

CCCI concern over power rationing

CHITTAGONG, Mar 28: Engineer Ali Ahmad, President of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) Saturday expressed concern over rationing of power causing loss to mills and factories, reports BSS.

In a statement here he said, load shedding now practised by Power Development Board had compelled owners of mills and factories to suspend production as a result of which they had to sustain huge losses. General consumers of electricity are also affected when power supply is suspended in the evening, he said.

The CCCI President said that there was shortage of 400 MW, electricity in the country because of disturbances at Goalpara (Kulna) generating centre, Dhaka-Siddhirganj Generator and Shahjibazar (Sylhet) turbine. He alleged that there was no systematic distribution of power, particularly during load shedding as a result of which consumers are to suffer.

He called upon the Power Development Board to go for load shedding with prior notification to enable the mills and factory owners to suspend production during load shedding.

He also called upon the authority concerned to follow some systematic rules while practising load shedding.

Kibria returns from ESCAP job Apr 7

SAMS Kibria returns home on April 7 from Bangkok, at the end of his term of office as Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), reports BSS.

Kibria held this position of the UN's top administrator in their Asian-Pacific region for nearly 11 years since May 1981, according to an ESCAP press release in Dhaka Saturday.

He holds the senior-most position among the Bangladesh nationals in the UN system ever since the independence of the country.

During the period of Kibria's term of office as Executive Head of ESCAP, the region achieved rapid economic growth and maintained this impressive growth rate throughout the decade. In this period of dynamic changes, Kibria guided the ESCAP secretariat to render effective assistance to the member countries. Such assistance included both policy issues as well as improvement in human resources capabilities through provision of technical assistance.

Junior Chamber team talks youth development with Biswas

A seven-member delegation led by the President of Junior Chamber International (JCI) Albert Hiribarondo, called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban Saturday, reports BSS.

They discussed matters relating to the development of youths to make them useful for the country's development after proper training and motivation.

The JCI President informed that international JCI's moot would be held in the United States this year on global citizenship and youth development. He also extended an invitation to President Biswas to attend the conference as the guest of honour.

The President appreciated the JCI for playing an important role in improving the environment and working on checking Green House effect in the southern part of Bangladesh.

Zimbabwe to recruit Bangladeshi doctors

The Zimbabwean High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Tirwaji John Kangai, called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office in Dhaka Saturday.

They discussed matters of mutual interest and ways and means to expand the existing cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

Kangai, who is based in New Delhi, said his country would look forward to recruit doctors and water engineers from Bangladesh.

She extended her personal condolence to President Robert Mugabe for the death of Madame Mugabe.



A view of Eid shopping at a city market.

—Star photo

Eid shopping dull this year

By Sharier Khan

As the Eid is drawing near the shopkeepers of the city are giving up their hopes of reaching target profit because sales at the city's markets are considerably lower this year than the previous year.

Average garments shops are hardly reaching sales of Tk 15 thousand per day while they sold goods worth Tk 20 thousand a day this time last year, according to shopkeepers.

The number of buyers has declined by about 25 per cent to 30 per cent compared to last year, observe the traders.

One of the main reasons for the decline, as most shopkeepers think and evidence shows, is that during the last one year several more markets and shopping arcades have been built, while the number of buyers has not increased correspondingly.

Some of the newly created markets of the city are Nahar Market and Anarkali Market at Mouchak, Aziz Cooperative Supermarket at Shah Bag, Khilgaon Taltola Market and Balshakhi Supermarket at Mirpur. Construction sites for several other future markets can also be noticed at different places of the city.

The shopowners also feel that buyers are spending money this year compared with the last year. "A common

customer last year bought three to four items," says a shopkeeper at Mouchak Market, "while this year most of them are buying two to three items."

Another reason of the poor trading this year is the price hike of cosmetics, cloths and shoes.

"We did not enhance the price," a cloth merchant says, "prices of fabrics are controlled by the traders of wholesale market of Islampur." "For instance," he adds, "a yard of cloth which cost Tk 100 three months ago now costs Tk 130..." the traders of Islampur are responsible for this price rise."

