

Taiwan considering recruitment manpower from Bangladesh

TAIPEI, Apr 7: Taiwan said today it would ban migrant workers from Thailand because they wanted too much money, reports Reuters.

"We have decided to temporarily stop accepting new applications to import Thai labourers," Tsai Hsien-Liu, Vice Chairman of the cabinet's Council of Labour Affairs, told reporters.

The council was studying the feasibility of importing workers from Vietnam, Burma or Bangladesh to relieve the island's labour shortage, he added.

The Taiwan government determines wages for foreign workers but Thailand's representative in Taiwan, on behalf of Thai workers, demanded an increase recently.

Thailand would be given a last chance to withdraw the demands for higher wages, Tsai said.

Thai workers each receive about Taiwan dollar 11,040 (about US dollar 440) a month to work on state infrastructure projects but have demanded a 20 to 80 per cent pay increase because they receive only half of what their local counterparts are paid.

Taiwan eased a ban on the hiring of foreign workers in 1990, allowing them to work legally on state infrastructure projects.

Almost 95 per cent of the 2,482 foreign labourers working on the projects are from Thailand.

The island plans to allow six industries to hire 15,062 workers from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

An employment bill, which would legalise the hiring of foreign domestic helpers, is currently pending before Taiwan's parliament.

Taiwan had been reluctant to legalise employment of foreign workers because it feared too many foreign labourers could cause social problems and hold back modernisation by sustaining old-fashioned, labour-intensive industries.

However, tens of thousands of illegal foreign workers have slipped into Taiwan in recent years, drawn island's economic boom and the promise of higher wages.

About 22,000 illegal foreign workers surrendered to authorities under an amnesty last year, and about 20,000 more are believed to be still on the island. Authorities say they will be sought out and deported.

Usmania Glass Sheet Factory, an enterprise of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) has declared a dividend of 35 per cent for the year 1990-91.

This is the highest rate of dividend declared by any public enterprise for the year.

The factory also registered a record production during the time. During the first eight months of this fiscal year, Usmania Glass Sheet

Usmania Glass registers record output, gives 35 pc dividend

By Staff Correspondent

Factory produced 96.71 lakh square feet of glass worth Taka 10.89 crore.

It is estimated that the plant will produce 140 lakh square feet of glass during 1991-92 which would be the highest ever production since the inception of the factory.

The factory also earned a profit of Taka 2.5 crore during the first eight months of this fiscal year. It has paid Taka 304.96 crore to the national

exchequer on account of customs duty, sales tax and income tax.

The authorities are planning to carry out Balancing, Modernisation Replacement and Expansion (BMRE) of the factory at a cost of Taka 14.90 crore under Belgian credit.

On completion of the BMRE, the annual production capacity of the unit will increase from 134 lakh square feet to 200 square feet.

Biman opens its Khulna office today

The newly-built Biman office at Khulna will be opened today (Wednesday), a Biman press release said in Dhaka Tuesday, reports BSS.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman will open the Biman Bhaban in the morning.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism and Chairman of Biman's Board of Directors Abdul Mannan will attend the opening ceremony as special guest.

Built at a cost of Tk 3.28 crore with a 22,200 sq ft floor space and modern service facilities, the new Biman office would help the national flag-carrier provide better services to its valued customers and also ensure extended facilities for the air travelling people of the country.

Govt sanctions Tk 14 crore for development of Barendra area

RAJSHAHI, Apr 7: The government has sanctioned Taka 14 crore for different schemes of the Barendra Multipurpose Development Authority in the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

Official sources said the authority has taken up schemes to install 500 deep tubewells, re-excavate 50 derelict ponds, construct 75 pucca irrigation canals, electrify 300 deep tubewells and construct and reconstruct a number of roads.

Besides, fifty lakh saplings will be grown for afforestation in the Barendra area under the schemes.

Boro farming plan in 8 northern dists

RAJSHAHI, Apr 7: A massive boro cultivation programme has been undertaken by Agriculture Extension Department in eight northern districts in the current season, reports BSS.

The districts are: Bogra, Jaypurhat, Pabna, Sirajganj, Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj, Naogaon and Natore, a PID handout said.

About 13 lakh 50 thousand acres of land has already been brought under boro cultivation surpassing the target by one and a half lakh acres of land in the districts.

More than 12 lakh metric tons of boro rice is expected to be produced in the season from the districts.

