

**BRIEFS**

**No date yet on Iraqi oil sale talk**  
 UNITED NATIONS, Oct 10: A UN spokesman and an Iraqi diplomat said Friday no date had been set for renewed talks with UN officials on oil sales. UN spokesman Francois Trucillo, in an answer to queries, said, "we are in touch with the Iraqis but there is no date" for the resumption of talks. An Iraqi diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he was not aware of any decision to resume the talks. Rumours have been circulating at the UN and elsewhere for the past two weeks that the talks would resume on October 19 in Vienna but both sides denied them, reports Reuter.

**US airline to use Russian air space**

WASHINGTON, Oct 10: Northwest Airlines said Friday it had become the first western airline to receive permission to use Russian air space, under an agreement reached after three years of negotiations with Soviet and Russian governments. Northwest will inaugurate its first flight using the so-called Siberia-II route Monday with a Detroit-Tokyo flight that will shave an hour off the current 13-1/2 hours. The new route also will enable Northwest to save an estimated 10 million dollar a year in fuel. Northwest will pay Russia an unspecified sum based on how much time Northwest aircraft spend in Russian airspace, reports AFP.

**India subsidise fertilizers**

NEW DELHI, Oct 10: The Indian union Government has provided 3,400 million rupee (133.5 million US dollar) to states to make phosphatic, potassium and complex fertilizers available to farmers at reduced rates. The states have been asked to utilize this money to give concession to farmers to the extent of 1,000 rupee (39.29 US dollar) a tonne for Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP) and, on an average, 620 rupee (24.36 US dollar) a tonne for complex fertilizers. The objective is to ensure availability of DAP to the farmers at around 6,500 rupee (255.4 US dollar) a tonne, reports Xinhua.

**EC jobless still at highest level**

BRUSSELS, Oct 10: Unemployment in the European Community was 9.5 per cent in August, unchanged from June and July but still at its highest level since 1988, Eurostat, the EC's statistical arm, said here. It estimated the number of unemployed at 14 million, up from 13.1 million in August 1991. Britain accounted for half the increase, with Spain and former West Germany accounting for 12 per cent each. Unemployment reached 11 per cent in Britain, the highest since June 1987, and 17 per cent in Spain, the highest since February 1989, reports AFP.

**Ship with aid for Cuba delayed**

NEW DELHI, Oct 10: A cargo ship carrying aid collected by Indian communists for Cuba that was due to leave Calcutta for Havana on Friday has been delayed three days, the Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted the Communist Party of India leader Biman Bose in Calcutta, the Marxist-governed capital of West Bengal, as saying the ship, the Caribbean Princess, had been delayed because of "procedural problems". Bose, coordinator of a nationwide solidarity campaign to collect aid, said several clearance certificates from the government were needed before the ship carrying 10,000 tonnes of wheat and 1,500 tons of medicines for Cuba could sail, reports AFP.

**\$220m worth heroin seized in Taiwan**

TAIPEI, Oct 10: Taiwanese authorities have seized 84 kg (180 lbs) of heroin in the island's biggest drug bust, a spokesman for the Bureau of Investigation said on Friday. The heroin had an estimated street value of Taiwan dollar 5.5 billion (dollar 220 million) the spokesman said. Bureau agents and customs officials acting on a tip-off found the heroin concealed in three drums containing honey at the northern Port of Keelung late on Thursday, the spokesman said. The honey was imported from Thailand by ship, he said. No suspects have been arrested, reports Reuter.

**US, China agree on trade accord**

WASHINGTON, Oct 10: The United States has reached a tentative agreement with China to resolve a bitter trade dispute between the two countries, avoiding the threat of punitive tariffs on each other's goods, a US spokesman said Friday night, reports AP.

US negotiators declined to provide details of the accord but they said the Chinese had agreed to take significant moves to open their huge market to American goods and that the pact would remove the threat of US sanctions.

"We have reached an agreement in principle," said Chris Allen, a spokesman for US Trade Representative Carla Hills. He said that the agreement still had to be cleared by the Chinese government and that details would not be released until then.

The United States had been pressing China to remove a variety of barriers that make it difficult for American companies to do business there. American negotiators have charged that China has unclear

and hidden trade regulations, outright bans on certain imports and quotas limiting imports of other products.

