

PDB plans to cut distribution loss

Power Development Board has fixed its target to bring down its distribution loss to 22.96 per cent by next June from present loss of 27.01 per cent, reports UNB.

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain told the journalists in a press briefing at PDB office after an open discussion with the PDB officials and field level officers about how to realise outstanding bills and bring down the system loss.

He said although the system loss has come down but the result is not satisfactory. "It will be difficult to reach the target but we do not have any alternative — we will have to achieve the target," he said.

At present the arrears in account of PDB, Dhaka Electric Supply Authorities and Rural Electrification Board stood at Tk 832 crore of which in different government sectors and corporations the outstanding arrears is about Tk 158 crore and domestic and others is about 208 crore.

Overall national system loss at present is about 40 per cent.

The minister said the target to bring down the system loss in April was 27.31 per cent and the achievement was 27.32 per cent.

Giving a regional breakup of target and achievement in system loss the Energy minister said in Central Zone the system loss in March was 28.70 per cent and the target for April was fixed at 25.40 per cent and the achievement was 24.53 per cent.

The performance of Northern Zone comprising Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Bogra was tremendous. In March the system loss was 34.74 per cent, target fixed at 30.37 per cent and the achievement was 28.47 per cent.

At present the system loss on transmission and generation were 12 per cent.

One per cent system loss in distribution accounts for about Tk 20 crore annually in terms of money, the Minister added.

At present the installed power generation capacity of PDB is about 2398 mw and in last month the generation was 1552 mw.

To meet the power demand

the Board has taken measure to rehabilitate three power units at a cost of Tk 60 crore provided by the government. Six units are awaiting maintenance. A 210 mw plant at Oharashal and another of same capacity at Raizan in Chittagong now under construction are expected to be completed by 1993.

With the completion of rehabilitation programme, maintenance and new plants the load shedding problems in next year would not be as in this year, he said.

The meeting was attended among others by PDB Chairman Faizur Razaque, Energy Secretary Mohammad Ali, Board members and other high officials.

Meanwhile BSS adds: The Power Development Board (PDB) Wednesday announced incentive package and punitive measures for its employees and officers to achieve the objectives of bringing down the system loss and realising the arrears bills.

The reward and punishment measures will come into force from July 1 next, it was revealed at an evaluation meet-

ing of the field-level officials of the PDB in Dhaka Wednesday.

The incentive package for the PDB officers and employees included one and a half month basic salary for achievement of 90 to 100 per cent of the target, one month basic salary for 80 to 90 per cent target and a half month basic salary for 70 to 80 per cent target.

Concerned PDB personnel, who will achieve the target ranging between 60 to 70 per cent, will be served with a letter for improvement of their performance while a warning will be given in case of fulfillment of target from 50 to 60 per cent.

Punitive measures will be taken against the officials and employees who will fail to achieve the target above 50 per cent and strong punishment (including termination) will be taken when the performance will fall below 40 per cent of the target.

Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary Mohammad Ali and PDB Chairman Faizur Razaque, among others, attended the review meeting.

Garments sector earns 60 pc of foreign exchange

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Wednesday stressed the need for Human Resources Development for overall upliftment of the country, reports BSS.

He said if the vast population of the country can be turned into human resources. The unemployment problem will be solved.

The President was talking to a 22-member delegation of Human Resource Development Forum which called on him at Bangabhaban.

President Biswas called upon the industrialists to set up more industries for making the country self-reliant. He said the present government has earned the confidence of the foreign entrepreneurs for their investment in the industrial sector of the country.

Referring to the success story of the garments sector, the president said this sector was earning about 60 per cent of the country's foreign exchange.

The members of the delegation apprised the president of forum's programmes for Human Resources Development and exchanged views with him regarding industrialists in the country.

Led by forum president Mosharraf Hossain, the members of the delegation included former Minister Dr. R. A. Ghani, Secretary General of the forum principal Shafiq Ahmed Ihtiyar, Dr. S. A. Shakoor, Rezaul Islam, M. A. Hashem, Shah Alam Chowdhury and R. A. Hawlader.

