-transport sector, the Government of Japan has allocated 350,000 US dollars of emergency grant for fencing and civil works of rehabilitation of Chittagong Airport and Cox's Bazar Airport.

In power sector, rehabilitation work of damaged installations of electric power supply at Barisal and Chittagong will be executed under the allocation of emergency commodity loan assistance of Japan.

In agriculture sector, under the emergency grant and the commodity loan assistance to Bangladesh, Japan has allocated 2.5 million and 18 million respectively for purchasing fertilizer for the agricul-

tural rehabilitation in the areas affected by cyclone and tidal surge. The request of Bangladesh government for supply of 5,000 power tillers with accessories for the agricultural rehabilitation programme is under consideration of the Government of Japan by utilizing the Debt Relief Grant Assistance.

In food sector, Japan has promptly extended food aid in the form of purchase of wheat of 1,500 million yen (US\$ 10 million) which is an increase of 200 million yen over the last year's food aid, considering the urgent requirement and humanitarian view point of the country's condition.

In health sector, medical equipments, instruments, ambulances are being considered to be included in the procurement list of emergency commodity loan.

In housing and private sector, Japan has allocated \$ 4.35 million for procurement of CI sheets and other essential materials for the rehabilitation of housing under the emergency grant. Private sector's and public sector's import needs including rehabilitation of fishing boat will also be covered under the emergency commodity loan.



BAMBAN (Philippines): Two mud-coated ducks take a breather Thursday after mudflows of volcanic debris from Mount Pinatubo hit this town flooding river, villages and farms along low-lying areas. — AFP photo

**Dollar closes, shares mixed in Europe**

LONDON, July 5: The US independence day holiday on Thursday added widespread lethargy on financial markets in Europe, where the Dollar ended steady and share prices were mixed, reports Reuter.

Gold closed in London 30 cents higher at 369.55 Dollars an ounce. The Dollar finished in London at 1.8335 Marks and 139.15 Yen, compared with 1.8257 Marks and 139.35 Yen on Wednesday.

The US currency remained in a tight half-penny range against the Mark in subdued trading.

A Reuter survey showed the average of market estimates is for a 11,000 rise in non-farm payrolls, after an unexpected 59,000 gain in May.

Meanwhile shares prices ended higher in London and Frankfurt, but at a 4-1/2 month low in Paris.

Britain's Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares was 22.2 points higher at 2,470.4, drawn cautiously by higher share index futures and by talk that Britain may cut its bank base interest rates again soon.

But France's CAC-40 index ended at 1,708.05, down 9.97 points, in line with a downward drift in bond prices and influenced by continuing concern about high interest rates.

The last time the blue-chip index sank so low was on February 19.

**Snippets**

**Manila seeks 'Disaster facility' from IMF**

MANILA, July 5: The Philippines is seeking a "Disaster facility" from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to ease the financial effects of Mount Pinatubo's eruption, Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao said here Tuesday, reports AFP.

The facility, on top of a current 916 million dollar package provided by the IMF until 1992, would cover extra foreign exchange costs affecting Manila's balance of payments as a result of the volcanic eruption, which began June 9.

Estanislao gave no figure for the new facility. He earlier estimated crop and infrastructure damage from the eruption at five billion pesos (179 million dollars), excluding lost economic opportunities.

**ECOWAS summit opens**

ABUJA (Nigeria), July 5: The 14th summit of the 16-member Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) opened in the newly-commissioned ECOWAS Secretariat headquarters here yesterday, report Xinhua.

Thirteen heads of state and governments are attending the three-day annual meeting.

In his welcome address, Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida reiterated his commitment to solidarity and economic integrity in the West African sub-region. He urged member nations to strengthen their cooperation in agriculture, industry, trade, transport, telecommunications and other aspects in an effort to

**Nepalese rupee devalued**

KATHMANDU, July 5: Nepal's Central Bank announced Tuesday it was devaluing the Nepalese rupee by eight per cent against the US dollar following a devaluation of the Indian currency, reports AFP.

In an official announcement over state radio, the Nepal Rastra Bank said the new rate would put Nepal's currency at 38 rupees to the dollar against 35.30 rupees previously.

