

Japan gives Tk 198 crore as grant

Bangladesh will receive Japanese grant of 6.93 billion yen equivalent to about Tk 198 crore under two separate exchange of notes signed in Dhaka Thursday, reports UNB.

Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Toshio Saiki and Additional Secretary of the Economic Relations Division (ERD) AMM Shawkat Ali signed the notes on behalf of their respective governments.

Under the first exchange of notes Japan will provide 6.21 billion yen equivalent to Tk 177.4 crore as grant assistance for Debt Relief for the second half of the fiscal year 1991, said a press release of the Japanese Embassy in Dhaka.

This grant is the 15th of its kind which will be utilised by the government for importing essential industrial raw materials, machineries, spare parts and fertilizer, as agreed between the two governments.

The grant is provided as "United Commodity Aid" for purchasing commodities and equipment. It also contributes in mitigating the international balance of payment problems of the recipient country.

Under the second exchange of notes Bangladesh will receive a grant assistance of 723 million yen equivalent to Tk 20.6 crore which will be utilised by the LGRD Ministry for the model rural development project in Homna and Daudkandi upazilas of Comilla district.

An integrated rural development master plan was taken up in these upazilas for constructing rural infrastructure, increasing job opportunities, encouraging irrigated agriculture and strengthening farmers' organisations to alleviate poverty.

The programme also includes construction and improvement of roads and bridges, re-excavation of

canals, provisions for low lift pumps and installation of pipe lines for deep tubewells, training facilities in the upazila central cooperative associations and fertilizer godown.

The projects to be implemented in three phases over a period of three years are expected to start by next March or April.

ATAB team leaves for Jakarta

A 41-member team of the Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (ATAB) left Dhaka on Wednesday for Jakarta to attend its eighth marketing conference which began in the Indonesian capital Thursday, reports BSS.

Headed by ATAB president Dr H B M Iqbal, the team will exchange views and experiences on travel trade with their counterparts in Indonesia and explore how best the tourism between the two countries could be promoted.

During the four-day stay there, the team will discuss issues related to bilateral travel trade with leaders of Association of the Indonesian Travel Agents (AITA). It will also exchange opinions with other travel related organisations like Phri, Putri, Garuda and Dityenpar.

The ATAB team, on way back home will discuss the same issues with leaders of Tourist Promotion Board in Singapore.

It will also meet the leaders of Association of Thai Travel Agents (ATA) and discuss the promotion of mutual travel trade.

The team, among others, includes Vice President of ATAB Firoz Ahmed, Assistant Secretary General Abul Khair, central and zonal leaders and members of the association.



Japanese Ambassador Toshio Saiki and Additional Secretary of ERD Dr AMM Shawkat Ali signing an exchange note on Japanese grant for Bangladesh Thursday. —PID photo



The 41-member ATAB team, headed by its President Dr H B M Iqbal, at ZIA on Wednesday before leaving for Jakarta.

China foresees lower GDP

BEIJING, Dec 26: Premier Li Peng has warned the Chinese economy could overheat in 1992 and fuel inflation, reports AFP.

Li was cited by the official Xinhua news agency as saying Wednesday that China was aiming for a Gross National Product of 5.5 per cent in 1992, against seven per cent this year.

However, economic forecasts indicate "the possibility of overheated economic development," the agency quoted him as saying.

The Premier, speaking after a meeting Tuesday of China's state council, said China should control its retail price index, which is not expected to exceed four per cent this year, at around six per cent in 1992.

This year, many economists have warned the government to be on the alert against renewed overheating and have expressed their concerns about inflationary pressures.

However, the Premier confirmed the official end of the austerity programme which was launched in late 1988 to fight an inflation rate of more than 20 per cent.

The basic tasks [of economic rectification] have been completed," Li said.

The main objective next year is to assure a bumper grain harvest, the Premier said.

He said the harvest this year would equal 1990's record of 435 million tonnes, despite severe flooding which destroyed millions of tonnes of grain.

This is the highest prediction a Chinese leader has made for this year's grain harvest. Previous estimates have said the harvest would fall to around 425 million tonnes.

China needs to increase its grain harvest each year in order to feed its rapidly growing population.

Li has emphasised the need to expand China's economic opening up to the outside world and to improve the country's industrial performance.

Rly station for Jamuna Fertilizer inaugurated

The 485th railway station of Bangladesh Railway was opened at Tarakandi, near Jamuna Fertilizer Factory, Jamalpur district Wednesday, reports BSS.

LRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder formally inaugurated the new railway station and unveiled its plaque.

Member of parliament Rahima Khandker and Secretary of Railway Division and Director General of Bangladesh Railway Nurul Momen Khan also addressed the inaugural function.

The Tarakandi railway station has been completed in less than six months at a total cost of Taka 86 lakh 50 thousands. The station has the capacity of loading and offloading 80 to the hundred wagons daily. The station has stoppage facilities for mail, express and local trains.

The new railway station has been built with the main purpose of feeding the Jamuna Fertilizer Factory, particularly in the transportations of gas-fertiliser produced in the factory.

