every month but does very lit-

tle for the improvement of

road communications of the

along the roads of the arca

with scrious risks of accident.

Even a slight rainfall overflows

the roads causing severe trou-

ble to the passers-by and

transportation of goods. Pedes-

trians often fall victim to anti-

social elements also in the

drinking water in Tongi is an-

other serious problem. Entrep-

reneurs are reluctant to set up

new units there for this season

too. Disconnection of gas lines

are also affecting the

The extreme scarcity of safe

absence of street lights.

Vessel's Name

Banglar Robi

As such, one has to move

area, sources said.

previous

price)

# 46 industrial units in Tongi BSCIC Estate closed, 15000 unemployed

GAZIPUR, Mar 7 : Over 46 industrial units in the country's one of the major industrial estates of Tongi remain closed since long, rendering about 15,000 workers unemployed.

A total of 216 plots have so far been allotted for 162 indusunits since the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) estate was set up at Tongi in

The plots are divided into A.B.C.D and Special types There are 43 A-type plots, 102 B-type, 55 C-type, 14 D-type and two Special plots.

Out of a total 162 industrial units in the industrial town. 11 are food stuffs, 43 textile, four forestial, two jute, 10 printing, nine tannery, nine chemicals. 42 engineering, eight glass and four other industrial units.

According to the provisions of BSCIC, an industrial installation must go into production within two years of allocation of the plot and on failure, the allotment is deemed cancelled. But the rules were not allegedly enforced upon the closed industries.

According to a BSCIC office source, out of the total existing units, 46 are inoperative. Of the 46 units, nine industrial plots have been reallotted permission for six units were cancelled, four are under construction, five units can go into production soon and twentytwo are totally inoperative.

Of the closed industrial units six are food stuffs producing enterprises, 10 textile. four forestial, one jute, four printing, three tannery, six chemicals, seven enemeering and three other enterprises.

Many industrial units are yet to construct their factory buildings while the construction work of factory buildings of other industrial units was stopped midway.

BSCIC officials and industrialists attributed the prolonged closure to a series of factors, such as labour unrest. administrative lapses, paucity of capital, complicacy in attaining bank loans, unfavourable law and order situation, limited marketing facilities and above all, indifference on the part of the management.

Due to the long closure of some industrial units, some of the plots were reallocated.

These reallocated units also have no hope for going into production, sources said. On account of double allotment of plots conflicts have arisen between the new and old owners contributing to the present impasse.

Some BSCIC workers sources however held the BSCIC authorities of Tongi responsible for the closure of over 46 industrial units. According to those sources, BSCIC authorities are turning deaf ears to the situation and taking no effective measure to solve the problem.

When BSCIC Estate Officer Sattendra Nath Pal was contacted regarding the issue, he expressed the view that joint efforts by the industrialists. labourers and others concerned can reopen the closed

It is worth mentioning that all of the 162 industrial units in Tongi are privately owned. About 15,000 people were employed in these 46 industrial units. They are now left to From M A Matin

the mercy of fate. Burdened with families, they are compelled to live in subhuman conditions

At the same time people from far-flung areas of the country are coming here evcryday in search of jobs.

The situation of the estate leaves one with the impression that if the closure of the units continues law and order situation of the whole area of Tongi will deteriorate soon.

When contacted, Anwar Hossain, owner of "Salim Rubber Industries" and Secretary of BSCIC Industrialists Association also said that law and order situation in the BSCIC industrial town had deteriorated alarmingly.

Incidences of theft, dacotty. hijacking and other anti-social

Purchase of electric poles

and fittings by PDB from an

Indian company for a power

project has been stayed till

March 15 when court will hear

a case against the deal, reports

The Third Sub-Judge Court,

Dhaka, issued the order for

maintaining status quo on the

matter till the next hearing on

March 15 after three local

firms had filed a petition, said

The Power Development

Board had decided to buy

"lower quality poles and fit-

tings for its 'Sixteen-town

Bidyut Bitaran Prakalpa' from

a press release Saturday.

activities have become a regular phenomenon, he said. Over 40,000 labourers and residents of the estate have fallen into the grip of the terrorists, he added.

