

ECNEC approves Tk 626 cr development projects

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) approved on Wednesday five development projects involving a total outlay of Taka 626 crore 82 lakh with a foreign exchange component of Taka 205 crore 45 lakh, reports BSS.

The approval came at an ECNEC meeting chaired by Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman at Secretariat Cabinet Room in Dhaka.

The approved projects are: Chhatak Cement Project under Ministry of Industries, Chittagong Barge Mounted Power Station Project under Power Rehabilitation Programme and greater Titas Gas Distribution Project-second phase, under Ministry of Energy and Mineral

Resources, residential accommodation project for third and fourth class employees at the west Palassy under the Ministry of Works and fax, computer and other equipment installation for modernising postal service project under the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication.

Besides, the ECNEC meeting approved two reports prepared by Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED). The reports are on the project for site and services for residential plots for low and middle income group of people in Sylhet and on the project for buying three cargo Biman for tree preservation purpose.

Agriculture and Irrigation Water Development and Flood Control Minister M Majid-ul-Raque, Local Government, Rural Development (LORD) and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder, Industries Minister M Shamsul Islam Khan, Post and Telecommunications Minister M Keramat Ali, Commerce Minister M K Anwar, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandkar Mossarraf Hossain, Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Meah, Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan, Cabinet Secretary, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, Members of the Planning Commission, secretaries and high officials of the concerned ministries were present at the meeting.

Aman procurement begins in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Dec 2: State Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Aminul Haq inaugurated countrywide Aman procurement drive at Godagary food godown in the district, reports BSS.

Addressing a gathering in this connection, the State Minister said the main objective of the drive is to ensure fair price to the farmers of their produce and also to build a food stock for maintaining price stability on the market all over the year, a MID handout said.

He said, in the current season paddy would be purchased directly from the farmers so that they are benefited. The middle man would not be able to deprive the growers, if the drive is properly carried out. Relief Secretary M A Hakim was present on the occasion.

Workshop on maintenance programme

RAJSHAHI, Dec 2: A day-long workshop on Rural Maintenance Programme (RMP) was held here at the Moniruddin Akand Hall today, an official release said, reports BSS.

Relief Secretary M A Hakim was present as chief guest in the workshop.

Organised by Relief and Rehabilitation Directorate, a total of 45 district and thana level officials engaged with the RMP participated in the workshop.

The main objective of the workshop is to properly maintain rural roads under the project for building rural communication network so that rural people can contribute for socio-economic development of the country.

The RMP started functioning in 41 hundred unions in 1983. A total of about 60 thousand rural roads are now under the project and 65 thousand distressed women are engaged for the maintenance of the rural roads.

The Relief Secretary called upon the concerned officials to gear up the activities of RMP aimed at creating job opportunity of the rural distressed women and building of rural communication network.

Presided over by Director General of Relief and Rehabilitation Directorate Shaiful Alam, the workshop was addressed by Rajshahi Divisional Commissioner Aminul Islam.

Harvesting of Aman going on in Barisal

BARISAL, Dec 2: Harvesting of Aman paddy is going on in full-swing in the southern districts under Barisal agriculture zone, reports BSS.

According to an official source, a total of 18,57,828 metric tons of Aman paddy is expected to be produced in these districts this year.

7,14,329 hectares were brought under Aman cultivation in Barisal, Jhalakati, Bhola, Patuakhali, Barguna, Faridpur, Madaripur, Gopalganj, Rajbari and Shariatpur.

Of the total 2,07,195 hectares were brought under Upshi variety and 5,07,134 hectares under local variety.

The agriculture extension department set up 620 demonstration plots in these districts. Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) distributed 1,07,160 kilograms of seeds of high yielding variety, 8,578 power pumps, 529 deep and 12,385 shallow tubewells among the farmers.

Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan on Wednesday called for turning the vast underutilised waterbody of the country into a network of rural communication system, reports BSS.

The development of the waterbodies through establishing linkages and mechanisation of country boats could go a long way in meeting the requirement of an effective rural communication system, he said.

Inaugurating a two-day "national workshop on rural transport infrastructure" in Dhaka Khan said the use of waterways as a network of communications had become essential in view of the fact that the road were already overloaded.

