

'Help increase farm production thru expansion of irrigation'

Proper operation and maintenance of the irrigation and water development projects involving the farmers would help Bangladesh achieve self-reliance in food production in just one year, reports BSS.

This was the considered view of the hydrologists and officials at a seminar on "System Rehabilitation Project (SRP) and users participation" at a local hotel Monday.

Sponsored by the Government of Netherlands, Technical Assistance Programme (GON-TAP), the seminar was organised by Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) System Rehabilitation Project (SRP) to popularise users participation in maintaining the projects to increase agricultural production.

According to statistics provided at the seminar, full development and optimum utilisation of the BWDB projects would bring six lakh acres under irrigation and drainage facilities increasing food grain production to the tune of 2,40,000 tonnes worth Taka 1600 crore per year.

Bangladesh at present providing about 1.8 million tonnes of foodgrains against required consumption of two million tonnes, per annum. Out of 20.8 million acres of arable land, only 13 per cent are triple cropped, 37.5 per cent are double cropped and 49.5 per cent are single cropped.

Expansion of irrigation facilities and improved water management system can bring more land under triple crop cultivation. Canal digging programme as initiated by late president Ziaur Rahman and revived by the present government could play an important role in increasing irrigation facilities and on farm ac-

But most of the projects suffer from lack of maintenance and many have deteriorated to a stage where rehabilitation works have become necessary.

Under the current Systems Rehabilitation Project, water development projects would be taken for improved operation and maintenance, on farm development and cost recovery after rehabilitation from the beneficiaries. The project will be supported by the World Bank, the European Economic Community, the World Food Programme and the Netherlands.

Asafuddin called upon the Hydrologists and participants to put in their sincere efforts to use the vast reservoir of sweet water for the development of the country.

The irrigation secretary said the Water Development Board was spending crores of Taka for irrigation, flood control and drainage but the cost recovery from the beneficiaries was very negligible.

Pleading farmers' participation in maintenance of the projects, Asafuddin said, "If the farmers are well organised and satisfied with the services, if there is assurance of water for irrigation, there is no reason why the farmers will not pay the water rate under revised water rate act of 1990."

The Netherlands Ambassador, Gajentaan said that the farmers should be involved with the project from the planning to operation and maintenance.

The World Bank Chief Mission, Christopher said the bank would continue to support the water management sector and basic factor for economic development of Bangladesh.

M Majidul Islam member operation and management of the BWDB presided over the technical session. The session debated the options to improve users participation from various points of view.

About 110 officials and engineers of the BWDB drawn from different parts of the country participated in the seminar.



M Asafuddin, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development inaugurating a seminar on "system rehabilitation project and users participation" sponsored by the government of Netherlands Technical Assistance Programme and BWDB at a local hotel on Monday.

23000 acres deprived of irrigation

The country was deprived of about 40,000 tons of crops in 1991-92 as the irrigation in GK project hampered due to adverse effect of Farakka, reports UNB.

Irrigation Minister M Majidul Haq disclosed this in parliament during question hour Monday.

Replying to Md Sirajul Islam, the Minister said that 23,000 acres of land could not be brought under irrigation in the project area because of low flow of Padma in the last dry season.

The government has a target to bring 1.20 lakh acres of land under the GK project irrigation network in 1992-93 dry season, he said.

In reply to another question, the Irrigation Minister said the government has so far constructed about 57 kilometres of new embankment and reconstructed another 762 kilometres of damaged embankment in 1991 cyclone affected coastal belt.

An estimated Tk 19.94 crore and 83,361 metric tons of wheat have been spent for the purpose, he added.

Bank management course concludes

A five week long 'Advanced Course on Bank Management' for the officers of banks and financial institutions concluded on July 27. Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM) conducted this course with a view to provide the bank officials with the skills and knowledge of modern banking, says an institute press release.

The concluding session of the course was presided over by A H M Nurul Islam Choudhury, Director General, BIBM. Choudhury also gave away the certificates to the participants. While speaking on the occasion he expressed the hope that the participation in the course would help the participants in better management of banks. He maintained that the skills and knowledge acquired from the course would be properly utilised by the participants in their respective banks. Dr Toufic Ahmad Choudhury and Jahangir Hossain, BIBM faculty members were the coordinators of the course.

115 foreign NGOs working

A total of 115 foreign NGOs (Non Government Organizations) are now working in the country, said UGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukder in parliament during question hour Sunday, reports UNB.