ADB won't delay fund, hopes minister

The three member high level mission from Asian Development Bank (ADB) headed by DK Vinh has expressed their satisfaction over the progress of Bangladesh Railway this year, an official handout said, reports BSS.

The ADB team, now in Dhaka on a three-day visit, expressed this while calling on Communications Minister Oli Ahmed at his office Wednesday.

The ADB team appreciated the performance of Bangladesh Railway in making a headway in reducing the loss remarkably within only a year.

The team observed that Bangladesh had also achieved very commendable progress in the field of road sector.

The Communications Minister, earlier, apprised the members of the team of different development steps in the communications sector after this government came into power. The minister hoped that Bangladesh will not have to face price escalation due to any delay in getting fund from ADB, one of its significant development partners, especially in road sector.

\$ 1.9 m IDB aid for Rohingya

Islamic Development Bank (IDB) will provide 1.881 million US dollar as assistance for the construction of camps and procurement of multi-purpose trucks and related items for the Rohingya refugees, reports BSS.

An agreement to this regard was signed in Dhaka Wednesday between IDB and Bangladesh. Secretary of Economic Relations Division Enam Ahmed Chowdhury and Acting President of IDB H. E. Osman Seck signed the agreement representing Bangladesh government and IDB.



A K S M Taifur Hussain, Managing Director of Rupali Bank Ltd laying foundation stone of the bank's own building of the Moghatala Branch on Wednesday. General Managers Mohammed Muslim M A Hashem and other senior executives of the bank were present.

Malaysia to deport over one lakh foreign workers

KUALA LUMPUR, May 20: Malaysia will deport more than 100,000 illegal foreign workers, mainly Indonesians, if they fail to register by the end of June, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

The government has decided not to extend a June 30 deadline for the workers to register and obtain work permits, he told a news conference after a cabinet meeting.

"From July 1, the police will act to detain and deport or charge them in court," he said.

Ghafar said the detainees would be sent to seven temporary detention camps.

So far, 134,379 illegal immigrants have registered with the immigration department.

"We believe the number is less than half of the total illegal alien population, Abdul Ghafar said.

The Home (Interior) Ministry earlier gave illegal foreign workers until last December 31 to register. A nationwide operation to flush out illegals, mainly Indonesians, Filipinos and Bangladeshis, was to have begun on

January 1. The deadline was extended to June 30. Foreign workers in plantations and construction as well as domestics will receive work permits under a new policy to ease a labour shortage.

Abdul Ghafar said illegal workers in the manufacturing and services sectors were also required to register and apply for work permits by June 30 or risk detention.

"Approval is not automatic, we will only approve if employers can prove that they are facing difficulties in recruiting local workers," he said.

The labour shortage has spread to the manufacturing sector where more than 80,000 workers are needed, employers say.

G-7 to hold meet of ex-finance ministers in NY

TOKYO, May 20: The Group of Seven (G-7) industrialised nations will hold a meeting of former finance ministers and central bank governors in New York on May 28-29, press reports said Tuesday, reports AP.

The meeting, third of its kind, will deal with economic problems of the G-7 nations — Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United States — and aid to the former Soviet Union and Latin American and Asia-Pacific nations, the reports said.

proved two reports — one on irregularities in the construction of administrative building of Bangladesh Telephone and Telegraph Board of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication and second, recommendations and suggestion evolved by Inter-Departmental Committee on the Project for the Development of the Infrastructure of Dhaka city and strengthening the organisational structure of house building department as per the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the project under the Ministry of Public Works.

Seed Development Project and intervention in Triple Super Phosphate (TSP) marketing programme under the Ministry of Agriculture, Medical equipment, appliances and ambulance procurement projects with Japanese assistance under the programme of cyclone rehabilitation of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Besides, the meeting ap-

ECNEC okays 4 projects worth Tk 339.42 cr

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) Wednesday approved four projects involving a total out-lay of Taka 859.29 crore with a foreign exchange component of Taka 339.42 crore, reports BSS.

The approval was given at an ECNEC meeting held at Secretariat Cabinet Room with Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman in the chair.

The approved projects are: Balancing, Modernising, Rehabilitation and Expansion

(BMRE) of Osmania Glass Factory with Belgium grant under the Ministry of Industries.

