

## Lankan Minister, Mannan talk cooperation

Sri Lankan Minister for Tourism and Rural Industrial Development S. Thondaman arrived in Dhaka Thursday to attend the South Asian Regional Trade Union Council (SARTUC) to be held from Friday, reports BSS.

Thondaman who is also the President of he SARTUC and Cylon workers congress is being accompanied by Harry Chandrasekar a secretary of the workers congress.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan received the Sri Lankan Minister at the airport. They stayed at the VIP lounge for some time and discussed matters of mutual interest and bilateral relations.

Among others Alfred K Devid, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in Bangladesh and B R Chowdhury, Chairman, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation were present at the airport.

In all, 12 trade unions, three from Pakistan, three from India, four from Bangladesh and one each from Sri Lanka and Nepal will take part in the council.

## Islami Bank donation for people of Bosnia

Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited has donated Taka ten lakh equivalent to 25,580 US Dollar for the distressed people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, says a Bank Press release.

The Bank has already sent the amount to Muslim Aid London, an International Voluntary Organisation, for distribution of emergency relief to the affected people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

## Frequent power failure hampers production in mills, factories

From Our Correspondent

KURIGRAM, Sept 17: Frequent power failure and load shedding in the town and its adjoining thanas continue to disrupt business activities in the town and causing inconvenience to the town residents.

Local people informed that the power disruption mainly occur soon after the sunset affecting study and creating opportunities for criminal and anti-social activities.

Production in small factories, workshops in the town and thana level bazars are also seriously affected.

When power supply is available, voltage is so low that household electronics are damaged, some consumers informed.

Local people have urged the authorities to take immediate steps to solve power problems in the interest of smooth production in mills and factories.

## Japanese corporate bankruptcies increase

TOKYO, Sept 17: Japanese corporate bankruptcies in August rose 28.9 per cent from a year earlier to 1,154 cases, Teikoku Databank Ltd, said in a survey report Wednesday, according to AFP.

The bankruptcy cases topped 1,000 for seven months in a row, but liabilities incurred by business failures in the month plunged 60.3 per cent to 380 billion yen (three billion dollar), the Credit Research Institute said.

Each bankrupt firm had liabilities of 10 million yen (80,000 dollar) or more.

The institute attributed the sharp decline bankruptcies debt in August mainly to the absence of massive failures involving 100 billion yen (800 million dollar) or more in liabilities.

However, a Teikoku Databank analyst said that the shrinkage of the total debt did not mean the countries' economic slump would soon come to an end.

"On the contrary, the situation is getting more serious," he said, noting a rise in smaller-scale insolvencies of "companies in real economic activities."

Business failures in the manufacturing sector soared 67.8 per cent from a year earlier to 198 cases in August, while those in the construction sector rose 11.8 per cent to 209 cases, Teikoku Databank said.

The increase rate in other sectors were 26.7 per cent to 161 cases in wholesale, 17.1 per cent to 185 in retail sales, 123.5 per cent to 38 in transport and communications, 36.5 per cent to 131 in service industry and 15.9 per cent to 102 in real estate.

## CIRDAP to take up poverty alleviation projects worth \$2.6m

Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) plans to give the rural poverty alleviation programme in Bangladesh a "major thrust" by applying the "bottom up" approach to project planning, reports UNB.

The Centre has about 18 poverty alleviation projects to be implemented in the member countries at a cost of 2.6 million US dollar in the biennial 1992-93.

CIRDAP Director Somporn Hanpongpanth told UNB that the "bottom up" approach would be one among other appropriate approaches for Bangladesh than the conventional "top down" strategy which could not change the condition of the rural poor in any country of the Asia Pacific region.

CIRDAP has been experimenting on the "bottom up" approach since its inception because this system ensures involvement of the rural people in fixing priorities for development planning.

The 18 poverty alleviation projects, he said, would be a modest beginning to demonstrate how the rural poor can make out their own plans for income generation and self-employment.

Somporn said majority of the 80 per cent population in Bangladesh living in the rural areas with their small fluctuating income has to depend on nature. They have no saving which they could invest in income-generating ventures.

He said that the amount disbursed by the existing financial institutions despite lots of improvement in the recent past should be further strengthened to meet the requirement of the rural poor.

So far CIRDAP undertook about 50 rural poverty alleviation research projects, 15 action research projects and more than 50 training projects in the region.

More than 100 income generating projects were also under implementation in the member countries — India,

Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and the host country Bangladesh.

CIRDAP has initiated a kitchen gardening (vegetable) pilot project at a village in Comilla, which is one of a dozen of income generating projects in Bangladesh.

Somporn suggested that action research projects like Community Information and Planning Service (CIPS) could be introduced as adjuncts to the income-generating projects.

Agro-based industry supported by the financial institutions, could not only be an important source of poverty alleviation in the rural areas but also boost agricultural production.

He said CIRDAP was currently conducting a study on Monitoring Adjustment of Poverty (MAP) to identify the characteristics and the underlying factors of rural poverty in Bangladesh.

