

Tk 74.5 cr gas duty realised

BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 4: Custom & Excise Department, Brahmanbaria Circle, realised Tk 74.58,96,637 as customs duty from natural gas during July-November last year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, a total of Tk 107 crore customs duty has been lying arrear to gas fields.

Another report says that Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited realised a record arrear gas bill of Taka 41,58,091 during the last year.

Of the total, Tk 34,50,472 was realised for using gas in domestic purposes, Tk 3,70,133 from commercial users, Tk 95,352 from industrial users and 2,52,000 from other purposes.

According to officials, the target of collection of arrears was Tk 40,87,000.

Petrol pump man gets jail term for unfair means

A mobile court led by Metropolitan Magistrate Mollah Waheduzzaman has awarded imprisonment for 15 days to a petrol pump manager for adopting dishonest means in selling fuel oil in the city, reports BSS.

According to a press release of Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute (BSTI) Saturday, the punishment was given during a joint raid of the mobile court and a BSTI team against malpractices in weighing and measuring at Cantonment Bazar and other areas of the city on January 2.

The BSTI officials filed a total of 11 cases against such offences. Four cases were against malpractices in selling fuel oil from petrol pumps and seven against grocers, cloth sellers and other traders, the press release said.

Besides awarding imprisonment to the petrol pump manager, the court settled one case on realising fine and directed the accused persons in nine other cases to appear before the court of the Metropolitan Magistrate.

Mobile training scheme for jobless youth ordered

GAZIPUR, Jan 4: Unemployment problem of the country can be solved by extending proper training facilities to the unemployed, said Jute Minister Imtiaz Shah, reports UNB.

Addressing a youth rally at Sreepur Upazila Parishad auditorium Thursday he asked the district administration to undertake a mobile training programme to train up the unemployed youths.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadck Hossain lauded the organisers for holding the first ever youth rally here saying this sort of gathering can help generation of self-employment of the youths by involving them in various development programmes.

He called upon the local administration to make Sreepur a model upazila.

Presided over by Director General, Youth Directorate, Mohammad Abdus Sobhan, the rally was also addressed by DC Alhaj Jashimuddin Ahmed Chowdhury, UNO Ujjal Bikash Dutta and Deputy Director Feroza Begum.

The programme was followed by a cultural function.

A youth stall with the product of the self-employment projects was also arranged on the occasion.

Jute Minister later laid the foundation stone of the Bonorupa cluster village here.

Child workers in C'nawabganj on rise

CHITPAJNABAGANJ, Jan 4: The number of child labourers is gradually increasing in all five upazilas including the district town, reports UNB.

According to a survey conducted by a local NGO, about 8,000 children aged between eight and 10 are engaged in different occupations to maintain their livelihood as well as to support their families.

Children are compelled to take up jobs in hotels, restaurants, motorgarages, bicycle repairing shops, welding workshops, factories, brickeries, brickfields, construction installations and shops due to extreme poverty.

Besides, many work as shoe-shine boys, domestic servants and cowboys and girls are engaged mostly as maid servants.

Secretary of the organisation Moktomedhah, Zahurul Islam Bhottu said having no other alternative the floating people in urban rural areas compelled their children to take hard work to support their moribund families.

According to international labour laws, children below the age of 15 are not allowed to take up hard work, he added.

Tk 18 cr grant for cyclone shelters

IDB assures more support

The visiting seven-member Islamic Development Bank (IDB) delegation called on Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman at his office in Dhaka, Saturday reports BSS.

Vice-President of IDB Dr. Fuad Abdullah al-Omar led the team which comprises four Executive Directors of the Bank Ambassador Dr Yousuf Abdul Latif al-Sirkal (UAE), Dr Prof Korkut Ozal (Turkey), Dr Lamine Diouf (Senegal) and Dr Hajj Junaidi Bin Hajj-Isham (Brunei). Joint Secretary Economic Relations Division (ERD) Fajur Rahman Chowdhury was present.

Saifur Rahman gave a brief resume of the financial development programmes undertaken by the government to revitalise the economy.

Saifur Rahman said the major priorities of Bangladesh government are agriculture, education, health and family planning, and rural infrastructural development. He sought IDB's assistance and cooperation in these sectors. He also discussed matters relating to re-allocation of IDB funds giving priority to sectors like rural infrastructure development and girls' education.

The IDB Vice President, Dr Abdullah al-Omar, assured the Bank's increased support and help for Bangladesh. The dele-

gation members underscored the need for proper and timely utilisation of the IDB funds.

Later, the IDB delegation called on Planning Minister Jahiruddin Khan at his office. The Planning Minister stressed the need for strengthening agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors in particular, for alleviating poverty and generating more rural employment. He sought IDB's increased support in these sectors. He also emphasised coconut and other tree plantation in coastal areas.

