

OECF President visits Dhaka Nov 10

The President, Chairman of the Board of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan, Akira Nishigaki, will arrive Dhaka on November 10 for a three-day visit to Bangladesh, says a press release. During his visit, Nishigaki will meet the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, the Planning Minister Zahiruddin Khan and other high officials of the Government of Bangladesh.

The OECF is an aid agency of the Government of Japan. It was established in 1961 and began providing loans to developing countries in 1966, known as Official Development Assistance (ODA) loans.

Since Bangladesh's independence, the OECF has provided ODA loans, totalling about 3,629 million US dollar.

Jute growers incur losses as prices below production cost

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Nov 4 Jute growers of the district are being deprived of fair price this year.

Raw jute is being sold at Taka 150 to taka 200 per 40 kg which is far below the production cost. As a result, the growers are incurring huge losses during the current season.

The farmers have to sell their jute to the middlemen at lower price. So the only jute buying centre of the district is yet to start purchasing jute from the farmers.

"About 20,000 acres of land had been brought under jute cultivation during last season",

At present, selling price of jute does not cover the cost of

production at all. But due to financial crisis farmers are being forced to sell jute at a mere unexpected low price.

In Gaibandha, jute purchasing agencies yet to start purchasing due to fund constraint.

As a result, farmers are compelled to sell the jute to the brokers and retailers like Mahajan and the middlemen who are taking advantage of the situation.

Government agencies yet to start the purchasing despite repeated direction.

Many of the agencies started procurement of jute on credit through brokers beyond the specific rate, it is reported.



A high power team of Haskoning, Royal Dutch consulting engineers and architects led by J F De Haan is now visiting Bangladesh. The members of the team are being received at the Dhaka Sheraton hotel by the hotel officials after their arrival.

Tk 1.10cr for uplift of roads, water supply at Sylhet town

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Nov 4: The Sylhet Torab has taken up schemes to reconstruct seven roads in Sylhet town and improvement of the water supply at a total cost of Taka one crore and ten lakh.

According to an official source, these projects would be executed under the special programme titled as 'Medium Town Infrastructure Development' with the financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank.

The schemes include, the Jafarullah Khan Road from Natorp to Eidgah at a cost of Taka 26 lakh, Jamea Islamia Road from Rikabi Bazar to Subidbazar at a cost of Taka

five lakh, Jail Road to Abu Torab at a cost of Taka ten lakh, Abdul Matin Road from Nayasarak to Kazitola at a cost of Taka 24 lakh, Abdul Muttalib Road from Sheikhghat to Rikabi Bazar at a cost of Taka 18 lakh, Peer Mohalla Road at a cost of Taka 7 lakh, Sheikhghat-Bhanatikor Road at a cost of Taka 13 lakh and repairing of the water supply lines at a cost of Taka 7 lakh.

Works on all these projects would be started soon, the source added.

The projects would improve the communication and water supply system of the town, the source expected.

Singapore Airlines arranges tour for travel agents

Singapore Airline recently arranged a trip for its top-selling Bangladeshi Travel Agents to its latest destination New York City, says a Press release.

The agents were also taken to the Niagara Falls, on this week-long trip. The guests spent a day in Singapore at the Airlines Head Office, on their way to New York City.

The 12-member Agents Tour team was headed by Thia Hui Juat, General Manager, Singapore Airlines in Bangladesh.

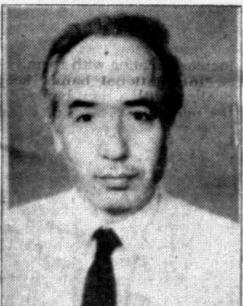
With the inclusion of New York, Singapore Airlines now flies to 68 cities in 40 countries. Presently there are three flights a week between Dhaka and Singapore by the Airlines and one flight a week to Kathmandu and back from Dhaka.



Thia Hui Juat, GM, Singapore Airlines in Bangladesh with the members of the top-selling travel agents team at the Niagara Falls.

New MD of KAFCO

Dr Monucher Towhidi has taken over as new Managing Director of Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Ltd (KAFCO). He is the successor of former Managing Director Dr Tore Feuk, says a Press release.



Dr Towhidi, an Iranian-born British National has a Doctorate in Chemical Engineering from UK and has over 30 years Industrial Management experience.

Over the past eight years, Dr Towhidi been living and working in India as the Managing Director of an Indo-German joint venture company between Tata group of India and Klockner of Germany known as Tata Klockner Industrial Plant Ltd.

Dr Towhidi is married and has three children.