The US side also charged that China had established unreasonable standards and licensing requirements to keep out imports.

Negotiators had faced a midnight Saturday deadline for clearing up the dispute. Hills said in August that if the dispute was not resolved by that time, then the United States was prepared to apply tariffs of up to 100 per cent on 3.9 billion dollar worth of Chinese products, effectively doubling their prices in US markets.

The US administration published a 44-page list of Chinese imports on which the punitive tariffs could be ordered, covering a wide range of products. It was the largest such target list ever proposed in a trade dispute, US officials said.

Chinese officials charged that US customers would be hurt the most by the dispute since China now supplies the United States with 31 per cent

of its toy imports, 45 per cent of its shoe imports and 26 per cent of its textile and garment imports.

China had countered by insisting its own list of four billion dollar in American products that it said would be hit with retaliatory tariffs in the United States went ahead and boosted tariffs on Chinese goods. The target list of American goods included aircraft, computers, automobiles, medical equipment, pesticides, timber and wood products.

President Bush's administration, however, continued to press forward with the negotiations, contending that something must be done to lower America's trade deficit with China. Which totalled 12.7 billion dollar last year, second in size only to that with Japan.

The latest trade dispute was the second showdown between the United States and China this year. In January, the administration used the threat of stiff tariffs to persuade China to crack down on the illegal

copying of US products ranging from blue jeans to computer programmes.

AFP adds from Beijing: China has decided on a host of new policies aimed at fueling a boom in border trade report Friday said.

Border provinces have been given power to approve any overseas investment under one million dollar while companies that set up abroad will be allowed to retain all profits for the first five years, biggest weekly said.

Except for corn, and soybeans export licenses for all provinces will be removed while customs duties on most imports will be reduced by half, the newspaper said.

The report added that duties would not be cut for household appliances and motorcycles cosmetics cigarettes and liquor.

The policies were directed at eastern Europe the Commonwealth of independent states the Korean peninsula Mongolia and Vietnam the report said.

**ASEAN seeks UN endorsement of amity treaty**

SINGAPORE, Oct 10: The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is seeking UN endorsement of its treaty of amity and cooperation providing for peaceful settlement of disputes, Singapore's foreign minister said Friday, reports AFP.

Wong Kan Seng said that ASEAN envoys to the United Nations had drafted a resolution aimed at obtaining consensus endorsement from the world body of the objectives and principles of the 1976 treaty.

The treaty, which sets a code of good conduct for signatories, has been signed by all six ASEAN countries - Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Laos and Vietnam signed the treaty in July, signalling an end to more than a decade of hostility between Indo-China and the ASEAN states.

The two Indo-China states and Papua New Guinea, an earlier signatory, have observer status at annual ASEAN foreign ministers' meetings.

**India won't ease credit rates further**

NEW DELHI, Oct 10: Indian Finance Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday ruled out a further easing of credit rates until inflation was reined in as a one per cent cut announced by the central bank fell short of corporate expectations, reports AFP.

Singh told a parliamentary panel that the government wanted inflation, now around eight to nine per cent, to be "totally under control" before cutting credit rates below 18 per cent.

The Finance Minister, who was responding to an MP's remark that the one per cent cut was just a token gesture, did not say to what level inflation should drop before corporate demands for a more substantial reduction could be conceded.

The panel met to discuss bank reforms as a new six-month credit policy, announced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) late Thursday with the aim of boosting the economy, came into effect.

The lending rate on credit limits of more than 200,000

rupee (7,690 dollar) was slashed from 19 to 18 per cent. Interest rates on term deposits ranging from 46 days, to three years and above was cut from 13 to 12 per cent.

The rate on rupee export credit was also reduced by one per cent.

The statutory liquid ratio, specifying the proportion of funds that commercial banks should retain with the RBI, was reduced by 0.75 per cent in a step that made an additional 676 million dollar available for banks to lend.

The RBI had been planning to slash the lending rate by two per cent because of a fall in the inflation rate, but apparently backtracked because of the inflationary potential of a recent petrol price hike.

Indian businessmen, who have complained of a credit crunch and high interest rates, generally welcomed the cut, but called for credit rates to the cut further.

