

### ADB to review foreign exchange lending

Asian Development Bank has agreed to re-examine the current lending provisions for re-lending foreign exchange loans and repayment schedule of private sector projects in the country, reports UNB.

The agreement in principle was reached when the visiting Chief Investment Officer of ADB Dr Sri Bavan Skanda, met with Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) President Alhaj Md Akram Hossain at his office Monday.

Skanda has come in Dhaka to assess the investment climate both in public and private sectors of the country.

The FBCCI President apprised him of the current declining trend in investment and pointed out that high re-lending and exchange rates depreciation were the two major causes of current industrial sickness.

He also sought ADB assistance in channeling foreign exchange loans direct to the private entrepreneurs for encouraging industrial investment in the country.

An FBCCI press release said Dr Skanda assured of full cooperation from his agency for private sector development in Bangladesh.

### Muzaffar Ahmed elected ICMAB President

By Staff Correspondent

Muzaffar Ahmed was elected President of the Institute of Cost and Management Accounts of Bangladesh (ICMAB) for 1992 recently. Earlier he held the positions of Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Institute. Currently he is serving as Director (Finance) at Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC).

He also served Bangladesh Chemical Industries (Finance) and Bangladesh Freedom Fighters' Welfare Trust (Finance and Planning) as Director and Civil Aviation Authority (Finance) as General Manager.

Muzaffar Ahmed took extensive training on various managerial and administrative courses both at home and abroad.

### Call money rate goes 10 to 11 pc

By Staff Correspondent

Money rates in the all money market during the week ending 23-01-92 ranged from 10.00 percent to 11.00 percent.

During the same week interest rates offered by the Bangladesh Bank on Certificate of Deposits varied from 12.25 per cent to 13.75 per cent. The bank rate, however, remained unchanged at 9.25 per cent according to press release.

### Agrani Bank officers want separate pay scale

Agrani Bank Officers Association Monday urged the government to introduce separate pay scale and reinstate employees sacked in 1981, reports UNB.

They voiced their demands at a press conference at Jatya Press Club organised by Agrani Bank Karmachari Kalyan Samity CBA and Central Parishad of Agrani Bank Officers Samity.

President and General Secretary of Central Parishad of Agrani Bank Officers Samity Enamul Haq and Mirza Wakil Uddin respectively and President and General Secretary of Agrani Bank Karmachari Kalyan Samity CBA Shaiful Islam Majnu and AKM Shamsuddin respectively spoke on the occasion.

Among other items, they demanded incentive bonus, fringe benefits and promotions according to old promotion criteria.

AKM Shamsuddin was critical of the government outstanding loan recovery policy which forced a bank to be a losing concern and urged the government to take stringent measures for recovery of outstanding credits.

He said more than Tk 1,000 crore in loans from Agrani Bank were yet to be recovered.

Narrating grievances of the bank officers Enamul Haq termed banking profession as strenuous and demanded resolution of all hindrances in attaining banking diploma.

## Industrial wastes polluting waters

Untreated particulates and liquid and solid wastes discharged into aquatic systems from industrial plants and increased sea traffic are dangerously polluting country's waters, reports UNB.

More than 900 industrial plants, located along major waterways, eject untreated particulates and liquid and solid wastes direct into the aquatic systems, according to official findings.

In the port cities of Chittagong and Mongla, nearly 1,000 ships and 40-50 oil tankers are handled annually, causing severe pollution of the water in the coastal reaches as well as the marine environment.

The problems have been highlighted in a country report prepared by Bangladesh for United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) scheduled for Brazilian June, where heads of state and government of 90 countries are expected to take part to reach an agreement to save the world from environmental pollution.

Crude spillage at Chittagong is estimated 6,000 metric tons per year, while about 24,000 gallons of bilge water is also dumped.

The possibility of accidental oil spillage from oil tankers through which the ecosystems

of the Sundarbans could suffer irreversible damage is also there.

The report says the threat of an oil spill to other marine and coastal resources of the delta has not been estimated but can be expected to be severe, even if the spill is small and localized.

Due to drought restrictions in the harbour, large tankers carrying crude or refined products transfer the contents to small tankers, which is also responsible for spillage at the transfer points.

The country report says by the year 2000, water consumption by industry is expected to increase by more

than 24 million cubic meter per month.

