

Export earning in last fiscal year pegged at \$1,28,412m

By Staff Correspondent
 Bangladesh's export earning in the last fiscal year (1990-91) was 1,28,412 million US dollars, according to Commerce Minister M K Anwar.
 The foreign exchange was earned from the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, Singapore, Iran and Japan, he told the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament) Sunday. The maximum export earning was 507.29 US dollars, from the United States, he added.
 In reply to a question, the Commerce Minister told the House the country exported shrimp worth Taka 249.41 crore in first six months of the current fiscal year.



Non-govt teachers brought out a procession in city to press for their demands yesterday. —Star photo

Biswas, Khaleda greet Rafsanjani

President Abdur Rahman Biswas has greeted President Hujjatol Islam Ali Akbar Rafsanjani of Iran on the occasion of its national day, reports BSS.
 In a message to his Iranian counterpart, President Biswas expressed hope that the existing friendly relations between Bangladesh and Iran would be further strengthened.
 President Biswas wished good health, happiness and prosperity of President Rafsanjani and the people of Iran.
 Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has also felicitated President Rafsanjani.
 In a message of felicitation to Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia expressed her confidence that the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation would be further developed and strengthened.
 The Prime Minister wished him good health, happiness and long life and the people of Iran continued peace, progress and prosperity.

60 pc govt employees use Bangla in offices

As part of its month-long programme to observe the Ekushey February, the Bangla Academy held a seminar on 'Bangla as working language in administration' Monday in the Academy premises, reports BSS.
 Quazi Muhammad Manzur-e-Mowla was the key-note speaker at the seminar while Dr Badruzzaman, Bashir Al Helal and Fakir Ashraf participated in the discussions. M Mujibul Hoq was in the chair.
 Referring to a sample survey conducted by the Public Administration Training Centre on the use of Bangla in government work, Manzur-e-Mowla said 60 per cent of the government servants were found to be using Bangla in their official work.
 He made a few recommendations to ensure total use of Bangla in the administration which included introduction of a special curriculum to educate the officers and employees of government bodies and government controlled institutions to use of Bangla in administration, use of every-day Bangla words in government work and use of computer instead of Bangla typewriter.
 In his presidential speech, Mujibul Hoq said words from English and other languages, if necessary, should be accommodated in the uses of Bangla in administration.
 In the evening, a session of reading from Bangla prose literature was held which was participated, among others, by Asad Chowdhury, Moutazuddin Ahmed, Asaduzzaman Noor and Afroza Banu. They day's programme concluded with a session of Tagore Songs rendered by Chitra Sarkar and Moinuddin Nazir.

Hasina seeks realistic steps Teachers went on strike for 175 days during AL rule : BNP

Deputy leader of the Jatiya Sangsad Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury Monday told the House that Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was born in the soil of Bangladesh both psychologically and physically and would grow here in future too, reports BSS.
 Referring to a comment made by leader of the opposition and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina that 'both BNP and Jatiya Party were born at the same place', Dr Badruddoza said BNP did not get any inspiration from any place outside the soil of Bangladesh.
 Refuting the allegation of Sheikh Hasina he said BNP did not betray any of its commitment given to the people. He said BNP wanted to solve all problems through discussions with the concerned parties and withdrawal of decision for strike by the Power Board employees was an example of that. He pointed out that during

Awami League rule the teachers went on strike for 175 days but the government did not sit for discussions with them. Similarly during Ershad regime newspapers strike continued for 26 days.
 The deputy leader of the House expressing his regret said he hoped that the opposition members would show their sympathy to the degree examinees and the students in general who were being affected by the strikes of the transport owners and the teachers.
 Dr Badruddoza also called upon the striking transport owners to withdraw their strike from today (Tuesday) considering all sides and show that they were also interested in the development activities of the country.
 In reply to Sheikh Hasina, Dr Badruddoza said in many countries the prices of both diesel and petrol were the same.
 Earlier, participating in the general discussion on 'transport strike' leader of the opposition Sheikh Hasina supported the demands of the transport owners and urged the government to accept those demands and solve the problem through discussions.
 She also urged the government to take realistic steps to solve the problems of the striking teachers and said it was the duty of the government to make provision for money from whatever source it could.
 Participating in the discussion deputy parliamentary leader of Jatiya Party Hossain Moudud Ahmed said during seven years of JP's rule there were a total of 272 days of transport strike which caused a loss of Taka 8,500 crore.
 He said that it was not possible for the government alone to solve the transport problem and suggested for motion of an All Party Parliamentary Committee to find out realistic solutions.

