

IDB team due today

A seven-member high-level Islamic Development Bank (IDB) delegation headed by its Vice-President (Finance) Fuad Abdullah al-Omar arrives in Dhaka today (Friday) on a five-day visit to Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The team will examine bottlenecks in economic development programmes, plans and priorities of the govt and assess how best the IDB can contribute in the achievement of the country's objectives, an IDB source said.

IDB has been actively participating, the economic development of Bangladesh and to-date its total financing to the country amounts to US dollar 739.81 million (Taka 2960 crore), the source added.

The other members of the delegation are: Four Executive Directors of the Board of IDB, Ambassador Youssif Abdul Latif al-Sirkal (UAE), Prof Korkut Ozal (Turkey), Hajj Junaid bin Hajj Hashim (Brunei), Lamine Diouf (Senegal) and two senior IDB officials, Farook Uz Zaman and Dr Abdul Aziz Jalloh.

Renwick gives 15 pc dividend

By Staff Correspondent

Renwick, Jaineswar & Co declared 15 per cent dividend for shareholders for 1990-91 in its annual general meeting held in Dhaka on Tuesday. It earned a profit of Tk 64 lakh 51 thousand in the period.

Wasq-al-Azad, Chairman, Bangladesh Sugar & Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Renwick presided over the AGM. A Haris Chowdhury was elected director from amongst the shareholders.

Renwick, the only engineering industry of BSFIC, was turned into a holding company in Oct, 1988.

It manufactures spare and components of sugar mills and repair trailers.

JB asked to speed up loan recovery

By Staff Correspondent

State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman Thursday made a surprise visit to Janata Bank head office in Dhaka.

The State Minister in a meeting with the bank management asked for speedy recovery of outstanding loans.

The management told the Minister that over 600 cases involving about Tk 20 crore outstanding loans were under process till Dec 31, 1991.

Tk 15 cr more for dist 'core buildings'

A meeting of the National Implementation Committee for Administration Reforms (NICAR) with Prime Minister Begum Khalesa Za in the chair Thursday directed the authority concerned to expedite construction work of the 'core buildings' in districts and make them functional, reports BSS.

The meeting, held at the International Conference Centre, allocated an additional fund of Taka 15 crore for completion of the work in the current financial year.

The meeting approved the proposed site for construction of a 200-bed hospital in Brahmanbaria at the old hospital and Collectorate Building premises. The hospital will be built with World Bank (WB) assistance.

The NICAR meeting made further allocation of Taka 12 crore to various projects of Bangladesh police.

It also allocated Taka four crore for construction of four District Judge Court buildings at Panchagarh, Lakshimpur, Sherpur and Shariatpur.

The meeting was attended by ministers, cabinet secretary, principal secretary to the Prime Minister and secretaries concerned and other senior officials.

Kajal makes first winter trip

By Staff Correspondent

The first winter season trip of river cruise ship 'ICT Kajal' took place Thursday. The ship has a capacity of 200 passengers with air conditioned cabins for 24 persons.

The trip was inaugurated by the Chairman of Mathematics Department, Dhaka University, Prof AFM Khoda Dad Khan. The Chairman of the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) Faruq Alam was present on the occasion.

Corporations, public utilities lost Tk 2003 cr in '90-91

Star Economic Report

The losses incurred by the public sector corporations and other public utility and service agencies increased in 1990-91 by over 460 per cent compared to 1982-83.

During 1982-83, these corporations and agencies suffered losses of Taka 353.18 crore. The losses shot up to Taka 2003 crore in 1990-91. The total losses by these sectors in the 1982-1991 period grossed over Taka nine thousand crore.

Of the total amount, the corporations alone suffered losses of Taka 6574 crore.

Bangladesh Railway suffered Taka 944 crore, and Bangladesh Post Office suffered Taka 197 crore. The government had to spend another Taka 1388 crore as subsidies for Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) during this time. Among the corporations, Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) topped the list of losses. BJMC suffered a loss of Taka 1323 crore. Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC's) loss amounted to Taka 193 crore during the period. Bangladesh Power

Development Board (BPDB) suffered a loss of Taka 2699 crore.

In addition, the government had to spend another Taka 709 crore as subsidies for various corporations.

