

Job fair today

By Staff Correspondent

Great news for computer professionals! A job fair, the first of its kind in the country, will take place today (Friday) in the capital.

Freshers, planning to take up a career in Information Technology and Management (IT&M), or professionals considering a change of job and companies dealing in IT&M will meet each other today at the fair to be held at the Bangladesh Computer Centre Training Facility at Babar Road, Mohammadpur.

If you are a job seeker, all you have to do is just buy a registration packet from the organisers of the fair, fill up two resumes contained in it and drop one copy at the fair counter.

The organisers will record information of the potential employees into a human resource database for the IT&M companies.

The employer will have an interview with the potential employee and, if the employee does well, he may be hired on the spot.

Samudra E Haque, Managing Director of PraDeshta Limited, a systems integration firm that has organised the fair, said they were holding the employment fair with an aim to make a shake-hand between the job giver and the job seeker.

"In fact, our goal is to help the professionals find the right career and the IT&M companies suitable personnel," said Haque.

Some of the country's leading computer companies like Omibaan Group, Ibc-Primax, Computer Solutions Limited, CONCEPT computer Network, and TECHNOHAVEN Company will take part in the fair which starts at 10 in the morning.

Bangladesh Computer Council will also take a stall in the fair to advise career plans to the professionals in information technology.

Besides, several international organisations working in the country have also expressed their desire to take part in the fair to explore suitable employees, organisers said.

The list of the required professionals, as published in a brochure by the organisers, range from computer programmers, instructors, analysts, marketing and planning executives to graduates of business administration, commerce, law and the international relations.

In Bangladesh the number of computer professionals involved in information technology and management is still not estimated. However, a report of the Bangladesh Computer Council, the state-run agency to help develop information technology, said that at present some 12,000 computers were being used in the country.

Thai rice export rises by 1.7 pc in 1991

BANGKOK, Jan 30 Thailand exported a record 3,993,460 tons of rice in 1991, or 1.7 per cent more than the figure for 1990, according to an official figure available here today, reports Xinhua.

The board of Thai trade rice committee said that the export price of Thai rice last year averaged 7,412 baht (296.48 US dollar) per ton against 6,944 baht (277.7 US dollar) per ton in 1990.

Senegal became the largest buyer of Thai rice in terms of quantity, with 355,756 tons in 1991.

Malaysia came second, with 320,534 tons, followed by Hong Kong, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States.

Rice is one of major agricultural export items of Thailand, which earns some one billion US dollar each year.

Kazakhstan applies for WB membership

WASHINGTON, Jan 30: Kazakhstan has applied for membership in the World Bank, the largest source of aid to developing countries, the lending agency announced Thursday, reports Xinhua.

The application was submitted on January 23 by Kazakhstan Prime Minister Sergei Tereshchenko.

Kazakhstan has also applied for membership in the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank's sister lending agency. Membership in the IMF is a prerequisite for membership in the World Bank.

The World Bank consists of four organisations: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, the International Finance Corporation and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.

Planned hatcheries can raise shrimp export threefold

By Staff Correspondent

Setting up of hatcheries is being viewed as an immediate necessity for the development of shrimp culture.

Speakers at a seminar on semi-intensive shrimp culture organised by Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) at Hotel Purbani on Thursday observed that hatcheries are needed for increasing production through scientific method.

Commerce Minister, M K Anwar speaking as chief guest pointed out that shrimp production in Bangladesh is only about 150 kg per hectare while the world average is about 500 kg. He said if our yield could be increased, the export earning from shrimp sector would swell up to

threefold. The Minister viewed that easy terms loans to the farmers as well as practical training is essential for the development of the sector.

He also stressed the need for availability of fishfeed at controlled rate for shrimp culture.

Minister for Environment, Forest, Fisheries and Livestock, Abdullah al Noman also speaking as special guest, said Fisheries Ministry has plans to extend hatchery facility to the shrimp farmers. He viewed that the farmers need financial and technical assistance and added that the Finance, Commerce and Fisheries Ministries should act

in tune for this purpose. The Minister said the loan disbursement policy should be changed to facilitate the farmers.

The Secretary of Fisheries and Livestock, AZM Nasruddin addressing the seminar said nine projects for hatchery are now lying with different banks for approval. He said these hatcheries are needed for the culture of shrimp. He said Fisheries Ministry has already earmarked suitable land for hatcheries and has submitted the details to the Land Ministry for acquisition. He also stressed the need for water management for shrimp culture.