French Navy ship leaves Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, Feb 10: The French Navy Ship 'Protet' left Chittagong today after a six-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh, reports BSS.
 During the visit, the Commanding officer of the ship made courtesy call on the local Area Commander of the Bangladesh Army, the Commodore Commanding, Chittagong, the Commodore Commanding BN Flotilla, Air Officer Commanding of the local air base and Mayor of the Chittagong City Corporation.
 Other activities of the ship included visit to the sailors' training complex at Kaptai, friendly football, basketball and volleyball matches with the BN Flotilla team. They were accorded receptions by the Bangladesh Navy.

Plea to solve CHT crisis politically

CHITTAGONG, Feb 10: The Awami League General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury urged the government to solve the staggering problem of Chittagong hill districts politically, reports UNB.
 Addressing the biennial conference of the district Awami League Begum Sajeda said the problem could not be solved through arms. It should be solved through discussions.
 "No decision will be accepted if it is taken outside the Parliament," Sajeda said urging the government to form a committee to talk to the Janasanghati Samity, the political wing of the outlawed Shantabhai.
 She also demanded inclusion of parliament members in the committee.
 Criticising the government for patronising the anti-liberation forces she said late President Zia rehabilitated Golam Azam while his successors had been helping to reorganise.
 "Our desire to establish a democratic government based on the modalities enunciated in the joint declaration of the three alliances could not be fulfilled," she said adding the vicious move to distort history was on.

Presided over by Badrul Alam, district president of AL the conference was addressed, among others, by Prof. Polin Day, Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser and local MP Dipankar Talukdar.
Agreement to construct houses in flood-hit areas
 A number of agreements for construction of low cost housing in flood and cyclone-affected areas of Bangladesh have been signed Monday between the Rural Development and Cooperatives Division of the Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives and the concerned implementing agencies, reports BSS.
 These agreements involved a total revolving fund of Taka five crore 51 lakh for construction of 1280 houses in cyclone-affected areas and 2300 houses in flood-affected areas of the country.
 The agreements were signed by the Director of Rural Housing Project on behalf of the government and chief executives of the implementing agencies including Bangladesh Rural Development Board, Department of Cooperatives, Comilla Proshika Center for Development, Association for Social Advancement and Enfants Du Monde.
 The agreements provide for creation of sustainable revolving loan funds for construction of low cost housing in rural areas affected by flood and cyclone.

DPI-I, Pakistan Chief in Dhaka
 Dr Salma Maqbool, Chairperson of DPI-I, Pakistan, is conducting a research on 'comparative study of international income generating strategies of disabled persons' in Bangladesh at present, says a press release.
 The study is sponsored by ILO, DPI (Disabled Peoples' International), and the Walter Dinsdale Institute for the Empowerment of Canadians with Disabilities, Calgary University, Canada and will be carried out in four more SAARC countries; in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and India.
 The findings of the research are expected to provide innovative income generating strategies for disabled around the world including 100 million in the SAARC region.
 Dr Salma along with her researcher husband has met the Secretary, Ministry of Social Welfare, visited several NGOs on this occasion since January.
 As a representative of DPI SAARC region she has urged the Bangladesh SAARC Directorate to observe 1993 as the SAARC Year of Disabled.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA
SHORT COURSE IN ENGLISH
 Open to outsiders. Admission going on

