

Pindi expresses interest to joint venture on garments in EPZ

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, July 21: The visiting Pakistani trade delegation who arrived in Chittagong Monday morning on a 2-day stay, stressed the need for renewal of ties between the business communities of Pakistan and Bangladesh in a bid to bridge the trade gap in both the countries.

Addressing the members of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries at its conference hall Monday afternoon the leader of the delegation Miah Habibullah called for making greater efforts to explore the avenues for trade promotion between Pakistan and Bangladesh so that the existing imbalance could be narrowed down.

"Please keep on knocking at the door to increase your trade volume with Pakistan. The ball is now in the court of businessmen and play the ball so properly to achieve the objectives," Miah Habibullah said turning to the point of trade balance mostly in favour of Pakistan.

The leader lauded the role of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif for being the successful man from business community to uphold the cause of traders by generating more facilities amid massive reforms. "His reforms are based on 3rd-disinvestment, deregulation and denationalisation providing enormous scopes for traders and investors," Miah Habibullah added.



Dr Carl-Heinz Schottyssek, Ambassador, Federal Republic of Germany in Bangladesh delivering speech as chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the one week workshop on "Identification, Preparation and Bank Financing of Project" organised by DCCI on Sunday held in the conference room of the DCCI.

Govt plans to boost output of fruits

The government has undertaken a programme to increase production of nutritious fruits and nuts in the country, reports UNB.

This was stated by Agriculture secretary K M Rabbani while inaugurating a regional workshop on "The Utilisation of Traditional and Unexploited Fruits and Nuts in Asia" at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) in Dhaka Tuesday.

He said the total fruit production in the country is far short of minimum requirements and as such people are suffering from serious food deficiency and malnutrition.

It has been estimated that present consumption rate of fruit is 40 gm per day per capita against the recommended rate of consumption of 50 grams, he added.

He said trees and saplings and their associated technologies for this were being supplied through the horticulture based nurseries.

Referring to the government's future plan for enhancing fruits and nuts production, he said in the fourth five year plan, target has been set for fruit production up to over two million tons by the terminal year 1994-95 from the present production 1.5 million ton.

He said the total area of fruit cultivation is about 1 lakh hectare, where 30 per cent of this is in single crop and the rest 70 per cent is under homestead.

Mainly four fruit crops cover 76 per cent of the total fruit production area in the country of which 25 per cent for mango, 22 per cent for banana, 16.9 per cent for coconut and 12 per cent for jackfruit, he informed.

The country is also blessed with major nutritional fruits like guava, pineapple, papaya.

Govt urged not to reduce tariff value on GI, MS pipes

National Tubes Workers and Employees Union urged the government not to reduce the tariff value of GI and MS pipes as demanded by certain quarters, reports UNB.

"A vested quarter raised the illogical demand... through some national news dailies on July 18 with a motive to aggrandise its interest and subvert government's policy of market economy," said union President Ruhul Amin and Secretary Shamsuzzaman in a statement.

The government in the new budget fixed tariff value for the sake of implementing market economy and checking tax evasion through undervaluing, they said.

Profile of an industrial enterprise

Bureaucratic tangles delaying Usmania's needed BMRE

From Inam Ahmed

CHITTAGONG, July 21: The Usmania Glass Sheet Factory immediately needs a major Balancing, Modernisation, Rationalisation and Extension (BMRE) programme to increase its productivity.

The BMRE has become essential to reach an annual production of 1.60 crore square feet (sf) which is also the yearly demand of the country, according to concerned sources.

The government has also chalked out a BMRE programme for the unit, but this hits snags due to different bureaucratic tangles, they said.

The Belgium government had provided a grant of Taka 40.39 crore about four years back for the BMRE programme of the factory. The money still remains unutilised due to lack of required directives, sources said.

Finally in last May, the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) has given go ahead for the utilisation of the fund for the BMRE of the Usmania Factory.

However, Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) under which the Us-

mania Factory is functioning, has shown its reservation on the rate of interest on the grant money, sources said.

The Industry Ministry has fixed the rate of interest at 40 per cent, but BCIC observes that the factory can not run at profit after paying such high interest rate, sources said. In reply to the Industry Ministry's asked rate of interest, BCIC has proposed to pay 2.5 per cent while on the grant.

Meanwhile, to fix the interest rate, the Industry Ministry

has decided to appoint a Chartered Accountant firm to assess the rate of interest, according to concerned sources. The firm will also put forward its recommendation on what the rate of interest should be tagged on the grant. Sources said the firm will be paid about Taka 45000 for its assessment.

Concerned sources said, the rate of interest could be settled easily between the ministry and the BCIC authorities without any appointment of an outside firm. They observe that the amount paid to the firm

could be used for the development of the factory.