Meanwhile, necessary arrangements have been made for supplying of insecticides and technical assistance among the farmers to boost boro production.

New Zealanders restrict timber import from Asia, L. America

WELLINGTON, Apr 7: New Zealand timber importers said Friday they have decided not to buy tropical wood from areas in South East Asia and Latin America where forestry is unsustainable because of logging, reports Reuters.

Bruce Nimmo, President of the Timber Importers Association which accounts for 90 per cent of New Zealand's timber imports, said concern for the environment, rather than pressure from customers, was behind the stance.

"Our members are conscious of the environmental factors when importing from areas such as South East Asia," he said.



FLOWERS FOR FOOD: Two girls picking up flowers with which they would make wreaths to sell at city road crossings.

Shamsul Islam urges expatriate Bangladeshis to invest at home

Industries Minister, Shamsul Islam Khan met a group of prospective investors and expatriate Bangladeshi businessmen at the Bangladesh High Commission premises in London on Thursday, according to message received in Dhaka Friday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh High Commissioner in London M M Rezaul Karim was present in the meeting.

The Industries Minister exchanged views with the group members and held wide ranging discussion on the new Industrial Policy of 1991 and related matters.

Khan outlined the salient features of the new policy declared by the government recently, and possible benefit and package of incentives available to the potential foreign investors as well as the expatriate Bangladeshis.

He particularly referred to the congenial atmosphere now obtaining in the country after the installation of the new democratic government.

The Industries Minister urged the expatriate Bangladeshis to come forward and utilise their experience and invest more in Bangladesh in their own interest as well as in the greater interest of the country.

The industrialist and business groups present in the meeting assured full cooperation in this regard, the message added.

Raw Jute Prices

| As of April 1 | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----|
| Kutcha Bales FOB | | | |
| Narayanganj/Daulatpur | C | 2350 | 390 |
| | D | 2150 | 355 |
| Varieties (Tk. per 100 Kg) | E | 1950 | 325 |
| Bangla | | | |
| White | | | |
| 1099 | 1139 | 871 | |
| Bot. (B) | 1018 | 1058 | 804 |
| Bot. (C) | 911 | 978 | 737 |
| Bot. (D) | 831 | 808 | 670 |
| Note: *FOB = Freight on board | | | |
| Bot. = Bottom | | | |
| Pucca Bales | | | |
| Variety | FOB (Ready) | FOB (Slight) | |
| | Nayanj | Mongla | |
| | Tk per bale | Tk per bale | |
| Bangla White (FW) | M/L** | | |
| Special | 3000 | 550 | |
| A | 2800 | 525 | |
| B | 2600 | 420 | |
| EW | Rejection | 1500 | 245 |
| EW | Habitjati | 1150 | 210 |
| BT | Rejection | 1600 | 255 |
| BT | Habitjati | 1200 | 220 |
| Bangla | | | |
| Cut Ropes | 1150 | | 220 |

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

| Berthing Position & Performance of Vessels as on 7/4/92 | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|---------|--|
| Berth No | Name of Vessels | Local Agent | Date of Arrival | Leaving | Cargo | |
| J/1 | Shaplaeverett | EBPL | 2/4 | 10/4 | GI | |
| J/3 | Seyang Acc | PROG | 4/4 | 12/4 | GI | |
| J/4 | Safina-e-Haider | ASL | 2/4 | 12/4 | GI/GL | |
| J/8 | Astan Angel | JF | 2/4 | 8/4 | GI | |
| J/8 | Banglar Gourab | IBC | 23/3 | 11/4 | GI | |
| J/9 | Continent-1 | CLA | 30/3 | 7/4 | GI | |
| J/10 | Oman Kurt | ROYAL | 29/3 | 8/4 | M Seeds | |
| J/11 | Mount Sabara | AMEL | 31/3 | 10/4 | C Bales | |
| J/12 | Golden Fish | BSL | 27/3 | 15/4 | MOP | |
| J/13 | Fenling | MSA | 24/3 | | C Peace | |
| MPB/1 | New Genio(Cont) | BDSHIP | 1/4 | 8/4 | Cont | |
| MPB/2 | Tannary Star | MSA | 18/3 | 7/4 | Cement | |
| | Barge: Mataram | SW | 6/1 | | | |
| CCJ | Al Tabith | UMAL | 21/3 | 7/4 | C Clink | |
| GSJ | Al Tafzir | KSL | R/A | 9/4 | Wheat | |
| TSP | Samudra Raj | SBL | 18/3 | 7/4 | Repair | |
| DDJ/1 | Enduren Sea | EOSL | 25/1 | 14/4 | Repair | |
| DDJ/2 | Banglar Mamata | IBC | 26/2 | 12/4 | Repair | |
| RM/3 | Banglar Jyoti | IBC | R/A | 9/4 | Repair | |
| RM/4 | Tamar Summer | SEACON | 2/4 | 9/4 | CDSO | |
| RM/5 | Banglar Asha | IBC | R/A | 7/4 | Repair | |
| RM/6 | Samudra Samrat | SSL | 26/3 | 8/4 | Repair | |
| RM/8 | Laural Star | BML | 14/2 | 10/4 | Repair | |
| RM/9 | Banglar Swapna | IBC | R/A | 10/4 | Repair | |