Replying to Rahmat Ali, the minister said the government has so far received no allegation of misappropriation of money by these NGOs in the name of providing jobs to the unemployed youths.

Dhaka to get Tk 51cr from OPEC Fund

Bangladesh will receive 13 million US dollar equivalent to approximately 51 crore Taka from Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for international development for construction of primary school and second line of credit for Agram Bank, reports BSS.

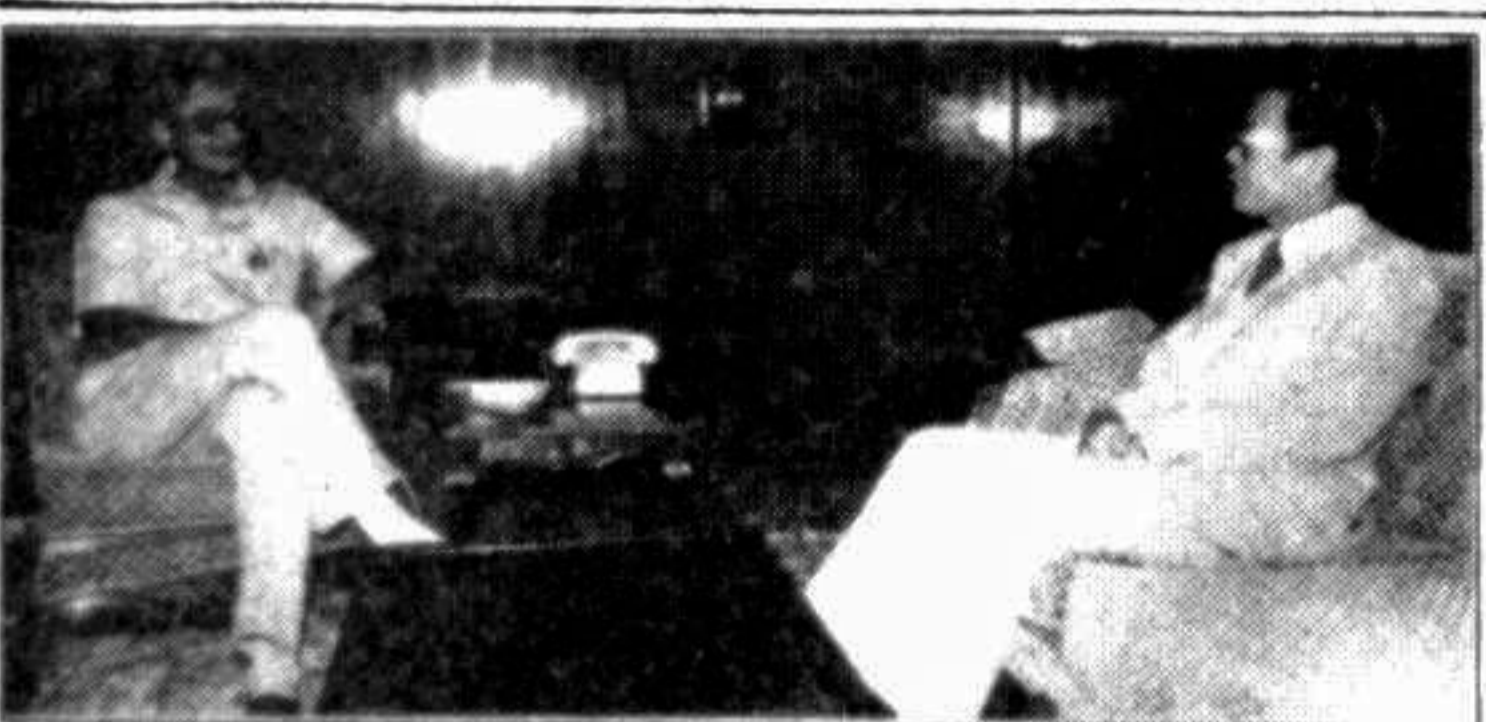
Two agreements have been signed to this effect recently between the Government of Bangladesh and the OPEC fund for international development in Vienna, Austria.

Joint Secretary of Economic Relations Division (ERD) of Finance Ministry M A Quader and Chairman of the Governing Board of the OPEC Fund for International Development Osama J Faquith signed the agreements on behalf of their respective sides.

As per terms of the first agreement 140 primary school buildings of adverse weather resistance design involving an estimated cost of eight million US dollar will be constructed in Khulna division with the plan of enhancing accessibility of children to primary education in the area.