Under the BMRE plan, the factory will have to use gas furnace, instead of furnace oil. At present, there is only one gas furnace in the factory. However, this converted one is still operating as crude and incur heavy energy loss in operation, sources said. With the new furnace, energy consumption for the factory will come down drastically, experts said.

At present, about 1550 cubic feet (cft) gas is required for every 100 sf of glass sheet production. However, with the new system, only 1085 cft of gas will be required, according to concerned sources.

The other advantages that will be added to the factory due to the BMRE is the qualitative improvement of its products. The technologies which are to be added to the unit will increase the whiteness of the glass and reduce the bluishness. The glass sheet will also become less uneven.

Sources said, if the grant for the BMRE could not be utilised by this year, the Belgium government will take back the money.

Implementation of export credit guarantee stressed

The need for a quick implementation of the Export Credit Guarantee Scheme (ECGS) in order to boost the export earnings of the country was stressed Tuesday by additional Commerce Secretary Dr Mirza Abdul Jalil, reports BSS.

Dr Jalil was addressing as the chief guest the inaugural session of the training course on "Export Credit Guarantee Scheme (ECGS)" jointly organised by the export development project of USAID and ECGS Department of Sadharan Bima Corporation at the auditorium of Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM). USAID Director Dr James J Mudge, long term adviser of the project Dr Kabir U Ahmed, Managing Director of Sadharan

UK donation for welfare foundation

British High Commission on Tuesday handed over a cheque to Eskender Welfare Foundation for purchase of 10 sewing machines, reports UNB.

Pauline Clarke handed over the cheque on behalf of the Acting High Commissioner George Finlayson, said a press release.

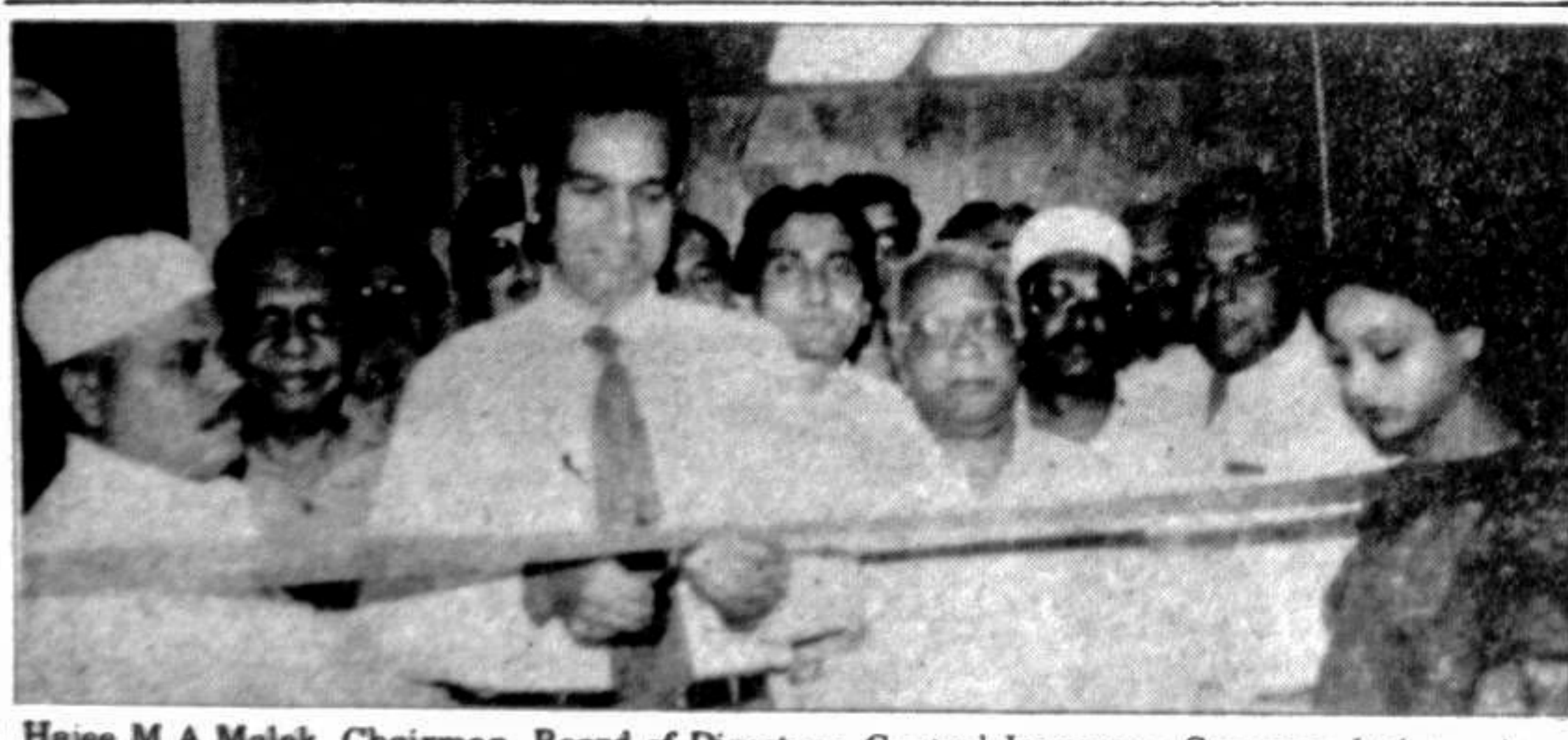
The Foundation, established in 1987, provides medical assistance and training courses for the poor people in Peorjpur area.