Another report adds: Bangladesh will receive Taka 18 crore (five million dollar) as grant from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) for implementing multipurpose building-cum-cyclone shelter construction in Bhola district.

An agreement to this effect was signed in city Saturday between Bangladesh and IDB, according to official sources.

Enam Ahmed Chowdhury, signed the agreement on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh while Dr Fuad Abdullah al-Omar signed for the IDB.

The IDB team also held official talks with a delegation of the Bangladesh government. The ERD secretary led the Bangladesh side while IDB vice-president and leader of the delegation led the Bank

side. The meeting reviewed the existing bilateral relations between Bangladesh and IDB and expressed deep satisfaction.

The two sides hoped that the relations between Bangladesh and IDB would grow further in future. As suggested by the Bangladesh side the IDB delegation agreed to examine the possibility of increasing the quantum of assistance and sphere of cooperation and to make terms and conditions more concessional.

The present visit of the IDB delegation is a follow-up of an effective participation of Bangladesh delegation at the recent OIC summit conference held in Dakar which was led by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

The visit of IDB delegation suggests that IDB should emerge as an effective instrument for bringing the OIC and IDB member countries closer on the economic front and would act as a forum where issues could be discussed, opinions mobilised and a common approach evolved, official sources said.

The visiting IDB delegation is the most high level one ever visited Bangladesh and besides the Vice-President (Operation) of the Bank, four Executive Directors are on the delegation.

Clear the 'Please Discuss' files

By Shahabuddin Mahtab

In our government offices and, to a lesser degree, in the private business houses we quite often come across some cryptic words saying "please discuss". During a course of three and half decades of public service I came across this saying a thousand times either as a recipient or as a giver. We may analyse what these two words mean.

From the giver's end it may be due to the following reasons: (a) The senior officer does not want to go through a note which is somewhat lengthy; (b) The subject matter and the issue at hand are not fully comprehended by the senior officer; and (c) Sometimes the notes coming from Mr Junior are convenient to the thinking and purpose of Mr Senior.

Then again the "please discuss" files are disposed of by Mr Boss in various ways. If the boss has a quick understanding of the problem, he will keep the file after discussion, and will dispose it of without bothering Mr Junior again. Sometimes the senior administrator may ask his junior to resubmit the case with a fresh note in the file in the light of discussions. The most difficult bosses are those who do not like to write much in the file and would direct their subordinates to rethink over the matter and resubmit the cases as instructed by them.

In the management system, all officers from the lowest to the highest tiers are required to examine each case, and

submit it to their senior officers, after examining each point of the case with reference to the rules and precedents. The case thereafter after goes to the second tier officer who adds his own thinking and observations. Thereafter it is submitted at higher levels, if required for decision.

It is expected that the first tier officer should cover all the issues of the case. If this is not done at this stage difficulties may arise with the next tiers of management as they may have to do the spade work of the junior officers, and also make their own contributions. This hurdle may arise at any one tier of management.

From my own observations and practical experiences it can be said that when an executive receives too many "please discuss" files and also finds that the senior officers take too long to discuss the case, there is a serious bottleneck, as the Junior officer cannot remember all the facts of the case. To avoid such eventuality the senior administrator take care that my the "please discuss" cases are quickly disposed of.

If a case is complete in all respects, but still the senior officer feels that there should be some clarification of specific points or a specific rule is required to be consulted he may specifically write this in his note, and send this to his junior. In such cases the queries are justified. It also so happens that the junior officer has to spend a large part of his

working hours in sitting with his boss and explain the cases to him again orally. All this results in weak management.

In an ideal system a case would not be acceptable to the boss unless it is fully examined. The weaknesses of the case, if any, may be clearly stated in the file so that the junior officer may not submit incomplete cases in future. But the senior officer has to do his own work and thinking instead of asking the subordinates officer to do it for him. A competent officer goes through the files and makes his own notes and give his own decision.

In the case of drafts also, it has been seen that a particular draft reply is not liked by the officer. In such a case he may clearly state the deficiency of the draft in writing, or he may dictate a fresh draft. By not doing either of the two, but calling in the junior officer too frequently 'indicates' inadequate performance of the officer which in turn leads to the suffering of the people whose cases are pending.

There may also be occasions when detailed and instructive notes on particular issues emanate from the highest tier of management. These thoughtful notes may indicate a new path where some action is contemplated. A true and effective management is only possible when each executive of an organisation is true to his duties. Many of the ills that we see today are due to the fact that all of us are not functioning at our own levels of responsibility.

Weavers demand loan waiver

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Sangkutia Tanti Samiti (combined weavers association) in a statement on Saturday urged the government to exempt loans to weaving units to save the industry from a collapse?

Vice-President of the samity Abdul Hazzak Mollah and General Secretary, Shamsul Alam Zulfikar said that the weavers were being harassed by certificate cases.