Commodore (Retd) Md Ataur Rahman, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Islami Bank, presiding over a meeting of the bank on Wednesday.

Disaster management stressed for rural development

Finance Minister M. Saifur Rahman Thursday laid emphasis on an integrated development approach for rural development as well as disaster prevention, reports BSS.

The Minister said disaster management should be an integral part of rural development in view of the country's proneness to natural disasters like floods, cyclones and tidal bores.

Rahman was addressing the concluding session of the week-long UNCRD-CIRDAP workshop and seminar titled

'Development of Modules for Training on Integrated Approach to Disaster Management and Regional/Rural Development Planning Phase (III)' at a local hotel.

The Finance Minister said Bangladesh attached the top-most priority to poverty alleviation and rural development and pointed out that a substantial part of foreign assistance was being diverted for the sector.

Filipino Under-Secretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform and a participant of the workshop, Jose Medina Jr,

presented the findings and recommendations of the week-long exercise at the session which was also addressed by senior disaster management planner of United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), Dr Isao Tsukagoshi, Director of CIRDAP ATM Shamsul Huq and Dr S I Khan of UNCRD.

A number of experts from the countries of Asia and the Pacific region, including the host Bangladesh, took part in the workshop. The participants also visited Chittagong.

WB urges Egypt to speed up reform

CAIRO, Jan 30: The World Bank Thursday urged Egypt to speed up economic reform, including privatising the sick public sector, while the economy is performing better than expected, reports Reuter.

Cato Koch-Weser, the Bank's Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa, told a news conference he had discussed with Egyptian officials 'the impressive progress in many areas and our concern about lack of progress in a few areas.'

He said Egypt should take advantage of better than expected economic growth to press ahead with three parts of its ambitious plans: Further liberalisation of prices, trade and investment; public sector reform; establishment of a social fund to tackle unemployment and other social problems likely to be caused by economic change.

The improved economic performance and the balance of payments cushion that the country now enjoys offer an excellent opportunity in our view for the government to accelerate the structural reforms," Koch-Weser said.

Egypt's economic reform programme, which began in March 1990, has been agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Success in the programme will bring forgiveness of 10 billion dollar of Egypt's 40 billion dollar foreign debt.

Koch-Weser said the Bank believed Egypt could have acted faster over the last year to identify an initial list of efficient public-sector businesses which could be sold to private investors.

"The public enterprise reform and privatisation efforts have so far been slower than expected and measures need to be vigorously pursued to implement the programme in this area."

Koch-Weser said the government had promised quick action.

Inflation had been anticipated to rise to an annual rate of 30 per cent or more but was in fact running at 20 to 25 per cent.

Seminar on NZ's agri system held

MYMENSINGH, Jan 30: A seminar on agricultural systems in New Zealand was held at the seminar-room of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) library on January 25, reports BSS.

Organised by BAU central seminar committee, the seminar was presided over by Prof M Ashraf Ali Khan, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture.

Prof George Hill of the Lincoln University of New Zealand was the key-note speaker.

Prof SM Faruk and Prof A M Ashraf Kamal among others participated in the discussion.

India overhauls FERA for foreign investors

BOMBAY, Jan 30: Foreign investors have been given permission to buy property and buildings in India and to use their own trademarks, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said, reports Reuter.

The Central Bank's Governor S Venkataraman told a news conference that India's 1973 Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) a major restraint on foreign investment, was being overhauled.

"By virtue of these general permissions, FERA companies would in their operations in India be placed on a par with Indian companies and would not be subjected to any special restrictions under FERA 1973," Venkataraman said.

He said foreign joint ventures would also be allowed to borrow money and accept deposits in India and to open branch offices without seeking special permission from RBI.

India began liberalising its foreign investment regime in July, when it allowed foreigners to take up to a 51 per stake in joint ventures. Previously they were only allowed 40 pc.

"The need for liberalising the current exchange control regulations, with a view to improving the climate for foreign investment in India as well as facilitating exports, has been engaging the attention of the government," he said.

Sonali Bank to give Tk 385 cr as agri-loan for 1991-92

Sonali Bank has chalked out an intensive programme to disburse Tk 385 crore as agricultural and rural credit in 1991-92 harvesting year, reports BSS.

According to a press release in Dhaka yesterday the Bank has already disbursed Tk 50 crore during the period from October to December last year.

At present, Tk 34.20 crore has been distributed for Rabi and winter crops production. The Agricultural and Rural Credit Programme for the Rabi and Winter Crops Production will continue till March 15 this year.