Demand for tea remains unchanged, prices firm

By Staff Correspondent

Tea prices were irregular as demand remained unchanged at this week's auction sale held in Chittagong on Tuesday.

According to a Unity Brokers market report, the bolder brokers were firm while the others were often mixed.

The grainy well made fannings were also firm but all others were barely steady, often declining below last rates.

The major buyers were Poland, the Commonwealth of Independent States, Pakistan and the local traders.

A total of 25,574 packages came under the hammer at the sale and withdrawals stood at 50 per cent as against the same amount during the last sale.

In the leaf category, 50 per cent of the offerings remained unsold while the export buyers accounted for 32 per cent of the sale and the internal traders purchased 18 per cent.

In the dust category, a total of 6,383 packages was offered. Of them, 49 per cent were withdrawn while the local buyers purchased 32 per cent and the export buyers accounted for 19 per cent of the sale.

Following is the category-wise market performance report as prepared by Unity Brokers.

CTC: Bolder brokers were about steady. Small well made, good liquoring brokers were well sought after at firm rates. Poorer and fibrous types eased and withdrawals were high.

Cleaner fannings with good liquors were about firm. Most others were a little easier than last with some withdrawals. Fibrous sorts were neglected.

ORTHODOX: One hundred packages of GBOPs sold at Taka 47.30 per kilogram.

GREEN TEA: Five hundred and forty packages were offered at the sale. The FYHs sold at Taka 53 per kg. YHs between Taka 61 and Taka 64 per kg whilst the Hysons sold at between Taka 42 and Taka 45.60 per kg.

DUST: Cleaner popular lines were about steady. Poorer sorts met with large withdrawals and where sold, were heavily discounted.

The next tea auction sale (No. 29) will be held on November 10 and offerings will comprise of about 24,000 packages of leaf and 4,500 packages of dust.

Workshop on regional coop in water resources uplift begins

Experts from Bangladesh, India and Nepal began a two-day workshop on regional co-operation in water resources development in Lalitpur town neighboring Kathmandu on Wednesday, reports BSS.

A regional report for water resources development at the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Barak river basins is expected to be worked out at the workshop.

Nepalese Minister of State for Water Resources Laxman Prasad Ghimire said various issues of regional concern related to water resources development such as financing and cost sharing, benefit sharing, human and institutional resources development, navigation through rivers and canals, watershed management, flood forecasting and warning systems, exchange of information and data, research and development activities, etc, will be discussed at the workshop, he said.

Our regional efforts must be guided by full mutual trust and transparency of our actions in such a way that at the end, all of us become winners and no country is left a loser, he added.

Quacks, unlicensed medical practitioners on increase

MADARIPUR, Nov 4: Quacks and unlicensed medical practitioners are thriving in the district on the ignorance of the poor people in the rural areas, reports UNB.

According to social workers, educated young men having failed to get jobs, are resorting to medical practice to eke out their living in the rural areas.

Very few of them have basic training on health care; most others are not only deceiving the people but also creating grave health problems by administering wrong medicine.

Poor people mainly landless and day labourers, who can hardly afford the cost of treatment at hospitals and cannot travel to the thana headquarters are falling prey to the malpractice by unscrupulous quacks.

Scarcity of medicine acute

SHERPUR, Nov 4: Scarcity of medicine in hospitals here has been causing serious problems to the patients, reports UNB.

It is reported that most of the thana and union health complexes medical officers are unwilling to attend out-door patients due to non-availability of medicine.

Local leaders complained that even simple medicine like Dettol was not available in the centres.

Patients from far flung areas seeking admission to the hospitals go back disappointed for lack of proper treatment facilities.

According to official sources, Taka 2.5 lakh are sanctioned every year for medicine and other necessary purchases for each hospital and Taka 30,000 for each health centre.

It is alleged that some dishonest employees were engaged in selling the hospital's medicines in black market.

Local leaders have urged the authority to ensure proper use of medicine in the thana and union health centres.

Ninth death anniversary of Khondkar Abdul Hamid, a noted columnist and politician, was observed at his residence here recently.

A discussion meeting and milad mahfil were held on the occasion. Local politicians and elite participated in the discussion.

Zeal Bangla Sugar Mills to be privatised

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Nov 4 Zeal Bangla Sugar Mills, Dewanganj has incurred loss of about Taka 2.5 crore this year.

The sugar mill was established in 1956 under Pakistan government at a cost of Taka 177 crore with the financial assistance from Japan.

It is informed that mismanagement, corruption, want of spare parts, political unrest and frequent strike by the workers were the reasons behind the loss during the period.

The government has decided to sell the mill in private sector for Taka 6.5 crore only.