Under the second agreement, the second line of credit, amounting to five million US dollar will be utilised through Agram Bank for financing small scale industries in the private sector at concessional rate of interest.

The OPEC fund has so far provided 202.53 million US dollar to Bangladesh.



The Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Bangladesh Nguyen Van Tiep paid a courtesy call on Biman's MD Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury at Biman Bhawan Monday.

Tk 16.75 cr for uplift of Rajshahi City Corporation

RAJSHAHI, July 27: Rajshahi City Corporation has undertaken a massive development programme for the city with an estimated cost of Taka 16.75 crore in the current financial year, reports BSS.

A total of 632 projects will be executed under the programme in phases.

A sum of Taka 8.50 crore has been sanctioned for the development of city roads while Taka three crore for the construction of drains, Taka 2.08 for the construction of culverts and protection walls.

Taka one crore for extension of water pipelines, Taka 1.40 crore for purchase of vehicles and a hydraulic ladder and Taka five lakh for installation of ten automatic traffic signals.

Of the roads, Taka three crore will be spent for the development of 85 km long herring bone roads, Taka two crore for 25 km long bituminous carpeting roads, Taka two crore for 55 km long WBM roads and Taka 1.50 crore will be spent for the development of 75 km long soiling roads.



His Excellency K Raghunath, High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh called on Mahbubur Rahman, President of FBCCI on Monday at the FBCCI office. They discussed bilateral trade, bridging of trade-gap and enhancement of mutual co-operation to combat smuggling.

Training course on managers' role in sugar industry ends

A week-long training course titled 'The Role and Responsibility of Managers in Raising Productivity in Sugar Industry' was held from July 18 to July 23 at Rajshahi Sugar Mills Training Complex, says a press release on Monday.

Thirty divisional Managers' from nine sugar mills of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) participated in this course.

Chairman, BSFIC Wasqel Azad inaugurated the training course. On the closing day Director (Finance) Muzaffar Ahmed awarded the certificates among the participants.

The target and programme of the ensuing 1992-93 crushing season were also discussed in the training course.

Vietnamese envoy meets Biman's MD

The Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Bangladesh Nguyen Van Tiep paid a courtesy call on Biman's Managing Director Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury at Biman Bhawan on Monday, says a Press release.

The Ambassador discussed matters relating to bilateral air services with Chowdhury.

Nguyen Dinh Tang, First Secretary of the Vietnamese Embassy was also present on the occasion.

Coconut output declines

BARGUNA, July 27: Coconut production has declined to a great extent in the district due to absence of planned plantation and research work, reports UNB.

Although the climate and soil of the district are favourable for coconut, lack of expertise in farmers and co-operation from concerned authorities were mainly responsible for the decline, sources said.

Every season, a huge quantity of immature coconuts are plucked indiscriminately to meet local consumption needs, they said.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 27.7.92

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Date of Leaving
J/1	Kamaleverett	GI	Sing	EBPL	21/7	28/7
J/2	Ocean Envoy	GI	Col	BSC	R/A	27/7
J/3	Myttschi	GI	Sing	Prog	7/7	28/7
J/4	Banglar Gourab	GI	Pena	BSC	18/7	30/7
J/5	Samudra Raj	GI	Kara	SSL	15/7	31/7
J/6	Al Swamruz	GI	Sing	ASL	18/7	30/7
J/7	Jiang Cheng	GI/CL	S Hai	BDShip	22/7	31/7
J/8	Continent-1	GI	Pena	CLA	25/7	31/7
J/9	Tiger Hope	GI	Paching	Prog	22/7	29/7
J/11	Ronjay Choomic	Urea	Mong	PSAL	10/7	31/7
J/13	Harmen Oldendorff	Fert	Mobile	SSST	17/7	5/8
MPB/2	Optima	Cont	Sing	RSL	23/7	27/7
CCJ	Banglar Asha	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	30/7
OSJ	Ocean Voyager	Cement	Sing	AML	24/7	28/7
TSP	Samudra Samrat	Repair	Col	SSL	1/7	30/7
RM/4	Nan Du Jiang	Cement	Chin	MSA	25/6	30/7
RM/6	Ronjay Victory	Cement	Sing	PSAL	16/7	29/7
DDJ	Banglar Jyoti	C Oil	-	BSC	R/A	27/7
DDJ/1	Endurance Sca	Repair	Apaba	EOSL	25/1	30/7
DDJ/2	Yannis-11	GL	Durb	PSAL	R/A	28/7
RM/8	Hafez	Salt	Cand	OWSL	6/7	30/7
RM/9	Banglar Kiron	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	31/7