Tender Notice
 বিদ্যুৎ বিলি নিয়ন্ত্রিত পরিদপন কর্তৃক

Description of work : Reconstruction (deposit basis) by emergency transfer of electric line adjacent to Fulpur Bazar, Fisheries and Sarchapur Road. Eligibility of contractor : PDB enlisted A, B, & C class valid A, B, C contractor firm. Any local representative willing to buy tender on behalf of the firm will have to produce necessary document of authorisation. Estimated cost : Taka 3,50,000/- Price of tender : Taka 350/- Place and date of tender availability : From Chief Engineer, Central Zone, PDB, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer, Operation and Maintenance Circle, PDB, Mymensingh/ Manager, Rupali Bank, Station Road Branch, Mymensingh up to 01-03-92. Date of receiving and opening: 02-03-92 up to 12-00 Noon and on the same day at 12-30 minutes. All rules and regulations of the tender must be complied with.
 Executive Engineer, Mymensingh Electric Supply Division, PDB, Mymensingh.
 Biddut/Jan - 775 (4) 91-92
 DFP (BA) - 859-52
 G-140

OXFAM to arrange training for youths

The Country Representative of OXFAM in Bangladesh Mark Goldring announced that the OXFAM through Jubo Academy will arrange a massive training programme for the youth volunteers to take part in pre-disaster preparedness programmes of Bangladesh, says a press release.
 This was stated by him on Feb. 6, while he was distributing certificates to the participants of a training course on "The Development of Leadership of the Youth Workers" conducted by the Jubo Academy in Dhaka.
 Under the OXFAM's training programme, the trained youth workers would be able to take part in preparedness programme before any calamity.
 The Advisor of the training course Rowshan Ara Feroz and the Executive Director of the Jubo Academy.

Dateline Rajshahi Sabash Bangladesh unveiled

RAJSHAHI, Feb 10: A sculpture named 'Sabash Bangladesh', was formally unveiled on the Rajshahi University campus here today, reports UNB.
 Famous writer and mother of freedom fighter Shahid Rumi, Mrs. Jahanara Imam, attended the function as chief guest and unveiled the sculpture dedicated to the spirit of the country's Liberation War.
 It was designed and carved by artist Nitun Kundu.
 Mother of freedom fighter Shahid Lt Ashfaq, Sadeqa Samad and mother of freedom fighter Shahid Lt Selim were present as special guests on the occasion.
 Organised by Rajshahi

University Central Students Union (RUCSU), the sculpture was made at a cost of Taka 10 lakh. Half of the expenditure came through subscriptions by the students of the university and rest from the University authorities.
 Vice-Chancellor of Rajshahi University Prof Amanullah Ahmed presided over the function.
 He urged the students community to work for the future forgetting the bitter past.
 The function was also attended by Barrister Istiaque Ahmed, Fatz Ahmed, Pro Vice-President of RUCSU Kader Sarker, General Secretary of RUCSU Ruhul Kuddus Babu and the Director of Teachers Students Cultural Centre (TSCC).

Directive to run Meghna Textile Mills properly

The State Minister for Textiles Abdul Mannan has called to take united efforts to increase the production in the textile mills and to improve the quality of the textile products, reports BSS.
 He was addressing the employees and labourers of the Meghna Textile Mills after a surprise visit to the mills at Tongi Monday.
 He said, textile industry was a profitable sub-industrial sector and there was no scope here to sustain loss. He called upon all concerned to discharge their assigned duties with honesty and sincerity with a view to making textile mills profitable one.
 He went round various production units of the mills and expressed dissatisfaction at the mismanagement of the mills. He directed the concerned authority to properly run the mills.

DUJ demands salary for journalists of Ajker Kagaj

President and General Secretary of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) Shahjahan Mian and Alif Mahmood yesterday urged all concerned to resolve the present stalemate in the Bengali daily Ajker Kagaj in the interests of its innumerable readers, reports BSS.
 In a joint statement in Dhaka, the DUJ leaders also called for the payment of salary for January to the journalists-employees, who were not allowed to work in the daily from the night following January 28.
 They said Kazi Shahed Ahmad, one of the owners of the daily, took possession of the office of the daily on that night with his own people and retrenched the Editor, Naimul Islam Khan, in his absence.
 The authorities of the daily also published a news item about retrenchment with the photograph of Khan, which is a violation of the established norms in the newspaper industry," the leaders said.