Prices of several products in this Eid are as follows: Baba suit for children-around 150 Taka (110 Taka last year), selwar kamiz (two piece set) around 650 Taka (Tk 450 last year), jeans trousers Tk 400 to Tk 2000, Indian two piece with heavy embroidery Tk 1000 to Tk 3500 (previously Tk 700 and upwards), Bangladesh made shoes Tk 450 to upwards (previously Tk 250 to upwards), shirts Tk 250 to upwards (previously Tk 180 to upwards).

The only good news is that Bangladeshi sarces are comparatively cheaper this year. They are available for Tk 200 to upwards. Prices of sarces

are stable because their demand is growing fast, say shopkeepers.

Although there is a ban on several foreign goods, all the markets of the city are visibly flooded with foreign clothes, cosmetics and shoes. At Elephant Road, shoes and clothes from Thailand rule the markets at Elephant Road. Indian sarces and other fabrics are sold in large quantities at the Gaoasia Market. Japanese and Thai fabrics are also available in all markets of the city in large quantities.

But prices of foreign goods have also increased by 30 to 50 per cent. One of the reasons of price hike foreign goods is that during the last twelve months the taka was devalued by 7.8 per cent.

Restriction on sale of foreign goods also provided a good opportunity for the corrupt authorities who let in the banned items at local markets at enhanced rate of bribe, as the shopkeepers reveal.

The shopkeepers foresee a bleak year ahead as their business largely depends on the profits made in the Eid season. "It is ridiculous for us now to expect to reach our target profit by Eid," a shopkeeper says. "Buyers will not buy our whole stock by the Eid... even our regular small town customers are not buying this year," they added.

ECNEC okays five projects worth Tk 725.78 crore

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) Saturday approved five development projects involving a total outlay of Taka 725.78 crore with a foreign exchange component of Taka 464.75 crore, reports BSS.

The approval was given at an ECNEC meeting held under the chairmanship of Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman at secretariat cabinet room in Dhaka.

The approved projects are:

Ashuganj-Comilla 230 KV transmission line and reactive power compensation project under the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Rehabilitation of Babubazar No-2 Burtanga Bridge construction, Dhaleswari Bridge construction, and Begumganj-Sonaimuri-Ramganj development project under Communication Ministry.

Agriculture and Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister M. Majid-ul-

Haq, Communication Minister Oli Ahmed Bir-Bikram, Post and Telecommunication Minister M Keramat Ali, Anwar, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain, Planning Minister AM Zahiruddin Khan, Cabinet Secretary, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, members of the Planning Commission, secretaries concerned and other high officials were present in the meeting.



Agha Yusuf, Chairman of Erba Group delivering speech at a prize-giving ceremony organised by Virginia Flue Cured Tobacco Company (VFCT) at Manikganj recently. Kafiluddin Mahmood Chairman VFCT, chief guest KM Rabhani, Secretary Ministry of Agriculture and Shahidul Islam DG of Agriculture Directorate are also seen.

Raw Jute Prices

As of March 28

Kutcha Bales FOB	E	1950	325
Narayanganj/Daulatpur	Bangla		
Varieties (Tk per 100 Kg)	Tossa (BT)		
	Special	3050	565
	A	2850	540
Mid. (B)	B	2650	425
Bot. (C)	C	2400	405
Bot. (D)	D	2200	365
Bot. (E)	E	2000	335
Note: *FOB = Freight on board Bot. = Bottom			
Pucca Bales			
	FOB	FOB	
Variety	(Ready)	(Sight)	
	Naraj	Mongla	
	Tk per	Cg	
	bale	M/T**	
Bangla			
White (BW)			
Special	3000	550	
A	2800	525	
B	2600	420	
C	2350	390	
D	2150	355	

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

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berthing Position & Performance of Vessels as on 28/3/92