According to him pilferage has become a common nocturnal incident in the area. Sometimes the thieves steal away valuable spare parts of the industrial units, he said.

He expressed the view that entrepreneurs would feel discouraged to set up new industrial units at the area in view of the prevailing situation.

BSCIC industrial area of Tongi is under the jurisdiction of Tongi Pourashava which falls in grade-A.

It realises a fair amount of taxes from the industrial units

the non-responsive" foreign

company, Zindal, although the

local firms were nominated as

the lowest responsive bidders.

said the release from

GEMCON, one of the three

and perusal of records, the

court set the fresh date and

ordered status quo "to meet

The local pole manufactur-

c: had earlier reportedly ap-

pealed the World Bank, the fi-

nancier of the project, for ask-

ing PDB not to enter the deal

with the Indian company, but

the emergent situation".

After hearing the petition

domestic firms.

Three firms sue PDB

# Modernisation of banking system urged

By Staff Correspondent

The executive committee of Sonalt Bank Officers' Welfare Association at a meeting Friday stressed the need for modernisation of the banking system in order to compete with other foreign banks.

The meeting presided over by Abdus Shahid, President of the Association, was addressed, among others, by General Secretary Syed Anwar Hossain, Assistant General Secretary Mohammad Mohsin, Vice-President Abul Quashem, Sirajul Huq, Badruzzaman Bhuiyan and Cultural Sccretary Mohammad Solaiman.

# industries. Shipping Intelligence

## **Chittagong Port**

Name of Vessels	Berthed	ETD	Berth	L Port No	L Agent
Al Swamroz	04/03	20/03	J/1	NA	, NA
E Ruby	04/03	05/03	J/2	NA	NA
R Victory	01/03	15/03	J/3	Sing	PSAL
Continent-1	29/02	08/03	J/4	Peng	CLA
Banglar Mamata	26/02	08/03	J/7	Kara	BSC
Safina-e-Rehmat	29/02	10/03	J/8	Kara	ASLI.
Weser Star	04/03	05/03	J/10	Sing	BOSHIP
Euroliberty	16/02	14/03	J/11	Champ	EOSL
Danflovgrad	02/03	09/03	J/12	Sing	BSL
NGS Ranger	03/03	06/03	MPB/1	Sing	BOSHIP
Izvestia	04/03	07/03	MPB/2	tern VEPADACONE (P.S.)	NA
P One	19/02	07/03	œ	Bank	CLA
Banglar Asha	26/02	September	GSJ	1	HSC
Harmony	01/03	08/03	TSP	Col	TSLL
B Kiron	03/03	06/03	RM/4	7.	BSC
Banglar Shourabh	01/03	07/03	RM/6	<b>⊕</b>	BSC
Laurel Star	15/02	10/03	DD	Mong	BML
Endurance Sea	02/02	07/03	DDJ/1	Aqaba	UMAL
Banglar Swapna	23/02	10/03	RM/9	Dead	BSC

A COSCID	Due to ber th	2
•	Berth on	Jetty 1

### Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	ETA	L Port Call	L Agent
Infinity	06/03	Sing .	RSL
Ruvidas	10/03	· 252	SSL
Ahlers Breeze	07/03	Col .	RSL
Georgiy Chicherin	08/03	Species NAV	CT
Fong Yun	08/03	Sing	BOSHIP
Mowlavi	08/03		SSL
Mandiri	09/03	Sing	RSL
Atlantic Clipper	10/03	Cal	BOSHIP
Andrian Goncharov	10/03		СТ
Allissa	11/03		11&11
Kota Buana	11/03	Sing	CTS
Karabieverett	12/03	VOSENSAN	EBPL
Fong Shin	13/03	Sing	BOSHIP
New Genlord	13/03	Sing	BDSHIP
Yamburenko	13/03	Sing	CT
Peter Strostin	15/03	Sing	CT
Grunwald	15/03	Mad	BSA
Evercheer	17/03	Sing	HD
Grunwald	15/03	Mad	IBSA
Banglar Goureb	18/03	Parm	BSC

