

### EEC to help raise leather goods' quality

By Staff Correspondent

EEC will provide technical assistance to the leather sector of Bangladesh in training up local experts to raise the standard of leather products.

Andrew Jacobs, EEC Trade and Service Promotion representative said this while meeting with the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) President Alhaj Md Akram Hussain at the latter's office Sunday.

EEC has been providing technical assistance to jute, handcraft and ceramic sectors of Bangladesh.

### Listing of units for collection of VAT begins

A week-long campaign to register the taxable industrial units and services for collecting the Value Added Tax (VAT) began on Saturday to curb the tax evasion.

The Member of Board of Revenue and Chairman of VAT Cell, Shah Abdul Haman, told BSS in Dhaka Sunday that a total of 16000 manufacturing units, importers, exporters and service organisations had so far registered with the VAT Cell to join the fold.

He said the campaign was aimed at eliminating the uneven competition between the tax paying and tax evading industrial units and services by plugging the tax evasion.

Haman said the purpose of this campaign was to give a chance to industrial units/firms to get themselves registered with the Value Added Tax this week so that the industrial units have not been penalised through inspection.

### Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank gets new MD

By Staff Correspondent

Ghiyasuddin Ahmed has taken over as Managing Director of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (RAKUB) from February 1, 1992.



Ghiyasuddin Ahmed

He started his career as Probationary officer at Habib Bank in 1961 and worked in different important positions.

Before taking over the present charge, he worked, as general manager of Agrani Bank, Sonali Bank and Janata Bank.

In 1986, he attended an international workshop in London on 'Small Enterprises'. He was a member of Bangladesh trade delegation in 1988 and 1990 for signing barter trade agreements with China and the Soviet Union.

### Appointment at PDB

Mosharraf Hossain has joined as Member (Planning and Development) of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), according to a press release of the Board in Dhaka Sunday, reports BSS.

Prior to his joining he was the Chief Engineer of Dhaka Electrical Supply Authority (DESA).

Mosharraf Hossain joined erstwhile EPWAPDA as Assistant Engineer in the year 1959 and held many responsible posts.

He obtained his engineering degree from Ashmunnillah Engineering College, Dhaka in 1959.

### Compensation for land demanded

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 2: Local people stopped reconstruction work of Dairiapur-Enayetpur road demanding compensation money for acquiring their land, reports UNB.

It has been alleged that the agitation by the local people had been incited by a local leader belonging to the ruling party.

The Engineering Bureau of local government department said that Palti Unnayan Protalpa No-7 had taken up the reconstruction work at an estimated cost of Taka 1.80 crore.

The work was scheduled to be completed by May 1992.

## Govt has plan to export the crop

# Potato output crosses target

Potato cultivation in the country has increased substantially and a total of 16 lakh tons were produced during 1990-91 exceeding the target of 15 lakh tons, official sources said, reports UNB.

The target of potato production during 1991-92 has been fixed at 17,53,630 tons on 17,53,63 hectares of land.

Talking to UNB Sunday, Director of Agriculture Marketing Department Dabiruddin Ahmed said we are producing enough for our domestic consumption but due emphasis has to be given on increasing potato-based food intake.

He said increased production and consumption would

also ensure better price for the growers.

The government has plans to export potato, he said adding that around 100 tons of potato was exported to UK and Middle Eastern countries last year along with other vegetables.

There is a large market for the crop in Singapore and

Malaysia, he mentioned. But, he continued proper storage and carrying facilities including airconditioned vessels and trucks were the preconditions for exporting such a perishable item like potato.

President of Bangladesh Cold Storage Association Mohammad Nurul Islam said potato is considered a major food item in 40 countries of the world but this food culture is far behind in our country.

Owner of a cold storage in Matlab upazila under Chandpur district MA Awal stressed on government initiative for improving potato intake by including it in the diet in different institutions like hospital, jail and other public hostels.

Riazul Haq, owner of another cold storage in Joypurhat said 13 cold storages were closed in 1990 due to lack of timely cash credit from bank, working capital and load shedding.

The country now has a total of 170 cold storages, including 11 of BADC, having a capacity to preserve 4,25,480 tons of potato. About 3,74,915 tons of potato were preserved in 1991 in the cold storages of which one fourth was seed potato while rest table potato.