It identified the leather tanning industry as the most serious sources of water pollution.

Most of the 160 leather factories in the country are situated in the capital's Hazaribag area next to river Buriganga.

To put a stop to further pollution of the water in the coastal reaches and the marine environment, the report suggests that there is a necessity of reception facility for ballast or bilge water from ships at Chittagong or at Mongla to prevent discharges direct into the sea.

### Relief worth Tk 86cr distributed, JS told

State Minister for Relief Lutfur Rahman Khan Sunday said relief, which included cash and goods worth Taka 86 crore, were distributed among the people affected by last year's devastating cyclone, reports BSS.

Khan said Taka 70 crore were distributed as cash grants among the distressed people and Taka 16 crore as house building assistance.

Replying to a question from Tabibur Rahman Sardar (AL-Jessore-1) the State Minister said 14 districts, most of which are in coastal areas, were affected by cyclone.

## Improved fabrics seen a must for garment, textile future

Star Economic Report

The garment manufacturers and exporters view that local textile industries should produce high quality fabric for overall development of both the sectors.

They feel that if local fabrics could be developed, the

Bangladeshi garments would be more competitive in the global market.

If the Multifibre Agreement in the Uruguay Round talks is okayed, development of local fabrics would become essential for the sector, said garment

manufacturers. They feel that if the quota system goes to the importers, they would go to the cheapest bidder for the items.

They warned that if local fabrics are not improved by the time the Uruguay Round decides the issue, Bangladeshi garments would lay behind.

The Prime Minister's announcing the textile sector as the thrust sector is a positive step towards it, the President of Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), Mohammad Mosharrat Hossain, said.

However, he added that maintaining quality, offering competitive price and timely delivery of fabrics are essential for the survival of both textile and garment sectors.

Meanwhile, the BGMEA will send a delegation to Russia and other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) next month to tap the vast market there.

Sources said if proper initiative is taken, Bangladeshi garments would make inroad in the huge market there which is now being tried by India.

### Pak leaders took kickbacks in road deal?

ISLAMABAD, Jan 27: The Pakistani opposition Saturday cried foul play in the recent award of a one billion dollar motorway contract to a South Korean company, alleging the deal involved kickbacks to government leaders, reports AFP.

Three lieutenants of former premier Benazir Bhutto charged, in a statement in newspapers here, that the one billion dollar contract to build the first phase of a trans Pakistan motorway had been awarded to South Korean Daewoo Corp after a lower bid by the Italian firm Astaldi was wrongfully rejected.

Sardar Farooq Leghari, Khawaja Ahmad Tariq Raheem and Salman Taseer said the opposition Pakistan People's Party (PPP) would file a formal complaint with the speaker of the National Assembly against Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

The PPP will invoke a constitutional provision related to the question of disqualification of a Member of Parliament on grounds of misconduct.

The motorway project was launched by Sharif on January 11.

A later report adds: The Pakistan government on Sunday condemned opposition allegations of foul play in the granting of a one billion dollar motorway construction contract to a South Korean firm.



Skinning off of cattleheads here and there contributes to environmental pollution. —Star photo

## Wheat procurement price set at Tk 240

The Government has fixed the internal procurement price of wheat at Taka 643 per quintal (100 kg) and Taka 240 per maund which is inclusive of transportation bonus, an official handout said in Dhaka, reports BSS.

The decision was taken at the weekly cabinet meeting held at Bangabhaban Monday with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

The price of wheat was fixed with a view to building up wheat reserve for the period of scarcity, help stabilize the market price and provide wheat growers with price-support for encouraging wheat cultivation. The target of internal wheat procurement has been fixed at one lakh metric tons this year, the handout said.

The cabinet has also decided to allow limited flexibility

ties till December 31. Under special consideration and certain terms and conditions with regard to the ban on exporting wet-blue leather no flexibility will be given to the exporters of wet-blue leather after this time-limit.

The cabinet also decided to make the punishment for the offence of burning firewood in the brick fields more stringent. Decision has been taken to enhance the punishment for the offence and streamline the application and execution of the relevant law through necessary amendments.

The cabinet, as per its earlier decision of holding national parade on March 26 the independence and national day of the country has directed the authorities concerned to take necessary preparation to this effect.

