

# Socio-economic development needs greater mutual cooperation

Speakers at a seminar in the city Friday underlined the need for forging greater mutual cooperation on a basis of equality among the South Asian nations to bring exciting and rewarding possibilities to all these countries, reports BSS.

They said regional cooperation in South Asia had started in certain non-contentious areas of socio-economic importance but sensitive issues were deliberately pushed aside to start cooperation.

The speakers suggested that South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) should work for removing the mutual distrust present among people of this region.

The leaders of this region should give serious thoughts to devise ways and means in making the political relations of the South Asian nations smooth, they said.

The speakers said regionalism, which presupposes an environment of mutual trust and confidence, lays emphasis on dealing with any problem from a multilateral perspective.

They were speaking at a seminar on "South Asia: beyond nation-state" organised by the International Studies Association Bangladesh (ISAB) at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).

Presided over by the Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, President ISAB, the inaugural session was addressed by Prof M Shahjahan, Vice Chancellor of BUET, Prof Abul Kalam, General Secretary ISAB and Dr Akmal Hossain treasurer of ISAB.

In his speech, Shahjahan, said Bangladesh is now better equipped to face the country's problems as the people have elected their own government to build their future after a decade of darkness and repression.

He hoped the initiation of intellectual exercise would help us to integrate the strength of the people's power in our development strategy to

ensure sustainable future for providing food and fibre to the teeming millions.

Shahjahan laid stress on the development of water resources of this region through mutual cooperation. He said Pakistan, India and Bangladesh would benefit from the hydro-electricity generated from Nepal's resources if they are developed.

He also said the countries of the region should act together to get the required funds for hydropower development.

The academic session of the seminar was presided over by the former foreign secretary, Tabarak Hossain. University professors and researchers presented their respective papers at the session.

Khan Sarwar Murshid, Professor of English of Dhaka University, Iftekharuzzaman, Research Director of the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS), Ainun Nishat, Professor of Water Resources Engineering, BUET, Selina Begum, Assistant Professor of Water Resources Engineering, BUET and CR Abrar, Assistant Profes-

sor of International Relations, Dhaka University also spoke on the occasion.

Ashrafur Hasan, Assistant Professor of International Relations of Dhaka University, in his paper entitled "security of small states: a development approach" suggested a multi-pronged approach to the security needs of Bangladesh.

He said the focus would be on the development approach which incorporates both the need for "state-building" and "nation-building".

Hasan, in his paper, emphasised the need for establishing effective diplomatic network with other sovereign states to ensure the security of small states.

He said sources of threat exist primarily within the domestic domain of Bangladesh itself in the form of campus unrest, disruption of economic activity and armed clashes between rival political groupings.

