

Cargo through Chittagong Port declines by 8 pc

From-Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, Mar 29: Volume of traffic through Chittagong Port recorded a fall by more than four hundred thirty eight thousand metric tons over the past eight months of the current fiscal year compared to that of the corresponding period of last fiscal.

Port officials attributed the itemwise break-up of import and export over the past 8 months of 91-92 (all in MT)

Imports	July	August	September	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Foodgrain	32054	21072	86652	184369	193315	108327	64572	35042
Cement	36766	34332	11842	26686	30402	25089	46634	12572
Fertilizer	19728	11233	x	x	36947	33419	55973	23793
Coal	x	x	1371	916	x	6898	x	8945
Salt	x	x	x	8783	50,048	53532	66134	45419
Sugar	x	x	x	x	x	x	561	1203
Edible oil	20031	16588	24702	52600	31841	23388	6840	28295
POL	148228	153933	131632	109248	62383	194465	184345	58170
Others	124988	142838	164342	174339	113357	144537	214191	137633

decline of traffic to lower importation of foreign goods by the traders of the country. Besides, global economic recession affected the export trade of Bangladesh the officials added.

According to official reports, the handled cargoes between July to February of

91-92 fiscal totalled at 44,02,200 MT down from 48,40,687 MT during the corresponding period of last fiscal (90-91).

During the past eight months of the current fiscal Chittagong Port handle 38,79,543 MT of import and 5,22,457 MT of export cargoes

period of previous fiscal year. However, Chittagong Port made target to handle 75 lakh MT of cargoes in 91-92 fiscal.

The import cargoes mainly handled by Chittagong Port included food grain, cement, fertilizer, coal, salt, sugar, edible oil, POL and others while export cargoes covered jute, jute products, leather goods, tea,

cargoes, September—4,20541 MT of import and 89,299 MT of export, October—5,96,941 MT of import and 49,407 MT of export, November—5,18,293 MT of import and 33,168 MT of export cargoes, December—5,92,655 MT of import and 55,702 MT of export, January—6,39,250 MT of import and 64,312 MT of ex-

while the corresponding period of fiscal 90-91 recorded 42,39,069 MT of import and 6,01,618 MT of export cargoes, official reports said.

The number of total vessels which called at Chittagong Port during the past eight months was 633 as against 675 vessels in the corresponding

garments, frozen goods, fertilizer, neptha and others.

The break-up of the handled cargoes during the past eight months period of 1991-92 is as follows: July—3,81,795 MT of import and 96,512 MT of export cargoes, August—3,79,996 MT of import 71,383 MI of export

port, February-3,81,072 MT of import and 62,672 MT of export cargoes.

During the past 8 months of current fiscal a total of 76,949 containers were handled as against 72,825 containers in the corresponding period of last fiscal.

Gas Field Co earn highest ever profit of Tk 11 crore

Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd earned a pre-tax record net profit of Tk 11.13 crore during the last fiscal 1990-91 after incurring losses in two previous consecutive years, reports UNB.

The highest ever profit of the company over the last 36 years was announced by the Chairman, Board of Directors, at the 36th annual general meeting held on Saturday at Brahmanbaria, says a press release.

The company contributed Tk 504.92 crore and 1.17 crore to the government exchequer as excise duty and advanced dividend respectively during this year.

BSCIC holds workshop on handicraft development

By Staff Correspondent. A one-day workshop on the Technical Assistance Programme on development of rural handicraft and cottage industry under Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industry Corporation (BSCIC), UNDP and ILO Project was held Sunday at the BSCIC head office.

BSCIC Chairman, Mohammad Maniruzzaman Chowdhury in his inaugural speech stressed the importance on setting up small and cottage industries in creating employment.

About 50 field-level officers of the Project participated the workshop.

Time liabilities of Scheduled Bank increase by Tk 124 cr

By Staff Correspondent

The time liabilities of the Scheduled Banks increased by about Taka 124 crore in a week beginning from March 5.

The latest statement of Bangladesh Bank on the position of the Scheduled Banks as on March 12 said the time liabilities increased to Taka 19676 crore from Taka 19552 crore a week ago.

This included Taka 18270.87 crore as general deposits, Taka 184.90 crore as deposits from banks, and Taka 1219.84 crore as other time liabilities.

On the other hand, the demand liabilities of the banks slightly fell about Taka three crore and aggregated Taka 5471 crore. This included Taka 3974.43 crore as general deposits, Taka 136.63 crore as deposits from banks, Taka

177.50 crore as borrowings from banks and Taka 1182.76 crore as other demand liabilities.

Their borrowing from the Bangladesh Bank increased during the period and stood at Taka 3958 crore. It was Taka 3907 crore the previous week. The borrowing included Taka 155 crore as against promissory notes and the rest as other borrowings.

Their cash in Bangladesh also increased during the period and stood at Taka 334 crore from the previous week's Taka 319 crore.