He underlined the need for participation of private entrepreneurs in the task of building rural transport infrastructure.

Pointing out that 70 per cent of the country's inland cargoes were being trans-

Tea demand good, prices firm

by Staff Correspondent

Good general demand led most tea prices to remain firm to occasionally dearer at this week's auction sale held in Chittagong on Tuesday.

According to a Unity Brokers market report, the market opened hesitantly at rates lower than last but prices firmed up with the progress of the sale and were often dearer towards the later part.

Bold brokers continued to be a strong market with Poland and Russia being the main competitors. Pakistan lent fair support for the fannings. Local buyers were active for the good liquoring dusts.

Total withdrawals at the auction sale stood at 42 per cent as against last week's 39 per cent.

In the leaf category, a total of 25,284 packages was of-

fered at the sale. The export buyers purchased 38 per cent while the local traders accounted for 17 per cent and the remaining 45 per cent was withdrawn.

In the dust category, a total of 4,602 packages was offered at the sale. The internal traders purchased 41 per cent while the export buyers brought 35 per cent and the rest 24 per cent of the sale remained unsold.

CTC: Most brokers were firm to offer dearer by .50 paise. Smaller types met with some withdrawals. Few selective lines realised upto Tk 45.40.

Fannings were firm to nominally dearer with selective popular lines fetching between Taka 47.00 and Taka 49.00. There were some with-

drawals where sellers were not willing to meet the market.

GREEN TEA: Five hundred and ten packages were on offer. Prices were easier than last with the FYH's selling at Taka 49.00, YH's at Taka 51.00 to Taka 55.80 and the Hysons between Taka 40.50 Taka 41.00. There were large withdrawals.

DUST: Four thousand six hundred and two packages were offered. Most prices were firm to dearer by Taka 1/2, particularly the cleaner, good liquoring sorts and the powdery types. Local buyers absorbed the bulk of the teas sold.

The next tea auction sale (No 33) will be held on December 8 and total offerings will consist of about 25,000 packages of leaf and another 4,000 packages of dust.



Prof M Anisur Rahman, VC, Golam Mahub, Director (Finance), Mofijuddin, Treasurer, Omar Farooq, Registrar of Rajshahi University, and Abdus Sobhan Sikder, AGM, Mohiur Rahman Khan, Manager, Jiban Bima Corporation are seen present during the signing of group insurance contract recently.

Top priority on rural uplift

The LORD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder Wednesday said that Bangladesh was predominantly a rural based country and as such rural development was crucial for its development, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the 14th meeting of the executive committee of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) at a local hotel, Talukder said that the present government had given top priority on rural development and alleviation of rural poverty.

The inaugural session of the CIRDAP meeting was also addressed by the Chairperson and Vice-Chairman of the Executive of the Organisation

Mrs Mapase Sarakul and DGP Seneviratne and the Director of CIRDAP Samporn Hanpangpandh.

The meeting was attended by members from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand and observers from FAO, Japan, Iran, UNFPA, ADB, Ford Foundation, ILO, WEP and WHO.

Salam Talukder commended CIRDAP for its vital role in developing the socio-economic condition of the rural people.

He said that Bangladesh was actively participating in the development activities of CIRDAP and expressed the hope that the organisation would be able to run its func-

tions more effectively in all the member states of the region.

The minister invited the other countries of this region to join CIRDAP and assured all help and assistance to the body from his ministry.

He also sought cooperation and assistance from all quarters for smooth functioning of the development activities of CIRDAP. Talukder commended CIRDAP's role and successes achieved during last 14 years, particularly in integrated rural development and in poverty alleviation in the Asia Pacific region for the economic growth of the common masses of the region.

He thanked the donor countries and agencies for their continued help to CIRDAP.

Role of private sector in rural communication underlined

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Inaugurating a two-day "national workshop on rural transport infrastructure" in Dhaka Khan said the use of waterways as a network of communications had become essential in view of the fact that the road were already overloaded.

He underlined the need for participation of private entrepreneurs in the task of building rural transport infrastructure.

Pointing out that 70 per cent of the country's inland cargoes were being trans-

ported through non-mechanised boats, the Planning Minister said the motorisation of the country boats would also

help faster movement of goods from one place to other.