**EC, US poised for GATT showdown in Brussels**

BRUSSELS, Oct 10: The world's two greatest trading powers, the European Community and the United States, are poised for another showdown over GATT in Brussels on Sunday, reports Reuter.

At stake is a potential boost to world trade estimated at nearly 200 billion dollar a year and an escape from recession. But the future of the EC's 10 million farmers, many of them French, hangs in the balance and a harassed French government is doggedly blocking any sellout. "I will not let French agriculture be pushed off course to allow Bush's re-election," said France's new farm minister Jean-Pierre Soisson.

The Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), now in its seventh year, has been blocked since December 1990 by dispute between Brussels and Washington over how far and how fast to slash farm subsidies.

Other problems are com-

penensation payments for sharp price cuts to EC farmers who set aside land, an EC demand that the US stop imposing unilateral sanctions on partners with whom it falls out and EC barriers to imports of cereals substitutes.

On Sunday EC external relations and farm commissioner Frans Andriessen and Ray Macsharry Willment US trade representative Carla Hills and Agricultural Secretary Edward Madigan.

"It's time to call each other's bluff and make a deal," said an EC diplomat, adding the main unknown factor was France.

There was cautious optimism in Brussels that the farm deadlock could be broken despite French intransigence.

"Farming is a package... once one element is agreed the other parts could quickly be wrapped up," said a commission official. He said the focus would then switch to services and textiles where the US would be on the defensive. Macsharry has said a farm

deal could be reached in 20 minutes if the political will was there.

Four main obstacles need to be cleared for a deal with the United States, EC diplomats said.

Compensation payments for sharp price cuts to EC farmers who set aside 15 per cent of their arable land.

The EC insists these payments should be permanent as they are linked to a reduction in output and do not distort trade. The US demands they be reduced after six years. It says the cut in output will be less than 15 per cent as smallfarmers are exempted and only poor land is taken out of production - reduction in volume of subsidised exports.

GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel has proposed a 24 per cent cut but the EC, apart from France, would only accept 18 per cent. The EC could agree a greater reduction if it was able to make aggregate cuts for each commodity - for cereals as a whole, for example, instead of individually for wheat, barley and maize.

**OPEC to raise oil price by \$ 21 BPD**

JAKARTA, Oct 10: The OPEC oil price will edge up towards 21 dollar a barrel in fourth quarter, the OPEC Secretary General Subroto said, reports Reuter.

The OPEC basket oil price is currently 19.30 dollar. "Oil prices are creeping towards 21 dollar, he told reporters, adding that the market outlook in the fourth quarter will depend also whether those holding stockpiles of oil will release them or not.

"We are watching this. Usually they release stocks in the fourth quarter to meet needs in winter."

On Wednesday, the International Energy Agency predicted western oil demand would rise one per cent in the fourth quarter.

Subroto said demand for OPEC oil in the last quarter of the year would be around 25 million Barrels Per Day.

He told Reuters there were no talks on the re-imposition of quotas following the July agreement.

"As long as the abnormal situation in the Middle East and the Gulf area prevails, then we are not talking about the quotas," Subroto said.

**Japan urged to accept more immigrants**

TOKYO, Oct 10: Japan should accept more immigrants and help ease the global refugee crisis, the Head of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) said on Friday, reports Reuter.

James Porcel, Head of the independent, New York, based IOM, which works with various United Nations agencies such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said Japan was opening to the idea of accepting more immigrants.

"They are serious enough now to look at the real issues," he told a press conference.

Porcel said IOM was trying to encourage Japan to become a full member of the 46-member organisation. Japan since 1961 has been one of 32 observer nations. He said Japan must show generosity and provide opportunities for people in developing nations to receive training and education.

**Spanish bank bombed**

LIMA, Oct 10: Shining Path guerrillas bombed a Spanish bank in a busy commercial district Friday night and police said the attack was connected to protests of the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in America, reports AP.

There were no reports of injuries.

Bomb squad experts said two rebels left a package of dynamite in front of a 16-story building housing the Spanish bank Extabandes in the fashionable Miraflores district. The suspects fled the scene.

The force of the explosion shattered windows on all 16 floors and blew out doors and window frames on the first floor, where the bank is located. Windows were shattered in neighbouring buildings for a surrounding block.