Note: Berthed = Vessels at Port Jetty. ETD=Expected Time

Name of Vessels	Berthed	ETD	Berth	L Port No	L Agent
Al Swamroz	04/03	20/03	J/1	NA	, NA
E Ruby	04/03	05/03	J/2	NA	NA
R Victory	01/03	15/03	J/3	Sing	PSAL
Continent-1	29/02	08/03	J/4	Peng	CLA
<b>Banglar Mamata</b>	26/02	08/03	J/7	Kara	BSC
Safina-e-Rehmat	29/02	10/03	J/8	Kara	ASLL
Weser Star	04/03	05/03	J/10	Sing	BOSHIP
Euroliberty	16/02	14/03	J/11	Champ	EOSL
Danflovgrad	02/03	09/03	J/12	Sing	BSL
NGS Ranger	03/03	06/03	MPB/1	Sing	BOSHIP
Izvestia	04/03	07/03	MPB/2	NA	NA
P One	19/02	07/03	CCJ	Bank	CLA
Banglar Asha	26/02	Seatterners.	GSJ	To the	HSC
Harmony	01/03	08/03	TSP	Col	TSLL
B Kiron	03/03	06/03	RM/4	<b>:</b> ₹	BSC
Banglar Shourabh	01/03	07/03	RM/6	<b>⊛</b>	BSC
Laurel Star	15/02	10/03	DD	Mong	BML
Endurance Sea	02/02	07/03	DIXJ/1	Aqaba	UMAL
Banglar Swapna	23/02	10/03	RM/9	Dead	BSC

10	Vessels	Due to	Berth	2
23			2000 B)	

05/03

Vessels	at Outer	Anchorage	9
Name of Vessels	Ready	L Port	L Agent
Vesse	ls ready at outo	er anchorage	
Vessels ready at oute Nil		anne de la	10015
9.	Vessels not n	cady	
Hang Tone	Marie de la companie	Sing	11&11
Vigorous Swan	8	178	Aqua
Ves	sels awaiting i	755	
Al Ishrat	(a)	Mong	KSL
Banglar Sampad	k (a)		BSC
Banglar Jyoti	8.8		BSC
Songirm	2€X	593	RRSA
(	Vessels not en	tering	
Alyn	##	Sing	AlAmin
Red Deer	1 <u>1</u>	Sing	OTL
Ryong Gang	29/02	S-100000	TSAL
Rafin		Mong	CT
Onyx	88	Maria 1970	encure 5
M Efcs	34	lsta	Sigma

ame of Vessels	ETA	L Port Call	L Agen
nfinity	06/03	Sing .	RS
uvidas	10/03		SS
hlers Breeze	07/03	Col .	RS
icorgiy Chicherin	08/03	goden Ann	C
ong Yun	08/03	Sing	BDSHI
towlavt	08/03		SS
fandiri .	09/03	Sing	RS
tlantic Clipper	10/03	Cal	BOSH
ndrian Goncharov	10/03	72	C
llissa	11/03	***	11&1
lota Buana	11/03	Sing	CT
arabieverett	12/03	NOSENERAL	EBP
ong Shin	13/03	Sing	BOSHII
lew Genlord	13/03	Sing	BDSIII
Yamburenko	13/03	Sing	C
cter Strostin	15/03	Sing	C
runwald	15/03	Mad	BS
vereheer	17/03	Sing	13
runwald	15/03	Mad	BS
langlar Goureb	18/03	Parm	1390
			and the state of t

of Departure. ETA=Expected Time of Arrival. NA=Not Available. ETB=Expected to Berth. Source : AQUAMARINE LIMITED