Speaking on the occasion, the LRD Minister said that the government was trying to promote the country's communications network with a view to strengthening the productive and economic activities.

'Cooperative best method to raise farm output'

Law and Justice Minister Mirza Gohar Hafiz Thursday called for strengthening cooperative movement to build economic infrastructure of the country, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating Gulshan branch of Pioneer Credit Cooperative Society Limited in Dhaka.

Stressing the need for boosting national economy on self-help basis, he said we must reduce dependence on foreign financial assistance.

He said cooperative is the best method for increasing agricultural production in view of too much fragmentation of land holdings. Cooperative credit venture is a new idea in our country, which the Minister viewed should be spread over to villages to extend credit facility to the doorsteps of rural cooperatives.

Tk 22 cr schemes to develop Ctg town

CHITTAGONG, Dec 26: Chittagong City Corporation has undertaken 156 projects at cost of Taka 22.12 crore for overall development of the port city, reports BSS.

The projects ranging from reconstruction of roads to market development will be executed in phases.

Addressing a press conference at the corporation's conference room this morning, the City Mayor Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin said, the projects were being implemented on priority basis.

Reconstruction of roads, culverts, bridges, community latrines, development of health centres at different wards and re-excavation of Chaktai Canal are among the priority projects.

The Mayor said that 723 small projects had also been taken up in 41 wards of the corporation and of them 84 were being executed at a cost of Taka 12.10 crore.

He said, another 126 small projects had been completed under Food for Work Programme. Four hundred metric tons of wheat were allocated for those projects. The Mayor further said, CCC had also undertaken still another 539 small projects under Food for Work Programmes for which 170 metric tons of wheat had been allocated.

The corporation under its Relief and Rehabilitation Programme spent Taka 11.50 lakh as gratuitous relief. Taka 57 lakh as house building grants and Taka 30 lakh for repairing educational institutions.

The corporation distributed 5990 bundles of CI sheets and 8845 pieces of sares among the cyclone and tidal surge affected people. Besides, 28,646 distressed families were given 41 kg of edible oil per month. Each of the 30 distressed women was also given 31.25 kg of wheat.

The Mayor also listed the development projects being implemented or to be implemented in near future. They are Chaktai Canal Digging — Taka 9.17 crore, construction of roads — Taka 55 crore, procurement of 46 vehicles under environment project, development of TCB market at Sholoshahar, Jamboree Field into children's park and a mini park around local circuit house, reconstruction of 12 educational institutions with Saudi grant of Taka 50 lakh and improvement of 18 charitable dispensaries.

He said, a development committee comprising political leaders and eminent citizens had been constituted to select the priority projects.

Nasiruddin appealed to the citizens for their wholehearted cooperation to the corporation in executing the massive development projects taken up by the corporation.

The Mayor regretted that a section of people were resorting to strike and hartal ignoring implementation of massive uplift projects for overall development of the city.

He urged them to help create a congenial atmosphere for execution of the development projects. "Chittagong is to incur a loss of about Taka 300 crore during one day hartal or strike," he said.

Computer society executives

M Anisur Rahman Khan and Dr. Sayed Mahbubur Rahman were elected Wednesday President and General Secretary of a 16-member committee of Bangladesh Computer Society, reports BSS.

Khan and two Vice-Presidents of the Committee were elected unopposed for the next term, a press release of the Society said in Dhaka Wednesday night.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Dec 26, 1991

Market Profile

135 Listed Stocks

5 Gains 7 losers 123 Unchanged

123 unchanged stocks include 8 traded on the day at its previous quoted prices.

DSE All Share Price Index = 296.2652

Market Capitalisation = 8,473,500,997

Turnover = Taka 282269.50 (Value) 5294 (Volume).

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
BANKS (10)	
Al. Baraka Bank	1000/11070.00
A.B. Bank	100/5 177.00
City Bank	100/5 270.00
IF.C.B.	100/5 180.00
Islami Bank	1000/11320.00
National Bank	100/5 104.00
Pubali Bank	100/5 100.00
Rupali Bank	100/10 86.00
U.C.B.L.	100/5 120.00
Uttara Bank	100/5 190.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
INVESTMENT (08)	
1st ICB M.Fund	100/5 93.50
2nd ICB M.Fund	100/5 345.00
3rd ICB M.Fund	100/5 150.00
4th ICB M.Fund	100/5 128.00
5th ICB M.Fund	100/10 123.00
6th ICB M.Fund	100/10 90.00
ICB Unit Cert.	100/10 66.00
Sales Price	116.00
Re-purchase	111.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
INSURANCE (04)	
BIGC	100/10 105.00
Green Delta	100/10 113.00
Peoples	100/10 120.00
United	100/10 126.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
ENGINEERING (19)	
Alfa Automobiles	100/5 182.00
Atlas Bangladesh	10/5041.00XDD
Azra Pipes	100/5 245.00
Bangladesh Autocore	100/5 70.00
Bangladesh Lamps	105/5 235.00
B.Thal Aluminium	100/10 85.00
Bengal Carbide	100/5 220.00
Bengal Steel	10/50 18.00
Eastern Cable	100/5 85.00
Howader PVC	100/10 99.00
Karim Pipe	100/5 133.00
Metalex Corp.	100/5 120.00
Megno Staffers	10/5 200.00
Mono Jute	100/5 240.00
National Tubes	100/10 122.00
Panther Steel	10/50 6.00
Quasem Drycells	100/5 7.51
Remwick Jajneswar	10/5 85.00
Singer Bangladesh	100/5 700.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
FOOD & ALLIED (21)	
A.B. Biscuit	100/5 180.00
Alpha Tobacco	100/5 48.00
Aman Sea Food	100/5 36.00
Apex Food	100/5 450.00
Aroma Tea	100/5 70.00
Bangra	100/5 155.00
B.D. Plantation	100/5 250.00
Bengal Food	100/5 115.00
B.L.T.C.	100/5 900.00
Cig. Vegetable	10/50 41.00
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5 148.40
E.L. Camelia	100/5 1000.00
Frogleg Export	10/50 4.50
Gemini Sea Food	100/15 100.00
Hill Plantation	100/5 300.00
Modern Industries	100/5 160.00
N.T.C.	100/5 280.04
Rabeya Flour	10/100 NT
Rupan Oil	10/100 6.30
Tulip Dairy	100/10 95.00
Yousaf Flour	10/50 NT
Zest Bangla Sugar	10/50 12.04

