

# Modification of land use pattern suggested Unplanned habitation growth hits economy

The experts have expressed concern over unplanned growth of villages and townships in Bangladesh and its long-term effect on the economy of the country.

They said at least 40 to 50 per cent of the present land used for habitation could be turned into productive land if potentials for physical planning are utilised properly. This will help raise living standard of the people bringing in efficient use of natural resources, spatial organisation of activities and consideration of ecological and environmental aspects, they said.

The experts, however, suggested that Upazila Plan Book, with its base maps and inventories, should be the guiding

force in comprehensive physical planning of the rural and urban areas.

The situation arising out of gradual increase of land used for habitation at the expense of productive land is very alarming, the experts noted.

Suggesting optimum land use through modifying the present land use pattern, the experts said that adoption of absolute ground level should be made through earth work in order to determine the hydrological environment reducing the annual flooding of land.

It is also suggested that facilities for water supply and sanitation, use of common land for productive use should also be ensured for proper planning.

By Shahiduzzaman Khan

Following the haphazard growth of the urban and rural habitation, environmental hazards are causing lot of concern among the members of the public which needed a through check. Of late, donors have shown keen interest in providing support of environmental activities in Bangladesh. The government has given increased attention to the land and water use planning of the upazilas which have been highlighted in the Upazila Plan Book.

The government, in its Fourth Five-Year Plan, laid maximum stress on the special and environmental hazards and called for concerted efforts to challenge the task. A policy to this effect will be finalised

soon, a national conservation strategy in under formulation and environmental issues have been included in all the development projects.

The second phase of the National Water Plan is about to be completed and a Forestry Master Plan is under active consideration of the government as per the guidelines proposed in the Fourth Five-Year Plan, the experts said.

With the economic activities gaining ground, the experts warned of danger looming large on the long-term effects on the country's economy. An expatriate consultant Per Bertilsson studied the environmental impacts of the Rural Employment Sector Programme (RESP) in the greater districts of Faridpur and new district of Kurigram.

In the light of the ongoing project work being carried out in the districts, he suggested a complementary guideline for preparation of Upazila Plan Book covering road development plan, water drainage and embankment construction plan and irrigation plan.

Bertilsson said RESP should actively promote the consolidation of Upazila Plan Book with its base maps and inventories as the common physical planning and coordination at upazila level for all agencies and projects.

He said increasing consideration should be given to economic criteria as a basis for selection and siting of road construction and rehabilitation scheme. Possibility of combining road development projects with production schemes should also be reviewed in each case.

Bertilsson suggested that a comprehensive village development approach emphasising ecological and natural resource management aspects leading to socio-economic improvement should be studied. He also proposed using biogas as a source of energy within the framework of the project.

He said overall development can be enhanced through increased production in agriculture, forestry, fishery, husbandry and other income generating activities like small scale industry. Skill training, provision of credit and support for marketing and distribution will lead to improved planning and physical infrastructure works.

## Sharp rise in share trading

Star Economic Report

Dhaka bourse witnessed a sharp rise in trading on Sunday.

In all 12,688 shares and debentures changed hands compared with Saturday's 4,716. Traded issues valued Taka 6,39,977.00 against the previous day's Taka 3,55,878.00.

Decliners dominated trading. And the Composite Index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) lost slightly to 302.3699 points from Saturday's 302.3835. Index is the broad indicator of price movements of all the listed stocks.

Transactions involved thirty-four stocks. Of them fourteen lost, ten gained and ten remained unchanged at their previous quoted prices.

Islami bank and AB Biscuit declined Taka 50.00 and Taka 10.00 to Taka 1300.00 and Taka 190.00 respectively.

Pharma Aids and ICB lost Taka 5.00 each to Taka 160.00 and Taka 95.00.

Beximco Pharma, the lone traded debenture, Chittagong Cement and Beximco Pharma declined Taka 4.00, Taka 3.58 and Taka 3.09 to Taka 1565.00, Taka 177.30 and Taka 169.02.

National Bank, BGIC Insurance, Bangladesh Thai Aluminium, Howlader PVC, Renwick Jaineswar, Tallu Spinning and Beximco lost within the range between Taka 0.06 and Taka 1.50.

Pubali Bank, 6th ICB Mutual Fund and 3rd ICB Mutual Fund moved up Taka 5.00, Taka 4.24 and Taka 2.00 to Taka 110.00, Taka 67.24 and Taka 142.00.

Rupali Bank, Green Delta Insurance, Eastern Cables, Rupan Oil, Eagle Box, Quasem Silk, and Bata Shoe gained within the range between Taka 0.04 and Taka 1.00.