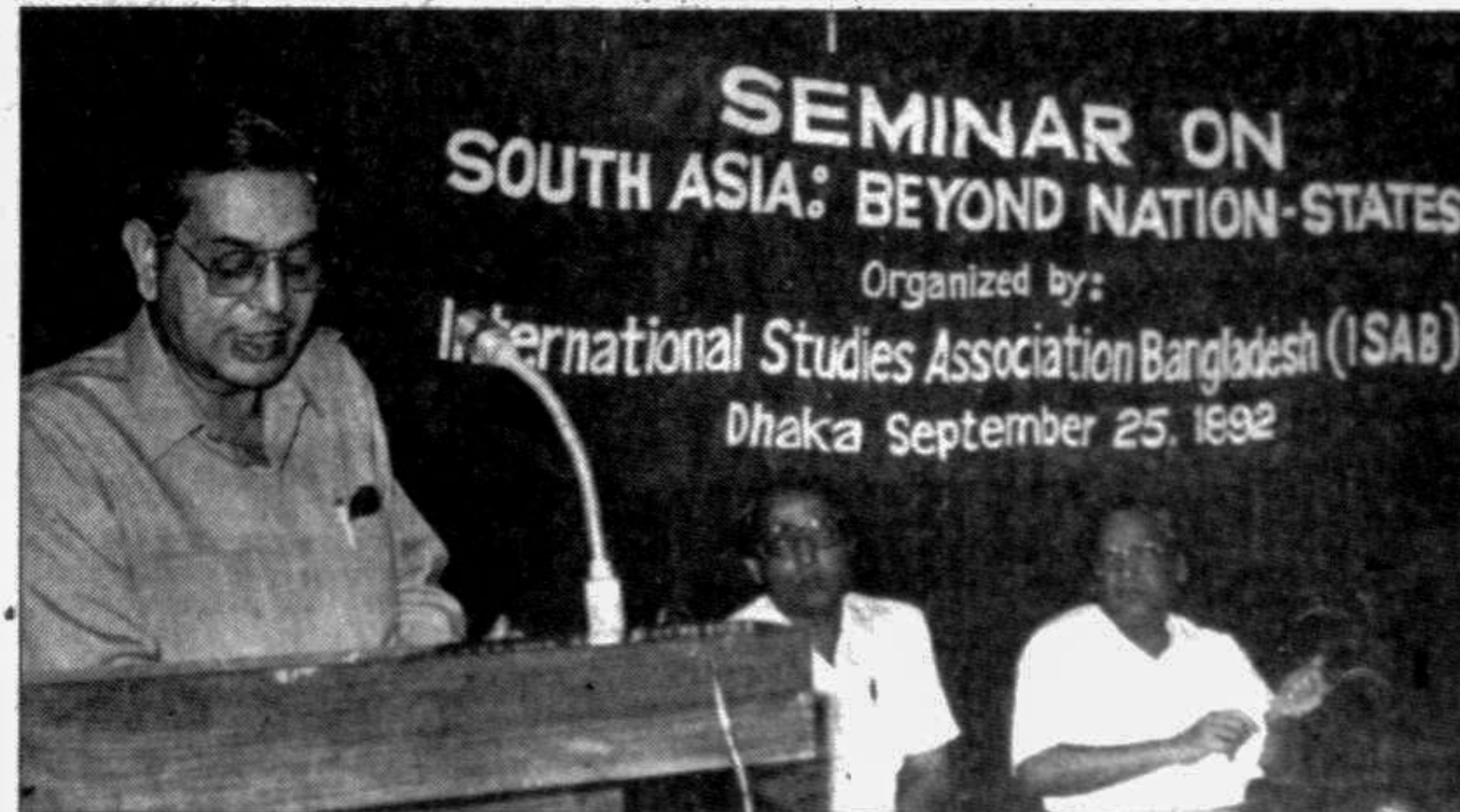
Hasan observed that hartals, gheraos, endless strife and attempts by political groups to resolve political conflicts by resorting to violence rather

than by dialogue had made the socio-political climate in Bangladesh difficult for sustained economic activity and growth.

Nuruzzaman, research associate of BISS, in his paper on "controlling arms race in South Asia" underlined the need for evolving a regional security framework and domestic conflicts control mechanism to ensure arms stability in South Asia.

He said the open or declared possession of nuclear weapons by India and Pakistan would make the smaller states feel more in secured. The smaller South Asian states — Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka — are currently at odds with India and these countries follow a strategy of distancing themselves from India, he said.

Prof Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir and Prof Imtiaz Ahmed of Dhaka University presented a paper on "reforming culture and thought: a plea for a South Asian university", while Prof Meghna Guhathakurta presented a paper on "regionalism: two views of SAARC".



Prof M Shahjahan, Vice-Chancellor, BUET, delivering his inaugural speech as Chief Guest of a national seminar on "South Asia: Beyond Nation-State" organised by International Studies Association Bangladesh (ISAB) on Friday at BUET Seminar Hall.

## Seminar on banking, uplift today

A seminar, arranged by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh on "Banking Policies and Economic Development" will be held on Saturday, September 26 at the Chartered Accountant Bhaban, says a press release.