Berth No.	Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving	Cargo
J/1	Banglar Aaha	BSC	R/A	30/3	
J/2	Grunwald	BSA	23/3	1/4	GI
J/4	Fenling	MSA	24/3	5/4	C/Pace
J/5	Samudra Samrat	SSL	26/3	5/4	GI
J/6	Antje	PROG	25/3	1/4	P/Equip
J/8	Banglar Gourab	BSC	23/3	2/4	GI
J/9	Banglar Sampad	BSC	R/A	29/4	Wheat
J/10	Valleta II	KARNA	25/3		Sugar
J/11	Olympic Phoenix	BSL	24/3	2/4	MOP
J/12	Banglar Kallol	BSC	26/3	30/3	GL
J/13	Ahlers Breeze (CONT)	RSL	27/3	29/3	Cont
MPB/1	Kota Buana (CONT)	CTS	27/3	30/3	Cont
MPB/2	Fong Yun (CONT)	BDSHIP	27/3	31/3	Cont
	Barge: Mataram	SW	6/1		
CCJ	AL Tabith	UMAL	21/3	3/4	C/Clink
GSJ	Summit Venture	BSL	25/3	29/3	Wheat
TSP	Samudra Raj	SSL	18/3	5/4	Repair
DD	Banglar Mamata	BSC	26/2	3/4	Repair
DDJ/1	Endure Sea	EOSL	25/1	5/4	Repair
DDJ/2	Banglar Robi	BSC	R/A	5/4	Repair
RM/3	Global Mars	TSL	26/3	29/3	C/SO
RM/4	Anmala-II	SW	27/3	29/3	C/Soda
RM/5	Tannery Star	MSA	18/3	2/4	Cement
RM/6	Banglar Jyoti	BSC	R/A	30/3	C/Oil
RM/8	Laurel Star	BML	14/2	3/4	Repair
RM/9	Banglar Swarna	BSC	R/A	4/4	Repair

Tanker Due

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Cargo
Maritime Pride	TSL	30/3		CDSO
Athenian Theodore	EOSL	30/3		HSD
Tamar Summer	SEACON	30/3		CDSO

Vessels at outer Anchorage

Vessel Not Ready	PSAL	18/3	Sing	S Ash
Hang Shing	BSL	R/A	Jedd	MOP
Golden Fish				

Vessels awaiting Instruction

Banglar Kiron	BSC	R/A (6/3)		
Banglar Shourab	BSC	R/A (25/3)		

Vessels not Entering

Ayan	ALAMIN		Sing	Cement
Red Deer	OTL		Sing	
Oxyox	AQUA			Salt
Vigorous Swan	AQUA			Urea
Pasig River	ALAMIN		Sing	
Allissa	H&H		Pada	Cement

Vessels due at outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Loading Ports
Al Tafair	28/3			
Andrian Goncharov (Cont)	28/3		CT	Sing
Banglar Urm	28/3		BSC	
Oman Kurt	29/3		ROYAL	
Hang Tone	30/3		H&H	
Ever Cheer (Cont)	30/3	CAL	BDSHIP	Sing
Sam Houston	30/3		KARNA	USA Ports
Adria	30/3		BSL	
Continent-I	30/3	PENA	CLA	Sing
APJ Anand	31/3		NISHAT	
I Yamburenko	31/3		CT	Sin
State of Orissa	31/3		SSL	Dundee, UKC
Mowlavi	31/3	MONG	SSL	Bandar Abbas
Safina-e-Haider	1/4		ASLL	Karachi
Mount Sebana	1/4	KUWAIT	AML	
Asian Angel	1/4	JAKA	JF	
Sea Tradition	1/4		AML	
New Genford (Cont)	2/4	SING	BDSHIP	Sing
Leasovodak	2/4		LUTFUL	
Hang Pook	2/4		BRIGHT	
Shapelaevret	3/4		EBPL	Japa, FE, ST
Chandida	4/4		SSL	EC, USA, CARA
Fong Shin (Cont)	4/4	SING	BDSHIP	Sing
Arunachal Pradesh	4/4		SSL	Far East, Japa
Atlantic Clipper	5/4	SING	BDSHIP	Sing
Dimitry Poluyuan	5/4		CT	Odeasa
NGS Ranger	6/4	SING	BDSHIP	Sing
Peter Starostin (Cont)	7/4	SING	CT	Sing
Haraj Wan	7/4		H&H	

The above were the Saturday (28/3/92) Shipping position and performance at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC GROUP, Dhaka.

