

## Four-member delegation leaves for China, DPRK

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr. Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, leading a high-level delegation, left for Beijing on Monday to begin a 14-day tour of China and North Korea for talks on coal and hardrock mining, according to UNB.

On the first leg of the two-nation tour, the Minister will pay a 12-day official visit to China. He will then go to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea).

During his tour of China and DPRK, the Energy Minister will discuss with his counterparts development and mining of Barapukuria Coal Project and Madhyapara Hardrock Project.

## Procurement of aman rice, paddy negligible

NETRAKONA, Dec 21: Procurement of aman rice and paddy started here on December 1 but has been negligible so far, reports UNB.

Official sources said sellers were not coming to the purchasing centres, opened in different parts of the district, because the payment process was complicated.

The sellers prefer cash payment to any other mode of payment, sources said.

Rice is now being sold in the rural markets as well as the sadar thana between Taka 8 and Taka 10 per kg.

## Executives of insurance assoc

M. Moyeedul Islam and Md. Nurul Islam have been elected Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Bangladesh Insurance Association at the 5th Annual General Meeting of the association held on Saturday, in Dhaka, says a press release.

Major Gen. Abdul Mannan Siddiqui (ret'd), Messrs M. A. Samad, M. Shamsul Alam, N. A. Choudhury, A. K. M. Rafiqul Islam, Salahuddin Ahmed, MP and Alhaj Md. Mokbul Hossain were elected members of Executive Committee of the association.

## Achievements of insurance co in '91

M. Moyeedul Islam, in his report, in the AGM, highlighted the achievements of the private sector insurance companies during 1991. The total premium income of four private sector life companies increased from Taka 303.00 million in 1990 to Taka 418.00 million in 1991, registering a growth rate of 38 per cent, while the first year premium income from new business rose from Taka 137.60 million in 1990 to Taka 171.14 million last year.

The 16 general insurance companies in the private sector wrote business with a premium income of Taka 1416.00 million in 1991 as against Taka 1200.00 million in the previous year, a rise of 18 per cent.

M. Moyeedul Islam also disclosed that some of the proposals of the association for amendment of the Insurance Act and Rules and the Corporations Act of 1973 to promote the growth of the country's insurance industry have been accepted by the Government, and a bill incorporating the amendments is likely to be passed by Parliament soon.

## PWD Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 from Class I/II (One/Two) PWD approved electrical contractors (Who have requisite Contracting and Supervising ABC/BC licence) for undermentioned works. Tender will be received by the undersigned and as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division No. I/II, Rajshahi and PWD Division, Pabna/Netore upto 12-15 PM on 24-12-92 Eng. and will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM.

Sl No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money
1.	Providing EI and fans including service connection in the 300 men Barrack at Police line Naogaon in connection with 44 Nos. New Dist. Headquarters one at Naogaon.	Tk. 5,22,783/=	Tk. 10,456/=
2.	Providing EI and fans including service connection in the Garage & Servant's Qrs and different types of Compound light fittings in the Compound of Circuit House at Naogaon in connection with 44 Nos. New Dist. Head Qrs. one at Naogaon.	Tk. 4,66,051/=	Tk. 9,321/=
3.	Providing EI and fans including service connection in the SP's Residence and SP's Guard shed and Garage at Naogaon in C/W. 44 Nos. New Dist. Hd Qrs. one at Naogaon.	Tk. 1,32,951/=	Tk. 2,660/=

Earnest money in T C/B D/Sanchaya Patra in favour of the undersigned should be accompany each tender. Tender paper can be seen and obtained from all PWD Division offices under PWD Circle, Rajshahi and P W E/M Sub-Division, Naogaon and office of the undersigned during office hour upto 23/12/92 Eng.

Executive Engineer  
PWD Divn. Naogaon  
Phone No. 2214  
DPP (G) 21910-17/12  
G-1648

## Onion import thru Benapole Govt loses Tk 16 cr revenue

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Dec 21: Government lost revenue earnings worth about Taka 16 crore from import of onion through Benapole during the last two and a half years following alleged corruption and dishonest practices of customs officials, according to sources.

Sources informed that from March 17, 1990 to August 31 this year, 6,000 bags of onion were imported daily under the official declaration. Each bag was shown containing 50 kg. But actual weight of a bag was more than 60. The remaining ten kg per bag were not offi-

cially showed by the Customs officials in collaboration with the importers and C & F agents.