Seed Development Project and intervention in Triple Super Phosphate (TSP) marketing programme under the Ministry of Agriculture, Medical equipment, appliances and ambulance procurement projects with Japanese assistance under the programme of cyclone rehabilitation of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Besides, the meeting ap-

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 20.05.1992

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Len
J/1	Kastaga-II	GI	Sing	MIR	15/5	22/5
J/2	Continental-I	GI	Sing	CLA	14/5	21/5
J/3	Silver Sea	GI	Mong	RKSA	16/5	22/5
J/4	Sufar	GI	Sing	ASJL	5/5	21/5
J/6	Orsha	Cement	Sing	MSA	7/5	25/5
J/7	Banglar Aaha	Wheat	Sing	HSC	R/A	22/5
J/8	Banglar Shobha GI	Peng	HSC	15/5	26/5	
J/9	Banglar Kiron	Wheat	HSC	R/A	25/5	
J/11	Banglar Sampad Wheat		HSC	R/A	13/5	
J/12	Elbella-IV	Wheat	D Mark	JF	10/5	22/5
J/13	NGS Ranger (Cont)Cont	Sing	Bdship	18/5	22/5	
MI/1/1	Andrian Goncharov (Cont)Cont	Sing	CT	19/5	23/5	
MI/1/2	Fong Yun (Cont)Cont	Sing	Bdship	17/5	22/5	
CCJ	Al Samad	C Clink	Kara	UMAL	6/5	22/5
GSJ	Mariner	Wheat	Dunk	OWSI	16/5	22/5
TSP	Unity	R Phos	Suez	TSLL	16/5	25/5
RM/4	Piya-1	Cement	Visa	PSAL	5/5	25/5
RM/6	Banglar Shourabhc Oil		HSC	R/A	20/5	
DDJ/1	Endurance Sea	Repair	Agaba	EOSL	25/1	25/5
RM/8	Eastern Breeze	Repair	Mong	RKSA	14/5	21/5
CCJ	APJ Anand	Urea	Sing	MSPL	31/3	21/5

Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Point
Ahlers Breeze (Cont) 6/5	20/5	Col	RSL	Cont	Sing
ANH Dao	20/5		Bright	Cement	
Alam Teguh	21/5	Cara	Dynamic	R Seeds	
Gold Future	22/5	Mong	AML	GI/CL	Mom Mapu
Kota Buana (Cont)12/5	20/5	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Jiang Cheng	21/5	S Hai	BDSHIP	GI	
Bellin Bay	21/5	Kawar	OSA	Scraping	
Ronjay Choomic	22/5	Indo	MSA	Cement	
CGM Bretagne (Cont)12/522/5	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing	
1 Yamburanko (Cont)29/4	22/5	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Maullin	22/5		MSPL	Scraping	
Lakkar	22/5	Kara	HSC	R Cotton	
Golden Fish	23/5	Mong	AQUA		Dakar
Samudra Raj (48) 13/5	23/5		SSL		Pakistan
Amitic	23/5	Mong	AQUA		UK Cont
New Genlord (Cont) 12/5	23/5	Sing	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Ronjay Victory	23/5		PSAL	Cement	
Sca Progress	23/5		AML	Cement	
Arkita Princess	22/5		BSL	Copra	
Silver Lake	24/5		Prog	GI	
Vislava Parag (E/1)19/5	24/5		SSL	EAL	Dundee Harb
Hong Cheong	25/5		H&H	Cement	
Chong Chon					
Gang	25/5	Anna	TSLL	R Phos	
OLGA-1	25/5		USTC	Cement	
Green Island	25/5		Karna	Lash	USA Ports
Rota Eagle (Cont) 9/5	26/5	Sing	QTS	Cont	Sing
Petit Starogin (Cont)18/5	26/5		CT	Cont	Sing
E T Ocean-VI	26/5		Croat		
Optima (Cont) 17/5	27/5	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Karabikveret	27/5		FBPL	GI	Japa Fe
Safina-e-Najam	28/5	Kara	ASJL	C Clinker	
Banglar Urmil	28/5	Mong	HSC	GI	UK Cont
Fong Shin (Cont) 18/5	28/5	Sing	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Safina-e-Rehmat	30/5		ASJL	GI/CL	Karachi
Sha He Kou	4/6		Bdship	GI	
Banglar Kakoli	25/5		HSC	GI	UK Cont