Tanker Due

| Name of Vessels | Local Agent | Date of Arrival | Last Port | Cargo |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Matterhorn | DSLL | 8/4 | | Crude Oil |
| Anax Puma | JF | 11/4 | | Tallow |

Vessels at outer Anchorage

| Ready on | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| Name of Vessels | Local Agent | Date of Arrival | Last Port | Cargo |
| ARJ Anand | NISHAT | 31/3 | Sing | Coke/Pease |
| Ponar | MSA | 4/4 | | Salt |
| Fong Shin(Cont) | BDSHIP | 6/4 | Sing | Cont |
| Banglar Urm | IBC | 8/4 | Sing | Maic |
| Peter Starostin(Cont) | CT | 6/4 | Sing | Cont |
| Banglar Sampad | IBC | R/A (31/3) | | Wheat |

Vessels not ready

| Name of Vessels | Local Agent | Date of Arrival | Last Port | Cargo |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|------------------|
| Hang Fook | BRIGHT | 1/4 | | Cement |
| Adkris | BSL | 30/3 | Sing | Gold Rolled Cotl |

Vessels awaiting instruction

| Name of Vessels | Local Agent | Date of Arrival | Last Port | Cargo |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| Banglar Kiron | BSC | R/A(6/4) | | |
| Banglar Shourab | BSC | R/A(6/4) | | |
| Al-Tafzir | KSL | 28/3 | Sing | |
| Banglar Sampad | BSC | 31/3 | | |
| Hang Tone | H&H | 31/3 | | |

Vessels not entering

| Name of Vessels | Local Agent | Date of Arrival | Last Port | Cargo |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| Alyan | ALAMIN | | Sing | Cement |
| Rod Deer | OTL | | Sing | |
| Oryx | AQUA | | | Salt |
| Hang Tone | H&H | 31/3 | Mong | |
| Ahissa | H&H | | Padra | Cement |
| Malleco | MSPL | 31/3 | Huan | Scraping |
| Sea Tradition | | 2/4 | Sing | Cement |
| Olympic Phoenix | BSL | 4/4 | | |
| Liberty Beech | KSL | 6/4 | | Wheat |

Vessels due at outer Anchorage

| Name of Vessels | Date of Arrival | Last Port | Cargo | Local Agent | Loading Ports |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|-------------|---------------|
| Ronjoy Victory | 7/4 | | Cement | FSAL | |
| Sea Progress | 7/4 | | Cement | AML | |
| Hang Wan | 7/4 | | Cement | H&H | |
| Aken(Cont) | 7/4 | Sing | Cont | RSL | Sing |
| NGS Ranger(Cont) | 8/4 | Sing | Cont | BDSHIP | Sing/Mong |
| Atlantic Clipper (Cont) | 8/4 | Sing | Cont | BDSHIP | Sing |
| Amite | 8/4 | | Wheat | SSL | |
| Theomana | 9/4 | Rio | | JF | |
| Platon | 9/4 | Aqaba | R Phos | SST | |
| Dmitry Polyuan(E/L) | 10/4 | | GL | CT | Odesa |
| Ananchal Pradesh | 10/4 | | GL | SSL | Far East/Japa |
| Chandika | 10/4 | Cal | GL | SSL | ECUSA/Can |
| Kota Buana(Cont) | 10/4 | Sing | Cont | CTS | Sing |
| Silver Sea | 10/4 | | GI | PROG | |
| Petr Starostin(Cont) | 11/4 | Sing | Cont | CT | Sing |
| Eastern Breeze | 11/4 | | | RPSA | |
| Ever Cheer(Cont) | 11/4 | Sing | Cont | BDSHIP | Cal |
| Dekhodya | 11/4 | | | | |
| Fong Yun (Cont) 1/4 | 12/4 | Sing | Cont | BDSHIP | Sing |
| Andrian Goncharov (Cont) | 12/4 | Sing | Cont | CT | Sing |
| Ahlers Breeze(Cont) | 12/4 | Col | Cont | RSL | Col |
| Shezan | 12/4 | Juba | Sulpher | AQUA | |
| Mandri(Cont) | 14/4 | Col | Cont | RSL | Sing |