## Price Index

140.00-150.00

90.00-95.00

90.00-1(N).(X)

110.00-130.cm

70,00-72,00

74.00-76.00

78.00-80.00

70.00-80.00

11.50-12.00

30.00-32.00

30.00-32.00

23.00-24.00

20,00-22,00

52.00-54.(II)

37.50-38.00

(Take per kg)

(Taka per Litre)

11.00

55.00

85.00

Aman(fine)

VEGETABLES

Group Ranama (Four Pieces)

PARKERN STATES

Shrimp(hig)

MEAT

Mutton

1,argc

TEA

CHICKEN

Mederate

Dust (Plain)

PULSES

Moogh

Chhola

Khenari

OH.

	1100		
E	-41-1-	Coconit (Colombo)	90,00-95,00
rssei	ntials	Vegetable Ghee	48.00-50.00
Mar	h-7	SPICES	(Taka Per kg)
Marc	.n-/	Onion	8.00-10.00
	(Taka per kg)	Claric	14.00-16.00
line)	15.00-16.00	Chillies	70.00-72.00
000000	14.00-15.00	Turmoric(Round)	50.00-55.00
	NA	" (Long)	46.00-50.00
ABLES	(Taka per kg)	Green chillies	12,00-14,00
	6,00-7.00	Gingar	12.00-14.00
	6.00-R.(X)	Cintamon(50gm)	3.00-3.50
	18,00-20 (X1	Cardamom(50gm)	3.00-4.00
	4,00-5 (1)	Jhira (50gms)	7.00-8.00
	5.00-6.(#)	MILK (Two kgs)	8.212
anana (Four		Dano	291.00-292.00
MARKERS	(Take per leg)	Red-Cow	292,00-293.00
	15,00-16,00	MISCELLANEOUS	(Taka)
	13.00	Chee (one Kg)	220.00-240.00
	(Taka per kg)	Salt	7.50-8.00
3	160.00-170.00	Sugar	27.0(1-27.50
) e)	100,00-120,00	B3127474 55	
etis	75.00-80.00	Hidee S	Skin

HIG	les &	Ð.	kin
	Wet/Sal	ted	
(Taka	per 100	) p	leces)
Dow	8	100	2
Calf	15000.00	-	30,000.00
Light	59000.00	-	64000.00
Medium	65000.00	-	70,000.00
Russy	72000.00	-	77000.00
Very heavy	78000.00	-	83000.00
tejected	29000.00	-	34000.00
lout	IE A		
Ng &			
henty	11000.00	(S-1-1-)	12000.00
Aght &			Hrzarkasa
Agan a Meditum	8500.00		9500.00
CALL TO SELECT A CONTRACT OF THE PARTY OF TH	3500.00	Æ.	5000.00
lejected	All of the little of the late	93.	9000.00
Sheep	8700.00		
Preffinko	85000.00		62000.00

	(Wet/Salt		5.00
(Taka	per 100	P	ieces)
Cow	SI	A.	
Calf	15000.00	-	30,000.00
Light	59000.00	-	64000.00
Medium	65000.00	-	70,000.00
Henry	72000.00	-	77000.00
Very heavy			83000.00
Rejected			34000.00
Cont			
ING &			
CONTROL OF PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY ADDRES	11000.00	(C-Late	12000.00
heavy	11000.00		12000.00
Light &	processors and	F2023	
Medium	8500.00	100	9500.00
Rejected	3500.00	-	5000.00
Sheep	8700.00	-	9000.00
Duffish	55000.00	-	62000.00

u	old & Suver
	(Taka for 11.66 grams)
bt	NA.
ACTES.	6400.00
r.	200.00

Source : Department of Agriculture Marketting

# Little sign of improvement

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Mar 7, 1992

Star Economic Report

Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) business showed little sign of improvement on Saturday. The depressing trend has been prevailing for quite a few days. Eight shares lost while only one gained on the day. Only two papers traded at their previously quoted prices.