The Agricultural Credit Disbursement Programme of Sonali Bank for irrigation tools, agri-equipment, bullocks, buffaloes, shrimp and other fish culture, salt cultivation and various other socio-economic activities is going on, the press release added.



Khurshed Alam new Chairman of BKB

By Staff Correspondent

Government recently appointed Khurshed Alam, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB).

Earlier, he was the Principal Finance Secretary prior to his Leave Preparatory to Retirement (LPR) from January 14, 1992.

Alam joined erstwhile Pakistan Civil Service in 1957 and was Secretary in Industry and Commerce Ministry.

He also held the position of Principal Secretary to the President.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Name of Vessels	Berthed	ETA	Berth	L Port No	L Agent
Banglar Kalol	22/01	04/02	J/1	Munda	BSC
Prabu Puni	23/01	31/01	J/3	Col	SEACOAST
Banglar Aaha	28/01	03/02	J/4	Col	BSC
Laurisa	29/01	02/02	J/5	Chitra	CSA
Mistra	24/01	07/2	J/6	Singapore	MSA
Banglar Shobha	28/01	05/02	J/7	Pena	BSC
Shalamar	31/01	31/01	J/8	Col	BSC
Vishva Prafulla	23/01	30/01	J/11	Mad	SSL
Prince Shahul	22/01	02/01	CCL	Aqaba	UMAL
Lilas	24/01	03/02	GSJ	Singapore	PROG
Sea Rhapsody	29/01	10/02	TSP	Singapore	OSA
Kang Dong	19/01	05/02	RM/4	Singapore	OSA
Pacific Diamond	28/01	30/01	RM/5	Mad	ECSL
Fong Yun	06/01	31/01	DDJ/1	Singapore	BDSHIP
Banglar Kiron	25/01	01/02	DDJ/2	NA	BSC
Oiga	25/01	01/02	RM/8	Kand	DELMURE

Vessels Ready At Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Ready	L Port	L Agent
Alpha Nova	30/01	Singapore	PROG
Songrim	30/01	Kand	PRSA
Tabuk	01/02	Kand	SEACOAST
Virginia	01/02	Pode	LTL
Gemini	01/02	Durb	AQUA
Ryong Song	05/02	NA	NA
Loyal Bird	05/02	NA	NA

Vessels Due At Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	ETA	L Port Call	L Agent
Stonewall Jackson	30/01/92	Phuk	ULA
Optima	30/01/92	Col	RSL
Ubarana	30/01/92	NA	JF
Ronjoy Choomie	30/01/92	NA	PSAL
Kota Buana	30/01/92	Singapore	NA
New Genlord	31/01/92	Singapore	BDSHIP
Atlantic Clipper	01/01/92	Cal	BDSHIP
Weser Star	01/02/92	Singapore	BDSHIP
Chong Chon Gang	02/02/92	NA	RSSA
Calypso	02/01/92	NA	PROG
Knud Jerspersen	02/02/92	NA	CT
Ronjoy Victory	03/02/92	NA	PSAL
Felicity	03/02/92	Tamp	OWSL
Vishva Pankaj	03/02/92	NA	SSL
Ryong Gong	04/02/92	NA	BRIGHT
Seabulk Hope	05/02/92	NA	BBA
Saffina-e-Ismael-2	05/02/92	NA	ASLL
Andrian Goncharov	05/02/92	NA	CT
Fong Shan	06/02/92	Singapore	OWSL
Petr Starostin	14/02/92	NA	CT

Chalna Port

Name of Vessel	Berthed	ETA	ETD	L Port	L Agent
Shalmar	24/01	31/01	Chittagong	BSC	
Royal BIRD	25/01	30/01	Chittagong	OWSL	
Sea Carol	28/01	NA	Vizag	HIL	
Banglar Beard	28/01	NA	Chittagong	BSC	
Al-Bashir	30/01	NA	India	TML	
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	

Berthed = Vessel at Port Jetty. ETA = Expected Time of Departure.
ETA = Expected Time of Arrival. N A = Not Available.
ETB = Expected to Berth.

Source: Aquamarine Limited.