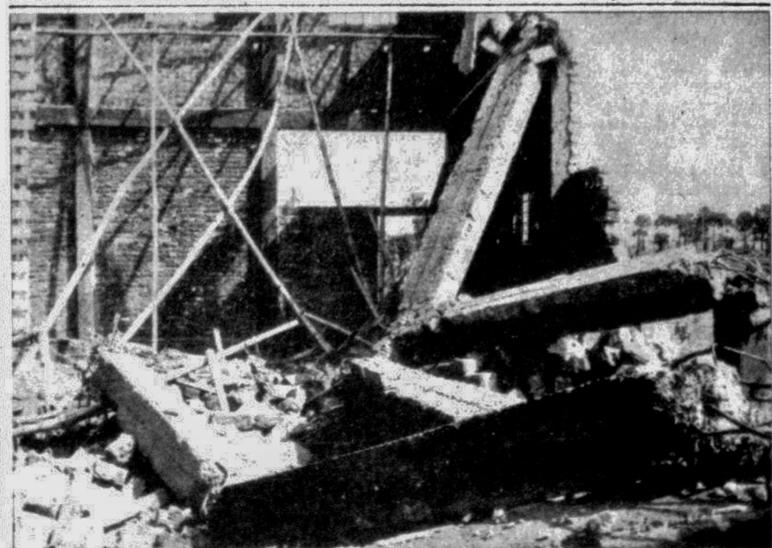
## India may miss food output target

NEW DELHI, Feb 2: India's food grain production target of 182.5 million tons for 1991-92 may not be attained in view of the delayed 1991 southwest monsoon in some parts of the country, especially in the northern belt, reports Xinhua.

According to the Reserve Bank of India commodity review for the three-month period ending July 1991, the autumn crop season food grains production has been estimated at around 95-97 million tons as against the target of 103.15 million tons fixed earlier.

In order to make good the shortfall in autumn crop season production, the government has revised the spring crop season food grains output to 83.72 million tons from the original 79.5 million tons, according to local press reports.

In India, monsoon still holds the key to good or bad harvest, with more than two thirds of the cultivated areas still being dependent on rains. In 1988, 1989 and 1990, when monsoon were normal, three harvests were recorded.



TOO WEAK TO WITHSTAND A STORMY WIND? The structure of the Alfatah Board Mills at Nabinagar, Savar collapsed in the storm on Friday. — Star photo

## A laudable move to save fruit heritage

One is likely to overlook while driving through the city's VIP Road the outstanding feat demonstrated by our horticulturists, writes UNB correspondent Yunus Ali Sheikh.

It is a fruit orchard raised on the vacant land of the old airport at Tejgaon but kept out of view by the national parade square on the west, a straight mound on the south and buildings on the east.

The orchard grown in one year with seventy kinds of fruit trees and plants is "museum" which will take tourists and visitors to our fruitful past reminding them and ourselves of a rich heritage in fruit production.

Many of the rare varieties would have been lost and forgotten had it not been for the talented horticulturists who impressed upon the higher authorities the need to preserve the nations decaying fruit culture.

The suggestion was readily accepted, the site selected and bureaucratic red-tape over-

come to make over at least half of the allotted 10 acres of the PWD land to the Agricultural Extension Department.

"We started work on October 1, 1990 and planted within one year 70 different species, many of these with more than one variety," said a Director of the Agriculture Department AKM Giasuddin Milky.

Besides bringing up the hal-lowed image of the nation to the foreigners and bearing a demonstrative utility, it will also work as a 'Germ Plasm Bank' preserving the rare varieties from extinction — a unique achievement unparalleled in South Asia, he claimed.

There are 20 varieties of mango, ten varieties of banana and five each of plum, papaya, guava and lemon. Mangosteel, ayocado, starfruit, peach and grape are some of the foreign varieties planted and preserved in the "Museum or the Bank" protected from Tokaf's

## Think tank sees weak growth of major economies

LONDON, Feb 2: The world's major economies will suffer weak economic growth throughout 1992, with interest rates set to fall further as authorities try and breathe life into their flagging industrial and consumer sectors, the latest global economic outlook from DKB International said.

DKB International Chief Economist Gerard Lyons saw growth of 2.3 per cent in Japan this year, 1.0 per cent in Germany and 0.4 per cent in the UK. "With Japan weak there's not going to be a locomotive for growth elsewhere," he said.

With inflation pressures set to ease, interest rates will fall further, the outlook says. Lyons expects at least 0.5 per cent of the Japanese discount rate and possibly a full point over the next six months. He sees Germany easing, but not until the second half of the year after wage settlements and inflation have peaked.

Lyons said UK monetary policy was likely to remain tight. If the ruling conservatives were to win this year's UK election, rates were likely to remain high to squeeze inflation, he said, while if the opposition Labour Party won it was likely to keep rates up to gain credibility with the financial markets.

DKB's chief US economist Philip Braverman was gloomy on the US economy. "This year will be no better than a bottoming year for the economy," he said.