They said that if the loans to weaving units were not waived, they (units) would be forced to closure and market would remain open to smuggled clothes.

They said that the main reasons behind the mass-mass in the weaving sector were non-implementation of the policies on weaving loans and the widespread corruption in disbursing and realising loans.

They said that the corrupt bank officials forced the weavers to mortgage their lands and houses for loans disregarding the relevant rules.

They viewed that the loans in the weaving sector could not be realised unless the sector was revived through proper patronisations.

The leaders demanded a policy on weaving sector.

Manual on farm forestry published

A training manual, titled "The Village and Farm Forestry in Bangladesh" was published recently in Bangla for the first time in Bangladesh under the joint auspices of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) and the Swiss Development Corporation, reports BSS.

Edited by Prof M Abdul Haq, Director of Village and Farm Forestry Project, the training manual contains a total of 20 articles on various aspects of village and farm forestry, a press release of the university said Saturday.

The manual has been developed for field workers on the basis of lecture-notes and discussions made by a group of experts in a training workshop, held at the university earlier, the release said.

Addressing the publication ceremony of the manual, Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof M Asadur Rahman said it would play a significant role in popularising village and farm forestry in Bangladesh.

Stressing the need for a large scale afforestation programme, Prof Rahman said natural disasters were visiting Bangladesh frequently because of drastic deforestation.

US stocks record high

NEW YORK, Jan 4: U S stock prices closed at their sixth all-time closing high in a row as investors, caught up in the market's strong upward momentum of late, continued to pump money into equities, reports Reuters.

"I think the rally is really feeding on itself now," said Michael Metz, Oppenheimer and Co's chief market strategist.

Some late-session futures-related buying sent the Dow Average through psychological support at 3200, and while profit-takers knocked the Blue-Chip barometer off its 3210 session peak, it ended at 3201, up 29 points, or 0.9 per cent.

Advancing issues led decliners by about five to three on roughly 220 million shares. About 203 million shares traded Thursday.

"The power is really something," said John Brooks, a technical analyst at Davis, Mendel and Regenstein. "Whether it's short covering or gey jumping in because of lower interest rates doesn't matter. With this kind of power, you really don't want to get in the way."

George Prirone of Dreyfus Corp said while programme buying provided some of the upside fireworks, genuine buying was steady.

Steps against adulteration demanded

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a workshop organised by Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAI) on Friday demanded effective measures to check adulterated and smuggled goods.

The workshop for professionals at Mohammadpur in city stressed the need for quality control of local products and keeping the prices of local goods within the purchasing capacity of the people. It viewed that these measures would help check smuggling.

The inaugural session of the workshop, presided over by Sheikh Riayul Islam, was addressed by Dr Sharafat Ali, General Secretary of CAP, Sarwar Zahan and others.

Sale of new Maruti model launched

By Staff Correspondent

Uttara Motors formally launched the sale of a new Maruti model "The Lady with the Mystic Smile" in Bangladesh Saturday.

Introducing at Hotel Sheraton the new model of Maruti-1000 which costs Taka five lakh 50 thousand, the distributors said that the car was built in consideration of the climatic condition of the sub-continent.

Maruti-1000, with four stroke water cooled engine, is furnished with all accessories for the comfort of the travellers, they added.

The 1240 kilogram car, with a capacity of five people, has the fuel capacity of 40 litres, said the distributors.



The Lady with the Mystic Smile

Plea to stop suing HBFC borrowers

By Staff Correspondent

The Association of the Borrowers of House Building Finance Corporation in a statement on Saturday urged the authorities to stop filing cases against the borrowers saying "such actions are against the conditions on realising HBFC loans".

A meeting of the association presided over by Abdul-Wadud Bhuiyan also suggested that the HBFC authorities take steps to realise the loans according to the suggestions already put forward by the association.

They said that the government had already accepted some of the proposals of the association. But, they added, instead of following the proposals HBFC authorities are filing cases against the borrowers. They stated that such actions would cause further suffering to the borrowers.

IDA projects in Patuakhali in progress

By Staff Correspondent

PATUAHALI, Jan 4: Water Development Board (WDB) has taken up five projects involving an amount of Tk 49 lakh in the Galachipa upazila of the district during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, the projects, under financial assistance of International Development Association (IDA) include construction of embankment and sluiceways.