The balances of the Scheduled Banks with Bangladesh Bank on the other hand, showed rise by Taka eight crore and stood at Taka 1870 crore. This included Taka 1789.69 crore as balances with the Principal Office

and Taka 79.93 crore with other offices branches.

The credit provided by the banks in Bangladesh increased during the week. It showed a rise of Taka 24 crore and stood at Taka 21695 crore.

The credit disbursement showed Taka 21102.40 crore as advances except those to other banks, Taka 111.13 crore as inland bills purchased and discounted in Bangladesh and Taka 480.97 crore as foreign bills purchased and discounted in Bangladesh.

The banks had balances of Taka 130.42 crore with other banks in current account in the country as on March 12.

Their money at call and short notice showed slight fall and stood at Taka 336.84 crore. The investment of the banks at book value was Taka 4527 crore.

Call money rate ranges between 10 to 12 pc

Money rates in the call money market during the week ending March 25 ranged from 10 per cent to 12 per cent, reports BSS.

During the same week interest rates offered by the Bank on certificate of deposits varied from eight per cent to 13.50 per cent. The bank rate, however, remained unchanged at nine per cent, according to a Bangladesh Bank press release in Dhaka, Sunday.



M Maniruzzaman Chowdhury speaking at the inaugural session of the workshop.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berthing Position & Performance of Vessels as on 29/3/92

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving	Cargo
J/1	Banglar Aaha	BSC	R/A	30/3	Wheat
J/2	Grunwald	BSC	23/3	4/4	GI
J/4	Fenling	MSA	24/3	5/4	C. PEASE
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	4/4	GI
J/9	Banglar Mamata	BSC	R/A	29/4	Wheat
J/10	Valetta II	KARNA	25/3	31/3	Sugar
J/11	Olympic Phoenix	BSL	24/3	2/4	MOP
J/12	Banglar Kallol	BSC	26/3	31/3	CL
J/13	Ahlers Bruzee (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	-	-
	AL Tabith	UMAL	21/3	3/4	C. Clink
	Summit Venture	BSL	25/3	29/3	Wheat
	Samudra Raj	SSL	18/3	5/4	Repair
	Banglar Mamata	BSC	26/2	3/4	Repair
	Enduren Sea	EOSL	25/1	5/4	Repair
	Banglar Robi	BSC	R/A	5/4	Repair
	Global Mars	TSL	26/3	29/3	CDRO
	Ammala-II	SW	27/3	31/3	C. Soda
	Tannery Star	MSA	18/3	2/4	Cement
	Banglar Jyoti	BSC	R/A	30/3	C. Oil
	Laurel Star	BML	14/2	3/4	Repair
	Banglar Swarna	BSC	R/A	4/4	Repair/D

Tanker Due

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Cargo
Maritime Pride	TSL	30/3	-	GDRO
Athenian Theodore	EOSL	30/3	-	HSD
Tamar Summer	SEACON	1/4	-	CDRO
Roxanne	MSPL	30/3	Sing	HSD
Anax Puma	JF	11/4	-	TALLOW

Vessels at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Cargo
Hang Shing	PSAL	18/3	Sing	S. ASH
Golden Fish	BSL	27/3	Jedd	MOP
Andrian Goncharov (CONT)	CT	28/3	Sing	CONT
Oaman Kurt	ROYAL	29/3	Mad	M SEEDS

Vessels awaiting instruction

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Cargo
Banglar Kiron	BSC	R/A/6/3	-	-
Banglar Shourab	BSC	R/A/25/3	-	-
Al-Taifir	KSL	28/3	Sing	-

Vessels not Entering

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Cargo
Alyan	ALAMIN	-	Sing	CEMENT
Red Deer	OTL	-	Sing	-
Oryx	AQUA	-	-	SALT
Vigorous Swan	AQUA	-	-	UREA
Passig River	OTL	-	Sing	-
Allisa	H&H	-	Padra	CEMENT