The illegally released quantity rose to 60,000 kg. The customs and other duties would be Taka 1,83,330 per ton.

It is reported that during these days, the illegal quantity of onion imported through unofficial channel, rose to 52,000 tons. The revenue from every ton comes to Taka 3,055.

The total loss of revenue income out of this illegal import comes to Taka 15.89 crore.

It is learnt that Customs officials got Taka 1,000 for clearance of 18 tons.

The role of C & F agents was no less important. A rift between the Customs and C and F agents started over the rate and mode of payment.

Subsequently, it widened and finally the import was suspended for two days from August 31 to Sept 1 last on this issue.

However, it reopened from Sept 3 with condition that no excess bag would be allowed to be brought on any account.

## 15 lakh tonnes of T aman produced in Khulna Div

JESSORE, Dec 21: Bumper transplanted aman has been produced in 10 districts of Khulna Division this year, reports BSS.

According to Additional Director of Agriculture Extension Department, Jessore region, 15,09,573 metric tons of T aman worth about Taka 981 crore had been produced in these districts during the season.

The districts are: Jessore, Jhenidah, Magura, Narail, Khulna, Satkhira, Bagerhat, Kushtia, Chuadanga and Meherpur.

According to the source, the department had undertaken a comprehensive pro-

gramme for the cultivation of T aman in 16,43,217 acres in these districts. But the achievement was 17,21,062 acres more than the target these areas included 11,11,782 acres under high yielding varieties and 6,09,280 acres under local varieties.

The district wise break-up in as follows: 2,87,125 acres in Jessore, 1,89,831 acres in Jhenidah, 79,000 acres in Magura, 28,417 acres in Narail, 29,798 acres in Khulna, 2,73,801 acres in Bagerhat, 3,33,633 acres in Satkhira, 1,17,595 acres in Kushtia, 79,550 acres in Chuadanga and 34,080 acres in Meherpur districts.

## BKB disburses Tk 207cr in Maulvibazar

MAJIDEE COURT, Dec 21: Bangladesh Krishi Bank has disbursed Taka 207.03 crore as agricultural loan during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

The bank has distributed short and long term loan for crop production, purchase of cows and agricultural equipments through its 17 branches.

The bank also realised outstanding loan of Taka 196.65 crore upto November of the current fiscal year.

A total of 2341 certificate cases had been filed against outstanding loan of Taka 562.54 crore.



M. Moyeedul Islam, Chairman, Bangladesh Insurance Association addressing the Annual General Meeting of the association held on Saturday. Maj Gen A. Mannan Siddiqui (Ret'd), Humayun Zahir, Dr. Syed Nazrul Islam and M. Harun-ur-Rashid are also seen in the picture.

## Textile mills under lock and key for bank loan

KISHOREGANJ, Dec 21: A private sector industry, the Shetu Textile Mills, is on the verge of extinction due to shortage of fund, reports UNB.

The Managing Director of the mills said the bank authority locked the mill in 1989 for non-payment of the loan. As a result, raw materials worth about Taka five lakh were damaged and machineries worth Taka 10 lakh turned inoperative, he added.

The bank loan of the mill could not be paid due to fall in production, he said.

The industry was established in 1987 at Nandail with the initial capital of 60 of which Taka 33 lakh was taken as credit from the local Agrani Bank branch. Later the loan applied for more loan against the project to raise the production capacity. But the loan was not sanctioned for non-payment of the earlier loan.

Workers of the mill have been passing their days in great hardship. The mill au-

## BKB realises Tk 2.20 cr

A report from Jamalpur says: Regional unit of Bangladesh Krishi Bank has set an example by realising outstanding agri-loan of Taka 2.20 crore in a day.

The BKB organised a farmers rally on Monday where a number of loans participated and paid their outstanding loan to the various branches of the bank.

Held at Narkeli in Kendua under Sadar thana, the rally was presided over by the bank's Regional Manager. Managing Director Dr. Shamsul Huda witnessed the unique loan repayment rally.

The main branch of the BKB realised the highest amount of Taka 70 lakh.

## OOCL's new service to Australia

HONG KONG: Starting in mid-December, OOCL will phase-in 200 new reefer containers to its Australia trade route improving the service even further, says a press release.

