

Special attention to private sector sought

UNCTAD working for alternative to GSP, visiting team tells FBCCI

By Staff Correspondent

The visiting UNCTAD delegation at a meeting with the officials of the FBCCI Tuesday said that the UNCTAD was working for developing a system to help the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) like Bangladesh in exploring new trade opportunities in the world market.

The system would be an alternative to the existing Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) that would and by the middle of this year, the delegation informed.

Regional Adviser of UNCTAD, Para Nagaratnam, Deputy Coordinator of the UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Programme on GSP, Teruo Ujii called on the President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Alhaj Akram Hossain Tuesday at the latter's office.

Dr AKM Golam Rabbani, Project Director of the Research, Documentation, and Library (RDL) Cell of FBCCI, suggested that the UNCTAD should pay special attention to development of the private sector and training up Bangladeshi entrepreneurs for

exploring worldwide trade and investment opportunities.

He also suggested that the UNCTAD should provide technical assistance to Bangladesh for developing export-oriented service industries like shipping, air transport, financial services, computer software, consultancy, construction in-

dustry and labour services.

The delegation assured co-operation in these areas in collaboration and agreement with the Government of Bangladesh.

In fact UNCTAD is trying to assess sector needs, the officials said adding that if the government agrees it would

consider FBCCI as the focal point and the apex organisation for coordinating and disseminating technical assistance to entire private sector in Bangladesh.

The delegation also agreed to provide computer diskettes to FBCCI to develop its trade, tariff and investment system.



Alhaj Akram Hossain (extreme right) holding discussion with Para Nagaratnam and Teruo Ujii. AKM Ghulam Rabbani is also seen.

BSCIC, private sector set up 5 jt ventures so far

Star Economic Report

Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) has so far spent Taka 3.42 crore for its programme to set up industrial units in collaboration with the private sector.

The corporation earmarked Taka 9.80 crore for the programme to set up 15 units.

Under the programme, BSCIC is to set up industries in collaboration with private sector to hand over them to private entrepreneurs after five years. The programme has been taken up to help the entrepreneurs who have little capital to procure bank loans.

Of the total project cost, BSCIC provides 20 per cent, the private entrepreneurs give 20 per cent and the rest 60 per cent is provided by banks.

Out of the planned 15 units only five have been completed so far. Of these, two units have gone into production.

BSCIC sources said the remaining projects will be taken up during the Fourth Five Year Plan period.

In the first phase of the programme, the priority was given to chemical industries. However, sources said, the future units will be on engineering ventures. Meanwhile, project profiles for a number of projects have been completed, they said.

Duncan Bros celebrates award

By Staff Correspondent

A S M O Subhan, the Managing Director of Duncan Brothers (Bangladesh) Limited, hosted a dinner at a city hotel on Sunday to celebrate the R T Z Award the company won recently for its long term commitment and diversification.

Senior government officials, diplomats, journalists and elites of the country attended the function. Colin H Inray, the British High Commissioner in Dhaka, delivered a speech in which he pointed out that Duncan Brothers commenced operations in the Sub-continent in 1859.

Duncan Brothers (Bangladesh) Ltd (an associate of Lawrie Group PIC of UK) is one of the pioneers in the production of tea in this Sub-Continent and a leading producer in the country, accounting for nearly nine million kg of tea.

Duncan Group is a co-sponsor of United Insurance Company Ltd, United Leasing Company Ltd, Duncan Products Ltd. It is also involved in rubber plantation and tea warehousing.

Food festival inaugurated

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda inaugurated a week long food festival on the occasion of Tourism Week '92 at a local hotel Monday, reports UNB.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan and Secretary for Civil Aviation and Tourism Habibur Rahman were also present in the function.

Rice husk used as raw material Activated carbon industry goes into production

By Staff Correspondent

An activated carbon producing industry, the second joint collaboration between Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) and the private sector, formally went into commercial production Tuesday.

Messers Beas Chemical Industries Limited at Brahmanbaria is the first of its kind in the Subcontinent to use rice husk as raw material for producing activated carbon.

The masterminded of the method using rice husk for the product, Dr B K Mohanta who

is a scientist of Indian Institute of Technology at Kharagpur, said low price of gas has made it possible to use the raw material for the purpose in Bangladesh. He said rice husk could also be used in making board materials commercially.

Addressing a press briefing, the Chairman of BSCIC, Mohammad Maniruzzaman Chowdhury said, the unit will produce 300 tons of activated carbon in addition to sodium silicon and precipitated silica as by-products.

