

Saifur to seek 'effective' assistance from Aid Consortium next month

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman Wednesday said he will seek 'effective' assistance from the aid consortium meeting in Paris next month, reports UNB.

"We are not interested in aid pledges but effectiveness of the assistance... We have decided not to take conditional pledges," Rahman told newsmen at the Planning Commission while briefing the economic situation.

"In fact, I want to reduce aid to achieve self-reliance," Finance Minister told a correspondent with confidence. "I would like to mobilise domestic resources, increase savings and seek foreign aid to the barest minimum."

Rahman said, "It is necessary for independent and sovereign decision-making process and for international cooperation... We must go quickly towards self-reliance, less and less dependence on aid."

The Finance Minister noted with satisfaction that the revenue collection during July-February was one thousand crore taka more than the budgeted figure.

He denied reports that the country's economy remained stagnant under the BNP government that came into power March 19 last year. "It has been picking up since January after usual lull in early months of the fiscal year."

Quoting statistics, Rahman said 51 per cent of the total ADP outlay of Tk 7,500 crore has already been spent while

project aid representing 43 per cent has been disbursed.

Remittance from workers abroad stood at 536 million US dollar during July-February as against 508 million during the corresponding period last year.

Exports during July-January rose to 1,087 million dollar as against about 1,000 million dollar during the same period last year. Imports during the same period stood at 1,814 million dollar as against 1,884 million last year.

"Import is settling down to our requirement... we are not importing for others now," the Finance Minister said referring to high imports of VCR and pulses during the past regime.

Figures show imports declined but there is no crisis in the market, he added.

The Finance Minister estimated the inflation at the current rate will close at six per cent at year end as against 10 per cent last year.

Rahman was confident that the country's economy will be brighter within next two months with the release of funds and higher economic activities across the country.

He told a correspondent that the foreign exchange reserve now stood an all-time high at 1.3 billion dollar which is equal to four months' import bills.

He said the reserve will soon be depleted on debt-servicing and payment of wheat import bill.

"One and a half lakh tons of

wheat (under Canadian grant) are reaching Chittagong port by next Wednesday and we are soon buying one lakh tons," the Finance Minister told a correspondent who pointed to the reported shortfall of wheat in the countryside.

The Finance Minister was jittery about the rapid expansion of the government machinery during the Ershad regime burdening the exchequer. He said 5.5 per cent of GDP was spent on pay and allowances before Ershad came to power in 1982 but now jumped to 9 per cent.

"One-third of them (employees and officials) are not needed, they are just making mischief and taking money."

"But we can't just throw them away. We want to get rid of them gradually by providing them alternative avenues."

Rahman also pointed to the excess manpower in BADC, Railway and PDB who, he said, turned a serious burden on the government.

Asked about the demands for pay-hike by different quarters, the Finance Minister said "any demand not related to productivity is unjustified."

Unrestrained demand not supported by rationale and logic shall not be entertained, he added.

The Finance Minister laid emphasis on national consensus and political understanding on certain issues for taking bold steps to ensure uninter-

rupted progress.

He dwelt at length the irregularities and financial indiscipline during the autocratic regime of Ershad that wrought havoc with the country's economy. "Corruption which has been institutionalised is not easy to root out overnight," he said.

Citing examples of misdeeds, Rahman said President Ershad had given power of attorney to a former Industries Secretary, unknown in the history, on KAFCO by which he (Secretary) could have easily sold out the country.

The present government is convinced the KAFCO accord was grossly inequitable but had to swallow the bitter pill considering the total bilateral and multilateral relationship, he added.

"Banks as institution had collapsed. DFIs recovery of 47 per cent in 1982 came down to a mere 5 per cent and that of HBFC's from 80 per cent to only 8 per cent. Default culture was promoted. But we are not going to allow the default culture any longer," the Finance Minister asserted.

A scheme to renovate The President's Secretariat was taken at cost of Tk six crore during the Ershad regime, he said, but it was not completed even after spending Tk 18 crore.

"We have stopped giving any more money for it and ordered an investigation into the whole affair", Rahman added.