After this decision, the government wanted to invite tenders this year. But due to

strike, tender call was withheld.

Our Correspondent from Natore adds: Natore Sugar Mills' crushing season (92-93) was formally inaugurated on Friday.

Production target of the mills has been fixed at 18,270 metric tons for the season.

The mills will crush 203,000 metric tons of sugarcane to meet the target of sugar output with a recovery target of nine per cent during 155-day-long crushing season, mills sources said.

AKM Rejaul Karim, General Manager of the mills inaugurated the crushing.

Mongla Port handles 6.67 lakh tons of cargo in 3 months

KHULNA, Nov 4: Mongla Port has handled a total of six lakh sixtyseven thousand six hundred and eighty metric tons of cargoes during the three months up to September, a Press release of the Mongla Port said, reports BSS.

Four lakh sixtythree thousand eight hundred and fifty three metric tons, were import cargoes while one lakh ninetythree thousand eight hundred and twentyseven metric tons were exported cargoes.

The import cargoes included eightythree thousand two hundred and seventythree metric tons of foodgrain, three lakh twentyfour thousand twentyfive metric tons of cement, twenty four thousand two hundred and twenty-nine metric tons of fertilizer, five thousand eight hundred and fifty metric tons of salt, seven hundred fifty metric tons of wood pulp, sixtyeight metric tons of machinery, fiftytwo metric tons of cotton and twentyseven thousand six hundred and six metric tons of general cargo.

The exported cargoes included sixtythree thousand nine hundred fifty metric tons

of jute, ninetyeight thousand and one metric tons of jute goods, thirtytwo thousand metric tons of fertilizer, five thousand and ninetyfive metric tons of shrimp, two hundred ninety-six metric tons of bonerash, fifty-six metric tons of human hair, twenty-two metric tons of fish, one hundred and eighty-five metric tons of tobacco and two hundred and twenty-two metric tons of general cargo.

One hundred and one ships called at the port for loading and unloading of import and export cargo.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on November 4, 1992

Turnovers show poor signs

Business experienced a gloomy day at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Wednesday. Although the DSE Index moved up a little, both the turnovers bounced back.

Volume moved back to 25,492 issues against Tuesday's 32935 issues, a decline of 22.59 per cent. Value suffered a loss of 41.99 per cent.

Trading on the floor seemed to favour the gainers who led by 23 to 14 while only four shares traded at previous rates.

Dhaka Stock Exchange Index still continued to show better signs. It further improved, adding 1.191 point to Tuesday's close of 369.8732 and ended at 371.0638.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Company	FV/ML	Previous price Tk	Closing price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (% over price)
Gains (23)					
Shares:					
Modern Dying	100/5	40.50	44.99	4.49	11.097
Swan Textile	100/5	21.00	23.00	2.00	9.524
4th ICB M Fund	100/10	145.00	152.50	7.50	5.173
5th ICB M Fund	100/10	100.67	105.00	4.33	4.302
3rd ICB M Fund	100/5	151.76	156.94	5.18	3.414
Usmania Glass	100/5	299.00	309.02	10.02	3.352
Rahman Chemical	100/10	40.32	41.60	1.28	3.175
Atlas Bangladesh	100/50	52.11	53.69	1.58	3.032
Green Delta	100/10	150.56	154.00	3.44	2.285
Aziz Pipe	100/5	212.96	216.43	3.47	1.630
1st ICB M Fund	100/5	365.00	370.00	5.00	1.370
BGC	100/10	150.21	152.09	1.88	1.252
Apex Tannery	100/5	475.59	481.48	5.89	1.239
Beximco	100/10	17.15	17.34	0.19	1.108
Amber Pharma	100/50	15.35	15.50	0.15	0.978
Karim Pipe	100/10	106.00	107.00	1.00	0.944
6th ICB M Fund	100/5	65.92	66.50	0.58	0.880
Monro Ceramic	100/5	347.55	350.19	2.64	0.760
Peoples Ina	100/10	161.81	163.00	1.19	0.736
Wata Chemical	100/20	102.00	102.50	0.50	0.491
Rahim Textile	100/5	69.00	69.33	0.33	0.479
Tallu Spinning	100/10	135.53	136.17	0.64	0.473
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	810.00	815.00	5.00	0.618
Losses (14)					
Shares:					
Frogleg Export	100/50	4.00	3.50	0.50	12.500
Cig Cement	100/5	359.76	341.83	17.93	4.984
Paper Processing	100/10	39.00	38.00	1.00	2.565
Zeal Bangla Sugar	100/50	10.29	10.10	0.19	1.847
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5	103.00	102.00	1.00	0.971
Eagle Star	100/50	22.00	21.80	0.20	0.909
Eastern Cables	100/5	79.99	79.50	0.49	0.613
Bengal Food	100/5	138.37	137.61	0.76	0.550
B Autocars	100/5	73.40	73.00	0.40	0.545
Beximco Pharma	100/5	490.40	487.73	2.67	0.545
G Q Ball Pen	100/50	84.50	84.12	0.38	0.450
B Oxygen	100/50	67.22	67.00	0.22	0.328
Satham Textile	100/10	78.41	78.25	0.16	0.204
Debiture					
Beximco Pharma	1285/1	1425.00	1420.45	4.55	0.320
Traded at previous rates (04)					
Shares: Islami Bank, Ashraf Textile, Quasem Silk, Bata Shoe.					

