Star Economic Report

Smuggling of Indian sugar into Bangladesh is expected to stop as the government has lowered the price of sugar to Taka 25.00 at godown level from earlier price of Taka 27.32 a kg.

Sources in the Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) hoped that the accumulated stocks of sugar would now be cleared with sales volume going up. BSFIC's stocks stand at 1.78 lakh tons.

The source said two lakh 30 thousand tons of sugar is expected to be produced in the country this year. The country's annual requirement of sugar is about two lakh 88 thousand tons, according to the source.

The prices of sugar can be kept stable if the country produces one lakh 80 thousand

tons of sugar per year, it said. Regarding the higher price of indigenous sugar compared to that of smuggled Indian sugar, the sources said the BS-FIC buys sugarcane at Taka 40 a maund irrespective of its quality. Moreover, duty and surcharge were higher, leading to uneven competition with smuggled sugar and accumulated stocks.

Share prices show uptrend

Star Economic Report

The week began on Saturday at Dhaka bourse with thin transactions. Most of the traded issues moved up Trading in volume terms ad vanced slightly but in volume terms it became thinner compared with Thursday's transactions both in volume and vol ume terms.

Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index, which is the broad indicator of price movements of all the listed stocks, moved up to 355.4566 points against last Thursday's 355.0483.

In all 4114 shares and debentures changed hands cornpared with Thursday's 33313. Traded issues valued Tak a 3,83,695.00 against Taka 3,813,688.00 on Thursday.

Seventeen stocks were traded. Of them eight gained, four lost and five remained unchanged at their previous quot ed prices.

A mong the gainers City Bank and Bangladesh Lamps advaraced most. They moved up Taka 10.00 each to Taka 26 35.0 0 and Taka 290.00 re-

specti vely. Ra hman Chemicals, Remvik k Jajneswar and Aftab Autorn obiles Taka 2.05, Taka 2.00 a nd Taka 1.90 to Taka 57.05, Taka 71.00 and Taka

211.90. Rup, alí Bank, BGIC Insurance and Eleximeo gained within the range between Taka 0.01 5 and 1 aka 1.00

Green Delta, Bangladesh Thai Alui ninium, Zeal Bangla Sugar an d Beximco Pharma declined v vithin the range between Ta ka ().10 and Taka 1.60.

Quote d Prices of Tradied Stocks

Aporil - 6 * FV/ML Closing (Taka) ** Changes (Taka) Khesar Insurance MEAT 1(10/10 115.00 (-0.25) Mutton Engineering OIL Mustard (+10.00)Sangladesh Lamps 1 .00/5 3 .That Aluminium 10 0/10 Soyabean (-1.00)E.s stern Cables 1 00/5 100.00 Rey: swick Jajneswar 1 00/5 71.00 Palm Oil Coconut (Colombo) For vd & Allied Vegetable Ghee Zeal B ungla Sugar 1: 0/50 SPICES Onion((new) & Power Chillies Pharm & & Che :m Turmeric(Round) Bezimco Pt varma 10 0/5 173.40 Rahman Ch emicals 100 1/10 57.05 (+2.05)Green chillies Paper & Print ing Cinnamon* (10gms) Cardamom* (large) Miscellan cous Jhira (50gms) 10/1:00 . 9.95 MISCELLANEOUS • FV=Face Value, ML= Market Ghee

.. Changes: Plus signs mean

Dhaka to lose \$354m due to Gulf war

From Mahfuz Anam

1990 due to the sudden rise in

gotiations was another setback

and cause of dismay for the

the annual flow of remittances

were over two billion Dollars

for India and Pakistan, 800

million Dollars for Bangladesh.

1.3 billion Dollars for the

Philippines and 900 million

The impact of the Gulf war

will worsen the balance of

payment situation in most

countries of the ESCAP region.