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Hajee M A Malek, Chairman, Board of Directors, Central Insurance Company Ltd opening the head office of the company at Motijheel on July 15. Z A Khan, MD and other senior officials of the company were also present on the occasion.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 21-7-92.

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival	Date of leaving
J/9	Lord	GI	Col	Prog	19/7	25/7
J/11	Ocean Envoiy	GI	Col	BSC	19/7	25/7
J/12	Ronjay Choomie	Urea	Mong	PSAL	10/7	25/7
J/13	Stormy Annie	CL	Mong	PRSA	18/7	24/7
GSJ	Harmen Oldendorff	Fert/WP	Mobile	SSST	17/7	30/7
TSP	Samudra Samrat	Repair	COL	SSL	1/7	28/7
RM/3	Maritime Pride	CDSO	Bara	TSL	14/7	21/7
RM/4	Nan Du Jiang	Cement	Chin	MSA	25/6	27/7
RM/5	Neptune Antlia	HSD	Sing	MSPL	19/7	21/7
RM/6	Ronjay Victory	Cement	Sing	PSAL	16/7	25/7
DD	Banglar Baant	Repair	Lams	R/A	30/7	
DDJ/1	Endurance Sea	Repair	Agaba	EOSL	25/1	25/7
DDJ/2	Banglar Kallol	GI/GL	Col	BSC	10/7	21/7
RM/8	Havze	Salt	Cand	OWSL	6/7	30/7
RM/9	Banglar Kiron	Repair	Col	BSC	R/A	24/7
CUJ	Banglar Doot	Urea	Pena	BSC	2/7	25/7

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of vessels	Date of last port arrival	Last port	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Safina-E-Haider	24/7	Kara	ASLL	GI/GL	Karachi
South Shields	25/7	Mong	KSL	E/L	Suda
Vishva Kumudi	25/7	-	SSL	E/L	Dundee. Ant.
Arktis Orion	27/7	-	BSL	GI	-
NGS Ranger	26/7	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
I.Yamburenko	27/7	-	CT	Cont	Sing
Bryanskty	-	-	-	-	-
Mashionostrotel	28/7	Anaba	TSL	R/Phos	Sing
Kota Buana	28/7	-	CTS	Cont	Sing
Fong Yuen	29/7	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
A. Megacarrier	30/7	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Krud Jespersen	30/7	-	CT	Cont	Sing
Mchedinti	2/8	Col	BSL	GI	-
Mizoram	4/8	-	SSL	GI	FE.E.JAPA
Karabievrett	5/8	-	EBPL	GI	JAPAF.E
Flying Dragon	7/8	-	USTC	Cement	-

TANKER DUE

Name of vessels	Date of last port arrival	Last port	Local agent	Cargo	Date of arrival
Topaz	21/7	JEBEL	ECSL	C.Oil	-
Global Mars	22/7	-	TSL	CPO	-
Nina	25/7	Sing	MSPL	SKO & HSD	-

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
T.T energy	C.Oil	Col	NNL	27/4

VESSELS READY AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Ready on

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Ocean Earth	Cement	Sing	Sunshine	19/7
New Genlord (Cont)	Cont	Sing	BDSHIP	20/7
Kota Eagle (Cont)	Cont	Sing	CTS	21/7
Andrian Goncharov(Cont)	Cont	Sing	CTS	21/7

VESSELS AWAITING FOR INSTRUCTIONS

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Banglar Jyoti	-	-	BSC	R/A(16/7)
Banglar Asha	-	-	Lams	R/A(17/7)
Banglar Shourabh	-	-	BSC	R/A(20/7)

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Alyn	Cement	Sing	Alamin	R/A(18/9)
Red Deer	-	Sing	OTL	R/A(26/11)
Nehaj	Scraping Col	-	UMAL	10/6
Sletter	TSPIPV/Col	-	UMAL	10/6

The above were the Tuesday's (21.07.92) shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

