

New FBCCI executives pay first visit

# PM assures every support to private sector industries

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Wednesday expressed her firm belief that solution to the country's socio-economic problems was possible through rapid industrialisation, reports UNB.

"We want private sector industries to develop", she said assuring that the government will provide every support, especially to small and cottage industries.

The Prime Minister was addressing a delegation of newly elected office bearers of the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce Industry (FBCCI) at the International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday morning.

The FBCCI delegation was

led by its newly elected President Mahubur Rahman. Former FBCCI President Alhaj Mohammad Akram Hossain was also present.

Begum Zia stressed the need for rejuvenating the sick industries quickly without which, she warned, the situation will deteriorate further "Rising unemployment creates social problem."

She was highly critical of the nationalisation of industries immediately after the liberation. "The country is now paying the price of that mistake for the last 20 years."

Referring to her last month's visit to the United States, the Prime Minister said foreign investors, particularly

the US businessmen, showed interest in setting up joint venture projects in Bangladesh.

But to attract foreign investment, she said, political stability, peace and a congenial economic atmosphere are necessary. "We have to maintain peace and discipline to keep up the interest and enthusiasm among foreign investors."

Begum Zia urged the chamber leaders for putting forward pragmatic suggestions to attract foreign investors.

Referring to the recent visit of an official trade delegation to the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), she called for utilising opportuni-

ties in time "before it falls into other hands."

She also emphasised on utilising the country's huge manpower resources for ensuring unhindered development.

The Prime Minister hoped that the country can attain self-reliance through implementation of various programmes already undertaken by the government.

Commerce Minister M K Anwar, speaking on the occasion, responded positively to a suggestion for regular dialogue between the government and the business community.

"Such dialogues will help find solution to problems and accelerate trade and business activities," he hoped.

# FBCCI President urges consultation to solve trade problems

By Staff Correspondent

The newly elected President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Mahubur Rahman sought co-operation of all concerned to effectively run FBCCI, the apex body of entire private sector. He was presiding over the second session of the FBCCI's AGM on Tuesday.

Rahman said that the introduction of free market economy has kindled hope for the overall development of the country. He also said that the prevailing problems in trade, commerce and industry can be solved through open discussion with private sector. He also viewed that the private sector would work with the government to remove the present economic recession of the country.

Shafiqul Islam: Vice-President, Bangladesh Cellophane Merchants Association.

**Members: (Chamber Group)**

Abdur Razaque Khan: Jessor Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Prof Mazharul Islam: Bangladesh Chamber of Industries, Md Faizul Haque Khan: Gazipur Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Afzal Khan: Comilla Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Sk Nurul Alam: Feni Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Jafrul Islam Chowdhury: Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Sk Delower Hossain: Bagerhat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Md Momtaz Uddin: Bogra Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Khairul Anam: Dinajpur Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Ahmed Ali: Meherpur Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Abu Zahid Scentu: Gopalganj Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Md Jahangir Alam: Naogaon Chamber of Commerce & Industry, A R Khan Pathan: Netrokona Chamber of Commerce & Industry, A K M Mostafizur Rahman: Rajshahi Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Md Nazibar Rahman: Rajbari Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

# 66pc aman procurement target met

A total of three lakh 62 thousand 775 metric tons of aman paddy (in terms of rice) has been procured during the aman season (1991-92) under internal procurement drive, reports BSS.

The achievement rate of the aman procurement against the national target is 65.96 per cent. The target was fixed at five lakh 50 thousand metric ton.

During the nation wide procurement drive, three lakh 27 thousand 740 metric tons were procured from Rajshahi division, 27 thousand 388 metric tons from Khulna division, five thousand 710 metric tons from Dhaka division and one thousand 937 metric tons from Chittagong division.

Out of the total procurement 9.34 per cent of paddy has been procured from Rajshahi division. The target was fixed at four lakh metric tons for procurement from Rajshahi division only.

A total of one lakh 62 thousand 674 metric tons of aman paddy in terms of rice has been procured during last cropping season (1990-91) under internal procurement programme, implying an achievement rate of 38.28 per cent. The procurement target for the year (1990-91) was four lakh 25 thousand metric tons.

The national target for the internal procurement programme of irri-boro has been fixed at five lakh metric tons of paddy (in terms of rice) for the current irri-boro cropping season involving about Taka 510 crore.

The nation wide procurement drive will begin on April 15 and it will continue until September 30.