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
PAPER & PRINTING (06)	
Eagle Box	10/50 33.44
Monosopul	100/5 104.50
Paper Converting	100/5 115.00
Paper Processing	100/10 75.00
Padma Printers	10/50 50.00
Sonali Paper	10/50 50.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
SERVICE (02)	
Bangladesh Hotel	10/50 12.00
Bd. Service	10/50 NT

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
TEXTILE (16)	
Alhaj Textile	10/50 NT
Arbee Textile	100/10 NT
Ashraf Textile	10/50 38.14
Chand Textile	10/50 NT
Chand Spinning	10/50 NT
Deah Garments	100/10 60.00
Dulamine Cotton	100/10 105.00
Eagle Star	10/50 13.00
G.M.C. Ind. Corp.	10/50 35.00
Modern Dyeing	10/50 4.00
Quasem Silk	10/50 6.00
Quasem Textile	10/50 8.00
Rahim Textile	100/5 57.00
Satham Textile	100/10 70.00
S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5 50.00
Stylecraft	100/5 100.00
Swan Textile	100/5 90.00
Talhu Spinning	100/10 113.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
MISCELLANEOUS (14)	
Apex Tannery	100/5 196.29
Aramit	10/50 NT
Bata Shoe	10/100 35.50
Beximco	100/5 9.25
B.S.C.	100/5 50.00
Chittagong Cement	100/5 223.50
G. Q. Ball Pen	10/50 50.00
Himadri Ltd.	10/100 6.00
Milton Tannery	100/5 27.00
Mono Ceramic	100/5 141.92
Phoenix Leather	100/5 90.00
Savar Refractories	100/5 112.00
The Engineers	100/5 100.00
Umanita Glass	100/5 231.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
DEBENTURES (04)	
Apex Tannery	1000/1 985.00
(17% 1992)	
Bengal Food	900/1 945.00
(18.5% 1992)	
Beximco	2500/ 217.00
Beximco Pharma	1571/1 140.00
(17% 1997)	
Quasem Silk	2000/1 1665.50
(17% 1994)	

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
FUEL & POWER (03)	
Padma Oil Co.	10/50 40.00
Eastern Lubricant	10/50 14.00
Oxygen	10/50 47.00

Company	FV/M.L.Tk
JUTE (12)	
Abad Jute	100/10 NT
Ansara Jute	10/50 NT
Delta Jute	10/50 8.50
Gawala Jute	10/50 NT
Islam Jute	100/5 75.00

Kenwick Jaineswar	100/5	85.00	Rahim Textile	100/5	57
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	700.00	Satham Textile	100/10	70
			S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5	50
			Stylecraft	100/5	100

Alpha Tobacco	100/5	180.00	Swan Textile	100/5	60.
Aman Sea Food	10/50	48.00	Tailu Spinning	100/10	113.
Apex Food	100/5	36.00			
Apex Food	100/5	450.00			
Apex Food	100/5	20.00			

MISCELLANEOUS (14)

Apex Tannery	100/5	198.00
Aramit	10/50	35.00
Bata Shoe	10/100	9.00
Beximco	10/100	9.00

B.T.C.	100/5	500.00	B.S.C.	100/5	500.00
B.T.C.	10/50	41.00	Chittagong Cement	100/5	223.00
Ctg. Vegetable	100/10	85.00	G. Q. Ball Pen	10/50	50.00
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5	146.40	Himadri Ltd.	10/100	60.00

E.L. Camera	100/5	100.00			
Frogg Export	10/50	4.50	Milon Tannery	100/5	27.00
Gemini Sea Food	100/15	100.00	Monno Ceramic	100/5	141.00
Hill Plantation	100/5	300.08	Phoenix Leather	100/5	90.00
Modern Industries	100/5	160.00		100/5	110.00