The losses by the corporations and agencies were Taka 353 crore in 1982-83, Taka 432 crore in 1983-84, Taka 603 crore in 1984-85, Taka 951 crore in 1985-86, Taka 733 in 1986-87, Taka 1115 crore in 1987-88, Taka 1112 crore in 1988-89, Taka 1799 crore in 1989-90 and 2003 crore in 1990-91.



Azizul Haq inaugurating the terry towel manufacturing unit.

CIRDAP to discuss broader role

The eighth regular meeting of the governing council of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) will be held in Colombo on January 9 and 10, according to official sources in Dhaka, reports BSS.

Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, will attend the meeting. Ministers and secretaries of the CIRDAP member countries will discuss, among other things, how to enhance CIRDAP activities in the region.

The meeting will be preceded by a meeting of the executive committee of the CIRDAP. Additional Secretary in charge of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, AHM Abdul Hye, will attend the meeting of the executive committee and later join the governing council meeting.

Delegates from CIRDAP member nations — Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam will review the activities of CIRDAP, the inter-governmental organisation with its headquarters in Dhaka.

They are expected to take decisions to further invigorate the activities of the institution in alleviating the sufferings of people in the rural areas in the region.

A T Shamsul Haq, Director of the CIRDAP, will attend the two meetings with other officials of the organisation.

The governing council meeting will also consider the programme of work and budget of CIRDAP for the year 1992-93.

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Farakka impact: 23 rivers and 100 haors silting up

PABNA, Jan 2: At least 23 rivers and 100 haors in 14 north-south and western districts of the country are being silted up due mainly to the adverse effects of Farakka, reports UNB.

The rivers are Padma, Jamuna, Chitkney, Baral, Atrai, Gorat, Madhumoti, Haringhata, Kumar, Rupsha, Bhairab, Chitra, Kalganga, Panguchi, Betraboti, Kapatakhra, Begoli, Mukhtiswar, Kholpatua, Uetna and Kakshali.

These rivers are flowing

through Pabna, Sirajgonj, Natore, Rajshahi, Chapal Nawabgonj, Kushtia, Shaikhira Khulna, Bagherhat, Jessore, Narail, Magura, Jhenedah, Chudanga and Meherpur districts.

Due to the accumulation of silt these rivers lost their depth in course of time and at present can not hold much of water during rainy season. As a result the bank of the rivers easily overflowed causing frequent flash flood.

On the other hand, after the

rainy season these rivers dry up quickly and due to shortage of water irrigation facilities are hampered greatly.

Of about 25 lakh acres of cultivable land of greater Pabna and Rajshahi districts only two lakh acres have been brought under irrigation facilities.

Local experts said, if excavation and other necessary measures are not taken up immediately these rivers will be silted up gradually which will affect the ecology of the country.

Better technology for development urged

Dr M A Zabbar, Director of Research and Development, Maxtore Singapore Ltd, Thursday laid emphasis on procuring high technology and applying it in Bangladesh for development, reports BSS.

He was addressing a seminar titled 'Globalization of technology: Where do we stand' at the seminar room of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB).

Zabbar based in Singapore, referred to the extensive use of high-technology worldwide and said Bangladesh would have to compete with other countries of the world only through using high-technology.

The government should not run any industrial unit, he said advocating all industrial units

to be run by the private sector. Zabbar emphasised the growth of small scale industries for social progress and suggested for removal of procedural problems in setting up small industries.

He also laid stress on creating favourable environment for attracting foreign investment in Bangladesh.

Zabbar said local engineers and experts should be fully utilised in achieving industrial progress.

Presided over by Dr Anwar Hossain, President IEB, the seminar was addressed, among others, by Dr Nurul Islam, a Professor of BUET and Ruhul Matin, honorary General Secretary of IEB.

BADC to sink 1609 pumps, 25 DTWs, 184 STWs in 8 dists

BARISAL, Jan 2: Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) has taken up a programme to install 1,609 power-pumps and 25 deep and 184 shallow tubewells in eight southern districts under Barisal Circle during the current IRRI-boro season, reports BSS.

The districts are: Barisal, Jhalakati, Pirojpur, Bhola, Patuakhali, Barguna, Madaripur and Shariatpur.