The prime objective of the procurement drive is to provide fair price to the growers and to build adequate food stock for food security of the country.

The government has fixed the procurement price of paddy at Taka 245 per maund, Taka 656 per quintal and of rice at Taka 377 per maund (Taka 1010 per quintal) for the current cropping year.

The irri-boro rice and paddy will be purchased from the growers at fixed rate through 842 purchasing centres (CSD, LSD and TPC) of the country.

Out of the national target 4,37,500 tones from Rajshahi division 31 thousand metric tons from Dhaka division, 20 thousand metric tons from Khulna division and 11 thousand 500 metric tons from Chittagong division will be purchased.

# Biman introduces third weekly flight to Karachi

Biman Bangladesh Airlines introduced a third weekly flight to Karachi, Pakistan from yesterday (Wednesday) according to a Biman press release, reports BSS.

The third flight to Karachi will leave Dhaka every Wednesday, the press release added.

# Second flight to Frankfurt

Biman has also introduced its second flight on Dhaka-Frankfurt route Tuesday.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan was present at Zia International Airport to see the passengers and the flight off Tuesday night.



Mahubur Rahman, newly elected President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) is seen speaking at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the FBCCI Tuesday at the Federation auditorium. Immediate past president Alhaj Muhammad Akram Hossain and new Vice-President Alhaj Kazi Shafiqul Islam and Chairman, Election Board Ali Ashraf are also seen in the picture.

# Time and demand liabilities of Scheduled Banks rise sharply

By Staff Correspondent

The time and demand liabilities of the Scheduled Banks increased substantially over the two weeks since March 5.

The latest Statement of the Position of the banks as on March 19 says demand liabilities increased by Taka 40 crore and time liabilities by Taka 183 crore.

On the other hand their borrowings from the Bangladesh Bank showed a fall by Taka 33 crore during the period.

The time liabilities of the banks stood at Taka 19735.84 crore on March 19. This amount included Taka 18324.10 crore as general deposits, Taka 185.23 crore as Deposits from banks and Taka 1226.51 as other time liabilities.

The demand liabilities stood at Taka 5514.22 crore on March 19. This included Taka 3990.51 crore as general deposits, Taka 135.53 crore as deposits from banks, Taka 183.50 crore as borrowings from banks and Taka 1204.68 crore as other demand liabilities.

The borrowings from the central bank included Taka 155 crore against promissory notes and Taka 3719.63 crore as other borrowings.

The cash of the banks in Bangladesh showed an increase by Taka 16 crore over the period and aggregated Taka 335.92 crore. This included Taka 329 crore as notes and Taka six crore in Taka coins.

Their balances with the Bangladesh Bank stood at Taka 1905.97 crore, an increase of about Taka 43 crore. Their balances with other banks in current account in Bangladesh stood at Taka 139.73 crore.

Money at call and short notice in Bangladesh stood at Taka 345.79 crore.

Their investments (at book value) were Taka 4515.54 crore.

The credit provided by the banks in the country also increased during period by Taka 73 crore at stood at Taka 21744.16 crore. This included Taka 21161.26 crore as advance except those to other banks, Taka 114.53 crore as inland bills a purchase and discounted in the country, and Taka 468.37 crore as foreign bills purchased and discounted.

Other funds included Rural Credit Fund of Taka 164.90 crore, Industrial Credit Fund of Taka 51.78 crore, Export Credit Fund of Taka 53 crore and Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund of Taka 175 crore.

# External balances up by Tk 99cr

By Staff Correspondent

The external balance of Bangladesh Bank increased by about Taka 99 crore in a week since March 5.

According to the latest Statement of Affairs of the Bangladesh Bank, the balance stood at Taka 4781.33 crore on March 12.

The side of the Banking Department also showed notes amounting to Taka 2.77 lakh, Government Treasury Bills Holdings of Taka 216.14 crore, loans and advances of Taka 17.52 crore, Investments of Taka 295.03 crore, other assets of Taka 1675.02 crore.

and other loans and advances of Taka 1430.88 crore.

On the liabilities side, the deposits increased by about Taka three crore and stood at Taka 6429.76 crore. The Capital Paid Up and Reserve Fund were Taka three crore each as usual.

# Executive tips

Health is wealth for executives, too

By Shahabuddin Mahtab

The World Health Organisation has defined health as "Being in a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being".