Mushtaque Ahmed, Executive Vice President, Eastland Insurance Company handing over a cheque amounting to Tk. 10,62,392.19 to Khondoker Shahadat Hussain, General Manager, Ittefaq Group of Publications for the loss incurred to their import machineries at Chittagong Port due to cyclone and tidal surge on April 29. Kazi Bahuddin Ahmed, Principal Co-ordinator, M. Azmal Hoque, Executive Vice President and Ali Ahmed, Asst. Vice President of the company were present on the occasion.

## Dhaka Stock Exchange

### Market Profile

August - 04

134 Listed Stocks

10 Gains 14 losers 110 Unchanged

110 Unchanged stocks include ten traded on the day at its previous quoted prices.

DSE All Share Price Index = 302.3699  
Issued Capital-Taka 5,439,680,590  
Market Capitalisation = 8,640,297,389  
Turnover = Taka 6,39,977.00(Value) 12,688 (Volume).

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

At the close of trading on August 04, 1991.

Company	FV/ML	Closing Rate	Delta Jute	10/50	8.50
<b>BANKS (Ten)</b>			Gawata Jute	10/50	NT
Al Baraka Bank	1000/1	800.00	Islam Jute	100/5	55.00
AB Bank	100/5	185.00	Jute Spinner	100/5	96.00
City Bank	100/5	270.00	Mutual Jute	100/5	100.00
IFLC	100/5	190.00	Northern Jute	10/50	NT
Islami Bank	1000/1	1300.00	Shamer Jute	100/5	100.00
National Bank	100/5	110.00	Specialised Jute	10/50	NT
Pubali Bank	100/5	110.00	Shine Pukur Jute	100/5	94.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	77.70	Sonali Aash	100/5	83.00
U.C.B.I.	100/5	131.00			
Utara Bank	100/5	214.00			
<b>INVESTMENT (Eight)</b>			<b>PHARMACEUTICALS &amp; CHEMICALS (Fifteen)</b>		
1CB	100/5	95.00	Ambee Pharma	10/50	15.00
2nd ICB Fund	100/5	400.00	Bangla Process	100/5	51.00
3rd ICB Fund	100/5	160.00	Beximco Pharma	100/5	169.91
4th ICB Fund	100/5	142.00	Glaxo	10/50	125.00
5th ICB Fund	100/10	135.00	I.C.I.	10/50	10.00
6th ICB Fund	100/10	100.00	Kobinoor Chemical	100/5	69.50
7th ICB Fund	100/10	67.24	Petro Synthetic	10/50	15.75
8th ICB Fund	100/10	114.00	Pfizer	100/5	110.00
9th ICB Fund	100/10	109.00	Pharma Aids	100/5	160.00
ICB Unit Cert.			Pharmaco	100/5	40.00
Sales Price			Progressive Plastic	110/5	45.00
Re-purchase			Reckitt & Colman	10/50	240.00
<b>INSURANCE (Four)</b>			Rahman Chemicals	100/10	35.00AL
BGIC	100/10	112.00	Therapeutics	100/5	40.00
Green Delta	100/10	113.00	The Ibisina	100/10	90.00
Peoples	100/10	120.00AL			
United	100/10	120.00	<b>PAPER &amp; PRINTING (Six)</b>		
<b>ENGINEERING (Nineteen)</b>			Eagle Box	10/50	14.50
Adab Bangladesh	100/5	200.00	Monospool	100/5	105.00
Adis Pipes	100/5	40.00	Paper Converting	100/5	115.00
Bangladesh Autocare	100/5	230.00	Padma Printers	100/10	106.00AL
Bangladesh Lamp	100/5	101.00	Sonali Paper	10/50	55.00
B.Thai Aluminium	100/10	266.00	<b>SERVICE (Two)</b>		
Bengal Carbide	100/5	92.34XD	Bangladesh Hotel	10/50	12.00
Bengal Steel	10/50	18.00	Bd. Service	10/50	NT
Eastern Cables	100/5	79.00	<b>TEXTILE (Eighteen)</b>		
Howlader PVC	100/10	96.50	Alhaj Textile	10/50	NT
Karim Pipe	100/5	117.00	Arbee Textile	100/10	NT
Metalax Corp.	100/5	102.00	Ashraf Textile	10/50	30.00
Monno Staffers	10/10	250.00	Chand Textile	10/50	NT
Monno Jute	100/5	148.30	Chand Spinning	10/50	NT
National Tubes	100/10	111.00	Desh Garments	100/10	67.00
Paanher Sical	10/50	6.00	Dulaimia Cotton	10/10	86.00AL
Quasem Drycell	10/50	8.20	Eagle Star	10/50	33.50
Renwick Jaineswar	100/5	66.50	G.M.G. Ind. Corp.	10/50	13.00
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	1005.00	Modern Dying	100/5	35.13
			Quasem Silk	10/50	6.10
			Quasem Textile	10/50	8.00
			Rahim Textile	100/5	48.00
			Setham Textile	100/10	78.00
			S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5	17.00
			Stylecraft	100/5	100.00
			Swan Textile	100/5	60.00
			Tallu Spinning	100/10	114.44
			<b>MISCELLANEOUS (Fourteen)</b>		
			Apex Tannery	100/5	148.25
			Armit	10/50	NT
			Bata Shoe	10/50	33.50
			B.C.C.	10/100	9.00
			B.S.C.	100/5	45.00
			Chittagong Cement	100/5	177.30
			C. G. Ball Pen	10/50	55.50
			Himadri Ltd.	10/100	NT
			Milton Tannery	100/5	28.00
			Monno Ceramic	100/5	1142.00
			Phoenix Leather	100/5	90.00
			Savar Refractories	100/5	111.00
			The Engineers	100/5	100.00
			Umanis Glass	100/5	139.87
			<b>DEBENTURES (Four)</b>		
			Apex Tannery	1000/1	993.00
			(17% 1992)		
			Bengal Food	1470/1	889.38
			(18.5% 1992)		
			Beximco Pharma	1714/1	1565.00
			(17% 1997)		
			Quasem Silk	2000/1	1580.00
			(17% 1994)		