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	ASLL
Weaver Star	04/03	05/03	J/10	Sing	BDSHIP
Euroliberty	16/02	14/03	J/11	Champ	EOSL
Danilovgrad	02/03	09/03	J/12	Sing	BSC
NGS Ranger	03/03	06/03	MPB/1	Sing	BDSHIP
Izvestia	04/03	07/03	MPB/2	NA	NA
P One	19/02	07/03	CSJ	Bank	CLA
Banglar Asha	26/02	-	CSJ	-	BSC
Harmony	01/03	08/03	TSP	Col	TSLL
B Kiron	03/03	06/03	RM/4	-	BSC
Banglar Shourabh	01/03	07/03	RM/6	-	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

Vessels Due to Berth

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

Vessels at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Ready	L Port	L Agent
Vessels ready at outer anchorage			
Nil			
Vessels not ready			
Hang Tone	-	Sing	H&H
Vigorous Swan	-	-	Aqua
Vessels awaiting instruction			
Al Iahrat	-	Mong	KSL
Banglar Sampad	-	-	BSC
Banglar Jyoti	-	-	BSC
Songirm	-	-	RRSA
Vessels not entering			
Alyn	-	Sing	Alamin
Red Deer	-	Sing	OTL
Ryong Gang	29/02	-	TSAL
Rajin	-	Mong	CT
Ornyx	-	-	-
M Efes	-	Ista	Sigma

Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	ETA	L Port Call	L Agent
Infinity	06/03	Sing	RSL
Ravidas	10/03	-	SSL
Ahlers Breeze	07/03	Col	RSL
Georgy Chicherin	08/03	-	CT
Fong Yun	08/03	Sing	BDSHIP
Mowlavi	08/03	-	SSL
Mandiri	09/03	Sing	RSL
Atlantic Clipper	10/03	Cal	BDSHIP
Andrian Goncharov	10/03	-	CT
Allissa	11/03	-	H&H
Kota Duana	11/03	Sing	CTS
Karabieverett	12/03	-	EBPL
Fong Shin	13/03	Sing	BDSHIP
New Genlord	13/03	Sing	BDSHIP
I Yamburenko	13/03	Sing	CT
Peter Strostin	15/03	Sing	CT
Grunwald	15/03	Mad	BSA
Evercheer	17/03	Sing	BD
Grunwald	15/03	Mad	BSA
Banglar Goureb	18/03	Pana	BSC

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

Raw Jute Prices

As of March 8

Kutcha Bales FOB Narayanganj/Daulatpur	Rejection	1600	255	
Varieties (Tk. per 100 Kg)	BT	Habibabi	1200	220
White	Bangla	Cut Ropes	1150	220
Tossa	Cutting	BW Cutting	1250	210
Meshta	A	B	1150	190
Mid. 1099	BT Cutting	A	1500	245
Bot. (B) 1018	B	BT Cutting	1400	225
Bot. (C) 911	Meshta	Special	1700	
Bot. (D) 831	A	A	1600	
	B	B	1550	
	C	C	1450	

Note: *FOB = Freight on board Bot. = Bottom

Pucca Bales	FOB (Ready)	FOB (Slight)	FOB (N'gan)	FOB (Mongla)	FOB (Cig)	FOB (M/T**)
Special	3000	555				
A	2800	530				
B	2600	425				
C	2350	395				
D	2150	365				
E	1950	335				

Remarks: Quality - Normal Condition - Average N'gan imp - 8,000/10,000mds Daulatpur - Imp - 10,000/12,000mds Market - steady

** Indicative prices at which sales may be considered for EPC registration. Dollar prices shown above are without selling commission.

Price Index

March-12

RICE (Taka per kg)	Duck	10.50
Amra(nfne)	Firm	11.00-11.50
Pujan	PULSES (Taka per kg)	
VEGETABLES (Taka per kg)	Mush	30.00-31.00
Potato	Mooch	29.00-30.00
Brinjal	Chhola	23.00-24.00
Karolla	Khasari	18.00-20.00
Lalish	FRUITS (Taka per Litre)	
Pappas	Green Coconut (one piece)	7.00-8.00
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	Watermelon	20.00-50.00
OTHERFOODGRAN (Taka per kg)	Coconut (big)	8.00-10.00
Flour	Banana (Sugar) (4 Pieces)	12.00-14.00
Atta	Banana (Chapa)	4.00-5.00
FISH (Taka per kg)		
Rubi(big)		
Katla(big)		
Hilsha		
Pungas		
Shrimp(big)		
Sig		
MEAT (Taka per kg)		
Beef		
Mutton		
CHEEKEN (Taka per kg)		
Large		
Moderate		
Small		
TEA (Taka per kg)		
Dust (Plain)		
EGG (4pc)		
Hin		

Hides & Skin

(Wet/Salted) (Taka per 100 pieces)	Cow	15000.00	30,000.00
Light	Medium	80000.00	70,000.00
Heavy	Very heavy	70000.00	70000.00
Rejected	Rejected	20000.00	34000.00
Goat	Goat		
Dig & Tummy	Dig & Tummy	11000.00	12000.00
Light & Medium	Light & Medium	8500.00	9500.00
Rejected	Rejected	3500.00	5000.00
Sheep	Sheep	8700.00	9000.00
Buffalo	Buffalo	55000.00	62000.00

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on March 12, 1992

Star Economic Report

Better Performance

Business on Thursday at Dhaka Stock Exchange(DSE) observed better performance in trading. Although losers continued to rule the floor, number of shares traded however increased compared to past few weeks. Five shares lost in trading against two gainers. There was a sharp rise in trading on the day at previously quoted prices from Wednesday's four to nine.