Price Index

March-28

Essentials	Price	Essentials	Price
RICE (Taka per kg)	55.00-60.00	Deno	291.00-292.00
Arman (fine)	15.00-16.50	Mustard	52.00-54.00
Bajam	14.00-15.00	Soyabean	37.00-38.00
VEGETABLES (Taka per kg)		Coconut (Colombo)	90.00-95.00
Potato (local)	6.00-7.00	Vegetable Ghee (1kg)	48.00-50.00
Brinjal	3.00-5.00	SPICES (Taka per kg)	
Karola	10.00-11.00	Onion (local)	8.00-9.00
Lalshat	4.00-5.00	Garlic (local)	14.00-16.00
Paps	4.00-5.00	Chillies (dry)	65.00-70.00
Green Benana (Four Pieces)	4.00-5.00	Turmeric (Round)	40.00-45.00
OTHER FOODGRAN (Taka per kg)		(Long)	48.00-50.00
Floor	14.50-15.50	Green chillies	8.00-10.00
Arise	12.00-12.50	Oinger	12.00-14.00
FISH (Taka per kg)		Cinnamon (10gm)	3.00-4.00
Roh (big)	110.00-130.00	Cardamom (10gm) (small)	7.00-8.00
Katla (big)	80.00-85.00	Risra (50gms)	7.00-8.00
Hilsha	65.00-70.00	MILK (Two kg)	
Pangas	120.00-110.00	Deno	291.00-292.00
Shrimp (big)	90.00-100.00	Red-Cow	293.00-294.00
Sing	90.00-110.00	MISCELLANEOUS (Taka per kg)	
Koi	100.00-120.00	Ghee	220.00-240.00
		Salt	7.00-7.50
MEAT		Sugar	27.00
Beef	50.00-55.00		
Mutton	80.00-85.00		

Hides & Skin

(Wet/Salted) (Taka per 100 pieces)

Old Calf	12000.00	30,000.00
Light	60,000.00	85,000.00
Medium	60,000.00	71,000.00
Heavy	74,000.00	79,000.00
Very heavy	80,000.00	85,000.00
Rejected	28,000.00	35,000.00

Gold & Silver

(Taka for 11.66 grams)

Gold (Guinea)	6400.00
Silver	200.00

Source: Department of Agriculture marketing

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on March 28, 1992

Star Economic Report Good Opening

Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) made a good opening yesterday after a two-day recess for the Independence Day and the weekly holidays.

Total volume of papers traded marked drastic rise from 830 on the previous day to 3178 on Saturday. Their total worth also increased by more than six times to Tk 236,518.00 against the previous day's Tk 34,615.00

A total of 17 papers changed hands of which nine gained and four lost. Four papers were exchanged at their previously quoted prices.

The rise in business was reflected more clearly as DSE Composite Price Index gained 0.111 point more to stand at 285.3681 against 285.2569 of the previous day.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE all Share Price Index	285.3681
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	8,161,647,875.00
Turnover (in value Tk)	236,518.00
(in Volume)	3,178

Company	FV/ML	Previous Day's Price Tk	Closing Price Tk	Change (Absolute) Tk	Change (% over previous price)
Gains (09)					
Shares:					
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	115.00	117.82	+2.82	2.452
National Tubes	100/10	100.00	102.00	+2.00	2.000
Bengal Food	100/5	115.00	116.58	+1.58	1.374
Eagle Star	10/50	19.00	20.33	+1.33	7.000
6th JCB M Fund	100/10	56.00	57.06	+1.06	1.893
BGIC	100/10	114.71	115.50	+0.79	0.889
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5	75.86	76.00	+0.14	0.449
Tallu Spinning	100/10	107.75	108.00	+0.25	0.232
Oxygen	10/50	39.95	40.02	+0.07	0.175

Losses (04)					
Shares:					
Cement	100/5	199.00	195.00	-4.00	2.010
B Thai Aluminium	100/10	84.00	83.00	-1.00	1.190
Satham Textile	100/10	74.00	73.09	-0.91	1.230
Ashraf Textile	10/50	26.75	26.00	-0.75	2.804

Traded at previous quoted prices (04)
Shares: Karim Pipe, Renwick Jaineswar, Therapeutics, The Ibtisna.

SHARES & DEBENTURES LISTED WITH DSE