

Ujala Match earns profit of Tk 12 lakh

Ujala Match Factory, the lone safety match producing unit in public sector, earned a profit of Taka 12.05 lakh in the last fiscal year, reports UNB.

According to factory sources, it produced 38.32 crore pieces of matches worth about Taka 15.93 crore in 1991-92.

The factory crossed the production target of 28.80 crore pieces valued Taka 12.45 crore. The achievement was 128 per cent.

An enterprise of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation, Ujala contributed Taka 2.66 crore to the national exchequer during the period.

The annual turnover was the highest ever since the factory's commissioning in 1966. Also in 1990-91, the factory surpassed target producing 23.40 crore pieces of matches worth about Taka 12.20 crore against the set target of 20 crore pieces.

The factory produces various brands of matches including Cox, Seven Horses, Star and Bub.

The sources said its production would increase further if the supply of wood, the main ingredient of match, is ensured.

Irregular supply and price of raw material and widespread smuggling of Indian matches into the country affect the industry greatly, they added.

They urged the authorities concerned to check smuggling of foreign matches and ensure steady supply of woods to boost the industry's output.

Agrani Bank lowers lending rates

Agrani Bank has further lowered its lending rates from 15 per cent to 14.50 per cent particularly in the industrial sectors both big and medium with a view to accelerating economic activities and industrialisation of the country, says a press release.

Interest rates have also been lowered in Agricultural Sector from 15 per cent to 14.50 per cent Jute Trading (Except Export) from 17 per cent to 16 per cent, Jute and Jute products for export 10.50 per cent to 10 per cent other export 10.50 per cent to 10 per cent.

Other commercial loan 18 per cent to 17 per cent, term loan for small and cottage industries 11.75 per cent to 11.50 per cent term loan for weavers 13 per cent to 12.50 per cent, rural housing 13 per cent to 12.50 per cent and Shwanirvar Programme from 13 per cent to 12.50 per cent.

The new rates will be effective from September 1.

Rupali Bank okays 2 industrial plans worth Tk 2.03 cr

The Board of Directors of Rupali Bank Ltd in a meeting held on Sunday approved two industrial projects involving Taka 2.03 crore, says a Press release.

The Industrial Sub-Committee of the Board has made further preliminary selection of 23 projects which will involve Taka 10 crore.

These loans will be funded by the Bank as long-term credit which it obtained from Bangladesh Bank.

Banking course concludes

A 12-day course on "banking laws and practices" conducted by Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), ended in the city Monday, reports BBS.

A total of 35 officers from different banks and financial institution participated in the course.

The objective of the course was to acquaint the participants with the laws and regulations relating to banking.

WDB undertakes embankment protection project

RAJSHAHI, Aug 31: The Water Development Board has undertaken a 1500 metre long embankment protection project of the river Padma from Yousufpur to Sardah cadet college under Charchat thana of the district at a cost of Taka three crore, reports BBS.

The government has sanctioned Taka two crore 50 lakh in the current fiscal year for the purpose while Taka 16 lakh has been spent in the last fiscal year.

The main objective of the project is to save the area comprising Yousufpur agriculture high school, Yousufpur BDR camp, Sardah cadet college and some educational institutions from river erosion. The work is expected to be completed by the end of current fiscal year.

Bangladesh agriculture needs a comprehensive policy

by Rahat Fahmida

It is more than a decade that the Bangladesh Agricultural Economists' Association presented a set of interrelated proposals on national agricultural policy. But, sadly enough, the proposals never came to light. Those proposals were outcome of the First National Conference of the association held in Dhaka in 1978, after which a committee was formed by the government, rather in vain, to formulate policies for agricultural development. Another set of proposals has recently been presented to this government on national agricultural policy.

Talking to this correspondent, (Dr) Jahangir Alam of Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute at Savar, who played a leading part in preparing the recent proposals, explained the current situation of Bangladesh agriculture and the factors to be considered for its betterment.