According to an official source, 25 deep and 118 shallow

tubewells will be installed in Madaripur and 66 shallow tubewells in Shariatpur. Of the total power-pumps, 373 will be installed in Barisal district, 43 in Jhalakati, 274 in Pirojpur, 221 in Bhola, 256 in Patuakhali, 160 in Barguna, 231 in Madaripur and 52 in Shariatpur districts.

Meanwhile, 450 power-pumps and three deep and 28 shallow tubewells have been commissioned in these districts.

Indian sarees recovered in B'baria

BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 2: Police seized smuggled Indian sarees worth about Tk 1.64 lakh from an engine boat near Maripur area in Nasirnagar upazila of the district, reports UNB.

On a secret information, police raided the boat plying in the river Titas recently and recovered 455 pieces of sarees from the boat.

The boatman was arrested. The contraband was handed over to the local Customs Department and a case was lodged in this connection.

Indian sarees burnt in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 2: Weavers, campaigning against use of foreign goods, burnt huge quantity of Indian sarees at a village of Sudar upazila Thursday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said more than 300 weavers brought out a procession at village Saadabad shouting slogans like boycott Indian goods, use domestic products.

The processionists burned to ashes about 100 Indian sarees collected from different houses.

Earlier, they held a rally which was addressed, among others, by local Union Parishad chairman and members.



Khoda Dad Khan inaugurating the first winter trip by Kajal. Faruk Alam was present.

Terry towel plant opens

By Staff Correspondent

An export-oriented terry towel manufacturing plant was inaugurated at BSIC Industrial Estate, Manikganj on Jan 1 by Azizul Haq MP, Chairman of Rupali Bank Ltd. The plant is funded by Rupali Bank under ADB credit line.

The 20-100m unit will produce 1,20,500 dozen towels per year and employ 56 people. The plant is expected to earn 3.5 lakh US dollar yearly.

In the inaugural speech, Aziz stressed the need for timely repayment of bank loans to facilitate industrialisation.

Tongibari growth centre work begins

By Staff Correspondent

TONGIBARI (Munshiganj), Jan 2: Food Minister M Shamsul Islam Wednesday inaugurated the construction work of a growth centre connecting road from Betka to Tongibari, reports UNB.

An amount of Taka eight lakh will be spent for the 3.5 kilometre road from Betka to Tongibari providing for easier transportation of locally produced commodities upon completion of the project.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth No.	Name of Vessel	Last Port	Local Agent	Date Arrival	Date Leaving
J/2	Samsudra Samrat	Singapore	SSL	31/12	05/1
J/3	Yun long	W. PU	Frog	01/01	06/1
J/5	Safina-E-Najam	Kara	ASL	28/12	05/1
J/6	Atlanta-2	Cann	Royal	28/12	05/1
J/7	Stefan Czarniecki	Mad	BSA	01/01	04/1
J/8	Ping Yin	Kand	OWSL	28/12	09/1
J/9	Sea Glory	Singapore	Prog	25/12	09/1
J/11	Progress	Na	EBSL	30/12	07/1
J/12	Banglar Sampad	Na	BSC	01/01	05/1
J/13	Atlantic Clipper	Singapore	BDShip	31/12	04/1
MPB/2	Fong Yun	Singapore	BDShip	20/12	05/1
CCJ	Swam Glory	Btaa	PRSA	25/12	03/1
S/G/S	Hargevan	Ptra	Ista	01/01	04/1
TSP	Lion of Gulf	Col	Seacoast	27/01	03/1
RM/6	Papua	Singapore	ECSL	01/01	03/1
DD	Banglar Maya	Na	BSC	31/12	15/1
DDJ/1	Maritz Star	Singapore	Delmure	29/12	05/1
DDJ/2	Banglar Baani	Na	BSC	29/12	05/1
RM/9	Banglar Swapna	Na	BSC	05/12	10/1

Vessel At Ready At Outer Anchorage

Vessel Name	Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent
Global Uranus	02/1/92	Mala	OTL
Botary	02/1/92	Col	JF
Ciacinta	03/1/92	Singapore	MSPL
T T Energy	05/1/92	Tanu	NNL
Ronjoy Choomie	03/1/92	Col	Paal
Great Promise	03/1/92	Singapore	ECSL
Elit	04/1/92	Moro	Aqua
Hang Cheon	06/1/92	Singapore	Bright
Ahng Aros	08/1/92	Ind	Aqua

Vessel Due At Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	ETA	L. Port	Local Agent
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