Trading in terms of value and volume declined too. Only 915 papers, this years lowest so far, traded on the day valuing Tk 61570 against Thursday's Tk 170,820. The market capitalisation declined from Thursday's Tk 8,284,303,765 to Tk 8,279,450,765.

DSE Composite Index which is continuously showing downfall lost 0.169 points and stood at 289.4870.

### THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE All Si Market Ca Turnover ( In volume	nare Price	on (TK)			289.4870 .450.765 61570 915
Company	FV/ML	Previous Day's Price	Closing	Change	Change % over

Tk

Gains (01) Shares : National Bank	100/5	103.00	103.67	+0.67	0.650
Losses (08)				el de la	
Shares:					
∧man Sca Food	100/5	33.00	25.00	-8.00	24.242
City Bank	100/5	267.00	265.00	-2.00	0.749
Usmania Glass	100/5	216.00	214.00	-2.00	0.925
Eagle Star	10/50	18.50	17.00	-1.50	8.108
Chittagong Cement	100/5	221.00	220.00	-1.00	0.452
BGIC	100/10	110.00	109.00	-1.00	0.909
Renwick Jajneswar	100/5	73.50	73.00	-0.50	0.6680
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	113.00	112.50	-0.50	8.108

Traded at previously quoted prices (02) Shares : Eastern Lubricant, The Ibnsina

Company

Al, Baraka Bank

**BANKS (10)** 

A.B Bank

City Bank

Islami Bank

Pubali Bank Rupalt Bank

Uttara Bank

INVESTMENT (08)

1st ICB M.Fund

3rd ICB M. Fund

4th ICB M. Fund

5th ICB M. Fund

6th ICB M. Fund

INSURANCE (04)

ENGINERING (19)

Aftab Automobiles

Bangladesh Autocars 100/5 78.10

Bangladosh Lamps 105/5 225.00

B.That Alluminium 100/10 85.00

Renwick Jaineswar 100/5 73.00

Singer Bangladesh 100/51050.00

Atlas Bangladosh

Bengal Carbide

Howlader PVC

Metalex Corp. Monno Stafflers

Monno Jutex **National Tubes** 

Panther Steel

A.B Biscuit

Apex Food

Aroma Tea

Berugas

B.L.T.C.

B.T.C.

N.T.C

Alpha Tobacco

Aman Sca Food

B.D. Plantation

Bengal Food

Ctg. Vegetable

E.L. Camellia

Dhaka Vegetable

Frogleg Export

Hill Plantation

Rabcya Flour

Rupan Off

Tulip Dairy

Yousuf Flour

Padma Oil Co.

Oxygen

JUTE (12)

Anowara Jute

Ahad Jute

Delta Jute

Gawsia Jute

Islam date

Zeal Bangla Sugar

Eastern Lubricant

**FUEL & POWER (03)** 

Gemint Sea Food

Modern Industries

Quasem Drycells

FOOD & ALLIED (23)

Bengal Steel

Karim Pipe

Aziz Pipes

ICB Unit Cert.

Sales Price

Re-purchase

Green Delta

Peoples

United

2nd ICB Fund

U.C.B.I.