Trading in terms of both value and volume showed an improved trend as compared to last few days. Figure in volume stood at 4918 valuing Tk 150340.00.

The DSE Price Index & further lost 0.500 points and stood at 288.4849.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Company	FV/ML	Previous Day's price	Closing Price	Change (Absolute)	Change (% over previous price)
DSE All Share Price Index			288.4849		
Market Capitalisation (TK)			8,265,090,915.00		
Turnover(In value Tk)			150340.00		
In volume			4918		

Company	FV/ML	Previous Day's price	Closing Price	Change (Absolute)	Change (% over previous price)
Howlader Pvc	100/10	90.00	101.17+11.17	12.412	
Saver Refractories	100/5	87.50	98.67+1.17	1.200	

Company	FV/ML	Previous Day's price	Closing Price	Change (Absolute)	Change (% over previous price)
NTC	100/5	275.00	242.33-32.67	11.880	
Chittagong Cement	100/5	220.00	207.00-13.00	5.909	
6th ICB M Fund	100/10	59.10	58.00-1.10	1.862	
Beximco	100/100	980	9.69-0.11	1.123	
Zeal Bangla Sugar	10/50	9.80	9.70-0.10	1.021	

Traded at previously quoted prices (09) Shares: National Bank, 5th ICB M Fund, BGIC, Afiab Automobiles, Eastern Cables, Beximco Pharma, The Ibsatna, Tallu Spinning, Debuture, Beximco Pharma.

Company	FV/ML Tk	Share Price	Dividend
ANOWARA JUTE	10/50	NT	
DELTA JUTE	10/50	8.50	
GAWSTA JUTE	10/50	NT	
ISLAM JUTE	100/5	60.00	
JUTE SPINNER	100/5	95.00	
MUTUAL JUTE	100/5	105.00	
NORTHERN JUTE	10/50	NT	
SHAMSER JUTE	100/5	100.00	
SPECIALISED JUTE	10/50	NT	
SHINE PUKUR JUTE	100/5	100.00	
SONALI AARSH	100/5	92.00	

SHARES & DEBENTURES LISTED WITH DSE

Company	FV/ML Tk	Share Price	Dividend
AL BARAKA BANK	1000/11090.00		
AB BANK	100/5	188.00	
CITY BANK	100/5	265.00	
IFICI	100/5	183.00	
ALFAM BANK	1000/11700.00		
NATIONAL BANK	100/5	104.00	
PUBALI BANK	100/5	102.00	
RUPALI BANK	100/10	90.00	
U.C.B.L	100/5	123.00	
UTARA BANK	100/5	158.00	

Company	FV/ML Tk	Share Price	Dividend
1st ICB M.Fund	100/5	330.00	
2nd ICB Fund	100/5	153.00	
3rd ICB M. Fund	100/5	125.00	
4th ICB M. Fund	100/10	125.00	
5th ICB M. Fund	100/10	88.00	
6th ICB M. Fund	100/10	58.00	
ICB Unit Cert.			
Sales Price		116.00	
Re-purchase		111.00	

PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (15)

Company	FV/ML Tk	Share Price	Dividend
Ambee Pharma	10/50	11.75	
Bangla Process	100/5	56.00	
Beximco Pharma	100/5	198.00	
Glaxo	10/50	125.00	
ICI	10/50	10.00	
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5	75.00	
Petro Synthetic	10/50	17.17	
Pfizer	100/5	110.00	
Pharma Aids	100/5	150.00	
Pharmaco	100/5	58.00	
Progressive Plastic	110/5	40.00	
Reckitt & Colman	10/50	290.00	
Rahman Chemicals	100/10	39.67	
Therapeutics	100/5	85.00	
The Ibsatna	100/10	92.00	

TEXTILE (18)

Company	FV/ML Tk	Share Price	Dividend
Alhaj Textile	10/50	NT	
Arbec Textile	100/10	NT	
Ashraf Textile	10/50	26.75	
Chand Textile	10/50	NT	
Chand Spinning	10/50	NT	
Deah Garments	100/10	58.00	
Dulaima Cotton	100/10	74.00	
Eagle Star	10/50	17.00	
GMG Ind. Corp.	10/50	15.00	
Modern Dyeing	100/5	45.00	