## 20.5 pc of targeted jute purchased

Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah Monday told the Jatya Sangsad that 4.01 lakh bales of raw jute or 20.56 per cent of the target was purchased through the raw jute buying centres during the current season at a cost of Taka 57.06 crore, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Shakhawat Hossain Bakul (BNP-Narsingdi), the Jute Minister said the maximum price per maund of jute was Taka 377.43 and the minimum price Taka 204.11.

Replying to a supplementary question from Bakul, the Jute Minister said the Government had no plan to buy raw jute during the current season because of fund shortage.

He said the raw jute was bought through 63 buying centres of BJMC and 103 buy-

ing centres of BJC throughout the country.

The objective of buying is to maintain market stability in the country and earn foreign currency through export, he said.

Replying to another supplementary question from Monirul Haq Choudhury (JP-Comilla), Hannan Shah said no question regarding the smuggling of raw jute from Bangladesh to India might arise as the price of jute per maund in India is less than that in Bangladesh.

Replying to another supplementary question from Shamsul Haq (AL-Mymensingh), the Jute Minister said the BJMC had paid off all its dues while the BJC paid off 50 per cent of its dues, "the rest of the BJC dues will be paid up immediately", he said.

## Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port					
Name of Vessels	Berthed	EID	Berth	L. Port No	L. Agent
Mild	11/01	22/01	J/1	Singapore	CSA
Nortween Novo	19/01	25/01	J/2	BOM	MSA
Hai Ning	05/01	22/01	J/3	NA	NA
Continent-1	20/01	24/01	J/4	Pena	CLA
Loyal Bird	21/01	25/01	J/5	NA	NA
Este Presco	21/01	25/01	J/6	NA	NA
Elli-M	21/01	27/01	J/7	NA	NA
Knud Jespersen	20/01	23/01	J/8	Singapore	CT
Al Reza	09/01	24/01	J/9	Mong	AQUA
Jonathan	18/01	23/01	J/13	NA	SEACOM
Elli-M	18/01	22/01	MPB/2	Moro	AQUA
Banglar Asha	19/01	24/01	CSJ	NA	BSC
Kang Dong	19/01	24/01	CSJ	Singapore	OSA
Banglar Shourabh	17/01	24/01	RM/6	NA	BSC
Fong Yun	06/01	25/01	DDJ/1	Singapore	BDSHIP
Banglar Sampad	18/01	22/01	RM/2	NA	BSC
Phys-1	12/01	22/01	RM/8	Singapore	OSA
Banglar Swapna	05/12	30/01	RM/9	NA	BSC

Vessels Ready at Outer Anchorage			
Name of Vessels	Ready	L. Port	L. Agent
Vishva Pprafulla	18/01	Mad	Sai
Gemini	25/01	Durb	Aqua
Oiga	23/01	Kand	Delmure
Aghion Oros	24/01	Ind	Aqua
Reliant	24/01	NA	NA

Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage			
Name of Vessels	ETA	L. Port Call	L. Agent
Fong Shin	22/01/92	Singapore	DBSHIP
Atlantic clipper	22/01/92	Singapore	DBSHIP
Banglar Kollol	22/01/92	Munda	GLOBE
Ubarana	23/01/92	NA	JF
Ronjoy Choomie	23/01/92	NA	PSAL
Tabuk	23/01/92	Kand	ENCL
Banglar Shobha	24/01/92	NA	BSC
Lilas	24/01/92	NA	PROG
Endurance Sea	24/01/92	Aquaba	UMAL
Songrim	24/01/92	NA	RRSA
Blue Ocean	25/01/92	Cal	TSLL
Optima	25/01/92	Col	RSL
Infinity	25/01/92	Singapore	ULA
Stonewall Jackson	25/01/92	Phuk	ULA
Shalmar	26/01/92	Col	BSC
Vishva Pankaj	27/01/92	NA	SSL
Fong Shan	27/01/92	Tamp	OWSL
Laurissa	28/01/92	Chin	OSA
Eastern Breeze	28/01/92	NA	RRSA
Chong Chon Gang	30/01/92	NA	RRSA
Felicity	30/01/92	Tamp	OWSL
Seabulk Hope	31/01/92	NA	BHA
New Genlord	01/02/92	NA	BDSHIP
Kota Buana	01/02/92	NA	NA