The impact will be further

ESCAP region's economies, he

According to ESCAP survey,

SEOUL, Apr 6: Bangladesh oil exporting countries -Brunei, Darussalam, China, will suffer a loss of about 354 million US Dollars as a result Iran and Malaysia - all of of the Gulf war. The loss whom suffered minor losses includes 230 million Dollars in from exports, earned windfall remittances, 24 million Dollars profits to the tune of 3.7 bilin exports and about 100 million Dollars by Iran, 1.8 billion lion Dollars due to higher oil Dollars by Indonesia, 1.2 bilprices. This was revealed in a lion Dollars by China from survey report of Economic and higher oil prices that resulted Social Commission for Asia and from the war. the Pacific (ESCAP) for 1990. The impact of the crisis was

keenly felt by many countries The loss figures for some of the region at the end of other SAARC members countries are about 2.2 billion oil prices and disruption in Dollars for India, 656 million exports and tourism, said S. A. Dollars for Pakistan and 230 M. S. Kibria, the Executive million Dollars for Sri Lanka. Secretary of ESCAP. The ad-The actual figures could be journment of the Uruguay higher. Round of multilateral trade ne-

Bangladesh and the Philippines were the worst affected countries of the Gulf war, the survey said.

The total loss, suffered by eight countries of ESCAP. Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea. Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand - is estimated to be over seven billion Dollars in 1990. Of the seven billion Dollars, one billion Dollars are in exports, 1.5 billion Dollars in remittances and the rest 4.5 billion Dollars due to oil price like.

However, the region's five

worsened by a slowdown in economies of the world. Before the Gulf war the US economy registered one per cent rise in growth and consumer demand. The Canadian economy was already in recession by the third quarter of

Economic growth in Europe was slowing down as well. The growth rate of unified Germany in 1990 was expected to be only half than that of FRG in 1989. The economy of the United Kingdom marked sharp decline.

The loss of remittances is likely to have serious consequences for countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka where remittances contributed 60, 46 and 24 per cent respectively of their total foreign exchange for 1988. The most affected countries

of the Gulf war in the ESCAP region are likely to face serious difficulties in financing the expected increase in their current account deficits for 1990. An important reason being that access to foreign loans will be restricted for them because of their relatively huge external debts which amounted to 10.5 billion Dollars and 28.5 billion Dollars for Bangladesh and the Philippines respectively in



A craftsman carving the body of a harmonium - a musical instrument -most in demand in the market.

— Star photo

Rich becoming unable to fund LDCs: Japan

NAGOYA (Japan), Apr 6: A senior Japanese Finance Ministry official warned today that rich countries were becoming increasingly unable to meet the demand for funds in developing nations, reports

"We are today face to face with a dangerous gap between capital supply and capital demand," Vice Minister of Finance for International Affairs Makoto Utsumi told a seminar at the annual meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in

The warning follows last year's surge in Japanese interest rates and comes amid growing signs of annoyance at Japan being perceived as an endless source of development

Utsumi, an Alternate Governor to the IDB _ a

Price Barometer. Essentials

April- 6

(Taka per Kg)

33.00-35.00

22.00-24.00

24.00-26.00

16.00-18.00

50.00-60.00

80.00-90.00

52.00-54.00

32.00-33.00

40.00-41.00

64.00-68.00

40.00-52.00

14.00-16.00

24.00-32.00

52.00-60.00

40.00-44.00

42.00-48.00

16.00-20.00

20.00-24.00

220.00-230.00

18.00-20.00

3.00-3.50

3.50-4.00

7.00-7.50

(Taka)

(Taka Per kg)

(Taka per Kg)

(Taka per Litre)

ı	Aman (Very fine)	17.00-17.50
ı	Aman(fine)	14.50-15.00
ı	Paijam	13.00-14.00
ı	Ufshi	11.50-12.00
ı	VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)
ı	Potato(White)	3.00-3.50
ı	Brinjal	5.00-8.00
ı	Lady's finger	10.00-12.00
L	Karolla	10.00-12.00
ı	Lalshak	4.00-5.00
ı	Papya	5.00-6.00
ı	Green Banana (Four P	fieces) 5.00-8.00
۱	OTHER FOODGRAIN	(Taka per Kg)
ı	Flour	12.00-1400
1	Atta	10.00-11.00
ı	Wheat	8.50-9.00
ı	Suzi	18.00-20.00
ł	FISH	(Taka per kg)
۱	Ruhi(big)	130.00-150.00
١	Katla(big)	90.00-110.00
1	Hilsha	60.00-65.00
ı	Pangas	100.00-110.00
1	Shrimp(big)	80.00-90.00
ı	Singi	75.00-80
1	Koi	90.00-100.00
1	PULSES	(Taka per Kg)
ı	Mash	29.00-31.00
1	Mashar	26.00-28.00
		22 00 25 00