The activated carbon is mainly used in refining oil, sugar, pharmaceuticals and beverage. The chemical is used for de-colouring and deodouring purpose.

The Managing Director of Beas Chemical, AKM Reazul Hoque, said country's annual requirement for activated carbon is 20,000 tons and the amount has so far been imported at the cost of Taka 95000 per ton.

The by-products of activated carbon are used in rubber and tyre industry.

ICI plc's shares sold to local management

Star Economic Report

ICI plc has sold its full shares in ICI Bangladesh Manufacturers Ltd to Bangladeshi management.

The business community views it as a positive step on the part of a giant multinational to help a Third World country to indigenise an industry through complete transfer of technology, development of managerial skills in local staff and transfer of equity capital to local entrepreneurs.

Technology and information on the industry have been

transferred over years and the local management competence has been developed creating the condition for indigenisation of the investment.

Products of ICI Pharmaceuticals will continue to be available in local market through the local company from now on.

ICI will also continue its products in agro-chemicals, textile auxiliary, colours and fine chemicals, water treatment chemicals and leather chemicals.

US products exhibition Apr 16-17

A trade fair displaying a variety of US products available to Bangladesh will be held in Dhaka on April 16-17, a USIS press release said Tuesday, reports UNB.

The fair titled "United States Business in Bangladesh" will be co-sponsored by the US Embassy and American-Bangladesh Economic Forum (ABEF) in collaboration with the US business community in Bangladesh.

More than 30 US exhibitors will participate in the fair to be held in the Sheraton Hotel Ballroom through their local subsidiaries or agents.



Left : Subhan with PA Leggett, Director of Lawrie Group, receiving guests. Right : Colin Inray delivering speech.

Rabbits can meet protein demand

Bangladesh has tremendous scope for rabbit farming to meet protein deficiency and upgrade nutritional standard of the common man, an expert told UNB.

"Rabbit could be alternative source of animal protein in our country," said the Director of Institute of Nutrition and Food Science (INFS) of Dhaka University Shah Mohammad Keramat Ali.

Meat production in our country is 0.40 million tons against the demand of 2.3 million tons, he said adding that protein production should be enhanced by 400 per cent to meet up animal protein deficiency of the 12 crore people.

Two third of the child population under six years in the country are the victims of protein energy malnutrition, he said.

"We are taking 5.7 grams of animal protein against the actual demand of 25 grams," he

added.

Daily intake of calorie has come down to 1937, according to current survey while it was 2734 in 1937.

Keramat Ali said it was only possible to increase protein intake by using alternative source of animal protein.

He said rabbit cultivation is easier and it can produce 40 to 50 chickens every year. About two kg meat can be gotten from a six-month old rabbit.

Rabbit meat is permissible according to Holy Quark and all Arabs are used to eating it, he said.

We would be able to get a rabbit by only Tk 10 he said and underlined the need for commercial cultivation for export as done in England, China, France, Russia and Spain. Now a rabbit is selling at Tk 200 in the market.

Consortium takes over UK-based TV channel for Indo-Pak viewers

A consortium of Asian businessmen from the United Kingdom (UK) and South Asia led by Corporate Venture Partners Ltd (CVP) has acquired the UK-based cable TV channel, Indo-Dhnuh Television, according to a message received in Dhaka.

Indra Dhnuh Television, launched in 1986, offers programmes for Indo-Pak subscribers. Broadcasting 18 hours daily, the TV schedule includes Indian films, musical shows and drama serials.

CVP will have the overall responsibility for the strategic management of the business. Two of CVP's senior directors, Misbah Ahmad and Ron Daniel Pinik will become directors of the television.

The new owners plan to expand the company's current sphere of operations and detailed plans have been drawn up for a second channel and a satellite-delivered service.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Name of Vessels	Berthed	EID	Berth	L Port No	L Agent
Songrim	17/02	29/02	J/1	Kard	RRSA
Pearl One	19/02	26/02	J/2	Balk	CLA
Sun Flower	22/02	28/02	J/3	Sing	TSLL
Banglar Kallol	26/01	27/02	J/6	NA	BSC
Kamal Everett	24/02	28/02	J/7	NA	NA
Qing He Cheng	21/02	26/02	J/8	Chin	BDSHIP
Lok Vivek	15/02	27/02	J/9	Ind	OWSL
Euro liberty	16/02	26/02	J/11	NA	EOSL
Banglar Asha	24/02	01/03	J/12	NA	BSC
A Goncharov	24/02	27/02	J/13	Sing	BDSHIP
Fong Yun	21/02	25/02	MPB/1	Sing	BDSHIP
Infinity	24/02	27/02	MPB/2	Sing	CTS
Wang Jae San	24/02	26/02	MPB/2	NA	NA
Sea Rhapsody	29/01	29/02	CCJ	Para	HIL
B Frontier	24/02	25/02	OSJ	NA	NA
Panormos Bay	19/02	28/02	TSP	SAE	SSST
Global Venus	24/02	26/02	RM/3	NA	NA
Ronjay	09/02	03/03	RM/4	Col	PSAL
Banglar Jyoti	21/02	27/02	RM/5		BSC
Mu Du Bong	18/02	28/02	RM/6		PSAL
Laurel Star	15/02	01/03	DD	Mong	BML
Endurance Sea	02/02	29/02	DDJ/1	Agaba	UMAL
Banglar Sampad	21/02	02/03	DDJ/2		BSC
Banglar Swapna	23/02	05/03	RM/9		BSC