Price Index

Essentials

Item	Price per kg	Price per 100 pieces
RICE (Aman/Bina)	14.50-15.50	
Fajun	12.00-12.50	
Veg. (Lentil)	NA	
Potato	5.00-6.00	
Brijal	5.00-6.00	
Korola	22.00-24.00	
Lalshak	2.50-3.00	
Papa	5.00-6.00	
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-5.00	
OTHER FOODGRAIN	(Taka per kg)	
Pear	12.50-13.00	
Alta	10.50-11.00	
FISH (Taka per kg)		
Kulshi (big)	140.00-150.00	
Kulshi (small)	90.00-100.00	
Hilsha	64.00-65.00	
Pungo	120.00-130.00	
Shrimp (big)	90.00-100.00	
Singi	85.00-90.00	
MEEAT (Taka per kg)		
Buff	55.00-60.00	
Mutton	80.00-85.00	
CHICKEN (Taka per kg)		
Large	62.00-64.00	
Medium	66.00-68.00	
Small	70.00-72.00	
TEA (Taka per kg)		
Dist (Finn)	70.00-80.00	
BEAG (kg)		
Hin	11.50-12.00	
Duck	10.00-10.50	
Pinn	11.00-12.00	
PULSES (Taka per kg)		
Mash	28.00-30.00	
Mough	28.00-30.00	
Chhilo	23.00-24.00	
Garar	13.00-14.00	
OIL (Taka per Litre)		
Mustard	52.00-54.00	
Soyabean	38.00-39.00	

Hides & Skin

Item	Price per 100 pieces
Cow	17,000.00 - 35,000.00
Light	96,000.00 - 63,000.00
Medium	94,000.00 - 71,000.00
Heavy	73,000.00 - 79,000.00
Very heavy	70,000.00 - 85,000.00
Rejected	39,000.00 - 32,000.00
Goat	
Big & heavy	94,000.00 - 110,000.00
Light & medium	79,000.00 - 80,000.00
Rejected	38,000.00 - 40,000.00
Sheep	1,300.00 - 1,700.00
Bullalo	82,000.00 - 60,000.00

Gold & Silver

Item	Price per 11.66 gram
Gold	6,350.00-6,400.00
Tajmah	6,400.00
Quinta	6,400.00
Silver	200.00

Source: Department of Agriculture Marketing

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Jan 30, 1992

Market dips down

Star Economic Report

Business was dull of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Thursday. Transaction both in volume and value fell to this weeks nadir. Only 5244 papers changed hands which valued Tk. 4.61,298 against Wednesday's 9959 papers valuing Tk 5.61,633.

However, the broad indicator of price movement, DSE composite Price index kept moving up and stood at 299.6017. It was a 0.2196 points improvement over Wednesday's index. The index gained throughout the week excepting Sunday when it shed a little.

In the day's trading advancing issues had a little edge over the decliners. Nine papers gained while eight lost. Two shares were traded at Wednesday's quoted price. They are Al Baraka and 8th ICBM Fund.

Apex Food made the most out of the days business. It gained Tk. 11.97 to move up to Tk. 460.00. Bangladesh That Aluminium share increased by Tk 2.20 and closed at Tk. 90.20. Bangladesh Autocars paper was last selling at Tk. 79.90 up by Tk 2.09 from Wednesday's price. The 4th ICBM Fund recorded an increase of Tk. 1.92 per paper and exchanged hands at Tk 127.00.

Quasem Silk, Oxygen, Usmania Glass, Rahim Textile and Saitham Textile all registered slight increase ranging from Tk 0.15 to Tk 1.00.

Chittagong Cement share was last selling at Tk 224.53, Tk 1.47 short of Wednesday's price. Metalex Corporation lost Tk 1.00 and traded at Tk 106.00. Uttara Bank share sunk a little, by Tk 0.95, and traded at Tk 159.05.

Zeal Bangla Sugar, Beximco, Dhaka Vegetable, Apex Tannery and BGIC all shed prices ranging from Tk. 0.03 to Tk 0.75.

No Debenture paper was traded on Thursday.

Market Profile

135 Listed Stocks

09 gains, 08 losses, 117 unchanged. 117 unchanged stocks include 02 traded on the day at its previous quoted prices. DSE All Share Price Index = 299.6017. Market Capitalisation = 8,568,734,918. Turnover = Taka 461,298 (Value) 5244.

Company	FV/ML Tk
AL Baraka Bank	1000/1 1065.00
A.B Bank	100/5 177.00
City Bank	100/5 269.67
I.F.I.C.	100/5 180.00
Islami Bank	1000/1 1855.00
National Bank	100/5 109.40
Pubali Bank	100/5 102.00
Rupali Bank	100/10 90.00
U.C.B.L.	100/5 121.