**Asphaltic Bitumen Plant**  
 C/o Eastern Refinery Limited

(A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)  
 North Patenga  
 Post Box No. 35  
 Chittagong, Bangladesh

**Tender Notice**

International Tender Dated: 3rd October, 1992  
 No. ER/PUR/ABP/FP-38/92

Sealed Tenders are invited from bonafide Manufacturers/Agents/Suppliers for supply of approx. 1000 Metric Tons COLD ROLLED STEEL COILS procurable under Cash Licence as per specifications, terms and conditions laid down in the Tender Schedule.

Tender documents may be obtained from the Asstt. Accounts Officer, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chittagong and the Manager, Dhaka Liaison Office, Eastern Refinery Limited, 338, Segun Bagicha, Dhaka on payment of Tk 500.00 (Taka Five hundred) only or equivalent US Dollars (Non-refundable) for each set on any working days up to 22nd November, 1992.

Tenders must be dropped in the Tender Box kept in front of Conference Room, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chittagong by 15-00 hours on 23rd November, 1992 which will be opened on the same day at 15-10 hours in presence of the Tenderers or their Agents, if any. If there occurs total transport disruption on the opening date, the next normal working day will be treated as the valid opening date of tender keeping time, place and other terms intact.

The Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

DFP(BA)9736-5/10  
 G-1266

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

Directorate of Relief & Rehabilitation  
 House Building Finance Corporation Building (5th floor)  
 22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka

**Tender Notice**

Memo No DRR/VGD-5/79/92-96 (Part-3)

Tenders are hereby re-invited from bonafide supplier firms/agencies for supply of 3 (three) latest model pick-up in local currency for VGD Finance Programme of this Directorate.

- Pick-up  
 2500 cc more or less (petrol)  
 (4-cylinder, single cabin & 3 (three) seater including driver's more or less 1500 kg carrying capacity four-wheel drive long base regular cab)
- Should be submitted with detailed description of pick-up by 12-00 Noon on 17-10-92 to the undersigned. 2% of the amount quoted should be deposited as earnest money through Bank Draft in favour of the Director-General of this Directorate (Directorate of Relief & Rehabilitation, Dhaka). While quoting rate, price of each pick-up should be quoted. Pick-up should be supplied within 15 (fifteen) days of receiving Work Order.
- Customs/Sales duty should be borne by the supplying firm. Income Tax will be deducted from the bill as usual.
- In case of limited stock, tender for lesser number of pick-up can also be submitted.
- Attested copy of Trade Licence & Income Tax certificate of the supplying firm should be submitted with the tender.
- Tenders will be opened on 17-10-92 at 12-00 Noon in presence (if any) of the tenderers.
- The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject without assigning any reason.

Afia Khatun  
 Director (VGD)  
 DFP (G) 17641-5/10 Directorate of Relief & Rehabilitation,  
 G-1272 Dhaka, Phone : 243264

**Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority**

141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area  
 Dhaka-2

**Tender Notice**

Sealed tenders in prescribed form are invited from bonafide Manufacturer/Agent/Supplier for Supply of Umbrella as per specification.

- Tender No : Crom-43/92 Dated 28-9-92.
- Earnest Money : 2% of the quoted total amount (Refundable) through Pay Order/Call Deposits/Bank Draft from any Scheduled Bank in favour of BIWTA to be submitted along with the tender as earnest money.
- Price of Tender Schedule : Tk. 100/= (One hundred) (Non-Refundable).
- Place where tender schedule will be sold : BIWTA, Accounts Deptt., 9th floor, BIWTA Bhaban, 141-143, Motijheel C/A., Dhaka.
- Place, date and time of receiving tender : Purchase & Stores Deptt., Regional Office, 1st Floor, BIWTA Bhaban, 141-143, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka up to 1100 hours on 15-10-92.
- Opening date and time of tender : At 11-15 hours on 15-10-92 in presence of the Tenderers, if any.