The GDP of Bangladesh increased at a rate of 4.0 per cent during the Fourth Five Year Plan period. The growth rate declined to 3.7 per cent over the Two Year Plan, Second Five Year Plan and Third Five Year Plan periods. The average annual growth rate in agricultural sector declined continually from 3.7 per cent in the First Five Year Plan period to 1.7 per cent in the Third Five Year Plan period. The contribution of agriculture to GDP also declined, recorded a sharp from 60 per cent to 39 per cent over the same period.

The policy makers of Bangladesh are yet to devise an effective strategy for transforming the traditional small holding rice growing peasantry into modern agricultural entrepreneurs. Both scholars and policy makers of the country are becoming increasingly conscious of the need to pay sufficient attention to the conditions under which agricultural activities are being conducted and the measures necessary to transform the peasants into agricultural entrepreneurs. The recently presented proposals will help them prepare a comprehensive policy for development of the agricultural sector in Bangladesh.

Alam said, an agricultural development is a precondition to overall growth and development of Bangladesh economy. He went on to explain, the linkage between the agricultural and the non-agricultural sectors is such that a

given increase in the value addition created through agriculture would lead to more than proportionate increase in that of the non-agricultural sector. Given the resource endowments and structural features, an agricultural-led growth would ultimately lead to industrialization in the long run, absorbing surplus labour from agriculture.

Giving a detailed view of the expected growth rate, the researchist said, "Our population is going up at the rate of 2.2 per cent per year. At this rate, the population of the country will be more than 130 million by 2000. If this population is to be provided with required calories from domestic sources, production of grains must go up to 25 million tons by the end of this century."

Given that our grain production now amounts to 19 million tons, an increase in output by more than six million tons by the year 2000 would call for a growth rate not less than 3.5 per cent per year during the 90s. This is substantially higher than the growth rate of the last few decades.

However, this growth rate is not an unattainable goal if all necessary measures are adopted by the government to provide the peasants with modern inputs and credit. Measures will also have to be taken to reduce crop damage because of floods, droughts etc. The policy measures suggested are based on the assumption that the government will endeavour to raise the growth rate of foodgrain production by more than 3.5 per cent per annum.

The researchist said, the decline in agriculture's growth rate and relative contribution of agriculture to GDP are associated with a decline in relative share of agriculture to total public expenditure. At least 33 per cent of the total allocation should be devoted to agriculture with substantial increase in allocation to crop, livestock, fisheries and forestry sub-sectors.

Alam specified that livestock, forestry and fishery contributed about 13 per cent to GDP at current prices which is substantially higher than the contributions of other sectors. Yet their importance in our national economy does not appear to have received due consideration.

Lack of proper attention has brought about a decline in the

production of almost all non-food crops, the production of meat and inland fish, the depletion of rural forestry and has given rise to an acute shortage of draught power which is reported to be threatening the process of agriculture in many parts of Bangladesh. These point to the need of a more conscious policy for these sub-sectors of the agricultural system by adopting an integrated agricultural development policy.

There has been a continuous increase in production and acreage of rice in Bangladesh since independence. As a result, pulses and oilseeds have registered negative growth in both output and acreage. As incomes rise, demand will shift from cereals to non-cereals. It is therefore, necessary to encourage crop diversification programme through appropriate price policies and tariff structure, explained Alam.

Alam pointed out the real income of farmers has been declining over the years. Due to high cost of inputs and low price of outputs the profit margin has come down and the farmers have very little to save and invest after meeting his consumption needs. A combined policy of input subsidy and price support would be necessary to ensure higher income for them. This will lead to higher production through the adoption of technological innovation in agriculture.

"Agricultural development should be viewed in terms of overall development of the rural community" said Jahangir Alam. This will require an integrated development programme including employment generation, poverty alleviation, reduction of the growth rate of population, minimisation of environmental degradation, introduction of mass education, provision of balanced nutrition and so on.

"Both long and short-term policies will be required to complete the process of transformation. Short-term policies will help achieving self-sufficiency in agricultural production in near future. Long-term policies will lead to commercialisation of agriculture on the one hand and industrialization on the other. However, all policies should remain flexible to cope with changing socio-economic and political situations of the country", stressed Jahangir Alam in conclusion.

