

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 industrial units since the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) estate was set up at Tongi in 1964.

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 forestal, 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 reallocated permission for six units were cancelled, four are under construction, five units can go into production soon and twenty-two are totally inoperative.

Of the closed industrial units six are food stuffs producing enterprises, 10 textile, four forestal, one jute, four printing, three tannery, six chemicals, seven engineering 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, complexity 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 units.

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 everyday 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.

Incidents of theft, dacoity, hijacking and other anti-social

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

Three firms sue PDB

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 UNH.

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 a press release Saturday.

The Power Development Board had decided to buy "lower quality poles and fittings for its 'Sixteen-town Bidyut Bilaran Prakalpa' from

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 domestic firms.

After hearing the petition and perusal of records, the court set the fresh date and ordered status quo "to meet the emergent situation".

The local pole manufacturers had earlier reportedly appealed the World Bank, the financier of the project, for asking PDB not to enter the deal with the Indian company, but in vain.

Modernisation of banking system urged

By Staff Correspondent

The executive committee of Sonali 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 Abdul Quasem, Sirajul Haq, Badruzzaman Bhuiyan and Cultural Secretary Mohammad Solaiman.

every month but does very little for the improvement of road communications of the area, sources said.

As such, one has to move along the roads of the area with serious risks of accident. Even a slight rainfall overflows the roads causing severe trouble to the passers-by and transportation of goods. Pedestrians often fall victim to anti-social elements also in the absence of street lights.

The extreme scarcity of safe drinking water in Tongi is another serious problem. Entrepreneurs are reluctant to set up new units there for this reason too. Disconnection of gas lines are also affecting the 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
R 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	Kura	ISC
Safina-e-Rehmat	29/02	10/03	J/8	Kura	ASLL
Weser Star	04/03	05/03	J/10	Sing	BDSIHP
Euroberty	16/02	14/03	J/11	Champ	EOSL
Danilovgrad	02/03	09/03	J/12	Sing	BSL
NGS Ranger	03/03	06/03	MPB/1	Sing	BDSIHP
Izvestia	04/03	07/03	MPB/2	NA	NA
P One	19/02	07/03	COJ	Bank	CLA
Banglar Asha	26/02	-	GSJ	Bank	ISC
Harmony	01/03	08/03	TSP	Col	TSLL
B Kiron	03/03	06/03	RM/4	-	ISC
Banglar Shourab	01/03	07/03	RM/6	-	ISC
Laurel Star	15/02	10/03	DD	Mong	BML
Endurance Sea	02/02	07/03	DIX/1	Aqaba	UMAL
Banglar Swapna	23/02	10/03	RM/9	Dead	ISC

Vessels Due to Berth

Vessel's Name	Berth on	Jetty No
Banglar Robi	05/03	GSJ/DIX/2

Vessels at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Ready	L Port	L Agent
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Vessels ready at outer anchorage

Vessels ready at outer anchorage			
Nil			

Vessels not ready

Huang Tone	-	Sing	II&H
Vigorous Swan	-	-	Aqua

Vessels awaiting instruction

Al Ishrat	-	Mong	KSL
Banglar Sumpad	-	-	ISC
Banglar Jyoti	-	-	ISC
Songrim	-	-	RISA

Vessels not entering

Alyn	-	Sing	AlAmin
Red Deer	-	Sing	OTL
Ryong Gang	29/02	-	TSAL
Rajin	-	Mong	CT
Oryx	-	-	-
M Elex	-	Ista	Signin

Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	ETA	L Port Call	L Agent
Infinity	06/03	Sing	RSL
Ravadas	10/03	-	SSL
Ahlars Breeze	07/03	Col	RSL
Georgy Chicherin	08/03	-	CT
Pong Yun	08/03	Sing	BDSIHP
Mowlav	08/03	-	SSL
Mandiri	09/03	Sing	RSL
Atlantic Clipper	10/03	-	BDSIHP
Andrian Goncharov	10/03	-	CT
Allissa	11/03	-	II&H
Kota Buana	11/03	Sing	CTS
Karabereverett	12/03	-	EHV
Pong Shin	13/03	Sing	BDSIHP
New Genlord	13/03	Sing	BDSIHP
Yamburenko	13/03	Sing	CT
Peter Strostin	15/03	Sing	CT
Grumwald	15/03	Mad	ISA
Evercheer	17/03	Sing	IFD
Grumwald	15/03	Mad	ISA
Banglar Gourab	18/03	Pann	ISC