Planning Minister, Zahiruddin Khan, will inaugurate the seminar.

Jamal Uddin Ahmad FCA, former Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) will present the key-note paper of the seminar. The other speakers of the seminar are: Dr Akbar Ali Khan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Shah Adul Hannan, Deputy Governor, Bangladesh Bank, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Bar-at-Law, O Saadat, World Bank, Md Mushtaque Ahmed, FCA, Ashanul Hoque, M.D Sonali Bank, AKM Gaffar M.D A. B. Bank, Mahbubur Rahman, President, FBCCI.

## New Resident Representative of Korea Trade centre



Gil Won Chung has been appointed as the new Resident Representative of Korea Trade Centre, Dhaka and will join in October, says a press release.

Chae Kyung Lee, the outgoing Resident Representative who has been in Bangladesh from 1989, will leave for Korea by the end of this month. During his tenure, Lee has concentrated to induce Korean investors here and at the same time he tried his best to depict Bangladesh as a potential investment place for the foreign investors.

As a result, as many as 16 Korean companies have invested in different fields like garments and accessories, leather, tents, hats & caps etc.

Economic co-operation will be the area of concentration for Chung. And he assures his best efforts to explore new ways to expand and improve the existing economic co-operation between Republic of Korea and Bangladesh.

## Ashuganj power plant to get gas supply from Habiganj field

The much expected gas supply from Habiganj Gas Field to Ashuganj Power Plant for generation of electricity to meet the national demand began early Friday through the north-south pipeline, reports BSS.

Talking to BSS, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister said the woes of the people owing to load-shedding were expected to be greatly minimised from today with the establishment of connection between Ashuganj Power Plant and Habiganj Gas Field through the north-south pipeline for sending an additional 150 megawatt in the national grid to meet country's electricity demand.

Terming it as a major success, he said this had come as a great relief for the consumers and will help boost production and accelerate the pace of development of Bangladesh under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

Detailing the salutary effects of the establishment of the connection between Ashuganj Power Plant and Habiganj Gas Field through the north-south pipeline from early Friday morning, Dr Hossain said, because of this connection the existing capacity of Habiganj Gas Field of 4.5 million cubic feet per hour (MMCFH) would increase to 6.5 MMCFH, meaning a capacity increase of 55 million cubic feet per day at

the field to supply this gas to Ashuganj Power Plant for electricity generation.

As a result of this increase in capacity, the Energy Minister said the power generation at Ashuganj Plant was increased by 150 megawatt per day from Friday.

He said, we had achieved two significant targets due to the establishment of this line connection. One, load-shedding of electricity during the dry season is now overcome due to this additional 150 megawatt in the national grid. Two, the capacity utilisation of the Habiganj Gas Field is raised to 100 per cent from Friday morning.

The Energy Minister said that now the government would earn an additional Taka 55 crore per annum as excise duty from gas and the power development board would be able to earn an additional revenue income of about Taka 300 crore by selling the additional quantum of electricity.

The Ashuganj Power Plant had the installed capacity of 728 megawatt but could produce 450 to 500 megawatt due to the non-availability of gas for generation of electricity, Dr Hossain said, adding now this Ashuganj Power Plant would be able to generate 650 megawatt steadily and could even be raised at the peak hours.

The additional 55 MMCFH will be produced from Habiganj Gas Field, which has the

capacity of 125 MMCFD. Because of its line capacity the Habiganj Gas Field could produce at best 80 MMCFD of gas till Thursday. But with this connection through the north-south pipeline, the line capacity has now been increased and additional supply is achieved from Friday. Dr Hossain told BSS correspondent pointing to the public commitment of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) to restore 400 megawatt before the forthcoming dry season. The Energy Minister who is also a joint Secretary General of BNP, said so far we have restored 214 megawatt by replacing different units and from today with the additional supply of gas, the restored capacity was being increased to 350 megawatt indicating that we were fulfilling our public commitment.

