

# 12 lakh ton food deficit likely this year

Food Minister M Shamsul Islam Sunday denied existence of any stock of unwholesome foodgrains in the government godowns, as alleged by some opposition political leaders and reported in a section of the press, reports UNB.

"We don't have any stock of foodstuff in our godowns that may be unfit for human consumption, the minister categorically said while briefing newsmen on the country's overall food situation at his office Sunday morning.

But he said the government will soon dispose of nearly 7,000 metric tons of rice to avoid deterioration in their quality as a result of prolonged stock. This, he explained, is a part of normal process of handling, stock and distribution of foodgrain.

He told the briefing session that food deficit in the country this fiscal year would be around 12 lakh metric tons.

In 1992-93, net food production will be around 1.75

crore metric tons while demand will be 1.87 crore 42 thousand tons.

Food Secretary, Ershadul Haque and Director General of the Food Department were present at the briefing.

The government at the moment has 11.50 lakh metric tons of foodgrains, including 7.08 lakh tons of rice - the stock position being one of the highest in recent years.

The minister said as the food production this year is good and market price has been stable, demand for government stock is comparatively less.

But, he said, the Food Ministry had plans to dispose of lion's share of the current stock of rice within this year to make space for fresh stock in its ware houses as well as to maintain quality.

If necessary, the government will lower the prices for Open Market Sale (OMS) to facilitate its programme for disposing of the current stock, the minister said.

## Market for small traders to be set up along Baitul Mukarram

A market complex for rehabilitating small businessmen would be constructed soon with an estimated cost of Taka 22 lakh at the southern portion of Baitul Mukarram market, reports BSS.

This was stated by State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof. MA Mannan at a function on the occasion of foundation laying ceremony of the market complex organised by Islamic Foundation, Bangladesh in Dhaka Sunday.

The State Minister said about 98 shops would be built for the sellers of caps, atar, tabzih, jainamaz and other related items.

The State Minister urged the business community of Baitul Mukarram Complex to ensure regular clearance of their rent so that more development projects under Islamic Foundation could be under taken. He said, defaulters of government rent would be dealt with severely.

Among others who spoke on the occasion were Secretary, Ministry of Religious Affairs Abdul Awal and Director General, Islamic Foundation, Mansurul Hoq Khan.

## System loss reduced to five pc, JS told

Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Dr Khan-daker Mosharrat Hossain, replying to a question from Sardar Sakhawat Hossain Bakul (BNP-Narsingdi), said Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) had paid Taka 395 crore 85 lakh 27 thousand to Power Development Board (PDB) between October 1, 1991 and August 31, 1992.

He said, during this period DESA had bought 284 crore 77 lakh and 97 thousand units of power from PDB which cost Taka 449 crore 92 lakh and 20 thousand.

Dr Hossain said the government had taken a series of measures for realising the arrears electric bill.

The measures included snapping the electric lines of the defaulters, formation of special task force in the ministry, formation of a vigilance team headed by an additional secretary of the ministry to visit the offices of power regularly.

Replying to another question from Mozahar Hossain (CPB-Panchagar), the Energy Minister said the government had adopted 15 measures for reducing the system loss in power sector.

The measures included appointment of magistrates to take action against the illegal users of power, setting up of capacitor by developing power factor, load balancing, replacement of the old metres, computerisation of electric billing and formation of special task force

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## Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT						
Berth position and performance of vessels as on 8.10.92						
Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Lea-ving
J/1	Artemis-1	Cement	Bright	R/A	14/10	
J/11	Yao Sheng	Cement	Sting	CT	17/8	8/10
J/12	Andrian Goncharov	Cont	Sting	CT	7/10	10/10
J/13	Ingenuity	Cont	V Patm	RSL	6/10	8/10
MPB/1	Ever Cheer	Cont	Sting	BDShip	10/10	9/10
MPB/2	Optima	Cont	Col	RSL	6/10	8/10
CCJ	Erikavann	C Clinker	Porba	SW	2/10	15/10
TSP	Three Sisters	R Phos	Agaba	SSST	1/10	9/10
RM/4	Chopin	CSO	S Lore	Royal	2/10	8/10
RM/6	Eso Bayorine	HSD/JP-1	Sting	MSPL	4/10	8/10
DDJ	Banglar Shourabh	C Oil		BSC	R/A	8/10
DDJ/1	Endurance Sea	Repair	Agaba	EOSL	25/1	15/10

