

## DCCI fears unfair competition

## Blanket import liberalisation to hinder industrialisation

Star Economic Report

The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) stressed the need to safeguard adequately the genuine interests of the domestic industries against uneven and unfair competition from the foreign goods.

"Any blanket liberalisation of imports at this stage of our economic growth will certainly retard our industrialisation process," the DCCI says, adding that a 'phase-by-phase approach' to import liberalisation is only logical for us.

"We are not opposed to import liberalisation in principle, provided others, particularly the developed countries, also dismantle their tariff and non-tariff restrictions and thus open up their markets to exports from the developing countries," the DCCI adds.

The above observations were made in an editorial titled 'Export and Import policies in a changing global environment' published in the April, 1992 issue of DCCI's

monthly journal.

The DCCI in its editorial calls upon the relevant authorities to guarantee the facilities and incentives to the exporters of the country, which, according to the editorial, are already enjoyed by their counterparts in the neighbouring countries. It regrets that the provisions about export incentives, announced under the last export policy (in areas of tax-exempted export earnings, rationalisation of export performance benefit and concessional rate of interest for export credits) are yet to be made operative 'in real sense'.

"Such operational lapses have seriously constrained our export promotional efforts," the DCCI says, pointing out some other problems relating to both traditional and non-traditional items, export marketing, skill formation and development and specific production-related factors.

It felt that a more concentrated focus should be drawn in revamping the import policy on more effective and realistic lines, taking into consideration the factors like demand constraints, limited markets, lack of purchasing power of the common people and high production costs for local products.

"As far as our own foreign trade policies for exports and imports are concerned, we do certainly need to have quick reflexes to adjust ourselves to the hard realities and changing trends and policy operations in other developing countries," the DCCI observes.

Referring to a latest human development report 1992, prepared by a group of experts under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the editorial says that the 'global trade restrictions and lack of opportunities for free flow of merchandise goods, together with unequal partnership, cost the

developing countries, as a whole \$500 billion a year-10 times that they receive in foreign assistance'.

The DCCI termed it as 'the real irony' and says, "Bangladesh, despite the being a marginal operator in the global market in times of its aggregate size and volume, has also faced this irony."

According to the report, "twenty of 24 industrial countries are more protectionist than they were 10 years ago. Almost 28 per cent of all OECD imports from developing countries are affected by non-tariff barriers. It is true that developing countries use protectionist policies to protect infant and other industries. But the real irony is that — when the level of average protection in developing countries is beginning to come down, partly as a result of structural adjustment programme — the protectionist trends in the industrial nations are gaining ground."

## Workshop on garments and hosiery export concludes

A two-day workshop on expansion of export of ready-made garments and hosiery goods concluded in Dhaka Thursday with detailed discussions on various aspects of market expansion and company development planning, reports ISS.

41 participants who attended the workshop exchanged views on research on expansion of export markets on garments and hosiery items.

The workshop was jointly organised by UNDP, International Trade Commission (ITC), Export Promotion Bureau, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association and Bangladesh Hosiery Association.

Commerce Minister M K Anwar inaugurated the workshop on Tuesday.



Cable News Network (CNN) has signed an agreement with USIS Dhaka under which CNN will provide USIS with twenty-four hour television service. Eve Kroese, Executive Assistant, USIS and Golam Arshad, CNN Bangladesh representative signed on behalf of their respective organisation. CNN is already in operation in Bangladesh. — AFP/UNB photo

## People's representatives' control on public expenditure essential

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Thursday said effective functioning of parliamentary standing committees on Finance and Public Undertaking had established control over the public expenditure, reports ISS.

The President said the role of Jatiya Sangsad at every stage of formulation of budget, approval of expenditure and review of the public accounts was firmly based under the present parliamentary form of government.

He said, the parliamentary committees would have to utilise best their authorities regarding control of public expenditure and thereby help stop misuse, if any, of the exchequer's money.

President Biswas was addressing a seminar as chief guest titled 'Parliamentary control on Public Expenditure' organised by the BCS Audit and Accounts Association in Dhaka.

The President said strong control of people's representatives on every stage of public expenditure was essential for establishing accountability with a view to boosting country's

economic development. Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman and State Minister for Finance Mofibur Rahman addressed the seminar as special guests. Comptroller and Auditor General KM Hussain presided over the inaugural session of the seminar where key note paper was presented by M A Lutful Matin, President of the BCS Audit and Accounts Association.

The inaugural session was attended by Members of Parliament and senior officials.

President Biswas said proper democratic atmosphere and a sovereign parliament are prerequisites for establishing accountability on any state matters.