"The US is the locomotive for world growth, but at the moment it is derailed," he said. "There is virtually nothing but the recession's comparatively ancient age to suggest recovery."

Even if there is a fiscal stimulus he sees further easing in the 4.0 per cent Fed funds rate to 3.5 per cent in the first quarter, to 3.25 per cent by mid-year and to 3.0 per cent or 2.75 per cent by the year end.

## Shipping Intelligence

### Chittagong Port

Name of Vessels	Berthed	ETA	ETD	Birth	L Port No	L Agent
Banglar Kallol	22/01	04/02	J/1	Munda	BSC	
Prabu Punt	23/01	01/01	J/3	Col	SEACOAST	
Laurissa	29/01	01/02	J/5	China	COSA	
Mistar	24/01	07/02	J/6	Singapore	MSA	
Banglar Shobha	28/01	05/02	J/7	Pena	BSC	
Shalamar	31/01	01/01	J/8	Col	BSC	
Banglar Asha	30/01	04/02	J/11	NA	BSC	
Fong Shan	30/01	NA	MPB/1	Singapore	BDSHIP	
Prince Shaul	22/01	02/01	CGJ	Apulia	UMAL	
Lila	24/01	03/02	GSJ	Singapore	PROG	
Sca Rhapsody	29/01	10/02	TSP	Singapore	COSA	
Kang Dong	19/01	05/02	RM/4	Singapore	OSA	
Pacific diamond	28/01	31/01	RM/5	MAD	ECSL	
Fong Yun	06/01	03/02	DDJ/1	Singapore	BDSHIP	
Banglar Kiron	25/01	05/02	DDJ/2	NA	BSC	
Olga	25/01	01/02	RM/8	Kand	DELMURE	

### Vessels Ready At Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Ready	L Port	L Agent
Alpha nova	31/01	Singapore	PROG
Songrim	03/01	Kand	PRSA
Tabuk	01/02	Kand	SEACOAST
Vigra	31/02	Pode	LTL
Gemini	02/02	Darb	AQUA
Eastern Breeze	04/02	Singapore	NA
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
Atlantic Clipper	31/01/92	CAL	BDSHIP
New Genford	31/01/92	Singapore	BDSHIP
Weaver Star	01/02/92	Singapore	BDSHIP
Calypso	01/01/92	NA	PROG
Ronjoy choomie	02/02/92	NA	PSAL
Chong Chon Gang	02/02/92	NA	RRSA
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	SSJ
Ryong Gong	04/02/92	NA	BRIGHT
Saifna-e-Ismael-2	05/02/92	NA	ASLL
Andrian Gorcharov	05/02/92	NA	CT
Seabulk Hope	05/02/92	NA	EPA
Fong Shan	06/02/92	Singapore	OWSL
Infinity	07/02/92	Singapore	RSL
Nga Ranger	09/02/92	Singapore	BDSHIP
Tania	12/02/92	NA	NISHAT
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	
Sea Carol	28/01	NA	Vizag	HIL	
Banglar Baani	28/01	NA	Chittagong	BSC	
Al-Baahir	30/01	NA	India	TMIL	
Yom Bun Jin	30/01	NA	Dprk	GREENLAND	
Felicity	05/02	NA	Chittagong	OWSL	
Mun Su Borg	05/02	NA	China	GREENLAND	
Gold Future	15/02	NA	Chittagong	AGM	

Note: Berthed = Vessel At Port Jetty. ETD = Expected Time of Departure. ETA = Expected Time of Arrival. N.A. = Not Available. ETB = Expected to Berth.

Source: Aquamarine Limited.

## Price Index

### Essentials

February-2	(Taka per kg)	Vegetable Ghee	45.00-48.00
RICE		SPICES	(Taka Per kg)
Amant(fine)	14.50-15.50	Onion	1.00-2.00
Fajun	13.50-14.50	Onion	18.00-20.00
Ulat	NA	Chillies	70.00-75.00
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)	Tumeric(Round)	44.00-45.00
Potato	5.00-6.00	"(Long)	45.00-50.00
Brijal	5.00-8.00	Green chillies	30.00-22.00
Karoli	22.00-24.00	Ginger	10.00-12.00
Lahabi	2.50-3.00	Cinnamon(50gm)	3.00-3.50
Papa	4.00-5.00	Cardamom(50gm)	3.00-4.00
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-5.00	Milk (50gms)	7.00-7.50
OTHER FOODGRAIN	(Taka per kg)	DAIRY	
Flour	12.00-13.00	Red-Cow	288.00-289.00
Alta	10.50-11.00	Red-Cow	286.00-287.00
FISH	(Taka per kg)	MISCELLANEOUS	(Taka)
Rohi(big)	140.00-150.00	Ghee (one Kg)	220.00-240.00
Katla(big)	95.00-100.00	Salt	6.00-7.00
Hilaha	68.00-70.00	Sugar	26.50-27.00
Pungo	125.00-130.00	Molasses	15.00-16.00
Shrimp(big)	90.00-100.00		
Singi	80.00-85.00		
Koi	85.00-100.00		

