

# Tk 10 cr yarn lying unsold Sylhet textile mills facing closure for fund crisis

From Md. Iqbal Siddiquee

**SYLHET, Jan. 8:** The Sylhet Textile Mills, an enterprise of BTMC may face closure at any time for want of fund to purchase raw cotton and other materials.

About 3,200 bales of yarn of different counts, worth about Taka 20 crore produced in the mills during the last few months have been lying unsold.

The labourers are the worst-hit as the management is unable to pay their salaries.

About 100 employees including a good number of skilled labourers have resigned recently. Due to fund constraints, the authority is now unable to pay the dues of the

outgoing employees and workers.

An official source informed this correspondent that electricity and other expenses of the mills per month is about Taka 20 lakh. A big amount of money had also been lying unpaid as electricity and other bills for months together, the source added.

According to some of the knowledgeable source, the competition of the yarn produced in different mills of BTMC with the smuggled Indian cotton has resulted in the existing situation. The smuggled Indian yarns are

found selling in the open markets at lower prices than that of the Bangladesh yarns. That is why the yarn merchants of Narayanjan and Narsingdi are not showing any interest in buying the Bangladesh yarns produced in the different mills of BTMC, the source opined.

It will be hard to keep the mill running, if the stockpiled yarns are not sold immediately with a view to purchasing the raw cotton and other materials for the mill, it is widely felt. Besides, it is further apprehended that if the situation is not improved soon, the mills may suffer serious crisis.

## Neediest states to get \$168m interest-free IDA credit

WASHINGTON, Jan 8: The International Development Association (IDA), the world bank's subsidiary which loans to the neediest countries, has announced interest-free loans worth 168 million dollar to 16 countries.

The 35 to 40 year concessional loans totalling 121 million in drawing rights have a 10 year grace period and will go to countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The loans are in addition to those already extended in 1990 and 1991 to countries which have repaid the IDA and the World Bank.

In Latin America, the funds will go to Bolivia, Honduras, Guyana and Nicaragua, in Asia to Bangladesh and Sri Lanka and in Africa to Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mauritania, Malawi, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia.

## Govt working for people's economic development

GAZIPUR, Jan 8: State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M A Mannan (Thursday) said the present government was doing everything to consolidate the process of democracy for changing the socio-economic condition of the teeming millions of the country, reports BSS.

He was addressing as the chief guest the installation ceremony of the office bearers of Kazi Azimuddin College Chhatra Sangsad here among others, Sangsad vice-president Shohel and general secretary Latu also spoke on the occasion.

The state minister said the democracy had been achieved through a long struggle which should be repaired for a permanent process of government.

He regretted that some quarters who had least respect for democracy were creating chaos and disturbances in the society to thwart the process of democracy.

He said the ulterior motive of these quarters were known to the people and their activities should be resisted with the cooperation of the people. He urged the students to keep the college campus free from terrorism.

Later, the state minister attended an installation ceremony of the office bearers of Mymensingh Agriculture University Ashrafal Haq hall Sangsad and addressed the students and teachers there. He made a similar call to resist the terrorists on the campus.

## Tk 1.7cr smuggled goods seized

FENI, Jan 8: Bangladesh Rifles seized Indian smuggled goods worth about Tk 1.7 crore and arrested 56 alleged smugglers between August and December of the previous year, reports UNB.

According to BDR sources, the jawans of 7-rifle battalion raided inter-district trains, buses, markets and border areas during the period and seized goods including sarees, shawl, phensidyl syrup, wine, pulses and cosmetics.

The seized goods were handed over to local customs authority and the arrested people were handed over to the respective police stations.

## WB will give \$ 750m loan to Argentina

WASHINGTON, Jan 8: The World Bank on Wednesday announced two loans to Argentina totalling 750 million dollar for debt reduction and privatisation of companies run by the Defence Ministry, reports Reuter.

The first loan, a 450 million dollar credit, will support the reduction of 29 billion dollar of Argentina's debt to commercial banks, including eight billion dollar in interest arrears.

The second, a 300 million dollar loan, will back the restructuring and privatisation of 24 of the 45 firms run by Argentina's defence ministry.

The companies include steel, petrochemicals, shipyards and other manufacturing firms.

One third of this credit will also be set aside for debt reduction operations, the bank said.

## Jobless claims falls by 40,000 in US

WASHINGTON, Jan 8: The number of Americans filling new claims for unemployment insurance fell by 40,000 during Christmas week to the lowest level in nearly four years, the government said Thursday, reports AP.

The unexpectedly large drop brought the level of claims for the week ended Dec. 26 to 291,000, down from 331,000 the week before. It was the lowest level since April 1989.

It was the second consecutive large decline and the 10th drop in 14 weeks. Claims had fallen by 29,000 the previous week.