Vessel Due to Berth

Name of Vessels	Berth On	Jetty No
New Genlord	25/02	MPB/1
Mandiri	25/02	MPB/2
Banglar Robi	25/02	J/9
Ronjay Victory	25/02	J/12

Vessel At Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Ready	L Port	L Agent
1) Vessels Ready At Outer Anchorage			
Kamaleverett		Sing	EBPL
2) Vessel Not Ready			
New Genlord	25/02	Sing	BDSHIP
3) Vessels Awaiting Instruction			
Al Ishrat		Mong	KSL
Banglar Shourabh			BSC
Banglar Kiron			BSC
4) Vessels Not Entering			
Alym		Sing	ALAMIN
Red Deer		Sing	OTL
Ryong Gang	29/02		TSAL

Vessels Due At Outer Anchorage

Name Of Vessels	ETA	L Port Call	L Agent
Rajin	26/02		CT
Eastern Ruby	26/02	Mong	BEA
Gold Asia	27/02	Bang	AML
Fong Shn	26/02	Sing	BDSHIP
Continent-1	26/02	Penang	CLA
Banglar Mamata	26/02	Kara	BSC
Eastern Mars	26/02		PROG
NGS Ranger	27/02	Sing	BDSHIP
Green Island	27/02		KARNA
Safina-e-Rehmat	28/02	Kara	ASLL
Banglar Gourab	28/02	Pena	BSC
Kota Buana	28/02	Sing	CTS
Al Swamir	29/02	Hong	ASLL
Harmony	29/02	Agaba	TSLL
Ahlers Breeze	01/03	Col	RSL
M Efes	02/03		OTL
Atlantic Clipper	05/03	Cal	BDSHIP
P Starostin	05/03	Sing	CT
Ravvas	05/03		SSL
Mowlavi	08/03		SSL
Evercheer	15/03	Sing	ED

Note: Berthed = Vessels at Port Jetty. ETB = Expected Time of Departure. ETA = Expected Time of Arrival. NA = Not Available. ETB = Expected to Berth.

Source : AQUAMARINE LIMITED.

Price Index

February-25

Essentials

RICC	(Taka per kg)	Soybean	38.00-39.00
Arundine	14.50-15.50	Cocunut (Colombia)	90.00-100.00
Peanut	13.50-14.50	Vegetable Ghee	48.00-50.00
Ushi	NA	SPICES	(Taka per kg)
VIS-GTETABLES	(Taka per kg)	Onion	7.00-8.00
Mustard	3.00-6.00	Garlic	12.00-16.00
Brinjal	6.00-8.00	Chilies	70.00-72.00
Karola	16.00-18.00	Turners (Round)	38.00-42.00
Labhak	3.00-4.00	(Long)	45.00-48.00
Papa	4.00-5.00	Green chilies	12.00-16.00
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-5.00		

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

Category	Price
Beef	95.00 - 110.00
Big & heavy	95.00 - 110.00
Medium	75.00 - 90.00
Light	62.00 - 70.00
Dark	62.00 - 70.00
Very heavy	70.00 - 80.00
Very heavy	70.00 - 80.00
Rejected	25.00 - 30.00
Goat	25.00 - 30.00
Sheep	25.00 - 30.00
Buffalo	25.00 - 30.00

Gold & Silver (Taka for 11.66 grams)

Category	Price
Gold	6400.00
Tejahi	NA
Gubwa	6400.00
Silver	200.00

Raw Jute Prices

As of February 25

Category	Price
Kutchi Bales FOB	255
Narayanganj/Daulatpur	255
White	255
Tossa	255
Meshta	255
Mid. (B)	255
Mid. (C)	255
Mid. (D)	255
Mid. (E)	255
Special	255
Rejection	1600
HT	1200
Habibabi	1150
Bangla	1150
Cut Ropes	1150
Cutting	1150
BW Cutting	210
A	1250
BW Cutting	1150
B	1150
HT Cutting	1500
A	245
HT Cutting	1400
B	225
Special	1700
A	1600
B	1550
C	1450
Spl Meshta	800
Cutting	800
Ord. Meshta	700
Cutting	700
Meshta SMR	900

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Feb 25, 1992  
Star Economic Report

Poor trading

Trading at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) was poor on Tuesday. Though business in terms of volume was the month's second highest numbering 20,325, in value terms it declined from Monday's Tk 841,910.25 to Tk 473,840.