It does not mean an absence of disease and infirmity, but a sense of vim and vitality. A strong feeling of basic purposes of life, and a determination for a purposeful and productive existence.

All executives are subject to stress and strain and these things are to be taken in their stride and with complete equanimity. If we are unable to do this, we may fall prey to ulcers, hypertension, arthritis and a host of other diseases.

Good health has to be earned, by submitting to the laws of health. Unless we build the foundations of our health in our twenties and thirties, it is difficult to do so in our forties and fifties.

Lack of exercise and fresh air, voracious eating habits, with no control of the palate are all dangerous for our health, and well-being. Obesity and a bulging waist line in our mid-life are all red signals for us.

There is the well-known saying, "longer the waist line, shorter the life line".

In our working life, our approach and routine should be such that we have some built-in mechanism for coping with stress; by delegating, doing away with the time-wasters, keeping company with great minds (books) et al.

The stress factor, if not overcome, will lead us to throbbing headaches, insomnia, indigestions and other stress related diseases, which can make the lives of the executives extremely miserable.

The society that we now live in, is mostly one of deceit, rivalry, hypocrisy and untruth and normal just man cannot keep himself immune from these stressful conditions. A code of conduct of our own can give us the needed strength to fight the forces of evil.

For good health, there should be moderation in eating, exercising socialising, and also in ones ambition. A man may sometimes succeed in the pursuit of a ruthless ambition, but he may have to pay dearly by sacrificing his health, morals and dignity.

For the purpose of maintaining good health, it is necessary for the executive to do physical exercises, as it suits him/her, in a regular and systematic way. The doctor may be consulted if there is any physical ailment/handicap. It is also a must that we have a thorough medical check-up yearly. In fine, we can say that our expenditure on health, is our best investment.

Allocation of Special Drawing Right amounted to Taka 91.74 crore. Bills Payable amounted to Taka 100.23 crore and other liabilities stood at Taka 1343.55 crore.

The notes in circulation also increased in the week by about Taka 27 crore. It stood at Taka 3825.18 crore.

The asset side of the issue department showed Taka 83.69 crore as gold coin and bullion holdings, Taka 200 crore as approved foreign exchange holding, Taka 11.81 crore as Taka-coin holding, government holdings of Taka 387.61 crore and Internal Bills of Exchange and other commercial papers holdings of Taka 3142.08 crore.

Among others, Deputy Post Master General, Khulna Zone, also spoke on the occasion.

# Sub post office at Mongla Port inaugurated

MANGLA PORT, Mar 30: The newly established Mongla Port Sub-Post Office was formally inaugurated by Chairman of Mongla Port at a function here Monday, reports BSS.

The post office will render service to the Mongla Port, users of port.

# Price Index

April - 1

Essentials	(Taka per kg)	OIL	(Taka per litre)
RICE		Mustard	52.00-54.00
Arman(tine)	15.00-16.00	Soybean	37.00-38.00
Payon	14.00-15.00	Cocunut (Colombo)	90.00-95.00
VEGETABLES		Vegetable (Ches) (1kg)	48.00-50.00
Brinjal	6.00-8.00	SPICES	
Brinjal	3.00-5.00	Onion (local)	7.00-8.00
Karola	8.00-10.00	Garlic (local)	12.00-14.00
Ladakh	4.00-5.00	Chillies (dry)	65.00-70.00
Papa	4.00-5.00	Turmeric(Round)	40.00-45.00
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-5.00	(Long)	48.00-50.00
ORIER FOODGRAIN		Green chillies	10.00
Flour	14.50-15.00	Ginger	12.00-14.00
Arta	12.00-12.50	Cinnamon (10gm)	3.00-4.00
FISH		Cardamom (10gm) (small)	7.00-8.00
Rakh(big)	130.00-140.00	Rhiz (50gms)	7.00-8.00
Katia(big)	80.00-90.00	MILK	
Hibba	65.00-70.00	Dano	294.00-295.00
Panga	120.00-125.00	Red-Cow	295.00-296.00
Shrimp(big)	90.00-100.00	MISCELLANEOUS	
Singl	80.00-90.00	Ono	220.00-240.00
EGG	100.00-120.00	Salt	7.00-7.50
MEAT		Sugar	27.00-28.00
Beef	50.00-55.00		
Mutton	80.00-85.00		
CHICKEN			
Large	72.00-74.00		
Moderate	76.00-78.00		
Small	78.00-80.00		
TEA			
Dust (Plain)	70.00-80.00		
EDG			
Light	6.00-6.50		
Medium	9.00-9.50		
Very heavy	9.00-9.50		
Rejected	9.00-9.50		
Gum			
Fig & heavy			
Light & heavy			
Medium			
Rejected			
Sheep			
Bullfin			
(one piece)			
Green Cocunut (Small)	5.00-6.00		
Watermelon (Large)	30.00-45.00		
Cocunut (Large)	8.00-10.00		
Banana (Sugar) (Large)	12.00-15.00		
Banana (Chapa)	2.50-3.00		
Dano	45.00-50.00		

