

Electronics sector suffers from capital shortage

By M A Ali Himu

NATORE, Dec 28: Government is contemplating launching a crash programme for raising production and export of electronics goods and computer software.

Although electronics is considered as a thrust sector by the government, little attention has been given to develop it through concerted production and marketing plans.

During the last 30 years, the most of the activities in this sector remained limited to assembling of radio, cassette players and televisions with imported components in CKD conditions.

Since the 80s, a number of entrepreneurs, technocrats and scientists took initiative in setting up a few electronics units through development of electronics devices like light dimmers, fan regulators, calling bells, voltage regulators, unrestricted power supplies equipments, medical electron-

ics, telephone PABX, traffic signal-sights and burglar alarms. These products have reasonable success in the domestic markets. But one of these efforts resulted in products of international quality.

Shortage of capital is one of the main obstacles, which has been hindering development of electronics units in the private sector.

Sonal bank on the other hand is finding it difficult to recover over due loans from a few electronics projects.

The bank assists the projects on recommendation of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC). It has so far disbursed about Taka 25 crore as part of its special Electronic Sector Development Project.

Unequal competition from imported goods have forced about 14 electronics projects in the private sector to close down.

A group of unscrupulous importers and sellers are allegedly importing various electronic items, evading duties and taxes at Chittagong port for the last few years, local assemblers and manufacturers are in disarray as a result of such unequal competition.

Software export too have bright future for earning scarce foreign exchange through exports.

A few Bangladeshi software houses have shown keen interest in taking data entry work for foreign clients.

In the traditional form, data are supplied by clients in the form of documents which are completed at the source.

But Bangladesh lacks a data telecommunication network at present and most computer data are transmitted by over dial-up lines. To tap the full potentials of this export sector, it has now become essential to establish a modern data telecommunication network.

BRRRI develops new variety of paddy

GAZIPUR, Dec 28: The Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRRI) has developed a high yielding variety of paddy by cross-breeding of Pajjam and International Rice-26 (IR-26), official sources here said, reports UNB.

The new variety has been named as New Pajjam (BR-25) which possesses high resisting power of diseases.

This paddy plant which bears 110-120 crop grains, taller than Pajjam and becomes mature within 10 to 12 days. The longevity of the new variety ranges from 130 days to 135 days.

Traders observe strike

COMILLA, Dec 28: A half-day strike was observed here by 'Comilla Bastra Bhabshayee Samity' on Wednesday last, protesting the killing of a local cloth merchant Kumud Bihari, reports UNB.

Kumud Bihari was killed by some unidentified miscreants in Chandina on December 19.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 28.12.92						
Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/2	Iron Will	Salt	Col	MSA	23/12	02/01
J/3	Cape Syros	Mop (P)	Pira	Seacom	18/12	01/01
J/4	Eastern Mars	GJ	Hong	Prog	27/12	02/01
J/5	Fareast	C Peas	Glaston	MSA	19/12	31/12
J/6	Continent-1	GI	Pena	CLA	24/12	29/12
J/7	Al Reza	GL		KSL	R/A	29/12
J/8	Safina-e-Islam-2	GI/CL	Damam	ASLL	24/12	28/12
J/9	Kamaleverett	GJ	String	EBPL	23/12	28/12
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Col	EOSL	25/12	05/01
J/11	Janbaz-II	Urea	CA	RRSA	20/12	07/01
J/13	Optima	Cont	String	RSL	25/12	29/12
MPI/2	NGS Ranger	Cont	String	BDSHIP	25/12	28/12
CCJ	Al Fesart	Cement	Kalki	RRSA	14/12	29/12
GSJ	Banglar Baani	Idle	Pena	Cross	13/12	30/12
TSP	Samudra Raj	Idle	Kara	SSL	R/A	29/12
RM/3	Blue Tank Trader	C P O	Sarda	Athina	25/12	28/12
RM/4	Banglar Robi	Repair	ISC	R/A	29/12	
RM/6	Entalina	HSD	String	MSPL	25/12	28/12
DOJ	Banglar Shourabh	Repair	ISC	R/A	03/01	
RM/8	S E Hader	Cement	Kara	ASLL	R/A	05/01
RM/9	Banglar Kiron	Repair	ISC	R/A	31/12	