There were only four gainers while nine lost when the books closed for the day. Six papers traded at their previous quoted prices.

The DSE Composite Index which recorded at month's lowest on Monday, shed further 0.0775 points and stood at 295.1299.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Category	Value	Change
DSE All Share Price Index	295.1299	
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	8,440,840,838	
Turnover (in value Tk)	473,840.0	
In volume	20,325.00	

Shares: NTC 100/5 270.00 280.00 +10.00 3.708

Chittagong Cement 100/5 226.81 227.32 +0.51 0.224

Beximco 10/100 10.00 10.10 +0.10 7.000

Oxygen 10/50 4273 42.75 +0.02 0.046

Traded at previous quoted price (06)

Shares: Rupali Bank, Aroma Tea, Bengal Food, Ibsina, Eagle Star, Savar Refractories.

SHARES & DEBENTURES LISTED WITH DSE

Company	FV/ML Tk	Price	Change
AL Baraka Bank	1000/11090.00	100/5	100.00
AB Bank	100/5 188.00	100/5	110.00
City Bank	100/5 268.00	100/5	100.00
LFIC	100/5 183.00	100/5	100.00
Islamic Bank	1000/11810.00	100/5	100.00
National Bank	100/5 106.00	100/5	100.00
Pubali Bank	100/5 102.00	100/5	100.00
Rupali Bank	100/10 90.00	100/5	100.00
U.C.B.I.	100/5 123.00	100/5	100.00
Utara Bank	100/5 158.00	100/5	100.00

PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (15)

Company	Price
Ambec Pharma	10/50 12.00
Bangla Process	100/5 56.00
Glimco Pharma	100/5 202.00
Beximco	10/50 125.00
ICI	10/50 10.00
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5 78.50
Petro Synthetic	10/50 17.17
Pharm	100/5 110.00
Pharmaco	100/5 150.00
Pharmaco	100/5 65.00
Progressive Plastic	110/5 40.00
Reckitt & Colman	10/50 240.00
Rahman Chemicals	100/10 40.00
Therapeutics	100/5 90.00
The Ibsina	100/10 92.00

FOOD & ALLIED (23)

Category	Price
A.B. Biscuit	100/5 180.00
Alpha Tobacco	10/50 48.00
Astiz Pipes	100/5 233.00
Bangladesh Autocars	100/5 80.00
Bangladesh Lamps	100/5 225.00
B.Thai Aluminium	100/10 87.33
Bengal Carbide	100/5 220.00
Bengal Steel	100/5 18.00
Eastern Cables	100/5 79.00
Howlader PVC	100/10 104.00
Karim Pipe	100/5 126.00
Metalex Corp.	100/5 104.00
Monno Staffers	100/5 200.00
Monno Jute	100/5 223.97
National Tubes	100/10 106.25
Panther Steel	100/5 6.00
Quasem Drycells	100/5 7.00
Renwick Jagneewar	100/5 73.50
Singer Bangladesh	100/5 1050.00

MISCELLANEOUS (15)

Category	Price
Apex Tannery	100/5 187.36
Aramit	100/50 22.00
Bata Shoe	100/100 33.50
Beximco	10/100 10.10
BSC	100/5 80.00
Chittagong Cement	100/5 227.32
G. G. Ball Pen	10/50 82.00
High Speed	100/5 100.00
Himadri Ltd.	100/10 6.00
Milton Tannery	100/5 25.00
Monno Ceramic	100/5 150.02
Phenolic Leather	100/5 105.00
Savar Refractories	100/5 100.00
The Engineers	100/5 100.00
Urmanta Glass	100/53 216.00

Exchange Rates

The following are the Commercial Bank's BC selling and TT (C), OD transfer buying rates for some selected foreign currencies effective on February 26.

Currency	SELLING	BUYING
US dollar	38.9326	38.7087
Pound sterling	67.9535	67.6162
DM	23.6918	23.4172