GSJ/DIXJ/2

**National Bank** 

LF.I.C

100/5 90.00

100/5 330.00

100/5 153.00

100/5 130.00

100/10 125.00

100/10 109.00

100/10 124.00

100/102128.00

100/10 144.50

100/5 180.00

10/50 33.00

100/5 233.00

100/5 220.00 10/50 18.00

100/10 90.00 100/5 126.00

100/5 103.00

100/10 105.00

100/5 180.00

10/50 48.00

100/5 25.00

100/5 490.00

100/5 70.00

100/5 145.00

100/5 500.00

100/5 116.00

100/5 500.00

10/50 41.00

100/10 94.00

100/5 112.50

100/51250.00

10/50 3.00

100/5 300.00

100/5 175.00

100/5 275.00

10/50 10.20

10/50 14.00

10/50 41.00

6.40

95.00

40.00

NT

NI

60.00

10/100

10/100

100/10

10/50

10/50

100/10

10/50

10/50

100/5

100/15 100.00

10/50

10/50

10/5 200.00 100/5 223.97

88.00

60.00

116.00

111.00

100/10

100/10

### SHARES & DEBENTURES LISTED WITH DSE

	Jute Spinner	100/5	95.00
FV/ML Tk	Mutual Jute	100/5	105.00
ACCESSION SERVINGE	Northern Jute	10/50	NT
NAME OF STREET	Shamser Jute	100/5	100.00
1000/11090.00	Sprinksed Jute	10/50	NT
100/5 188.00	Shine Pukur Jute	100/5	100.00
100/5 265.00	Sonali Aarish	100/5	93.00
100/5 183.00	CONTRACT / CHI SHIT	,00,0	5,,,,,,
1000/11810.00	**************		
100/5 103.67	PHARMACEUTICAL	<i></i>	
100/5 102.00	CHEMICALS (15)	13199992530	1100011556
100/10 90.00	Ambee Pharma	10.50	11.75
100/5 123.00	Bangla Process	100/5	56.00
100/5 158.00	Beximeo Pharma	100/5	197.00
100/5 156.00	Glaxo	10/50	125.00
17	101	10/50	10.00
W	No. of the Contract of the Con		man man

# Petro Synthetic 10/50 17.17 100/5 110.00 100/5 150.00

STREET PRINTS & STREET		
harmaco	100/5	60.00
rogressive Plastic	110/5	40.00
Reckitt & Colman		290.00
Rahman Chemicals	100/10	39.67
Therapeuties	100/5	85.00
The Ibosina	100/10	92.00
PAPER & PRINTIN	IG (06)	
Engle Box	10/50	25.50
Monespool	100/5	95.00
aper Converting	100/5	115.00
aper Processing	100/10	60.00

CARLOLD RESIDENCE .	a court of the	11011111111
Paper Converting	100/5	115.0
Paper Processing	100/10	60.0
Padma Printers	10/50	50.0
Sonali Paper	10/50	50.0
SERVICE (02)		
Bangladesh Hotel	10/50	12.0
Bd. Service	10/50	N
TEXTILE (18)		
Alhaj Textile	10/50	- N
Arbee Textile	100/10	N
Ashenf Touttle	10/50	26.7

10/50	- N
100/10	N
10/50	26.7
10/50	N
10/50	N
100/10	58.0
100.10	74.0
10/50	17.5
10/50	15.0
100/5	45.0
10/100	4.5
10/50	6.8
100/5	90.0
100/10	76.0
100/5	48.0
100/5	100.0
100/5	60.0
100/10	104.0
	100/10 10/50 10/50 10/50 100/10 10/50 10/50 10/50 10/50 100/5 100/5 100/5 100/5

TOC COMMITTED OF T		
ex Tannery	100/5	187.0
ramit	10/50	N
sta Shoc	10/100	32.3
extmes	10/100	9.8
SC	100/5	50.0
vittagong Cement	100/5	220.0
Q. Ball Pen	10/50	52.0
gh Speed	100/5	100.0
madri Ltd.	10/100	6.0
lon Tannery	100/5	25.0
orano Ceramic	100/5	149.0
conix Leather	100/5	105.00
var Refractories	100/5	97.0
e Engineers	100/5	100.0
imirata Glass	100/53	214.0
CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF		AND THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF

MISCELLANEOUS (15)

9.0
5.0
7.0
0.0
4.0

7% 1992)	DEPOSITOR SOL	In a commence
ngal Food	600/1	600.0
1.5% 1992) ximco	2333/1	2245.0
ximco Pharma	1428/1	1435.0
% 1997) usem Silk % 1994)	1500/1	1750.0
		Section 2.