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Ingenuity 19/12	28/12	String	RSL	Cont	String
Fong Yun 19/12	28/12	String	BDSHIP	Cont	String
Petr Starostin 15/12	29/12	String	CT	Cont	String
Bharatendu (E/L) 23/12	28/12	Cal	SSL		Dundee Ant
Kallan	29/12	Tuto	UMAL		
Solbulak	29/12		Seacom	Wheat	
Al Tajwar NCS Express 19/12	29/12		PSAL	Cement	
Lena	30/12	Mong	BDSHIP	Cont	String
Hua Li	30/12	Bank	Prog	Const-Materials	
Paraskevi M-Y	30/12	String	ASL	GI	
Meringa	30/12	Viza	BSL	Wheat	
Beccles (48)	30/12	Viza	MAL	Scraping	
Kota Buana 21/12	31/12	Cal	EBPL	GI	
Vinta	31/12	String	CTS	Cont	String
Tiger Sun	31/12	Saf	SSST	Rock Phos	
I Yamburenko 23/12	01/01	Col	RSL	Cont	Cal
Samudra Samrat	02/01	String	SSL	GI	String
Golden Union	02/01	Mong	OWSL		Salam
Delight Glory	03/01		Bright	Cement	
Guljhang	03/01	Lanz	ATSL	Cement	
Trans America	04/01	BKK	BOL	Sugar/GI	
Mowlavi	05/01	Mong	SSL	GI/CL	Abbas
Banglar Sampad	05/01		ISC	GI	
A S Okan	06/01		ISC	GI	
Shenton 27/12	06/01	String	Omni	Cont	String
Massy Phoenix	15/01	Japa	OWSL	Wheat (P)	

TANKER DUE

Ajoni	03/01	CT	C POil
Antares	04/01	CT	Tallow

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Arhion	R Seeds (P)	String	BDSHIP	24/12
Belco Europe	TSP (G)	String	H&SL	24/12
	Repair	Saf	UMAL	R/A (27/12)

VESSELS NOT READY

Banglar Jyoti	ISC	R/A (20/12)
Banglar Asha	ISC	R/A (20/12)
Artemis-1	Bright	R/A (21/12)

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Tug Neftegaz	Fujer	ARL	18/12
Hydra	TSP (G)	SSST	23/12
Tai Shan Hai	TSP (G)	H&SL	24/12
Nodar Duabaze	CDSO	PLAL	24/12

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 29/12/92

OUTGOING				INCOMING			
J/6	Continent-1		MPB/1	Fong Yun			
J/7	Al Reza		MPB/2	Ingenuity			
J/13	Optima		J/13	P. Strostin			
TSP	Samudra Raj		J/8	Bharatendu			

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

Price Index

Essentials	Price
RICE (Taka per kg)	23.00-24.00
Amantiline	13.50-15.00
Pajjam	11.00-12.00
VEGETABLES (Taka per kg)	4.50-5.00
Potato (local)	9.00-9.50
Brinjal	6.00-8.00
Karolla	12.00-14.00
Lalshak	4.00-5.00
Tomato	18.00-22.00
Cauliflower	6.00-10.00
Caul	13.00-15.00
OTHER VEGETABLES (Taka per kg)	55.00-60.00
Mustard	54.00-56.00
Soyabean	36.00-38.00
Coconut (Colombo)	90.00-95.00
Vegetable Ghee (1kg)	48.00-52.00
SPICES (Taka per kg)	10.00-11.00
Onion (local)	10.00-11.00
Garlic (local)	24.00-32.00
Chillies (local)	20.00-25.00
Turmeric (Local)	48.00-50.00
Green chillies	18.00-20.00
Ginger	14.00-16.00
Cinnamon (10gm)	3.00-3.50
Cardamom (10gm) (small)	7.00-8.00
Jhira (50 gms)	8.00-10.00
MILK (Two kgs)	332.00-333.00
Dano	321.00-322.00
Red-Cow	
MEAT	
Beef	NA
Mutton	NA
CHECKEN	
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)	
Han	11.00-11.50
Duck	11.00-11.50
Farm	11.00-12.00
PULSES (Taka per kg)	
Mashor	29.00-31.00
Mough	34.00-35.00
FRUITS	
Green Coconut (Small)	4.50-5.00
Coconut (Large)	9.00-10.00
Banana: (4 pieces)	
Sugar (Large)	3.00-4.00
Channa	
Dates	55.00-60.00
OIL (Taka per litre)	
Mustard	54.00-56.00
Soyabean	36.00-38.00
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