gain and (-) s igns losses. Source: Department of Agricultural Marketing D haka Stock Exchange Market Profile

Molasses

(Long)

April - 6 134 Listed stocks 122 Unchanged 4 Losers 8 Gains

122 Unchanged s. tocks include five traded on the day at the previous day's que ited prices. DSE All Share Price Ir idex = 355.4566 Issued Capital-Taka 4, 620,377,190.00 Market Capitalisation = 10,157,2632,657.00 Turnover = Taka 3,83,6 95.00 (Value) 4,114 (Volume).

Washington-based development bank for Latin American and the Caribbean - indicated

Dollars for Thailand.

imate needs of other areas. "The developing countries, including those in Asia and Latin America, all need massive infusions of capital for their development."

that most people were "paying

excess attention to the Gulf."

while ignoring the more legit-

"At the same time, we have another voracious mouth to fill in the countries of central and eastern Europe," he said . "And now we also have the problem of finding the capital needed for reconstruction in the Gulf region."

"Where is all this money to be found," Utsumi asked, noting that many of the traditional sources of capital were now drying up.

"The demands of unification have seemingly made it impossible for Germany to be much of a capital exporter any more, at least for some years to come. The oil-producing countries are also busy financing their own and their immediate neighbours' needs.

Utsumi added that new capital adequacy requirements on banks in Japan, the United States and Europe were posing an additional burden.

LONDON, Apr 6: The Soviet

Union's slow drift into politi-

cal and economic turmoil is

causing concern on commodity

markets worldwide, as it is a

major buyer of grain, sugar,

cocoa and coffee and key

supplier of gold, nickel and

platinum metals, reports

in commodity markets, ex-

largest importer of grain.

cepting oil, is as the world's

likely to be faced by grain

suppliers to the Soviet Union

are the breakdown in decision

making at the centre and a

chronic shortage of foreign ex-

change," said an analyst at a

change has almost halted im-

The lack of foreign ex-

Geneva-based grain house.

The country's foremost role

"The most critical problems

Reuter.

10,000 being trained for ME employment in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, Apr 6: About 10,000 skilled workers in the field of construction in Indonesia are now trained and ready to be dispatched to the Middle East countries to help them reconstruct facilities damaged in the recent Gulf war, reports Xinhua.

According to the Indonesia yesterday Times Soeramshihono head of the Manpower Ministry agency in charge of sending workers for overseas employment, told reporters in Jakarta on Wednesday night that the dispatch of Indonesian workers abroad, especially to Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries, is expected to run smoothly starting next month.

The dispatch of workers, especially formal workers to Saudi Araiba, can even boosted due to the increasing demand from the state-owned and private companies

Socramshihono also disclosed that after the end of the Gulf war, or from March 14 through 31, Indonesia has sent 700 workers, mostly formal ones, to various fields to Saudi Arabia 40 workers in the field of bank administration and 120 drivers are now under process to be dispatched soon in phase to Saudi Arabia, he

commodity markets

ports of soluble coffee, which

had been rising rapidly in

comparison to traditional

shipments of green coffee, the

shipments would have a lim-

ited effect on world prices,

because most green coffee is

purchased under inter-gov-

ernment agreement rather

back in the 160-170,000

tonnes of cocoa the Soviets buy

annually could have a very sig-

nificant effect on prices, a

trader at the same trade house

of cocoa supply over demand

would be transformed into a

very significant surplus," he

"A very small world surplus

In comparison, a sharp cut-

than on the free market.