Dr Hossain said the electricity situation of the central, north and western zones has improved remarkably from today. However, he said the situation of Chittagong zone would depend on the water level of Kaptai lake.

The requirement of the Chittagong zone is 250 megawatt and the production capacity of this zone is 230 megawatt. But now it is generating only 50 megawatt due to the very low water level of the Kaptai lake and central zone is supplying 80 megawatt to the Chittagong zone implying a shortage of electricity there.



PRODUCTS DRAW BUYERS: Fred Libson, Director, Raintex International Pty Ltd, Melbourne, discusses quality travel goods with Md Golam Rahman, Director of Master Group of Industries at the Bangladesh trade display in Melbourne recently.

— Photo — John McKinnon OIB, Melbourne

## Shipping Intelligence

### CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 24.09.92									
Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leave- ing			
J/1	Genesis	GI	Sing	Prog	15/9	25/9			
J/2	Alam Tenege	Wheat	Darnam	Dynamic	17/9	30/9			
J/3	State of Manipur	GI/GL	Mad	SSL	21/9	24/9			
J/4	Asian Express	GI	Pena	B Bay	21/9	24/9			
J/5	Continent-1	GI	Pena	CLA	19/9	26/9			
J/6	Ira	GL	Mong	KSL	20/9	26/9			
J/7	Safina-e-Islam-2	GI/GL	Kara	ASL	17/9	24/9			
J/9	Jiang Cheng	GI/GL	S Hai	BDSHP	21/9	29/9			
J/10	Mehedinti	Idle	Col	BSL	27/8	28/9			
J/11	Al Tabith	Urea	KSL	R/A	27/9				
J/12	Caravos Explorer	Wheat	Sing	Alamin	16/9	31/10			
J/13	Da Cheng	Cement	V Patr	Sunshine	20/9	26/9			
CGJ	Sea Rhapsody	C Clinik	Visak	Umal	18/9	27/9			
TSP	Hang Sheng	Cement	Mong	H&H	3/9	26/9			
RM/6	Georgios-M	Cement	Viso	Paragon	27/8	24/9			
DDJ/1	Banglar Shourabh	Repair	ISC	R/A	24/9				
DDJ/2	Endurance Sea	Repair	Apina	EOSL	25/1	28/9			
DDJ/3	Banglar Sampad	Repair	Mong	ISC	14/9	25/9			
RM/8	Flying Dragon	Cement	Sing	ISC	23/8	25/9			
RM/9	Banglar Asha	Repair	ISC	R/A	28/9				

### VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Last port	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Bintang Haraan	24/9	Hong	Prog	GI	-
Belgorod Dnetrovskiy	24/9	Col	USTC	Cement	-
Kurnia Sejat	24/9	Cigad	MBL	GI	-
Fong Yun	25/9	Haid	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
NGS Ranger	25/9	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Avon Delta	25/9	Sacra	Aqua	Wheat	-
Shong Chon Gang	25/9	Sing	Sunshine	Cement	-
Amal	25/9	Sikka	ENCL	Cement	-
Uniforce	25/9	-	MSA	M Seeds	-
New Genlord	25/9	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Komsomlets Dzhari-II	26/9	-	PSAL	Cement	-
Kota Buana	26/9	Sing	CTS	Cement	Sing
Hang Chong	26/9	Sing	Khansons	Cement	-
Pacific Timur	26/9	V Patr	OTL	Logs	-
Vishva Mamata	26/9	Mad	SSL	GI/GL	Japa
I Yamburenko	27/9	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Mowlati	27/9	Mong	SSL	GI Iranian ports	-
Ertikswann	27/9	Porta	Khansons	C Clinik	-
Safina-e-Najam	28/9	-	ASLL	C Clinik	-
Bervalla	28/9	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Kyrmikos E	29/9	-	OMA	Scraping	-
NGS Express	29/9	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing

### TANKER DUE

Global Venues	25/9	Sarak	TSL	CFO
Mekhanik Garovnik	24/9	-	Athena	CDSO

### MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FROM 25/9/92 to 26/9/92

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
25/9		
J/1 Genesis	MB/1 NGS Ranger DD B	Shourabh to DDJ/2
J/5 Continent-1	GSJ Avon Delta	
	NB Orsha	
	J/7 Bintang Haraan	
	RM/4 Mekhanik Garovnik	
26/9		
J/6 Ira	RM/3 Global Venues	
J/13 Da Cheng	J/13 Uniforce	
RM/8 Hang Shing	J/8 Fong Yun	
	J/13 New Genlord	
	B Dvostky	
	Kota Buana	

### VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
T T Energy	C Oil	Col	NNL	27/4

### VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

READY ON:				
Pridnedrovsk	Cement	Sing	PSAL	19/9
Orsha	Cement	sing	AEKA	17/9

### VESSELS NOT READY

Yao Sheng	Cement	Sing	Bright	17/8
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### VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Banglar Jyoti	-	ISC	R/A(21/9)
Artemis-1	Cement	Bright	R/A(28/9)

### VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Alyn	Scraping	Sing	OTL	R/A(18/9)
S E Haider	-	Kara	ASL	R/A(20/9)
Wisdom	Scraping	Paja	JP	22/9
Jong Pyong	Scraping	Mong	OSA	23/9
Al Pesari	Bunker	Mong	OSA	23/9
S O Monipur	-	-	-	-

The above were the Thursday's shipping position and sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

## Price Index

Essentials		Moong	30.00-32.00
RICE	(Taka per kg)	Chhola	22.00-24.00
Arman(fine)	16.00-17.00	Khasari	15.00-16.00
Payam	13.00-13.75	FRUITS	
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)	Green Coconut (Small)	(One piece)
Potato (local)	11.00-12.00	Coconut (Large)	6.00-7.00
Brinjal	8.00-12.00		8.00-10.00
Karola	10.00-12.00	Pineapple	(One piece)
Lalchak	4.00-5.00	Banana :	8.00-12.00
Papya	4.00-6.00	Sagar (Large)	(4 pieces)
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-6.00	Champa	10.00-12.00
OTHER FOODSTUFF	(Taka per kg)		3.00-4.00
Flour	13.00-14.00	Dates	(Taka per kg)
Arta	10.50-11.00	OIL	
FISH	(Taka per kg)	Mustard	(Taka per Htr)
Rubi(bug)	135.00-165.00	Soyabean	52.00-54.00
Katla(bug)	115.00-125.00	Coconut (Colombo)	37.00-38.00
Hilsa	50.00-55.00	Vegetable Ghee (1kg)	90.00-100.00
Pangas	120.00-130.00		48.00-52.00
Shrimp(bug)	95.00-105.00	SPICES	(Taka per kg)
Singi	100.00-110.00	Onion (local)	9.50-10.00
Ken	120.00-130.00	Garlic (local)	25.00-30.00
MEAT		Chillies (local)	25.00-35.00
Beef	NA	Turmeric (Local)	48.00-52.00
Mutton	NA	Green chillies	18.00-20.00
CHICKEN		Ginger	28.00-32.00
Large	60.00-62.00	Cinnamon (10gm)	7.00-8.00
Moderate	64.00-66.00	Cardamom (10gm) (small)	3.00-3.50
Small	68.00-70.00	Jhira (50 gms)	9.00-10.00
TEA		MILK	(Two kg)
Dust (Plain)	80.00-90.00	Dano	316.00-317.00
EGG	(4 pcs)	Red-Cow	316.00-317.00
Hen	12.00-12.50	MISCELLANEOUS	(Taka per kg)
Duck	12.00-12.50	Ghee	220.00-230.00
Firm	13.00-14.00	Salt	7.00-8.00
PULSES	(Taka per kg)	Sugar	29.00-30.00
Mashur	28.00-30.00		

Source: Department of Agriculture, marketing

## 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 September 25 and 26, 1992.

Currency		Selling		Buying	
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