Note: FV = Face Value ML= Market NT= Not Traded, AL=Allot-

# Exchange Rates

The following are the Commercial Bank's BC selling and TT (C), OI) transfer buying rates for some selected foreign

currencies effective on	March 8,	(Figures in Ta	kal
Currency	SELLING	(rigores in th	BUYING
	IX	TT(C)	OD Transfer
US dollar	38.9326	38.7087	38.4481
Poundsterling	66.8852	66.5506	66.1322
DM	23.3559	23.2066	23.0504
PF	6.8749	6.8317	6.7857
S Itiyal	10.4067	10.3469	10.2772
D Guilders	20.7607	20.6303	20.4914
S Kroner	6.4437	6.4013	6.3582
Singapore Dollar	23.5114	23.3762	23.2188
UAE Dirham	10.6364	10,5753	10.5041
Kuwaiti Dinar	NA	NA	NA
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.5026	1.4959	1.4884
Pak. Rupee (AMU)	1.5694	1.5620	1.5542
Authorised dealers	will apply	TT clean bu	ying rate for
NOTE: AMU — Asi	s of Bangla	deshis working	abroad.

# New Member of BAEC

By staff Correspondent The Government has recently appointed Dr Kamaluddin Ahmed as Member

Bio-Science of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC). He has already taken over the new assignment. Before this, Dr Kamal was

the Director of the Institute of Nuclear Medicine (INM) of

Born in February, 1939 in Luxmipur Dr Kamal worked for 31 years in the field of nuclear Medicine with both clinical and administrative responsibilities. He did his MBBS from Dhaka Medical College in 1960, M Sc from London University in 1965 and FCPS from Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons' in



He has more than 40 migi nal and review articles pub lished in national and international journals. Dr Kamal trav eled many countries and participated in international seminars and conferences. He also worked as IAEA expert in several developing countries.

He is an Honorary Professor of the Institute of Post Graduate Medicine & Research (IPGMR), Dhaka.

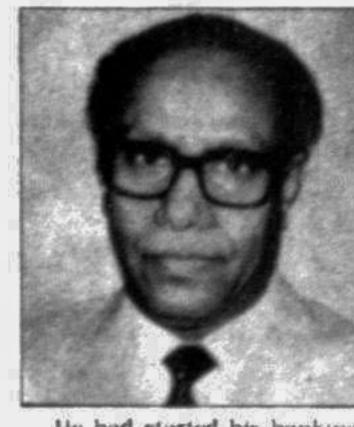
## New GM at Janata Bank

By Staff Correspondent

Abdus Samad has recently joined the Janata Bank as

General Manager.

Prior to his new assignment, he was general Manager at Sonalt Bank.



He had started his banking carrier with the then State Bank of Pakistan in 1955, Later he joined the National Bank of Pakistan, now Sonali Bank, in

He was also with the Rupali Bank as General Manager.

### President of the Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (ATAB) Dr H B M Iqbal addressing the 15th Annual General Meeting of the Association held at a city hotel on Tuesday. PASSENGER SPEAKS OUT

# Biman needs a shake up

The cardinal rule for a successful journey by Bangladesh Biman is to know someone who has influence. Otherwise, your journey is in danger of being filled with horror stories.

Granted, Bangladesh Biman's inflight service is first rate. But that is a testimony to our tradition of hospitality and excellent food, none of which are Biman's invention.