EVH opens at Bangladesh house in Manchester tomorrow

Greater Manchester Bangladesh Association (GMBA) has established in Electronic Village Hall (EVH) at Bangladesh House in Manchester (Britain) to provide training on Information Technology (IT), according to an information received in Dhaka, reports BSS.
 British Minister for Environment Robert Key MP will inaugurate the EVH on February 12 at a ceremony to be attended by high officials, local dignitaries and representatives of business and commerce including British tele-com.

BMFA urges govt to 'tackle' trawler crew strike

Bangladesh Marine Fisheries Association (BMFA) Sunday urged the government to tackle the 'illegal' strike by the crew of deep sea fishing trawlers, reports BSS.
 The Chairman of the BMFA Rear Admiral (Rtd) MH Khan, in a press statement, said the crew of the deep sea fishing trawlers had gone on an 'illegal' strike from Friday at the call of one so-called union named Samudrik Matsha Jahaz Sramik Union violating the existing labour law in spite of injunction issued by the court to refrain from strike.
 The deep sea fishing sector has been facing severe crisis due to high fuel price and duties of spare parts, poor international shrimp price and fall in the catch for which the owners were contemplating to lay off the trawlers even before the present strike situation arose, he said.

HERE and THERE

Training course concludes
 A 15-day long course on "Foreign Trade and Foreign Exchange" and a 12-day long course on "Banking Laws and Practices" concluded Monday in Dhaka.
 Mahbubur Rahman Khan, Deputy Governor, Bangladesh Bank gave away the certificates among the participants.
 He underscored the importance of training for bank officials and exhorted the participants to augment their knowledge and skills so as to serve their respective institutions in most efficient manner.
VHSS
 The Voluntary Health Services Society, the National Forum of Organizations Working with the Disabled and the NGO Affairs Bureau are organizing two special events to promote community based rehabilitation for disabled people this month.
 The first activity will be a three-day action workshop for groups of the disabled to coordinate and discuss issues about disability in Bangladesh.
 The second activity is the National Seminar on Community based rehabilitation and disability which will include representatives of the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare, Social Services, Labour and Manpower, NGO Affairs Bureau, Ministry of



A delegation of National Federation of Youth Organisations in Bangladesh led by Rezaul Karim, Branch Manager, HOPE, '87 met President Abdur Rahman Biswas at President's Secretariat, recently.