The work on the projects is progressing fast and is expected to be completed by June next.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Last Port	Local Agent	ETA	ETD
J/1	Banglar Kakoli	Male	ISC	03/1	12/1
J/2	Samudra Samrat	Singapore	SSL	31/12	05/1
J/3	Yun long	W PU	Prog	01/01	08/1
J/5	Saifna-E-Najam	Kara	ASLL	28/12	05/1
J/6	Atlantia-T	Cara	Royal	28/12	06/1
J/7	Karabieverette	NA	NA	01/01	04/1
J/8	Ping Yin	Kand	OWSL	04/01	09/1
J/9	Ngs Bangar	Singapore	NA	04/01	07/1
J/11	Progress	NA	EISL	30/12	08/1
J/13	Atlantic Clipper	Singapore	BDSHP	31/12	06/1
MPB/2	Fong Yun	Singapore	BDSHP	20/12	06/1
CSJ	Banglar Sampad	NA	PRSA	03/01	05/1
TSP	Ceddar Hill	Acaba	SST	02/01	10/1
RM/3	Nyngs Trinity	Col	JF	03/01	06/1
RM/5	Great Promise	Singapore	ECSL	03/01	NA
DD	Banglar Maya	NA	ISC	31/12	15/1
DDJ/2	Banglar Bauri	NA	ISC	29/12	05/1
RM/9	Banglar Swapna	NA	ISC	05/12	10/1

Vessel Ready At Outer Anchorage

Vessel Name	ETA	Last Port	Local Agent
Global Uranus	05/1/92	Mala	OTTI
Ciacinta	05/1/92	Singapore	MSP/L
I Energy	05/1/92	Taru	NNL
Ronjoy Choomie	05/1/92	Col	ISAL
Elli	05/1/92	Moro	Aupa
Hang Cheon	05/1/92	Singapore	Bright
Banglar Shourabh	07/1/92	NA	ISSA
Mild	08/1/92	Singapore	OSA
Aghlon Aros	11/1/92	Ind	AQUA

Vessel Due At Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	ETA	L Port	Local Agent
Ramdas	05/01/92	Mong	SSL
Jonathan	05/01/92	NA	Seacon
Smit Lombok	05/01/92	Singapore	SW
Smit Langkat	05/01/92	Singapore	SW
Mataram	05/01/92	Singapore	SW
Semco	05/01/92	Singapore	SW
Dippach	05/01/92	NA	Royal
Golden Chase	05/01/92	Tempa	OWSL
Gold Horizon	06/01/92	NA	AML
Seabulk Hope	07/01/92	NA	IRA
King Dong	08/01/92	Singapore	OSA
Nortween Nova	09/01/92	Bom	OSA
Johnverette	10/01/92	Singapore	EBPL
Hai Ning	10/01/92	NA	TSLL
Fong Shan	10/01/92	Singapore	BDSHP
Infiniti	11/01/92	Singapore	RSL
Pevo Yavorov	11/01/92	NA	UMAL
Optima	11/01/92	Col	RSL
Andrian Goncharov	12/01/92	NA	CT
Seabulk Hope	12/01/92	NA	IRA
New Zealand	14/01/92	Sin	BDSHP

Mongla Port

Name of Vessels	ETA	ETD	L Port	Local Agent
Lion of Gulf	5/1/92		Colombo	Makh
Saifna-E-Najam	5/1/92		Chittagong	Atlas
Karabieverette	7/1/92	9/1/92	Chittagong	
Ronjoy Choomie	7/1/92		Chittagong	Pioneer
Golden Horizon	7/1/92	10/1/92	Chittagong	AGT
Ronjoy	8/1/92		Chittagong	TMH
Su Xing	8/1/92		Singapore	Al-Anin
Su Hong	10/1/92		Singapore	Al-Anin
Golden Chase	12/1/92		Chittagong	OWSL
New Zealand	14/1/92		Chittagong	BSL
Aning	14/1/92		Chittagong	TM/L
Banglar Kakoli	14/1/92	26/1/92	Chittagong	ISC
Andrian Goncharov	14/1/92	17/1/92	Chittagong	CT
Tea Ghong	15/1/92		Glasgow	Bright
NOS Ranger	25/1/92		Chittagong	BSL

Berthed-Vessel At Port Jetty. ETA=Expected Time of Arrival. ETB= Expected Time of Berth. ETD= Expected Time of Departure. NA= Not Available.

Source: Aquamarine Limited

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Jan 4, 1992

Market Profile
135 Listed Stocks

117 unchanged stocks include 06 traded on the day at its previous quoted prices.
DSE All Share Price Index = 296.4299
Market Capitalisation = 8,608,477,135
Turnover = Taka 299552 (Volume) 4009 (Volume).

Company	FV/ML/Tk	Jute Spinner	100/5	95.00
Mutual Jute	100/5	100/5	100.00	
Northern Jute	10/50	NT		
Shamser Jute	100/5	100.00		
Specialised Jute	10/50	NT		
Shani Pakur Jute	100/5	92.00		
Sorali Aarsh	100/5	96.00		

PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (15)

Amber Pharma	10/50	12.00
Bangla Process	100/5	53.00
Beximco Pharma	100/5	200.00
Glaxo	10/50	125.00
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