Bimun's ground service is, for the lack of a better word, atroctous. For example, instead of using travel agents, Biman's New York office insists on issuing all of its tickets itself. Biman must be the only airline in the USA that still sticks to the antiquated habit of hand writing. usually illegibly, all its tickets. Surely, it can afford a type writer, if not a word processor. Technology is passing Biman authorities by and

they don't even know it. Once you have a ticket, do not be certain that you can travel. Holding confirmed tickets, issued by Bangladesh Biman, New York, people have been told by Biman's London agents on reaching Heathrow, that the ticket is not valid and the passenger has to wait. However, if you waived a fiver, somehow a seat become miraculously

Even in the age of telex and FAX, Biman's Dhaka and New York offices do not seem to communicate well. A passenger who paid full economic fare at New York for his Biman-issued confirmed ticket for New York-Dhaka roundtrip, was told to his horror at Dhaka that he had to travel on the deeply discounted Q class. New York made a mistake, they said because Biman's Dhaka computer was showing Q class, although the passenger showed that he had forked out over 3,400 US dollars to Biman as fare. On the other hand, Biman's New York office always insists that they issue no ticket in any class without first getting confirmation from Dhakal

On the journey from New York to Dhaka via Paris last December, the writer was a witness to an interesting scene. One of Biman's Paris representative was seen to instruct the ticketing agent to give a first class passenger only one pass for the Rajanigandha (first class) relaxation suite at Orly airport (so that his economy class family could not tag along). The next moment, he was seen instructing the agent to upgrade a female passenger to Rajantgandha class because she is an engineer's wife" (a friend of his, no doubt). These days, Biman's Rajanigandha class is al-

ways full. One wonders how many of these pas-

sengers are legitimate. On the writer's return

journey in January the same scene was repeated

at Dhaka airport with the passengers pulling out all the stops to get the upgrade. Only those with the maximum clout and highest connections were successfult A word about the Zia International Airport itself. Since the entry to the main building is restricted, surely the authorities can maintain it a little better. It was good to see the open court-

ing for bribes by the bag checking security offi-

cers of a few years back gone. However, the toilet facilities at the airport figuratively and literally stink! Surely we do not want the departing passengers to take that as the last impression of

Unfortunately, Biman is under the illusion that the overseas Bangladeshis are gluttons for punishment and regardless of the insults and slights, they will continue to travel by the na tional airline. Expatriate Bangladeshis are far too intelligent to confuse patriotism with patronizing a bunch of nincompoops.

There are many fine airlines serving New York-London-Dhaka route and undercharging Biman in discounting tickets. Binun does not know how much money it is losing. Many pa triotic Bangladeshis are paying other airlines more money to avoid the hassles associated with

travelling by Bangladesh Bintan. The word has gotten around that some routes are to be avoided. Amsterdam is notorious for delays. It is said that since up until recently Biman sent its planes requiring servicing to KLM in Amsterdam, the delay was inevitable Presumably passenger morale and inconventence were not factored in, into Biman's think

Inflight, Binsan stewards are routinely seen to hand out toys to lily white foreign children and avoid making eye contact with brown "Deshi" children! It was humiliating to watch a Biman agent in Paris drooling over a foreign ambassador travelling to Dhaka. Unless we learn to respect our own citizens, the world will have diffi culty doing the same. It is worth keeping in mind that it is the Bangladeshis who keep Biman afloat, not the foreigners.

Biman's inflight English announcements leave a lot to be desired. It is totally incomprehensible to many Bangladeshis, let alone foreigners, who get their information only through these announcements. The take-off and landing music too, is disappointing. Our songs are world famous. With Runa and Sabina shining as brightly as ever, surely, Biman can do better than repeatedly play only the one-dimensional instrumental versions of the songs, "Khoro Baiyo Boy Begac" and "O Padma. Meghna".

Our national airline has been in existence for about twenty years. The time to make excuses has run out. It is not a good idea to run an airline solcly on sympathy or in a captive market. Biman can do far better business than it is doing if it is willing to shape up, and bring its ground services up to par with other airlines. Sooner or later Bangladesh Biman will have to learn how to compete, or it will perish. Remember Pan American, the world's original airline. They forgot how to manage their affairs well. Consequently, as of last year, Pan Am ceased to

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