Ctg Clinker achieves higher production

Chittagong Cement Clinker Grinding Factory—an enterprise of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) produced 1,74,500 tons Cement worth Taka 67.96 crores during 1991-92 as against 1,40,100 tons valuing Taka 46.26 crores during 1990-91, says a press release.

This Cement Clinker Grinding Factory, located at South Halishahar, Chittagong was established by the then East Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation (EPIDC) in 1967. It was placed under BCIC with effect from July, 1982. The Factory uses imported clinker and local gypsum as basic raw material.

The Factory has a network of 220 dealers to sell Cement all over the country, the present ex-mill price of Cement of this factory is Taka 200/= per bag of 50kg.



Begum Mostafizur Rahman, wife of the Foreign Minister hosts a luncheon in honour of Datin Hajah Endon Binti Mohamood, wife of the Malaysian Foreign Minister at the Dhaka Sheraton's Vintage Room recently.

RU Senate adopts Tk 24 cr budget

RAJSHAHI, Aug 31: A total of Taka 24.15 crore budget for the fiscal year 1992-93 was adopted for Rajshahi University at the 14th Senate meeting held here with Vice Chancellor Prof Anisur Rahman in the chair on Sunday, reports BBS.

Of the total amount the government will provide Tk 21.60 crore as grant and Taka 2.55 crore would come from Rajshahi University income.

The Senate meeting decided to open three new departments at the university soon. The departments are: arts and crafts, public administration and library science. Besides the university will take up a scheme for the development of computer science.

The university will spend Taka three crore for the construction of a women hostel during the current fiscal year.

Chhatra Oikkay Parishad and Islamic Chhatra Sibir submitted separate memoranda to the Vice Chancellor during Senate meeting demanding terrorism free campus and proper academic atmosphere in the institution for greater national interest. They also demanded proper investigation and compensation for those who were affected dur-

ing recent terrorism and violence activities in the university.

In his speech the Vice Chancellor outlined the prevailing situation in the university and said that Rajshahi University Central Student Union (RUCSU) and hall union elections would be held after the completion of the on-going examinations of the university. He said that RUCSU could

play a vital role in the context of prevailing political situation.

The Vice Chancellor said it was the duty of all to shun the path of terrorism and violence so that students could carry on their studies freely and fearlessly. He also appealed to all to extend their support in this respect so that Rajshahi University could be an ideal institution in the region by maintain peace and discipline in the campus.



Md Tazammul Islam, DC, Bhola inaugurating Singer 40th show room cum sales-center at Bhola on Saturday. Mahbub Jamil, Chairman and MD, Singer Bangladesh Limited and others officials were present on the occasion.



Lever Brothers relaunches Sunsilk Shampoo

CHITTAGONG, Aug 31: Lever Brothers Bangladesh Limited (LBBL) organized a colourful programme to mark the relaunching of Sunsilk and introduction of a novel Lipton Taka pack at a local hotel on Saturday, says a press release.



IS Sangster, Chairman and Managing Director of Lever Brothers Bangladesh speaking at a ceremony to mark the re-launching of Sunsilk Shampoo at Hotel Agrabad, Chittagong recently.

With the relaunch of Sunsilk Shampoo, the product is brought up-to-date with the international standards in terms of quality and presentation. The new 100ml bottle of Sunsilk is priced at Taka 33 unit, while a sachet is priced at Taka 3/-.

The unique one taka pack of Lipton Tea is designed specifically for the rural consumers aiming at popularising tea drinking habit in the country side.

In his inaugural speech the Chairman and Managing Director of LBBL, I.S Sangster said "Lever Brothers is committed to marketing international quality products in Bangladesh, conforming to the needs and affordability of the different tiers of consumers. The new Sunsilk is our expression of the belief that consumer deserve the best. We have already introduced toothpaste, shampoos and soaps in minipacks for the rural consumers and introduction of Lipton Taka pack is a reflection of the same pledge."