# 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
Very heavy	80,000.00	85,000.00
Rejected	25,000.00	35,000.00
Goat		
Fig & heavy	11,000.00	12,000.00
Light & heavy		
Medium	9,000.00	10,000.00
Rejected	3,500.00	5,500.00
Sheep	8,700.00	9,000.00
Bullfin	58,000.00	60,000.00

# Gold & Silver

(Taka for 11.66 grams)

Gold (Guinea)	6400.00
Silver	200.00

Source: Department of Agriculture marketing

# Exchange Rates

The following are the Commercial Bank's BC selling and TT (C), OD transfer buying rates for some selected foreign currencies effective on April 2 to 7.

(Figures in Taka)

Currency	SELLING	BUYING
US dollar	39.1326	38.9087
Poundsterling	67.9124	67.1292
DM	23.8250	23.6743
FF	7.0262	6.9823
S Riyal	10.4602	10.4003
D Guilders	21.1596	21.0272
S Kroner	6.5626	6.5195
Singapore Dollar	23.5653	23.4305
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.5104	1.5036
Pak. Rupee (AMU)	1.5616	1.5545

# Shipping Intelligence

## CHITTAGONG PORT

Berthing Position & Performance of Vessels as on 01/4/92

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving	Cargo
J/1	Hang Shing	PSAL	18/3	4/4	S. Ash
J/2	Grunwald	BSA	23/3	4/4	GI
J/3	Fenling	MSA	24/3	6/4	C. Pease
J/4	Smit Cyclone				
J/5	Samudra Samrat	SSL	26/3	4/4	GI
J/6	Anjle	PROG	25/3	3/4	P. Equip
J/8	Banglar Gounab	BEC	23/3	7/4	GI
J/9	Continent-1	CLA	30/3	6/4	GI
J/10	Oman Kurt	ROYAL	29/3	6/4	M. Senda
J/11	Olympic Phoenix	BEL	24/3	4/4	MOP
J/12	Banglar Kallol	BEC	26/3	1/4	GI
J/13	Andrian Gorcharov(Cont)	CT	26/3	1/4	Cont
MPB/1	Valleeta II	KARNA	25/3		Sugar
MPB/2	Ever Cheer	BDSHP	30/3	1/4	Cont
	Barge: Mataram	SW	6/1		
CCJ	Al Tabith	UMAL	21/3	6/4	C.Chik
GSJ	Banglar Aaha	BEC	R/A	1/4	Wheat
TSP	Samudra Raj	SSL	18/3	7/4	Repair
DD	Banglar Mamata	BEC	26/2	1/4	Repair
DDJ/1	Erduren Sea	EOSL	25/1	5/4	Repair
DDJ/2	Banglar Robi	BEC	R/A	5/4	Repair
RM/3	Tannery Star	MSA	18/3	3/4	Cement
RM/5	Roxanne	MSPL	30/3	2/4	HSD
RM/6	Banglar Shourabh	BEC	R/A	1/4	Repair
RM/8	Laural Star	BMI	14/2	10/4	Repair
RM/9	Banglar Swapna	BEC	R/A	10/4	Repair/Dead

## Tanker Due

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Cargo
Tamar Summer	Seacon	1/4		CGSO
Matterahorn	DSI			Crude Oil
Anax Pama	JF	11/4		TALLOW

## Vessels at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	String	Cargo
APJ Annand	Nishat	31/3	String	Coke/Poase
Mowlavie(E/L)	SSL	31/3	Mong	GI
Maritime Pride	TSL	31/3	COG	CGSO
Mount Sabana	AMI	31/3	Kait	C.Bales
Antheian Theodore	ECSL	31/3	Daga	HSD

## VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Name of Vessels	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	String	Cargo</
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