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

Source : AGUAMARINE LIMITED

Price Index

Essentials

March-7

RICE	(Taka per kg)	Coconut (Columba)	90.00-95.00
Amritsindia	15.00-16.00	Vegetable Ghee	48.00-50.00
Pandan	14.00-15.00	SPICES	(Taka Per kg)
Lichi	NA	Onion	8.00-10.00
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)	Garlic	14.00-16.00
Potato	6.00-7.00	Chillies	70.00-72.00
Brinjal	6.00-8.00	Turmeric(Round)	50.00-55.00
Karolla	18.00-20.00	(Long)	46.00-50.00
Lalchuk	5.00-6.00	Green chillies	12.00-14.00
Papaya	4.00-5.00	Ginger	3.00-3.50
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-5.00	Custard Apple(Signa)	3.00-4.00
OTHER FRUITS	(Taka per kg)	Shrimp(Signa)	7.00-8.00
Flour	15.00-16.00	MILK (Two kgs)	291.00-292.00
Atta	13.00	Dano	292.00-293.00
FINH	(Taka per kg)	Red-Cow	220.00-221.00
Rohini	160.00-170.00	MISCELLANEOUS	(Taka)
Kulshi	100.00-120.00	Ghee (one kg)	220.00-240.00
Hibba	75.00-80.00	Salt	7.50-8.00
Pandan	140.00-150.00	Sugar	27.00-27.50
Shrimp(Hg)	90.00-95.00		
Sing	100.00-105.00		
Koi	110.00-130.00		

Hides & Skin

(Wet/Salted)

(Taka per 100 pieces)

Cow	15000.00 - 30,000.00	Goat	11000.00 - 12000.00
Sheep	8000.00 - 10,000.00	Light & heavy	8500.00 - 9500.00
Medium	7200.00 - 7700.00	Rejected	3500.00 - 4000.00
Very heavy	7800.00 - 8300.00	Buffalo	5500.00 - 6000.00
Refected	2000.00 - 3400.00		

Gold & Silver

(Taka for 11.66 grams)

Gold	15000.00 - 30,000.00	Traded	NA
Light	8000.00 - 10,000.00	Chakra	6400.00
Medium	7200.00 - 7700.00	Silver	200.00
Very heavy	7800.00 - 8300.00		
Refected	2000.00 - 3400.00		

Source : Department of Agriculture Marketing

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on Mar 7, 1992

Star Economic Report

Little sign of improvement

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 Share Price Index	289.4870
Market Capitalisation (TK)	8,279,450,765
Turnover (in value TK)	61570
In volume	915

Company	FV/ML	Previous Day's Price Tk	Closing Price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (% over previous price)
Gulm (01)					
Shares :					
National Bank	100/5	103.00	103.67	+0.67	0.650
Losses (08)					
Shares :					
Amam Sea Food	100/5	33.00	25.00	-8.00	24.242
City Bank	100/5	267.00	265.00	-2.00	0.749
Ummaria Glass	100/5	216.00	214.00	-2.00	0.925
Eagle Star	100/5	18.50	17.00	-1.50	8.108
Chittagong Cement	100/5	221.00	220.00	-1.00	0.452
BGC	100/10	110.00	109.00	-1.00	0.909
Remrick Jaineswar	100/5	73.50	73.00	-0.50	0.680
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	113.00	112.50	-0.50	8.108

Traded at previously quoted prices (02)

Shares : Eastern Lubricant, The Ibsina.