But further disruption of

analyst said.

Kuwait may open door to foreign banks ABU DHABI, Apr 6: Kuwait teed rights and assets of de-

may allow foreign commercial banks to operate in the Emirate by next year, a senior Kuwaiti official said in a report published here Thursday, reports AFP.

"The need for a more open monetary system and banking and for competition has now been recognised," Sheikh Salem Abdel Aziz Saud al-Sabah, Kuwait's Central Bank governor, told the United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper Gulf News.

He said permission for foreign banks to operate was part of plans to restore the efficiency of the banking system.

"It should be possible to allow foreign commercial banks to establish their presence here from mid-1992," he said.

Kuwait, which is reinstating a banking and monetary system severely damaged by seven months of Iraqi occupation, did not allow foreign banks to do business there before the invasion as other Gulf states

Iraqi invaders are thought to have removed gold bars worth 950 million Dollars, currency notes totaling a billion Dollars and gold and silver coins of several million Dollars.

Kuwaiti authorities, in regulatory measures after the liberation of the country in February, issued a new Dinar to replace the old currency, guaran-Soviet turmoil to affect

The reaction of commodity

markets supplied by the Soviet

Union would depend on

traders' perception of how

long a supply disruption would

last and the size of reserves,

said precious metals analyst

Andy Smith at Union Bank of

difference to the continuous

dripfeed of bad news that's

If there was firm evidence

coming out of the Soviet

of large-scale economic dis-

ruption, he said he would ex-

pect platinum group metal

(PGM) prices, including palla-

more sensitive than gold.

dium and rhodium, to be

Soviet Union is a key producer

Among the base metals, the

"There is a threshold of in-

Switzerland (UBS).

Union," he said

of nickel.

positor and placed a limit of 4,000 Kuwaiti Dinars (about 13,800 Dollars) per month on cash withdrawals by individu-

Plan to boost coffee farming in India

AGARTALA, Apr 6: With the availability of limited land in the traditional coffee-growing areas of southern India, coffee cultivation is now poised for a great leap in the north-eastern region, reports PTI.

The coffee board has recently formulated a scheme to boost coffee cultivation in nontraditional areas, according to official sources here.

Till now, 6,879 hectares have been brought under coffee cultivation in the seven north eastern states.

Besides availability of land, the sources point out, agroclimatic conditions are also favourable for coffee cultivation in this region. Suitable temperature, well-distributed rainfall and proper elevation are conductive for the growth of coffee shrubs.

India earned Rs 359 crore in foreign exchange in 1989-90 by exporting coffee.

April- 6 (Taka for 11.66 grams) 6,000.00 Tejabi 6,300.00 Gutnea Source: Department of Agricultural Marketing (Hides & Skin (Wet/Salted) April- 6 (Taka per100 pieces) 15,000.00 - 18,500.00 28,000.00 - 34,500.00 - 45,000.00 40,000.00 -- 60,000.00 50,000.00 -- 70,000.00 65,000.00 -- 30,000.00 25,000.00

Rejected Big & - 14,000.00 12,000.00 7,500.00 7,000.00 Medium 3,500.00 3,000.00 Rejected 10,000.00 9,000.00 60,000.00 55,000.00 Source: Department of Agricultural Marketing

Exchange Rates April- 6

SELLING AND BUYING RATES, offered by Commercials Banks, for Bank Cheques, (BCs) and Overseas Drafts (ODs)

Selling	Buying
35.9226	35.4432
63.8491	63.0892
21.5170	21.2235
a ONTO CASCILIO NOTO IL	
6.3462	6.2593
9.6101	9.4819
19.0925	18.8277
1.5598	1.5499
20.1710	19.2018
9.8141	The second secon
Not available	
1.8050	1.7879
5.9463	5.8622
ary Union	
	63.8491 21.5170 6.3462 9.6101 19.0925 1.5598 20.1710 9.8141 N

. The rates of Pound Sterling are decided every day, based on the crossrates of New York market

EC may fund health complex project

Star Economic Report

As part of the 4th Popula tion and Health Project presently being prepared by the government with the assis tance of many donors in World Bank-led consortium the Commission of the European Communities (EC) considers funding a project enti tled 'Functional Improvemen of Upazila Health Complexes".