## Jute growers unable to get fair price for produce

From Our Correspondent

SHERPUR, Sept 17: Jute are being sold in the local markets between Taka 180 and Taka 200 which are too low, it is reported.

Jute purchasing agencies, either in private sector or in public sector, have not yet opened purchasing centres in the district. As a result, jute growers are not getting fair prices.

It is learnt that nearly one lakh bales of raw jute are expected to be produced during the current season in the district. Jute cultivation in the district is very encouraging this year but growers fear that they have to sell their products at the prices which are below the production cost.

Some jute growers of the district estimated production cost at Taka 400 as cost of inputs were high this year.

Some farmers informed this correspondent that the local brokers and faras are taking the advantage of the absence of purchasing centres of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) and Bangladesh Jute

Corporation (BJC).

Growers are compelled to sell their produce at a nominal price for their economic crisis. In some cases the farmers sell jute on credit, it is informed.

Jute produced along the border district, especially in the villages of Shanandhabari, Danuakamalpur, Bakakura, Dhanshyal and Haldighata under Nalitabari and Jhenaidhat thanas of the district might be smuggled out of the country, it is informed.

Having been deprived of fair price for six consecutive years, the growers of the district have reduced jute cultivation.

When contacted, a jute grower of the district informed this correspondent that they cultivate jute only to meet their rope and stick requirements.

Our Kushtia Correspondent adds: Jute growers in greater Kushtia district have been facing immense difficulties for want of adequate water reservoir for processing of their produce. Water from most of such stagnant ditches and

ponds are being used for cultivation of other crops. Moreover rainfall this year was insufficient. As a result most of such places where jute are placed for rotting are remaining with inadequate water.

On the other hand, sharp fall in the prices of jute in all the markets of greater Kushtia district left the jute growers vulnerable.

According to the sources jute is now being sold between Taka 150, 180 and Taka 225 per maund. Bangladesh Jute Corporation (BJC) has not yet taken any step for purchase of jute from greater Kushtia district. Faras and agents of jute mills are taking advantage of the situation. And the poor growers are left at the mercy of those opportunists.

In the face of government indifference to the interest of jute growers and unabated machinations of the middlemen, farmers are now in a dilemma whether to cultivate jute in future.

## Efficiency needed for uplift of textiles

KHULNA, Sept 17: State Minister of Textile Major (retd) Abdul Mannan visited Bengal Textile Mills yesterday at Noapara of Jessore and Khulna Textile Mills in Khulna city to see the conditions of these mills, reports BSS.

Due to mismanagement, malpractices and irregularities indulged over the years, these mills had become losing concerns.

He called for promoting management efficiency and shunning the age-old mentality in order to bring about a new life in the textile sector. He urged the workers to save the mills by increasing production for the sake of their own existence and greater national interest.

Addressing the workers and employees of the mills Mannan

emphatically said that there would be no other way but to stop functioning of these mills if this continuous losing trend could not be arrested by curbing excessive expenditures. They must raise both quality and quantity of production, the minister stressed.

Mayor of Khulna City Corporation Sheikh Tayebur Rahman spoke on the occasion. Syeda Nargis Ali MP and members of parliamentary standing committee of Textile Ministry Shajahan Siraj MP, Tabbar Rahman Sardar MP, Shahidul Khan MP, Sirajul Islam MP, Abdul Ali Mridha MP, Abdur Rouf MP and Riasat Ali MP were, among others, present on the occasion.

Earlier, the State Minister went round different sections of the Khulna textile mills to see its condition.

## EC urged to stop plundering Third World fish resources

BRUSSELS, Sept 17: The environmental organisation Greenpeace called on the European Community here Wednesday to stop "plundering" the dwindling fish resources of Third World countries and international waters, reports AFP.

Greenpeace Fisheries Coordinator Helene Bours urged the E.C. to consider environmental damage as well as economic gain when formulating fishing policies, and to impose stricter controls on over-fishing.

"Through international and bilateral fishing agreements, fishing joint ventures and even aid programmes, the E.C. fishing industry is plundering the oceans," Bours told a press conference.