SHARES & DEBENTURES LISTED WITH DSE

Company	FV/ML Tk	Jute Spinner	100/5	95
		Mutual Jute	100/5	105
		Northern Jute	10/50	
		Shamser Jute	100/5	100
		Specialised Jute	10/50	
		Shine Pakur Jute	100/5	100
		Sonali Jute	100/5	93

BANKS (10)	
AL. Haran Bank	1000/1 1090.00
A.B Bank	100/5 188.00
City Bank	100/5 265.00
U.C.C.	100/5 193.00

Islamic Bank	1000/10	1810.00
National Bank	100/5	103.87
Pubali Bank	100/5	102.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	90.00
U.C.B.I.	100/5	123.00
Uttara Bank	100/5	158.00

INVESTMENT (06)	
IC.B.I.	100/5 90.00
1st ICB M.Fund	100/5 330.00
2nd ICB M.Fund	100/5 153.00
3rd ICB M.Fund	100/5 130.00
4th ICB M.Fund	100/10 125.00
5th ICB M.Fund	100/10 88.00
6th ICB M.Fund	100/10 60.00
ICB Unit Cert.	
Sales Price	116.00
Re-purchase	111.00

PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (15)	
Ambee Pharma	10/50 11.75
Bangla Process	100/5 56.00
Baximo Pharma	100/5 197.00
Glaxo	10/50 125.00
ICI	10/50 10.00
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5 78.00
Petro Synthetic	10/50 17.17
Pfizer	100/5 110.00
Pharmacia	100/5 150.00
Pharmaco	100/5 60.00
Progressive Plastic	10/5 40.00
Reckitt & Colman	100/50 290.00
Rahman Chemicals	100/10 39.67
Therapeutics	100/5 85.00
The Ibsina	100/10 92.00

INSURANCE (04)	
IGIC	100/10 109.00
Green Delta	100/10 124.00
Peoples	100/102128.00
United	100/10 144.50
ENGINEERING (10)	

PAPER & PRINTING (06)	
Eagle Box	10/50 235.00
Monospool	100/5 95.00
Paper Converting	100/5 115.00
Paper Processing	100/10 60.00
Palm Printers	10/50 50.00
Rolls Trans.	10/50 50.00

ENGINEERING (10)			Semi paper	
Afrah Automobiles	100/5	180.00		
Afrah Bangladesh	10/50	33.00		
Aziz Pipes	100/5	233.00		
Bangladesh Autocars	100/5	78.10		
Bangladesh Lamps	105/5	225.00		
B.Thal Aluminium	100/10	85.00		
Bengal Carbide	100/5	220.00		
			SERVICE (02)	
			Bangladesh Hotel	10/50
			Bd. Service	10/50
			TEXTILE (18)	
			Alhaj Textile	10/50

Keeneng Steel	10/50	18.00	Arbee Textile	100/10	
Essang Cables	100/5	75.69	Ashraf Textile	10/50	26
Howlader PVC	100/10	90.00	Chand Textile	10/50	
Karim Pipe	100/5	126.00	Chand Spinning	10/50	
Melalex Corp.	100/5	103.00	Desh Garments	100/10	56
Morno Stafflers	10/5	200.00	Dulumsa Cotton	100/10	74
Morno Jute	100/5	223.97	Eagle Star	10/50	17
National Tubes	100/10	105.00	GMG Ind. Corp.	100/5	45
Panther Steel	10/50	6.00	Modern Dying	100/5	45
Quasem Dryclean	10/50	7.05	Quasem Silk	10/100	4
Rernwick Jajncawar	100/5	73.00	Quasem Textile	10/50	6
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	1050.00	Rahim Textile	100/5	90
			Sufham Textile	100/10	76
			S.T.M. (JORD)	100/5	48
			Stylecraft	100/5	100
			Swan Textile	100/5	100
			Talia Spinning	100/10	60

FOOD & ALLIED (23)		
A.B. Biscuit	100/5	180.00
Alpha Tobacco	10/50	48.00
Amam Sea Food	100/5	25.00
Apex Food	100/5	490.00
Aroma Tea	100/5	70.00
Bangor	100/5	14