DSE SHARES AND DEBENTURES

Company	FV/ML Tk	Specialised Jute	10/50	NT
BANKS (00)				
AJ Banka Bank	1000/1	900.00		
AB Bank	100/5	182.00	100/50	NT
City Bank	100/5	300.00	100/10	112.00
LFIC	100/5	178.00	100/50	34.00
Islami Bank	1000/1	1700.00	100/50	NT
National Bank	100/5	106.18	100/50	NT
Pubali Bank	100/5	102.00	100/10	54.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	79.00	100/10	86.50
U.C.B.L	100/5	150.00	10/50	21.80
Uttara Bank	100/5	112.00	100/10	10.00
TEXTILE (00)				
Ahij Textile	100/50			
Arbee Textile	100/10			
Ashraf Textile	100/50			
Chand Textile	100/50			
Chand Spinning	100/50			
Desh Garments	100/10			
Durga Cotton	100/10			
Eagle Star Textile	10/50			
GMG Ind. Corp.	100/50			
Modern Dying	100/5			
Padma Textile	100/20			
Quasem Silk	100/100			
Quasem Textile	100/50			
Rahim Textile	100/5			
Satham Textiles	100/10			
S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5			
Stylecraft	100/5			
Swan Textile	100/5			
Tallu Spinning	100/10			
Tamjuddin	100/10			
INSURANCE (04)				
BGC	100/10	152.09		
Green Delta	100/10	154.00		
Peoples	100/10	163.00		
United	100/10	165.00		
ENGINEERING (19)				
Aftab Automobiles	100/5	192.00		
Atlas Bangladesh	100/50	53.69		
Aziz Pipes	100/5	216.43		
Bangladesh Autocars	100/5	73.00		
Bangladesh Lamps	100/5	245.00		
B. Thai Aluminium	100/10	82.24		
Bengal Carbide	100/5	265.00		
Bengal Steel	100/50	20.00		
Eastern Cables	100/5	79.50		
Howler PVC	100/10	100.00		
Karim Pipe	100/5	107.00		
Metalex Corp.	100/5	73.00		
Monro Staffiers	100/5	150.00		
Monro Staffiers	100/5	240.00		
National Tubes	100/10	85.00		
Panther Steel	100/50	8.00		
Quasem Drycell	100/50	10.67		
Rennick Jyncears	100/5	98.00		
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	815.00		
FOOD & ALLIED (20)				
AB Biscuit	100/5	200.00		
Alpha Tobacco	100/50	48.00		
Aman Sea Food	100/5	23.00		
Apex Food	100/5	475.00		
Aroma Tea	100/5	75.00		
Bargos	100/5	150.00		
B.D. Plantation	100/5	500.00		
Bengal Food	100/5	137.61		
B.L.T.C.	100/50	500.00		
B.T.C.	100/50	60.00		
Cig. Vegetable	100/10	79.50		
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	102.00		
E.L. Camella	100/5	1040.00		
Frogleg Export	100/50	3.50		
Gemini Sea Food	100/5	100.00		
Hill Plantation	100/5	550.00		
Modern Industries	100/5	185.00		
N.T.C	100/5	240.00		
Rabeya Flour	100/100	NT		
Rupan Oil	100/100	5.85		
Tulp Dairy	100/10	6.00		
Yousuf Flour	100/50	NT		
Zeal Bangla Sugar	100/50	10.10		
FUEL & POWER (04)				
BD Oxygen	100/50	67.00		
Eastern Lubricant	100/50	14.00		
National Oxygen	100/10	103.75		
Padma Oil Co.	100/50	47.80		
DEBENTURES (00)				
Bengal Food	600/1	317.00		
Beximco	2166/1	2015.00		
JUTE (02)				
Ahad Jute	100/10	NT		
Anowara Jute	100/50	NT		
Delta Jute	100/50	8.50		