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE						
Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port	
Pacific Timur	8/10	V Pata	OTL	Logs	Male	
Ronald	8/10	Kara	UMAL	C Clinker		
Johanna	9/10	N Orle	Alamin	Wheat		
Amal	9/10	Sikka	ENCL	Cement		
Continent-1	10/10	Mong	CLA	Bunkering		
Banglar Kakol	10/10	Mong	BSC	GI		
Indian Renown	10/10	Agaba	UMAL	C Clinker		
Banglar Shobha	10/10	Cal	BSC	GI		
Robert-e-Lee	10/10	Cal	Karna	GI	New York	
Nikoula	11/10	Sing	PSAL	TSP		
Kamaleverett	11/10	Sing	EBPL	GI	FE ST	
Knud Jespersen	20/9/11/10	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing	
Vishva Nandini	3/10	11/10	Mong	SSL	E/L	UK Cont
Ahler Breeze	27/9	12/10	Col	RSL	Cont	Col
Caitleya	12/10	-	Prog	GI		
Sea Glory	12/10	-	Khansons	Cement		
Kiso Maru	12/10	-	SSL	GI		
Fong Yun 3/10	12/10	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing	
Kola Buana 3/10	12/10	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing	
Safina-e-Najam	13/10	Kara	ASLL	C Cliner		
Vishva Mamata	13/10	Mad	SSL	GI/GL	Japa	
New Genlord 3/10	13/10	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing	
Al Salma	13/10	Hong	ASLL	GI		
Shenton 27/9	14/10	Sing	OMNI	Cont	Sing	
Yamburenko 5/10	14/10	-	CT	Cont	Sing	
Olga-1	15/10	-	USTC	Cement		
Safar	15/10	-	ASLL	GI/GL	Cal	
Chandidas 12/9	15/10	-	SSL	E/L	UK Cont	
Banglar Urmi	17/10	Col	BSC	GI/GL	UK Cont	
NGS Express 5/10	17/10	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing	
Fong Shin 7/10	17/10	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing	
Ivyverett	18/10	-	EBPL	GI		
Mallowverett	18/10	Cal	EBPL	GI		
Thalia	19/10	-	Alamin	Wheat		
Ranger	20/10	-	Lufal	Softwood		
Gold Asia	21/10	-	AML	GI		

TANKER DUE				
Ayon	Date	Port	Agent	Oil
	10/10	Col	CT	Palm Oil

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA				
Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
T T Energy	C Oil	Col	NNL	27/4
Kashec	C Oil	Rast	DSLL	29/9
Banglar Jyoti	C Oil		BSC	R/A (7/10)

VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE				
READY ON				
Bakri Navigator	C Soda	Puja	ENCL	8/10

VESSELS NOT READY				
Shong Chon Gang	Cement	Nampo	Sunshine	25/9
S E Haider	GI	Kara	ASLL	R/A (20/9)

VESSELS NOT ENTERING				
Jong Pyong	Scraping	Mong	OSA	23/9
Meheddnti	Col	BSC	R/A	(29/9)
Kyrntkos-E	Scraping	Tema	OTL	29/9
Mistral	Scraping	P Said	OTL	1/10
Avon Delta			Argua	R/A (1/10)
Ronjay Choomie	Cement	Sing	PSAL	4/10
Northern Dancer	Scraping	Darus	Unimarine	6/10
Caravos Explorer		Sing	Alamin	R/A (6/10)
T T Legacy	Scraping	Puja	MSPL	7/10

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 9/10/92 & 10/10/92				
OUTGOING		INCOMING		
MPB/1	Ever Cheer			J/3P Timur
TSP	Three Sister			
RM/4	B Navigator			
10/10				
J/12	A Goncharov			J/5 Amal

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

Essentials			October 11	
	(Taka per kg)		NA	(Taka per litre)
RICE		Dues		
Arman(fir)	16.00-17.50	OIL		
Pajam	13.00-13.75	Mustard		53.00-55.00
VEGETABLES		Soybean		38.00-39.00
Potato (local)	11.00-12.00	Coconut (Columbo)		90.00-100.00
Brinjal	8.00-12.00	Vegetable Choe (1kg)		48.00-52.00
Karola	10.00-12.00	SPICES		
Lalshak	4.00-6.00	Onion (local)		10.00-10.50
Papsy	5.00-7.00	Garlic (local)		26.00-35.00
Green Banana (Four Pieces)	4.00-6.00	Chillies (local)		25.00-35.00
OTHER FOODGRAIN		Turneps (Local)		48.00-52.00
Mustard	13.50-14.00	Green chillies		15.00-20.00
Flour	11.00-11.50	Cinger		18.00-22.00
Arise	11.00-11.50	Cinnamon (10gm)		3.00-3.50
FISH		Cardamom (10gm) (small)		10.00-11.00
Rubi (big)	160.00-170.00	Jaru (50 gms)		8.00-10.00
Katla (big)	90.00-100.00	MILK		
Haha	48.00-50.00	Dano		324.00-325.00
Pangus	110.00-120.00	Red-Cow		320.00-321.00
Shrimp (big)	100.00-120.00	MISCELLANEOUS		
Sing	90.00-100.00	Shah		220.00-240.00
Koi	110.00-120.00	Beer		7.50-8.00
MEAT		Sugar		31.50-33.00
Beef	55.00-60.00			
Mutton	85.00-90.00			
CHICKEN				
Large	62.00-64.00			
Moderate	60.00-68.00			
Small	70.00-72.00			
TEA				
Dust (Plain)	80.00-90.00			
EGG				
Han	12.00-12.50			
Duck	12.50-13.00			
Firm	12.50-13.00			
FILLS				
Mustard	29.00-30.00			
Mongh	34.00-35.00			
Khola	22.00-24.00			
Khasari	15.00-16.00			
FRUITS				
Green Coconut (Small)	5.00-6.00			
Coconut (Large)	8.00-10.00			
ONE PIECE				
Banana	12.00-15.00			
Sayer (Large)	12.00-15.00			
Chango	3.50-4.00			