Every citizen a walled up Anarkali

Continued from Page 12
 courageous decision of driving ahead — seemingly as unperturbed as before. But the passengers were in a state of great agitation. Thirty different kinds of counsels were rained on the driver — many of them favouring abandoning the vehicle then and there. No one, however, was prepared to act his own counsel and the unflappable driver reached us to the Biman office at 7 pm. I could not but marvel at the charm of air travel. The 26-minute flight journey covering a hundred-and-odd miles took us full four hours to complete.
 I got down to a friendly welcome by the Star man on the spot but immediately scented in the cool Khulna air something closing in on me. I asked Mr M to book me a flight back the very next day. The reality of a nation-crippling transport strike was dawning on me.
 The counter was closed by that time and the star fellow assured me I shall get my ticket the following morning without fail. And he took me to newly opened hotel that had fine and clean linen and almost a double bed for a single room. I wondered how could Golden King maintain such standard only a hundred Taka. How I wished to stay there for some nights more! But an idea of some impending evil would not let me settle to a peaceful slumber, tired as I was to the marrow.
 Next morning my lecture on Bengali elocution to the radio broadcasters of Khulna was punctured every now and then by big howling noises of hundred shouting voices wafting irresistibly through into the soundproof radio studios. Police and transport workers were chasing each other. The police were, however, doing something more. They were giving a good beating to whoever they could catch on their chase. That made me thirst the more for my ticket back to Dhaka. In the afternoon my dear Mr M — after travails galore and thanks to Mr Ali of Aquatic Shipping — produced a 'chance' ticket. I had a feeling of something coming to stratagulate me. We worked ceaselessly to verify if any of the passengers of that flight were going to cancel their trip. At ten in the night we were enlightened to our grief that all priority seats had been taken and not one of the prospective passengers were going to cancel their flight.
 Enter the eminently gracious Ayub Hossain who has an ingenious repertoire of how to help people. He kept on calling so many people in Dhaka. After two hours and a dozen calls later a kindly Alamgir Hossain from Dhaka advised us to go and avail the 9.30 first flight from Jessore to Dhaka.
 How to make the trip from Khulna to Jessore? There was the Kapotkha train at 7 am but I dared not risk taking that — trains in Bangladesh are an unpredictable breed. And I was not sure I could get on that squeezing my ponderous body past the whole stranded population of Khulna packed into that. I could attempt skating the 60-odd kilometres or take a van. This was wild even as a dream.
 At 2 am I went to snatch a wink of sleep only to see myself as an Anarkali around whom Akbar's knives were raising a brickwork grave. I was being eaten up by the walls pressing against by body and unknown to any in the world. At half past six Mr M or my good Samaritan came to collect me with a roaring 100cc Daehm. My bones rattled and my muscles ached as the machine hurtled at over 60 kph to reach us in time to set my 'chance' ticket right. At the Jessore airport I found all the important people in the region queue up for checking in. It was an 'important people only' plane I was going to fly without belonging to the august fold. Left behind were millions of Anarkalis all walled in their individual holes. Thanks to those who, in sectarian interest, wipe off one of one man's most basic freedoms — that of movement.

Tender Notice No.6 & 16 of 1991-92 (2nd call)

Tenders are hereby invited from the enlisted 'A', 'B' & 'C' class contractors of BWDB for construction of herring bone road under Madhumati-Nabaganga Sub-project during 1991-92.
 The tenders will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Project Director, GKIRP, BWDB, Kushtia/ Executive Engineer, Sathkhira O&M Division-I, Sathkhira/ Khulna O&M Divn-I&II, Khulna/ Bagerhat O&M Division, Bagerhat/ Jhenidah O&M Division, Jhenidah/ Dhaka O&M Division-II, Dhaka/ Superintending Engineer, Khulna O&M Circle, Khulna/ Faridpur O&M Circle, Faridpur/ Dhaka O&M Circle, Dhaka/ Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Khulna/ Sub-divisional Engineer, O&M Sub-division, Narail/MN Sub-division-II, Magura on 13.2.92, 15.2.92 and 12.00 hours of 16.2.92 and will be opened on the same day at 12-15 hours in the above mentioned offices in presence of the tenderers who may like to be present.
 The tender documents will be available in the Sonali Bank, Karbala Sarak Branch, Jessore/ 9, WAPDA Branch, Dhaka/ Sonali Bank, Main Branch, Jessore, Magura and Jhenidah and in the offices mentioned above except this office and the office of the Executive Engineer, Dhaka O&M Division-II, Dhaka/ Superintending Engineer, Dhaka O&M Circle, Dhaka/ Executive Engineer, Jhenidah O&M Division, Jhenidah/ Sub-divisional Engineer, O&M Sub-division, Narail and M.N. Sub-division-II, Magura on cash payment (non-refundable) Tk. 750/- and 400/- only per set respectively during banking/ office hours on all working days up to 15.2.92. No tender will be sold on the receiving date of tenders (i.e. 16.2.92).

Sl No	Item of works	Quantity	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of enlisted contractors of BWDB
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Construction of herring bone road (Nohata-Naddi) and (Mohammadpur-Kaliganj) and Kalna-Kaliganj under Madhumati-Nabaganga Sub-project.	23.95 KM 15 group	Between 13,52,216/- and 5,28,925/-	2 1/2 % (two and half per cent) of the estimated cost.	'A', 'B' & 'C' class contractors of BWDB.

PANI-528/91-92
 DFP(G) 1797-5/2
 G-138
Executive Engineer
 Jessore O&M Division,
 Jessore.