Vessels due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Cargo	Local Agent	Loading Ports
Oaman Kurt	29/3	-	M Seeds	ROYAL	-
Hang Tunc	30/3	-	-	H&H	-
Ever Cheer (CONT)	30/3	COL	Cont	BDSHIP	Sing
San Houston	30/3	-	-	KARNA	USA PORTS
ADKRIS	30/3	-	Gold Rolled	BSL	-
Continent-1	30/3	PENA	GI	CLA	Sing
Apj Anand	31/3	-	PEAS	NISHAT	-
I. Yamburenko	31/3	-	CONT	CT	Sin
Mowla	31/3	MONG	GL	SSL	Bandar Abbas
Saifna-e-Haider	1/4	-	GI/GL	ASLL	Karachi
Mount Sabana	1/4	KUWAIT	Cotton Bale	AML	-
Asian Angel	2/4	JAKA	GI	JF	-
Sea Tradition	1/4	-	Cement	AML	-
Banglar Urmi	2/4	-	GI	BSC	-
New Genlord (CONT)	2/4	SING	CONT	BDSHIP	Sing
Lesozavodsk	2/4	-	CEMENT	LUTFUL	-
Hang Fook	2/4	-	CEMENT	BRIGHT	-
Shapleaverett	2/4	-	GI	EBPL	Japa, FE, ST.
Liberty Beele	3/4	-	Wheat	KSL	-
Primvera	1/4	-	-	JF	-
Aken (CONT)	4/4	SING	CONT	RSL	Sing
Chandisa	4/4	-	GL	SSL	EC.USA, Cara
Fong Shin (CONT)	4/4	SING	CONT	BDSHIP	Sing
Arumchal Pradesh	4/4	-	GI	SSL	Far East, Japa
Atlantic Clipper	5/4	SING	CONT	BDSHIP	Sing
Dimitry Polyvan	5/4	-	GL	CT	Odeasa
Weser Star (CONT)	6/4	CAL	CONT	BDSHIP	Sing
NGS Ranger	6/4	SING	CONT	BDSHIP	Sing
Petr Starostin (CONT)25/1	7/4	SING	CONT	CT	Sing
Hang Wan	7/4	-	Cement	H&H	-
Mandri (CONT)	7/4	COL	CONT	RSL	Sing
Thomana	9/4	RIO	-	JF	-

The above were the Sunday (29/3/92) Shipping position and performance at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

Japan is about to take over America!

TOKYO, Mar 29: The Japanese are quietly exerting control over America, a character warns in Michael Crichton's new Japan-bashing best-seller, "Rising Sun," reports AP.

The book itself may have been a test case of that idea. Was it shunned by several Hollywood studios, despite promising market potential as a film, because their Japanese owners were, well, quietly exerting control?

Not at all, says Sony Corp, the Tokyo-based owner of Columbia and Tri Star Pictures, neither of which bid for "Rising Sun." Absolutely not, according to Matsushita Electric Industrial Co, the parent of MCA, which in turn owns Universal Studios. Universal also stayed out of the bidding.

A US-owned studio, 20th Century Fox, was the only one to bid on the movie rights. Filming is scheduled to begin in June, with Sean Connery playing an aging, savvy detective with inside knowledge of Japan, and Wesley Snipes portraying his protégé, Philip Kaufman, director of "The Right Stuff," will direct.

"We do not get involved" with bidding decisions, said Jane Swenney, a spokeswoman for Matsushita in Tokyo. "This is not even a question MCA would bring up with us."

Raw Jute Prices

As of March 29

Kutcha Bales FOB	C	2350	390
Narayanganj/Daulatpur	D	2150	355
Varieties (Tk. per 100 Kg)	E	1950	325
White	Tossa	Machha	
Mid.	1099	1139	871
Bot. (B)	1018	1058	804
Bot. (C)	911	978	737
Bot. (X)	831	808	670

Exchange Rates

Currency	SELLING	BUYING
US dollar	38.9326	38.4481
Poundsterling	67.8253	67.0648
DM	23.7994	23.4297
FF	6.9947	6.9052
S Riyal	10.4067	10.3469
S Kroner	21.0731	20.9406
S Dronger	6.5361	6.4087
Singapore Dollar	23.4802	23.3452
UAE Dirham	10.6364	10.5041
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.5026	1.4959
Pak. Rupee (AMU)	1.5536	1.5484

Price Index

March-29

Essentials	Price	Index
RICE (Taka per kg)	15.00-16.00	55.00-60.00
Mustard	37.00-38.00	52.00-54.00
Soyabean	30.00-35.00	37.00-38.00
Coconut (Colombo)	48.00-50.00	48.00-50.00
Vegetable Ghee (1kg)	7.00-8.00	7.00-8.00
Onion (local)	12.00-14.00	12.00-14.00
Garlic (local)	65.00-70.00	65.00-70.00
Chillies (dry)	40.00-45.00	40.00-45.00
Turmeric (Round)	48.00-50.00	48.00-50.00
(Long)	8.00-10.00	8.00-10.00
Ginger	12.00-14.00	12.00-14.00
Cinnamon (10gm)	3.00-4.00	3.00-4.00
Cassiamon (10gm) (small)	7.00-8.00	7.00-8.00
Hiis (50gms)	7.00-8.00	7.00-8.00
MILK (Two kgs)	29.00-29.20	29.00-29.20
Dano	29.00-29.40	29.00-29.40
Red-Cow	28.00-28.00	28.00-28.00
MISCELLANEOUS (Taka per kg)	220.00-240.00	220.00-240.00
Cheese	7.00-7.50	7.00-7.50
Salt	27.00	27.00
Sugar	27.00	27.00
Hides & Skin (Wet/Salted) (Taka per 100 pieces)		
Cow	12000.00	30,000.00
Light	60,000.00	60,000.00
Medium	60,000.00	71,000.00
Heavy	74,000.00	79,000.00
Very heavy	80,000.00	85,000.00
Rejected	35,000.00	35,000.00
Sheep		
Light & Heavy	11,000.00	12,