The bank said it was strengthening the local unity by two per cent against the Indian rupee to maintain cross-exchange parity. One Indian rupee will now equal 1.65 Nepalese rupees against one to 1.68. The move follows a 10 per cent devaluation against the greenback of the Indian rupee made Monday.

**Recession hits British Rail**

LONDON, July 5: The impact of a year long recession on passenger and freight demand sent state railway operator British Rail (BR) sliding 10.9 million Pounds (17.65 million Dollars) into the red after three years of profit, the company announced Wednesday, reports AFP.

With public transport set to be a key political issue in the run up to the general election, Chairman Sir Bob Reid warned that the tough financial targets set for by the conservative government would need to be reviewed and that privatisation plans faced formidable financial and operational obstacles.

**OPEC states boost output in June**

BRUSSELS, July 5: OPEC nations boosted their oil production in June, raising output above their newly set ceiling for the summer, according to estimated released Thursday, reports AP.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest crude exporter, increased pumping last month to give the cartel total output of 22.6 million barrels of oil a day, the International Energy Agency said.

May production for the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries was 22.4 million barrels a day. During the second half of the decade bigger but "manageable" price increases could occur as supply tightened because of growing demand from developing countries, stagnation of OPEC output, and pressure on production facilities.

**World economy won't be hit by oil crisis**

LONDON, July 5: The world economy is unlikely to be hit by an oil crisis during the 1990s because supply and demand in the oil market are broadly in balance, the Chief Economist at National Westminster Bank (Natwest), David Kern, said in a report on Monday, reports AFP.

The price of oil would rise modestly during the next five years because an increase in the productive capacity of some members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) would compensate for an increase in demand, he said.

**Germany, Japan against massive aid to USSR**

BONN, July 5: Spurred by different interests, Germany and Japan are expected to stand together at the London economic summit in rejecting massive amounts of money for the Soviet Union, reports AP.

That would be a shift for Germany, long the most vocal proponent of helping Moscow succeed in its huge economic experiment. But the Germans simply are running out of money for new foreign commitments.

Moscow is consulting intensively with Germany and Japan, and the winds could still change.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl travels to Kiev on Friday for a day of talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Kohl is expected to make clear that

unless Moscow has concrete reform plans to present the leaders of the Group of Seven industrial democracies in London July 15-17, Gorbachev will not get the help he seeks.

Yevgeny Primakov, Gorbachev's senior aide, said this week that Gorbachev will present "concepts and ideas" rather than a formal plan.

Japan is trying hard not to be isolated in its opposition to substantial financial aid to the Soviets.

While Kohl meets in Kiev with Gorbachev, Primakov will be in Tokyo meeting with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

With its robust economy — 5.7 per cent growth in the last fiscal year — Japan would be a

natural candidate to offer financial assistance to the Soviets.

But Tokyo will offer only technical and other limited assistance until the return of islands off its northern coast which the Soviets occupied after World War II.

The territorial issue "is a matter very important in establishing a foundation of trust and confidence between the two countries," foreign Ministry spokesman Tazuo Watanabe said recently. "If and when confidence is established we can talk more freely about other matters."

But the Japanese also don't want to be the spoilers in international efforts to solve global problems, such as rescuing Perestroika.

**World economic growth slows**

BANGKOK, July 5: World economic growth slowed in 1990 for the second consecutive year, is likely to remain stagnant this year and may rebound modestly in 1992, according to a United Nations survey, reports AP.

The Gulf crisis had a major regional impact but only minor global effect, said the UN World Economic Survey 1191. A copy was seen Thursday in Bangkok.

The world economy grew 4.3 per cent in 1988. That growth rate fell to 3 per cent in 1989 and to 1 per cent last year, the survey said.

"The world economy is not likely to grow at all in 1991," it said. "World output is expected

to rebound by a modest 2 per cent next year, which will only halt the decline in world output per person recorded in 1990 and 1991."

The economic output of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union together declined by 6 per cent last year and the decline is expected to be even sharper this year, the survey said.

"Among the major economies, the slowdown was most pronounced in Canada, the United Kingdom and United States," it said. "But Germany and Japan grew faster than in 1989."

