

Industrial items mark rise : Only garment target achieved

Six-month export earnings 16 pc short of target

Star Economic Report

The export earnings in the first half of the fiscal 1991-92 (July-December) fell 16 per cent short of the target. However, it was 7.63 per cent higher than the earnings in the same period of the previous fiscal year.

The export earnings fluctuated over the last three months. In October, the figure was 141 million dollar. It fell to 124 million dollar in November. The earnings increased to 155 million dollar in December.

international market as the volume of export from Bangladesh was only slightly lower than the volume of last fiscal year's corresponding period.

comfortable rise in export of industrial products during the period, but the export of primary products plummeted. Industrial products witnessed an increase by 7.19 per cent while primary products fell by about 29 per cent.

Tea sector witnessed the highest drop in export compared to the corresponding period of the last fiscal year. The earnings from tea export were 21 million US dollar in July-December, 1991-92. The figure was 35 million dollar in the same period of last fiscal year.

The fall in export earnings from tea was about 37 per cent. It also missed the target by about 10 per cent. Leather which witnessed an export earnings of 59 million US dollar also fell short of the target by 37 per cent.

No plan to setup Dhaka-Aricha railway line

The government had no plan to construct a new railway line from Dhaka to Aricha, the Communications Minister, Oli Ahmed, told parliament Monday, reports BSS.

He was replying to a question from Nizam Uddin Khan (BNP-Manikganj).

R & H projects got Tk 357 cr in 1991-92

A total of Taka 357 crore and 13 lakh was sanctioned by the government for 33 projects under the Roads and Highways (R & H) department in the Annual Development Programme during the 1991-92 financial year, Communications Minister Col (retd) Oli Ahmed told the Jatiya Sangsad Monday.

In reply to a question from Nurul Islam Moni (Ind-Barguna) the Minister said out of the total allocation, Taka 153.38 crore was in local currency and Taka 203.75 crore in foreign currency. The foreign currency would be spent for 17 foreign aided projects, he said.

The Minister said that a sum of Taka 130 crore was sanctioned in local currency for the maintenance of roads and highways.

The Minister also informed that circulate allocations R & H the projects were: Dhaka Circle - Taka 34.84 crore, Mymensingh Circle - Taka 16.23 crore, Chittagong Sarak Circle - Taka 20.90 crore, Sylhet Circle - Taka 19.48 crore, Rajshahi Nirman Circle - Taka 5.39 crore, Rajshahi Sarak Circle - Taka 12.58 crore, Rangpur Circle - Taka 19.03 crore, Jessore Circle - Taka 19.44 crore, Barisal Circle - Taka 19.53 crore, Rangamati Sarak Circle - Taka 6.84 crore and Khagrachhari Circle - Taka 3.97 crore.

Fuel price must be linked with price, says CAB

Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) Sunday said that any decision to lower fuel rates, as demanded by the striking transport owners, must be linked with reduction in vehicle fare and commodity prices, reports UNB.

Blaming the countrywide transport strike for affecting day-to-day life of common man, the association said that transport fare and prices of commodity increased significantly with the rise of fuel price from Tk 9.20 to Tk 14.00 per litre during the Gulf war.

CAB estimated that bus owners had increased fare by 10 paise per mile and thus earned an additional amount of Tk 19.50 every kilometer per trip while fuel price hike cost them Tk 2.49. Commodity prices also increased manifold. Therefore, said the association, prices and transport fare will have to be cut if any decision on fixing back fuel price is taken.

Production of biogas begins soon

A pilot plant in the city suburb will soon start producing biogas by using garbage, reports BSS.

A project of Dhaka City Corporation, the 85-cubic metre plant is being built near the Saidabad bus terminal by BCSIR laboratories at a cost of Taka 1.5 lakh. The plant, an alternate source of fuel, is expected to be completed in two months time.