Chalna Port					
Name of Vessel	Berthed	ETA	EID	L. Port	L. Agent
Tea Chong	22/01	NA	Quingca	Bright	
Mild	22/01	NA	Chittagong	Overseas	
Continent-1	22/01	NA	Chittagong	BSLL	
Marine Three	22/01	NA	Chittagong	BML	
Stefan Casratecki	21/01	24/01	Calcutta	BSA	
Hai Hing	23/01	NA	Chittagong	Triumph	
Reliant	23/01	NA	Chittagong	AGT	
Shalmar	24/01	31/01	Chittagong	BSC	
NGS Ranger	25/01	NA	Chittagong	BSLL	
Sulut-1	25/01	NA	W. Sumat	Al-Amin	
Royal Bird	25/01	30/01	Chittagong	OWSL	
Vishva Pprafulla	25/01	NA	Chittagong	SSL	
Kang Rhapsody	26/01	NA	Visag	HIL	
Kang Dong	26/01	Chittagong	Overseas		
Vishva Parag	27/01	NA	Calcutta	SSL	
Sea Carol	28/01	NA	Visag	HIL	
Banglar Bari	28/01	NA	Chittagong	BSC	
Al-Bashir	30/01	NA	India	TMIL	
Yom Bun Jin	30/01	NA	DPRK	Greenland	
Felicity	05/02	NA	Chittagong	OWSL	
Mun Su Bong	05/02	NA	China	Greenland	
Gold Future	15/02	NA	Chittagong	AGM	

Price Index					
Essentials					
January-26					
RICE	(Taka per kg)				
Amard(150)	14.00-15.00				
Fajam	13.00-14.00				
Ulati	12.00-12.50				
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)				
Potato	5.00-6.00				
Brinjal	5.00-6.00				
Karola	22.00-24.00				
Lalshak	3.00-4.00				
Green Beans (Four Pieces)	5.00-6.00				
CRIBER FOODGRAIN	(Taka per kg)				
Flour	12.50-13.00				
Ata	10.50-11.00				
FISH	(Taka per kg)				
Ash(hg)	140.00-150.00				
Kash(hg)	90.00-100.00				
Hilsh	64.00-65.00				
Panga	120.00-130.00				
Shrimp(hg)	90.00-100.00				
Singi	80.00-85.00				
Sri	80.00-90.00				
MEAT					
Beef	55.00-60.00				
Mutton	80.00-85.00				
CHICKEN					
Large	58.00-60.00				
Medium	62.00-64.00				
Small	66.00-68.00				
TEA					
Dun (Plain)	70.00-80.00				
EGG (ape)					
Hen	12.00				
Duck	10.00				
Pheasant	12.00				
PULSES	(Taka per kg)				
Mung	28.00-30.00				
Mooch	28.00-30.00				
Cholai	23.00-24.00				
Dhauri	13.00-14.00				
OIL	(Taka per litre)				
Mustard	52.00-54.00				
Soybean	39.00-40.00				
Cocunut (Columbo)	95.00-100.00				
Vegetable Ghee	45.00-48.00				
SPICES	(Taka Per kg)				
Onion	4.00-5.00				
Garlic	20.00-22.00				
Chillies	70.00-75.00				
Turmeric(Round)	40.00-45.00				
"(Long)	45.00-50.00				
Green chillies	20.00-22.00				
Ginger	10.00-12.00				
Cinnamon* (10gms)	3.00-3.75/0.35				
Cardamom* (large)	3.00-4.00				
Pepp* (50gms)	6.50-7.00				
MILK (Two kg)					
Dew	290.00-291.00				
Red-Cow	288.00-289.00				
Eggs	NA				
MISCELLANEOUS	(Taka)				
Ghee (one kg)	220.00-240.00				
Salt	6.50-7.00				
Sugar	26.50-27.00				
Molasses	15.00-16.00				

### Price Index

Hides & Skin					
(Wet/Salted)					
(Taka per 100 pieces)					
Cow	17,000.00	—	38,000.00		
Light	98,000.00	—	83,000.00		
Medium	94,000.00	—	71,000.00		
Heavy					