Khan said the present government had attached due pri-

Sugar worth Tk 11cr to be sold in auction

From Our Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Dec 2: Food Directorate has taken a decision recently sell over 4,000 metric tons of sugar worth about Taka 11 crore through tender, on an emergency basis.

Following the decision, notifications have been sent to different districts. Committees have also been formed in 39 districts headed by the Deputy Commissioner as President and District Food Controller as the Secretary.

According to reliable sources, this huge quantity of sugar has been buying in godowns of different districts. A total of three thousand 43 tons of sugar was stored in 14

districts under Khulna division, one thousand 241 tons of sugar in 12 districts under Dhaka division, 71 tons of sugar in six districts of Rajshahi division and 227 tons in seven districts under Chittagong division.

It is learnt that sugar stored in these districts is of poor quality. Storing sugar for a long period normally deteriorates the original quality as was case found to be true at most of the godowns.

Repeated calls were made to bring attention of the concerned authorities to sell out sugar on time but no such response was available.

Jointly organised by Local Government and Rural Development Division (LORD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) the inaugural session of the workshop was also addressed by LORD Secretary Mushfiqur Rahman and Qamrul Islam Siddiqui Chief Engineer of the Local Government Engineering Bureau.

The Planning Minister said, Narayanganj and Chandpur would be built as major inland container ports of the country. Besides, he said, containerisation of inland cargo was also being examined.

Khan called for adopting short, medium and long-term plans for developments of rural transport infrastructure.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 02.12.92									
Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Local Port	Local Agent	Local Agent	Local Agent	Local Agent	Local Agent	Local Agent
J/1	Orange Berani	GI	Sing	SEA	1/12	2/12			
J/2	Supreme	Wheat (P)	P Land	Royal	22/11	10/12			
J/3	Continent-1	GI	Kara	CIA	30/11	4/12			
J/4	Bi Ryu Gang	Sugar (P)	Bank	TSL	25/11	5/12			
J/5	Vishva Mamata	GI/GL	Mad	SSL	30/11	4/12			
J/6	Samudra Rani	CL	Mong	SSL	30/11	2/12			
J/7	Damon	Wheat (P)	Mers	Royal	8/11	10/12			
J/8	Da Shi Zhai	GI	S Hai	BDSHIP	30/11	3/12			
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Aqaba	EOSL	25/11	15/12			
J/11	Soarer Bellona	Wheat (P)	Sing	OWSL	16/11	9/12			
J/12	Yuo Yue	Wheat (P)	USA	Royal	23/11	11/12			
J/13	NGS Express	Cont	Sing	BDSHIP	1/12	3/12			
MPB/1	Optima	Cont	Sing	RSL	29/11	2/12			
MPB/2	Fong Yun	Cont	Sing	BDSHIP	29/11	2/12			
CGJ	Thai Binh	C Clinic	Aqaba	UMAL	R/A	4/12			
GSJ	Banglar Asha	Repair	BSC	R/A	8/12				
TSP	Actos	R Phos	Jedda	SSST	1/12	9/12			
DOJ	Banglar Shourabh	C Oil	BSC	R/A	2/12				
ID	Safar	Repair	Col	ASL	19/11	6/12			
DDA/1	Banglar Robi	Repair	Mong	BSC	R/A	2/12			
RM/8	S E Halder	Cement	Kara	ASL	R/A	5/12			
RM/9	Banglar Kiron	Repair	BSC	R/A	6/12				
CUFJ	Banglar Doot	Urea	Mong	BSC	28/11	4/12			