Dhaka City Corporation collects 350 tons of garbage every day which could produce 3,000 cubic feet of gas sufficient to meet the fuel need of 30 families. Production of biogas from garbage also keeps the environment clean.



Mahbubur Rahman Khan, Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank, inaugurating the conference of Regional Heads of Uttara Bank Ltd Monday. Chairman A M Anisuzzaman, MD A K M Syedur Rahman, Director Zeaul Hoque and other high officials of the bank were present.

Jute policy before next season

Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah told the Jatiya Sangsad Monday that the government had already decided to announce the jute policy before the commencement of the next jute season, reports BSS.

Repeating to a question from Sheikh Ansar Ali (Jamaat-Saikhira), the Jute Minister said top-most importance would be given in the policy to preserve the interest of the jute cultivators, jute industries and users of jute and jute goods both at home and abroad.

Besides, he said, a special programme would be taken so that jute growers were encouraged in producing high yielding and improved varieties of jute through improved methods and could get good price of jute.

Executive tips

By Shahabuddin Mahtab

Hold a problem by the scruff of the neck

After joining the erstwhile Pakistan Postal Service as a probationer, the first thing that I did was to call on the Director General, Lt. Col Shahabuddin Siddiqui. He was a hostel-mate and also a good friend of my father. Among the many things he told me as a new comer was that I should never bother very much about who boss was, because one does not choose his own boss. What I could really do was to work sincerely and that was the most important thing in a service career.

In the late 1960s Syed Ejaz Haider (from Lahore) and I worked under the same boss, viz. Golam Rasul Bhatti. Mr. Bhatti was not only a hard task master, but also a master of his task. Some how or other, Messrs. Haider and Bhatti could not work in the same wave length. Haider once told me that even in his sleeps, he was dreaming about our boss. In one of these dreams, Mr Bhatti was holding him by the scruff of the neck. This being the situation, Haider told me, he had firmly resolved henceforth to tackle all the problems, that came his way, by holding the scruff of the neck. This mental attitude of Haider brought him much peace of mind as he did not sweep all the problems under the carpet.

After sometime Haider was selected for a professional post in the UPU (Universal Postal Union) in Berne on the recommendation of his government. There he blossomed to a senior position. And from then on, he could visit different parts of the world as an UPU official.

Haider came to Dhaka a couple of years back in the course of his duty. He confided to me that Mr. Bhatti was the best boss he ever had, as his guidance was of immense value to him. He worked under several other bosses after Mr Bhatti but he sailed through all of them smoothly and with confidence.

I worked under Mr. Bhatti for a full four-year term and I can confidently say that it is always helpful to work under a hard-working and knowledgeable officer who is also a hard task master. There is a lot to learn from a tough-minded officer. This leads to the growth of a junior officer and enables him to face with confidence many difficult and tough situations in life.



A K M Rafiqul Islam, Managing Director of Pragati General Insurance Co Ltd addressing the Branch Managers' conference at the head office of the company Monday.



Amanullah Miah, Chairman, Executive Committee of Al Baraka Bank Bangladesh Ltd speaking on the occasion of the inauguration of the 24th branch of the bank at Gulshan Sunday. Mahbubur Rahman Khan, Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank, inaugurated the branch.

Indian animals worth Tk 9.6 lakh imported in '90-91

Bangladesh imported live-animals worth Taka 9.60 lakh from India in 1990-91 fiscal year, Commerce Minister M K Anwar told the Jatiya Sangsad Sunday, reports BSS.

Answering a question from M Shamsul Huq, (AL-Mymensingh), the minister, however, said there was no separate statistics of money spent for importing cattle from India.

Money rates 10 pc to 11.5 pc

By Staff Correspondent. Money rates in the Call Money market during the week ending on 5.2.1992 ranged from 10.00 per cent to 11.50 per cent. 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 a press release.

Don't rush for rich in Hungary

KEREPESTARCSA (Hungary), Feb 10: Hopes of striking it rich in newly capitalist Hungary have been dashed here by 37 Chinese nationals when they were told they face expulsion for working illegally, reports AFP.