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
NGS Ranger	28/7/92	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Safina-e-Haider	28/7/92	Kara	ASL	GI/CL	Karachi
Kota Dura	29/7/92	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Banglar Mamata	28/7/92	-	BSC	GI	-
Armas	29/7/92	Mong	OWSL	J Goods	-
Zang Su Bong	29/7/92	Cal	UMAL	-	Phil
Onyx	29/7/92	Mong	AQUA	GL	Doula
Vishva Pankaj	29/7/92	Mong	SSL	E/L	Dumdee Ant
Fong Yun	29/7/92	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Al Mohammed Bryanskyi	29/7/92	Mong	KSL	Urea	-
Mashinostroitel	30/7/92	Annaba	TSLL	R Phos	-
Arktis Orion	30/7/92	Sing	BSC	GI	-
Bervalla	30/7/92	Mong	SW	Cont	Sing
Artemis-1	30/7/92	-	Bright	Cement	-
Yao Sheng	30/7/92	-	Bright	Cement	-
Bellatrix	30/7/92	-	MMI	-	B/Abas
A Mcqcarrier Two	31/7/92	Mong	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Oranburg	31/7/92	-	Luful	Wqulp	-
Hafez	31/7/92	-	SSL	E/L	B/Abas
Vishva Abha	1/8/92	-	SSL	GL	Ocdassa
Kota Eagle	1/8/92	-	CTS	Cont	Sing
Mehdinti	2/8/92	Col	BSC	GI	-
Knud Jespersen	3/8/92	-	CT	Cont	Sing
Mizoram	4/8/92	-	SSL	GI	Fe E Japa
New Genlord	4/8/92	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Karaleverett	5/8/92	-	EBPL	GI	Japa Fe
Summit Venture	5/8/92	Vanc	Ancient	Wheat	-
Fong Shin	6/8/92	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Flying Dragon	7/8/92	-	USTC	Cement	-
Andromache	8/8/92	-	RSL	Cont	Col
Anh Dao	27/7/92	-	UMAL	For Bunkering	-

TANKER DUE

Name	Date	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo
Nina	28/7/92	Sing	MSPL	SKO&HSD
Neptune Antlia	2/8/92	Sing	MSPL	IISD&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
TOPAZ	C Oil	Jebel	ECSL	21/7
Banglar Shourabh	C Oil	-	BSC	R/A

VESSELS READY AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Ocean Earth	Cement	Sing	Sunshine	19/7
I Yambarenko	Cont	Sing	CT	26/7

VESSELS NOT READY

Name	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Hiang Shing	Cement	Sing	II&II	22/7
Alexey Tolstoy	Cement	Sing	PSAL	23/7

VESSELS AWAITING FOR INSTRUCTION

Name	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Banglar Sampad	Repaid	-	BSC	R/A (26/7)

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Name	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Alyn	Cement	Sing	Alamin	R/A (18/9)
Red Deer	Cement	Sing	OPL	R/A (26/11)
Nehaj	Scraping	Col	UMAL	10/6