In order to prepare the project in close consultation with the services of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, a preparatory expert mission has been fielded by the Commission for a period of three weeks since mid-March this year. Led by Doctors Zahidul Haque and Jaap Hamel, the 5-man team includes experts on, inter alia, health care, nutrition, mother and child care, training and hospital management, and planning in the health and family welfare sector. They will visit prospective project sites around the country, and mee all relevant officials and other concerned parties.

It is expected that the results of this mission will con tribute to the negotiations between the government, the World Bank and the Commis sion of the European Commu nities which are scheduled to take place in Washington later

Call money market

Star Economic Report Money rates in the Call money market during the week ended April 3, 199 ranged from 10 per cent 12 per cent. During the same week interest rates offered by the bank on Certificate of Deposits varied from 10 per cent to 14.50 per cent. The bank rate, however

remained unchanged at 9.75 per cent.

1,000 plants distributed BARISAL, Apr 6: Barisal

district administration recently distributed a total of 1,000 plants among the 40 cocoon farmers of Babugan upazila of Barisal district, re ports BSS.

The farmers will cultivate cocoon on the bank of the Dighi Durgasagar of the district this season, cocoon was supplied to the farmers from

Raw Jute

Kutcha balcs FOB * Narayanganj/Daulatpur Varieties (Tk. per 100 Kg) White Tossa Meshta Modeum 1202 1500 1105

Pucca	ba	les F	OB	FOB				
Bot. = Bottom								
• FOB = Freight on board • Bot. = Bottom Pucca bales FOB FOB								
Bot.	(X)	1072	1125	857				
			1286	1045				
		1340		1098				
		1393	1500	1125				

2650

1650

1300

1750

1400

1250

1450

1300

1600

1500

1950

1900

1800

1600

1125

Mongla Ports. Indicative Price

at wihch sales may be consi-

The \$ prices are exclusive of

any selling commision. O. D.

(Sight nontraditional/appli

cable to export bills). One \$ =

Imports/arrivals of Kutcha

bales at Narayanganj were

mounds while at Daulatpur at

six to seven thousands

mounds. (One manuad is equal

to 37.32417 KGs.)
Source: Bangladesh Jule Association

to eight thousand

FOB ready = Narayanganj

** FOB sight = Chittagong/

dered for EPC registration.

SPL Cuttings 1000

Ord. Cuttings 900

Tk. 35.4956)

MT = Metric Ton

White Rejection (WRS)/

Tossa Rejection (TRS)

Habijabi, Cut Ropes

Varieties

Bangla

White

BWD

BWE

Bangla

Tossa

BTA

BTB

BTE

BTR

BTH

BCR

Cutting

BWCA

BWCB

BTCA

BICB

Meshta

White/Tossa

BT SPL

BW SPL

420

290

220

300

230

235

220

250

235

355

345

295

200

Ist Japanese commodity brokerage house

TOKYO, Apr 6 : Okato Shoji Co. Ltd has become the first

Japanese commodity brokerage house to set up a money management subsidiary, a company spokesman said, reports Reuter. Okato investment manage-

ment, established on April 1, will manage the parent firm's investments in the local commodity markets and overseas futures markets, including gold, he said.

The company will manage capital in various investment instruments, from local commodity markets to futures markets overseas. It is an important step toward getting into the commodity found business, the spokesman said.

Dollar ends mostly higher in US

NEW YORK, Apr 6: The dollar ended sharply higher against European currencies after worse than expected US jobs data drove it down only temporarily, reports Reuter.

The dollar managed smaller gains against the yen and pulled back slightly against the Canadian dollar. Several traders said a ru-

moured two billion dollar order from European fund managers to buy dollars against the Mark was mainly responsible for the turnabout,

Oil demand to rise in demand from the 1990 LONDON, Apr 6: Increased

demand in newly industrialised Asian nations will help raise world oil needs by half a per cent this year to 65.9 million barrels per day (BPD), after zero growth in 1990, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said, reports Reuter.