## Shipping Intelligence

### CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth Position And Performance of Vessels As On 17-09-92									
Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival				
J/1	Genesis	GI	Sing	Prog	15/9	24/9			
J/2	Banglar Shotha	GI	Pena	HCS	23/8	17/9			
J/3	Al Pesant	Copra	Kudat	Seacom	9/9	17/9			
J/4	Tory Hill	P Iron	K Town	Anchor	6/9	20/9			
J/5	Aditya Jyoti	Log	Mala	HSL	16/9	18/9			
J/6	Kiramar	GL	Mong	KSL	28/8	19/9			
J/9	Yom Bu Jin	Copra	Sorab	OSA	11/9	18/9			
J/10	Mehedinti	Idee	Col	BSL	27/8	20/9			
J/11	A S Altincan	S Cargo	Hurik	BSC	13/9	21/9			
J/12	Bervalla	Cont	Sing	RSL	15/9	18/9			
J/13	Petr Starostin	Cont	Sing	CT	13/9	17/9			
MPB/1	Fong Yun	Cont	Sing	BDSHIP	16/9	18/9			
MPB/2	S E Haidler	GI/GL	Kara	ASL	5/9	18/9			
CGJ	Georgios-M	Cement	Viso	Paragon	27/8	20/9			
TSP	Sac Byol	R Phos	Safa	SSST	10/9	20/9			
RM/4	Shalamar	Cement	Col	PSAL	28/8	17/9			
RM/5	Hang Shing	Cement	Mong	H & H	3/9	21/9			
RM/6	Electro Star	F Oil	Sing	ECSL	15/9	18/9			
RM/8	Flying Dragon	-	-	-	23/8	22/9			
RM/9	Banglar Asha	-	-	-	R/A	21/9			
DOJ	Banglar Huoti	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	21/9			
ID	Banglar Shourab	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	24/9			
DDJ/1	Endurance Sea	Repair	A Aba	EOSL	25/1	25/9			
DDJ/2	Banglar Sampad	-	Mong	BSC	14/9	23/9			

### VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Safina-e-Islam-2	17/9	Kara	ASL	GI/GL	Karachi
Alam Tenaq	17/9	Damam	Dynamic	Wheat	Cement
Sea Rhapsody	17/9	Visak	UMAL	Clink	Cement
Craba	17/9	Sing	Acia	Cement	Cement
Da Cheng	17/9	V Patin	Sunshine	Cement	Cement
Continent	18/9	Pena	BSL	GI	Cement
Ever Cheer 1/9	18/9	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Andromachi 1/9	18/9	Mong	RSL	Cont	Sing
Andrian Goncharov	19/9	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Optima 9/9	19/9	Sing	RSL	Cont	Col
Jong Pyong	19/9	Mong	OSA	Scarping	Sudan
Ira	19/9	Mong	KSL	GL	Sudan
Komsomols Adzhari-II	20/9	-	PSAL	Cement	Sing
Shong Chon Gang	20/9	Nampo	Sunshine	Cement	Sing
Sam Houston	20/9	-	Karna	GI	New York
State of Manipur	20/9	-	Sikka	ENCL	Cement
Hang Cheong	20/9	L Kou	Khansons	Cement	Cement
Amal	20/9	Sikka	ENCL	Cement	Cement
Chandika 12/9	20/9	-	SSL	E/L	UK Cont
NGS Ranger 7/9	20/9	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Jiang Cheng	20/9	S Hai	BDSHIP	GI/GL	S Hai
Pacific Timur	21/9	Visak	OTL	Logs	Sing
Asian Express	21/9	-	B Baby	GI	Sing
Mowhavi	21/9	Mong	SGL	GI	Iranian Ports
Wisdom	21/9	Pup	JF	Scarping	Sing
Avon Delt	23/9	Sacra	Aqua	Wheat	Sing
Kota Buan 13/9	23/9	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
New Genrod 12/9	23/9	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
NGS Express 12/9	26/9	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
I Yamburenko 16/9	26/9	-	CT	Cont	Sing
Fong Shin 16/9	27/9	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Banglar Urmi	30/9	Kara	BSC	GI	Sing
Banglar Kakoli	31/10	Male	BSC	GI	Sing

### TANKER DUE

Esso Ravonne	19/9	Sing	MSPL	HSB
VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA				
Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
T T Energy	C Oil	Col	NNL	27/4
Tug Smit Lloyd-106	-	-	NNL	-

### VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Ready On				
Ararat	Tallow	Sing	CT	16/9
Al Tabith	-	-	KSL	R/A
NOT READY				
Yao Sheng	Cement	Sing	Bright	17/8
Caravos Explorer	Wheat	Sing	Alamin	16/9

### VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Alyn	Cement	Sing	Alamin	R/A
Artemis-1	Cement	Bright	R/A	R/A
Sea Tradition	Cement	Pana	BSL	10/9

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

## Price Index

September-16

Essentials		(Taka per kg)	(Taka per kg)
RICE	(Taka per kg)	50.00-55.00	
Armar(fine)	16.00-17.00		
Pajam	12.50-13.50		
VEGETABLES		(Taka per kg)	(Taka per Htr)
Potato (local)	11.00-12.00		
Brinjal	8.00-10.00		
Karolla	11.00-12.00		
Lalchak	4.00-5.00		
Pappa	5.00-7.00		
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-6.00		
OTHER FOODGRAN		(Taka per kg)	
Flour	13.50-14.00		
Atta	10.50-11.00		
FISH		(Taka per kg)	
Rahu(big)	150.00-170.00		
Kar(big)	130.00-150.00		
Hilsha	48.00-50.00		
Panga	130.00-140.00		
Shrimp(big)	90.00-100.00		
Singi	110.00-120.00		
Koi	125.00-135.00		
MEAT			
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
</			

### Hides & Skin

(Wet/Salted)

(Taka per 100 pieces)

Cow	12000	33000
Light	65000	73000
Medium	75000	8300