The above were the Tuesday (7/4/92) Shipping position and performance at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

Price Index

| April 4 | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| RICE (Taka per kg) | |
| Aman(fine) | 15.00-16.00 |
| Pujan | 14.00-15.00 |
| VEGETABLES (Taka per kg) | |
| Brinjal | 6.00-8.00 |
| Karola | 3.00-5.00 |
| Lalshak | 8.00-10.00 |
| Papsy | 4.00-5.00 |
| Green Banana (Four Pieces) | 4.00-5.00 |
| OTHER FOODSTUFF (Taka per kg) | |
| Flour | 14.50-15.00 |
| Aru | 12.00-12.50 |
| FISH (Taka per kg) | |
| Kutla(big) | 130.00-140.00 |
| Kutla(big) | 80.00-90.00 |
| Haha | 65.00-70.00 |
| Pengas | 120.00-125.00 |
| Shrimp(big) | 90.00-100.00 |
| Sipi | 80.00-90.00 |
| Koi | 100.00-120.00 |
| MEAT | |
| Beef | 50.00-55.00 |
| Mutton | 80.00-85.00 |
| CHEEKIN | |
| Large | 72.00-74.00 |
| Medium | 76.00-78.00 |
| Small | 78.00-80.00 |
| EGG | |
| Small | 70.00-80.00 |
| Large | 80.00-90.00 |
| Duck | 9.00-9.50 |
| Chicken | 9.00-9.50 |
| Firm | 9.00-9.50 |
| Milk | 28.00-29.00 |
| Milk | 28.00-30.00 |
| Chicko | 23.00-24.00 |
| Rheamri | 15.00-16.00 |
| MILK (Two Ltrs) | |
| Dano | 295.00-295.00 |
| Red-Cow | 295.00-295.00 |
| MISCELLANEOUS (Taka per kg) | |
| Chico | 220.00-240.00 |
| Chico | 8.700.00 - 8.000.00 |
| Salt | 7.00-7.50 |
| Sugar | 27.00-28.00 |
| HIDES & SKIN (Wet/Salted) | |
| (Taka per 100 pieces) | |
| Buff | 12000.00 - 30,000.00 |
| Cow | 60,000.00 - 85,000.00 |
| Light | 60000.00 - 71,000.00 |
| Medium | 74000.00 - 79000.00 |
| Heavy | 80000.00 - 85000.00 |
| Very heavy | 85000.00 - 90000.00 |
| Rejected | 25000.00 - 35000.00 |
| Goat | |
| Big & heavy | 11000.00 - 18000.00 |
| Light & medium | 9,000.00 - 10,000.00 |
| Rejected | 3500.00 - 5,500.00 |
| Sheep | 8,700.00 - 8,000.00 |
| Buffalo | 50000.00 - 60,000.00 |
| GOLD & SILVER (Taka for 11.66 gram) | |
| Gold (Ouzina) | 6400.00 |
| Silver | 200.00 |

Source: Department of Agriculture marketing

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on April 7, 1992

Star Economic Report

Business sees a boost

Business at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) marked a sharp rise on Tuesday. The floor saw substantial gains while losses were at minimal compared to past days. A total of 25 shares traded on the floor. The gainers dominated the losers by 15 to two showing a better sign of business. Eight shares were sold at previously quoted prices.

Transactions in terms of both volume and value also rose. Three thousand 406 papers traded on the day compared to Wednesday's 1705. In value terms, transactions more than doubled to Tk 245529.00.

The DSE Price index which has been showing a steady growth over the past days gained 0.4006 point and closed at 286.6503.