J A Lea, Marketing Director of LBBL elaborated on the Corporate Strategy of continuous value addition to the existing products and offering new innovations.

Country produces 1700 kg of shrimp per acre

The Industries Minister Shamsul Islam Khan said that using locally evolved modern method the country had produced 1700 kgs of shrimp per acre in some selected shrimp cultivable land. The government intends to introduce this process intensively in all shrimp cultivable land, the Minister added, reports BBS.

He said this when the Resident Representative of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Bangladesh, Geert Van Der Linden, called on the Industries Minister, at his office Monday.

The Industries Minister gave a brief resume on the locally evolved modern methodology for shrimp cultivation.

They discussed matters related to ADB project in Bangladesh specially about the expansion of modern shrimp cultivation in the country.

The Minister said that already 300 shrimp cultivators showed their keen interest and applied for financial assistance to the government to introduce this method in some area of their land under shrimp cultivation.

The Industries Minister urged the ADB representative to extend their financial support in this regard.

The ADB resident representative showed his interest about the newly evolved method and said a group of technical experts of ADB will study the possibility and prospect of the method shortly.

Law, order situation discussed

KUSHTIA, Aug 31: Mohammad Ashraf Huda, DIG, Police of Khulna Range had a meeting with cross section of people on Thursday at Kushtia Circuit House to discuss law and order situation of the district, reports BBS.

The DIG sought cooperation of all in order to curb crimes and terrorism in the society.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Swan Glory	GI	Indo Seacom	29/8	6/9
J/2	Banglar Shobha	GI	BSL	23/8	6/9
J/3	Mehedint	GI	BSL	27/8	02/9
J/4	Oryx	CL	Mong Aqua	28/8	01/9
J/5	Hafez	GL	Cal SSL	22/8	02/9
J/6	Iyeverett	GI/GL	Cal EBPL	29/8	02/9
J/7	Banglar Gourab	Urea	Mong BSC	10/8	04/9
J/12	Miramar	GL	Mong KSL	28/8	05/9
J/13	Andromache	Cont	Col RSL	30/8	01/9
MPB/1	Peter Starostin	Cont	Sing CT	28/8	31/8
MPB/2	Fong Shin	Cont	Sing BODShip	28/8	31/8
CGJ	Shalimar	Cement	Col	28/8	07/9
GSJ	Banglar Asha	Wheat	LAMS	R/A	01/9
TSP	Al Tabith	R Sulp	BSL	18/8	04/9
RM/4	Flying Dragon	Cement	Sing USTC	23/8	10/9
RM/6	Tanary Star	Cement	Sing PSAL	24/8	03/9
DDJ/1	Banglar Jyoti	C Oil	Sing REC	R/A	02/9
DDJ/2	Endurance Sea				
27/7	Repair	Agaba	Eosl	25/1	05/9
DDJ/2	Banglar Baani	Repair	REC	R/A	08/9

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Last port	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Andrian Goncharov	01/9	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Bervalla	02/9	Mong	RSL	Cont	Sing
Fong Yun	08/9	Penang	BODShip	Cont	Sing
Caravan Explorer	02/9	Stork	Alamin	Wheat	Sing
Safina-e-Haider	02/9	Kara	ASL	GI/GL	Karachi
Delos	02/9	Rouen	Royal	Rapeseeds	Sing
Pearl One	02/9	Mong	Cross		
K Ronal	03/9	Penang	Sunbeam	Copra	Sing
NGS Ranger	03/9	Sing	BODShip	Cont	Sing
Horn	03/9	Hong	Prog	GI	Sing
Optima	03/9	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Pacific Timur	05/9	Cal	OTL	Logs	Sing
Shaplaeverett	06/9	Sing	EBPL	GI	Japa, FE, ST
Anjan Queen	06/9	Cal	EBPL	GI	
New Genlord	06/9	Sing	BODShip	Cont	Sing
Diamond Star	06/9	Sing	REC	Steel	Sing
Weser Star	08/9	Sing	BODShip	Cont	Cal
Safina-e-Imail-2	08/9	Sing	ASL	GI/GL	Karachi
Kota Bana	09/9	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
A S Altican	10/9	Sing	REC	Steel	Sing
Amal	12/9	Sikka	REC	Cement	Sing
Hang Cheong	12/9	L Kou	Kharsons	Cement	Sing
Avon Delta	20/9	Sacca	Aqua	Wheat	Sing