\*\* FV = Face Value ML = Market Lot NT = Not Traded, AL=Allotment Letter

## Biman's whole network fully computerised

Star Economic Report

All seven domestic stations of the Bangladesh Biman have been brought under computerised reservation system after installation of the facilities at Saidpur on Saturday, says a Biman Press release.

Another major destination under Biman's domestic network - Rajshahi has already been provided with computerised reservation system on July 30 last.

It may be mentioned here that with these two domestic stations Biman's whole network - domestic as well as international - has been made fully computerised.

Installation of this new system will help the national airline improve its service concept and the valued customers of Biman would be able to make reservation and ticket confirmation from both the end instantly.

This was stated by M M Nurul Haque, Managing Director of the bank while addressing the regional managers conference held in Rajshahi.

Prices of aluminium utensils have shot up by about 10 per cent over the last one month because of the effect of VAT, reports UNB.

Business sources said despite recent withdrawal of VAT from the sector only in the manufacturing stage, prices of utensils shot up when the new tax remained in effect on import of aluminium ingot, the lone raw material for the product.

Manufacturer alleged that imposition of VAT on the sector is totally contrary to Finance Minister's budget speech in which he said utensils would be made available for the relief of poor people.

They said instead of relieving the sector, fresh taxes have been imposed through VAT.

Aluminium utensil sector has long been regarded as a priority sector and it was exempted from excise and sales tax.

Manufacturers estimated an additional Taka 5,557 would have to be given per ton of imported aluminium ingot due to imposition of VAT in the import stage.

As a result, they said, price of every ton of aluminium utensils has increased by Taka 7,000 in the post-VAT period.

Industries circle fear higher prices of aluminium utensils would lead to widespread smuggling of the product from the neighbouring country leading to a virtual extinction of

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## Tk 202 cr RAKUB loan disbursed

Star Economic Report

Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (RAKUB) has disbursed a total of Taka 201.76 crore loan among 3,23,000 farmers.

This was stated by M M Nurul Haque, Managing Director of the bank while addressing the regional managers conference held in Rajshahi.

## VAT, excess imports hit refractory industries

Star Economic Report

The refractories manufacturing industries are facing hard competition due to excess import of refractory products and higher cost of local products because of Value Added Tax (VAT) imposed on the sector, industry sources said.

Refractory products are imported tax free at the time of the import of project machinery, they stated. These imported products equal to the standard of locally produced ones put the latter in an odd competition.

Under the new tax structure, the tax on imported refractory products has been reduced by 2.5 per cent as sales tax and surcharge have been replaced by VAT.

On the other hand, new taxes have been imposed on the raw materials of refractories producing units. Previously there was no import duty on bauxite, a raw material for the units. But the new budget imposed 30 per cent tax on it.

The import duty on dead burn magnesite has also been raised from 20 per cent to 60 per cent. As a result, the price

## Prices of aluminium utensils up by 10 pc

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