Analysts often warn against reading too much into weekly fluctuations in the claims number. They had pointed out that the most recent week, with Christmas falling on a Friday, left the unemployed with one less day than usual to apply for benefits.

Still, a more closely watched four-week moving average of claims hit its lowest point since September 1989.

## Hasina blames govt for failure in improving people's condition

HABIGANJ, Jan 8: Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina on Thursday blasted the BNP government for failure in improving the condition of the people as well as solving national issues at stake in last two years, reports UNB.

Addressing a big public meeting at Madhyabazar in Chunarhat thana this afternoon, she also blamed the government for terminating thousands of workers, closing down mills and factories, unemployment and lawlessness in the country.

The Awami League President said the ruling party leaders were raising empty slogan of development when people have been facing a terrible economic hardship in the absence of work.

People want food and work but ministers and government MPs are indulging in corruption to make their fortunes, she told the meeting.

Hasina also criticised the government for ignoring its election commitment and ruling the country by repressing the opposition.

The "BNP assumed power by bluffing and making false commitment to the people," she said and urged the people to vote for her party nominees in the coming pourashava elections.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by Deputy Opposition Leader Abdus Samad Azad, party's Advisory Council member MS Kibria, Matia Chowdhury MP, Mostafa Shaheed MP and Sultan Mohammad Mansur Uddin.



French Ambassador to Bangladesh Jean-Michel Lacombe calls on Planning Minister AM Zahiruddin Khan Thursday. —PID photo

# Enterprises urged to help implement uplift schemes

CHITTAGONG, Jan 8: State Minister for Shipping Harun-Al-Rashid told the government for implementing economic and other development programmes in the country, reports BSS.

Addressing members of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the Chamber House here, Harun-Al-Rashid said, entrepreneurs are the main force behind all economic activities and as such their cooperation for the success of the government's economic programmes was indispensable. Your suggestions and proposals are necessary in executing the country's economic and development programme, he said.

Harun-Al-Rashid said, the government has repaired and rehabilitated Chittagong Port jetties, cleared the wreckage

of vessels from the channel to make the port workable after April-1991 cyclone and tidal surge.

He said that Chittagong Port had also taken some uplift programmes to expand port facilities for its users. He said, one 30-kv power sub-station would be set up and the existing 11-kv sub-station would be renovated to ensure regular power supply to the port during the financial year 1992-93 at a cost of Taka 20 lakh.

The ministers said, dredging of Karnaphuli Channel had been taken up to ensure smooth navigational facilities and that already remarkable achievement had been made in this connection.

He also said that the government was contemplating making port advisory committee more broad-based one as the port users had wanted so.

High officials of Chittagong Port Authority and BSC were also present at the meeting.

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Dr A N M Yousuf, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture is looking at a fish during his recent visit to Fisheries Research Institute (FRI), Mymensingh, Dr M A Majid Director of FRI is also seen in the picture.

# Shipping Intelligence

## CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 07.01.93						
Berth	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Leaving	
No						
J/1	Al Tajwar	Cement	Cal	Agent	02/01	15/01
J/2	Anting	R Seeds (P)	Sing	BDSHP	24/12	10/01
J/3	Samudra Samrat	GI	Peng	SSL	03/01	09/01
J/4	Hua Li	GI	Sing	ASL	30/12	07/01
J/5	Becco Europe	Urea	Saba	UMAL	R/A	12/01
J/6	Endurance Sea	Repair	Agiba	EOSL	25/01	15/01
J/7	Jarabaz-II	Urea	Cal	RRSA	20/12	15/01
J/8	Kallang	Urea	Tugo	UMAL	29/12	10/01
MPB/J	Shenton	Cont	Strag	CSMNT	05/01	08/01
JCJ	S E Halder	Cement	Kara	ASL	R/A	15/01
GSP	Paraskevi M-Y	Wheat (G)	Sing	BSL	02/01	09/01
TSP	Vinta	R Phos	Jedah	SSST	04/01	16/01
RM/4	Banglar Robi	Repair	BSC	02/01	07/01	
DDJ	Banglar Shourabh	C Oil	BSC	R/A	07/01	

## VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Beebles	(48) 24/12	07/01	Cal	EBPL	GI
Trans American					
Trader	08/01	BKK	BOAL	Sugar	
Al Mohammed	07/01	Mong	BSL		
Golden Union	08/01	Mong	OWSL	W/Load	Salam
A S Okan	08/01	Kuwait	ISC	GI	
Gujjang	09/01	Kara	ATSL	Cement	S Bridge
Banglar Sampad	09/01	Kara	ISC	GI	
Iyeverett	09/01	Sing	EBPL	GI	Fe St
NGS Ranger	10/01	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Iro	09/01	Chent	Anent	Wheat (G)	Cug
Grietje	09/01		Prog	Cement	Materials
Delight Glory	10/01	Mong	Bright	Cont	
Optima	10/01	Mong	BSL	GI	Sing
Mowlavi	10/01	Mong	SSL	GI/GL	B Abbas
HMS London	11/01	Sing	JF		
Hang Wan	11/01		Prog	GI	
Hong Yun	11/01	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Haldia
Lena	12/01	Bank	Prog	Const (GI)	
Ingenuity	12/01	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Petr Starostin	12/01		CT	Cont	Sing
NGS Express	12/01		BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Robert Elec	12/01		Kama	GI	New York
Stern	13/01	Safr	UMAL	T&P (P)	
Karabievrett	14/01		EBPL	GI	Fe St
Kota Buana	14/01	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Stamaryn	15/01		SSST	Wheat (G)	
Masiner Phocix	15/01	Japa	OWSL	Wheat (P)	

## TANKER DUE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Sandgats	08/01	Sing	MSP	18D	
Global Venus	10/01	Sund	Secum	Oil	
Chota	10/01	Reug	Secum	Oil	
Botany Triad	19/01		JF	Tallow in Bulk	

## VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Aspiros	C Oil	Rast	DSL	05/01
Banglar Jyoti	C Oil		BSC	R/A

## VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Ready on					
Ajon	Col	Col	CT		06/01
Antares	Thlow	Col	CT		06/01
Fong Shin	Cont	Sing	BDSHP		07/01
Andrian Goncharov	Cont	Sing	CT		07/01
Amcr Jyoti	Cement	Jaka	Paragon		03/01

## VESSELS NOT READY

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Arhon	TSP	Sing	H&SL	24/12
Solbulk	Wheat (P)	P Land	Seacom	30/12
Banglar Kiron	Wheat (G)		ISC	R/A
Norman Prince		Mong	BSL	06/01

## VESSELS AWAITING EMPLOYMENT/INSTRUCTION

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Banglar Asha	Cement		BSC	R/A
Artemis-I			Bright	R/A

## VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Nodar Dumbaze	CDSO	P Lut	CT	24/12
Al Fesani			RRSA	R/A
Meringa	Scraping	Viza	MTA	01/01
Alam Mexico	GTPS	S East	SSST	05/01
American Trader	Wheat (G)	Sing	BSL	06/01

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

# Price Index

Essentials			Banana : (4 pieces)		
RICE	(Taka per kg)		Sugar (Large)		10.00-14.00
Amran(fine)	13.00-14.00		Champa		4.00-6.00
Payam	11.75-12.50		Dates	(Taka per kg)	55.00-60.00
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)		Oil	(Taka per litre)	52.00-57.00
Priso (local)	7.00-8.00		Mustard		36.00-37.00
Brinjal	5.00-8.00		Soybean		95.00-100.00
Karila	12.00-14.00		Coconut (Colombo)		48.00-52.00
Lalchak	3.00-4.00		Vegetable Ghee (1kg)		220.00-240.00
Tomato	8.00-10.00		MILK	(Two kgs)	
Cauliflower	6.00-8.00		Dano		334.00-335.00
Gourd	8.00-14.00		Red-Cow		328.00-329.00
OTHER ROODGRAIN	(Taka per kg)		MISCELLANEOUS	(Taka per kg)	
Flour	12.50-13.00		Ghee		220.00-240.00
Atia	10.50-11.00		Salt		6.00-7.00
FISH	(Taka per kg)		Sugar		27.00-28.00
Rubi(big)	170.00-190.00				
Kaila(big)	130.00-150.00				
Pangas	150.00-160.00				
Shrimp(big)	120.00-140.00				
Sing	130.00-150.00				
MEAT					
Beef	NA		One		9.00 - 30.00
Mutton	NA		Light		60.00 - 65.00
CHICKEN			Medium		65.00 - 70.00
Large	68.00-70.00		Heavy		75.00 - 80.00
Moderate	72.00-74.00		Very heavy		95.00 - 98.00
Small	76.00-78.00		Rejected		30.00 - 40.00
TEA			Big & heavy		11.00 - 11.50
Dust (Plain)	80.00-90.00		Light &		8.00 - 9.00
EGG	(4 pcs)		Medium		3.00 - 5.00
Hen	10.50-11.00		Rejected		8.50 - 9.00
Duck	10.00-11.00		Sheep		55.00 - 60.00
Farm	11.00-12.00		Buffalo		
PULSES	(Taka per kg)				
Mashur	30.00-31.00				
Moogh	32.00-33.00				
Cholar	26.00-26.50				
Akhar	16.00-18.00				
FRUITS					
Green Coconut (Small)	(One piece)		Gold (Guinea)		5.144.00
Coconut (Large)	(One piece)		Silver		200.00