MONGLA PORT

Name of vessels	ETA	ETD	Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading
Yao Sheng	29/7	-	CTG	Bright	Cement	-
Artemis	28/7	-	Egypt	Bright	Cement	-
Sea Rhapsody	21/7	-	India	G Land	Cement	-
Safina-E-Haider	28/7	-	CTG	Atlas	Cement	Karachi
Banglar Kallol	21/7	2/8	CTG	BSC	J.Goods	Dundee
Andrian Goncharov	22/7	25/7	CTG	C.T	J.Goods	Japan
Vishva Pankaj	23/7	26/7	Cal	SSL	J.Goods	Dundee
Hafez	29/7	5/8	B.Abbas	BSA	J.Goods	B.Abbas
Gwardia Ludowa	26/7	-	CAL	ISSA	Gunnies	Santos
Banglar Doot	29/7	-	CTG	BSC	J.Goods/Spain/SPore	-
Kwan Mo Bong	22/7	-	Indon	AEKA	Cement	-
Sletter	22/7	-	CTG	SS.SHIPPERTI	-	-
Banglar Gourab	29/7	31/7	CTG	BSC	J.Goods	Japan
A Megacarrier	21/7	28/7	CTG	BSL	-	-
Al-Reza	21/7	-	CTG	KSL	UREA	-
Al-Swamuz	28/7	-	CTG	ATLAA	Jute	Bangkok
Ohrmad	21/7	-	CTG	BSC	J.Goods	Karachi
Andromache	24/7	25/7	CTG	Regjenisa	J.Goods	Japan/USA
Kamalevt	31/7	1/8	CTG	E/IL	-	-

Berthing Position & Performance of Vessels as on 20.7.92

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L.Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Date of Depart.
S-3	Squid Shifts	J.Goods	Trincomalee	KSL	19/7	-
S-4	Anaba	Cement	CTG	Bright	29/5	23/7
S-4(A/L)	Mohammad	Cement	CTG	Bright	29/6	-
S-5	Karrington	Cement	CTG	Makh	13/7	-
S-6	B.C George	Cement	CTG	Bright	18/7	-
S-7	Orxp	Salt/Exp	CTG	AQT	25/4	28/7
S-9	Mudu Bong	Cement	Indon	G.Land	2/7	-
S-10	Be GAc Bong	Urea	CTG	RRS	20/6	22/7
MB-1	Banglar Mamata	Wheat	CTG	BSC	14/7	23/7
MP-2	APIL	Wheat	CTG	BSC	11/2	24/7
MB-3	Hiang Loy	-	CTG	Makh	16/7	-
MB-4	Armpas	IMP/EXP	CTG	OWSL	30/6	24/7
MB-5	Al-Rahman	UREA	PADANGKSL	28/6	-	
N-1	PIYA-1	Cement	CTG	Makh	9/7	-
N-6	Boris Lavrenyov	Cement	CTG	G.Land	1/7	23/7
N-7	Safina-E-Rchmat	IMP/Exp	CTG	Atlas	17/7	-

VESSELS SAILED ON 14/7/92 TO 20/7/92

Name of Vessels	Date of	Date of Arrival	Cargo
A.S Okan	2/7	15/7	Exp
Al-Saima	25/6	16/7	Exp
Stormy Annie	14/6	16/7	Exp
Bervalla	15/7	16/7	Exp
You Hao	26/7	16/7	Cement
Sun Billie	9/7	17/7	Exp
Mezhdur Chansk	20/6	18/7	Cement
Banglar Sampad	7/7	20/7	Wheat

MOVEMENT OF VESSEL ON 21/7/92

Incoming vessel			Outgoing Vessel		
Date	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Date	Name of Vessel	Cargo
21/7	Banglar Kollol	IMP	21/7	-	-
22/7	K.M Beng	IMP	22/7	B.G Beng	-
23/7	A.Goncharov	Cont	23/7	B.Mamata	-
24/7	V.O.Pankaj	Exp.	24/7	Apil	-
25/7	-	-	25/7	Armas	-
26/7	G.Ludwa	Exp.	26/7	Andromache	-
27/7	A.M Two	Cont.	27/7	Ormaz	-

The above were the Monday's (20.7.92) shipping position and performance of vessels of Mongla Port as per berthing sheet of MPA 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 July 22.

Currency	Selling		Buying	
	B.C.	T.T. (C)	O.D. Transfer	
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339	
Poundsterling	74.5119	74.1584	73.6722	
DM	26.2107	26.0433	25.8594	
FF	7.7644	7.7169	7.6624	
S Riyal	10.4641	10.4042	10.3307	
D Guilders	23.2434	23.0967	22.9336	
S Kroner	7.2114	7.1635	7.1129	
Singapore Dollar	24.2547	24.1160	23.9456	
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548	
Kuwaiti Dinar	136.5415	135.7602		