**Oil prices unchanged**

LONDON, July 5: Oil prices were virtually unchanged on Thursday as the US market took a holiday for independence day, reports Reuter.

North Sea Brent crude oil futures for August closed early, up two cents at 18.69 Dollars a barrel on London's International Petroleum Exchange.

With the Americans absent from the market, there was little business done in Asia and Europe.

The International Energy Agency said in its monthly oil market report published on Thursday that Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) production rose to 22.6 million Barrels Per Day (BPD) in June from 22.4 in May.

Output was boosted by the resumption of production in Kuwait and the neutral zone — where it is shared by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

**Dramatic protest against logging**

KUALA LUMPUR, July 5: Environmentalists from six nations chained themselves to unloading cranes on log-filled barges Friday in a dramatic protest against the rapid logging of Malaysia's tropical forests, reports AP.

Nine activists from Sweden, the United States, Australia, England, New Zealand and Germany boarded the anchored barges at 8.30 am (0030 GMT) Friday, according to spokeswoman Annie Leonard. They aimed to draw international attention to the destruction of rain forests in Sarawak and around the world, she added.

They are on the barges to prevent them from unloading

logs brought down to Kuala Baram for export," Leonard said, speaking by telephone from Miri, an oil town in Sarawak state on Borneo island.

Miri is 10 miles (16 kilometers) from Kuala Baram, a small port at the mouth of the Baram river where the three barges are moored.

Five of the protestors chained themselves to the cranes while two suspended themselves from the top of the cranes, the activist said in a statement.

They also unfurled banners protesting logging in Sarawak state, which has been widely criticized for progressing too rapidly to sustain yields

**IMF experts in Delhi**

NEW DELHI, July 5: Experts from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) arrived here Thursday to discuss an economic structural adjustment loan designed to bail India out of its debt crisis, reports AP.

The Press Trust of India said the team was accompanied to Delhi by Gopi Aurora, India's Executive Director on the IMF Board, and would discuss the sweeping economic reform package now being put together by Government.

As a prelude to the loan, which sources estimate could amount seven billion dollars, the Government this week devalued the rupee against major currencies by 18 per cent.

**Aghazadeh hails 'dialogue' on oil**

PARIS, July 5: Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh on Wednesday welcomed the resumption of "dialogue" between oil producing and consuming countries and told French investors they ought to step up their efforts to secure a foothold in Iran, reports AFP.

He told Agence France Presse in an interview he was "generally satisfied" with the outcome of a two-day 25-nation ministerial seminar, co-sponsored by France and Venezuela, which ended here Tuesday night.

He said it had "broken the ice" between producers and consumers and "eliminated some fears" on both sides.

Aghazadeh recalled that Iran had itself organised a similar caucus at Isfahan last May attended by oil ministers of OPEC and non-OPEC countries and officials of several western oil companies, including a number of American groups.

While he said the US Administration had so far taken a "sceptical" view of such a dialogue, and sent only an observer to the Paris seminar, "I think that in future they will strengthen their participation."

The US observer at the seminar said Tuesday night Washington had "not agreed to" attending any "political-level" talks of this type.

**Japan yet to decide on brokers' punishment**

TOKYO, July 5: The Finance Ministry (MOF) has not yet decided whether or how to punish top brokerages for their compensation of favoured clients' investment losses and links to gangsters, a ministry official said, reports Reuter.

The financial daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun reported Thursday that the MOF would tell all big four securities houses — Nomura Securities Co Ltd (NMS-C), Nikko Securities Co Ltd (NIKT-T), Daiwa Securities Co Ltd (DSEC-T) and Yamaichi Securities Co Ltd (YSEC-T) — to restrict their corporate division business voluntarily for an unspecified number of days, probably more than two.

All four brokerages have said

they compensated major clients for investment losses in the year to March 31, 1990, but have denied breaking the law. Promising to cover losses is a violation of Japan's Securities and Exchange Act. Compensating clients later does not violate the law but is against an MOF directive issued in 1989.

Last Thursday Nomura and Nikko Presidents resigned after revelations the brokerages compensated losses and affiliate firms lent funds to an underworld chief. MOF is also checking allegations, denied by Nomura, that Nomura ramped Tokyuu Corp's share price in 1989 after the gangster bought Tokyuu shares.