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Yap Sheng	Cement	Sing	Bright	17/8
Georgios	Cement	Viso	Paragon	27/8
Solihuk	Wheat		LAMS	R/A

VESSELS NOT READY

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Yap Sheng	Cement	Sing	Bright	17/8
Georgios	Cement	Viso	Paragon	27/8
Solihuk	Wheat		LAMS	R/A

VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Banglar Shorab			REC	R/A

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

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on August 31, 1992
Star Economic Report

Transactions fall

Trading at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) was gloomy on Monday. Both the turnovers fell. Volume lost by 63.13 per cent against Sunday's 38580. Value fell by 32.41 per cent from Sunday's Taka 1730417.50 to Taka 1169504.50.

On the floor, losers enjoyed their dominance. They outnumbered the gainers by 20 to 16 while nine shares traded at previous rates.

The DSE Index gained very little from Sunday's 366.4491 to 366.5160, a gain of 0.067 points.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Turnover in value (Tk)	1169504.50				
Turnover (in volume)	14222				
Company	FV/ML	Previous day's price Tk	Closing price. Tk	Change (Absolute) Tk	Change (%) over price
Gains (16)					
Shares:					
Beximco	10/100	14.28	14.89	0.61	4.272
B Thai Aluminium	100/10	93.80	96.00	2.40	2.581
Padma Textile	100/20	180.00	184.25	4.25	2.362
Apex Tannery	100/5	382.97	390.00	7.03	1.836
City Bank	100/5	300.00	304.00	4.00	1.334
G Q Ball Pen	10/50	82.00	83.00	1.00	1.220
Monno Ceramic	100/5	271.60	274.55	2.95	1.087
Dulama Cotton	100/10	92.00	93.00	1.00	1.087
Zeal Bangla Sugar	10/50	12.03	12.15	0.12	0.998
Ambee Pharma	10/50	18.10	18.25	0.15	0.829
Beximco Pharma	100/5	372.00	375.00	3.00	0.807
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	815.00	820.00	5.00	0.614
Green Delta	100/10	140.20	141.00	0.80	0.571
Bangladesh Oxygen	10/50	55.81	56.00	0.19	0.341
National Bank	100/5	102.94	103.00	0.06	0.059
Debiture					
Beximco	2166/1	2166.00	2170.00	4.00	0.185

Losses (20)					
Shares:					
Al Baraka	1000/1	1115.00	1000.00	115.00	10.314
Pubali Bank	100/5	102.00	95.00	7.00	6.863
Ctg Cement	100/5	350.21	340.69	9.52	2.719
Rahim Textile	100/5	76.00	74.00	2.00	2.632
Eagle Star	10/50	27.00	26.50	0.50	1.852
National Oxygen	100/10	111.00	109.00	2.00	1.802
Ashraf Textile	10/50	35.50	35.00	0.50	1.409
Renwick Jajneswar	100/5	88.00	87.00	1.00	1.137
Ctg Cement	100/10	92.99	92.00	0.99	1.065
Howlader Pvc	100/10	106.00	105.00	1.00	0.944
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5	123.00	122.00	1.00	0.813
Modern Dying	100/5	43.31	43.00	0.31	0.716
National Tubes	100/10	106.75	106.13	0.62	0.581
Usmania Glass	100/5	270.00	268.84	1.16	0.430
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5	87.34	87.00	0.34	0.390
Rahman Chemical	100/10	54.10	54.00	0.10	0.185
Quasem Drycells	10/50	10.48	10.47	0.01	0.096
Milon Tannery	100/5	24.50	24.48	0.02	0.082
Eagle Box	10/50	24.01	24.00	0.01	0.042
Totalled at various times under (20)					