No tender schedule will be sold on the opening day and no tender will be received after schedule date and time. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

PR-123/92  
 DFP(G)17669-5/10 Chawdhury Mohd. A K Azad  
 G-1267 Director (P&S)

**Tender Notice**

বিদ্যুৎ বিল নিয়মিত পরিশোধ করুন

Tenders are invited from Power Development Board enlisted A,B,C class contractors & bonafide transporting firms for carrying the goods allotted for Annual Development Programme, Operation & Maintenance Works during 1992-93 financial year of Distribution Division, PDB, Jamalpur, from different stores of Power Development Board to Distribution Division, PDB, Jamalpur Store. Tender papers can be purchased at Taka 200/= (two hundred) only per set (non-refundable) through Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Deputy Director (Accounts), Zonal Accounts Office, PDB, Mymensingh from the office of (i) Chief Engineer Central Zone, PDB, Dhaka, (2) Superintending Engineer, Operation & Maintenance Circle, PDB, Mymensingh and Agrani Bank, Station Branch Jamalpur with prior permission of Chief Engineer, Central Zone, PDB, Dhaka Superintending Engineering (O&M) Circle, PDB, Mymensingh & the undersigned respectively up to 1-11-92 during banking hours and will be received at the offices concerned up to 12-00 Noon of 2-11-92 and opened on the same day at 12-30 pm in presence (if any) of the contractors. Eligibility of contractor: transporting firms having own transports and recently executed carrying work at 2 PDB offices should submit certificate to the effect with the tender. Other terms & conditions are mentioned in the papers.

Executive Engineer  
 Distribution Division, PDB  
 Jamalpur

Biddut/Jan-389(3)/92-93  
 DFP(BA)9687-4/10  
 G-1268

**Bangladesh Postal Department**  
 Office of the Post Master General  
 Northern Zone, Rajshahi

**Tender Notice**

No. BZ/Tender/NC/92-93 Dt. Rajshahi 30-9-92/15-6-99BS  
 Tenders in sealed cover are hereby invited from 'B' class contractors enlisted with Post Master General, Northern Zone, Rajshahi and 1st class contractors of other Govt./Semi-Govt./Autonomous organisations for the undermentioned works.

Sl No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Price of Schedule	Time
1.	Construction of Baidya-Jamtoil Thana Post Office building & Post Master's quarters in Sirajganj district.	10,69,777/=	26,745/=	800/=	180 days
2.	Repair/renovation of Lahiri non-departmental Sub-Post Office in Thakurgaon district.	1,02,977/=	2,575/=	250/=	45 days

Tender schedule will be available on all working days during office hours from Senior Accountant/Chief Assistant (Building), Office of the Post Master General, Rajshahi by depositing the price at any post office under unclassified head (non-refundable) and submitting the receipt obtained therefrom.

Tender schedule will be sold up to 15-10-92 and will be received in the tender box kept at the office chamber of the Executive Engineer up to 12-00 Noon of 18-10-92 and opened on the same day at 12-30 pm before the tenderers present.

Outsider contractors should obtain prior permission to purchase the schedule from the Executive Engineer by producing the original copies of the undermentioned papers:

- Application to purchase tender in the contractor's own pad & under signature of original owner and 3 copies attested photos.
  - Original copy of enlistment for 1991-92.
  - Bank solvency certificate for current financial year with transactions during preceding three years and certificate from any scheduled bank where there is a credit of at least Taka 5 lakh.
  - Current year Income Tax clearance with GIR number.
  - Certificate of single building construction work not below Taka 10 lakh in estimation with work completion certificate of similar single unit estimation during three years from an Executive Engineer or officer not below the same status.
  - Attested copy of bio-data of at least one Sub-Assistant Engineer in service of the firm concerned and copy of his appointment letter as well as pay roll of past 1 year.
  - Certificate of possessing concrete mixer machine & concrete vibrator machine. Attested photocopy of the stated papers must be submitted with the tender. Otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled.
- Receipt of depositing the stated Earnest Money for the said work to a Post Office under unclassified head must be submitted with the tender. Otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled. This office enlisted 'B' class contractor should deposit the Earnest Money exceeding his permanent Earnest Money deposit.
- While quoting 5% above or below the schedule rate, logical analysis for each item must be submitted and that should be attested by a Civil Engineer. Otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled. If the tender is submitted 10% below the schedule rate, then Earnest Money at the rate 5% should be submitted.
- In case more than one tenders of same rate are received, the authority reserves the right to accept any tender in respect of the tenderers, past performance or by any other means considered by the tender committee.
- The authority reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Executive Engineer  
 Northern Zone, Rajshahi  
 DFP(G)17575-4/10  
 G-1270