Gold & Silver (Taka for 11.66 grams)  
Gold (Gutina) 6200.00  
Silver 200.00  
Source: Department of Agriculture marketing

## New Secy Gen of Asian Productivity Organisation

Kenichi Yanagi, a former Japanese diplomat, has taken over as the Secretary General of Asian Productivity Organisation (APO), an APO press release said in Dhaka Sunday, reports BSS.

He replaced Nagao Yoshida as the new Secretary General of the Tokyo-based organisation on September 16, the press release said.

The APO is an inter-governmental organisation with membership comprising 18 governments in Asia and the Pacific region. With headquarters in Tokyo since its establishment in 1961, the APO's member countries include: Bangladesh, Republic of China, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. Mongolia is the latest member to join the APO in July this year.

The APO organises conferences, symposia, researches and surveys to study productivity and economic development issues, holds about thirty training courses and seminars annually on technology and management, and supplies technical experts to member countries to help solve production and managerial problems at the plant level. It also sponsors study missions, brings out publications and audio-visual materials to disseminate knowledge on productivity.

## Iran keen to help set up library in Dhaka

Iran is keenly interested in financing establishment of a modern library complex in Dhaka, reports UNB.

Keenness in this regard was evinced by Iranian Ambassador to Bangladesh Mohammad Ganji Doost when he called on State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof MA Mannan at his office today.

The Ambassador stayed with the State Minister for about an hour and discussed matters of bilateral interest, specially setting up the proposed library complex.

The Minister thanked the Ambassador for showing such gesture, said an official hand-out.

## Japanese firms on trade with Kuril islands

TOKYO, Oct 11: Several Japanese companies are doing business on the four Kuril islands north of Japan disputed between Tokyo and Moscow. Japan Broadcasting Corp (NHK) reported today, says AP.

The companies, which were not named, have started operation as joint ventures on the disputed islands, off Japan's northern most prefecture of Hokkaido, after registering their names with Russia's Sakhalin provincial government which administers the islands, the reports said.

It said that the chairman of Russia's southern Kuril executive committee, whose name was not given, had made the disclosure in an interview. Japan claims the four islands: Habomai, Shikotan, Kunashiri and Etorofu, were illegally occupied by the Soviet Union in the closing days of World War II.



GET SET READY: The guilt makers all over the country are very busy now as the writer is knocking at the door. —Star photo

## Deng's reforms policy to get approval in next congress

BEIJING, Oct 11: Senior Leader Deng Xiaoping's pragmatic policy of speeding up economic reform is to get the stamp of approval when the Chinese Communist Party holds its 14th congress next week, reports AFP.

The conclave, bringing together 1,989 delegates at the Great Hall of the People, will also designate a new leadership for the world's biggest political party.

It will be the first congress since the bloody suppression of the Tiananmen Square pro-democracy movement in June 1989 and the vigorous ideological swing back that immediately followed.

But while the party has added 7.5 million new members since its last congress five years ago, bringing total membership to 51 million, ideology is expected to take a back seat, as the focus in China today is on individual success and making money.

Taking a cue from a Deng saying -- "it doesn't matter if the cat is black or white, so long as it catches mice" -- the Chinese people are being in-

ited to become entrepreneurs, invest and succeed, by whatever means and despite official talk of building a "socialist market economy."

This is only possible if China speeds up its economic reforms and opening to the world, as Deng recalled in spectacular fashion when he toured special economic zones in southern China early this year.

It was up to Deng, who turned 88 in August and no longer holds any official post, to impose his "line" against conservatives who are wary of China changing too fast.

Thus, Deng's idea of a "socialist market economy" has become dogma, and the main theme of the congress.

No Chinese leader has clearly spelled out what this idea means, but in essence it amounts to honoring the oldest concepts of capitalism.

The art of compromise has also become the main ingredient in leadership.

Last Saturday's decision by the party's central committee to end an investigation into former general secretary Zhao

Ziyang, blamed for the 1989 democracy unrest, illustrates the trend to compromise.

While not withdrawing accusation that he supported the so-called "counter-revolutionary" movement and thus tried to split the party, the leadership was able to close what had become an embarrassing dossier.

It also opened the way for some Zhao's close associates and other reformists to the promoted, analysts say.