### Hides & Skin

(Wet/Salted)	(Taka per 100 pieces)	Cow	17,000.00 - 35,000.00
Light	98,000.00 - 63,000.00	Medium	64,000.00 - 71,000.00
Heavy	72,000.00 - 78,000.00	Very heavy	79,000.00 - 89,000.00
Rejected	29,000.00 - 39,000.00	Sheep	9,000.00 - 9,000.00
Buffalo	8,000.00 - 8,000.00	Goat	1,000.00 - 1,000.00
Light & heavy	94,000.00 - 11,000.00	Light & heavy	7,800.00 - 8,000.00
Rejected	3,800.00 - 4,000.00	Sheep	9,300.00 - 9,700.00
Buffalo	8,000.00 - 8,000.00		

### Gold & Silver

(Taka for 11.66 grams)	Gold	Tejgati	NA
Gold	6,400.00	Silver	200.00
Source:	Department of Agriculture Marketing		

## Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Feb 02, 1992

### Business gets momentum

Star Economic Report

Saturday's dizziness in the market was overcome by Sunday's brisk trading. Business both in terms of volume and value improved a lot. Transaction is volume turned out to be more than three-fold from 4,562 to 15,430 papers while in value terms it had a sharp increase from Tk 308,995 to a substantial Tk 2,742,957.50.

However, the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), Composite Index fell a little from 297.7973 to 297.5455 broadly indicating a fall in average price of the stocks.

The gainers and losers were left at par after the day's trading. Each of them numbered 13 while 14 papers were traded at Saturday's quoted price.

Singer Bangladesh was traded after a considerable pause and gained Tk 50.00 to move up to Tk 750.00. Progressive Plastic jumped up to Tk 55.00 from previous Tk 40.00. Rahman Chemicals soared by Tk 13.47 register at Tk 48.47.

Phoenix Leather added Tk 6.00 with previous Tk 99.00 to end up at Tk 105.00. Bangladesh Autocar papers were costlier by Tk 3.00 each and last traded at Tk 82.00. Dulamia Cotton edged up by Tk 2.00 to close at Tk 75.00.

Aftab Automobiles, Eagle Box, Hawlader Pvc, Therapeutics, Rahim Textile and Satham Textile all recorded slight increase ranging from Tk 0.44 to Tk 1.00.

It was not a day for Islami Bank which lost the most, Tk 15.00, and was reduced to Tk 1840.00. Green Delta lost Tk 8.75 per paper and slid down to Tk 120.00. Bangladesh Lamp shares were last selling at Tk 230.00, Tk 5.00 less than Saturday's price. IFIC sold at Tk 178.00. Beximco Pharma at Tk 202.00. Monno Ceramic at Tk 148.00. All three lost Tk 2.00 per share.

Kohinoor Chemicals exchanged hands at Tk 90.66, short by Tk 1.59 against previous day's price.

Quasem Drycell, Bangladesh Thai Aluminium, 6th ICB, M Fund, Oxygen, Chittagong Cement and National Tubes all declined over a range of Tk 0.15 to Tk 1.00.

The other papers traded on the day were Al Baraka, City Bank, Rupali Bank, Pubali Bank, 4th ICB, M Fund, 5th ICB, M Fund, BGIC, Atlas Bangladesh, Eastern Cables, BTC, Tulip Dairy, Zeal Bangla Sugar, Shine Pukur Jute and Sonali Aansh. They recorded no change over Saturday's price.

No debenture paper was traded in the day's exchanges.

### Market Profile

135 Listed Shares

13 gains, 13 losses, 109 unchanged

109 unchanged stocks include 14 traded on the day at its previous quoted prices. DSE All Share Price Index = 297.5455. Market Capitalisation = 8,509,926,123. Turnover: Value Taka 308,995. Volume: 15,430.

Company	FV/ML Tk	Company	FV/ML Tk
AL Baraka Bank	1000/1 1065.00	Murhal Jute	100/5 100.00
A.B Bank	100/5 177.00	Northern Jute	100/50 NT
City Bank	100/5 270.00	Shamser Jute	100/5 100.00
L.F.I.C	100/5 178.00	Specialised Jute	100/50 NT
Islami Bank	1000/1 1840.00	Shine Pukur Jute	100/5 92.00
National Bank	100/5 109.40	Sonali Aansh	100/5