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Scandinavian Express	2/12	Mad	SSL	GI	
Green Island	3/12	-	Kama	GI	New York
Kota Buana	4/12	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Komsomolets	4/12	-	Sunbeam	GI (Copro)	
Roselli	4/12	-	RSSA	Cement	
Al Pesari	4/12	-	RSSA	Cement	
Vishva Parag	4/12	Mong	SSL	E/L	Dundee. Ant.
Hafez	4/11	Mong	SSL	-	Abbas
Vishva Yashi	5/12	-	SSL	-	Ilyiche
Sea Destiny	5/12	-	AML	Cement	
Al Reza	5/12	-	KSL	-	Sudan
Banglar Kallol	6/12	Male	BSC	GI	
Sea Progress	6/12	-	AML	Cement	
Shenton	6/12	Sing	OMNI	Cont	Sing
Al Swamuz	7/12	-	ASL	GI	
Ahler Breuz	7/12	Viza	RSL	Cont	Mong
Fong Shin	7/12	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Pratapad	6/12	Rang	RSL	Logs	
Knud Jerspersen	9/12	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
NGS Ranger	9/12	-	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Dekhoda	8/12	-	SSL	H B Iron	
Banglar Baari	10/12	Pena	Cross	Sugar (P)	
Bharatendu	10/12	-	SSL	GI	
Angeliki-II	10/12	-	KSL	GTSP	
Silver Lake	11/12	-	Prog	GI	
Kiukiang Carrier	13/12	Lapa	Ancient	Wheat (G)	
Norman Prince	13/12	-	BSL	Wheat	
Lena	15/12	Bank	Prog	Const Materials	

TANKER DUE

Esso Bangkok	2/12	Sing	MSPL	HSD
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VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
T T Energy	C Oil	Col	NNL	27/4
Aspiros	C Oil	Jebel	DSLL	30/11
Banglar Jyoti	C Oil	-	BSC	R/A

VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

READY ON				
Tanary Star	Urea	Mong	PSAL	28/11
Atlanta-T	Sugar	P Land	Seacom	30/11
Petr Starostin	Cont	Sing	CT	1/12
Trans Asia	GI	Bank	BONL	1/12
Bunga Kesumba	CDISO	Damam	TSL	2/12
Samudra Raj	GI	Kara	SSL	R/A

VESSELS NOT READY

Ronjay Choomic	Cement	Sing	PSAL	30/11
Seavenus	Wheat	L Pall	Ancient	2/12
Kota Berani	Sugar (P)	Bank	OWSL	2/12

VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Artemis-1	Cement	Bright	R/A	21/11
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VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Olga-1	Cement	Pada	USTC	1/12
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MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 3/12/92

OUTGOING				
INCOMING				
SHIPPING				
J/1	Orange Berani	DOJ	B Shourabh	GSJ
DOJ	B Jyoti	J/8	S Express	RM/4
J/8	Da Shi Zhai	-	-	Trans Asia to J/1
J/13	NGS Express	-	-	-
MPB/2	Ingenuity	-	-	-

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

Price Index

Essentials		
RICE	(Taka per kg)	
Aman(fine)	13.50-15.00	
Pajam	11.50-12.00	
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)	
Potato (local)	9.00-9.50	
Brinjal	6.00-8.00	
Karolla	11.00-12.00	
Lalchak	4.00-5.00	
Tomato	30.00-35.00	
Cauliflower	6.00-10.00	
Gourd	10.00-15.00	
OTHER FOODGRAN	(Taka per kg)	
Flour	13.00-13.50	
Atta	10.50-11.00	
FISH	(Taka per kg)	
Rahu(big)	150.00-170.00	
Kaila(big)	110.00-130.00	
Hilsha	45.00-50.00	
Pangas	125.00-140.00	
Shrimp(big)	120.00-140.00	
Singi	125.00-130.00	
Koi	140.00-150.00	
MEAT		
Beef	NA	
Mutton	NA	
CHICKEN		
Large		64.00-66.00
Moderate		68.00-70.00
Small		75.00-76.00
TEA		
Dust (Plain)		80.00-90.00
EGG		(4 per)
Hen		11.00-11.50
Duck		11.00-11.50
Farm		11.00-12.00
PULSES		(Taka per kg)
Masoor		29.00-31.00
Moogh		34.00-35.00
Chhola		23.00-24.00
Kharari		16.00-18.00
FRUITS		
		(One piece)
Green Coconut (Small)		4.50-5.00
Coconut (Large)		9.00-10.00
		(One piece)
Banana		(4 pieces)
Sagar (Large)		12.00-14.00
Champa		3.00-4.00
		(Taka per kg)
Dates		55.00-60.00
OIL		
Mustard		(Taka per litre)
		54.00-56.00