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

Price Index

July 27

Item	Unit	Price
RICE (Taka per kg)		30.00-32.00
Moogh		22.00-23.00
Chhulia		14.00-15.00
Khesari		
FRUITS		
Papaya	(Taka per kg)	13.50-14.50
VEGETABLES		
Potato (local)	(Taka per kg)	10.00-12.00
Brunjal	(Taka per kg)	10.00-12.00
Karolla	(Taka per kg)	10.00-12.00
Lalchak	(Taka per kg)	5.00-6.00
Pappa	(Taka per kg)	6.00-8.00
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	(Taka per kg)	4.00-6.00
OTHER FOODSTUFFS		
Flour	(Taka per kg)	14.00-16.00
Alta	(Taka per kg)	10.50-11.00
FINH	(Taka per kg)	15.00-17.00
Kaha(bag)	(Taka per kg)	11.00-13.00
Katia(bag)	(Taka per kg)	52.00-58.00
Hilaha	(Taka per kg)	12.00-13.00
Pangas	(Taka per kg)	90.00-110.00
Shrimp(bag)	(Taka per kg)	140.00-150.00
Sings	(Taka per kg)	NA
Koi	(Taka per kg)	NA
MEAT		
Head	(Taka per kg)	60.00
Mutton	(Taka per kg)	85.00-90.00
CHICKEN		
Large	(Taka per kg)	60.00-62.00
Moderate	(Taka per kg)	64.00-66.00
Small	(Taka per kg)	68.00-70.00
TEA		
Dust (Plain)	(Taka per kg)	70.00-80.00
EGG	(4 per kg)	306.00-307.00
Han	(Taka per kg)	12.00-12.50
Duck	(Taka per kg)	12.00
Firm	(Taka per kg)	13.00-14.00
PULSES		
Mushar	(Taka per kg)	27.00-28.00
Sugar	(Taka per kg)	27.00-27.50
MILK		
Dawa	(Two kg)	306.00-307.00
Red-Cow	(Taka per kg)	315.00-316.00
MISCELLANEOUS		
SPTCS	(Taka per kg)	10.00-11.00
Onion (local)	(Taka per kg)	26.00-35.00
Garlic (local)	(Taka per kg)	28.00-35.00
Chillies (local)	(Taka per kg)	45.00-50.00
Tumene(Local)	(Taka per kg)	10.00-12.00
Green chillies	(Taka per kg)	16.00-18.00
Ginger	(Taka per kg)	3.00-3.50
Cardamom (10gm)	(Taka per kg)	7.00-8.00
Cardamom (10gm)(small)	(Taka per kg)	9.00-10.00
Jhura (50 gms)	(Taka per kg)	

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 26, 27 and 28. (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling B.C.	T. T. (C)	Buying O.D. Trans-fer
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339
Poundsterling	74.0628	73.7195	73.2269
DM	25.0277	25.8615	25.6789
FF	7.7101	7.6614	7.6073
S Riyal	10.4641	10.4042	10.3307
D Guilders	23.0871	22.9414	22.7794
S Kroner	7.1777	7.1242	7.0739
Singapore Dollar	24.2362	24.0995	23.9293
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548
Kuwait Dinar	135.5475	134.7719	133.8201
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.5104	1.5036	1.4961
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.5523	1.5451	1.5374

Authorised dealers will apply T T clean buying rate for purchase of remittances of Bangladeshis working abroad. Note: AMU-Asian Monetary Unit.

Dhaka Stock Prices

Dhaka Stock Prices
At the close of trading on July 27, 1992
Star Economic Report

Trading almost unchanged

Trading at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) showed hardly any change against the previous day (Sunday). Trading in terms of volume rose very little from 14032 papers on Sunday to 14147, a small rise of 0.82 per cent while value totalled to Taka 1227290.00 from Sunday's Tk 1179536.00. The change was recorded as 4.04 per cent rise against Sunday's finish.

Participants of shares on the floor fell from Sunday's 38 to 22. The losers almost completely took control of the floor giving way to only two gainers while the losers themselves totalled 20. No share or debenture took part in trading at previous rates.

The DSE Composite Index showed no satisfactory business signs. It further lost 1,591 points to finish at 365,4427 from Sunday's 367,0339.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE All Share Price Index		365,4427	
Market Capitalization (Tk)		10,441,359,151.00	
Turnover in Value (Tk)		1227290.00	
Turnover (in volume)		14147	

Company	FV/ML	Previous Day's Price	Closing Price	Change (absolute)	Change % over previous price
Gains (02)					
Shares:					
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	865.00	880.00	15.00	1.734
City Bank	100/5	300.00	301.00	1.00	0.333
Losses (20)					
Shares:					
Bangladesh Lamps	100/5	310.00	290.00	20.00	6.452
GQ Ball Pen	100/5	85.70	80.09	5.61	6.546
AB Bank	100/5	210.00	200.00	10.00	4.762
6th ICB M Fund	100/10	70.52	67.17	3.35	4.750
3rd ICB M Fund	100/5	158.00	150.68	7.20	4.557
Eastern Cables	100/5	86.44	82.66	3.78	4.373
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5	130.00	125.00	5.00	3.846
National Tubes	100/10	98.00	94.63	3.37	3.439
Bextimco	100/10	17.86	17.25	0.61	3.415
United Ins	100/10	156.00	151.00	5.00	3.205
Tallu Spinning	100/10	151.53	148.00	3.53	2.330
National Oxygen	100/10	118.00	115.31	2.69	2.280
Green Delta	100/				