Supplied by Thermo King, the 150 TEUs and 50 FEUs will be deployed on OOCL's Far East/Australia service calling at Kaohsiung, Keelung, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Kaohsiung as re-placements. The new hardware is part of OOCL's constant upgrading of service and dedication to meet customer requirements.

With its three, 1,000 TEU vessels, OOCL serves Australia from the Far East on a 11-day frequency with the fastest transit time in the trade from Australia to Taiwan and the fastest southbound from Hong Kong to Australia.

OOCL is represented in Bangladesh by its General Agents 'OmniTRANS International Ltd.'

## Emirates awarded

Emirates, the international airline of the UAE, has been voted 1992 best airline to the Middle East by readers of Travel Weekly, the UK's influential travel trade publication, says a press release in Dhaka on Monday.

Maurice Managan, Emirates Group Managing Director, has received the Travel Weekly Silver Globe Award from Trevor Harding, Managing Director of the Reed Publishing Group on Wednesday at the London Hilton.

## Contaminated soil may arrive in Marshall Islands despite opposition

MAJURO (Marshall Islands), Dec 21: A shipment of oil-contaminated soil is expected to arrive in the Pacific Marshall Islands soon, despite opposition from some islanders and environmentalists, officials said according to Reuters.

The head of the Islands' Environmental Protection Authority, Jiba Kabua, said on Wednesday he was waiting for the result of US tests on the contaminated soil that is to be shipped from the United States to build a causeway.

Criticism of the project by the environmental group Greenpeace and public health officials in Hawaii led to a public hearing in the Marshalls last week.

## Shipping Intelligence

### CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leave
J/1	Ji Lin	GI	Sing	19/12	30/12
J/4	Banglar Baani	Sugar (P)	Pena	13/12	24/12
J/5	Kota Berani	Sugar (P)	Bank	2/12	21/12
J/6	Al Reza	GI	Mong	11/12	21/12
J/8	Qing He	GI	S.Hai	20/12	23/12
J/10	Endurance	Sea	Repair	25/1	25/12
J/11	Damon	Wheat (P)	Pers	8/11	24/12
J/12	Trans Asia	Fert	Bank	1/12	24/12
J/13	Pratapgad	Loga	Rang	12/12	22/12
MPB/1	Kota Buana	Cont	Sing	18/12	21/12
CCJ	Al Pesani	Cement	Kaki	14/12	24/12
GSJ	Banglar Kallol	Wheat (G)	BSC	R/A	22/12
TSP	Becco Europe	R.Phos	Sefa	13/12	23/12
RM/4	Banglar Robi	Repair	BSC	R/A	24/12
RM/6	Chilham Castle	Naptha	Sing	15/12	21/12
DDJ/1	S E Halder	Cement	Kara	R/A	27/12
RM/8	AL Swamru	GI/Repair	Metha	7/12	25/12
RM/9	Banglar Kiron	Repair	BSC	R/A	27/12

### VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

PortName of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Tug Jupiteris	21/12	-	ARL	Cont	Mong
Andrian Goncharov	22/12	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Shenton 10/12	22/12	Sing	Omni	Cont	Sing
Sam Houston	22/12	-	Karna	GI	New York
Gu Yue	22/12	-	Bright	Cement	Sing
Fong Shin 12/12	23/12	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
Continent-1	23/12	Peng	CLA	GI	-
Kamaleverett	23/12	Sing	EBPL	GI	-
Hydra	23/12	SFAF	SSST	GI	-
Arunachal Pradesh	23/12	MAD	SSL	GI	-
Iron Will	23/12	-	MSA	Salt in bag	-
Lena (48/11/11)	24/12	Bank	Prog	Const. Materials	-
Arhon	24/12	Cress	H & S	TSP(G)	-
Tai Shan Hai	24/12	Sing	H&S	TSP	-
Sofina-c-Ismael-2	24/12	Damam	ASLL	GI/GL	Karachi
Anting	24/12	-	BD Ship	R-Sceds(P)	-
Optima 17/12	25/12	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
NGS Ranger 14/12	25/12	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
Mowlav	26/12	-	SSL	Cont	Abbas
Eastern Mars	26/12	-	Prog	GI	-
Petr Starosting	27/12	-	CT	Cont	Sing
Ravidas	28/12	-	SSL	Cont	Dundee Ant
Ingenuty 19/12	28/12	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Tiger Force 19/12	28/12	Col	RSL	Cont	Cal
Fong Yun 19/12	28/12	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
NGS Express 19/12	29/12	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
Trans America	29/12	BKK	Boal	Sugar/GI	-
Beeches	29/12	Cal	EBPL	GI	-
Meng Hong 20/12	31/12	Cal	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
Paraskev M-Y	31/12	Sing	BS	Wheat (G)	-
Massy Phoenix	15/01	Japa	OWSL	Wheat (P)	-

### VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Ready On:	C.Pas	Claton	MSA	19/12
Forecast	-	-	-	-

### VESSELS NOT READY:

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Cape Syros	Mop (P)	Pira	Seacom	18/12

### VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Banglar Shourabh	-	-	BSC	R/A (10/12)
Banglar Jyoti	-	-	BSC	R/A (20/12)
Banglar Asha	-	-	BSC	R/A (20/12)
Tug Nentega	-	-	Pajar	18/12
Zanbaj-II	Vac. Mach	Cal	BSL	20/12
Artemis-I	Cement	Cal	Bright	R/A (2/11)

### MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 22/12/92

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J/13 Pratapgad	MPB/1 A.Goncharov	GSJ Banglar Kallol J/7

The above were the 21.12.92 Shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

## Price Index

Essentials		PULSES		(Taka per kg)
Ariz(fine)	(Taka per kg)	Mashur		29.00-31.00
Arroz	13.50-15.00	Moogh		34.00-35.00
VEGETABLES	11.00-12.00	Chhola		23.00-24.00
Posato (local)	(Taka per kg)	Khasari		16.00-18.00
Brinjal	9.00-9.50	FRUITS		
Lalchok	6.00-8.00	Green Coconut (Small)	(One piece)	4.50-5.00
Tomato	12.00-14.00	Coconut (Large)		9.00-10.00
Cauliflower	4.00-5.00	Banana :	(One piece)	
Gourd	18.00-22.00	Sagar (Large)		12.00-14.00
Flower	6.00-10.00	Champa		3.00-4.00
Gourd	13.00-15.00			
OTHER HOODGRAN		Dues		(Taka per kg)
Flour	(Taka per kg)	OIL		55.00-60.00
Ariz	13.00-13.50	Mustard		54.00-56.00
Arroz	10.50-11.00	Soyabean		36.00-38.00
FISH		Coconut (Colombo)		90.00-95.00
Rishi (big)	(Taka per kg)	Vegetable Ghose (1kg)		48.00-52.00
Katla (big)	160.00-180.00			
Hilsha	110.00-140.00	SPICES		(Taka per kg)
Pangas	45.00-50.00	Onion (local)		10.00-11.00
Shrimp (big)	125.00-140.00	Garlic (local)		20.00-32.00
Singi	120.00-140.00	Chillies (local)		20.00-25.00
Koi	130.00-150.00	Turnerie (Local)		48.00-50.00
MEAT		Green chillies		18.00-20.00
Red Mutton	NA	Ginger		14.00-16.00
Head Mutton	NA	Cinnamon (10gm)		3.00-3.50
CHICKEN		Cardamom (10gm) (small)		7.00-8.00
Large	64.00-66.00	Thiru (50 gms)		8.00-10.00
Medium	68.00-70.00			
Small	75.00-76.00			
TEA		Gold & Silver		(Taka for 10.00 grams)
Dust (Plain)	80.00-90.00	Gold (Guinea)		5395.00
EGG	(4 per)	Silver		200.00
Hen	11.00-11.50			
Duck	11.00-11.50			
Farm	11.00-12.00			

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 December 20, 21 and 22.

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339
Pound sterling	61.6059	61.2855	60.8767
DM	25.1382	24.9831	24.8067
FF	7.3544	7.3095	7.2579
S Riyal	10.4641	10.4042	10.3307
D Guilders	22.3551	22.2145	22.0576
S Kroner	5.7442	5.7072	5.6669
Singapore Dollar	23.9065	23.7697	23.6019
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548
Kuwait Dinar	131.0542	130.3044	129.3841
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.4925	1.4858	1.4783
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.5225	1.5156	1.5081

Authorised dealers will apply T T clean buying rate for purchase of remitt