The former residents of Beijing and Shanghai, men and women in their thirties, were arrested after spot checks by the police revealed that they had been in the country for over 30 days and were transferred to a former communist internment camp here.

Under Hungarian law foreigners need visas if they are planning to stay for more than 30 days. The Interior Ministry is also due to impose entry visas for citizens of several countries known to have a high rate of emigrants including China, Romania and Bangladesh.

I am no criminal" protested Xiaobo, one of the 37 Chinese, who has been detained at the camp for a month. Xiaobo, who claims to be the director of a Chinese-Hungarian-German import-export company, said he was unable to provide identification when he was checked by the police.

"We entered, Hungary legally and want to stay here and do an honest job," he added. Nearly 25,000 Chinese arrived in Hungary last year, confident that there would be enough jobs in Hungary's fledgling market economy, but only 644 were given residence permits.

With immigration laws still lax as Hungary was transforming from a communist to a capitalist society, many have set up shop as businessmen and restaurant owners in a working class neighborhood of Budapest in what has become eastern Europe's first China town.

But faced with rising unemployment, the government introduced restrictive legislation early last month that gives Hungarian job seekers an edge over foreigners. Police were entasked with carrying out tight controls to spot clandestine workers and cracking down on illegal immigrants.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Berthed, EID, Berth, L.Port No, L.Agent. Lists various ships like Banglar Kallol, Prabu Puri, Laurusana, etc.

Vessels Ready At Outer Anchorage

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Ready, L.Port, L.Agent. Lists ships like Alpha nova, Songrim, Tabak, etc.

Vessels Due At Outer Anchorage

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, ETA, L.Port Call, L.Agent. Lists ships like Atlantic Clipper, New Genlord, Westar Star, etc.

Mongla Port

Table with columns: Name of Vessel, Berthed, ETA, EID, L.Port, L.Agent. Lists ships like Shalmar, Seno Carol, Banglar Bant, etc.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Feb 10, 1992 Star Economic Report

A bad day

Monday was a bad day for business at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) when losers strongly dominated the floor. They outnumbered the gainers by 18 to eight. Though transaction in volume increased from Sunday's 12,360 to 14,268 yet it recorded a decline in value from Tk 879, 995 to Tk 732,633.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Table showing stock trading data with columns: Company, FV/ML, Previous day's price, Closing price, Change (absolute), Change (% over previous price). Lists companies like Stinger Bangladesh, Al Baraka Bank, Apex Food, etc.

Market Profile

140 Listed Stocks. 08 gains, 18 losses, 114 unchanged. 114 unchanged stocks include 10 traded on the day at its previous quoted prices. DSE All Share Price Index: 297.3279. Market Capitalisation: 8,503,694,383. Turnover: Value Taka 732,633 Volume: 14,268.

Company FV/ML Tk

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk. Lists companies like AL Baraka Bank, AB Bank, City Bank, etc.

INSURANCE (04)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk. Lists companies like BGIC, Green Delta, Peoples, etc.

ENGINEERING (19)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk. Lists companies like Aftab Automobiles, Atlas Bangladesh, Aze Pipes, etc.

FOOD & ALLIED (23)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk. Lists companies like A.B. Biscuit, Alpha Tobacco, Aman Sea Food, etc.

Others

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk. Lists companies like Chittagong Cement, G. Q. Ball Pen, High Speed, etc.

Hides & Skin (Wet/Salted) (Taka per 100 pieces)

Table with columns: Cow, Pig & heavy, Light & medium, Heavy, Very heavy, Rejected. Lists prices for various types of hides and skins.

Exchange Rates

Table with columns: Currency, SELLING, BUYING. Lists rates for US dollar, Poundsterling, DM, etc.

Gold & Silver

Table with columns: Gold, Tejab, Guinea, Silver. Lists prices for gold and silver.