At the same time output from the Soviet Union, the world's largest producer, is expected to fall by six per cent in 1991 to 535 million tonnes, or 10.9 million barrels per day(BPD), the Paris-based agency said in its monthly oil market report.

The newly industrialised Asian countries, outside the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), will account for most of the 200,000 BPD increase level, the IEA said.

Demand in 1991 from the 24 industrialised members of the OECD is expected to stay unchanged from 1990s' 37.5 million BPD.

But within the OECD, increases from Europe will be offset by a decline in demand from North America.

The OECD European countries are expected to need 12.9 million BPD this year compared with 12.6 million in 1990, while the OECD North American region is expected to see a 300,000 BPD fall to 18.6 million. Demand from the Pacific countries of the OECD is expected to stay level at six million BPD.

The non-OECD Asian countries' demand is expected to increase to 5.7 million BPD in

1991 from 5.3 million last

In the Soviet Union, falling economic activity is expected to resulting in demand for oil declining to eight million BPD in 1991 from 8.4 million in 1990, and one million below the 1986 and 1987 peak.

Unofficial estimates of production in January and February showed Soviet output running at 11 million BPD, which was down eight to nine per cent on the first quarter of The 11.5 million BPD (570

million tonnes) produced in 1990 comprised 11 million **US Dollar** BPD (550 million tonnes) of **UK Pound** crude oil and 500,000 BPD (20 million tonnes) of condensates and natural gas liquids, accord-Source: Sonalt Bank ing to the report by the IEA.

Wage Earners Fund/ Export Performance Benefit (XPB) Fund Selling

64.53

Snippets

for India WASHINGTON, Apr 6: The International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's concessionary lending affiliate, announced Thursda it had approved a 307.1 mil lion dollar loan to India, re

\$307m IDA loan

ports AFP. The credit was tagged to expand capacity in the polytechnic system and improve training of civil, mechanical electrical, computer and electronics engineers, a Bank statement said.

Special assistance loan from ADB

MANILA, Apr 6: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said it will grant a 150 million dollar special loan to India to help alleviate economic difficulties brought about by the Gulf ertsis, reports Reuter.

The loan, to be made to the India Oil Corp and guaranteed by the Indian government, is for 20 years with a grace period of four years. Interest will be determined in accordance with the ADB's pool-based variable lending rate system, it

Proceeds from the loan will be used to import diesel inputs to minimise disruption to industrial production, it said.

Talks on Brazil's debt arrear payments NEW YORK, Apr 6: A talks

between Brazil and international commercial banks aimed at reaching agreement on payment of interest arrears of eight billion dollars will continue next week, a source close to the talks said, reports Reuter. The agreement has not

been reached yet," the source said. We had expected it to be reached by this weekend, but the negotiations continues." "We expect to have further

meetings here in New York on Monday," he added. In March, Brazil paid 350.8 million dollars on its bank debt, the first payment on its 60 billion dollars in medium and long term debt since July 1989.

OPEC output edges up

LONDON, Apr 6: Oil output by OPEC countries rose to 23.2 million barrels per day (BPD) in March, up from 23.0 million in February, the International Energy Agency (IEA) monthly oil market report released on Friday said, reports Reuter. The Paris-based energy

monitoring group for the western industrialized countrics said the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries output in the first quarter of 1991 averaged 23.1 million BPD, unchanged from the fourth quarter of 1990.

US airlift of supplies to Iraqi refugees hailed

WASHINGTON, Apr 6 Shi'ite Iraqi opposition leader Saad Jaber on Friday welcome President George Bush's decision to airlift supplies and blankets to refugees in northern Iraq, reports AFP. Jaber, President of the

London-based Free Iraq Council, said after meeting with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East, David Mack that he was 'very moved and happy to see that a major superpower like the United States is taking such an extreme interest in alleviating a very, very tragic sit-

Mack, he said, had outlined the measures Washington had decided on to aid Iraqi civil-