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
T T Energy	C Oil	Col	NNL	27/4
Alpha Sun	C Oil	Jebel	DSLL	15/5
Banglar Jyoti	C Oil		HSC	R/A
Western Greeting	Wheat		BSL	16/5
Al Talsir	Wheat	Mong	HSL	19/5
Great Harvest	Wheat		BSL	18/5

Vessels at Outer Anchorage

Ready on:	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Tbilisi	CDSO	Sing	Seacom	19/5
Guan He Kou	GI	Nanj	Bdship	19/5
Ucka	GI	Kara	OWSL	19/5
Richway	Wheat	Durb	BSL	19/5
Banglar Mamata	Wheat		BSC	R/A (16/5)
Nikos-N	Wheat	Sing	BSL	17/5
Banglar Bani	Wheat		BSC	R/A (17/5)

Vessels Not Ready	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Shezan	R Cott	Juba	Aqua	R/A (16/5)
Apil	Cement	Sing	Bright	18/5

Vessels not Entering:

Alyn	Cement	Sing	Alamti	R/A (18/9)
Red Deer	Cement	Sing	OTL	R/A (26/11)
Mild Win	Scraping	Bank	H&H	16/5

Movement of Vessels For 21/5/92

Movement of Vessels For 21/5/92					
Outgoing		Incoming		Shifting	
J/2	Continent-1	RM/6	Banglar Shourabh	J/4	Safar To RM/8
DM	Banglar Jyoti	NB	Banglar Banat	J/9	Banglar Kiron To J/2
RM/8	E Breeze	J/4	Richway	J/7	Banglar Aaha To J/2
CCJ	APJ Anand	J/10	A Breeze		
		NB	Jiang Cheng		
		J/9	Guan He Kou		

The above were the Wednesday (20.05.92) Shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

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 May 21.

Currency	SELLING	(Figures in Taka)	BUYING
	B.C.	T.T. (C)	O.D. TRANS.

US dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339
Pound sterling	71.8955	71.5488	71.0782
DM	24.6070	24.4555	24.2828
FF	7.3207	7.2747	7.2233
S Riyal	10.4641	10.4042	10.3307
D Guilders	21.8545	21.7173	21.5639
S Kroner	6.8342	6.7802	6.7412
Singapore Dollar	24.0505	23.9129	23.7440
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548
Kuwaiti Dinar	135.5475	134.7720	133.8201
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.5104	1.5035	1.4960
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.5541	1.5470	1.5393

Authorized dealers will apply T T clean buying rate for purchase of remittances of Bangladesh's working abroad. Note: AMU—Asian Monetary Union.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on May 20, 1992

Star Economic Report

Losers retake the floor

Business declined in terms of value while it slightly increased in terms of volume at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Wednesday. Value lost more than twice (2.42) against Tuesday's Tk 18,120.82 to Tk 7486.28.00. Volume slightly gained from 14619 on Tuesday to 15,042.

The DSE Composite Price Index lost 1.422 points and stood at 304.1356.

The day's trading witnessed the losers ruling the floor outnumbering the gainers by 15 to eight. Out of 28 shares trading on the floor five shares were sold at their previously quoted prices.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE All Share Price Index	304.1356
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	8,699,536,398.00
Turnover (In value Tk)	748,628.00
Turnover (In volume)	15,042

Gains (08)

Shares:

Company	FV/ML	Previous day's price Tk	Closing price (absolute) Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (% over previous price)
Shine Pukur Jute	100/5	94.00	100.00	+6.00	6.383
Apex Tannery	100/5	259.51	260.68	+1.17	0.451
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5	118.00	118.64	+0.64	0.542
Beximco	100/100	14.40	14.58	+0.18	1.250
Tallu Spinning	100/10	114.00	114.27	+0.27	0.237
United	100/10	139.84	140.00	+0.16	0.114
Zal Bangla Sugar	10/50	10.10	10.17	+0.07	0.693
Debenture					
Apex Tannery	1000/1	1063.00	1070.83	+7.83	0.737