Robert L. McGough, Industrial Training Specialist of World Bank of Asia Region called on Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury, Minister for Education and Cultural Affairs, at the latter's official residence on Thursday.

**Market Prices of Listed Shares and Debentures with Dhaka Stock Exchange**

At the close of trading on June 27 and July 4, 1991.

Company (Taka)	EV/ML*	1990-91			
		June 27 Taka	July 4 Taka	High Taka	Low Taka
<b>BANKS (Ten)</b>					
AL Baraka Bank	1000/1	770.00	810.00	1135.00	725.00
A.B Bank	100/5	180.00	182.00	255.00	135.00
City Bank	100/5	268.00	268.00	275.00	160.00
I.F.I.C	100/5	190.00	190.00	235.00	140.00
Islami Bank	1000/1	1206.25	1210.00	1210.00	925.00
National Bank	100/5	114.50	114.50	145.00	102.00
Papabi Bank	100/5	110.00	110.00	115.00	90.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	78.00	78.00	130.00	75.00
U.C.B.L	100/5	130.00	130.00	155.00	130.00
Utara Bank	100/5	214.00	214.00	240.00	193.00
<b>INVESTMENT (Eight)</b>					
ICB	100/5	97.00	100.00	117.50	90.00
1st ICB M.Fund	100/5	422.00	422.00	575.00	405.00
2nd ICB Fund	100/5	90.00	190.00	220.00	170.00
3rd ICB M. Fund	100/5	160.00	158.00	173.00	143.00
4th ICB M. Fund	100/10	145.00	144.00	161.00	133.00
5th ICB M. Fund	100/10	128.00	128.50	142.00	115.00
6th ICB M. Fund	100/10	91.50	91.46	104.00	85.00
ICB Unit Cert.					
<b>Sales Price</b>					
<b>Re-purchase</b>					
<b>INSURANCE (Four)</b>					
BGIC	100/10	114.00	113.50	117.50	104.00
Green Delta	100/10	120.00	120.38	122.00	104.50
Peoples	100/10	120.00AL	120.50AL	120.50	108.00
United	100/10	1115.00	1118.00	122.00	105.00
<b>ENGINEERING (Nineteen)</b>					
Aftab Automobiles	100/5	202.00	200.00	232.00	194.00
Atlas Bangladesh	1050	38.75	40.00	48.00	35.50
Aziz Pipes	100/5	235.00	235.00	250.00	180.00
Bangladesh Autoears	100/5	105.03	105.00	157.00	103.25
Bangladesh Lamps	100/5	290.00	290.00	365.00	230.00
B.Thai Aluminium	100/10	96.00AL	95.00AL	110.00	75.00
Bengal Carbide	100/5	400.00	400.00	450.00	320.00
Bengal Steel	10/50	18.00	18.00		
Eastern Cables	100/5	83.50	83.00	109.00	75.00
Howlader PVC	100/10	101.86	100.83	122.00	100.00
Karim Pipe	100/5	115.00	115.00	139.00	110.00
Metalex Corp.	100/5	99.50	99.50	113.00	75.00
Mono Staffers	10/5	350.00	350.00	250.00	250.00
Mono Jute	100/5	350.00	350.00	400.00	350.00
National Tubes	100/10	106.75	107.50	137.00	102.00
Panther Steel	10/50	6.00	6.00		
Quasem Drycells	10/50	8.25	8.25	9.30	7.25
Renwick Jaineswar	100/5	66.00	67.00	75.00	40.00
Stinger Bangladesh	100/5	1125.00	1000.00	1150.00	1000.00
<b>FOOD &amp; ALLIED (Twenty one)</b>					
A.B Biscuit	100/5	200.00	200.00	290.00	200.00
Alpha Tobacco	10/50	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00
Aman Sea Food	100/5	36.00	36.00	40.00	36.00
Apex Food	100/5	340.00	340.00	340.00	260.00
Aroma Tea	100/5	50.00	54.00	54.00	45.00
Bangas	100/5	305.00	305.00		
Bengal Food	100/5	147.40	155.00	255.00	14