Biswas pointed out that under the past autocratic rule the parliament was a rubber stamp, without any accountability to the people. He said the Standing Committees on Finance and Public Undertaking of that parliament had totally failed to perform their duties and those proved to be just a farce.

The President said the accountability of the two committees before the present parliament had been proven effectively.

He recalled that under public accountability, as provided by the government of India Act 1935 and even after the inclusion of that clause in the constitution of the country after attaining independence, the people's representative had controlled the public expenditure for a brief period.

President Biswas said the present democratic government and the sovereign parliament would continue to play significant role in this regard. He referred to the various programmes undertaken by the present government for proper and healthy growth of economy and said positive impact of those programmes had already been felt by the people.

Underlining the role of the members of BCS Audit and Accounts service in the financial management, President Biswas said the future of the country lay in effective financial management and control.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman said under the parliamentary system the standing committees comprising Members of Parliament controlled the income and expenditure of the republic.

Rahman said the two committees could exercise independent control over the public expenditure and at the same time protect public money from misuse. He said the fundamental objective of the BNP government is to ensure accountability and transparency in the financial management and dealings.

He said budgetary control by the parliament had enabled the people's representatives to exercise control over the executive branch of the government as provided by the constitution of the country.

The Finance Minister said ministers and civil servants were regularly appearing before the various parliamentary committees entrusted with specific areas. State Minister for Finance Mofibur Rahman said the present democratic government would uphold the independence of the audit and examination of the public accounts.

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## Shipping Intelligence

## Chittagong Port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 21.05.92									
Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Discharge	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Discharge
J/1	Kasuga-II	GI	Strg	MBL	15/5	23/5			
J/2	Continental-1	GI	Strg	CLA	14/5	21/5			
J/3	Silver Sea	GI	Strg	Mong	16/5	22/5			
J/4	Sadler	GI	Strg	ASL	5/5	21/5			
J/5	Uckla	GI	Strg	OWSC	19/5	22/5			
J/6	Banglar Mamata	Wheat	Strg	BSC	R/A	23/5			
J/7	Banglar Aaha	Wheat	Strg	BSC	R/A	23/5			
J/8	Banglar Shobha	GI	Peng	BSC	15/5	26/5			
J/9	Banglar Kiron	Wheat	Strg	BSC	R/A	25/5			
J/11	Nikos-N	Wheat	Strg	BSI	17/5	28/5			
J/12	Elbella-IV	Wheat	D Mark	JF	10/5	23/5			
J/13	NGS Ranger	Cont	Strg	BDSHIP	18/5	23/5			
MPB/1	Andrian Goncharov	Cont	Strg	CT	19/5	23/5			
MPB/2	Fong Yun	Cont	Strg	BDSHIP	17/5	23/5			
CCJ	Al Samad	C Clink	Kara	UMAL	5/5	22/5			
CSJ	Mariner	Wheat	Dunk	OWSL	15/5	22/5			
RM/3	Unifly	R Phos	Suez	TSLL	16/5	25/5			
RM/4	Thyris	Cement	Strg	SEACOM	5/5	25/5			
RM/5	Oraba	Cement	Strg	MSA	7/5	25/5			
RM/6	Banglar Jyoti	C OIL	Strg	BSC	R/A	21/5			
DD/1	Endurance Sea	Repair	Acqba	EOSL	25/1	25/5			
RM/8	Eastern Breeze	Repair	Mong	RRSA	14/4	21/5			
CUFJ	APJ Anand	Urea	Strg	MSPL	31/3	23/5			

## Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Jang Cheng	21/5	S Hat	BDSHIP	GI	
Anh Dao	21/5	BRIGHT	GI	Cement	
Baifu Bay	21/5	Kawar	OSA	Scraping	
Gold Future	22/5	Mong	AML	GI/GL	Mom Mapu
CGM Bretagne 12/5	22/5	Strg	BDSHIP	Cont	Mong
I Yamboenke 29/4	22/5	Strg	CT	Cont	Mong
Maulin	22/5	Strg	MSPL	Scraping	
Arktis Princess	22/5	BSL	BSL	Copra	
Samudra Raj (48)13/5	23/5	Strg	BSL	Cont	Pakistan
New Genbel 12/5	23/5	Strg	BDSHIP	Cont	Strg
Sea Progress	23/5	Strg	AML	Cement	
Ranjay Victory	24/5	Strg	PSAL	Cement	
Silver Lake	24/5	HKG	Prog	GI	
Vishva Parag (5/1)19/5	24/5	Strg	BSL	E/L	Dunder Harb
Banglar Kaloli	24/5	Cal	BSC	GI	UK Cont
Golden Fish	25/5	Mong	Aqua		Dakar
Amitie	25/5	Mong	Aqua		UK Cont
Hang Cheong	25/5	H&H	Cement		
Chong Chon Gang	25/5	ANNA	TSLL	R Phos	
Olga-1	25/5	Strg	USTC	Cement	
Green Island	25/5	Strg	Kama	Lash	USA Ports
Ranjay Chemo	26/5	Indo	MSA	Cement	
Lalasa	26/5	Strg	BSC	R Cotton	Bitumne
Kota Eagle 9/5	26/5	Strg	CT	Cont	Strg
Petr Starostin 18/5	26/5	Strg	CT	Cont	Strg
E T Ocean-VI	26/5	Strg	Coast		
Marneuli	26/5	Strg	Paragim	Cement	
Optima 17/5	27/5	Strg	BSL	Cont	Strg
Karabievrett	27/5	Strg	EBPL	GI	Japa Fe
Safira-e-Najam	28/5	Kara	ASLL	C Clinker	GI
Fong Shih 18/5	28/5	Strg	BDSHIP	Cont	Strg
Safira-e-Ismat-2	30/5	Strg	ASLL	GI/GL	Karachi
Hang Loy	1/6	Strg	USTCS	Cement	
Youshao	2/6	Strg	USTC	Cement	
Sha He Kou	4/6	Strg	BDSHIP	GI/GL	Karachi
Safira-e-Rehmat	5/6	Strg	ASLL	GI/GL	Japa Fe
Shahjivert	5/6	Strg	EBPL	GI	
Fortune Ace	5/6	Strg	EBPL	GI	

## Tanker due

ESSO Bayonne 24/5 Strg MSPL HSD/JP-1

## 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	Col	NNL	15/5
Banglar Shourabh	C OIL	Jabal	DSLL	R/A
Western Greeting	Wheat	Mong	BSL	16/5
Al Tahir	Wheat	Mong	BSL	19/5
Great Harvest	Wheat	Mong	BSL	18/5
Banglar Sampad	Wheat	Mong	BSC	R/A (20/5)

## Vessels at Outer Anchorage

Ready on	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
	Guan He Kou	GI	Manj	BDSHIP	19/5
	Richway	Wheat	Darb	BSL	14/5
	Banglar Baarti	Wheat	Darb	BSC	R/A
	Shocon	R Cott	Jaba	BSL	R/A
	Ahlers Breac	Cont	Strg	BSL	20/5
	Kota Bina	Cont	Strg	CTS	20/5
	Alam Teguh	R Seeds	Bank	Dynamic	21/5

## Vessels not Ready

APIL	Cement	Sing	Bright	18/5
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The above were the Thursday's (21.05.92) shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

## Price Index

May-21

Essentials		Chahola		24.00-25.00	
RICE	(Taka per kg)	Khasari			14.00-15.00
Amant(fine)	16.50-17.50	FRUITS			
Pajam	14.00-15.00	Green Coconut (Small)		(One piece)	5.00-6.00
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)	Watermelon (Large)			40.00-60.00
Potato (local)	10.00-11.00	Coconut (Large)			8.00-10.00
Brinjal	10.00-12.00	Mushmelon			8.00-15.00
Karolla	8.00-10.00				
Lalukh	8.00-10.00	Banana (Sagar) (Large)		(4 pieces)	8.00-10.00
Peppa	7.00-8.00	Banana (Chapa)			2.00-3.00
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-8.00				
OTHER FOODSTUFFS	(Taka per kg)				
Flour	14.00-15.00	Dato		(Taka per kg)	40.00-50.00
Atta	10.50-11.00	OIL		(Taka per litre)	
FISH	(Taka per kg)	Mustard			54.00-56.00
Rohib(g)	130.00-140.00	Soyabean			37.00-38.00
Katib(g)	90.00-100.00	Coconut (Colombo)			95.00-100.00
Hilsha	80.00-90.00	Vegetable Ghee (1kg)			48.00-52.00
Pangas	125.00-130.00	SPICES		(Taka per kg)	
Shrimp(g)	100.00-120.00	Onion (local)			11.00-12.00
Sing	110.00-130.00	Garlic (local)			20.00-36.00
MEAT	(Taka per kg)	Chillies (dry)			70.00-80.00
Katib	120.00-130.00	Chillies (local)			40.00-50.00
Beef	60.00-65.00	Turmeric(Round)			50.00-58.00
Mutton	85.00-90.00				